

ORIGIN (JTF2) INFO ICM POL SA TAO PW/MIA EXA DALO INHP (9)

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PP RUHQHQ RUEKJCS RUEKJCS RUHQHQ RUEKJCS RUFKJCS

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DE RUEHRK #3087/01 253 **

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FM CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH

TO RUHQHQ / CIR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J2// PRIORITY

INFO RUEKJCS / SECDEF WASHDC//OCJCS-PW-MIA/J5//

RUEKJCS / SECDEF WASHDC//USDF:RSA//

RUHQHQ / USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3//

RUEKJCS / USCINCPAC LO WASHDC//

RUEKJCS / DIA WASHDC//

RUEADW / NSC WASHDC

RUFHC / SECSTATE WASHDC//CA/OCS/CCS/FAP/VLC//

BT

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 06 BANGKOK TH 33087

UNCLASSIFIED 0430 SEP 93

PASS TO DOD POW-MIA CENTRAL DOCUMENTATION OFFICE

SUBJ: PRIORITY CASE INVESTIGATION TEAM REPORT: CASE 0109

REFS: A. DIA LEAD SHEET CASE 0109, 2 JUN 93
 - B. JTF-FA CASE ASSESSMENT CASE 0109, 27 APR 93
 - C. CJTF-FA DET ONE BANGKOK TH, 210614Z JAN 93

1. BACKGROUND: FROM 24 THROUGH 31 AUGUST 1993, THE PRIORITY CASE INVESTIGATION TEAM (PCIT) SEARCHED FOR DOCUMENTATION AND EXPLORED LEADS ASSOCIATED WITH THREE CASES IN GIAT IAI PROVINCE. PCIT MEMBERS INCLUDED MSGT WILLIAM R. DEETER (U.S. TEAM LEADER), WILLIAM P. COUTURE (DIA ANALYST/LINGUIST), LTC PHAM TFO (PHAMJ TFOF) (VNO SMP TEAM LEADER), AND NGUYEN THE CONG (NGUYENX THEES COONG) (MINISTRY OF INTERIOR). THIS REPORT CONTAINS THE DETAILS OF THE INVESTIGATION INTO CASE 0109.

2. SUMMARY: ON 26 AUGUST 1993, THE PCIT INVESTIGATED CASE 0109 IN LONG KHONG (LONG KHONG) VILLAGE, AN KHE DISTRICT, AND AN KHE CITY, GIA LAI PROVINCE. THE TEAM REINTERVIEWED THREE WITNESSES WHO PROVIDED INFORMATION CONSISTENT WITH THEIR PREVIOUS STATEMENTS. EACH WITNESS PROVIDED A CREDIBLE FIRSTHAND ACCOUNT OF THE LEATH AND BURIAL OF THE TWO UNACCOUNTED FOR INDIVIDUALS ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 0109. NONE OF THE WITNESSES BELIEVE THEY HAD ANY BETTER CHANCE OF LOCATING THE RESPECTIVE GRAVE SITES THAN THEY HAD DURING THE 21ST JFA. VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS IN GIA LAI PROVINCE DENIED THE EXISTENCE OF ANY SUPPORTING ARCHIVAL DOCUMENTATION ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 0109. BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THIS AND THE PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE, RECOMMEND THIS CASE BE FATE DETERMINED.

