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RR RUHQEPA RUEADWW RUEKJCS
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FM JCRC LIAISON BANGKOK TH

TO RUHQEPA / CDR JCRC BARBERS PT HI

INFO RUEADWW / WHITEHOUSE WASHDC//NSC//

RUEKJCS / SECDEF WASHDC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA//

RUEHC / SECSTATE WASHDC//EAP-VLC//

RUEKJCS / JCS WASHDC//OCJCS-PW-MIA/J5//

RUEKJCS / DIA WASHINGTON DC//PW-MIA//

RUHQHQA / USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J36//

RUHHHMA / CDRUSACILHI FT SHAFTER HI//TAPC-PED-H//

BT

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0196 APR 89

SUBJ: JCRC RPT #89-003, REMAINS AND DOG TAG INFORMATION
FROM VIETNAM (U)

REF: A. JCRC LNO 010510Z FEB 88
 B. JCRC LNO 010540Z FEB 88
 C. JCRC LNO 141057Z APR 88
 D. AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR 180819Z JUL 88
 E. CDR JCRC 111850Z AUG 88
 F. CDR JCRC 111900Z AUG 88
 G. DIA 251723Z AUG 88
 H. USDAO BANGKOK 010938Z MAR 89
 I. JCRC LNO 300856Z MAR 89

1. (C) REFS A-C REPORT REMAINS AND DOG TAG INFORMATION
 EXTRACTED FROM LETTERS WRITTEN BY SOURCE TO THE ORDERLY
 DEPARTURE PROGRAM OFFICE, BANGKOK. REF D ADVISED THAT THE
 MALAYSIAN RED CRESCENT SOCIETY HAD IN ITS POSSESSION NINE
 REMAINS WHICH HAD BEEN PROVIDED BY SOURCE AFTER HIS ARRIVAL
 IN PULAU BIDONG. REFS E AND F EVALUATE THE INFORMATION
 PROVIDED IN REFS A-C. REF G IS SDR S-VOP-05198. REF H
 REPORTS KI STONY BEACH REP INTERVIEW OF SOURCE. REF I
 REPORTS INFORMATION ON PURPORTED AMERICANS STILL LIVING IN
 VIETNAM OBTAINED DURING JCRC INTERVIEW OF SOURCE.

2. SOURCE/ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:

A. NAME: DC DUC DUONG (DEOR DDUWCS ZWONGR) (M)
 F. EPOB: 1930; BUI CHU (V), XUAN TRUONG (D), NAM DINH
 (F)
 C. OCCUPATION:
 PRE-1975: FARMER, 1942-50; SOLDIER, 1950-55;
 CIVIL SERVANT, 1955-73; MEDICALLY RETIRED, 1973-75.
 PCST-1975: "RE-EDUCATION" CAMP INMATE, 1975-78;
 UNEMPLOYED, 1978-78.
 E. PRESENT LOCATION: BLDG 11/1 ZONE D, SUNGEI BESI
 TRANSIT CAMP, MALAYSIA
 F. DATE OF ARRIVAL IN 1ST ASYLUM: 10 JULY 88

F. IDENTIFICATION DATA: MC 112005
 G. EDUCATION: 6/12
 H. LANGUAGES: VIETNAMESE (NATIVE), ENGLISH
 I. RELIGION: CATHOLIC
 J. STATUS: REFUGEE (ACCEPTED FOR RESETTLEMENT IN THE
 UNITED STATES)
 K. DATE OF INFORMATION: 1985-88
 L. FINAL ADDRESS/POC IN VIETNAM: 86/17 QL 15, KHOM 3,
 PHUONG TAM HIEP, BIEN HOA CITY
 M. POC/RESETTLEMENT ADDRESS: INTERNATIONAL HOUSE OF
 JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY
 N. INTERVIEW DATA: SOURCE WAS INTERVIEWED AT SUNGEI
 BESI TRANSIT CAMP, MALAYSIA ON 22 FEB 89 BY JAMFS M. COYLE,
 GS-12, DOD.

3. SUMMARY: SOURCE PROVIDED A COMBINATION OF
 FIRSTHAND AND HEARSAY INFORMATION CONCERNING 24 PURPORTED
 AMERICAN REMAINS OBTAINED BY VARIOUS MEMBERS OF THE REMAINS
 RECOVERY GROUP TO WHICH HE BELONGED. SOURCE TURNED OVER
 NINE OF THE REMAINS TO MALAYSIAN AUTHORITIES, ONE
 DISAPPEARED, AND THE REST ARE STILL IN VIETNAM, ALTHOUGH
 FIVE OF THEM MAY HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE UNITED STATES AFTER
 SOURCE'S DEPARTURE. SOURCE ALSO PROVIDED TO INTERVIEWER 8
 METAL DOG TAGS, 56 RUBBINGS OF THOSE SAME DOG TAGS, ONE
 AIRCRAFT DATA PLATE, ONE HALF-BURNED LAMINATION FROM A
 GENEVA CONVENTION CARD, AND 15 PHOTOGRAPHS OF REMAINS. ONE
 OF THE DOG TAGS IS ASSOCIATED WITH A RESOLVED CASE.

