



JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER

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AMERICAN EMBASSY
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96348-0001

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FROM: JCRC-LNO
TO: Commander, JCRC

REF: RPT M88-095
27 September 1988

SUBJ: JCRC RPT M88-095, Hearsay of Two Remains Discovered in Cu Chi, HCMC (U)

1. Source/administrative data:

- a. Name: Nguyen Huu Thao (M)
- b. DPOB: 31 July 55, Da Lat town
- c. Occupation:
 - Pre-1975: Student to 1973; VNAF P2C, 1973-75
 - Post-1975: Laborer, 1975-78; Prisoner, 1978-79; NEZ farmer, 1979-81, Acupuncturist, 1981-88
- d. Present location: Bldg 12/7 Zone F, Pulau Bidong Refugee Camp, Malaysia
- e. Identification data: MB 926010; ID# 145313
- f. Education: 12/12
- g. Languages: Vietnamese (native), French (limited)
- h. Religion: Buddhist
- i. Status: Refugee
- j. Date of Information: January, 1988
- k. Final address/POC in Vietnam: 41/10G Dien Bien Phu St., Ph. 15, Q. Binh Thanh, HCMC
- l. Date of arrival in 1st asylum: 17 Feb 88
- n. Interview data: Source was interviewed at Pulau Bidong on 4 Jun 88 by James M. Coyle, GS-12, DOD.
- o. Map(s) used: Scale: 1:100,000; Series: L607; Sheet(s): 6330

2. Summary: An acquaintance told Source that she was keeping the remains and dog tag of an American named "Dinger Kene." She also said she knew of a PSS LTC who was keeping remains. End Summary.

3. Information: In January, 1988, Source's neighbor, Nguyen Thi Nho, of 113B Tran Binh Trong St., Ph. 1, Q. 10, HCMC, told Source that she was keeping the remains of an American, and asked her to convey this information to US authorities. Nho's original objective was to help the resettlement opportunities of her young son, who was to accompany Source out of Vietnam. When the time came for Source to leave, however, Nho became fearful for her son's safety and did not allow him to go with Source.

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4. [REDACTED] Nho said that the remains were those of:

"DINGER KENE"
56/501400 POS CATHOLIC

who was killed and buried in Cu Chi (vic. XT 6414). Nho knew about these remains for a long time before 1975. (Source does not know how Nho knew). When Nho moved from Cu Chi to HCMC she dug up the remains, which were accompanied by the aforementioned dog tag, put them in a jar, and took them with her. Nho allowed Source to see the remains, which appeared to Source to be nearly complete. She did not, however, tell Source anything about the circumstances in which "Kene" met his end.

5. [REDACTED] At the same meeting, Nho also told Source that a member of her family, a PSS LTC named Pham Chi Tam, of 45A Nguyen Trail St., Q. 5, HCMC, had told her he was keeping remains in a house he owned in Cu Chi. Tam is supposedly in charge of communications and culture (đac trach ve thong tin van hoa) in the Cu Chi area, but lives in HCMC and is a frequent visitor to Nho's coffee shop. Nho said that Tam knows all the circumstances of the American's death, but did not convey that information or any identification data to Source.

6. [REDACTED] Nho believes that Tam is keeping the remains in order to sell them, because he once told Nho that he had no need to take bribes from the people because he had money at hand. Nho told Source that she thought Tam was referring to the remains when he made this assertion.

7. [REDACTED] Comment: Source presented her information in a straightforward manner, answered all questions without hesitation, and made no requests of interviewer. Neither of the names "Dinger" or "Kene" have previously appeared in LNO's dog tag files.

James D. Spurgeon III
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Chief, Liaison Division

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