3. DETAILS:

A. ON 25 AUGUST 1993, THE JOINT U.S./VIETNAMESE PCIT HELD A TWO HOUR STRATEGY CONFERENCE WITH MEMBERS OF THE GIA LAI PROVINCE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE TO PRESENT INVESTIGATION REQUIREMENTS AND ESTABLISH A COURSE OF ACTION FOR INVESTIGATING CASES IN THE PROVINCE. THE MEETING TOOK PLACE AT THE PROVINCE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE HEADQUARTERS, PLEIKU CITY, AND WAS ATTENDED BY MEMBERS OF THE PCIT AND GIA LAI PROVINCE REPRESENTATIVES PHAM THUNG (PHAMJ THFFS ZUNGX) (PROVINCE TEAM LEADER AND EXTERNAL AFFAIRS CHIEF); NGO NGOC SINH (NGOO NGOCJ SINH) (PROVINCE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DEPUTY CHIEF); TRAN VAN MANH (TRAN VAN MANHJ) (PAVN PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVE); CAPTAIN HOANG NHAN TRANG (HOANG NHAN TRAWNG) (PAVN PROVINCIAL REPRESENTATIVE); AND TRAN MINH TRUONG (TRAN MINH TRUONGF) (PROVINCE POLITICAL REPRESENTATIVE). DURING THE MEETING, THE VIETNAMESE WERE PRESENTED WITH A LIST OF SOURCES WHICH, THE U.S. SIDE BELIEVED, COULD PROVIDE INFORMATION RELATIVE TO CASE 0109. THESE INCLUDE:

(1) ARCHIVAL DOCUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS/UNITS:

- (A) HQ B3 FRONT
- (B) MILITARY REGION 5 (MR5)
- (C) AN KHE DISTRICT MILITARY HQ
- (D) K'ONG DISTRICT MILITARY HQ
- (F) PAVN 3RD DIVISION

(2) THE PCIT REQUESTED THE VIETNAMESE LOCATE AND MAKE AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS:

- (1) LE DANG LUAN (LE DANG LUAN), EYEWITNESS TO LEATH AND BURIAL.
- (2) DINH GIT (DINH GITS), EYEWITNESS TO LEATH AND BURIAL.
- (3) DINH KHIT (DINH KHITS), EYEWITNESS

CLASS: UNCLASSIFIED
 CHRG: CJTF 09/10/93
 APPRV: CJTF:DAG
 PRETT: CJTF:JCC

CLEAR: NONE
 DISTR: CJTF
 ORIGIN: OCR

	ACTION	INFO
CC		
CD		
OPS		
LOG		
ADMIN		
FILE		
CY TO <i>Sally</i>		

Gia Lai
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TC BURIAL

- (4) LIEUTENANT GENERAL SUNG TAM (SUNG LAW), FORMER CDR VINH LINH/QUANG TRI
- (5) LIEUTENANT GENERAL NGUYEN HUY CUONG (NGUYENX HUY CUONG), DEPUTY CDR MRS
- (6) THE AUTHORS OF CENTRAL HIGHLANDS MILITARY GROUP:
 - DINH NGAI (DINH NGAI)
 - NGUYEN SI TRINH (NGUYENX SIX TRINH)
 - NGUYEN DANH DAN (NGUYENX DAN ZAN)
 - NGUYEN DUC NGU (NGUYENX DWCS NGU)
- (7) INTERVIEW RESIDENTS OF DONG VILLAGE, LANG DISTRICT WHO WITNESSED THE BURIAL OF ONE OR BOTH OF THE AMERICANS.

B. THE PCIT HAD DROPPED OFF LEAD SHEET INFORMATION WITH PROVINCE OFFICIALS ON 19 AUGUST 1993. GIA LAI PROVINCE OFFICIALS HAI, DURING THE FIVE DAYS BEFORE THE PCIT ARRIVED, CONTACTED APPROPRIATE DISTRICT AND VILLAGE OFFICIALS IN ORDER TO IDENTIFY AND LOCATE INDIVIDUALS REQUESTED FOR INTERVIEW. THE PROVINCE TEAM INFORMED THE PCIT ALL AVAILABLE WITNESSES HAD BEEN LOCATED AND WOULD BE PRESENT AT THE INTERVIEWS ACCORDING TO THE SCHEDULE.

