

Prisons / Camps

ROUTINE

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FM JCRC LIAISON BANGKOK TH

TO CDR JCRC BARBERS PT HI

INFO JCS WASHDC//DCJCS-PW-MIA/J5//
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3//
NSC WASHDC
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
CDRUSACILHI FT SHAFTER HI//TAPC-PED-H//

SECDEF WASHDC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA//
DIA WASHINGTON DC//PW-MIA//
SECSTATE WASHDC//EAP-VLC//

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SECTION 01 OF 14 BANGKOK TH 55425

0686 OCT 90

SUBJ: JOINT INVESTIGATION CONCERNING THE MRS POW
CAMP

REF: A. JCRC LIAISON 041055Z SEP 90
- B. JCRC LIAISON 231021Z MAY 89
- C. JCRC LIAISON 120809Z MAY 89

1. REF A IS THE SUMMARY REPORT (PART 2) OF
JOINT US/SRV INVESTIGATION ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY
TEAM ONE IN VIETNAM DURING ITERATION 11 FROM 6 TO 31
AUGUST 1990. REF B DESCRIBES AN UNSUCCESSFUL
ATTEMPT TO VISIT THE CAMP WHICH IS THE SUBJECT OF
THIS REPORT. REF C IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF
INVESTIGATION OF REFNO 0976. THE FOLLOWING IS THE
DETAILED REPORT CONCERNING THE INVESTIGATION OF THE
MILITARY REGION FIVE (MRS) POW CAMP.

2. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION: THE JOINT TEAM
INTERVIEWED NUMEROUS WITNESSES IN BOTH QUANG NAM -
DANANG AND QUANG NGAI PROVINCES WHO WERE SAID TO
HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH THE MRS CAMP. THE WITNESS
PREVIOUSLY SOUGHT BY ANOTHER TEAM DURING ITERATION
FIVE (MR. AY) WAS ALSO REINTERVIEWED, BUT NOW CLAIMS
HE WAS MISUNDERSTOOD CONCERNING THE SIX GRAVES WHICH
WERE SAID TO BE REMAINING. WITNESSES INTERVIEWED BY
THE TEAM INDICATED THEY HAD VARYING DEGREES OF
KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING THE CAMP, DEPENDING ON THE TIME
FRAME THEY WERE ASSOCIATED WITH THE CAMP. ONE

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WITNESS, WHO CLAIMED TO HAVE BEEN INVOLVED IN THE POST-WAR RECOVERY OF REMAINS FROM THE CAMP, INDICATED HIS BELIEF THAT ALL GRAVES LOCATED AT THE SITE WERE EITHER ALREADY EXCAVATED, OR COULD NOT BE FOUND. THE PROVINCE TASK TEAM AND VNOSMP STAFF THEIR BELIEF THAT ALL POSSIBLE REMAINS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CAMP HAVE ALREADY BEEN RECOVERED AND HAVE EITHER BEEN IDENTIFIED OR ARE PENDING IDENTIFICATION AT CILHI. VNOSMP STAFF MEMBERS SUGGESTED THAT SOME OF THE REMAINS NOT YET IDENTIFIED MAY BE THOSE INCLUDED IN A GROUP OF ABOUT 10 REMAINS WHICH WERE EXHUMED WITHOUT IDENTIFICATION MEDIA (IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DIED IN CAPTIVITY (DIC) LIST) AT THE TIME OF THE PARIS PEACE TALKS, THE VNOSMP HAS INDICATED THEIR DESIRE TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER IN GREATER DETAIL AFTER ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION FROM WITNESSES HAS BEEN ANALYZED BY THE U.S. SIDE.

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what does
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mean?*

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION

- A. ON 6 AUGUST 1990 THE JOINT US/SRV INVESTIGATION TEAM CONSISTING OF MR. G. E. BELL AND MR. NGO HOANG (TEAM CHIEFS) ALONG WITH MEMBERS MSGT RICHARD L. JOHN (TEAM ANALYST), 1SG RICHARD B. HUSTON (SEARCH AND RECOVERY SPECIALIST), MR. PHAM MANH KHOI, MR. NGUYEN HONG DUNG, AND MR. PHAM DUNG TRAVELLED TO DANANG CITY, QUANG NAM - DANANG PROVINCE. THE JOINT TEAM MET WITH MR. NGO VAN TRAN, DIRECTOR OF THE EXTERNAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, MR. NGUYEN HAI, DEPUTY OF THE EXTERNAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, AND MR. LAM QUANG MINH, CHIEF OF THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICE IN DANANG CITY. MR. NGO VAN TRAN INTRODUCED THE MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCE TASK TEAM, INCLUDING MR. MAI QUY TRUNG, TEAM LEADER, AND MEMBERS MR. TRUONG HAO, MR. NGUYEN TAN DA, AND MR. NGUYEN VAN LOC. THE JOINT US/SRV TEAM INTRODUCED ITS MEMBERS AND EXPLAINED THE MISSION OF THE JOINT TEAM.

- B. ON 7 AUGUST 1990 THE PROVINCE TASK TEAM INFORMED THE JOINT TEAM THAT SIX GRAVES WERE REMAINING IN THE MRS CAMP WHICH WAS CALLED THE TRA-KHE-TRA GIAC CAMP. THE LOCAL CADRE SAID MR. VO HAI NINH, A FORMER CADRE OF THE MRS MILITARY PROSELYTING SECTION, AND HIS WIFE MRS. NGUYEN THI MINH SON, A FORMER MEDIC IN THE CAMP, HAD BEEN LOCATED IN QUANG NGAI PROVINCE. THE TASK TEAM SAID A PRELIMINARY REPORT FROM MRS. SON INDICATED THAT SIX AMERICANS HAD DIED AND WERE BURIED IN THE CAMP.

