

1572

SUBSEQUENT INFORMATION:

- IN JANUARY 1975, A FORMER NORTH VIETNAMESE SOLDIER, WHO BELONGED TO THE 17TH SIGNAL BATTALLION, 52ND INFANTRY BRIGADE, MR5, AND WAS STATIONED WITH THE A-1 SQUAD, B-1 PLATOON, C-14 MORTAR COMPANY, 52ND REGIMENT, 320 NVA DIVISION IN THE WESTERN AREA OF QUANG TRI IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES XD 876495, SAID THAT IN JUNE OF 1971 HE OBSERVED A CAUCASIAN AMERICAN PRISONER IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES XD 876495, A FEW HUNDRED METERS WEST OF ROUTE 608, HUONG HOA DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE. THE AMERICAN WAS BEING ESCORTED BY THREE NORTH VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS. THE FORMER NORTH VIETNAMESE SOLDIER WAS TOLD BY ONE OF THE GUARDS THAT THE AMERICAN HAD BEEN AN ADVISOR TO AN ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM UNIT OPERATING IN THE VICINITY OF THE BA HO MOUNTAIN (YD 015511). HE WAS TOLD THAT THE AMERICAN HAD BEEN CAPTURED WHILE TRYING TO USE HIS PRC-25 RADIO TO CALL IN AIR SUPPORT. THE FORMER NORTH VIETNAMESE SOLDIER WAS TOLD THAT MEMBERS OF C-15 DKZ CO, 52ND NVA REGIMENT WAS THE UNIT THAT HAD CAPTURED THE AMERICAN. THIS FORMER SOLDIER LEARNED THAT THE AMERICAN WAS TAKEN TO B-5 FRONT HEADQUARTERS. THIS AMERICAN PRISONER MAY POSSIBLY HAVE BEEN LIEUTENANT SCULL.
- LIEUTENANT SCULL WAS FLUENT IN VIETNAMESE.

AREAS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH:

- DURING A PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION IN SON LA PROVINCE, DISTRICT

AND PROVINCIAL MILITARY OFFICIALS WERE ABLE TO OFFER INVALUABLE ASSISTANCE BY PROVIDING INFORMATION FROM THEIR ARCHIVES. THE MILITARY COMMAND OF BEN HAI DISTRICT AND OF QUANG TRI PROVINCE

MIGHT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION WHICH MAY ASSIST IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE.

- C-15 DKZ COMPANY (DDAIJ BACS KHOONG GIAATJ; RECOILLESS RIFLE/HEAVY WEAPONS), 52ND NVA REGIMENT, 320TH PAVN DIVISION MAY HAVE BEEN THE UNIT THAT CAPTURED LIEUTENANT SCULL. HE MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN MARCHED TO HEADQUARTERS B-5 FRONT. SUGGEST THAT FORMER MEMBERS OF THIS UNIT BE LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED REGARDING THIS CASE. THEY MAY HAVE INFORMATION WHICH MAY AID IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE.

- THE LOCAL POPULACE MAY HAVE INFORMATION WHICH MAY BE OF VALUE IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THIS CASE. PERHAPS THEY COULD BE QUERIED ABOUT THIS OR ANY OTHER CASES IN THIS AREA.

DETAIL CIRCUMSTANCES LEADING TO LOSS OF CASE 1572:

- ON 12 MARCH 1970, AT ABOUT 0125 HOURS, SECOND LIEUTENANT GARY B. SCULL, CAME UNDER ENEMY ATTACK WHILE OCCUPYING A BUNKER AT THE ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM OUTPOST LOCATED AT GRID COORDINATES YD 029563, APPROXIMATELY TEN KILOMETERS WEST SOUTHWEST OF CAM LO, BEN HAI DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE. THE OUTPOST WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR GUARDING THE KHE GIO STREAM BRIDGE LOCATED AT GRID COORDINATES YD 026561, ON NATIONAL ROUTE NINE. AS THE OUTPOST CAME UNDER HEAVY MORTAR AND GROUND ATTACK, LIEUTENANT SCULL'S BUNKER WAS HIT BY MORTAR FIRE TWICE. AFTER THE SECOND MORTAR ROUND, THE BUNKER BURST INTO FLAMES. IT WAS AT THIS TIME THAT A VIETNAMESE RADIO OPERATOR WHO WAS OCCUPYING THE SAME BUNKER WITH LIEUTENANT SCULL SAID THAT HE SAW LIEUTENANT SCULL FOR THE LAST TIME. THE RADIO OPERATOR SAID THAT AS HE EXITED THE BUNKER, LIEUTENANT SCULL REMAINED IN THE BUNKER, WEARING ONLY FATIGUES AND SHOWER SANDALS, AND WAS LYING ON THE FLOOR OF THE BUNKER WHILE ATTEMPTING TO CONTACT HIS HEADQUARTERS ON HIS RADIO. AFTER THE RADIO OPERATOR LEFT THE BUNKER, NONE OF THE SURVIVING OUTPOST PERSONNEL SAW LIEUTENANT SCULL AGAIN. AT 0415 HOURS, THE SURVIVING U.S. SOLDIERS EVACUATED THE OUTPOST. AT ABOUT 0700 HOURS, AN ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM COMPANY WITH U.S. ADVISORS RETOOK THE OUTPOST AND MADE A THOROUGH AND INTENSIVE SEARCH OF THE AREA FOR SURVIVORS AND REMAINS, BUT THEY DID NOT LOCATE LIEUTENANT SCULL. THE RADIO BUNKER WAS COMPLETELY DESTROYED. A SEARCH OF THE BUNKER DEBRIS ALSO FAILED TO LOCATE EITHER LIEUTENANT SCULL OR HIS RADIO.