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INTERVIEW WITH SC

10 NOVEMBER 1992

AT THE DIAC

PRESENT: Robert Sheetz, David Sisson, Gordon Rocca, NAME and Alan Young

Bob: Vietnam War, that's what my office is concerned with.

SOURCE: Is that where you're from DIA?

Bob: DIA.

Bob: You've interviewed several times with people from my office including Nick Eftimiades, Mike Sasek and LTC Young, I don't think you've met Mr. NAME yet, he's the Chief of our DATA Branch, and people in our office have been working the Vietnam problem trying to account for American missing men for a long time. We've got people in the office who have been working this problem for over 20 years. My Deputy's been in the office for 20 years, we've seen all the intel reporting from DATA DOD sources DATA. And we've had a chance to review information that you've previously provided to both DIA DATA so we've seen everything that you've said on the record DATA during your debriefing and here at DIA. And I guess my real concern at this point in time is I think ought to be your concern as you're about to be called as a witness and have to make an official appearance up on Capital Hill. They're going to make you do that. You're not going to be able to get out of it so what I think needs to happen at this point is that we all understand exactly what information you have that bears on accounting for American missing men from the Vietnam War. I know you have passed a lot of good information about a lot of topics and information that you had about medical experimentation on Korean War prisoners has been very useful and has already started several investigative measures that have taken place outside the United States and we're very grateful to have received that information. But I have to tell you that having reviewed everything that you've said DATA to DIA there are some inconsistencies in what you have to say about Vietnam and that's why we're here today, to talk about Vietnam. Okay?

I'd like to start by asking you to read that and tell me what it says.

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Source: I never heard anybody talking about that, about Vietnam.

Bob: Those are your words when you were debriefed DATA in SD Here's the question, comes right off the tape.

Source: I'd like to get the tape

Bob: We can arrange that.

Source: Any source which says something about me I like to see it

Bob: These are your words.

Source: I like to see the tape.

Bob: Assuming that this is correct, and we'll make sure you get to hear this, assuming this is correct..

Source: Because if you take one sentence from whole tape...

Bob: Oh I understand, understand, we've listened to the tapes so I'm convinced that this is accurate...

Source: I want to see

Dave: Can I ask you a question?

Bob: Sure.

Dave: What was the word they used for prisoners?, is that it, can I ask the question in English?

Bob: I'm not sure.

Gary: The answer was given in SD so I assumed when you debriefed DATA you talked in SD mostly, is that correct?

Dave: Were you debriefed in SD ?

Source: Yea, it was always in country and as I saw some other stuff oh it was in SD and that, it was absolutely disaster, so I like to see.

Bob: We'll make sure that happens.

Source: And it was just one thing when I come to them about Vietnam.

Bob: This is what I would call an open-ended question, it introduces a topic and gives you the opportunity to respond in anyway that you would choose to respond. And

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you gave what I would call a rather broad blanket response that you didn't have any knowledge about American prisoners

Source: I would like to speak

Bob: So how do we get from there to where we are now, with your most recent statements about 100 Americans in groups of 20-25 being taken from Vietnam thru Czechoslovakia to the Soviet Union. How do we get there.

Source: I talk to your people, I told them I come DATA 25 years ago which.....

Bob: Where does your knowledge come from on that point?

Source: Look first of all I was Chief of SD
SD SD okay, everything that goes to SD
SD SD hand go thru my hands and out of it. That time SD
I was I don't know how you say SD
SD and I was the man who make SD
all the notes in SD and preparer of SD
decision of the SD and very very good SD
other SD or whatever. The SD you SD
can find it in the files in SD was the SD
highest decision making body in the DATA
and DATA things

I was secretary of the of SD
then later I was member. It which was the ten SD
highest military people, I was member of the leader of SD
SD and I was member of SD
SD So I think I help you information SD
find these bodies.

Bob: But you spoke..

Source: I was with the first DATA when they came SD
to SD I was the SD I take care SD
of all them. I was present at all meetings he had with SD
them

Bob: With the Vietnamese.

Source: With the Vietnamese.

Bob: How many meetings were there?

Source: They were in SD 1st time, one week.

Bob: When was that?

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Source: Uh it was uh shortly after the war started 19... , maybe it 1964 - 1964 I was uh I don't know, maybe 60's.

Bob: Do you know what those meetings were for? What was the purpose?

Source: Well I believe they probably all were super confidence to Soviet Union and uh he ask super super calls me super make friends let me see

Bob: How many such trips do you recall?

Source: From Vietnam?

Bob: Delegations from Vietnam?

Source: Every year they come. Because you have planning for five years running so they always come here ask what they want be ask them, we told them what we can give them they thought it was pressure from Soviet Union push into negotiate with U.S.

Bob: Were you present at any of those meeting?

Source: Sure.

Bob: And did you see the written summaries of what was discussed at those meetings?

Source: Yes, because I Russian.

Bob: In those meetings, what discussions were there about American prisoners?

Source: Well first you know cause they were Vietnamese it was not so easy like with Koreans, Koreans did almost everything what national Czech's ask. Vietnam it was little bit difficult because anything that what you ask they simply want to show they are the winners without any help which Koreans didn't. You let in the beginning, we tried to be very friend to poor, later on the Russians try to squeeze them because losing lots of money you know you have uh for example maybe I just say example, Czech thanks and that spare bunch from Romania and it was not very good coordinate you have that knowledge and it cannot work and spend funds with somewhere else or not at all you know, so a Russian pushed them to try to squeeze them and of course all were overcome under a series of directions and uh later on they tried to squeeze them to more negotiate with Americans through two parts because they didn't want to Russian pushed them to do it so it was un you know every year 95 days/things which you discuss with them.

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Bob: Okay, you were present at these meetings and you ^{SD} of these meetings based on your job in the ^{SD} and what discussion do you remember from these meetings was there any ever any discussion about American Prisoners?

Source: Uh, at least 2, 3 times.

Bob: And what was that discussion about?

Source: Well the discussion was first of all Soviets and uh Czechs others they have uh question which they would like to ask the prisoners when they were interrogated understand or in Paris, second, it was uh discussion condition what does this because Soviets know that conditions are not very good and they were worried it could be some international scandals. Soviets didn't want to be scandalized. It was discussion with the Soviets and Czech; also don't know the others about continuing with some medical analysis of the American Soldiers.