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WITH MR. VO HAI NINH, A FORMER CADRE OF THE MRS MILITARY PROSELYTING SECTION, AND HIS WIFE MRS. NGUYEN THI MINH SON, A FORMER MEDIC ASSIGNED TO THE MRS CAMP. DURING THE COURSE OF THE MEETING IN QUANG NGAI, TEAM TWO LEARNED FROM MR. NINH AND MRS. SON THAT THE MRS CAMP HAD BEEN MOVED PERIODICALLY BETWEEN FIVE DIFFERENT SITES LOCATED NEAR THE BOUNDARY OF TRA MY DISTRICT, QUANG TIN PROVINCE AND TRA DONG DISTRICT OF QUANG NGAI PROVINCE. TEAM TWO LEARNED THAT THE MRS CAMP WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL FOREIGN POWS IN THE CENTRAL PART OF VIETNAM FROM THE COASTAL LOWLANDS TO THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS. MR. VO HAI NINH INFORMED TEAM TWO THAT TWO KOREAN POW'S WERE CAPTURED DURING EARLY 1967. MR. NINH SAID THE TWO WERE CAPTURED IN PHU YEN AND WERE ENROUTE TO THE MRS CAMP BUT ONE DIED ON THE WAY. THE SECOND MAN, CALLED "PHAT TRUNG IL," WAS FROM THE "WHITE HORSE" DIVISION.

E. THE TEAM ALSO DISPATCHED MR. PHAM DUNG AND LOCAL TASK TEAM MEMBER MR. NGUYEN TAN DA TO QUANG NGAI. IN BINH DONG VILLAGE, BINH SON DISTRICT, MR. DUNG AND MR. DA MET WITH MR. DANG THANH (DANG THANH), A RETIRED CPT FORMERLY ASSIGNED TO MRS. MR. THANH SAID HE HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO RECOVER THE REMAINS OF SIX AMERICANS FROM SIX GRAVES LOCATED IN TRA KHE VILLAGE. MR. THANH SAID HE WAS ABLE TO RECALL THE FOLLOWING CONCERNING THE PERSONNEL BURIED IN THE SIX GRAVES:

- GRAVE 1: WILLIAM DAVID FORT (SIC), CAPTURED 12 JAN 68 AT CHU LAI. DIED 24 NOV 68.
- GRAVE 2: FRANKLIN EUGENE CANNON, CAPTURED 8 JAN 68 AT QUE SON, DIED 9 SEP 68.
- GRAVE 3: RICHARD FRANK WILLIAMS, CAPTURED 24 JUN 67, DIED 29 JAN 68.
- GRAVE 4: EDWIN RUSSELL GARISETH (SIC), CAPTURED 8 JAN 68, DIED 17 SEP 68.
- GRAVE 5: FREDERICK JOHN BURNS: CAPTURED 25 DEC 67 IN QUANG DA, DIED 12 JAN 69.
- GRAVE 6: ROBERT CARL SHERMAN, CAPTURED 8 JAN 68.

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ACCORDING TO MR. THANH THERE WERE NO MORE GRAVES WITH AMERICAN REMAINS IN TRA KHE.

F. THE JOINT TEAM MET WITH MR. DANG NGOC TOA, AKA HOANG LAM IN HOA VANG DISTRICT, QUANG NAM - DANANG PROVINCE. MR. TOA SAID HE WAS FORMERLY THE DEPUTY OF THE ENEMY PROSELYTING SECTION OF MRS. MR. TOA SAID HE HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO PHU YEN PROVINCE DURING 1964 AND 1965. MR. TOA WAS REASSIGNED TO THE MRS CAMP IN TRA KHE-TRA GIAC SOMETIME DURING 1966 AND REMAINED THERE FOR OVER ONE YEAR. MR. TOA SAID U.S. PRISONERS WHO WERE CAPTURED IN PHU YEN PROVINCE WERE ROUTINELY EVACUATED TO THE MRS CAMP BUT SOME DIED BEFORE ARRIVING THERE. MR. TOA SAID HE RECALLED ONE U.S. POW WHO WAS A CPT CALLED EISENBRAUN, WHO WAS CAPTURED IN PHU YEN PROVINCE ON THE ROAD FROM DONG CAM TO CHEO REO. MR. TOA SAID HE WAS ASSIGNED AS THE MILITARY PROSELYTING CADRE FOR THE MRS CAMP UNTIL OCTOBER OR NOVEMBER 1967, WHEN HE WAS REPLACED BY A MAN CALLED "VONG." HE SAID HE LATER HEARD FROM VONG THAT CPT EISENBRAUN HAD BEEN KILLED BY A TIGER. MR. TOA SAID HE RECALLED TWO OTHER U.S. POW'S NAMED ROBERT AND FRED, BUT HE WAS NOT ABLE TO RECALL ANY DETAILS CONCERNING THEM DUE TO THE TIME LAPSE. MR. TOA SAID HE COULD SPEAK VERY LITTLE ENGLISH AND HE RELIED UPON HIS INTERPRETER MR. RAM QUANG NHO TO COMMUNICATE WITH THE U.S. POW'S. MR. TOA SAID MR. LAM QUANG NHO HAD SINCE DIED. HE RECALLED THAT WHEN HE DEPARTED THE CAMP IN LATE 1967 THERE WERE 18 U.S. POW'S THERE. HE SAID THE CAMP WAS LOCATED ONE DAY'S WALK SOUTH OF DUONG YEN (BT0801). HE RECALLED THAT THE CAMP COMMANDER OF THE MRS CAMP WAS CALLED TOAI (TOAIJ). MR. TOA ALSO PROVIDED INFORMATION CONCERNING INCIDENTS INVOLVING U.S. PERSONNEL WHICH IS BEING REPORTED SEPARATELY.

