

(U) PRIVATE ROBERT RUSSELL GARWOOD DISAPPEARED FROM HIS UNIT HQ BN, 3RD MAR DIV MOTOR POOL (AT997755) ON 28 SEP 65 AT 1800 HOURS LOCAL. BASED ON A STATEMENT ALLEGEDLY MADE BY GARWOOD TO ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL WHEN HE DEPARTED THE MOTOR POOL, GARWOOD REPORTEDLY HAD BEEN DISPATCHED TO G-2, 3RD MARDIV IN A JEEP. HE WAS DISCOVERED MISSING AT 2300 LOCAL ON 28 SEP 65. SUBSEQUENT CHECKS WITH G-2 DISCLOSED THAT NO OFFICIAL REQUEST HAD BEEN MADE FOR GARWOOD TO REPORT TO G-2 AT 1800 HOURS, HOWEVER HE HAD MADE RUNS FOR G-2 DURING THE DAY. (REF 1) ON 30 SEP 65, THE 3RD MAR DIV REPORTED GARWOOD AS MISSING IN ACTION.

VIETNAMESE SOURCES REPORTED THE CAPTURE OF A MALE CAUCASIAN IN THE SOUTHEAST PORTION OF THE DANANG TACTICAL AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY ON 30 SEP 65. ADDITIONALLY, SEVERAL VC DOCUMENTS DATED IN 1965 AND 1966 WHICH WERE FOUND IN 1968 AND 1969, INDICATED THAT GARWOOD WAS CAPTURED BY LOCAL GUERILLAS AND YOUTH CADRE IN CAM HAI VILLAGE, DIEN BAN DISTRICT. (REF 3) VC RALLIER TRAN CONG KE, WHO RALLIED ON 11 DEC 65, STATED THAT IN LATE SEP 65 WHILE HE WAS IN THE LOWLANDS (VIC AT810670), HE WAS MET BY A GROUP OF VC THAT WERE ESCORTING THREE (3) U.S. PW'S (ALL CAUCASIAN) IN A NORTHWESTERLY DIRECTION. (REF 4) A LEAFLET "FELLOW SOLDIERS APPEAL" WAS FIRST FOUND ON 3 DEC 3RD MAR REG, 3RD MAR DIV IN (VIC AT966664). THE LEAFLET WAS SIGNED BY GARWOOD AND WAS AN ANTI-U.S. PROPAGANDA STATEMENT TO BE USED AGAINST U.S. FORCES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. BASED ON THIS LEAFLET, THE STATUS OF GARWOOD WAS CHANGED FROM MISSING TO CAPTURED. (REF 5)

SOMETIME IN LATE OCT 65, GARWOOD ARRIVED IN THE REGIONAL DETENTION CAMP (KHU) (BS373816) ACCORDING TO ARVN OFFICERS WHO WERE RELEASED FROM CAMP KHU ON 27-28 DEC 65 FOR THE UPCOMING VIETNAMESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS (TET). GARWOOD HAD MANAGED TO PASS 4 LETTERS AND ONE IDENTIFICATION TAG TO THE RELEASEES, HOWEVER, 3 OF THE 4 WERE CONFISCATED DURING SEARCH. THE ONE LETTER THAT DID GET THROUGH TO FRIENDLY WAS ADDRESSED TO GARWOOD'S MOTHER INDICATING THAT HE WAS IN GOOD CONDITION BUT HAD MALARIA AND JUNGLE FEVER SINCE BECOMING A PRISONER. ANOTHER OF THE RELEASED ARVN OFFICERS WAS ABLE TO QUOTE THE ADDRESS OF GARWOOD'S FATHER FROM MEMORY. ANOTHER OF THE ARVN RELEASEES, DAO CONG THONG, HAD INDEPENDENTLY LEFT THE MAIN GROUP OF RELEASEES TO GO DIRECTLY TO HIS HOME IN QUANG NGAI PROVINCE AND WAS NOT DEBRIEFED UNTIL 5-9 JAN 67. AT THIS TIME, HE PROVIDED ONE OF GARWOOD'S IDENTIFICATION TAGS. (REF 6)