Bob: You said discussion with Soviets but you don't know about Czech.

Source: No, I say Soviets & Czechs, I don't know the others I don't know the ...

Bob: So at these meetings in Prague that you attended and you ^{SD} for, you recall that Soviets were there too?

Source: No.

Bob: No, so how what is how do you come by your knowledge that that topic was discussed with the Soviets with regard to the Vietnam War.

Source: Because Soviets told us what to talk to them and what to proceed or coordinate generally to negotiations and the questions because you have these things, the Soviet General move to or wherever and tell you we have such an interest and letting you finish and we give them the record.

Bob: And how did the Soviets, were you there when the Soviets passed these orders for the interrogation or for discussion with the Vietnamese?

Source: I was where

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Bob: What you're describing sounds to me as though there was a premeeting with uh where the Soviets gave their instructions on how the dialogue with the Vietnamese was to go.

Source: It is always even if it is not under dub meeting before you have such a things the Soviet General go to you and tell you I got instructions from MOD or Supreme commander of certain Country do this, this, this.

Bob: Do you remember who that Soviet General was that gave you those instructions on how to deal with the Vietnamese?

Source: Sure, it was General Kuchev

Bob: General Kuchev

Soruce: General Kuchev, Kuchev

Bob: How do you Spell that.

Source: K U I think and C H E V, Alexander.

David: Like Kruchev with no R.

Soruce: Yea, okay, Alexander Kuchev.

Bob: So, he was knowledgeable then about medical experimentation, what were his, as closely as you can remember, what were his instructions with regard to medical aspects of American Prisoners.

Source: They want to call thing some of the best research which based on ????? everything was related to the next war. and as you know Col the records they start in Korea test some drugs and so and they want to call some of this test research of course.

Bob: And where was the Czech role for being there?

Source: The Czech has very good research to share I told it the other guys already before the Cer ^{SD} they went in there mostly to buy lots. Some scientists participate from the Academy of science. So Czech very much annoyed because I didn't confer to Romanians and Bulgarians. Uh Czech had much better kind of, as they call it, scientists or persons. So it is pro Czech did find Russian culture the best brothers and they always trust Yugoslavia more than anybody else so in many many cases what they didn't get somebody else they get Czech. This can be proved for many things.

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Bob: So this Russian General said that the Russian, the Soviets, were interested in continuing a similar program to what they had in place with Czech help during the Korean War.

Source: Yea, that program was not as....

Bob: Tell me about the program.

Source: As big like in Korea because in Korea they had the hospital, you can do much work directly there. But in Vietnam was not such a things like Czech hospital

Bob: Well how was it supposed to work in Vietnam?

Source: Mostly thru Vietnamese.

Bob: And who was cooperating on the Vietnamese side?

Source: You mean the officials of Vietnam?

Bob: Yes.

Source: What institutes ..

Source: I don't remember.

Bob: Did you see written reports like you did in Korea on this alleged Vietnamese experimentation program.

source: Sure.

Bob: And when did you see those?

Source: Every year if it was not separated report. Things which was most important go like separated to Defense Counsel. If it was not uh most important every year the MOD and Minister of Interior was in charge of Czech KGB to supervise. They must present to Defense Counsel a record how they achieved the things which Defense Counsel give them order the year before; because every year he present to defense plan which I prepared.

Bob: Sure.

Source On what day will discuss next year but whatever Minister must to send to Defense Counsel or anybody else and up till then he must protect of every aspect

Bob: So it's a yearly report.

source: Every six months and every year and if it was important

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origin it was sent by report I don't know

Bob: And what did those reports say that from the time of the American involvement really go started in Vietnam and people unaccounted for, prisoners started to be listed until you defected in 1968 right? What did those reports say?

Source: Every year

?: When did the program start?

Source: You have a real good time to think what happened every year, thirty years ago

Bob: Summarize in general

Source: But you think I'm computer or what, that is the problem everybody always never tells me about what we be discussion when we started to discuss. Ask me what happened 40 years ago. Nobody asked me about that 25 years ago when I came in here.

Bob: We did ask you.

Source: Show me the tapes, I like to see it.

Bob: We'll arrange that

Source: Yea

Gary: When did the program start, from your recollection?

Source: Pardon?

Gary: When did the program of drug testing in Vietnam start, how many years before you left had the program been put in place in Vietnam. Just give me your best estimate.

Source: It started immediately when they have American prisoners.

Gary: Okay, when was that, was it many years before you left Was it close to before you left.

Source: No, it was not until about 66 or because before

Gary: Before '66

Source: Sure.

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Gary: Long time before, short time

Source: Uh I, I must say I'd like to say probably 66, 67, um I'm just thinking about the current delegations maybe 63/64

Gary: Early on, and do you have some feeling for the number of tested subjects. When was the first time that you saw such a report on this program? You must have seen numbers of people coming back, how many PW's did they test?

Source: In Vietnam?

Gary: Yes

Source: Well I tell you this this is uh.....

Gary: Would they not have reported how many number that they had tested in a year.

Source: Maybe

Gary: Oh

Source: Because most this uh this informations how many prisoners or how many they most of this comes Soviet Union to us because uh we didn't have so good cooperation in Vietnam.

Gary: I understand that, yea.

Source: But how many every year.

Gary: I would think as a planner, once this program began rolling you would have goals. We needed to test this many people this year, next year we need to test this many, you don't remember numbers like that.

Source: You cannot have number of people because you do not know how many prisoners you would have, no?

Gary: Once you have a baseline then you know you have so many to go.

Source: You have in the record how many people were test, but uh how many were really how many want to test next year, I think it is difficult because you don't know how many you have.

Gary: So you have no memory of any numbers on the report of how many were tested rather than how many were tested.

Source: Because it is different question, but how many they want

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test is

GARY: Okay, try try either one.

Source: I can uh say maybe when uh you read some of the records I think 19?? I can say, lets put it this way the last that I saw was 1967 which is the closest date that is uh I can forty five at least Czech with four difference drugs and uh four different drugs were test different each drug but approximately I would say uh 220

Gary: For each drug or for the total program.

Soruce: No for I don't know if they tested two drugs on same person.

Gary: Okay

Source: But what they said this drug was tested I think approximately it was 222 or 210 I don't know, approximately...

Gary: You think that was the size of the program

Source: Yea.