G. THE TEAM MET WITH MR. VO KIM HO, AKA CHIN (9) HO, WHO SAID HE WAS THE FORMER COMMANDER OF A TEMPORARY CAMP DESIGNATED K20 LOCATED ON THE ROUTE FROM DANANG CITY TO THE MRS CAMP. MR. HO SAID HE BEGAN WORKING IN THE CAMP IN AUGUST 1967. HE SAID

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THE CAMP WAS CALLED LOC SON (LOOCJ SOWN) CAMP SINCE IT WAS LOCATED IN LOC SON (NOW DAI THANH) VILLAGE (AT8349), DAI LOC DISTRICT, QUANG NAM-DANANG PROVINCE. MR. HO SAID HE WORKED AS AN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE INTERPRETER FOR THE CAMP UNTIL LATE 1968. HE RECALLED THAT THE COMMANDER OF THE CAMP WAS MR. TRAN DINH HAI (HAIR), A NATIVE OF DAI LOC DISTRICT. MR. HO SAID THREE ARVN INMATES WHO WERE CONSIDERED AS BEING COOPERATIVE, HELPED THE CAMP STAFF TO OPERATE THE CAMP. HE SAID OTHER ARVN PRISONERS WERE HELD IN MORE REMOTE AREAS DUE TO SECURITY CONCERNS. HE SAID THE CAMP STAFF CONSISTED OF FIVE OR SIX CADRE BUT HE COULD NOT RECALL THEIR NAMES. MR. HO SAID CAMP RECORDS WERE MAINTAINED BY A MAN CALLED "QUA," WHO WAS ISSUED A MANUAL TYPEWRITER FOR HIS WORK. THE CAMP WAS COMPRISED OF THREE THATCHED HUTS LOCATED BENEATH THE TREES TO PREVENT OBSERVATION FROM THE AIR. THE MEDIC IN THE CAMP WAS MRS. DUNG. SHE RECEIVED MEDICINE FROM THE FIELD HOSPITAL WHICH WAS LOCATED ABOUT A HALF DAY'S WALK FROM THE LOC SON CAMP. MR. HO SAID HE RECALLED THAT WHEN HE ARRIVED AT THE CAMP IN AUGUST 1967 THE CAMP HAD ALREADY BEEN IN OPERATION FOR ABOUT ONE YEAR. DURING THE PERIOD HE WORKED IN K20 CAMP HE OBSERVED SIX U.S. PRISONERS. HE RECALLED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SIX, ALL OF WHOM WERE CAUCASIANS: PW NO. 1: "BOBBY" GARWOOD WHO ARRIVED IN FEBRUARY 1968. GARWOOD WAS ALREADY RELEASED FROM POW STATUS WHEN HE ARRIVED. HE WAS CONSIDERED AS COOPERATING WITH THE REVOLUTION. THE ONLY TIME A DOCTOR CAME TO THE CAMP DURING MR HO'S ASSIGNMENT WAS DURING MID-1968 WHEN A DR. NGHE (NGHEEJ) CAME TO TREAT GARWOOD. DR. NGHE CAME FROM A FIELD HOSPITAL (U/I) WHICH WAS LOCATED ABOUT A HALF DAY'S WALK FROM K20. DR. NGHE WAS LATER KILLED BY U.S. ARTILLERY. GARWOOD DEPARTED THE CAMP AROUND JULY 1968 AND MR. HO NEVER SAW HIM AGAIN. PW NO. 2: AN AMERICAN OF POLISH ORIGIN CALLED ZAWTOCKI ARRIVED AROUND APRIL 1968. ZAWTOCKI WAS YOUNGER THAN GARWOOD AND HAD BLOND BT

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HAIR. MR. HO HEARD HE WAS CAPTURED IN THE AREA OF NATIONAL ROUTE (QL) 1. PW NO. 3: THE THIRD POW ARRIVED WITH ZAWTOCKI. HE HAD DARKER SKIN THAN ZAWTOCKI AND WAS OLDER, PERHAPS 30 YOA. HE WAS SLIGHTLY SHORTER THAN ZAWTOCKI. PW NO. 4: THE FOURTH MAN ARRIVED ABOUT ONE WEEK AFTER PWS 2 AND 3. HE WAS CALLED FREDERICK AND SAID HE WAS FROM NEW YORK. MR. HO HEARD HE WAS CAPTURED IN DIEN BAN DISTRICT. FREDERICK WAS VERY YOUNG, PERHAPS 21-22 YOA. HE WAS OF VERY SMALL STATURE AND HAD DARK BROWN OR BLACK HAIR. PW NO. 5: THE FIFTH MAN WAS CALLED WEATHERMAN. HE WAS CAPTURED SOMEWHERE IN THE AREA OF QL1. MR. HO SAID HE HEARD WEATHERMAN WAS KILLED DURING AN ESCAPE ATTEMPT AT THE MRS CAMP. PW NO. 6: MR. HO COULD ONLY RECALL THAT THE MAN WAS A CAUCASIAN WHO ARRIVED SOMETIME DURING MID-1968. MR. HO SAID WHEN HE DEPARTED THE CAMP IN LATE 1968 GARWOOD HAD ALREADY DEPARTED THE CAMP AND THE FIVE U.S. POW'S MENTIONED ABOVE WERE ALL STILL LIVING. HE SAID HE WAS NOT ABLE TO RECALL FURTHER INFORMATION CONCERNING THE K20 CAMP BUT WOULD TRY TO COLLECT HIS THOUGHTS AND IF HE WAS ABLE TO REMEMBER ANY FURTHER DETAILS, HE WOULD NOTIFY THE PROVINCE TASK TEAM.