A RADIO HANOI BROADCAST ENTITLED "APPEAL OF A FELLOW SOLDIER" WAS MADE IN ENGLISH ON 3 MAR 66. THE TEXT WAS IDENTICAL TO THE LEAFLET ALLEGEDLY SIGNED BY GARWOOD IN OCTOBER. MAKING THE BROADCAST WAS NOT THAT OF GARWOOD. ON 5 MAY 66, ANOTHER BROADCAST WAS MADE BY RADIO HANOI. THE BROADCAST STATED THAT THE TEXT WAS MADE BY A "U.S. MARINE CAPTURED IN A RAID ON CAM HAI VILLAGE, QUANG NAM PROVINCE ON 28 SEP 65." ACCORDING TO VARIOUS DEBRIEFS OF U.S. RETURNEES, GARWOOD WAS OFFERED HIS RELEASE IN MAY OF 1967 FROM THE REGIONAL DETENTION CAMP BUT DECLINED AND REQUESTED HE BE PERMITTED TO JOIN THE VC/NLF. IT IS INDICATED THAT AT THIS TIME GARWOOD ASSUMED THE VIETNAMESE ALIAS OF NGUYEN CHIEN DAU.

IN NOV 1967, GARWOOD, ACCORDING TO THE ACOSTO AND SANTOS DEBRIEF, DEPARTED THE REGIONAL CAMP FOR AN ASSIGNED MISSION TO WORK WITH THE MILIT SECTION IN MAKING PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS TO AMERICAN PERSONNEL. ON 4 NOV 67 GARWOOD SIGNED PROPAGANDA STATEMENTS, THAT ALONG WITH OTHER DOCUMENTS, WERE FOUND ON 26 JUN 69 (VIC OF AT972439). DURING A SWEEP OPERATION IN AN ATTEMPT TO RECOVER MIA'S ON 9 FEB 68, A CAVE WAS DISCOVERED. DOCUMENTS LOCATED IN THE CAVE INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING: 1/ LETTER DATED 12 DEC., TO BOB FROM AUNT CATHERINE; 2/ LETTER DATED 25 DEC, TO BOBBY FROM CHAN WHICH WAS WRITTEN ON THE BACK OF THE FIRST LETTER; 3/ LETTER DATED 12 JN 68,, TO DAU FROM HUNG; 4/ LETTER DATED 14 JAN 68, TO CHAN FROM DAU; 5/ THREE PROPAGANDA STATEMENTS SIGNED BY GARWOOD; 6/ TWO UNSIGNED PROPAGANDA STATEMENTS WRITTEN BY GARWOOD.

VC, PHAN THE THAP, A PRODUCTION CELL MEMBER, ZONE A (WESTERN TAM KY), RALLIED ON 28 FEB 71 AT BINH DOUNG. THAP OBSERVED TWO AMERICAN COLLABORATORS IN NGOC NHA HAMLET (BT253126). THE AMERICANS WERE ACCOMPANIED BY 3 UNIDENTIFIED PROVINCE LEVEL CADRE FROM THE MIL/PROS SECTION. DURING THEIR STAY AT THE VILLAGE THEY SANG VC LIBERATION SONGS TO THE LOCAL RESIDENTS. ONE OF THESE INDIVIDUALS WAS IDENTIFIED AS NGUYEN CHIEN DAU (GARWOOD). THE OTHER INDIVIDUAL WAS NOT IDENTIFIED. THAP FURTHER HEARD THAT DURING 1969 DAU WAS WORKING FOR THE VIET CONG, QUANG NAM FORCE, RETRAINING AMERICAN PW'S AT AN UNKNOWN LOCATION.

