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 INFO RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC
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 RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//OCJCS/J5/PW-MIA/J3-JOD//
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 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 LY//
 REF/A/FAX/DET 2/16MAY93//

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 AMPN/SUBJ: LIST OF PERSONS FOR INTERVIEW-SENATOR KERRY, ENTRY 9,
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RMKS/1. BACKGROUND. ON 25 MAY 1993 IN HUE CITY, A JOINT
 US/VIETNAM INTERVIEW TEAM INTERVIEWED MR. NGUYEN LY, A 72-YEAR
 OLD HUE CITY RESIDENT AND FORMER MILITARY REGION TRI-THIEN-HUE
 MILITARY PROSELYTING CADRE. THE TEAM MET AT THE HUONG GIANG
 HOTEL TO INTERVIEW MR. LY, WHO IS 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. KEITH
 GARY FLANAGAN, JOINT TASK FORCE-FULL ACCOUNTING (JTF-FA) DET 2
 CASUALTY RESOLUTION SPECIALIST; AND PETTY OFFICER JOHN L. 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. MR. LY SAID A JOINT TEAM
 INCLUDING MR. GARNETT E. BELL OF THE U.S. AND LTC PHAM TEO OF THE
 VIETNAM MINISTRY OF DEFENSE HAD INTERVIEWED HIM DURING THE LUNAR
 NEW YEAR IN 1992.

2. SUMMARY. THE SOURCE PROVIDED LIMITED INFORMATION CONCERNING
 ONE INCIDENT INVOLVING A U.S. PILOT WHO WAS CAPTURED AND
 EVACUATED TO THE NORTH IN 1964 OR 1965. AS AN ENEMY PROSELYTING

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 CADRE, BEGINNING IN 1963, THE SOURCE WAS ASSIGNED PRIMARILY TO
 THE MILITARY PROSELYTING BRANCH, WHICH DEALT WITH PROSELYTING
 REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM ARMED FORCES (RVNAF) PERSONNEL, AND HAD NO
 EXPERIENCE WITH ANTI-U.S. PROSELYTING. HE RELATED CREDIBLE
 DETAILS CONCERNING HIS MILITARY DUTIES AND RELATED WARTIME
 EXPERIENCE AND INDICATED OTHER POTENTIAL SOURCES OF INFORMATION.
 HE CLAIMED TO HAVE PROVIDED ALL OF THE INFORMATION HE COULD
 RECALL TO THE PREVIOUS JOINT TEAM IN 1992.

3. DETAILS.

A. ON 25 MAY 1993, THE JOINT TEAM INTERVIEWED MR. NGUYEN LY
 (NGUYEENX LYS), ALSO KNOWN AS PHAN VAN KHUONG (PHAN VAWN KHUONG).
 AFTER BEING INTRODUCED TO THE JOINT TEAM AND ITS MISSION, MR. LY
 BEGAN BY POINTING OUT HE REALLY HAD NO DIRECT CONTACT WITH U.S.
 PRISONERS DURING THE WAR. HE CLAIMED HE KNEW OF ONLY ONE U.S.
 PRISONER, A HELICOPTER PILOT WITH THE RANK OF CAPTAIN WHO WAS
 SHOT DOWN IN 1964 OR 1965 OVER THUA THIEN-HUE PROVINCE. MR. LY
 HAD BECOME A MILITARY PROSELYTING CADRE FOR MILITARY REGION TRI-
 THIEN-HUE IN 1963 AND HAD HEARD ABOUT THIS PRISONER BECAUSE THE
 PRISONER WAS THE FIRST SHOT DOWN AND CAPTURED IN THE AREA. AT
 THE TIME, LY WAS ASSIGNED TO THE NORTHERN SUB-REGION OF INTER-

Mc Bell

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REGION FIVE (PHAAN KHU BAWCS THUOCJ VEEF LIEEN KHU NAWM) AND HEARD THT THE UNIT CREDITED WITH THE SHOOTDOWN AND CAPTURE WAS THE "HUNG NGUYEN" UIT STATIONED IN THE A LUOI AREA. MR. LY RECALLED HEARING THE PILOT WAS CAUCASIAN AND WAS ESCORTED "TO THE NORTH" BY AN INDIVIDUAL NAMED NGUYEN THONG (NGUYEENX THOONG), WHOM LY THOUGHT WAS SENIOR TO HIMSELF BY APPROXIMATELY THREE YEARS.