H. THE TEAM MET WITH MR. HO AN, WHO SAID HE HAD FORMERLY WORKED IN THE MRS CAMP AS AN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE INTERPRETER. MR. AN SAID HE HAD ALSO VISITED THE K20 CAMP WHERE MR. CHIN HO HAD WORKED DURING 1967 AND 1968. MR. AN SAID HE WENT TO THE CAMP TO TALK TO SOME OF THE U.S. POW'S INCLUDING "BOBBY" GARWOOD. MR. AN SAID HE FIRST MET GARWOOD SOMETIME DURING 1966. HE SAID GARWOOD WAS CAPTURED BY GUERILLA FORCES FROM CAM HA (CAAMS HAF) IN THE AREA OF HOI AN. MR. AN SAID HE HEARD FROM GARWOOD THAT HE WAS A DRIVER FOR THE COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE USMC FORCES IN VIETNAM. MR. AN SAID HE ALSO RECALLED THE U.S. POW CALLED FREDERICK WHO WAS MENTIONED BY MR. CHIN HO. HE SAID FREDERICK WAS LATER TRANSFERRED TO THE MRS CAMP. MR. AN HEARD FROM FREDERICK THAT HE WAS FROM NEW YORK AND HIS

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FAMILY WAS RICH BECAUSE HIS FATHER OWNED A BANK THERE. MR. AN SAID HE HAD WORKED AS AN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE INTERPRETER FOR THE PROSELYTING SECTIONS OF MRS WHENEVER HIS SKILLS WERE NEEDED. HE SAID HE DEPARTED DANANG DURING 1965 AND BECAME A MEMBER OF FRONT 7 (MAT TRAN 7) OF INTER-REGION (LIEN KHU 5). HE EXPLAINED THAT FRONT 7 WAS A POLITICAL ORGANIZATION LIKING THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS WITH INTER-REGION 5. HE SAID THE MILITARY FORCES OF THE CENTRAL REGION REFERRED TO THE AREA AS MILITARY REGION (QUAN KHU)

5. MR. AN SAID THAT PRIOR TO THE TET OFFENSIVE IN 1968 THE LK (INTER-REGION) 5 AREA HAD INCLUDED ALL THE PROVINCES OF CENTRAL VIETNAM FROM PHU YEN UP TO THE VINH LINH AREA. AFTER 1968 THE LK5 AREA CONSISTED OF NINE PROVINCES, INCLUDING DAK LAK, PHU YEN, PHU BON, PLEIKU, BINH DINH, KONTUM, QUANG NGAI, QUANG TIN, AND QUANG NAM. MR. AN WENT TO THE LK5 CAMP FOR 10 DAYS SOMETIME DURING 1968 OR 1969. AT THAT TIME THERE WERE 21 U.S. POW'S HELD THERE INCLUDING THREE OR FOUR BLACK AMERICANS. MR. AN WENT TO THE CAMP TO INSTRUCT THE AMERICANS ABOUT THE CAUSE OF THE REVOLUTION AND THE POLICY OF THE NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION OF SOUTH VIETNAM. MR. AN SAID THAT WHEN HE WENT TO THE CAMP FOR THE 10-DAY PERIOD OF INSTRUCTION, HE MET ONLY 19 OF THE U.S. POW'S, BECAUSE TWO OF THEM WERE SAID TO HAVE BEEN VERY ILL. THE CAMP COMMANDER AT THAT TIME WAS MR. DO TOAI (TOAIJ) WHO IS CURRENTLY RETIRED AND RESIDING IN QUANG NGAI CITY. MR. AN HEARD THAT SEVERAL OF THE POWS DIED DUE TO ILLNESS AND MR. DO TOAI WAS RELIEVED FROM HIS POSITION AS CAMP COMMANDER. THE DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE LK5 MILITARY PROSELYTING AT THAT TIME WAS MR. NGUYEN SAU (SAU5) WHO USED THE COVER NAME OF SAU (6) TOAI (TOAIJ). MR. SAU TOAI CURRENTLY RESIDES IN QUANG NGAI CITY WHERE HE IS EMPLOYED AS THE CHIEF OF PUBLIC SECURITY. THE CAMP MANAGER/ADJUTANT (QUAN LY) WAS MR. VO HAI NINH. HE IS CURRENTLY RETIRED AND ALSO RESIDES IN QUANG NGAI CITY. MR. AN SAID HE RECALLED THAT ONE OF THE U.S. POW'S WAS AN INDIAN, BUT HE
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COULDN'T REMEMBER HIS NAME. HE SAID ONE OTHER YOUNG CAUCASIAN POW WAS A 2LT AND PILOT. MR. AN SAID SINCE HE WAS ONLY IN THE CAMP FOR 10 DAYS HE WAS NOT ABLE TO RECALL ANYTHING FURTHER ABOUT INCIDENTS INVOLVING U.S. PRISONERS. MR. AN PROVIDED SOME ADDITIONAL LIMITED INFORMATION CONCERNING INCIDENTS INVOLVING U.S. PERSONNEL WHICH WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY.

I. THE JOINT TEAM ALSO INTERVIEWED MR. NGUYEN CONG DA (ZAJ) WHO SAID HE HAD HELD THE POSITION OF DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE ENEMY PROSELYTING SECTION FOR INTER-REGION 5. MR. DA SAID HIS SECTION AT THAT TIME INCLUDED 1LT NGUYEN BA NHI, ALSO A DEPUTY, MR. THANH FROM BINH SON, A DEPUTY, AND 2LT DOAN NGOC PHUONG, A DEPUTY WHO IS NOW EMPLOYED BY THE DANANG CITY WATERWORKS. MR. DA SAID THAT AFTER THE WAR HE PARTICIPATED IN TWO RECOVERY OPERATIONS, ONE OF WHICH WAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE MRS CAMP. MR. DA SAID IN EARLY 1979 HE RECEIVED A NAME LIST AND SOME SKETCHES FROM THE MILITARY JUSTICE DEPARTMENT OF MRS. USING THE LISTS AND SKETCHES MR. DA EXCAVATED THREE GRAVES FROM HAMLET 3 OF TRA GIAC VILLAGE AND FOUR GRAVES FROM HAMLET 4 OF TRA GIAC VILLAGE. MR. DA SAID HAMLET 3 WAS LOCATED ABOUT 500 TO 1000 METERS SOUTH OF TRA GIAC. AT THE HAMLET 3 LOCATION MR. DA RECOVERED THREE REMAINS INCLUDING THAT OF A WEST GERMAN FEMALE. MR. DA SAID HE WAS ABLE TO DETERMINE THE REMAINS WERE THOSE OF A FEMALE BECAUSE HE RECOVERED A BRASSIERE WITH THE SKELETAL REMAINS. THE NAMES OF THE THREE PRISONERS BURIED IN HAMLET 3 WERE CARVED INTO TREES LOCATED NEXT TO EACH GRAVE. MR. DA DID NOT OBSERVE ANY BOARDS. HE SAID HE COULD NOT RECALL THE NAMES DUE TO THE ELEVEN-YEAR TIME LAPSE. MR. DA SAID HE BELIEVED THE OTHER TWO REMAINS RECOVERED IN HAMLET 3 WERE MALE, BECAUSE THEY WERE MUCH LARGER THAN THOSE HE RECOVERED WITH THE BRASSIERE. MR. DA DID NOT FIND ANY OTHER PERSONAL EFFECTS OR IDENTIFICATION MEDIA WITH THE THREE REMAINS. MR. DA SAID THE FOUR GRAVES IN HAMLET 4 WERE NOT MARKED BUT HE HAD THE COORDINATES

