

CJTF

VZCZCBTO525
 PP RUEHBT
 DE RUHQSGG #1826 2542200
 ZNR UUUUU
 P 112200Z SEP 93 ZYB
 FM USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3//
 TO RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5//
 INFO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP/POWMIA//
 RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//EAP-VLC//
 RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC//DOF/DOF-3//
 RUHVAAA/CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//
 RUHQHQI/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI
 RUEHBT/CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH
 BT
 UNCLAS//NQ3460//
 SECTION 04 OF 03
 OPER/FULL ACCOUNTING//
 MSGID/GENADMIN/USCINCPAC J3//
 AMPH/SUBJ: PROPOSED TALKING POINTS FOR POW/MIA TECHNICAL MEETING IN
 HANOI ON 27 SEP 93//
 RMKS/1. PROPOSE FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS FOR POW/MIA TECHNICAL
 MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 27 SEP 9 IN HANOI. I VIEW OF RAPIDLY
 EVOLVING SITUATION, JTF-FA ANTICIPATES REVISING SCRIPT TO REFLECT
 MOST RECENT DEVELOPMENTS. REQUEST JOINT STAFF CLEARLY MARK OR
 OTHERWISE INDICATE CHANGES/ADDITIONS/DELETIONS WHICH RESULT FROM

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cy to Mr. Bell

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 POLICY LEVEL COORDINATION TO FACILITATE REVISING THE FINAL SCRIPT.
 REQUEST POLICY CLEARANCE NLT 20 SEP 93.
 2. PROPOSED TALKING POINTS.

A. MR. CONG, ONCE AGAIN WE ARE PLEASED TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM TO DISCUSS THE STATUS OF OUR JOINT EFFORT TO ACHIEVE THE FULLEST POSSIBLE ACCOUNTING FOR AMERICANS MISSING FROM THE WAR IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. A LOT HAS HAPPENED SINCE WE MET IN HANOI LAST JULY. WE KNOW THIS HAS BEEN AN EXTREMELY BUSY PERIOD FOR THE VNOSMP AS IT HAS BEEN FOR US.

B. BEFORE BEGINNING THE DISCUSSION, WE WISH TO ACKNOWLEDGE YOUR GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO OUR MEDICAL EVACUATION OF AN INJURED TEAM MEMBER FROM QUANG BINH PROVINCE 22 AUGUST 1993. WE SINCERELY THANK ALL INVOLVED IN COORDINATING THIS HUMANITARIAN OPERATION. FORTUNATELY, OUR MAN SURVIVED WITH MINIMAL INJURY, IN LARGE PART DUE TO YOUR EFFORTS. HOWEVER, THIS INCIDENT UNDERScores THE CRITICAL NEED FOR A RELIABLE, LONG DISTANCE COMMUNICATIONS CAPABILITY.

C. THE SAFETY OF ALL TEAM MEMBERS, BOTH VIETNAMESE AND AMERICAN, IS OUR PARAMOUNT CONCERN. THEREFORE, WE MUST AGAIN POINT OUT OUR NEED TO USE SATELLITE COMMUNICATIONS TRANSCIVERS DURING JOINT FIELD ACTIVITIES. BECAUSE OF THE UNRELIABILITY OF HIGH FREQUENCY RADIO

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 COMMUNICATIONS AND LIMITED TELEPHONE SERVICE TO FIELD SITES, THERE WAS A POTENTIALLY LIFE-THREATENING DELAY IN ARRANGING THE EVACUATION
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OF OUR INJURED TEAM MEMBER. DURING THE GIBBONS DELEGATION VISIT TO HANOI ON 13 AUG 93, CONGRESSMAN THOMAS ASKED VICE FOREIGN MINISTER LE MAI ABOUT USING SATCOM. THE VICE MINISTER INDICATED HE WOULD LEND HIS SUPPORT TO OUR REQUEST. THIS RECENT INSTANCE ILLUSTRATES THE NECESSITY OF IMPLEMENTING THIS VITAL SAFETY PRECAUTION AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR ACTIVE SUPPORT FOR THIS REQUEST.

D. TODAY WE WILL DISCUSS THE U.S. PRESIDENT'S FOUR MEASURES OF PROGRESS AND THE ONGOING RESEARCH PROGRAMS; SUMMARIZE THE RESULTS OF THE 25TH JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY; PROVIDE DETAILS OF THE 26TH JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY; AND PRESENT GENERAL PLANS FOR THE 27TH JFA. FOLLOWING THAT, WE WILL PRESENT A FORENSIC UPDATE AND REVIEW OTHER TECHNICAL ISSUES.

E. NOW WE WOULD LIKE TO GIVE YOU OUR ASSESSMENT OF THE STATUS OF THE FOUR MEASURES OF PROGRESS ON THE POW-MIA ISSUE ENUMERATED BY PRESIDENT CLINTON. TO REPEAT, THESE FOUR MEASURES ARE ASSISTANCE IN IMPLEMENTING TRILATERAL INVESTIGATIONS ALONG THE VIETNAM-LAOS BORDER; RECOVERY AND REPATRIATION OF REMAINS; CONTINUED RESOLUTION OF THE 92

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 INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN THE 70 DISCREPANCY CASES THROUGH WITNESS INTERVIEWS AND LIVE SIGHTING INVESTIGATIONS; AND, ACCELERATED EFFORTS TO PROVIDE ALL POW/MIA-RELATED DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO INDIVIDUAL CASES. JOINT TASK FORCE FULL ACCOUNTING STANDS READY TO ASSIST VIETNAM IN ANY WAY IN ITS EFFORTS TO PRODUCE THE GREATEST POSSIBLE TANGIBLE RESULTS IN THESE AREAS.