B. IN 1963 MR. LY HELD THE RANK OF MAJOR AND HIS MISSION WAS MILITARY PROSELYTING (ANTI-RVNAF) RATHER THAN ANTI-U.S. PROSELYTING. FOR THAT REASON HE CLAIMED TO HAVE HAD NO CONTACT WITH U.S. PRISONERS. HE CLAIMED A MAN NAMED CAO NANG WAS THE INDIVIDUAL INVOLVED IN ANTI-U.S. PROSELYTING. MR. LY ALSO MENTIONED AN ENEMY PROSELYTING CADRE IN THE REGION NAMED NGUYEN HIEN (NGUYEENX HIEENS). HIEN WAS A MAJOR AND MAY HAVE RISEN TO THE RANK OF SENIOR COLONEL. MR. LY BELIEVED HIEN, A NATIVE OF NINH GIANG DISTRICT, HAI DUONG PROVINCE, WAS PROBABLY DECEASED.

C. MR. FLANAGAN ASKED THE QUESTION: "SINCE THE RELEASE OF U.S. PRISONERS IN 1973, HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ANY LIVE AMERICANS?" MR. LY RESPONDED THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE, SINCE 1973 NO U.S. POW'S REMAINED IN VIETNAM. HE STATED HE WAS AWARE THAT MANY AMERICANS

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HAD BEEN IN VIETNAM SINCE 1973, ESPECIALLY IN HUE CITY.

D. MR. FLANAGAN ASKED THE QUESTION: "SINCE THE RELEASE OF U.S. PRISONERS IN 1973, HAVE YOU EVER SEEN ANY 'STAY-BEHINDS'?" MR. LY RESPONDED THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE, THERE WERE NO STAY-BEHINDS IN VIETNAM SINCE 1973.

E. CONCERNING WARTIME REPORTING ON U.S. PRISONERS, MR. LY SAID THAT ANY DOCUMENTS OF THE TYPE THE TEAM IS INTERESTED IN WOULD BE VERY SCARCE AND WOULD HAVE BEEN DISPERSED OUT OF THE AREA RAPIDLY. HE SAID THAT NO DOCUMENTS OF ANY KIND WERE KEPT WHERE HE SERVED.

F. CONCERNING EVACUATIONS OF PRISONERS, MR. LY SAID THAT NO ONE INDIVIDUAL PERSONALLY MADE THE EVACUATION DECISIONS. ONE UNIT OR TEAM OR COMMO-LIAISON STATION PASSED THE PRISONERS ON TO THE NEXT UNIT, TEAM, OR COMMO-LIAISON STATION. AS FAR AS PARTICULAR OCCURRENCES OF PRISONER EVACUATION, MR. LY SAID HE HAD NO INFORMATION, BUT A MAN KNOWN AS NGUYEN BA HUNG (NGUYEENX BAS HUNGF) MIGHT HAVE INFORMATION. MR. LY SAID HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT HUNG EXCEPT THE NAME. HE CLAIMED THE EVACUATION POLICY FOR PRISONERS INCLUDED THE EDICT OF "SAFETY FIRST" ON EACH LEG OF THE EVACUATION. PROGRESS TO THE LOCATION OF THE NEXT UNIT, TEAM, OR

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COMMO-LIAISON STATION WAS SECONDARY.

