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FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J2//
 TO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:RSA/DPMO-RA/DPMO-RD//
 INFO RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC
 RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//CA/EAP/VLC/CCS/OCS//
 RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//OCJCS/J5/PW-MIA/J3-JOD//
 RUHQHQB/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3/J30-M//
 RUEKJCS/USCINCPAC LO WASHINGTON DC
 RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC//DEA/SEA/IB/DDO/EA/ICOG//
 RUHVAAA/CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//
 RUEHBT/USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//
 RUEHBT/CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH
 BT
 UNCLAS //N03460//
 SECTION 01 OF 02
 DIA PASS TO DOD POW-MIA CENTRAL DOCUMENTATION OFFICE//
 MSGID/GENADMIN/CDR JTF-FA/J223//
 SUBJ/ INTERVIEW OF REQUESTED SOURCE, NGUYEN VAN THU//
 REF/A/FAX/DET 2/16MAY93//
 AMPN/SUBJ: LIST OF PERSONS FOR INTERVIEW, ENTRY 8 OF 83//

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 RMKS/1. ON 21 JULY 1993, A JOINT U.S./VIETNAM ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM INTERVIEW TEAM INTERVIEWED MR. NGUYEN VAN THU, A 64 YEAR OLD THUAN HOA AREA, HUE CITY RESIDENT. MR. THU WAS FORMERLY A MAJOR GENERAL AND COMMANDER OF MILITARY REGION TRI THIEN-HUE. THE TEAM MET AT THE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE GUEST HOUSE, 2 LE LOI STREET, HUE CITY, TO INTERVIEW MR. THU, LISTED IN REFERENCE AS A POTENTIAL SOURCE OF INFORMATION CONCERNING U.S. PERSONNEL MISSING IN ACTION IN VIETNAM. THE U.S. CONTINGENT CONSISTED OF MR. KIETH GARY FLANAGAN, DET 2, JOINT TASK FORCE-FULL ACCOUNTING (JTF-FA) CASUALTY RESOLUTION SPECIALIST; AND PO2 JOHN HARVEY, JTF-FA ANALYST/LINGUIST. THE VIETNAMESE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT CONTINGENT CONSISTED OF LTC LE KY, MINISTRY OF DEFENSE; AND MR. TRINH QUOC KHNH, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR. MR. THU HAD OT BEEN INTERVIEWED BY A JOINT TEAM BEFORE.
 2. SUMMARY. THE SOURCE, NGUYEN VAN THU, PROVIDED INFORMATION RELATING TO VIETNAMESE POLICY CONCERNING MANAGING U.S. PRISONERS ON MILITARY REGION TRI THIEN-HUE (MR-TTH) BATTLEFIELDS. HE ALSO SUMMARIZED SEVERAL OF HIS WARTIME EXPERIENCES, MOST OF WHICH DID NOT INVOLVE U.S. PRISONERS. THE SOURCE CLAIMED NO KNOWLEDGE OF U.S. PERSONNEL, LIVING FREELY OR AGAINST THEIR WILL, IN VIETNAM

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 SINCE 1973.

3. DETAILS.
 A. AFTER FORMAL INTRODUCTIONS, LTC LE KY EXPLAINED THE JOINT TEAM'S MISSION AND MR. FLANAGAN BEGAN THE INTERVIEW WITH THE FOLLOWING TWO KEY QUESTIONS:
 (1) SINCE 1973, HAVE YOU EVER SEEN OR HAD KNOWLEDGE OF U.S. PRISONERS OF WAR (PW) CAPTIVE IN VIETNAM? MR. THU SAID HE HAD NOT.
 (2) SINCE 1973, HAVE YOU EVER SEEN OR HAD KNOWLEDGE OF AMERICAN "STAY-BEHINDS" IN VIETNAM? MR. THU SAID HE HAD NOT.
 B. MR. THU THEN SAID THAT HE JOINED THE MILITARY IN 1946 AND HAD PARTICIPATED IN THREE WARS (NFI). FROM THE END OF 1964 UNTIL 1975 HE SAID THAT HE WAS STATIONED IN MR-TTH, ALSO KNOWN AS B4 FRONT. DURING THIS TIME HE SERVED AS A BATTALION, REGIMENT, DIVISION, AND FINALLY MR-TTH COMMANDER. THE FIGHTING IN HIS REGION WAS EXTREMELY FIERCE, HE SAID, BECAUSE THERE WAS NO DEFINED FRONT. HE SAID IT WAS CLEAR THAT HIS TROOPS COULD NOT HOLD THE BATTLE FIELD AND THE NECESSITY TO MOVE QUICKLY MADE TAKING PRISONERS ON THE BATTLEFIELD DIFFICULT. ACCORDING TO THU, BOTH REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (RVN) AND AMERICAN PRISONERS WERE