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TWO CAPTURED AMERICAN PRISONERS ORDERED RELEASED BY THE NATIONAL

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Approved for release by NSA on 08-01-2014, Transparency Case# 65886

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IC ACCORDING TO AN Ø2MY
DOCID: 4135705 2 NEWS RELEASE FROM THE MAIN OFFICE OF THE LIBERATION NEWS AGENCY TO THE LNA STATION IN HANOI ((U)), TWO AMERICAN

GEORGE EDWARD GROOM AND FRANCIS QUINN, WERE RELEASED BY THE NFLSVN IN THE VICINITY OF KOM THANH HAMLET, HOA KHUONG COMMUNE((KA)); HOA VANG DISTRICT, QUANG NAM PROVINCE.

THE RELEASE OF THE PRISONERS WAS "BASED UPON THEIR REPENTANT ATTITUDE AND UPON THEIR CONFESSIONS OF CRIMES PERPETRATED AGAINST THE PEOPLES OF VIETNAM AND THEIR REQUEST FOR FORGIVENESS".

BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS GIVEN CONCERNING THE TWO MEN ARE AS FOLLOWS:

GEORGE EDWARD GROOM

BORN 23 JAN 33. PLACE OF RESIDENCE; STEWARTSON, MISSOURI. RANK : SGT. SN: 17 329 883. BEFORE COMING TO VIETNAM, HE WAS A MEMBER OF C. C. A. ((E)) UNIT, 1575 F.GS., (7-69 331. HE WAS STATIONED AT HOA CAM POST, QUANG NAM PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM.

FRANCIS QUINN

THIRTY THREE (33) YEARS OLD FROM BUFFALO, NEW YORK. SN 12 113 474. RANK SFC. PREVIOUSLY A MEMBER OF A COMPANY ((COMPANY)) ON OKINAWA. HE WAS STATIONED AT HOA CAM POST QUANG NAM PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM.

2/ IN ORDER TO REAP THE MAXIMUM PROPAGANDA VALUE FROM SUCH OSTENTATIOUS LARGESSE, THE NFLSVN PURPORTEDLY RELEASED THE AMERICANS AFTER THE SUBJECT PRISONERS PREPARED A STATEMENT ADDRESSED TO THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT REQUESTING AMNESTY AND RELEASE , PROMISING THAT THEY WOULD OPPOSE IMPERIALISTIC AMERICAN PLOTS FOR AGGRESSION AND WAR IN SOUTH VIETNAM. SIGNING THE 25 APRIL 62 TEXT QUOTED IN THE ABOVE NEWS RELEASE WAS NGUYEN-HUU-THO, LAWYER, CHAIRMAN OF THE OFFICIAL CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT OF

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SOUTH VIETNAM.

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COMMENT: IN AN APPARENT G.V.N. EFFORT TO SMOTHER THE IMPACT OF SUCH AN EXPLOSIVE NEWS ITEM, A FRONT PAGE ARTICLE APPEARING IN THE 03AP2 EDITION OF THE "SAIGON MAI" DAILY NEWSPAPER STATED THAT QTE THE TWO AMERICAN MASTERSERGEANTS CAPTURED BY THE V.C. AT AN CHAU(DA NANG) HAD EEEN RESCUED BY G.V.N. FORCES UNQTE. WORTH NOTING IN THIS VERSION OF THE SAME INCIDNT IS THAT THE REEYUE OF THESE AMERICANS WAS SUPPOSED TO HAVE BEEN EFFECTED SOME THREE (3) WEEKS SUBSEQUENT TO THEIR CAPTURE. THIS FACT TENDS TO SUBSTANTIATE THE 25 AP 62 DATE LINE OF THE NFLSVN TEXT PASSED BY LNA. USMACV, QUOTING OFFICIAL G.V.N

SOURCES IN A REPORT DATED 01 MAY 62 STATED THAT THE TWO AMERICANS CAPTURED ON THE MORNING OF 08 APRIL 62 HAD BEEN UTE RESCUED UNHARMED UNQTS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD OF THEIR CAPTURE DURING SELF DEFENCE-CORP-IMPERATION PERSONALLY CONDUCTED BY THE DEPUTY CHIEF

STAFF OF I CORPS.

((A)) ADDRESSEE OF THIS TEXT SHOULD BE NOTED AND PROPER RELATIONSHIP DRAWN BETWEEN LNA IN SVN AND THE VEIT NAM NEWS AGENC.(VNA) IN SVN. THE LATTER IS PRESS COUNTER PART OF THE VOICE OF VIETNAM (RADIO HANOI)

CONDITIONS ARE FAVORABLE FOR WORLD-WIDE COVERAGE OF THIS INCIDENT BY RED BLOC COUNTRIES. IT IS POSSIBLE THIS LABOR DAY (01MY2) GESTURE

SERVE AS A FUTURE SYMBOL FOR THE UNITING OF THE LABORING CLASSES IN SOUTH VIETNAM.

((B)) AS IN TEXT. UNIDENTIFIED.

~~S E C R E T SABRE~~

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