VC CAPTIVE, DANG NGOC TOA, A FORMER MEMBER OF THE MIL/PROS SECTION, MR 5, PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION RELATING TO GARWOOD: IN MID-DEC 68 WHILE TOA WAS ENROUTE TO A MEETING CONDUCTED BY QDSZ IN THE TUONG SON MTNS, HE MET AN AMERICAN WITH A GROUP OF CADRE FROM VC REGION 5. TOA, WHO CONVERSED WITH THE AMERICAN FOR APPROXIMATELY 15 MINUTES, GAVE A VERY GOOD DESCRIPTION OF GARWOOD. IN THE CONVERSATION, GARWOOD STATED TO TOA THAT HE WAS USUALLY KNOWN AS BOBBY BUT AFTER HE RALLIED TO THE VC SIDE, HE ADOPTED THE NICKNAME OF NGUYEN CHIEN DAU AND WAS CALLED NGUYEN DAU BY HIS FRIENDS.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED BY VC CAPTIVE, PHAM QUANG, MEDICAL CHIEF, KY LONG VILLAGE (BT2351 GARWOOD FOR MALARIA. GARWOOD SPOKE VIETNAMESE VERY WELL AND STATED THAT HE HAD SERVED AS AN ADVISOR IN SAIGON IN 1964. IN 1965 HE HAD GONE TO DANANG WHERE HE DROVE OUT TO THE CITY AND BURNED HIS JEEP SO HE COULD JOIN THE GUERILLAS TO FIGHT FOR THE REVOLUTION. QUESTIONED IN MID 70, QUANG WAS ASKED THE WHEREABOUTS OF GARWOOD AT THAT TIME. QUANG REPLIED THAT GARWOOD HAD DEPARTED FOR NORTH VIETNAM. (REF 7)

RELEASEE MCMILLAN, WHO FIRST ENCOUNTERED GARWOOD WHEN HE WAS INTERROGATED BY HIM AT CAMP BRAVO (LOCATION UNKNOWN) IN MARCH 68, SUPPLIED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: HE LAST SAW GARWOOD IN OCT OR NOV 69 WHEN GARWOOD DEPARTED CAMP CHARLIE (LOCATION UNKNOWN) PROPAGANDIST (AS STATED BY GARWOOD) FOR THE NVA AND VC. IN 1971, EXACT DATE UNRECALLED, MCMILLAN HEARD FROM AN UNRECALLED SOURCE, THAT GARWOOD WAS GOING TO NORTH VIETNAM TO STUDY.

GARWOOD WAS TAUGHT VIETNAMESE BY OTHER VC AND NVA CADRE AND SPOKE IT WELL. HE WAS ACTING AS AN INTERPRTER, INTERROGATOR, GUARD AND INFORMER ON U.S. PW'S. HE CARRIED AN AK 47 ASSUALT RIFLE AND/OR AUTOMATIC CARBINE. HOUNG(PHONETIC) A HIGH RANKING VC CADRE, CAME TO THE CAMP IN JULY 1968 AND INFORMED THE PW'S THAT GARWOOD WAS VC CADRE AND PROMOTED HIM TO OFFICER STATUS IN THE NLF. HE WAS BELIEVED TO BE PROMOTED TO THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT. GARWOOD WOULD BRING THE PW'S A RADIO SO THEY. ON ONE OCCASION BROUGHT EGGS AND A CHICKEN WHICH HE SAID HE HAD STOLEN BUT HE OVER-HEARD EDWIN RUSSELL GRISSETT AND WILLIAM F. EISENBAUN TALKING ABOUT AN ESCAPE ATTEMPT AND REPORTED THEM TO THE VC, CAUSING GRISSETT TO BE PLACED IN STOCKS FOR THREE MONTHS AND EISENBAUN FOR SIX MONTHS.

ON ONE OCCASION HE TOLD MCMILLAN AND SSG THOMAS DAVIS TO CARRY ROCKS FOR A SIDEWALK AND WHEN THEY REFUSED HE HAD THEM STAND AT ATTENTION BY THE GUARD HOUSE FOR 1 TO 1 1/2 HOURS. ON ONE OCCASION GARWOOD HIT DAVID HARKER, REASON UNRECALLED. GARWOOD ACTED AS A GUARD OVER PRISONERS WHEN THEY WERE ON WORK DETAILS, AND HE HAD FREE REIN OF THE CAMP AND SURROUNDING AREA AND LIVE INTERPRETERS (REF 8). IN SEP 69, GARWOOD TOLD AMERICAN PW ANTON THAT HE WAS ENROUTE TO HANOI TO GET EDUCATED AND BE MARRIED (REF 16). IN OCT 69, GARWOOD WAS USED AS AN INTERROGATOR FOR VC IN A CAMP (LOCATION UNKNOWN) WHERE DEERING WAS DETAINED IN SVN. GARWOOD WAS KNOWN TO SLAP PW'S DURING INTERROGATIONS. GARWOOD REMAINED AT THIS CAMP WHEN OTHER PW'S WERE MOVED (REF 10).