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PLOTTED ON A MAP PROVIDED BY MRS AND HE WAS ABLE TO FIND THE GRAVES, LOCATED ABOUT ONE KM NORTHWEST OF HAMLET 4, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF MR. DOI (DOOI), THE CHAIRMAN OF TRA GIAC VILLAGE. HE RECALLED THAT MR. DOI WAS A LOCAL NATIVE AND ETHNIC MINORITY MEMBER. MR. DA SAID HE ALSO DID NOT RECOVER ANY PERSONAL EFFECTS OF IDENTIFICATION MEDIA WITH THE FOUR REMAINS FROM HAMLET 4. HE SAID ALL SEVEN REMAINS WERE FORWARDED TO THE MILITARY JUSTICE SECTION OF MRS. MR. DA SAID HE DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE RECOVERY OF ANY REMAINS FROM TRA KHE VILLAGE BUT RECALLED THAT ANOTHER CADRE CALLED "THANH" HAD RECOVERED SOME REMAINS FROM THERE (SEE PARA 3E ABOVE). MR. DA SAID MR. THANH HAD GONE TO TRA KHE AT THE SAME TIME HE HAD BEEN SENT TO TRA GIAC. AFTER THE RECOVERY MISSION WAS OVER HE HAD FROM THANH THAT HE HAD BEEN GIVEN INSTRUCTION TO RECOVER SIX REMAINS FROM SIX GRAVES, BUT HE WAS ONLY ABLE TO LOCATE FIVE OF THE REMAINS. MR. DA SAID HE WAS NOT CLEAR CONCERNING THE SIXTH GRAVE OR REMAINS.

*John Chin
Does not say
location to
the "THANH"
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J. ON 27 AUGUST 1990 THE JOINT TEAM TRAVELLED TO QUANG NGAI CITY IN QUANG NGAI PROVINCE TO MEET WITH THE FORMER CAMP CADRE INTERVIEWED DURING ITERATION ELEVEN BY TEAM TWO (PARA 3D ABOVE). MR. VO HAI NINH WAS NOT AVAILABLE BUT THE TEAM WAS ABLE TO MEET THE FORMER CAMP MEDIC, MRS. NGUYEN THI MINH SON, WHO WAS THE WIFE OF MR. NINH. THE TEAM ALSO MET WITH THE FORMER CAMP COMMANDER, WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF TO THE TEAM AS MR. VO THANH TOAI (TOAIJ). MR. TOAI SAID HE WAS ASSIGNED AS DEPUTY COMMANDER OF THE INTER-REGION 5 CAMP IN JANUARY 1968. HE REMAINED IN THAT POSITION UNTIL HE WAS REASSIGNED SOMETIME DURING MID-1969. MR. TOAI SAID THE CAMP WAS MOVED FROM TRA KHE VILLAGE, TRA BONG DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI, TO LANG RIENG VILLAGE, TRA MY DISTRICT, QUANG TIN, SOMETIME DURING HIS TOUR OF DUTY THERE. THE CAMP CADRE OBTAINED RICE FROM DUONG YEN VILLAGE (BT0802), TRA MY DISTRICT, QUANG TIN PROVINCE AND TINH GIANG VILLAGE (BS4476) IN SON TINH DISTRICT OF QUANG NGAI PROVINCE. THE CADRE USED THE BT

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called "DAO" (DAOF) ARRIVED IN CAMP. THE MAN WAS CALLED "DAO" BECAUSE WHEN ASKED HIS NAME HE REPLIED "DAO." HE WAS CAPTURED IN DIEN BAN. DAO WAS YOUNG, UNDER 25, AND FAIRLY TALL, POSSIBLY 1.75 METERS, AND HAD LIGHT-BROWN HAIR WITH BLONDE EYEBROWS. DAO WAS NOT WOUNDED AND STAYED IN RELATIVELY GOOD HEALTH BUT FELL AND HIT HIS HEAD ON A ROCK WHILE BATHING IN A STREAM. HE DIED DUE TO THE HEAD WOUND AND WAS BURIED IN TRA KHE. ANOTHER U.S. POW CALLED "BILL" ARRIVED DURING 1968. HE WAS A CAUCASIAN, ABOUT 1.6 METERS TALL AND NOT WOUNDED. BILL BECAME ILL WITH DYSENTERY AND DIED IN JULY OR AUGUST 1968. HE WAS BURIED IN TRA KHE. MR. TOAI RECALLED THAT ANOTHER PW WHO ARRIVED IN MID-1968 WAS A BLACK MAN CALLED "WILLIE." MR. TOAI VAGUELY RECALLED THAT WILLIE WAS ONE OF SEVEN PRISONERS, INCLUDING THOSE CAPTURED IN DIEN BAN ABOVE, WHO WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE MRS CAMP FROM THE QUANG DA SPECIAL ZONE DURING EARLY TO MID-1968. MR. TOAI VAGUELY RECALLED A U.S. POW CALLED BOBBY AND TWO PUERTO RICAN PRISONERS BUT HE COULD NOT REMEMBER ANY DETAILS. HE SAID HE BELIEVED ONE OF THE TWO PUERTO RICANS WAS RELEASED EARLY. MR. TOAI VAGUELY RECALLED THAT DURING THE TIME HE WAS DEPUTY OF THE CAMP THERE WERE 11 U.S. POW'S THERE, INCLUDING THE TWO PUERTO RICANS, PLUS BOBBY, WHO WAS NOT ACTUALLY A POW.