4. AFTER SOURCE WAS RELEASED FROM "RE-EDUCATION" IN
 1978 HE BECAME INVOLVED WITH A GROUP OF OTHER FORMER ARVN,
 FORMER GVN, AND OTHER DISGRUNTLED SRV RESIDENTS FROM THE
 VIETNAM WHO WANTED TO "OPPOSE THE COMMUNISTS." IN
 EARLY 1985, AFTER HEARING VOA AND BBC BROADCASTS CONCERNING
 THE MIA QUESTION, THE GROUP DECIDED TO SEARCH FOR AMERICAN
 REMAINS AND TO SEEK OTHER INFORMATION OF POW/MIA INTEREST.
 BY DOING SO THE GROUP COULD BOTH OPPOSE THE COMMUNIST
 REGIME AND DEMONSTRATE GRATITUDE TO THE UNITED STATES.
 GROUP MEMBERS ALSO HOPED TO OBTAIN RESETTLEMENT ASSISTANCE,
 BUT THIS WAS NOT THEIR PRIMARY OBJECTIVE. (SEE REF I, PAR
 4.) SOURCE HAS IDENTIFIED, THROUGH HIS LETTERS,
 INFORMATION SHEETS, AND INTERVIEW, A TOTAL OF 25 MEMBERS OF
 THE REMAINS RECOVERY GROUP. SOME OF THESE PERSONS WILL BE
 MENTIONED IN SUCCEEDING PARAGRAPHS. WE SHALL PROVIDE IN A
 SUBSEQUENT REPORT THE FULL NAMES, ADDRESSES, AND PERSONAL
 RELATIONSHIPS AMONG THE VARIOUS GROUP MEMBERS IN AS

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COMPLETE A MANNER AS POSSIBLE.

5. (C) ON AN INFORMATION SHEET SENT TO ODP, SOURCE ASSOCIATED 24 NAMES WITH REMAINS. THE NAMES ARE THE SAME AS THOSE LISTED IN PAR 4A, REF C. EACH NAME ON SOURCE'S LIST IS PRECEDED BY THE WORD "BO" (BOOJ) AND A NUMBER, IMPLYING THAT THE NAME IS ASSOCIATED WITH A SEPARATE "SET" OF REMAINS. THE TEXT OF THE INFORMATION SHEET, HOWEVEER, INDICATES THAT SOME OF THESE REMAINS ARE COMMINGLED. THE 24 NAMES ARE REPRODUCED BELOW IN THE ORDER PRESENTED BY SOURCE:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| SET 1: CRUTCHFIELD
FRANKLIN L
US 26941160
ONEG 512-40-2513 | SET 2: TINSLEY
BILLY D
288-88-10 USN A
BAPTIST | SET 3: SMITH ERIC R.
RA 16997581
493-54-8679
OPOS
CATHOLIC |
| SET 4: SICHTING
F.L.
2492187 AB
USMC M
NO PREF | SET 5: RUMLEY
L.C.P.L.
2168634
USMC | SET 6: DRISKILL
W.J.
2425231
USMC S
CATHOLIC |
| SET 7: WILLIAMS
R.L.
2432061 A
USMC M
BAPTIST | SET 8: LOOMER
T.A.
2266302 O US
USMC M
CH. OF CHRIST | SET 9: COLLINS
THOMAS G
67160010
B. POS.
309501682
PENTECOSTAL |
| SET 10: BERKSON
JOSEPH M.
356-38-0505
A POS
JEWISH | SET 11: CULLERS
R.K.
092158
USMCR M
METHODIST | SET 12: SCHLOEMER
C.W.
2149732 A
USMC M
EVANGELICAL |
| SET 13: THE PILOT'S NAME MAY HAVE BEEN 1LT CONLAHON | SET 14: NUIZ
RUBIN
RA 15795446
B.POS.
451-74-7-55 | SET 15: HEADLEY
KENNETH R.
RA 56237382
0.564-74-8418
MORMAN |
| SET 16: BROWN
I.L. JR.
2427471 A
USMC S
CATHOLIC | SET 17: MILLER
ANDREW C.
B.93.06.02
USN A
METH | SET 18: [REDACTED]
L.L.
2284426.B
USMC M
CATHOLIC |
| SET 19: LEWIS
D.A.
2304556 A
USMC M
CATHOLIC | SET 20: WILLIAMS
D.T.
1855619
US. NOW OP.
HOLLINEES | SET 21: CASTLE-BERRY
CASEY T.
RA.729-252-50
01265-924-943
BAPTIST |
| SET 22: WHITEL
SAMVIL. E.
RA. 680565048 | SET 23: DOWELL
ROBERT
005743130 ABP | SET 24: KOEIL-RONALD-L
US. 54-833C092
349-40.5482 |