Gary: In any of that time when you were looking at these reports did the Chinese have any role in this? Is the totally a Russian/Czech. program?

Source: At least the Chinese were not put together with sofar with the Soviets because as you know Soviets have many problems but what we learn again mostly from Soviets uh the Chinese did many things which Vietnamese didn't let us do in Vietnam. How much they did and what they did over there I don't know.

Bob; Do you have any idea in Vietnam where these drug experiments were carried out.

Source: In Vietnam?

Bob: Yes. and uh did the reports...

source: which was uh ^{SD} in 1967

Bob: The Czech delegation for Vietnam.

Source: Right. Premiere Minister Lenard was there, geomain political administration, General Pacreek and uh and they tried to pushed Vietnamese to do many things. Was very

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difficult to begin deal with them because every thing that they feel you try to control them. They refused but ah I saw the record when they come back I don't think they ever visited any installation for these things, these tests

BOB: What do you know of who, were those drugs. How would these drugs be administered

Source: How would they

BOB: How were they given, by shots,

Source: I don't know

BOB: Do you know the names of the drugs

Source: I can think about but they were a specialty drug. They must preparation for the drug. They order the drugs like control the mind

BOB: These are soviet drugs

Source: No they were Czechslovakia also but you see they don't develop mind altering drugs. This is why they got the records from the Soviet Union.

BOB: Who provided the drugs to the Vietnamese - Czech sources, Soviet sources

Source: To ship in drugs??

BOB: Uh um

Source: I think both but mostly Soviets

BOB: From the reports that you saw, what did the reports talk to in terms of how. There were prisoners kept many places, in Vietnam where were, what was the ground site, the field site in Vietnam that was used for administering this program. What do you know about how the program was run, where was it physically located. What kind of details do you have?

Source: The, it was not big like in Korea; in Vietnam what Czechoslovakia did, I don't know from Russian did as most things go through them usually just through Hanoi through the Ministry of Defense everything. How much I remember records particularly in the beginning when Czech want to send a great drug bus like we did in Korea for experimenting and they never accepted, the Vietnamese so if you have the records that of that ????

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everything was through Ministry of Defense or Ministry of Health for Vietnam. If Russians have access to go there I don't know. I know examples which again I of causing the record of language when Premier Lenard come back and also many times from Soviet. They didn't let Russians go there or Czechs but they let Chinese go to some military installation and if Soviets find out they were liberated to go there or not I don't know

BOB: The last time you saw a report it crossed you desk, it was in 1967 on this program and that report talked to experimental design of several hundred perhaps 200 + - four different drugs - drugs provided by both the Soviets and the Czechs and actually administered to the prisoners by whom

Source: You mean the drugs I don't know if Soviets have different or not I know everything was done by the Vietnamese it is why the Soviet Air Corp and Czech also had some suspicions if it is correct because they told the Vietnamese don't have such a good scientist or doctor

Bob: The last time you saw the report, a report, every six months, was 1967

Source: Correct

Bob: Ah, what else did those report have to say, or what other knowledge do you have about American prisoners, I ask you a very broad question I want you to respond to me as broadly as you can remember, any other information that you can remember about American prisoners in vietnam, in other places

Source: Ah, anything

Bob: Anything and everything that you can remember dealing with American prisoners

Source: First of all the records cover the interrogation what they learned from american prisoners they interrogate

Bob: Tell me again who, who prepared these reports

Source: From where

Bob: The ones you saw, the reports you are talking about, that talk about the interrogation of prisoners, who prepared those reports

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Source: The records were from Vietnamese but in Vietnam you had uh like which Czechoslovakia didn't have in Korea, in Vietnam you had lots of Russians, KGB advisers those were the only advisers you saw so I, nobody told me but I assume they somehow give questions to Vietnamese that is their interest uh but the interrogation records how they interrogated the American soldiers was from Vietnam with sometimes we got in with Soviet comments sometime not sometime just as Vietnam, how they got it okay

Bob: What kind of questions were there, do you remember

Source: Well they ask from uh simple military questions about the units, commanders, technology uh how it operate all this stuff I think is nothing now everybody do it but ah they ask also questions of uh these prisoners of ah not just about the military but also incarnation but in connection home, you know, your prisoners have some knowledge of something in United States maybe are you sorry or whatever, so they ask questions so it was all very large many questions which they had but I think the important things is accept this regular interrogation which everybody knew wartime uh regular questions to worry about seniority because they already intelligence about the minority how disloyal they are and all these things generally start the unit of associate from and of course there were questions about drugs they were questions questions which they always separate how drugs influence behavior of the soldiers, they were reports in the report if they have it was same like inquire if it is a wounded vet soldiers, American soldiers what and they go back when the Chinese step in so like the dated war prisoners and soldiers who are American when they perform autopsies of the dead American soldiers, what they find out

Bob: Do you remember how many were there are a lot of autopsies or few or, I guess what you are saying is that the soviets participated in those autopsies

Source: I think so, yea

Bob: Got any idea how many there would have been in the reports you saw until you left in 67 or the last report you saw in 67

Source: No, didn't because different things they were specialities, hard specialities but I know all these things so it goes always different different numbers for such a thing were the guys who checked the heart

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problem , check the brain problem, now in 1967 or 68 I mean to say 67 or 66 I think it was in 66 the record was end of year in December early January 67 I think around 80 soldiers were autopsied gave them much, more probably double more, for the, as they call it, internogota dileverence you know loans that is most

Bob: So that would be 120

Source: And uh they were, I, approximately something about the brain, research

Bob: These are big numbers here

Source: They are

Bob: And uh the overall experimental design

Source: But they also had reports about Vietnam soldiers there they compared it

Bob: So this was

Source: 66

Gary: Yet the reports that you saw were the only interrogation reports of people who were undergoing drug testing or did you see interrogation reports in general

Source: Pardon me

GARY: Two questions, you saw interrogation report, were they only of the subjects that were being drug tested is that the only interrogation reports that you saw or did you see other interrogation reports

Source: You know it is what I said in the beginning,

Gary: I didn't understand you clearly, the interrogation report that you saw were only of people who were being drug tested or they were everybody, pws in Vietnam

Source: The interrogation

Gary: uh uh

Source: No, it is as I told you in the beginning, the reports covered interrogation about this unit, about his grandparents and all these things, and special part was drug testing