K. CONCERNING THE CAMP ORGANIZATION, MR. TOAI SAID THE CAMP WAS UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE ENEMY PROSELYTING SECTION OF INTER-REGION 5 AND THE MILITARY PROSELYTING SECTION OF MILITARY REGION 5. BOTH SECTIONS WERE LOCATED IN LANG RIENG, AKA XA NGHEO VILLAGE, TRA MY DISTRICT, NEXT TO SUOI-RIENG STREAM. THE ENEMY PROSELYTING SECTION WAS UNDER LK5. FRONT 7 CONNECTED INTER-REGION 5 WITH THE NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT. THE MILITARY PROSELYTING SECTION WAS UNDER MRS. FRONT 44 CONNECTED MILITARY REGION FIVE WITH THUA THIEN-HUE. MR. HO AN (PARA 3H ABOVE) WAS A MEMBER OF THE ENEMY PROSELYTING SECTION OF INTER-REGION 5. MR. HO AN WAS TASKED TO TAKE THE PUERTO RICAN POW TO DANANG FOR RELEASE, BUT THE ACTUAL RELEASE WAS ARRANGED BY THE MILITARY PROSELYTING SECTION. PRIOR TO MR. TOAI'S ASSIGNMENT BT

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SECTION 07 OF 14 BANGKOK TH 55425

0686 OCT 90
SUBJ: JOINT INVESTIGATION CONCERNING THE MRS POW
CAMP
TO THE CAMP, THE COMMANDER WAS MR. NGUYEN HONG
QUANG, A NATIVE OF TINH GIANG VILLAGE, SON TINH
DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI. MR. QUANG DID NOT SPEAK ANY
ENGLISH. MR. TOAI BELIEVES HE IS NOW RETIRED AND
RESIDING IN DANANG CITY. MR. TOAI SAID HE BELIEVED
MR. QUANG WOULD ONLY BE KNOWLEDGEABLE CONCERNING
"RUT" AND "ED." BEGINNING IN JANUARY 1968 THE CAMP
COMMANDER WAS NGUYEN PHUONG, A NATIVE OF PHU CAT,
BINH DINH. THE DEPUTY FOR DAILY CAMP LIFE WAS
NGUYEN DANG (DANG), A NATIVE OF GIA KHANH, NINH
BINH. WHEN MR. TOAI DEPARTED FROM THE CAMP IN MID-
1969, MR. DANG WAS STILL ASSIGNED THERE. THE CAMP
INTERPRETER WAS MR. HUNG (HUNGJ), A NATIVE OF TAM
KY. MR. TOAI SAID MR. HUNG WAS CURRENTLY IN THE
SOVIET UNION FOR TRAINING. MR. TOAI SAID MR. HUNG
WAS ABOUT 25 YOA WHEN ASSIGNED TO THE CAMP. HE WAS
A FORMER STUDENT WITH VERY LITTLE ENGLISH LANGUAGE
TRAINING. THE BEST ENGLISH SPEAKER IN THE CAMP WAS
MR. HO AN FROM THE ENEMY PROSELYTING SECTION. MR.
TOAI SAID HE BELIEVED MR. HO AN HAD NEVER REGROUPED
TO NORTHERN VIETNAM. THE CHIEF OF THE MRS MILITARY
PROSELYTING SECTION WAS MR. NGUYEN THANH, A
REGROUPEE. MR. TOAI BELIEVED HIS TRUE NAME WAS TRI
(TRIS). MR. NGUYEN THANH WAS A NATIVE OF GIA HOI IN
HUE CITY, WHERE HE FORMERLY LIVED NEAR THE GIA HOI
BRIDGE. AFTER THE WAR ENDED, MR. THANH BECAME THE
DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE DAK LAK PROVINCE PEOPLE'S
COMMITTEE. MR. TOAI VAGUELY RECALLED THANH WAS A
LTC IN THE PAVN. THANH WAS NOT ABLE TO SPEAK
ENGLISH. THE MAN IN CHARGE OF THE ENEMY PROSELYTING
SECTION OF INTER-REGION 5 WAS MR. TRAN PHI HUNG
(HUNGJ), A 45-46 YOA NATIVE OF QUANG DA SPECIAL
ZONE, WHO IS NOW RETIRED AND LIVING IN DANANG. MR.
HUNG WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR OPERATIONS IN WHICH U.S.
TROOPS WERE LURED FROM UNITS SO THEY COULD DESERT
AND JOIN THE REVOLUTION, ACCORDING TO MR. TOAI. THE
CAMP DOCTOR WAS DR. CHI. HE WORKED WITH THE MEDICS
MRS. NGUYEN THI MINH SON AND MR. KHANH (KHANHS), A
NATIVE OF TAN KY, WHO WAS NOT ABLE TO SPEAK ENGLISH.
CAMP RECORDS WERE MAINTAINED BY MR. NGUYEN MINH, WHO