C. ARCHIVAL: DURING THIS AND ALL PREVIOUS RESEARCH AND INVESTIGATION EFFORTS, NO DOCUMENTATION ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 0109 HAS EVER BEEN DISCOVERED. THE SUBJECT OF WARTIME DOCUMENTATION WAS DISCUSSED AT LENGTH WITH GIA LAI PROVINCE OFFICIALS. THEY WERE UNAWARE OF ANY EXISTING PROVINCIAL RECORDS PERTAINING TO U.S. SERVICEMEN KILLED OR CAPTURED DURING THE WAR. LTC PHAM TEO, VNOSMP PCIT TEAM LEADER, CONTACTED PAVN 3RD CORPS HQ CONCERNING WARTIME DOCUMENTS, BUT 3RD CORPS HQ PERSONNEL CLAIMED TO HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE OF ARCHIVAL MATERIAL RELATED TO UNACCOUNTED FOR U.S. PERSONNEL IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. PROVINCE AND LOCAL OFFICIALS POINTED OUT THAT MAIN FORCE AND GUERRILLA UNITS THROUGHOUT THE B3 FRONT WERE EXTREMELY MOBILE AND SELDOM REMAINED AT A FIXED LOCATION FOR EXTENDED PERIODS. THIS WAS DUE TO U.S. AND REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (RVN) COMBAT OPERATIONS AS WELL AS B-52 STRIKES. GUERRILLA UNITS REFRAINED FROM KEEPING ANY SORT OF WRITTEN RECORDS WHICH, IF CAPTURED, COULD COMPROMISE THEIR MEMBERSHIP OR PAST/PLANNED OPERATIONS. IT WAS STANDARD POLICY FOR THE MAIN FORCES TO BURN OR BURY ALL EXCEPT THE MOST CRITICAL DOCUMENTATION PRIOR TO RELOCATING. THIS WAS DONE TO MAINTAIN OPERATIONAL SECURITY AND TO REDUCE THE LOGISTICAL BURDEN. DURING THESE FREQUENT RELOCATIONS, SOLDIERS WOULD CARRY ONLY THE PURE NECESSITIES REQUIRED TO FIGHT AND SURVIVE. VIETNAMESE OFFICIALS IN GIA LAI PROVINCE WERE INFORMED OF THE JOINT U.S.-VIETNAMESE DOCUMENTATION CENTER WHICH OPENED IN HANOI IN JUNE 1993.

THEY PLANNED TO FORWARD ANY APPLICABLE RECORDS THEY FOUND TO THIS FACILITY.

D. INTERVIEWS: THE GIA LAI PROVINCE TEAM DETERMINED THAT THREE OF THE NINE INDIVIDUALS IDENTIFIED BY THE PCIT WERE RESIDENTS OF THE PROVINCE AND AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEW. THESE INDIVIDUALS WERE DINH GIT, DINH KHIT, AND LE DANG LUAN. DETAILS OF THESE INTERVIEWS ARE CONTAINED IN THE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPHS. THE PROVINCE TEAM WAS UNABLE TO DETERMINE THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE SIX REMAINING REQUESTED SOURCES FOR THIS CASE.

(1) ON 26 AUGUST 1993, THE PCIT INTERVIEWED DINH GIT, A 70 YEAR BANA ETHNIC MINORITY RESIDENT OF PO NGAN (POW NGAN) HAMLET, LONG KHONG (LONG KHONG) VILLAGE, AN KHE DISTRICT, GIA LAI PROVINCE. HE IS CURRENTLY A FARMER. GIT WAS A MEMBER OF THE VILLAGE PUBLIC SECURITY FROM 1956 THROUGH 1960. AFTER THAT HE WAS A VILLAGE MILITIA MEMBER THROUGH 1975. DINH GREA Y KRUH (TELEGRAPHIC SPELLING UNKNOWN), THE VILLAGE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, SERVED AS INTERMEDIATE INTERPRETER FOR THIS INTERVIEW, TRANSLATING FROM THE BANA LANGUAGE INTO VIETNAMESE. DURING THE 21ST JFA, THE INVESTIGATION ELEMENT REPORTED THIS SOURCE'S NAME AS DINH GRIT (DINH GRITS) VICE DINH GIT (DINH GITS), DUE TO A MISTAKEN TRANSLATION FROM THE ETHNIC BANA LANGUAGE

INTO VIETNAMESE. THE PCIT DETERMINED THE ACTUAL SPILLING WAS DINH GIT AND THE SOURCE'S NAME IS SPPLIED THIS WAY HEREIN. DINH GIT BRIEFLY RECAPPED THE INFORMATION FROM HIS INTERVIEW DURING THE 21ST JFA AS FOLLOWS (SEE REF C FOR COMPLETE DETAILS OF GIT'S PRIOR TESTIMONY):

