

(4) PW-MIA-2 CJTF-2

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 FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J2//  
 TO RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC//PW-MIA//  
 INFO RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC  
 RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA//  
 RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//CA/OCS/CCS/EAP/VLC//  
 RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//OCJCS/J5/PW-MIA/J3-JOD//  
 RUHQQB/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3/J30-M//  
 RUEKJCS/USCINCPAC LO WASHINGTON DC  
 RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC//DEA/SEA/IB/DDO/EA/ICOG//  
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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, THAI KE TOAI//  
 REF/A/FAX/DET 2/16MAY93//

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 AMPN/SUBJ: LIST OF PERSONS FOR INTERVIEW-SENATOR KERRY, ENTRY  
 NUMBER 31 OF 83//  
 RMKS/1. BACKGROUND. ON 5 JULY 1993, A JOINT U.S./VIETNAM ORAL  
 HISTORY PROGRAM INTERVIEW TEAM INTERVIEWED MR. THAI KE TOAI, A 45  
 YEAR OLD HANOI RESIDENT. MR. TOAI IS CURRENTLY A WRITER AND  
 POET, FORMERLY A GUNNER ON AN ANTI-AIRCRAFT (AA) POSITION AND A  
 CONTRIBUTOR TO THE AIR AND AIR DEFENSE FORCE MEMOIRS, VOLUME III.  
 THE TEAM MET AT THE ANTE-BUILDING MEETING ROOM OF THE GOVERNMENT  
 GUEST HOUSE, 2 LE THACH STREET, HOAN KIEM DISTRICT, HANOI, TO  
 INTERVIEW MR. TOAI, LISTED IN REFERENCE AS A POTENTIAL SOURCE OF  
 INFORMATION CONCERNING U.S. PERSONNEL MISSING IN ACTION (MIA) IN  
 VIETNAM. THE U.S. CONTINGENT CONSISTED OF TSGT RONALD D. WARD,  
 JTF-FA ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM COORDINATOR; AND PO2 JOHN HARVEY,  
 JTF-FA ANALYST/LINGUIST. THE VIETNAMESE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT  
 CONTINGENT CONSISTED OF MR. TRINH QUOC KHANH, MINISTRY OF  
 INTERIOR. MR. TOAI HAD NOT BEEN INTERVIEWED BY A JOINT TEAM  
 BEFORE.

2. SUMMARY. THE SOURCE, MR. THAI KE TOAI, PROVIDED NO FIRST  
 HAND INFORMATION CONCERNING U.S. PERSONNEL MIA IN SOUTHEAST ASIA.  
 HE SUMMARIZED HIS PART IN WRITING THE AIR AND AIR DEFENSE FORCE

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 MEMOIRS, VOLUME III. MR. TOAI CLAIMED NO KNOWLEDGE OF U.S.  
 PERSONNEL, LIVING FREELY OR AGAINST THEIR WILL, IN VIETNAM SINCE

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1973.

## 3. DETAILS.

A. AFTER FORMAL INTRODUCTIONS, MR. TRINH QUOC KHANH  
 EXPLAINED THE JOINT TEAM'S MISSION AND TSGT WARD 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. TOAI SAID HE  
 HAD NOT.

(2) SINCE 1973, HAVE YOU EVER SEEN OR HAD KNOWLEDGE OF  
 AMERICAN "STAY-BEHINDS" IN VIETNAM? MR. TOAI SAID HE HAD NOT.

B. AFTER ANSWERING THE FIRST TWO KEY QUESTIONS, MR. THAI KE  
 TOAI (THAIS KEES TOAIJ) EXPLAINED THAT HE JOINED THE MILITARY IN  
 1970 AS AN AA GUNNER, PROTECTING THE "NINH BINH" TO "HAM RONG"  
 RAILROAD LINE. HE SAID THAT HE SPENT THE NEXT THREE YEARS IN  
 THIS POSITION, AND CANNOT RECALL EVER HEARING ABOUT OR SEEING ANY  
 U.S. PW'S DURING THIS TIME, OTHER THAN WHAT HE READ IN THE  
 NEWSPAPER.