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HAD TWO MANUAL TYPEWRITERS. MR. MINH, A NATIVE OF DUC PHO, QUANG NGAI, COULD SPEAK VERY LIMITED ENGLISH. RECORDS AND SKETCHES OF THE GRAVES OF DECEASED U.S. POW'S WERE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF MR. HUNG, THE CAMP INTERPRETER, WHO IS CURRENTLY IN THE SOVIET UNION. AFTER COMPLETION, THE RECORDS CONCERNING BURIAL WERE FORWARDED TO THE ENEMY AND MILITARY PROSELYTING SECTIONS IN LANG RIENG, NEXT TO XA NGHEO VILLAGE. THE RECORDS WERE TAKEN TO NORTH VIETNAM BY LTC NGUYEN THUONG (THWONGF), WHO WAS A MEMBER OF THE ENEMY PROSELYTING SECTION OF THE GENERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT. LTC THUONG WAS WELL KNOWN FOR DRINKING VERY LITTLE WATER WHILE ON THE TRAIL. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MILITARY PROSELYTING SECTION INCLUDED MR. DO MINH TOAI, A NATIVE OF SON TINH, WHO IS CURRENTLY WORKING AS THE POLICE CHIEF IN QUANG NGAI; MR. VO HAI NINH, A NATIVE OF DUC PHO, QUANG NGAI, AND THE HUSBAND OF THE MEDIC, MRS. NGUYEN THI MINH SON; MR. NGUYEN THAI (THAIS), A 50 YOA NATIVE OF HANOI; MR. NGUYEN DAO (DAOF), A 45 YOA NATIVE OF BINH KHE, BINH DINH; AND MR. NGUYEN NHAM, WHO WAS KIA DURING THE WAR. THE DEPUTY OF THE FATHERLAND FRONT IN QUANG NGAI WAS MR. TRAN DUC DANH. THE X-50 DISPENSARY WAS A PROVINCE-LEVEL DISPENSARY LOCATED IN SON TINH BUT MOVED TO TRA BONG SOMETIME DURING 1969 OR 1970. MR. TOAI SAID HE HAD HEARD OF A CAMP CALLED DO XA AND BELIEVED IT WAS THE FORMER NAME OF THE TRA KHE MRS CAMP DURING EARLY YEARS, WHEN THE CAMP MAY HAVE BEEN LOCATED IN SON HA DISTRICT OF QUANG NGAI PROVINCE. B-21 WAS THE DESIGNATION FOR THE HOSPITAL OF THE QUANG NGAI PROVINCE MILITARY FORCES. MR. TOAI SAID HE HAD NEVER HEARD OF A DOCTOR CALLED NGOC OR TRAN GIA. HE SAID HE DID RECALL A MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (Y SI) NAMED TRAN HOA (HOAF), WHO WAS A NATIVE OF QUANG TIN, BUT COULD NOT RECALL HIS ASSIGNMENT LOCATION. MR. TOAI SAID HE HAD NOT HEARD OF A LE KY BUT HE DID RECALL A MAN NAMED KY (KYF) WHO WAS OVER 50 YOA AND A NATIVE OF QUANG DA. MR. TOAI VAGUELY RECALLED THAT MR. KY WAS A MEMBER (UY VIEN) OF THE INTER-REGION 5 MILITARY PROSELYTING COMMITTEE. MR. TOAI SAID HE BELIEVED MR. KY WAS STILL LIVING SOMEWHERE IN THE BT

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0686 OCT 90

SUBJ: JOINT INVESTIGATION CONCERNING THE MRS POW CAMP.

RIENG VILLAGE CAMP WAS REPORTED BY LOCAL OFFICIALS AS BS1392. XA NGHEO WAS SAID TO BE LOCATED ADJACENT TO XA RIENG. THE TRA KHE VILLAGE CAMP WAS REPORTED AS BS1390.

- C. VNOSMP TEAM CHIEF NGO HOANG REPORTED THAT HE HAD ALREADY BEEN TO THE AREA OF THE MRS. CAMP WITH VNOSMP HEAD MR. CU DINH BA DURING 1985. MR. HOANG SAID THEIR RESEARCH INDICATED THAT A TOTAL OF 19 GRAVES WERE EXCAVATED BY PERSONNEL OF MRS. MR. HOANG SAID ONE REMAINS ASSOCIATED WITH A MILITARY I.D. CARD OF RENO 1042-1-01 (HAMMOND) WAS RETURNED, BUT THE U.S. SIDE DETERMINED THAT THE REMAINS WERE MONGOLOID. HE ADDED THAT ONE REMAINS BELIEVED TO BE THOSE OF REFNO 0236 (GRISSETT) WERE LATER DETERMINED TO BE THOSE OF A CAUCASIAN FEMALE. HOANG SAID HE THEREFORE CONSIDERED THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE REMAINS BELIEVED TO THOSE OF 1042-1-01 (HAMMOND) MIGHT ALSO BE THOSE OF A GERMAN FEMALE. HOANG SAID THE REMAINS OF "ET" (REFNO 0106) WERE BELIEVED TO BE LOCATED A ONE-DAY WALK FROM TRA GIAC AT THAT TIME BUT NOW THE TRAIL WAS OVERGROWN. HOANG SAID NEVERTHELESS HE BELIEVED THERE WAS STILL A CHANCE THE GRAVE COULD BE RELOCATED AND THE REMAINS RECOVERED. HOANG SAID THAT OF THE TOTAL 19 REMAINS RECOVERED BY MRS. PERSONNEL, ONLY 9 OF THEM HAD BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH ANY IDENTIFICATION MEDIA. HOANG SAID THE OTHER 10 REMAINS WERE PLACED IN ONE LARGE BUNDLE BECAUSE THE VNOSMP HAD NO IDEA AS TO THE IDENTITIES OF THE PERSONNEL INVOLVED.

- D. BY USING FIELD RECORDS THE TEAM WAS ABLE TO DETERMINE THAT THERE WERE AT LEAST 32 FOREIGN PRISONERS WHO WERE PHYSICALLY PRESENT IN THE MRS CAMP DURING THE WAR. THIS FIGURE INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING LIST: LONG (1171-0-11), HAMMOND (1042-1-01), ANTON (0966-0-02), HARKER (0976-1-07), GARNWOOD (0155-1-01), WILLIAMS (0976-4-04), STRICTLAND (0976-1-05), ANZALDUA (1551-1-01), KUSHNER (0932-1-01), WATKINS (0976-1-06), DALY (096-1-08), HARKER (0976-1-07), SHERMAN (0740), MCMILLAN (1078-0-03), DAVIS (1078-0-02), ZAWTOCKI (1042-1-02), LEWIS (0966-0-

