

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

CATEGORY = 4

M = 28

MESSAGE = #2615994

DF

#8428 2422314

ZNY MMNSH

ZKZK PP ZLZ HAH DE

P 302041Z AUG 74

FM DIRNSA

TO NSA UNIFORM SIERRA NCR NMCC WHITE HOUSE

ZEM

~~SECRET SPOKE ISHAR~~

XXMM

ENP#1F0074242 2/00/13372-74 (VCJ) PREPARATIONS FOR POW EXCHANGE BEING MADE IN

NORTHERN LAOS

XXCC

THE PLANNED MOVEMENT OF PRISONERS OF WAR EX-CHANGES WAS REVEALED ON 27 AUGUST BY THE NVA 4TH ENGINEER BATTALION OF BINH TRAM 11 OPERATING IN XIENG KHOUANG PROVINCE, LAOS. THE NUMBERS AND NATIONALITIES OF THE PRISONERS WERE NOT SPECIFIED, BUT THEY ARE TO MOVE ALONG ROUTE 7 SOMETIME DURING THE PERIOD BETWEEN 31 AUGUST AND 4 SEPTEMBER. IN PREPARATION FOR THE PRISONER MOVEMENT, THE 4TH BATTALION IS REPAIRING A 13 KILOMETER SECTION OF ROUTE 7 FROM KILOMETER MARKER 340 TO 352, LOCATED IN THE BAN BAN-XIENG KHOUANG AREA. FOUR THOUSAND LOGS WILL BE NEEDED TO CORDUROY THE SECTION OF MUDDY ROAD THAT HAS BEEN SERIOUSLY DAMAGED BY THE RAINS. THE WORK IS BEING HAMPERED BY A LACK OF GASOLINE AND REPAIR MATERIALS. ACCORDING TO COLLATERAL, THE PATHET LAO ARE SCHEDULED TO RELEASE ITS PRISONERS AS PART OF A GENERAL PRISONER EXCHANGE ON 12 SEPTEMBER. THE EXCHANGE INCLUDES AN AMERICAN CIVILIAN PILOT AS WELL AS LAOTIANS AND THAIS. THE PILOT'S RELEASE, ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR 12 SEPTEMBER, HAS BEEN POSTPONED TO 19 SEPTEMBER. ISHAR XGDS 2 XXHH #8428

Approved for release by NSA on 07-18-2014, Transparency Case# 65886

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