

3. (U) INFORMATION: SOURCE STATED THAT WHILE RESIDING AT DANANG CITY, [REDACTED] PROVINCE, DURING 1984 HE HEARD NEWS BROADCASTS OVER THE VOICE OF AMERICA (VCA) AND BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION (BBC) INDICATING THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS INTERESTED IN RECOVERING THE REMAINS OF AMERICANS MISSING IN VIETNAM DURING THE WAR.

4. (U) SOURCE STATED THAT HE BEGAN TO INQUIRE AROUND THE DANANG AREA TO DETERMINE IF RESIDENTS OF DANANG WHO HAD BEEN SEARCHING FOR METAL CONTAINED IN CRASHSITES HAD DISCOVERED ANY U.S. REMAINS. SOURCE THEN HEARD FROM THE PRIEST OF HOA SON VILLAGE (ZC 1976), LE DINH CHIEN, THAT HE HAD HEARD ABOUT THE RECOVERY OF U.S. REMAINS FROM MR. TRAN VAN DANG (APPROXIMATELY 30 YOA, P.O.B. HUE, THUA THIEN, FORMER GOLDSMITH NOW BUYING METAL RECOVERED FROM DOWNED U.S. AIRCRAFT). SOURCE WAS THEN INTRODUCED TO MR. DANG BY PRIEST CHIEN. SOURCE HEARD FROM DANG THAT HE HAD FOUND ONE U.S. REMAINS APPROXIMATELY 20 KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF NAM CONG (YC 87E4).

5. (U) IN MARCH 1984 SOURCE ACCOMPANIED DANG TO NAM CONG WHERE HE WAS INTRODUCED BY DANG TO AN ETHNIC

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MINORITY MAN CALLED "BOURA" WHO MET THEM THERE. SOURCE AND DANG THEN ACCOMPANIED BOURA BACK TO HIS VILLAGE (DIDN'T KNOW NAME OF VILLAGE OR LOCATION) WHERE THE U.S. REMAINS WERE BURIED IN A CLUMP OF BAMBOO. BOURA THEN DUG UP THE REMAINS AND GAVE THEM TO DANG ALONG WITH THREE CARDS AND A DOGTAG. MR. DANG TOOK THE REMAINS BACK TO HIS HOME LOCATED ON TRAN PHU (FORMERLY DOC LAP) STREET (COULDN'T RECALL HOUSE NUMBER) WHERE HE REBURIED THEM.

6. SOURCE STATED THAT AT THAT TIME HE (SOURCE) INTENDED TO TAKE A PHOTOGRAPH OF THE REMAINS, CARDS, AND DOGTAG BUT WAS NOT ABLE TO DO SO PRIOR TO HIS UNEXPECTED BOAT DEPARTURE. SOURCE DID MANAGE TO RECORD THE INFORMATION CONTAINED ON THE CARDS AND DOGTAG OF REFNO 1497-0-01 AS FOLLOWS:

- CARD 1: ARMED FORCES OF THE U.S.; LN (LAST NAME) POWERS IRVIN LESTER JR, GRADE LCPL, BRANCH OF SERVICE USMC, SERIAL NUMBER 2455656, DATE OF BIRTH 24 APRIL 1949.

- CARD 2: U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE COMMAND VN CURRENCY CONTROL PLATE 17742E97, EXPIRES LAST DAY OF M-9 YEAR - 70, POWERS, M. E3, 2455656, 1ST MARCU.

- CARD 3 (OBVERSE): ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES, PVT (SQUARE FOR PHOTOGRAPH) 18 AUG 70, 2455656, IRVIN L. POWERS JR.

- CARD 3 (REVERSE): 24 APRIL 1949, 170 66, BROWN, BLUE, 22 AUGUST 1968, 44E1371.

- DOGTAG: POWERS I L JR, 2455656, B, USMC, M, LUTHERAN.

7. (U) SOURCE STATED THAT AS OF OCTOBER 1984 MR. DANG WAS STILL IN POSSESSION OF THE PERSONAL EFFECTS AND REMAINS WHICH WERE MISSING SOME FINGERS AND RIB BONDS, AND WAS AWAITING WORD BY LETTER FROM SOURCE AS TO WHAT HE SHOULD DO WITH THE REMAINS (THE INTERVIEWER DID NOT PROVIDE ADVICE TO SOURCE CONCERNING THE FUTURE DISPOSITION OF THE PERSONAL EFFECTS OR REMAINS).

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8. (U) SOURCE STATED THAT DURING FEBRUARY 1984, WHILE RESIDING AT HO CHI MINH CITY, HE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM ANOTHER MAN WHO ALSO WORKED AS A SCRAP METAL SCAVENGER (NGUYEN THANH, APPROXIMATELY 21 YOA, P.O.B. PHU LOC (V) (ZC 2801) THUA THIEN (P), CURRENTLY RESIDING AT HOA SON (V) (ZC 1976) HOA VANG (D), QUANG NAM-DANANG) INDICATING THAT HE (THANH) HAD ALSO RECOVERED SOME U.S. REMAINS. SOURCE STATED THAT ACCORDING TO THE LETTER MR. THANH HAD RECOVERED THE REMAINS OF TWO AMERICANS FROM A LOCATION NEAR THE FORMER KHAM DUC AIRFIELD (ZC0108) AND THAT TWO DOGSTAGS HAD ALSO BEEN RECOVERED WITH THE REMAINS. SOURCE STATED THAT THE LETTER DID NOT PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING THE IDENTITY OF THE TWO SUSPECTED AMERICANS. SOURCE STATED THAT SUBSEQUENT TO RECEIPT OF THE LETTER FROM THANH HE HAD NOT HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH THANH OR TO LOOK AT THE REMAINS WHICH HE BELIEVED WERE STILL BURIED AT KHAM DUC SINCE THANH'S LETTER DID NOT INDICATE THEIR EXHUMATION OR REMOVAL.

