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FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J2//

TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC//PW-MIA//

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UNCLAS //N03460//

SECTION 01 OF 02

DIA PASS TO DOD POW-MIA CENTRAL DOCUMENTATION OFFICE//

MSGID/SYS.RRM/CDR JTF-FA/J2//

AMPN/SUBJ/INTERVIEW OF REQUESTED SOURCE, NGUYEN VAN HA//

REF/A/FAX/DET/16MAY93//

PW-MIA-2 CJTF-2

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AMPN/SUBJ: LIST OF PERSONS FOR INTERVIEW-SENATOR KERRY, ENTRY NUMBER 14 OF 83//

RMKS/1. BACKGROUND. ON 19 MAY 1993, A JOINT US/VIETNAM INTERVIEW TEAM INTERVIEWED NGUYEN VAN HA, 55 YOA, CURRENT DEPUTY DIRECTOR, HAI PHONG CITY COURT OF INVESTIGATION AND HAI PHONG CITY RESIDENT; FORMER B-2 FRONT ENEMY PROSELYTING CADRE AND TRANSLATOR. THE PURPOSE OF THE INTERVIEW WAS TO GATHER INFORMATION RELATING TO U.S. PERSONNEL MISSING IN ACTION IN VIETNAM. THE U.S. CONTINGENT CONSISTED OF MR. KEITH GARY FLANAGAN, DET 2, JOINT TASK FORCE-FULL ACCOUNTING (JTF-FA) CASUALTY RESOLUTION SPECIALIST; AND PETTY OFFICER JOHN HARVEY, JTF-FA ANALYST LINGUIST. THE VIETNAMESE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT CONTINGENT CONSISTED OF LTC LE KY, MINISTRY OF DEFENSE; AND MR. NGUYEN THANG LOI, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR.

2. SUMMARY. THE INTERVIEW SUBJECT, NGUYEN VAN HA, A FORMER B-2 FRONT ENEMY PROSELYTING TRANSLATOR, PROVIDED INFORMATION CONCERNING HIS EXTREMELY LIMITED WARTIME ASSOCIATION WITH U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR IN THE FORMER SOUTH VIETNAM. ONE OF HIS EXPERIENCES PROBABLY CORRELATES TO A RESOLVED POW/MIA CASE INVOLVING THE CAPTURE OF A U.S. SOLDIER WHO WAS LATER RELEASED.

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MR. HA PROVIDED LEADS IN THE FORM OF OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF POW/MIA MATTERS, SEVERAL OF WHOM HAD ALREADY BEEN INTERVIEWED BY JOINT U.S. VIETNAM INTERVIEW TEAMS. THE SUBJECT PROVIDED NO INFORMATION THAT WILL LEAD TO THE IMMEDIATE RESOLUTION OF ANY EXISTING POW/MIA CASE.

3. DETAILS.

A. AFTER FORMAL INTRODUCTIONS AND EXCHANGING AMENITIES WITH HAI PHONG CITY OFFICIALS, THE JOINT TEAM EXPLAINED ITS MISSION AND OBJECTIVES TO THE SUBJECT, NGUYEN VAN HA (NGUYEENX VAWN HAF). MR. HA BEGAN BY SAYING THAT SINCE 20 YEARS HAD PASSED SINCE THESE WARTIME EVENTS OCCURRED, HE HOPED HE COULD STILL HELP THE JOINT TEAM. HE CLAIMED HIS PRIMARY PROSELYTING DUTIES DURING THE WAR CONCERNED REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ARMED FORCES (RVNAF) PERSONNEL, AND HE KNEW VERY LITTLE ABOUT U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR (PW).

B. IN RESPONSE TO THE TEAM'S QUESTIONS, MR. HA STATED THAT OTHER THAN THE PW REPATRIATION AT LOC NINH, HE KNEW NOTHING CONCERNING MISSING AMERICANS IN VIETNAM. HE SAID THAT ACCORDING TO TWO OF HIS WARTIME ASSOCIATES, TAM HUY (TAMS HUY, AKA LE HUY (LEE HUY)) AND LE DAN MANH (LEE ZAN MANHJ), APPROXIMATELY 30 PW'S WERE REPATRIATED AT THAT TIME.

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C. CONCERNING THE FORMER SOUTH VIETNAMESE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT'S "DIED IN CAPTIVITY" LIST, MR. HA CLAIMED NO KNOWLEDGE. HE SAID NGUYEN TAN LUC (NGUYEENX TAAN LWCJ), KILLED DURING THE WAR DURING B-52 RAIDS, MAY HAVE HAD INFORMATION CONCERNING THE LIST. ANOTHER POSSIBILITY FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS MATTER IS NGUYEN HUNG CHI (NGUYEENX HUNGF CHIS), CURRENT DIRECTOR OF THE VIETNAM PETROLEUM IMPORT-EXPORT (PETROLIMEX) COMPANY IN HANOI.

