

Howard V. Butler Sr.

Dec. 30, 1993.

The Mangino Family  
Co V.V.A. Chapter 157  
Thomas A. Mangino Chapter

Dear Friends,

My name is Howard V. Butler Sr. From March 12, 1967 to September 21, 1967, I was with A #131 Co, 196th LT 1st AF Bde.

The incident, mentioned, in the November 1993 issue of The 196th LT 1st AF Bde 45<sup>th</sup> Section Bulletin (page 14), may be the one I heard of many times in Vietnam over

In early April 1967, we (196th), were transferred from Tuy-Ninh to the Chun-lai area. In late April or early May 1967, we had heard thru the grapevine, that 4 men from D Co 4/31, were captured by the enemy while on a night mission.

I had heard that 1 of the 4 men, was from the 3rd Bty 4th Inf Div, as I was, (transferred from) and that this man, was supposed to ~~to~~ join his wife on RK in Hawaii, shortly. This incident was <sup>no rumour because</sup> no rumour because

Sometime in June 1967, 1st Sqdn (1st sqdn) 2nd platoon of A/43B, was sent on a "search party". A Lieutenant-Colonel, (whose name I did not know,

accompanied us, along with a South  
Vietnamese National. This "national",  
related that he saw "4 Americans  
being held prisoner at a certain  
village." We arrived at the village,  
found it deserted, but he led  
us to the ~~old~~ white stucco,  
orange-tiled building, where <sup>he</sup> saw  
the 4 Americans held prisoner.  
As you have deduced, we found no  
evidence, whatsoever. But, we  
had feared this "national" was lead-  
ing us into an ambush. No ambush  
occurred, no enemy action was taken  
against us. Because of this, I  
only can deduce that he was  
indeed telling the truth about  
the 4 American POWs (why waste our time and his?)

I believe this incident is indeed  
the one you have written about,  
(-but of course, it may be wrong).

I hope I have been of <sup>some</sup> help  
with your quest.

Best of luck to everyone,  
-Sincerely,

Howard V. Butler Sr.

Howard V. Butler Jr., E-4  
A Co 4 BN 3 INF, 196th LT INF  
Bdgc - March 12, 1967 - Sept. 21, 1967

Sept 21-1966 - March 11, 1967,

C Co 3/22 <sup>INF</sup> 3rd Bde 4 INF Div  
Vietnam

Dec 29, 1965 - Sept 21, 1966 Ft. Lewis  
Washington

1st Lt. John the one who walked  
ahead, (front), with his unit  
Vietnam return - at times he stopped,  
and he looked at myself and the other  
men in our squad, "strange in the eye",  
as we spoke in "broken English". This  
was also why I believed he,

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(South Vietnamese National) was telling  
the truth and that North Viet-  
namese col. Pham Duc Dai, is  
a damn liar! (if this is indeed  
your subject.)

Frank V. Butler