

INTERVIEW WITH VIETNAM WAR PARTICIPANT

W	FILE	SUBJ.	WI
	DATE	SUB-CAT.	
	7/13/72		

NAME NGUYEN HANH (GVN)

BACKGROUND ARVN Sergeant, Serial No 26-U-69865, captured and taken to

North Vietnam. Released afterwards in Quang-Tri

SUBJECT: POW

SOURCE JUSPAO

Q.- Then, what did you do there ?
A.- I was interrogated there.
Q.- They interrogated you initially there ?
A.- They first interrogated me there.
Q.- Then you stayed there one day or how long ?
A.- I stayed there until the evening of the 2nd, around midnight.
Q.- At around midnight, they took you to the mountain by what road ?
A.- By the Thuong Nguyen road.
Q.- When you were at Thuong Xa, while they interogated you, how many self-defense forces troops and regional forces troops did you meet there ?
A.- I was alone at that base.
Q.- You were alone ?
A.- Yes.
Q.- Did they undress you and take your uniform and then give you other clothes ?
A.- No, they took my money only.
Q.- Were you in uniform or in plain clothes at that time ?
A.- I was in plain clothes but I wore a jacket.
Q.- Is that the jacket which preserved you from the cold ?
A.- Yes.
Q.- Inside the jacket were a plain shirt and pants. The jacket was over the shirt isn't it ?
A.- Yes.
Q.- What was the first thing they did when they captured you ?
A.- They took my money.
Q.- They took the money themselves or they ordered you to give it to them?
A.- They told me to give it to them.
Q.- They told you to give your money to them ?
A.- Yes.
Q.- How about the other papers and documents ?
A.- I threw away all my individual papers so they could not catch them.
Q.- After that, where did they take you to ?
A.- After that, they took me to Thuong Nguyen.

Q.- 5 or 6:00PM on the third. But after you arrived at their province headquarters, what did they ask you to do ?

A.- They interrogated me.

Q.- They also ~~asked~~ asked you to depose as before, isn't it ?

Q.- Then after you deposed, did they tell you where you should go?

A.- To the Western area.

Q.- They told you that you must be taken to the prisoners' camp in the Western area ?

A.- Yes.

Q.- The Western area of the Ba Long mountainous area ?

A.- Yes.

Q.- How long did you stay in that prisoners' camp ?

A.- Seven days.

Q.- Was that the Ba Long prisoners' camp ?

A.- Yes, the mountainous area of Balong, in the western area.

Q.- How far was it from the province to the prisoners' camp ? It took you how many days to go there ?

A.- I forget how many days it took me to go there.

A.- I was captured on the 1st, on the 3rd I arrived there.

Q.- But it was only the province headquarters; when did you arrive to the prisoners' camp.

A.- The prisoners' camp was right at the Ba Long mountainous area.

A.- the Ba Long mountainous area is adjacent to the Laotian boundaries. It is very close to Laos.

Q.- How long did you stay at that prisoners' camp?

A.- I stayed there 7 days.

Q.- There were about how many people who were detained there with you ?

A.- Around one hundred fifty people.

Q.- Do you remember to what arms they belong to ?

A.- Yes, it is easy for me to remember the arms: regional forces; self-defense corps, main force, ranger..

Q.- Self-defense corps, regional forces, ranger and main force. How about the main force troops, to what division most of them belong ?

A.- Only two hours.

Q.- While deposing, did you tell them you were a sergeant ?

A.- Yes, I did

Q.- How ?

A.- Yes, I told them I was a sergeant. I even told them the date on which I joined the army: March 1, 1957.

Q.- Do you remember the subject of the study ?

A.- The subject dealt only with matters such as the US troops are invaders, aggressors and so on.

Q.- That meant they explained their revolutionary policy, wasn't it? They taught you about the clemency of the revolution with regards to people going astray wasn't it ?

A.- Yes.

Q.- Did they propagandized the victories of the VC's in the South with you ?

A.- Yes.

Q.- After they propagandized about the victories of the VC's in the South, they asked you to be conscious of your responsibility to join the revolution to fight the US and save the country, wasn't it ?

A.- Yes.

Q.- How about their asking you to labor ?

A.- Yes, they asked me to carry rice.

Q.- When carrying rice, did you go by group of 150 men or by small groups ?

A.- We went by small groups.

Q.- Carrying the rice they produced ?

A.- We carried rice and looked for firewoods.

Q.- You carried the rice into the jungle and looked for wood to make a fire and cook ?

A.- We cooked rice with sweet potatoes and manioc we got from the highlanders.

Q.- Each group like that consisted of about how many of our troops and each group had how many VC's guards.

A.- Each group usually consisted of 20 men.

Q.- How many guards were there ?

- A.- No, he compelled each one of us to voice our opinion. When we did not voice our opinion, he would ask each one of us.
- Q.- At the time for enunciating one's opinion, he would permit those who willingly raised their hands, wasn't it? Or he just pointed at each one of you?
- A.- He pointed at each man. If no one wanted to voice his opinion when the time for do^{-ing} came, he would point at each one of the men who were there. All of them, without any exception.
- Q.- He pointed at everybody present?
- A.- Yes, everybody has to speak.
- Q.- In case he pointed at you, what would you say after the political lesson which he taught on that day?
- Q.- What lesson did you study on that day, and how did he compel you to voice your opinion?
- A.- I would say that the Americans are invaders, aggressors and so on.
- Q.- What was the question he asked you?
- A.- The question was: "what did the US aggressors plan to do in this area i. e. in the South?"
- Q.- How did you answer?
- A.- I answered accordingly to them.
- Q.- What did he say?
- A.- He spoke only after we've studied.
- Q.- ~~What~~ ~~did~~ ~~he~~ ~~say~~ ~~in~~ the study session?
- A.- He said the US aggressors planned to take South Vietnam to use it a stepping stone to attack Laos and Cambodia and other countries.
- Q.- In such study sessions, had someone ever stood up to show a protesting attitude or to say that what the commander said wasn't right?
- A.- Never.
- Q.- Suppose that someone acted like that, what would you think?
- A.- If such a thing supposedly happens, I would not pay attention to it.
- Q.- After you stayed there seven days, they called you up one by one, right?

Q- Did he say anything about the...
A- Yes, he said...
Q- At the time...
A- He pointed at each man...
Q- He pointed at everybody present?
A- Yes, everybody has to speak...
Q- In case he pointed at you, that would be...
A- That lesson did you study on that day...
Q- Would you be voice your opinion?
A- I would say that the...
Q- That was the question he asked you?
A- The question was "what did the..."
Q- How did you answer?
A- I answered accordingly to them...
Q- That did he say?
A- He made only after we've studied...
Q- How did he think in the study session?
A- He said the...
Q- In such study sessions, the...
A- Never...
Q- Suppose that...
A- It was a...
Q- Also...