F. DURING THE TRILATERAL MEETING IN HAWAII LAST AUGUST, WE OBSERVED YOUR COMMITMENT TO CONDUCT A TRILATERAL OPERATION IN THE BORDER AREA WITH LAOS, AND THE POSITIVE, COOPERATIVE MANNER IN WHICH YOUR DELEGATES APPROACHED THE NEGOTIATIONS. WE RECOGNIZE THAT THE TRILATERAL FIELD ACTIVITY MEANS PLANNING FOR AN ADDITIONAL OPERATION ON YOUR PART. OUR GOVERNMENT IS AWARE OF THIS ADDITIONAL DEMAND ON YOUR RESOURCES AND THE COMMITMENT IT REQUIRES.

G. UNDOUBTEDLY, YOU HAVE NOTICED THE EMPHASIS WE PLACE ON FINDING AND IDENTIFYING REMAINS. AGAIN, WE REMIND YOU THAT IDENTIFICATION OF REMAINS IS THE MOST CONCLUSIVE WAY OF RESOLVING THE STATUS OF MISSING INDIVIDUALS. THUS, WE WELCOME THE RENEWAL OF YOUR GOVERNMENT'S REMAINS RETURN PROGRAM, AND THE RESPONSES WHICH FOLLOWED. RESULTS FROM THE FIELD, BOTH FROM RECOVERIES AND LOCAL TURN-INS, WERE VERY PRODUCTIVE.

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(1) WE ALSO APPRECIATE YOUR ARRANGING FOR THE SPECIAL JOINT FORENSIC REVIEW ON 7-8 SEP 93, AND ALLOWING THE SPECIAL REMAINS TEAM TO BEGIN WORK ON 30 AUG 93. IT WILL PROBABLY BE LATE OCTOBER BEFORE WE HAVE ANY RESULTS TO REPORT FROM THIS TEAM.

(2) TO CONTINUE BUILDING ON THE PACE OF JOINT FIELD RECOVERIES, WE PROPOSE THAT WHENEVER THE VIETNAMESE OR U.S. SIDE IDENTIFIES A SITE PROMISING A HIGH PROBABILITY OF RECOVERING REMAINS, WE EXCAVATE THE SITE AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE OPPORTUNITY. CASE 1879 DURING THE LAST JFA IS AN EXAMPLE OF THIS KIND OF FLEXIBILITY. IN

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ADDITION, WE WELCOME ANY SUGGESTIONS OR SITES YOUR SIDE MAY NOMINATE WHICH MAY PRESENT A GOOD PROBABILITY FOR RECOVERY. WE ASK YOU TO IDENTIFY THESE CASES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE TO FACILITATE PLANNING. WITH THE PACE AND SCOPE OF JOINT OPERATIONS EXPANDING SO RAPIDLY, WE ALSO ASK YOUR CANDID EVALUATIONS OF THE CASES ALREADY PROPOSED FOR INVESTIGATION AND EXCAVATION AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE IN THE PLANNING PROCESS. YOUR FRANK ASSESSMENT OF OUR PLANS WILL HELP TO ACHIEVE THE DESIRED, TANGIBLE RESULTS IN OUR JOINT INVESTIGATIONS.

H. TURNING TO THE PRIORITY CASES, THE SECOND PHASE OF PRIORITY CASE INVESTIGATION TEAM ACTIVITIES IN MILITARY REGION 5 BEGAN ON 10 AUG 93.

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(1) SO FAR, THIS TEAM HAS ENJOYED OUTSTANDING SUPPORT, AND HAS MADE A GOOD START INVESTIGATING THE 92 INDIVIDUALS INCLUDED IN THE 70 PRIORITY DISCREPANCY CASES. WE EXPECT TO COMPLETE PHASE TWO IN OCT 93. NOTABLY, THE TEAM FOUND THAT INTERVIEWS WITH PEOPLE'S ARMY VETERANS WERE VERY PRODUCTIVE. THE VETERANS HAVE BECOME AN EXTREMELY VALUABLE SOURCE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING A NUMBER OF OUR UNACCOUNTED. THIS SUGGESTS THAT ADDITIONAL MEETINGS COULD ALSO BE PROFITABLE. SINCE THE VARIOUS VETERANS GROUPS SEEM TO BE THE BEST PLACE TO LOCATE INDIVIDUALS WITH RELEVANT INFORMATION, WE REQUEST YOUR HELP IN IDENTIFYING SOME ADDITIONAL VETERANS GROUPS WHERE WE COULD EXPAND THIS EFFORT.

(2) AS A RESULT OF AN 8 SEP 93 MEETING IN WASHINGTON, THE DEFENSE DEPARTMENT INTRADEPARTMENTAL REVIEW PANEL RECOMMENDED A DETERMINATION OF THE FATE OF 12 OF THE 92 INDIVIDUALS ON THE PRIORITY DISCREPANCY CASE LIST. THE PRIORITY CASE LIST WILL BE REDUCED TO TOTAL 80 INDIVIDUALS LAST KNOWN ALIVE IN 63 CASES.

(3) OUR ORAL HISTORY TEAM ALSO REPORTS AN EXCELLENT SPIRIT OF COOPERATION IN MOST OF ITS INTERVIEWS AND LOOKS FORWARD TO EQUAL SUCCESS AS IT UNDERTAKES INTERVIEWS FARTHER FROM HANOI.

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