

HOA BINH

0644

UNCLASSIFIED

VN 91-010, 02 16 Sep 91, Mr. Hoa came to the HANOI OFFICE AND SAID HE KNEW A MAN NAMED DIET WHO WAS HOLDING THE REMAINS OF AN UNACCOUNTED FOR AMERICAN. HE SAID THE REMAINS WERE ASSOCIATED WITH A PILOT NAMED "HAMILTON" WHO WAS SHOT DOWN IN 1967 IN QUANG BINH PROVINCE. HE CLAIMED THERE WERE TWO PILOTS IN THE AIRCRAFT AND ONE PILOT PARACHUTED OUT WHILE THE OTHER REMAINED IN THE AIRCRAFT. MR. HOA SAID MR. DIET FOUND A COMPLETE SET OF REMAINS, AN IDENTIFICATION TAG AND SOME CLOTH AT THE CRASH SITE. MR. HOA CLAIMED MR. DIET ONLY WANTED TO HELP THE USG IN ITS EFFORT TO RESOLVE THE MIA ISSUE AND HAD NO OTHER DESIRES. THE INTERVIEWER ASKED MR. HOA WHY MR. DIET DID NOT COME TO THE OFFICE AND HOA RESPONDED BY SAYING MR. DIET WAS SCARED AND DID NOT WANT TO MEET WITH US OFFICIALS. HE SHOWED THE INTERVIEWER PHOTO COPIES OF THREE DOCUMENTS. ONE IS A RECEIPT CLAIMING MR. DIET HAD TURNED REMAINS IN TO QUANG BINH PROVINCE OFFICIALS (INCLOSURE ONE). ANOTHER IS A PUBLIC SECURITY SERVICE RECEIPT FOR A LETTER RECEIVED FROM MR. DIET INDICATING THE LETTER WAS FORWARDED TO THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (INCLOSURE TWO). A THIRD PIECE OF PAPER HAD TWO NAMES OF ALLEGED AMERICANS (INCLOSURE THREE). MR. HOA PROVIDED A BONE FRAGMENT WHICH HE SAID WAS ALLEGEDLY ASSOCIATED WITH HAMILTON. THE BONE WAS GIVEN TO THE ANTHROPOLOGIST FOR EXAMINATION (SEE ANTHROPOLOGICAL ANALYSIS).

- B. (U) THE ID MEDIA FROM THE FIRST DOCUMENT ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) PAZDIERSKI
- R.J.
- 2380679
- CATHOLIC L
- USMC O
- (2) LUNCEFORD
- JIMMY R
- 421-72-1558
- A POSITIVE
- BAPTIST

- C. (U) THE ID MEDIA ON THE THIRD PAPER READS AS FOLLOWS:

- (1) HAMILTON Refno 0644
- JOHNS

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ER 25408
T66 APOS
PROTESTANT
SHOT DOWN ON 19-4-1967
WITH HIS AD6

(2) HINDBAUGH
STEVEN R
386-52-0020
A POST
BAPTIST

E. LATER IN THE DAY MR. HOA RETURNED TO THE US OFFICE. THIS TIME MR. DIET ACCOMPANIED HIM. MR. DIET 77 YOA, SAID HE WAS A SOLDIER FOR 18 YEARS AND KNEW OF MANY CASES IN QUANG BINH PROVINCE. MR. DIET CLAIMED HE IS HOLDING THE REMAINS ASSOCIATED WITH HAMILTON. CONCERNING THESE REMAINS, DIET SAID HE AND A GROUP OF VIETNAMESE TRAVELED TO A CRASH SITE IN 1984. HE CLAIMED THE CRASH WAS IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES XE 2839, NUI TRAI MOUNTAIN, ABOUT 45 KILOMETERS WEST OF DONG HOI TOWN, QUANG BINH. HE SAID AT THE SITE HE SAW TWO SETS OF REMAINS BUT ONLY RECOVERED ONE SET WHICH CONSISTED OF A SKULL, PARTS OF THE SPINE, ALL LEG AND ARM BONES, AND CHEST CAVITY BONES. HE SAID HE TOOK AN IDENTIFICATION TAG BUT SAW NO OTHER PERSONAL EFFECTS. DIET CLAIMED HE KNEW NOTHING CONCERNING THE DOWNING OF THE AIRCRAFT. THE INTERVIEWER ASKED MR. DIET IF HE COULD EXPLAIN WHY THE IDENTIFICATION MEDIA ASSOCIATED WITH HAMILTON HAD THE CORRECT INCIDENT DATE IF HE ONLY FOUND THE SITE IN 1984 AND HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE INCIDENT AS HE CLAIMED. MR. DIET WOULD NOT RESPOND TO THE QUESTION. MR. DIET CLAIMED HE NO INFORMATION CONCERNING THE OTHER NAMES HE PROVIDED.