9. (U) SOURCE OPINED THAT BOTH MR. LANG AND MR. THANH WOULD SOON CONTACT HIM BY LETTER THROUGH HIS (SOURCE'S) WIFE (NGUYEN THI DUE, DPCB 1952, PHUOC NINH, QUANG NAM, SCHOOL TEACHER) WHO IS CURRENTLY RESIDING AT 10 LE THANH TON STREET, DANANG CITY, QUANG NAM-DANANG (P). SOURCE WAS NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE ALLEGED U.S. REMAINS.

10. (U) SOURCE BACKGROUND: SOURCE STATED THAT HE MOVED DURING 1954 AS A REFUGEE FROM HAI PHONG CITY, NORTH VIETNAM, TO VINH AN, WARD 2, DANANG CITY. SOURCE ATTENDED SCHOOL AT DANANG UNTIL 1970 WHEN HE MOVED TO THE CU XA HOA XA (RAILROAD) QUARTERS AREA OF HUE CITY AND RESIDED THERE WHILE HE STUDIED PHILOSOPHY. IN 1973 SOURCE RETURNED TO RESIDE AT DANANG CITY WHERE HE STUDIED THEOLOGY (LEADERSHIP AND ORGANIZATION COURSE). AT THE TIME OF THE COMMUNIST TAKEOVER IN 1975 SOURCE MOVED TO WARD 1 AT 10 LE THANH TON STREET, DANANG CITY. IN APRIL 1975 SOURCE BECAME A DEACON AT THE LOVE BAPTIST CHURCH, WARD 3, DANANG. IN JANUARY 1976 SOURCE BEGAN WORKING AS A DEACON AT THE HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH LOCATED AT HIS HOME AT 10 LE THANH TON, DANANG CITY AND REMAINED THERE UNTIL APRIL 1983 WHEN HE MOVED TO HCM CITY. SOURCE RETURNED TO DANANG PERIODICALLY UNTIL HE WAS ABLE TO ESCAPE BY BOAT DURING NOVEMBER 1984. SOURCE LISTED HIS RELATIVES AS: FATHER, NGUYEN VAN DUYET; MOTHER, TRAN THI KY; SISTER, NGUYEN THI LAI, ALL CURRENTLY RESIDING AT TC 5 VINH AN, VINH TRUNG, WARD 3, DANANG CITY. SOURCE GAVE A POSSIBLE SPONSOR ADDRESS AS: C/C THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST ASSOCIATION, 3010 NE 15TH ST (COULDN'T REMEMBER CITY) TEL (903) 353-0151.

11. (U) SOURCE ALSO WAS AWARE OF A VIET-DUC HOSPITAL IN DANANG CITY (REF MSG INDICATES HO CHI MINH CITY). SOURCE STATED THAT THE HOSPITAL WAS A JOINT VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN HOSPITAL OPERATED IN DANANG BEGINNING SOME TIME DURING THE LATE 1960'S. SOURCE STATED THAT THE

HOSPITAL IS LOCATED ON HAL PHONG STREET (NEW NAME OF  
STREET AFTER 1975 TAKEOVER AND SOURCE WAS NOT ABLE TO  
RECALL FORMER NAME). SOURCE COULD NOT RECALL SEEING A  
BUILDING NUMBER BUT REMEMBERED THAT THE HOSPITAL WAS  
LOCATED BETWEEN THE RAILROAD WORKERS QUARTERS WHICH WAS  
NUMBERED 48 AND A RESIDENCE WHICH WAS NUMBERED 52.  
SOURCE STATED THAT AFTER THE COMMUNIST TAKEOVER THE  
VIET-DUC HOSPITAL WAS REDESIGNATED AS HOSPITAL "C"  
(HINH VIEN C) AND WAS RESERVED FOR SRV CIVILIAN GOVERN-  
MENT CADRE/OFFICIALS. SOURCE STATED THAT HE HAD NEVER  
OBSERVED OR HEARD ABOUT ANY AMERICANS OR CAUCASIANS  
BEING TAKEN TO THE HOSPITAL AFTER THE COMMUNIST TAKEOVER.  
SOURCE ALSO DID NOT OBSERVE OR HEAR ABOUT ANY INCIDENTS  
AT SEA INVOLVING BODIES BEING WASHED ASHORE OR RECOVERED  
FROM THE WATERS AROUND DANANG. SOURCE WAS NOT ABLE TO  
PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING THE GLOMAR JAVA SEA.  
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