

PW-MIA-2
CJTF-2

VZCZCBTO465
 RR RUEHBT
 DE RUHQSGG #7769 2380001
 ZNR UUUUU
 R 260022Z AUG 93 ZYB
 FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J2//
 TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC
 INFO RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC
 RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:RSA//
 RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//CA/EAP/VLC/CCS/OCSS//
 RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//OCJCS/J5/PW-MIA/J3-JOD//
 RUHQHQB/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3/J30-M//
 RUEKJCS/USCINCPAC LO WASHINGTON DC
 RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC//DEA/SEA/IB/DDO/EA/ICOG//
 RUHVAAA/CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//
 RUEHBT/USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//
 RUEHBT/CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH
 BT
 UNCLAS //N03460//
 MSGID/GENADMIN/CDR JTF-FA/J223//
 SUBJ/MR. DOAN NGOC PHUONG//
 REF/A/FAX/DET 2/27JUL93//
 AMPN/SUBJ: ART 2 OPERATIONAL REPORT (13-22 JUL 93)//
 RMKS/1. ON 17 JULY 93, ART 2, THEIR VNOSMP COUNTERPARTS AND

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 PROVINCE OFFICIALS INTERVIEWED MR. DOAN NGOC PHUONG (OOANF NGOCJ PHWONG), A 44 YEAR OLD NATIVE OF THE DA NANG AREA. HE HAS LIVED IN DA NANG FROM 1975 UNTIL THE PRESENT EXCEPT FOR A SHORT MILITARY TOUR IN CAMBODIA. MR. PHUONG JOINED THE MILITARY IN 1965 AS AN INFANTRYMAN AND SERVED WITH THE MAIN FORCE 2ND DIVISION. HIS MILITARY CAREER LASTED 15 YEARS AND HE RETIRED FROM MILITARY SERVICE IN 1980 AT THE RANK OF 2ND LIEUTENANT. HE CURRENTLY WORKS AT THE DA NANG WATERWORKS COMPANY AND RESIDES AT BLOCK 45, 2ND HAI CHAU (HAIR CHAAU) WARD, DA NANG CITY, QUANG NAM/DA NANG PROVINCE. MR. PHUONG PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:
 A. IN 1976 HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE FIRST AND ONLY TEAM WITH THE EXCLUSIVE MISSION OF SEARCHING FOR MISSING AMERICANS IN MILITARY REGION (MR5). THE TEAM (4 MEMBERS) WAS SUBORDINATE TO THE MR5 ENEMY PROSELYTING SECTION OF THE GENERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT, (PHONGF DICHJ VAANJ CUCJ CHINH TRIJ QUAAN KHU 5) AND ITS FINDINGS WERE REPORTED TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE.
 B. THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE PEOPLE ASSIGNED TO THE TEAM. MR. (2LT RETIRED) PHUONG (THE INTERVIEWEE), MR. (MAJOR RETIRED) NGUYEN DINH TRONG (NGUYEENX DINHJ TRONGJ), FORMER COMMANDER OF THE TEAM. ACCORDING TO MR. PHUONG, MR. TRONG

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 PRESENTLY RESIDES IN HIS PROVINCIAL HOMETLAND OF QUANG NGAI (QUANGR NGAIX) (NFI). THE OTHER MEMBERS CONSISTED OF MR. THANH (THANH) (NFI) AND MR. NGUYEN CONG DA (NGUYEENX COONG ZAJ), WHO PRESENTLY
 UNCLASSIFIED

RESIDES AT BINH SON (BINHF SOWN) DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI PROVINCE.
 C. MR. PHUONG STATED THE TEAM WOULD DISTRIBUTE COMMUNICANS TO THE DISTRICTS INFORMING THEM THEY WERE SEARCHING FOR MISSING AMERICANS, AND ANYONE WITH INFOMATION ON THE SUBJECT SHOULD COME FORWARD, AND ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT IN THIS HUMANITARIAN EFFORT. ALTHOUGH THE TEAM HAD NUMEROUS REPORTS CLAIMING TO KNOW THE LOCATION OF MISSING AMERICANS, (WHEN ASKED HOW MANY REPORTS THE TEAM RECEIVED, MR. PHUONG COULD NOT RECALL) THEY ONLY WORKED ON (MR. PHUONG COULD NOT RECALL THE EXACT NUMBER OF CASES) 8 TO 11 CREDITABLE, SUBSTANTIATED CASES, THOROUGHLY INVESTIGATING EACH GRAVE SITE.
 D. THE TEAM TRAVELED TO THE LOCATION OF EACH WITNESS, AND CONDUCTED A DETAILED INTERVIEW. ONCE THE INTERVIEW WAS COMPLETED, THE TEAM WAS GUIDED TO THE GRAVE SITE. THE TEAM UTILIZED LOCAL VILLAGERS TO EXCAVATE THE SITE WHILE SUPERVISING THE EXCAVATION EFFORT. ALL 8 TO 11 OF THE GRAVE SITES EXCAVATED PRODUCED A FULL SET OF HUMAN REMAINS WITH ONLY MINOR MISSING PARTS, (SUCH AS, IN ONE CASE A FINGER WAS MISSING). THE REMAINS WERE PUT IN PLASTIC AND THEN

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 PLACED IN WOODEN BOXES. PERSONAL EFFECTS WERE ALSO TAGGED AND SENT WITH THE REMAINS TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE. MR. PHUONG DOES NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE REMAINS AFTER THEY WERE SENT TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AS THIS WAS THE END OF HIS RESPONSIBILITIES. HE ONLY SAW IDENTIFICATION MEDIA ON ONE SET OF REMAINS AND HE DOES NOT RECALL THE NAME ON THE ID TAG. MR. PHUONG STATED THAT NO REPORTS WERE PRODUCED BY THE TEAM, AND TO HIS KNOWLEDGE ALL REMAINS TURNED OVER TO THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE WERE AMERICAN.

E. MR. PHUONG WORKED WITH THE TEAM FROM 1976 TO 1979 AT WHICH TIME HE WAS SENT TO CAMBODIA. TO HIS KNOWLEDGE THE TEAM WAS DISBANDED SHORTLY THEREAFTER.
 2. ANALYST COMMENTS: MR. PHUONG'S TESTIMONY WAS GIVEN IN A RELAXED MANNER, AND HE TRIED TO ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN A STRAIGHT FORWARD MANNER. THE RECOLLECTION OF 8 TO 11 CASES THE TEAM WORKED IS IN LINE WITH THE NUMBER OF AMERICAN GRAVE SITES IN THE MR 5 AREA. MR. PHUONG STATED HE WAS WILLING TO ASSIST IN ANY MANNER HE COULD BECAUSE OF THE HUMANITARIAN NATURE OF THE EFFORT TO LOCATE THE MISSING AMERICANS.//
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ACTION INFO							
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