

UNCLASSIFIED

#M86-051
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3. Information: The following information was related by Source to interviewer as fact. Sometime in early 1985 (exact date or month not recalled by Source), Source met a friend and fellow boat escapee (also on boat MB 551, see Reference) named Tran Van Phu, who then lived approximately one-half kilometer from Source's home (at 50/14 Ap 3 Hamlet, Binh Tri Dong Village, Binh Chanh District, HCMC) (Phu's address not recalled by Source). Phu invited Source to join in with him to go and recover the remains of an American who had died in Vietnam during the war. Phu told Source they could recover the remains of two Americans. Approximately two days later, Phu contacted a relative of his (NFI) and Phu, Source, and the relative all travelled to Duc Hue District Town of Long An Province, where this relative lived (address unknown to Source). Phu and the relative (without Source) went to recover the remains while Source stayed behind. Source was told by Phu that they would be travelling to an area near the Cambodian/Vietnam border. Approximately two days later, they returned with the remains of the two Americans.

Source observed the remains and recalled seeing skulls and stated he felt the remains were approximately 90 percent complete. Source did not recall having seen any teeth with the remains, but did recall the remains were grayish in color and did not appear as if they had been burned. The second set of remains appeared to be from 80 to 90 percent complete and also did not look as if they had been burned. Source saw no personal items associated with the remains, including dog tags. Source recalled having been told by Phu that they had to dig to recover the remains.

Source lived with the relative in Long An until his escape from Vietnam. Phu had planned to bring along the remains on their escape, but their escape was so hasty, they had no time to arrange to bring the remains along.