(A) IN APPROXIMATELY JULY 1965, GIT HEARD THAT AN AMERICAN/REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (RVN) ELEMENT CONSISTING OF APPROXIMATELY NINE PERSONNEL HAD BEEN INSERTED NEAR HIS VILLAGE. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, A PAVN UNIT ENGAGED AND SCATTERED THE AMERICAN ELEMENT. FOR THE FOLLOWING TWO DAYS, GIT'S MILITIA UNIT TRACKED AND FINALLY LOCATED ONE AMERICAN SOLDIER. GIT ALONG WITH THREE OTHER MILITIA MEMBERS, P'RUOT, Y'PROP AND CRU (ALL THREE DECEASED), KILLED AND BURIED THE AMERICAN. THE ONLY PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION GIT COULD PROVIDE WAS THAT THE AMERICAN WAS A MALE CAUCASIAN WEARING A CAMOUFLAGE UNIFORM WITH THE SLEEVES ROLLED UP. HE HAS NOT SURF IF THE AMERICAN HAD ANY TATTOOS OR OTHER MARKS ON THE EXPOSED SKIN OF HIS ARMS. GIT DID NOT GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO EXAMINE THE AMERICAN CAREFULLY, BUT OTHER MILITIA MEMBERS CONFISCATED AN AR15 TYPE ASSAULT RIFLE, A FLARE DEVICE, AND A WRIST WATCH. HE DID NOT SEE THE OTHER MILITIA MEMBERS TAKE ANYTHING ELSE FROM THE BODY.

(B) THE MILITIA GROUP BURIED THE AMERICAN IN A GRAVE ABOUT 20 TO 25 CENTIMETERS DEEP COVERED WITH DIRT. THERE WAS A DARK COLORED TRFF BY THE GRAVE. HE DID NOT BELIEVE HE COULD NOW LOCATE THE GRAVE DUE TO THE PASSAGE OF TIME AND TERRAIN/VEGETATION CHANGES SINCE THE INCIDENT. IN ADDITION, THE GRAVE SITE AREA BECAME PART OF THE NEW ECONOMIC ZONE AFTER THE WAR AND IS NOW POPULATED, FURTHER PRECLUDING GIT'S ABILITY TO RE-LOCATE THE GRAVE. THE VILLAGE PARTY CHAIRMAN CONFIRMED THIS, SAYING THE AREA NOW HAS A POPULATION OF NEARLY 2,000 ETHNIC BANA, TAY, NUNG, AND VIETNAMESE VILLAGERS.

(C) GIT CLAIMED NEVER TO HAVE HEARD OF BONES BEING FOUND IN THE AREA. HE ONLY KNOWS OF ONE LIVING PERSON BUOI (BUOOI) (LNU), WHO WITNESSED THE BURIAL. BUOI IS ABOUT 53 YEARS OLD AND LIVES IN LONG (DOONG) VILLAGE, AN KHE DISTRICT. GIT OPINED BUOI WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO LOCATE THE GRAVE EITHER. IMMEDIATELY AFTER THIS INTERVIEW, THE PCIT TRAVELLED TO DONG VILLAGE TO ATTEMPT TO INTERVIEW BUOI AND OTHER WITNESSES WITH KNOWLEDGE OF THIS CASE. THE PCIT FOUND THE VILLAGE, HOWEVER, DEVOID OF ALL INHABITANTS WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ONE ELDERLY WOMAN AND SOME CHILDREN. THE WOMAN EXPLAINED THE VILLAGERS WERE ALL AWAY FARMING FIELDS SOME DISTANCE FROM THE VILLAGE. AT THIS POINT, PROVINCE TEAM MEMBER MR. SINH EXPLAINED THAT DURING THE 21ST JFA, A PROVINCE ADVANCE TEAM HAD VISITED DONG VILLAGE SPEKING INFORMATION RELATING TO THIS CASE. THE TEAM HAD TALKED WITH MANY VILLAGERS, INCLUDING BUOI AND THE VILLAGE CHIEF, BUT NO ONE COULD PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE CASE.