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Gary: So you are saying that all the interrogation reports that you saw involved drug testing on the pws, you didn't see any interrogation reports of people who were not drug tested

Source: What do you mean, if they, if they interrogate him about his unit, and about his commander and I don't know how many people they, I assumed they ask any prisoner

Bob: What I understood, let me see if I have this right, that the reports that you are referring to that we are asking about, are the reports that deal with this experimentation program on Americans and not other pows, were talking about the medical experiments

Source: Medical, not drugs, yes you know I must say I don't know if they tested lets say for medical experiments if they test somebody for liver, internal organ if same person did the heart I don't know you know again somebody tell me

Bob: Lets see if I can put a couple of more things together here, initially, I think you said that reports of the interrogations were, interrogations done mostly by the Vietnamese using questions that the czechs and russians had given the vietnamese to conduct the interrogation

Source: I think who gave them all the questions was the Russians because if we give a question we give the Russians and they give

Bob: So the questions came from the russians, given to the vietnamese, the vietnamese conducted the interrogations and then you saw the written summaries prepared by the vientnamese

Source: Well we certain amount from the soviets

Bob: Alright, okay, the vietnamese gave them to the soviets and you saw them.

Source: Right

Bob: So that was one channel of information about interrogations, seems like there is another channel of information here dealing with the actual results of the drug experiments.

Source: I have to tell you also when we got these things from the soviets they had all intelligence themselves because they did not trust completely the vietnamese so

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I don't know how many troubles they did so they tried to normal intelligence channels being established collected their own information so it is what I told you sometimes they said this is not accurate, you can not prove it was american like this

Bob: Was this KGB or GRU

Source: I think both

Bob: The reports that the Russian summaries that you saw would it be your assessment that they were reporting information obtained by both services in this one summary or did you see two different summaries, one a KGB summary and one a GRU summary

Source: No, they give us always one

Bob: So that summary included as you would think the information that came from the Vietnamese to the Russians, asking the questions that the Soviets wanted plus an additional assessment done by the Soviet intelligence services as to the accuracy and

Source: Yes, I think they, nobody told me whatever services were over there but I always assumed they were both over there because as you see the KGB are involved and the GRU involved

Bob: What I was trying to summarize right there was what I think I heard you say with regard to the interrogation results, now lets shift gears and talk about medical experiment results - seperate reports

Source: For the

Bob: Seperate from the interrogation results or what it in the same document

Source: About the drugs,

Bob: Yes, the results of the interrogations of the prisoners, the answers to the questions that the soviets gave to the vietnamese, was that in a seperate set of reports from the results of the medical experiments and the autopsies

Source: Well in the records six months, and one year, it was always also all combined with drugs

Bob: All combined in one report

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Source: Yea, seperate

Bob: The interrogate, but

Source: In the details, money, prof and so because the drug experiments was state secrets because you know communist system is secret documents from state, how much money to do that it was always seperate which didn't wait for one year or six months, not always, but most time, if there were some important resources or

Bob: Thinking now just about Vietnam, not the Korea information you had given us previously but Vietnam, who actually conducted the autopsies

Source: In Vietnam

Bob: uh uh

Source: For sure Vietnamese was number one but I think soviet participates

Bob: ~~DATA~~

Source: As far as I know I never saw it, we tried to put Vietnamese let us enter those we tried recruit them, take our pilots but tried they never let us in

Bob: Trying to put a few things together here, four drugs , roughtly 220 total people in the experiment that you knew of as of the last time you saw a report in 1967. If you add up the number you gave us for the autopsies for the various times it would tell you that everybody that was in the program was killed, died, sixty were given brain autopsies on their brains, 120 on their hearts and a similiar number you said on other internal organs so that would tell me that everybody died

Source: What I told you, I don't know if they tested internal organs, and I don't know, example 50 people and they tested 44 for heart, I don't know if they were the same soldiers, you know what I mean, it says we test or we analyze

Bob: So the same autopsy could have been on three or four people

Source: That I don't know

Bob: Okay, do you remember anything from the KGB and GRU report that were summarized about what they said about their ability to talk with american prisoners

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Source: You mean like this

Bob: You know like we are talking now

Source: You mean KGB and GRU by themselves, uh I can just tell you I didn't see any record

Bob: Didn't mention it

Source: Soviet intervention I can just say that General Kushev, he never left this record he said they had limited possibility because the american i mean Russian/Soviet mostly they were interest to go to officers, the present of american officers

Bob: The Vietnamese let them sit in on the interviews and ask questions

Source: I think how it goes if Vietnamese give them the record of interrogate such people so Russian push them to let them to maybe go themselves and ask more questions

Bob: Typical debriefing

Source: Yea

Gary: Are you aware that the, did they test american blacks or other populations of the pws

Source: Ah the black were special interest

Gary: Okay, and do you know anything about any of the numbers of blacks that might have been tested are you

Source: Ah at the, well first of all they, I mean the soviets, ran a presented czechoslovakia the report of about the interrogation they always seperately mentioned the blacks and how the you know how it was to see the black testing I think it was black testing no no

Bob: Drug testing only or drug testing and interrogation

Source: Both interrogation and testing but the drug testing atleast some of the drug but they were also analyze laborically and they said didn't have same effect like on the white for example to control the mind the, on the black people it was not so effective because they the black people are infeority they are, their intelligent development is not as high as the white people and they are effected more with the drugs which affected physically it is physical condition of the body then mental state because they development is

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lower

Gary: What conclusions did the experiments draw on the population that was tested. What did you learn? What was learned?