D. MR. HA RELATED THAT IN 1968 OR 1969, HE COMMANDED A PLATOON TASKED TO RETRIEVE THREE U.S. PW'S CAPTURED ON THE BATTLE FIELD. THIS OPERATION TOOK PLACE AT NIGHT AND HA COULD NOT DESCRIBE THE PRISONERS. HA'S UNIT TURNED THE PRISONERS OVER TO LE HUY AT HIS CAMP.

E. ON ANOTHER OCCASION, IN 1969 OR 1970, MR. HA AND NGUYEN TAN LUC (AKA NAM LUC (NAM LWCJ)) WENT TO CU CHI TO PICK UP A BROWN SKINNED U.S. PW, POSSIBLY A PUERTO RICAN. THE MAN'S NAME SOUNDED PHONETICALLY LIKE "RUH-GREE-GET". HA REMEMBERED NO FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING THIS INCIDENT.

F. WHEN ASKED ABOUT WARTIME PW RECORDS, MR. HA REPLIED THAT DUE TO THE WAR'S FEROCITY, THE NORTH VIETNAMESE HAD TO EQUIP

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THEMSELVES AS LIGHTLY AS POSSIBLE AND THAT IS WAS VERY UNLIKELY ANYONE HAD TRANSPORTED SUCH RECORDS TO ANOTHER REGION. HIS OPINION WAS THAT EVERYONE WITH KNOWLEDGE OF RECORDS THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN WITHIN HA'S PURVIEW WAS DEAD, AND THAT BY 1975 THE B-52 RAIDS WOULD HAVE DESTROYED EVERYTHING ANYWAY.

G. ON THE SUBJECT OF LIVE AMERICANS IN VIETNAM SINCE THE WAR, MR. HA CLAIMED NEVER TO HAVE SEEN AN AMERICAN LIVING IN VIETNAM, WHETHER LIVING FREELY OR IN CAPTIVITY, SINCE 1973.

H. UPON CONCLUDING NO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS WERE NECESSARY, THE JOINT TEAM AGREED TO DISCONTINUE THIS INTERVIEW.

4. CORRELATIONS TO EXISTING POW/MIA CASES. MR. HA'S STATEMENTS IN PARA. 3.E., ABOVE PROBABLY CORRELATE TO CASE 1129-0-01, A RESOLVED CASE, BASED ON THE PHONETIC SIMILARITY OF THE NAME "RUH-GREE-GET" TO THE NAME OF THE INDIVIDUAL IN THE CASE, THE REGION OF THE INCIDENT (SOUTHERN VIETNAM), AND GENERAL TIMEFRAME.

5. POTENTIAL LEADS. THE SOURCE IDENTIFIED THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS AS POTENTIAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION CONCERNING POW/MIA MATTERS:

- A. LE HUY (AKA TAM HUY), FORMER B-2 FRONT CAMP CADRE.
- B. LE DAN MAN (AKA BA MANH), HA'S WARTIME ASSOCIATE.

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C. NGUYEN HUNG CHI, FORMER TRANSLATOR, CURRENT DIRECTOR OF PETROLIMEX IN HANOI.

D. LE DOC NGOC (LEE DOOX NGOCJ), FORMER ENEMY PROSELYTING TRANSLATOR, CURRENT DIRECTOR OF THE "PACCOM" CHARITY ORGANIZATION IN HANOI. (PREVIOUSLY INTERVIEWED BY A JOINT INTERVIEW TEAM, 12 MAY 93)

E. NGUYEN MINH PHUONG (NGUYEENX MINH PHWONG), FORMER ENEMY PROSELYTING TRANSLATOR, CURRENTLY "TOTAL POPULACE DEFENSE" MAGAZINE STAFF MEMBER. (SCHEDULED FOR INTERVIEW WITH A JOINT INTERVIEW TEAM)

F. NGO DAT TAI (NGOO DATJ TAIF), FORMER B-2 FRONT ENEMY PROSELYTING CHIEF. (PREVIOUSLY INTERVIEWED BY A JOINT INTERVIEW TEAM, 17 MAY 93)

G. PHAM BAN (PHAMJ BAN). (NFI)

H. LUU QUANG TUYEN (LWU QUANG TUYEENS), REPORTEDLY REPLACED NGO DAT TAI AS B-2 FRONT PROSELYTING CHIEF, POSSIBLY RETIRED IN HO CHI MINH CITY.

I. NGUYEN CONG TRUNG (NGUYEENX COONG TRUNG), RESIDES IN BEN TRE. (NFI)

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