(2) ON 26 AUGUST 1993, THE PCIT INTERVIEWED DINH KHIT, A 65 YEAR OLD ETHNIC BANA RESIDENT OF PO NGAN HAMLET, KONG LO KHONG VILLAGE, AN KHE DISTRICT, GIA LAI PROVINCE. HE IS CURRENTLY A FARMER. DINH GREA Y'PUM (TELEGRAPHIC SPELLING UNKNOWN), THE VILLAGE PEOPLE'S COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, SERVED AS INTERMEDIATE INTERPRETER FOR THIS INTERVIEW, TRANSLATING FROM THE BANA LANGUAGE INTO VIETNAMESE. DINH KHIT RECAPPED HIS STATEMENTS FROM THE 21ST JFA AS FOLLOWS (SEE REF C FOR COMPLETE DETAILS OF KHIT'S PRIOR INTERVIEW):

(A) KHIT DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN KILLING THE AMERICAN DESCRIBED BY DINH GIT IN PARA. 3.D.(1)(A), ABOVE, BUT HELPED BURY THE DEAD U.S. SOLDIER. HE COULD ONLY REMEMBER THAT THE AMERICAN WAS TALL, CAUCASIAN, AND WORE A CAMOUFLAGE UNIFORM WITH THE SLEEVES ROLLED UP. KHIT SAW NO TATTOOS OR SCARS ON THE BODY, BUT RECALLED THAT IT WAS COVERED IN BLOOD. MANY VILLAGERS WERE PRESENT FOR THE BURIAL AND, DUE TO HIS SUPERSTITIOUS BELIEFS, KHIT DID NOT GET NEAR ENOUGH TO TOUCH THE BODY. HE DID NOT KNOW OF ANYONE STILL LIVING FROM THE BURIAL PARTY OTHER THAN DINH GIT.

(B) KHIT SAID HE DIDN'T BELIEVE HE COULD NOW LOCATE THE GRAVE SITE, AND HAD NOT ATTEMPTED TO LEAD THE JOINT INVESTIGATION ELEMENT TO THE SITE DURING THE

21ST JFA. HE RECALLED THE GRAVE WAS APPROXIMATELY 70 TO 80 METERS FROM THE LANG KHANG STREAM (EXACT LOCATION UNKNOWN, BUT LOCATED MORE THAN AN HOUR'S WALK TO THE NORTH FROM THE LONG KHONG COMMITTEE HOUSE WHICH IS AT PR36325406). HOWEVER, CHANGES IN TERRAIN, VEGETATION, AND POPULATION SINCE THE INCIDENT WOULD MAKE FINDING THE GRAVE AGAIN NEARLY IMPOSSIBLE.

(C) KHIT SAID THE VILLAGE MILITIA COMMANDER DURING THAT TIME WAS PROP (PRWP), BUT HE WAS KILLED IN ACTION IN 1967.

(D) THE SOURCE HEARD FROM OTHERS IN THE VILLAGE THAT A SECOND AMERICAN HAD BEEN KILLED IN THE AREA ALSO, BUT HE HAD NO FIRST HAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS INCIDENT. HE HAD NEVER HEARD OF ANYONE FINDING BONES FROM ANY AMERICAN GRAVES IN THE AREA.

(3) ON 26 AUGUST 1993, THE PCIT INTERVIEWED MR. LE TAN LUAN (LIE TAANS LUAN), AKA LE DANG LUON (LIE LANG LUON), A 70 YOA AN KHE CITY, GIA LAI PROVINCE RESIDENT. LUAN IS CURRENTLY RETIRED. HE RECAPPIED HIS STATEMENTS FROM THE 21ST JFA AS FOLLOWS (SEE REF C FOR COMPLETE DETAILS OF LUAN'S PRIOR INTERVIEW):

(A) LUAN WAS THE COMMANDER OF THE AN KHE DISTRICT FORCES, AKA F2, FROM 1960 UNTIL LIBERATION IN 1975. BETWEEN 1600 AND 1800 HOURS ON AN UNRECALLED DATE IN 1966 OR 1967, A U.S./PVN SPECIAL FORCES TEAM OF SEVEN TO NINE PERSONNEL WAS INSERTED ON A MOUNTAINSIDE IN HIS AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY. HE INDICATED THE AMERICANS LANDED IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES PR36555A.