C. IN 1973, MR. TOAI BEGAN HIS RESEARCH WORK ON THE AIR AND

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 AIR DEFENSE FORCE MEMOIRS, VOLUME III, WITH THE 266TH AIR DEFENSE  
 REGIMENT. MR. TOAI SAID HE RESEARCHED ONLY PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED  
 MATERIAL, SUCH AS MAGAZINES AND NEWSPAPER ARTICLES, SOME DATING  
 BACK TO 1966. HE SAID THAT HE RESEARCHED SEVERAL U.S. SHOOT  
 DOWNS FROM 1966 FOR INCLUSION IN THE BOOK. MR. TOAI CLAIMED  
 AIRCRAFT SHOOT DOWN RECORDS WERE KEPT BY PROVINCE AND DISTRICT  
 AUTHORITIES DURING THE WAR, NOT BY THE INDIVIDUAL AA UNITS. HE  
 SAID THAT IF THOSE TYPES OF RECORDS HAD BEEN KEPT BY THE  
 INDIVIDUAL AA UNITS, THEY WOULD HAVE PROBABLY CONTAINED VERY  
 BASIC INFORMATION, SUCH AS THE TYPE OF AIRCRAFT AND WHERE IT WAS  
 SHOT DOWN, BUT THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN BECAUSE  
 THE AIRCRAFT NORMALLY IMPACTED FAR FROM THE AA UNITS, AT SEA OR  
 IN LAOS. THE RECORDS, HE ADDED, IF KEPT BY THE UNITS WOULD  
 PROBABLY BE LOST BY NOW DUE TO CHANGES IN THE UNIT LOCATIONS AND  
 CHANGES OF COMMAND. HOWEVER, THE RECORDS KEPT AT THE PROVINCE  
 AND DISTRICT LEVEL ARE PROBABLY NOW IN MUSEUMS, HE SAID. HE SAID  
 HE INTERVIEWED BATTLE PARTICIPANTS FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING  
 VIETNAMESE BATTLE VICTORIES. MR. TOAI RECALLED USING ONLY  
 PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED PHOTOGRAPHS IN THE BOOK. MR. TOAI RECALLED  
 WORKING WITH MR. KY, MR. NIEM, MR. HOI, MR. TICH, AND MR. SY (SEE

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PARA 7, BELOW), WHILE RESEARCHING FOR THE BOOK.

D. WHEN ASKED IF HE HAD EVER SEEN PRISONER INTERROGATION  
 REPORTS OR USED THEM AS AN INFORMATION SOURCE, MR. TOAI SAID THAT  
 HE HAD NEVER HEARD OF SUCH REPORTS. HE ALSO EXPLAINED THAT AA  
 UNITS HAD NOTHING WHATSOEVER TO DO WITH PRISONERS AND THEY WERE  
 NOT INTERESTED IN ASSOCIATING U.S. AIRCRAFT SHOOT DOWNS WITH  
 BATTLES IN WHICH A PARTICULAR AA UNIT HAD PARTICIPATED.

E. MR. TOAI SAID THAT HE REMEMBERED READING ABOUT THE PILOTS  
 "MURPHY NYZON", "CUSSLER", AND "GRAHAM BOYD", WHO WERE SHOT DOWN  
 DURING 1966. HE SPECIFICALLY RECALLED THAT GRAHAM BOYD WAS SHOT  
 DOWN IN VINH PHU. IN ADDITION, HE HAD READ OF THE LOSS OF AN

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"AC-130" DURING THE BATTLE OF HAM RONG. THIS AC-130, HE SAID, WAS DROPPING TORPEDOES IN ORDER TO DESTROY THE HAM RONG BRIDGE (WG8493) IN MAY OF 1966. AFTER BEING HIT WITH AA FIRE, THE AIRCRAFT CRASHED IN THE VICINITY OF THO XUAN (WH0457). MR. TOAI EXPANDED BY SAYING THAT DURING THE BATTLE OF HAM RONG, THE UNITED STATES USED A-6A AIRCRAFT TO ATTACK THE HAM RONG BRIDGE.

F. CONCERNING OTHER SECOND HAND INFORMATION ON U.S. PW'S, MR. TOAI RELATED THAT NGUYEN TRUNG HIEU WAS A COMBAT PHOTOGRAPHER WHO TOOK PICTURES OF CAPTURED U.S. PILOTS. MR. TOAI SAID THAT HE

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HAD SEEN THE FILM "PILOTS IN PAJAMAS" (PHI COONG MAWCJ QUAANF AOS NGUR), BUT COULD RECALL ONLY THAT IT WAS ABOUT U.S. PILOTS IN CAPTIVITY.

G. IN CONCLUSION, MR. TOAI SAID THAT IN 1975 HE CONCLUDED HIS WORK ON THE BOOK AND RETURNED TO COLLEGE. HE SAID HE IS CURRENTLY INVOLVED WITH DEVELOPING A FILM ABOUT VIETNAMESE MIA'S IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE AND WILL CONTACT VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SHOULD HE UNCOVER INFORMATION CONCERNING U.S. MIA'S WHILE WORKING ON THE FILM. HE ALSO SAID THAT HE IS BEGINNING WORK ON A FILM ABOUT U.S. MIA'S THROUGHOUT VIETNAM; HOWEVER THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT YET GIVEN HIM THE FUNDING NECESSARY FOR THE PROJECT.