Source: Well, the conclusion was the development of the drugs in case of the war that black enemy would be much less aggressive or how do you say they will be much less enthusiastic maybe you see what there was there would be much less or much more effected by the propaganda for example they will be much more resistant to some diseases for example some oh god it was

Gary: These conclusions that are being drawn how large a subject population did they have do you remember how many do you remember the number of blacks they experimented on, they experimented on officers, they experimented on blacks do you remember the number or portions

Source: They mentioned how many persons were white, asian, black

Gary: We don't need the exact I just want a feel for numbers that you recall

Source: They would mention the number of persons were intellectuals, how many persons were lets say lower

Gary: Upper class, so forth

Source: Blacks -

Young: I heard you say a comment about you would like to check your notes -

Source: Yea

Young: Do you have notes on this subject sir

Source: Yea, I have notes, I mean you know when ~~DATA~~ I go home and write down because it was the same like these things you go to the ???? nobody will tell you what they will talk to you the next day and then they ask you about chemical weapons or nuclear weapons or then the guys go back and say oh he was ~~DATA~~ and he doesn't know about chemical weapons of course I know where they how they will be used and so forth but I am not chemical scientist to tell them you it is same as you tell me about these drugs I know how they were used, I know how they analyze it and so forth

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but uh how they produced them, from what I don't know so when I came home after then I thought they will ask me again so I go home in evening make some notes

Bob: Those notes are from the time of your initial debriefings in 1968-69, you still have those

Source: I hope - many things that we discuss for example with them in the car when they took me for for I don't know I can tell you example like talk them to about soviet strategy plan, in the car after that nobody never ask after then well they say, why he didn't tell us - okay if I told you and you don't ask me then you're not interested, no I should go and say please ask me

Gary: What was the end result of the drug experiments - was there a drug in particular that was chosen as effective - do you recall a particular drug that was the result of all this experimentation

Source: Well all of them were effective different ways -

Gary: But in terms of the objectives - the military objectives in this program did one of them come out as a success in particular

Source: I think the drugs, from what I am thinking, which affected the mind was very effective

Gary: Do you recall the name of that drug

Source: This is what I am thinking at least what they said because Czechoslovakia did not state very much on these drugs so it was very effective but I think also the drug which make you half dizzy you know so ??? drugs are effective, effective to command center and centralistic but when it comes to names I will find out from my friend from Military hospital the name of the drugs

Gary: Perhaps we could help you find your friend - in all this time who else in the SD governemnt did you ever talk to anyone about this program - how about your boss - did you ever talk with boss on the SD about this program

Source: The drug program

Gary: Uh uh the drug program in Vietnam - did you ever talk to anyone one on one just as we are talking

Source: The drugs we talked all the time in D

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also I tell you what was fantastic in ^{SD} was when you have break because the meetings were always I don't know around fifteen programs and therefore you have sometimes from one oclock to midnight so you have breaks and in the breaks you hears more than from the official effort because the Minister of Interior and third or first secretary I got yesterday a phone call from the Chief of KGB and we talked about this and this and then lets say when we go home I always go with minister to dinner you discuss again these things the Minister told you the Minister of Interiour is stupdi it is not like this so sometime it was better than what I heard at the official

Gary: Briefing understand but this is a very significant program - can you remember talking about his particular program with one individual - the minister - some other person - I would certainly remember that

Bob: Well let me come at this a different way when NICK talked with you previously about the Korean program you were able to provide him with a list of names of doctors and other people who could provide more information - both russian names and czech names I think we need the same kind of list of other people that we can talk to who would have knowledge about the Vietnamese drug program. I think that is really what we want to get at here who should we talk to

Source: Ah, first of all, the very good knowledge about the Korea/Vietnâm must have General Bofka to continue on with this experiment so he I think is very knowledgeable guy about these things

BOB: Have you talked with him at all

Source: Pardon me

BOB: Have you talked with him through the years since you've been back

Source: (Sigh) how many times how many times we were drunk together how many times a year was he in ^{SD}

BOB: That that's when you were still in ^{SD}

Source: That's true

BOB: Since you've been in the United States have you talked to him

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Source: I didn't talk to anybody I didn't want to bring no troubles and I'm trying to - I already contact my friends and trying to find out if there is just work involved and I go make myself interrogation of that find some documents to prove I'm right okay I already start the process

BOB: Who else besides Gen Balka

Source Well uh

BOB For vietnam

Source There are many people of course numbers of different countries who I don't know who is in like work or not I don't know of these that ????????? so I don't know who is that there is Lenard who was in vietnam himself that is he is the right

BOB: Who is this

Source: Joseph Lenard he was the Premier Minister before Goojak if he will talk to somebody, I don't know but he worked general staff General APEEF he in charge of the ?????? villager of the ??????

BOB: Who was that

Source: General Obakadha Rechpush he was chief of the general staff. Of course to me because I don't know how much these top people are told because they also plead guilty you know for example about korea i mentioned general Balka but I mean Korlona but again if you talk to this guy he is he can promise the vietnamese the czech troops but the soviets and most kgb supplied the czech cause which was in the civilian units and some soviet citizens he is one of them everybody know he works for the kgb not czech but how much he will say, I don't know but he was for example in Korea now they called to vietnam I think what will be better to think about some middle level people or low level because the top bosses all of them are tough comrades I'm sure if I go meet some of them which I would like to do with some financial help or supplement they will be able to talk to me and maybe bring some documents I don't know what they destroyed what they didn't . but at least supply information where we can go where we can find it and it will be best things but to talk to I'm not very enthusiastic about that I'm thinking more about doctors for example but I like (b)(1) who was my (b)(1) (b)(1) - you can imagine if I told him I will be defective how we trust each other even in the United

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States and he won't come to the department of mentalology ir ^{SD} lich each day they participate on the drugs control the mind not just on your soldiers they have special things they would give monkeys that they tested all these things so I'm looking more for these people who he was never communist this guy for example you know if go and talk to these tough guys are educate and submit any how and you never know who with

BOB: Could we ask that after this interview that you take some time and come up with if you were in my job and had the responsibility to try and identify sources who could be talked to both within the military and your defense council who would have seen the reports and the medical people who might have been involved at a technical level on Vietnam now I'm asking that what I would like you to do is to take some time working with dean and come up with a list of names and titles so that we can initiate some investigative steps Is that okay

Source: Yes

BOB: Uh one of the things another topic that you mentioned

Source: Uh sir I would like to if if will be possible to discuss these things also also with MR. Sisson cooperation

BOB: Sure yea do your work together on that - that's fine

Source: As I find out these days everything started in October when I send the letters then I go on and congress and because we discussed these things I don't know how many times with him. none officially but let me have lunch over and spend all my ?????? but I think cause and as I see this day nobody ask me only forty years nothing and I see it until ?????? is the worse ?????? and as I see it now every thing goes to grill me what is not true what I said what I didn't say I would like to do the ?????? okay I can make mistake if you ask me what is posit 6 the following night you understand it has been forty years ago and I'm sixty five years old I'm not ten years old eighteen years old To me better is to find a way to find out what we can discover what is still there what people you know how to prove they did it then a positive act

Bob: I understand, understand

Source: I don't want to make anybody troubles because uh some people say that he make cia mad because their congress ask them now do you make dia made because the congress

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ask them to make troubles to anybody

BOB: The congress has got nothing to do with this now the important thing is that at this point you are proffering some information that need to be investigated and if the congress was here or the congress wasn't here I'd still be asking you the same questions.