(B) VIETNAMESE DISTRICT FORCES ATTACKED THE SPECIAL FORCES ELEMENT AT APPROXIMATELY 1800 HOURS THAT DAY. LUAN DID NOT KNOW WHAT CASUALTIES THE U.S./PVN FORCE SUFFERED DURING THIS FIGHT. AFTER THE CLASH, GROUND AIR FORCED A U.S. HELICOPTER ATTEMPTING TO RETRIEVE THE SPECIAL FORCES ELEMENT TO WITHDRAW WITHOUT PICKING UP SURVIVORS. OTHER U.S. (EAFB (NFI) THEN ARRIVED IN THE AREA, FORCING THE DISTRICT TEAM TO WITHDRAW.

(C) THE NEXT MORNING AT APPROXIMATELY 0400 HOURS, LUAN'S MILITIA PATROL DISCOVERED A LONE AMERICAN IN A CLEARING NEAR THEIR POSITION. LUAN COULD ONLY DESCRIBE THE MAN AS A CAUCASIAN MALE SOLDIER WITH A SHORT SLEEVED CAMOUFLAGED UNIFORM. WHEN THE VIETNAMESE CALLED TO HIM, THE U.S. SOLDIER RAN INTO THE JUNGLE, WHERE HE TOOK A DEFENSIVE POSITION IN A RICE STORAGE FACILITY AND BEGAN FIRING AT THE LUAN'S GROUP. AFTER ATTEMPTING TO FORCE THE AMERICAN TO SURRENDER FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR, THE VIETNAMESE MILITIA OPENED FIRE, KILLING THE AMERICAN. WHEN THEY REMOVED THE BODY, LUAN SAW THE AMERICAN HAD BEEN HIT FIVE TIMES: THREE TIMES IN THE LOWER CHEST, ONCE IN THE UPPER CHEST, AND ONCE IN THE HEAD.

(D) LUAN'S GROUP CONFISCATED THE AMERICAN'S AR15 TYPE ASSAULT RIFLE, THREE AMMUNITION MAGAZINES, A COMPASS, A SMALL FLASHLIGHT, A PIECE OF A MAP, A SMALL RUCKSACK CONTAINING FOOD, A BLOOD CHIT, AND A CLOTH BANDANNA. THE BANDANNA WAS RED WITH SOME TYPE OF INSIGNIA, WHICH LUAN BELIEVED TO BE A MILITARY UNIT INSIGNIA. LUAN HAD LATER MADE THE BANDANNA INTO A POUCH, BUT HAD LOST IT SINCE. HE DISPOSED OF THE BLOOD CHIT AFTER THE INCIDENT. THE AMERICAN WORE IDENTIFICATION TAGS AROUND HIS NECK, WHICH THE VIETNAMESE LEFT ON THE BODY WHEN THEY BURIED IT. LUAN SAW NO HEADGEAR ON THE SOLDIER AND KNEW OF NOTHING ELSE TAKEN FROM THE BODY. THE MILITIA PATROL BURIED THE AMERICAN IN A SHALLOW, UNMARKED GRAVE NEAR WHERE THEY HAD KILLED HIM.

(E) THE BURIAL LOCATION WAS APPROXIMATELY 1,000 METERS FROM THE LOCATION WHERE THE PREVIOUS DAY'S FIGHT TOOK PLACE AND 1200 METERS FROM HIGHWAY 92. LUAN INDICATED GRID COORDINATES PR372582 AS THE GENERAL GRAVE SITE AREA. THIS LOCATION IS APPROXIMATELY TWO KILOMETERS FROM THE ALLEGED GRAVE SITE THE JOINT INVESTIGATION ELEMENT VISITED DURING THE 21ST JFA.