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01), PFISTER (0966-0-03), GRISSETT (0236), CANNON (09764-03), ORTIZ (0556-1-01), AGOSTO-SANTOS (0678-1-02), EISENBRAUN (0106), BURNS (0951-1-01), MEHER (1350-1-01), TINSLEY (1404), ELBERT (1249-0-01), KORTMANN (1433-2-02), BARTSCH (1433-2-03), DIEHL (1433-3-04), SCHWINN (1433-3-05), AND WEATHERMAN (NO REFNO). OF THESE 32 PRISONERS, 21 WERE RELEASED FROM CAPTIVITY AND 11 DIED IN THE CAMP. SINCE THE VNOSMP HAS REPORTEDLY RECEIVED 19 REMAINS FROM THE CAMP THERE ARE OBVIOUSLY A NUMBER OF UNEXPLAINED REMAINS. THE VNOSMP HAS ALREADY INDICATED THEIR DESIRE TO DISCUSS THE PENDING IDENTIFICATION OF THESE REMAINS AND PERHAPS THEY WILL PROVIDE FURTHER CLARIFICATION AT THAT TIME.

- E.) THE WITNESS IDENTIFIED AS VO KIM HO (HOO), AKA CHIN (9) HO, SAID HE WAS PRIMARILY A KOREAN-LANGUAGE INTERPRETER, AND ACTUALLY HAD VERY LITTLE CAPABILITY IN ENGLISH. WHILE ESCORTING A TOUR GROUP IN HUE HE WAS ALSO OBSERVED TO HAVE A CAPABILITY IN FRENCH. MR. 9 HO WAS EVASIVE CONCERNING HIS PREVIOUS INVOLVEMENT WITH KOREAN POW'S BUT INDICATED HE WAS VERY FAMILIAR WITH THE ROK "WHITE HORSE" DIVISION.

- F.) CONCERNING THE ORGANIZATION OF INTER-REGION 4/MILITARY REGION 5, VNOSMP MEMBER MR. PHAM MANH KHOI SAID THE BASIC DIFFERENCE WAS THAT LKS WAS POLITICAL ORGANIZATION WHICH HAD CONTROL OF THE ENEMY PROSELYTING EFFORT WHILE THE MR5 WAS A MILITARY ORGANIZATION WITH CONTROL OVER THE MILITARY PROSELYTING EFFORT. KHOI EXPLAINED THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE ENEMY PROSELYTING AND MILITARY PROSELYTING ORGANIZATIONS BY SAYING IT WAS LIKE "THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE CIA AND THE DIA." MR. HOANG SAID THAT IN THE EARLIER STAGES OF THE WAR THERE WAS MORE EMPHASIS ON ENEMY PROSELYTING AND AT ONE POINT THE INTER-REGION 5 AREA CONSISTED OF 13 PROVINCES INCLUDING QUANG TRI AND THUA THIEN. HOANG ADDED THAT LKS ALSO INCLUDED WHAT THE U.S. SIDE HAD
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CONFIDENTIAL 0686 OCT 90

SUBJ: JOINT INVESTIGATION CONCERNING THE MRS POW CAMP

INCORRECTLY REFERRED TO AS THE B-3 FRONT. HOANG SAID THE STRUCTURE WAS CHANGED AND MILITARY PROSELYTING BEGAN TO TAKE ON GREATER EMPHASIS WHEN PAVN UNITS OF DIVISION STRENGTH BEGAN OPERATING IN THE SOUTH DURING EARLY 1968.

G. THE KOREAN POW REPORTED BY THE WITNESS VO HAI NINH AS BEING PHAT TRUNG IL IS PROBABLY PAK SUNG YUL, REFNO 0181. SGT PAK SUNG YUL IS LISTED AS MISSING AS A RESULT OF A GROUND INCIDENT WHICH OCCURRED AT CR 034130 ON 3 NOVEMBER 1965.

H. CONCERNING LETTERS ADDRESSED TO A PARTY IDENTIFIED AS "DM" THE TEAM WAS NOT ABLE TO IDENTIFY ANY CAMP CADRE WITH THE SAME INITIALS. THE ONLY CADRE WITH A SIMILAR NAME WAS DO MINH TOAI, THE CURRENT PUBLIC SECURITY CHIEF IN QUANG NGAI.

I. THE CAMP INTERPRETER REPORTED BY WITNESSES AS NGUEYN HUNG IS PROBABLY THE CADRE CALLED "HOM" OR HUONG" MENTIONED BY U.S. RELEASEES. THE WITNESS INTERVIEWED WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS HO AN IS PROBABLY THE CADRE CALLED "STONE FACE" BY U.S. RELEASEES. THE WITNESS WHO IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS VO THANH TOAI IS PROBABLY THE CADRE CALLED "SLIME."

J. (COMMENTS BY JAMES M. COYLE, TEAM CHIEF OF APR 89 INVESTIGATION) THE RESULTS OF THIS INVESTIGATION CALL INTO QUESTION THE SINCERITY AS WELL AS THE PREPARATION OF THE VIETNAMESE SIDE DURING THE FIFTH SERIES OF JOINT ACTIVITIES. IF THE ALLEGED GRAVE SITES WERE EXCAVATED BY THE SRV IN 1979, AS REPORTED IN PAR 3I ABOVE, THERE WAS NO POINT IN SENDING THE JOINT TEAM TO THE CAMP IN APR

89. NO MATTER HOW BADLY PREPARED THE VIETNAMESE MAY HAVE BEEN, THEY DID CLAIM THAT "MR AY" HAD BEEN THEIR PRINCIPAL SOURCE OF INFORMATION ABOUT THE CAMP (SEE REF C, PAR 7A). MR. AY IS CITED IN PAR 3C ABOVE AS SUGGESTING THE GRAVE SITES MAY HAVE BEEN EXCAVATED BY MRS PERSONNEL. IT APPEARS THAT THE VNOSMP MAY HAVE SENT THE TEAM ON ITS FRUITLESS TRIP TO TRA GIAC DELIBERATELY, IN AN ATTEMPT TO EMPHASIZE

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