Source: I cannot believe ^{Date} is not know the hospital was there in Korea for example I can not believe that you know it is not outdoors but you it was there the hospital functioned you know for twenty years

Bob: There is one other critical area that we need to get into this morning and that is At THE meeting you had a week or so ago people from the senate i wan;t there but it is my understanding that you also spoke to information that you had on the movement of american prisoners from vietnam to czechoslovakia and russia. I'd like you to tell - without me prodding with a lot of questions give me your summary of what you know and then we can talk about it

Source: Well then first of all when I was again you ask me if it was twenty or twenty-two in one group i can not tell them but in 19 in ah when I was ^{so} i was in charge about all the military buildings, barracks and others through very good hall friends from Marshal Gritckos was superior to the counter intelligence bureau for general in Prague very good simple soldier . Generally the soviets I don't know if it is also true through other Eastern bloc countries I think maybe also through East Germany because from this point of view the Soviet know there was really good security for Romania and Bulgaria you never know but ah then czech of course so what they did always they tried to cut the way to soviet union with this important operations and stop into Prague maybe also somewhere else I don't know ah I understand they also used North Korea, I don't know, so I was in charge about this this building nobody can put anything through the villa or barracks if I don't know because I must given key and immediate access so I remember a few times when the military intelligence and contractors they were in charge

bob: Czech

Source: Yea for the security when they were in Prague they ask for for ah this house building I just assumed from how many rooms they need how many people there are so it is what I assume

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Bob: So it's a room count that you remember

Source: Yea

Bob: The counter intell

Source: I never go to the soldiers

Bob: Did you ever see them

Source: Yes because I was supplied I never meet personally but because I had special department that supplied them with uh food and cook/ chef to cook there themselves you this maybe good for these people who did it are still alive you I think I call last week my my stepson which is ??????? like the rem nights I ask him find the telephone of the receipts cause he signed for them cause if anything to do and he will do that He is a good country boy if these people for example who supplied the uh vietnamese with everybody else with the food and everything they care about uh means all take them to ??? central military hospital ,and gru, and counter intelligent and after gru they continue to Soviet Union

BOB: How many days would they have been in Prague normally

Source: Just approximately one week five days only

Bob: So they would have been in contact with the counter intell guys, plus medical personnel

Source: Or gru special medical personnel people who were attached

BOB: Attached to which facility

Source: Special clearance

BOB: What what medical facility do

Source: The *Day* !

Bob: Okay

Source: There the people who had the drugs also

BOB: You you do you remember actually seeing these American prisoners yourself

Source: Sure

Bob: Everytime

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Source: Uh I can not say everytime

Bob: How many times do you remember, not that you saw them
How how many times do you have information about where
American prisoners were moved through Prague uh to
Russia

Source: Uh I would say three four times

Bob: In groups of how many

Source: 20-22

Bob: And they stayed for about a week each time

Source: Yes

Bob: Anything else besides medical checks done at the central
military hospital

Source: No the soviets did everything like interrogating or
something we didn't do

Gary: How often did that happen how , when one group came how
long before another group came

Source: Uh I would say one time I think it was like three months
period but I would say six months period

gary: How long before you came out of ^{SD} was the most
recent time that you saw a bunch of American pws

Source: Uh you mean the last

Gary: The last time you saw them

Source: Last time I would say 67

Gary: Okay

Source: The spring

Gary: Would you say the three or four groups then went through
there 65-67

Source: yes

Gary: Is that reasonable

Source: Yea

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Gary: Were there any names associated with these individuals - were there lists of names uh do you remember what kind of pows were they were they officers were they blacks were they enlisted

Source: They were white and black but I never saw the lists because it was strictly controlled by soviets

Gary: But there was a list and the soviets handled it

Source: I say I never saw the list

Gary: Who was the soviet in charge of this program

Source: Uh, General Krushev but there was the they always flew to the prague from moscow these guys they were in Czechoslovakia they are generally in charge preparing for before they move to Czechoslovakia someone from gru/kgb come in and they

Gary: But they must coordinate with you did they not come to you for housing

Source: As I say those who did this preparation with the guys who were permanently in Prague then one two days before this pow come somebody from soviet union would come

Bob: How were the do you remember what kind of transport was used to bring them to Czechoslovakia and take them out of Czechoslovakia

Source: Always from flights to the Soviet Union

Gary: Airplanes

Source: Sure

Bob: And uh do you have any idea I assume when they took them back they took them to Moscow center and did whatever they were going to do with them Is that accurate or would you know

Source: I don't know

Bob: Do you know where the flights came from when they were coming to Czechoslovakia

Gary: You said there were blacks on these flights do you remember how many American blacks were brought in

Source: No I don't I saw them, some of them

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Gary: A lot

Bob: A few, many, half

Source: (sigh) Now its all so difference the transport but the I think in 67 there were many blacks

Bob: They were a special interest , you said before they were a special interest

Source: I don't know if ground pol I was in the ground pool

Gary: How would you move them about Prague or would you move them about - from the airport

Source: Closed buses

Gary: Closed buses

Bob: And who would be responsible for the security

Source: Counter Intelligence- military counter intelligence which is kgb they don't belong to minister of defense so, the other people involved the gru and military counter intelligence

Gary: Why would they move Vietnam pows from Vietnam to Prague to soviet union

Bob: And not just go right to the soviet union

Source: It is what I told you how many times the soviets did this operation they tried to the way they never want it to show it moves directly to soviet union and the second reason was the checkup uh

Bob: But the soviets have good doctors too

Source: Not it was not because they don't have good doctors it was I think since they cut the way used the ??????? to do that and in case they were sick it was in Prague not in Moscow

Bob: Sure

Gary: Okay

Bob: The cut out angle I understand that but you balance off on the other side the fact that now so many more people know in Czechoslovakia and it breaks the security factor

Source:

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DATA

Bob:

DATA

Source:

DATA

Gary: Did you ever speak to General Babka about these Americans

Source: Sure

Gary: You spoke to him directly you had a conversation with him

Source: Oh many times

Gary: About the Americans in specific what was his estimate

Source: Mostly in Korea after then he was in Korea

Gary: Which was a much earlier time

Source: He was directly in charge

Gary : uhuh

Source: There were many scoundrels which we discuss in difference or concern because the guy who was there before me the General just one name and check I remember why I don't know but he did black market when he was there in Korea he was big scoundrel so we discussed many things all the time with him because we were friends you know but about Vietnam it was different thing because he used generally experience which he had from Korea so he was not bad sitting so many years like in korea

Gary: Would you say this was a state secret this would be classified at the state secret level how many people

Source: The kgb must prove the soviet kgb must prove people were in there

Gary: So they get the ruling on who gets

Source: The come in from Moscow and they who and they say we accept this one and this we do not accept

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Gary: uh uh How many Czechs would you say to your direct knowledge were aware of this program

Bob: The Vietnam program

Gary: How many ~~DATA~~ and General Babka and who else

Source: For Vietnam you must discuss different way if you are talking Vietnamese weapons or food or whatever I do not there were many people

Gary: But our interest is Pws only who would have been aware of the pws program

source: PW how many people well again if you are talking about the test the drug there are more people

Gary: No I am talking only about pws moving through Prague

Source: Oh oh okay how many people I would say probably 10

Gary 10 people and you can help us with the names of these people if you can use your notes and memory you can give us a list of these people

Source: Sure

Gary: Would there have been a records kept of the movement of pows through Prague

Source: I don't think so

Gary: No written reports any where

Source: I don't think so there must be record I mean there must be some papers when they checked up but the doctors never had really name - you know Jack Smith or whatever but it must have atleast say number 21 has tuberculosis or something you know because this we must give to the soviets if there are some with copies around that I don't know but for sure this was written you know how it is with each of the soldiers

Gary: But did you ever read any reports that talked about this program of moving pows from Vietnam to

Source: Prague

Gary: Right

Source: Would brief the ~~DATA~~ on next weekend when it

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was done but for me it was from the how do you call it

Gary: Minutes

Source: I wrote everything that happened in the ~~DATA~~

Gary: Right, the minutes of the meeting, the records

Gary: Did you ever read any reports on the movement of Vietnam pws from Vietnam to anywhere

Source: No, you mean like Germany

Gary: Or Russia or wherever was there anyone other than General Babka that you talked about the movement of pws through Prague with direct conversations

Source: Well lets see like Doctor Binarsch who checked them in hospital

Gary: You had conversation with Doctor Binarsch

Source: Absolutely

Gary: Anybody else

Source: uh the people that would care about them

Gary: You mean the housekeepers , the

Source: The guy that was in charge of my department is different from the ???? department

Gary: What was his name

Source: His name was Bomire Rouschnair he was later on Assistant of ???? in Prague exactly before I defected that they appointed him

Gary: Did you ever talk about this program directly with General Kushchev

Source: No I didn't talk to him directly but I was present when he talked to minister

Gary: He would talk to the minister about the movement of these pws which minister would he talk to

Source: Defense Minister

Gary: The defense minister who was Borenowski General Kushchev who did he work for was he kgb was he gru was

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he soviet army

Source: Well he was officially soviet army but he was gru - soviet gru

Gary: Soviet Gru

Source: Course they have special because he was top boss for the soviet advisers that what they called it

Gary: In Czechoslovakia

Source: In czechoslovakia he was there 12 years only

Gary: Do you know when he was there

Source: When?? sure he was there ^{DATA} and he came there lets see when was the agreement with Austria he come back when Krushev took power that was in 56 . 56 he was at jail in Siberia they let him go out - went into Bermia for one month then and uh then he come to Czechoslovakia and was there until ^{DATA} so I don't know it was the end of 56 or the beginning of - no it was 56 because I know he was there for eleven or twelve years ^{DATA}

Gary: Do you know where he is today

Source: As far I know he is he lives in Minsk Alexander Kushchev NO

Bob: That will be another trip to Russia for you Colonel

Young: This is a joint effort Bob

Gary: Was there any unusual pws in the mix pws that stand out in your mind - were there any handicapped pws - people like that that were going through Prague - people that you would remember - unique people

Source: What I saw I did not see that

Gary: Was there anything unusual that happened when they were being transferred in their five or six days -

Bob: Other than the medical checkup

Gary: That's right

Bob: What were the results of the medical checkups

Gary: Any of them get lost

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Source: I hope not

Gary: uhha - we'll hold you accountable I'm sure

Source: I hope not - I think that except contrary to their origins I'm sorry for them they were scared they were very friendly fortunately the people who were there I mean the staff were ????? to talk to them also because they did not speak English but I think psychology clear at least about what the ????? General Stefanof who at that time Chief of Counter Intelligence they make a promise because they thought these pow are in a different war than was Vietnam because this was the soviet most some of them lived in United States because I am sorry to say so if you come from Vietnam and you have clean breath and very good food you do the different out of Vietnam you stay there so they were worried I think the russians they are crazy peoples you can not even smile at each other so it was just when things were you somebody fight or

Gary: Nothing unusual Do you remember in specific where the houses were

Source: Sure, in Prague

Gary: What addresses were

Source: Can I give it to you later

Gary: Surely

Source: I know

Gary: You know several specific addresses you know the houses

Source: Sure, I know everyone I go there all the time I have Czech map I can look at and even show you the streets where it is

Gary: Good

Source: Giving a list of areas (could not understand what he was saying) mumbling

Gary: Was it outside of town, suburbs, in

source: I go there all the time (list of areas) I think one house owned by president of

Bob: Did General Kushchev ever talk to you about what happened to the American prisoners once they were taken

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to the Soviet Union what they were going to try to accomplish with them did you ever hear any results come back