- (F) LUAN DID NOT BELIEVE HE COULD LOCATE THE GRAVE SITE ANY MORE PRECISELY THAN HE HAD DURING THE 21ST JFA. THE ONLY OTHER BURIAL PARTY MEMBERS HE BELIEVED STILL TO BE ALIVE WERE THAP (THAPS) (INTERVIEWED DURING THE 21ST JFA, SEE REF C), TPO (TELEGRAPHIC SPELLING UNKNOWN), AND MECH (TELEGRAPHIC SPELLING UNKNOWN). OF THE THREE, LUAN BELIEVED MECH PROBABLY KNOWS THE MOST ABOUT THE INCIDENT, BUT LUAN DID NOT KNOW HIS PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OR DISPOSITION.

- (G) THE DAY AFTER THIS INCIDENT, THE CHU MON VILLAGE MILITIA, WHICH WAS SUBORDINATE TO LUAN, REPORTED THEY HAD DISCOVERED AND KILLED ANOTHER AMERICAN. THEY KILLED THIS U.S. SOLDIER WITH CROSSBOWS IN THE DRY BED OF THE CO STREAM (SUOOSI COO), AN INTERMITTENT STREAM. LUAN INDICATED GRID COORDINATES PR373561 AS THE GENERAL AREA WHERE THE CHU MON MILITIA REPORTED KILLING THE AMERICAN. THE MAP DOES NOT SHOW A STREAM IN THE AREA. LUAN KNEW ONLY SECOND HAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THIS INCIDENT AND HAD NEVER VISITED THE GRAVE SITE.

- (H) HE HAD NO OTHER FIRST HAND INFORMATION ON CAPTURED OR DEAD AMERICAN PERSONNEL DURING OR AFTER THE WAR. HE HAD NEVER HEARD OF LIVE AMERICANS IN VIETNAM SINCE 1973.

- (I) AFTER THE INTERVIEW, LUAN RELATED A STORY HE HAD RECENTLY HEARD FROM AN ACQUAINTANCE IN AN KHE CITY. THIS ACQUAINTANCE DESCRIBED AN AMPUSH IN MO IUC (MOUJ DWCS) DISTRICT, QUANG NGAI PROVINCE, IN WHICH FIVE AMERICANS WERE KILLED. HE TOLD LUAN THAT THE AMERICANS WERE BURIED AND TWO WERE LATER RECOVERED BY U.S. FORCES. THE OTHER THREE WERE NOT FOUND. THE ACQUAINTANCE'S NAME IS MY (MYX), THE FORMER COMMANDER OF THE 4AVN 2ND INFANTRY DIVISION, AND HE CURRENTLY RESIDES IN AN KHE CITY. THE PCIT INTERVIEWED MY ON 26 AND 31 AUGUST 1983. THIS INFORMATION TENTATIVELY CORRELATES WITH ANOTHER PCIT CASE WILL BE REPORTED SEPARATELY AT A LATER DATE.

4. PCIT COMMENTS:

- A. COOPERATION: THE COOPERATION AND SUPPORT OFFERED BY GIA LAI PROVINCE OFFICIALS WAS OUTSTANDING. THIS SUPPORT BY PROVINCE OFFICIALS ENSURED THAT OPERATIONS WERE CONDUCTED IN A TIMELY AND WELL ORGANIZED MANNER AND ENHANCED PREPARATION FOR EACH INDIVIDUAL INTERVIEW. MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCE TEAM TRAVELED SEVERAL HUNDRED KILOMETERS AND SPENT NUMEROUS HOURS EACH DAY IN PREPARATION FOR PCIT'S ARRIVAL. PRELIMINARY PREPARATION BY PROVINCE OFFICIALS WAS SO COMPLETE THAT THE FIRST INTERVIEW WAS CONDUCTED THE AFTERNOON AFTER THE INITIAL MEETING WITH MEMBERS OF THE PCIT. A PRIME EXAMPLE OF EXCELLENT COOPERATION INVOLVED AN INSTANCE IN WHICH ONE OF THE REQUESTED SOURCES FOR ANOTHER CASE WAS