H. WITH NO FURTHER QUESTIONS FOR MR. TOAI, THE JOINT TEAM AGREED TO CONCLUDE THE INTERVIEW.

4. CORRELATIONS TO EXISTING POW/MIA CASES.

A. MR. TOAI'S REFERENCE TO "MURPHY NYZON", PARA 3.E., ABOVE, FOLLOWS THE PHONETIC SIMILARITY OF "MURPHY NYZON" TO THE SUBJECT OF THIS CASE AND THE GENERAL TIME FRAME.

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B. MR. TOAI'S REFERENCE TO "CUSSLER", PARA. 3.E., ABOVE

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 PROBABLY CORRELATES TO CASE 0421-1-01, A RESOLVED CASE, BASED ON  
 THE PHONETIC SIMILARITY OF "CUSSLER" TO THE SUBJECT OF THIS CASE  
 AND THE GENERAL TIME FRAME.

C. THE REFERENCE TO "GRAHAM BOYD", PARA.3.E., ABOVE,  
 CORRELATES TO CASE 0310-1-01, A RESOLVED CASE, BASED ON THE EXACT  
 PRONUNCIATION OF THE NAME OF THE SUBJECT OF THIS CASE, THE  
 LOCATION OF INCIDENT, AND GENERAL TIME FRAME.

D. THE AC-130 SHOOT DOWN MR. TOAI SPOKE OF, PARA.3.E., ABOVE  
 PROBABLY CORRELATES TO CASE 0350, AN UNRESOLVED CASE. ALTHOUGH  
 THERE IS A DISCREPANCY IN MR. TOAI'S STATEMENTS CONCERNING THE  
 MODIFICATION DESIGNATOR OF THE C-130 INVOLVED AND THE SPECIFIC  
 LOSS LOCATION, THE GENERAL LOSS LOCATION AND MONTH/YEAR OF LOSS  
 ARE CONSISTENT WITH THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF CASE 0350.

5. POTENTIAL LEADS. MR. TOAI PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING AS POTENTIAL  
 SOURCES OF FURTHER PW/MIA INFORMATION:

A. MR. NGUYEN TRUNG HIEU WAS, ACCORDING TO MR. TOAI, A  
 COMBAT PHOTOGRAPHER WHO PRIMARILY TOOK PICTURES OF CAPTURED U.S.  
 PILOTS. MR. TOAI DOES NOT KNOW THE WHEREABOUTS OF MR. HIEU.

B. THE FILM "PILOTS IN PAJAMAS" (PHI COONG MAWCJ QUAANF AOS  
 NGUR), CONCERNING U.S. PILOTS IN CAPTIVITY IN VIETNAM.

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6. MATERIAL EVIDENCE: NONE. THIS SOURCE BROUGHT NO RECORDS,  
 NOTEBOOKS, DIARIES, OR ANY MATERIAL EVIDENCE ASSOCIATED WITH  
 UNACCOUNTED FOR U.S. PERSONNEL.

7. COMMENTS.

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A. THE MEMBERS OF THE JOINT TEAM CONFERRED ON THE QUESTIONS  
 TO BE ASKED DURING THIS INTERVIEW. TEAM MEMBERS AGREED THAT THE  
 NEED FOR REINTERVIEW OF THIS SUBJECT WOULD DEPEND ON WHETHER FURTHER  
 QUESTIONS FOR MR. TOAI ARISE DURING THE COURSE OF THE ORAL  
 HISTORY INTERVIEW TEAM'S FUTURE WORK.

B. MR. TRAN KY (TRAAF KYF), ALSO ENTRY NUMBER 31 FROM  
 REFERENCE, WAS INTERVIEWED ON JUNE 21, 1993 BY THE JOINT ORAL  
 HISTORY TEAM.

C. MR. NGUYEN HONG NIEM (NGUYEENX HOONGF NIEMJ), ALSO ENTRY  
 NUMBER 31 FROM REFERENCE, WAS INTERVIEWED ON JUNE 19, 1993 BY THE  
 JOINT ORAL HISTORY TEAM.

D. MR. TRAN DUY HOI (TRAAF ZUY HOWIJ), ALSO ENTRY NUMBER 31  
 FROM REFERENCE, WAS INTERVIEWED ON JUNE 21, 1993 BY THE JOINT  
 ORAL HISTORY TEAM.

E. MR. NGHIEM DINH TICH (NGHIEEM DINHF TICH), ALSO ENTRY  
 NUMBER 31 FROM REFERENCE, WAS INTERVIEWED ON JUNE 28, 1993 BY THE

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 JOINT ORAL HISTORY TEAM.

F. MR. DINH KHOI SY (DINH KHOOIR SYX), ALSO ENTRY NUMBER 31  
 FROM REFERENCE, WAS INTERVIEWED ON JUNE 28, 1993 BY THE JOINT  
 ORAL HISTORY TEAM.

G. REQUEST THE VNOSMP MAKE MR. TOAI AVAILABLE FOR  
 REINTERVIEW IF NECESSARY.//

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