Source: Most of it 100% it was to continue their research they mentioned some results they mentioned they were from Vietnam and they were ours

bob: So both kinds were

source: Because it was soviet top secret and if you ask you are in trouble Kushchev and I would go fishing because he was so ????? he was very friendly he was supposed to state peers, and Kushchev and Bresnef give me one more please give me one more because I tell you were were happy with him he was old guy and he didn't control us so much like the younger style guy because he was more friendly especially his wife she was very friendly he would never tell us he was in Siberia but his wife told she speak ^{SD} not that well though he never said one word he always spoke to me in Russian but on the other hand what I learned from him he was in Siberia because it is understand he was Alexander to Kroskivski and these guys and he was arrested like spy he go twenty-five years and then the war started they go to Siberia and ask these officers and general to go to work he finished the war in Berlin like chief of staff of one army hero of soviet union under ????? he ask for vacation to go to Minsk where his wife live and they said of course he took the train and at the railroad station the kgb and they said comrade General this bureau make the safe again you have twelve more years for years you were in the war and eight years you were in jail twelve more years and I tell you when I was fishing with him because first meeting ??? nothing unusual we hear it hundred times a day but when I was fishing with him I say comrade GEneral how is it possible in this ?????I will hate the party I will hate the country, and he said just once ^{SC} you don't understand I am Russian. So I'm just telling you because I was with him everyday case he has you have officer minister next to him was the guy who was like security for the minister next was guy who was ????? for him and there was his officers I was ????? I am meeting him today

Bob: We've talked about three general themes today - the medical experimentation that took place in Vietnam - the transfer of some prisoners through Prague back to the USSR - and I guess the third theme that I picked out of this is that information was given to you by General Kushchev that the medical experimentation continued on

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American prisoners once they were taken to Soviet Union - I'd like to ask two things - are there any details about any of those three themes that we didn't ask about that you would find significant or that you think we should know about

Source: The experiments in Vietnam and Soviet Union and the movement of prisoners through Prague . Well I'm still I think and it is not I talk to the guy what is his name ^{AN} F i knew I will not be in position to find our something in the kgb files or gru files I will go mostly to speak to the talking about the tests I would go mostly to the (b)(1)
(b)(1) and I will go to the (b)(1) because there some (b)(1) I will go to the (b)(1)

Bob: I understand you are recounting for us possible leads for further investigation and from Mr ^{AN} interview with you I've seen some of those things and I appreciate you remembering those again What I am after here in your mind - in your remembrance of the those times are there any other pieces of information that you can recall relating to medical experimentation on U.S. prisoners in Vietnam movement of U.S. prisoners from Vietnam to the Soviet Union and thirdly the continuation of those experiments in the Soviet Union. Any other details - any other things you think we should know about that perhaps we weren't smart enough to ask the right questions.

Source: I don't know if it will help you for example the budget for these things money for these things money if it is very important or not but I think it is there possibly also for

Bob: Where is this - where would we look for those records

Source: The budget gru or in the budget for the defense council because for any of these things it was through budget it is one thing which I know wrote - second things of course if the ??? in the records about the meeting of the political and military leaders of the Warsaw Pact. but again I think

Bob: Why the Warsaw Pact - period meetings a subject as sensitive as this one would have been discussed in front of Romanians and Bulgarians

Source: Well uh I can tell you if it was discussed first of all especially Kruschev he was big mouth he said things many things that Brezhnev never said so if he give Koreas or

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someone but I don't know if it is in the records but if you are talking about Warsaw Pact I think the military leaders many times the Romanians were not present of course in front of the Romanians there were very careful but if they were not present and at that time Marshal Brezhnev for example saw he was talking about these things not openly with Romanians

Bob: Private meetings perhaps

Source: But he said look we have to go this this this because this doesn't work and so you know it happened but again it was question

Bob: When was Kruschev when did Brezhnev take over

Source: in 64

Bob: in 64, So if Khrushchev would have been talking about experimentation on Americans prisoners in Vietnam it would have had to have been before 64 or before

Source: yes

Bob: And Brezhnev never talked

Source: Brezhnev never

Bob: Closed mouth

Source: Like Bretchkov and Brezhnev when they were drunk they tell you something because they know that he like the liquor from Cuba and Hamansburg and so on and he was drunk he opened his mouth if he was not drunk i always give him three hours in the party if he was nuts three hours he tell me not one word I walked around him like a dog but on the other hand next time when he was drunk he show him american pornographic -

Bob: Let me try one more general question I ask you if you had any other pieces of information about the three themes I talked about the experimentation in Vietnam , the movement to Prague and then on to the USSR and experimentation in USSR put those three themes over here not a question anything else about any Americans pws some other theme other than the three we had talked about

Source: About pws

Bob: Yes American pws from Vietnam

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Gary: Or Laos or Cambodia

Bob: From the war - Southeast asia war

Source: I just you know I think maybe I go to lay down

Bob: Okay then when you get with David

Source: One thing I want to tell you is ah what I learned from Khrushchev no I didn't see papers Once we discussed you know the soviets and czechs you because the soviets were very bad the Vietnamese didn't let them go in like sending in an official regiment like air force in Santiago and ????? everything ready because they thought the Americans had privilege and trained specialty air force for the war The ground forces not so much the because the Europe they are crazy but especially pilots and ah you know the honored always the war how it was going how the operation and these things and when Khrushchev told me which from that I understand they used some of the prisoners who were willing to work with them and cooperated with them because of these were the least trouble them, probably better food and better life and Khrushchev told me they have exterapees of some I don't know how many who are very good because they have analyzed operations from the American side but if they were free or fined for I don't know Just because of discussion he make fun about the army so army operated this too heavy complicated army staff and I ask him how we have all this information because I thought we just and he said very useful the United States of some prisoners of war It was one of of them who cannot go home

Bob: So um you try to restate what I think I heard you some of the pilots

Source: I don't say pilots I don't know

Bob: Um alright, okay, some of the prisoners

Source: Some of prisoners had cooperated them

Bob: Yea and gave them very useful information about us

Source: Information they already used before when they interrogated but I think they give them some questions when they analyzed the soviets the operations in Vietnam the military ?????they give them some questions or maybe show them I don't know and they held them to analyze the operation.

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the three Vietnamese themes people, places and institutions and then if you the two of you can go over the notes in there entirety to see if there is anything else in there that pops out any other themes

- Gary: A list of the people with whom Mr. Chanova has talked about Vietnam pws going through Prague
- Bob: Anyone having knowledge, Alan anything more
- Alan: No
- Bob: Gary
- Gary: No
- Bob: Appreciate the opportunity, appreciate the time and look forward to getting that information obviously investigations need to be pushed forward and we need to follow up these leads in Europe perhaps we could work together a little on that.

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