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SUBJECT: REPORTED SIGHTING OF AMERICAN PRISONERS IN CENTRAL LAOS

1. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

2. FOLLOWING THE COMMUNIST TAKEOVER OF LAOS IN 1975, THE LPDR ESTABLISHED INDOCTRINATION CAMPS FOR FORMER ROYAL LAO GOVERNMENT MILITARY AND CIVILIAN OFFICIALS AT XEPOK AND SARAVAN, WHICH WERE LITTLE MORE THAN FORCED LABOR CAMPS. THE PRIMARY TASK OF THE PRISONERS AT THESE CAMPS WAS THE CONSTRUCTION OF A ROAD LINKING THE TWO TOWNS. DURING A ROUTINE ROAD SURVEY IN EARLY OCTOBER 1976, [REDACTED] CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN A GROUP OF AMERICAN PRISONERS BEING HELD IN A SPECIAL PRISON COMPOUND LOCATED IN A MOUNTAIN CAVE ABOUT 60 KILOMETERS NORTH-NORTHWEST OF SARAVAN. [REDACTED]

COMMENT: [REDACTED] PROVIDED NO FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS SUBJECT.)

CLASSIFIED BY SIGNER: XGDS-2

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