G. MR. LY IDENTIFIED THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS WHO COULD POSSIBLY HAVE HAD INFORMATION VALUABLE TO THE TEAM:

- (LNU) NGOC (NGOCJ), NOW DECEASED.
 - HUNG (HUNGF, POSSIBLY THE SAME AS NGUYEN BA HUNG, ABOVE), WHO DIED ABOUT THREE MONTHS AGO.
 - (LNU) TIEN (TIEENS), AN OFFICE CHIEF IN HANOI (SPECIFIC OFFICE WITHIN THE GENERAL POLITICAL DIRECTORATE NOT RECALLED) DURING THE WAR.
 - NGUYEN VAN THOI (NGUYEENX VAWN THOWIF), FORMER CHIEF OF THE ENEMY PROSELYTING DEPARTMENT IN HANOI.
- AT THIS POINT IN THE INTERVIEW MR. LY SAID THAT HE COULD PROVIDE NO FURTHER DETAILS.

H. WITH NO ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR MR. LY, THE JOINT TEAM MEMBERS AGREED TO DISCONTINUE THE INTERVIEW. BOTH THE U.S. AND SRV MEMBERS CONFERRED ON ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS WHICH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BEFORE CONCLUDING THE INTERVIEW.

4. CORRELATIONS TO EXISTING POW/MIA CASES. JTF-FA RECORDS HOLD NO INFORMATION CORRELATING TO THE DATA PROVIDED BY THE SOURCE

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5. POTENTIAL LEADS. THE SOURCE PROVIDED THE NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS WHO MAY HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING MISSING U.S. PERSONNEL:

A. NGUYEN THONG - ESCORTED A U.S. PRISONER TO THE NORTH IN 1964 OR 1965.

B. CAO NAN - WARTIME ENEMY PROSELYTING CADRE.

C. NGUYEN HIEN - WARTIME ENEMY PROSELYTING CADRE.

D. (LNU) TIEN - WARTIME HANOI OFFICE CHIEF (EXACT POSITION UNKNOWN).

E. NGUYEN VAN THOI - WARTIME CHIEF, ENEMY PROSELYTING DEPARTMENT, HANOI.

6. MATERIAL EVIDENCE: NONE. THIS SOURCE BROUGHT NO RECORDS, NOTEBOOKS, DIARIES, OR ANY MATERIAL EVIDENCE CONTEMPORARY TO THE WARTIME ERA WHICH COULD BE ASSOCIATED WITH ANY UNACCOUNTED FOR U.S. PERSONNEL.

7. COMMENTS.

A. AFTER THIS INTERVIEW, THE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT TEAM ASSESSED ALL POTENTIAL ADDITIONAL LEADS PROVIDED BY THE SOURCE. THE CONSENSUS OF TEAM MEMBERS WAS THAT CONTINUATION OF THIS INTERVIEW OR AN ATTEMPT TO RE-INTERVIEW THIS SOURCE WOULD DEPEND

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ON SIGNIFICANT QUESTIONS WHICH SHOULD BE ASKED PERTAINING TO SPECIFIC INCIDENTS OR SPECIFIC QUESTIONS WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO FINDING NEW WITNESSES OR DISCOVERING CONTEMPORARY DOCUMENTATION WITH DETAILS ON SPECIFIC CASES.

B. THIS SOURCE WAS VERY COOPERATIVE AND SEEMED TO ENJOY HIS AMERICAN AUDIENCE. HE DID NOT APPEAR EVASIVE IN HIS ANSWERS BUT GENUINELY APPEARED TO HAVE DIFFICULTY IN RECALLING ANY DETAILS BEYOND WHAT HE PROVIDED.

C. REQUEST THE VNOSMP ALLOW THE U.S. ACCESS TO THIS SOURCE FOR POTENTIAL FUTURE INTERVIEW IN THE EVENT THAT SIGNIFICANT SPECIFIC QUESTIONS ARE DEEMED NECESSARY.//

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