F. MR. DIET SAID HE ONLY DESIRED TO ASSIST THE US GOVERNMENT BUT WOULD ONLY WORK WITH THE US OFFICE THROUGH THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT. HE ADDED IN HIS OPINION THE US GOVERNMENT HAD A MORAL RESPONSIBILITY TO RETURN TO VIETNAM AND HELP REBUILD THE COUNTRY THEY DESTROYED. MR. DIET THEN SAID HE NO FURTHER BUSINESS WITH US FOR THE PRESENT TIME AND LEFT SAYING HE WAS STAYING WITH A FRIEND IN HANOI AND WOULD BE RETURNING TO QUANG BINH IN A FEW MORE DAYS.

G. ON 19 OCTOBER MR. DIET RETURNED TO THE US OFFICE WITH A REQUEST FOR MONETARY COMPENSATION. HE SAID BECAUSE OF THE WAR AGAINST THE AMERICANS HE NOW HAD TO SUPPORT HIS WIDOWED SISTER AND SISTER-IN-LAW. THE INTERVIEWER ONCE AGAIN EXPLAINED THE USG'S POLICY OF NON-PAYMENT FOR REMAINS OR INFORMATION. AS THE CONVERSATION CONTINUED MR. DIET SAID THE REMAINS TURNED IN BY HOA WAS NOT ASSOCIATED WITH HAMILTON BUT THAT OF HINDBAUGH. HE THEN CHANGED HIS EARLY STORY BY SAYING HE PROVIDED THE INFORMATION CONCERNING HAMILTON FOR A THIRD PARTY. HE WOULD NOT PROVIDE THE NAME OF THIS PARTY. HE SAID THE THIRD PARTY WAS HOLDING THE

IDENTIFICATION TAG OF HAMILTON. MR. DIET BECAME UPSET WHEN HE REALIZED HE WOULD NOT RECEIVE PAYMENT FOR HIS INFORMATION AND THEN LEFT THE HANOI OFFICE.

4. (U) COMMENTS: ONE OF THE ID MEDIA PROVIDED BY THE SOURCE ASSOCIATES WITH AN ACTIVE CASE (HAMILTON, 0544-0-01). WHEN THE INTERVIEWER POINTED OUT THAT CASE 0644 OCCURRED IN HOA BINH PROVINCE VICE QUANG BINH HE INSISTED HE FOUND THE REMAINS IN QUANG BINH AND NOT HOA BINH. DURING THE MEETING ON 19 OCTOBER THE SOURCE WAS QUITE AGGITATED AND LEFT THE US OFFICE SAYING HE WOULD RETURN.

5. (U) ANTHROPOLOGICAL ANALYSIS: THE BONE PROVIDED IS A LEFT FIRST METATARSAL IN POOR CONDITION. BECAUSE THE BONE IS POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH AN UNACCOUNTED FOR INDIVIDUAL IT WILL BE RETAINED IN THE HANOI OFFICE PENDING FURTHER INFORMATION AND/OR REMAINS. ATTACHMENTS WILL BE FORWARDED UNDER SEPARATE COVER. EECL: OADR

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