INCARCERATED IN GIA TRUNG (GIA TRUNG) PRISON. GIA TRUNG IS A CORRECTIONAL FACILITY FOR CRIMINAL OFFENDERS RUN BY THE NATIONAL MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR. THIS PRISON IS LOCATED IN, BUT NOT UNDER, THE JURISDICTION OF GIA LAI PROVINCE. PROVINCE OFFICIALS TOOK IT UPON THEMSELVES TO CONTACT THE PRISON AND FIND OUT FROM OFFICIALS THERE WHAT ARRANGEMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE MADE BY PCIT TO INTERVIEW THEIR INMATE. THIS SAVED MUCH TIME AND SIMPLIFIED THE PREPARATION FOR THE PCIT INTERVIEW OF THE INCARCERATED SUBJECT.

- R. WITNESS RELIABILITY

- (1) MR. DINH GIT; ALTHOUGH 70 YEARS OLD, MR. GIT APPEARS MUCH YOUNGER, MID 40'S TO 50. THE INTERMEDIATE INTERPRETER HANDLED THE INTERVIEW WELL. GIT'S RESPONSES WERE APPROPRIATE IN LENGTH AND CONTENT BASED ON THE QUESTIONING. HE WAS NOT COACHED BY THE INTERPRETER OR OTHERS IN THE ROOM. HE WAS SOBER AND ATTENTIVE TO BOTH THE INTERVIEWER AND INTERPRETER. THE PCIT DETECTED NO SIGNS OF COACHING. ASSESS THIS SOURCE'S RELIABILITY TO BE GOOD.

- (2) MR. DINH KHIT; ALTHOUGH 65 YEARS OLD, MR. KHIT ALSO APPEARS YOUNGER. HE WAS SOBER, SERIOUS AND

ATTENTIVE THROUGHOUT THE INTERVIEW. THE INTERMEDIATE INTERPRETER ALSO HANDLED THIS INTERVIEW WELL. KHIT'S RESPONSES WERE APPROPRIATE IN LENGTH AND CONTENT. HE WAS NOT COACHED BY THE INTERPRETER OR OTHERS IN THE ROOM. ASSESS THIS SOURCE'S RELIABILITY TO BE GOOD.

- (3) MR. LE TAN LUAN; ALSO 70 YEARS OF AGE. LOOKED HIS AGE BUT HAS MENTALLY ALERT AND RESPONSIVE TO QUESTIONING. MR. LUAN WAS QUITE PRECISE ABOUT THAT INFORMATION WHICH HE COULD REMEMBER. HE SHOWED NO SIGNS OF HAVING BEEN COACHED. ASSESS THIS SOURCE'S RELIABILITY TO BE GOOD.

- C. ANALYSIS/CONCLUSION: THIS WAS THE SECOND INVESTIGATION OF CASE 0109. BASED ON THE RESULTS OF THIS PCIT INVESTIGATION, AND THE PREVIOUS EFFORT, THE FOLLOWING CONCLUSIONS ARE OFFERED:

- (1) NO ARCHIVAL RECORDS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS CASE WERE LOCATED.

- (2) ALL THREE OF THE WITNESSES INTERVIEWED DURING THIS INVESTIGATION WERE DIRECT PARTICIPANTS IN THE DEATH OR BURIAL OF EITHER ONE OR THE OTHER OF THE UNACCOUNTED FOR INDIVIDUALS IN CASE 0109. THEIR STATEMENTS WERE CREDIBLE, LOGICAL AND CONSISTENT BOTH WITH THEIR PRIOR INTERVIEWS AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ASSOCIATED WITH THE CASE.

- (3) THE PROVINCE TASK TEAM WAS UNABLE TO LOCATE ANY OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN THE DEATH OR BURIAL OF THE UNACCOUNTED FOR INDIVIDUALS IN THIS CASE.

- (4) RECOMMEND THIS CASE BE FATE DETERMINED.

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UNCLASSIFIED CJTF/AFDTON/FBAN 033087/06