ON 15 JUL 1968 THE 1ST FORCE RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY MADE CONTACT WITH AND PROBABLY KILLED, ONE MALE CAUCASIAN WHO WAS OPERATING WITH THE VIET CONG. TWO MEMBERS OF THE PATROL WHEN SHOWN GARWOOD'S PHOTO STATED THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WHOM THEY HAD MADE CONTACT WITH COULD HAVE BEEN GARWOOD. FOUR IDENTIFIED THE INDIVIDUAL AS JERRY L. DEGNAN. ALL PATROL MEMBERS WHO OBSERVED THE CAUCASIAN FELT THAT HE WAS DEAD. THE FACT THAT GARWOOD HAS BEEN SEEN AT DATES LATER THAN JULY 1968 NEGATES THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE INDIVIDUAL WAS GARWOOD (REF 11).

AFTER HIS RELEASE IN MARCH 1974, JAMES FREDERICK PFISTER JR STATED THAT HE HAD NOT SEEN BOBBY GARWOOD SINCE THE SUMMER OF 1971 WHEN GARWOOD CAME TO PLANTATION GARDENS PW CAMP, HANOI, NORTH VIETNAM (NFI)(REF 12). GARWOOD WAS RELEASED TO THE U.S. IN JUNE 1979.

Subsequent Information - 5 June 1991

(U) SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION REGARDING AN AMERICAN WORKING AT THE YEN BAI REEDUCATION CAMP DURING THE SUMMER OF 1976. THE AMERICAN WENT BY THE VIETNAMESE NAME 'NAM', WORKED AS A REPAIRMAN OF ELECTRICAL GENERATORS, AND HAD A PET MONKEY. THE TIME FRAME, LOCATION OF THE REEDUCATION CAMP, AND PERSONAL CHARACTERIZATION SUPPLIED BY THE SOURCE OF THIS REPORT CORRELATES VERY WELL WITH REFNO 0155-1-01. (REF 13)

(U) THE SOURCE OF THIS REPORT PROVIDED LIMITED INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SIGHTING OF AN "AMERICAN" NAMED "NAM". THE PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION AND THE NAME PROVIDED BY THE SOURCE CORRELATES TO PFC GARWOOD. (REF 14)

References - 26 November 1974

<1> (C) RPT, 704 MI DET, 16 NOV 65. <2> (U) MSG, 3MARDIV, 301310Z SEP 65. <3> (C) RPT, 704 MI DET, 8 OCT 65. <4> (C) RPT, SUBJ: INTEL EVALUATION 22 SEP 71. <5> (U) LTR W/ATCH, 3D MAR DIV, DATED 17 DEC 65. <6> (C) DEBRIEFING REPORT, III MAF, DTD 21 JAN 67. <7> (C) II CI TEAM, SUBJ: INTEL EVALUATION, 22 SEP 71. <8> (S) MCMILLAN DEBRIEF. <9> (C) ANTON DEBRIEF. <10> (C) DEERING DEBRIEF. <11> (C) RPT, 1ST C,T, 3MAF, SUBJ: DEATH OF MALE CAUCASIAN OPERATING WITH VC, DTD 1 AUG 68. <12> (C) PFISTER DEBRIEF. <13> T91-169, 231051Z MAY 91. <14> IIR 6 024 0104 92, USDAO BKK, TH, 050939Z FEB 92 AND IIR 6024010192, USDAO BKK, 040832Z FEB 92.