

CONTINGENCY TALKING POINTS (IF ASKED...)

Note: The Vietnamese may think that the geographic approach to casualty resolution operations represents a shift away from investigating discrepancy cases in favor of surveying and excavating all known crash sites and grave sites in a particular area. Should the Vietnamese ask if we plan to keep returning to Quang Binh Province over the next several months to investigate, survey and, where feasible, recover the remains associated with all losses there, Col. Jordan will provide the following response:

- (1) -- In previous investigations, the ^{PRIORITY} focus of the joint teams' work has been solely on resolving the compelling discrepancy cases.
- (2) -- Many of the cases require your government's willingness to provide historical documentation ^{OR First Hand Witnesses} which could lead to resolution. ✓
- (3) -- It is our intention to retain priority on ^{the discrepancy} these important cases; ~~but return to a geographic approach which will broaden our joint activities in an effort to resolve as many cases as possible as rapidly as possible.~~ ✓
- (4) -- Once the discrepancy cases in Quang Binh are resolved, we envision the teams will go to another province to pursue other discrepancy cases in which earlier investigations were inconclusive, again broadening the activities to resolve other cases in close proximity.
- (5) -- While conducting investigations the teams should make every effort to investigate unresolved incidents which occurred in the general vicinity of the discrepancy cases.
- (6) -- As our two governments move toward an improved relationship, there is an associated imperative to achieve more rapid results. Our government believes that the focus on resolving the priority discrepancy cases should be maintained, ~~but that we should also move to account for as many other cases as we can without disrupting~~ ^{the priority of work on discrepancy cases.}
- (7) -- ~~However, that focus should not be to the exclusion of accounting for the many others whose families await answers.~~

However, when the geographic circumstances permit, we would like to broaden our investigations to include other cases in the immediate area in order to resolve as many cases possible, rapidly.