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3. REFNO 0048: ON 22 DECEMBER 1964, STAFF SERGEANT JOE PARKS WAS SERVING AS AN ADVISOR TO THE 1ST BATTALION, 13TH ARVN INFANTRY REGIMENT. SERGEANT PARKS' UNIT WAS AMBUSHED BY VIET CONG FORCES IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES XR122931, APPROXIMATELY FIVE KILOMETERS NORTHEAST OF CAU KE VILLAGE, TRA VINH (FORMERLY VINH BINH) PROVINCE, VIETNAM. AFTER THE UNIT WITHDREW FROM THE BATTLEFIELD, AN ARVN SOLDIER REPORTED THAT SERGEANT PARKS WAS CAPTURED BY VIET CONG FORCES DURING THE BATTLE. U.S. RETURNEES REPORTED THAT SERGEANT PARKS WAS HELD IN VARIOUS CAMPS LOCATED IN THE U MINH FOREST. THE RETURNEES REPORTED THAT SERGEANT PARKS DIED OF DISEASE ON 31 DECEMBER 1966 IN A PRISON CAMP LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES VR957522, APPROXIMATELY FOUR KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST OF TAN BANG VILLAGE, MINH HAI (FORMERLY KIEN GIANG) PROVINCE, AND HIS BODY WAS BURIED NEAR THE CAMP. SERGEANT PARKS' NAME WAS ON THE DIED-IN-CAPTIVITY LIST PROVIDED BY THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM IN 1973. THE DATE OF DEATH WAS GIVEN AS 31 DECEMBER 1964. SERGEANT PARKS IS UNACCOUNTED FOR.

4. A SEARCH OF JTF-FA FILES INDICATES REFNO 0048 IS THE ONLY LOSS INCIDENT WHICH INVOLVES AN UNACCOUNTED FOR BLACK AMERICAN SERVICEMEN WHO WAS CAPTURED IN TRA VINH PROVINCE AND INTERNED IN AN MR9 PRISON

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CAMP. THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ASSOCIATED WITH THE OTHER TWO LOSS INCIDENTS INVOLVING UNACCOUNTED FOR BLACK SERVICEMEN WHICH OCCURRED IN TRA VINH PROVINCE ARE NOT CONSISTENT WITH THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE SOURCE OF THIS REPORT. THE LACK OF A MORE SPECIFIC PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ALLEGED BLACK PRISONER AND THE FACT THAT THE SOURCE APPEARED TO HAVE LISTED THE PRISONER "ROBAT" AS ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL IN ADDITION TO SERGEANT PARKS LIMITS THIS CORRELATION TO ONLY POSSIBLE. IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT, IN THE TWENTY-SIX YEARS SINCE THE EVENTS OCCURRED, THE SOURCE BECAME CONFUSED ABOUT THE NUMBER OF PRISONERS HELD AT THE MR9 CAMP.

5. THIS EVALUATION IS FORWARDED TO CDRPERSCOM FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION. A SANITIZED COPY OF REF WILL BE FORWARDED SEPERATELY TO CDRPERSCOM.

EVAL-KLE//

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