- BAPTISP OPOS A.POS
- [REDACTED] BAPTISP OTHER

6. (C) THE ABOVE REMAINS, EXCEPT FOR 9, 13, AND 20-24, WERE FOUND IN QUANG TRI (I.E. BINH TRI THIEN) PROVINCE IN EARLY 1985 BY SOURCE OR BY OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GROUP. REMAINS NO.9 WAS FOUND AT AN AIRCRAFT CRASH SITE IN FORMER CONG THANH (COONG THANH) DISTRICT, BIEN HOA PROVINCE (NOW THONG NHAT DISTRICT, DONG NAI PROVINCE) BY SOURCE'S SON, DO MINH CONG (COONG), SINCE DECEASED. SOURCE KNOWS NO OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE RECOVERY OF THIS REMAINS. REMAINS NO.13 WAS SUPPOSEDLY RECOVERED IN HA NAM NINH PROVINCE. THIS REMAINS, WHICH MAY CORRELATE TO AN ACTIVE CASE, IS THE SUBJECT OF REF A, AND WILL BE DISCUSSED IN A SEPARATE MESSAGE. THE DOG TAG INFORMATION ASSOCIATED WITH REMAINS 20-24 WAS GIVEN TO SOURCE BY LE PHUOC MOT (LEE PHWOCS MOOTJ), AN ASSOCIATE MEMBER OF THE REMAINS RECOVERY GROUP WHO ALSO HEADS A GROUP OF HIS OWN. SOURCE HAS NO INFORMATION CONCERNING THE RECOVERY OF THESE REMAINS.

7. (C) THE GROUP FOCUSED ITS ACTIVITIES ON THE KHE SANH AREA OF FORMER QUANG TRI PROVINCE BECAUSE MEMBERS KNEW THAT MANY AMERICANS HAD DIED THERE. IN ADDITION, A MEMBER OF THE GROUP NAMED PHAM VAN DIEN (PHAMJ VAWN ZIEENR), OF 228/2 KHOM 4, PH. TAM HIEP, BIEN HOA CITY, DONG NAI, HAS

RELATIVES WHO LIVE IN THE KHE SANH AREA. CONSEQUENTLY, GROUP MEMBERS WORKING IN QUANG TRI HAD A PLACE TO STAY. THE GROUP RELIED ON MONTAGNARDS TO LEAD THEM TO AIRCRAFT CRASH SITES IN WHICH REMAINS MIGHT BE FOUND. SOURCE ADDED THAT DURING THE WAR MONTAGNARDS OFTEN BURNED BODIES THEY FOUND AT CRASH SITES. THE GROUP HOPED MONTAGNARD GUIDES WOULD LEAD THEM TO PLACES WHERE SUCH CREMATIONS HAD TAKEN PLACE, SO THAT GROUP MEMBERS MIGHT BE ABLE TO RECOVER BONE FRAGMENTS.

8. (C) SOURCE HIMSELF FOUND NINE OF THE SEVENTEEN QUANG TRI REMAINS --- IN FOUR SEPARATE LOCATIONS, NONE OF WHICH HE COULD SPECIFY. BECAUSE OF SOURCE'S EXTREMELY LIMITED VISION, INTERVIEWER DID NOT USE MAPS DURING THE INTERVIEW AND DID NOT REQUEST THAT SOURCE DRAW SKETCH MAPS OF THESE LOCATIONS.

- A. (C) SOURCE FOUND REMAINS NO. 1 AND NO. 14 LYING NEAR EACH OTHER UNDER THE SURFACE OF A STREAM NEAR KHE SANH. THE DOG TAGS WERE LYING WITH THE REMAINS.

- E. (C) AT A "XI LUK" (CHINOOK) CRASH SITE ELSEWHERE IN THE "QUANG TRI - KHE SANH" AREA SOURCE FOUND THREE DOG TAGS AND A HALF-BURNED GENEVA CONVENTION CARD. HE ALSO FOUND OVER 1 KG OF BONE FRAGMENTS, WHICH HE SUBSEQUENTLY DESIGNATED REMAINS NOS. 5-8. THE GENEVA CONVENTION CARD IS NO. 5 ON SOURCE'S INFORMATION SHEET.

- C. (C) ANOTHER CRASH SITE, IN THE "DONG HA - PHON LO (I.E., FULLER)-QUANG TRI - KHE SANH" AREA, ALSO PRODUCED OVER 1 KG OF BONE FRAGMENTS. SOURCE FOUND 7 DOG TAGS AND A CH-46A DATA PLATE AT THAT SITE, BUT LOST 5 OF THE DOG TAGS "OUT OF MY POCKET." HE DESIGNATED THE BONE FRAGMENTS AS REMAINS 11 AND 12, WITH NAMES TAKEN FROM THE REMAINING TWO DOG TAGS. HE CANNOT REMEMBER ANY OF THE INFORMATION FROM THE FIVE LOST DOG TAGS. THE DATA PLATE CARRIES THE AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBER 151951, WHICH IS NOT ASSOCIATED WITH A CASE OF INTEREST TO JCRC.

- I. (C) THE FOURTH SITE PERSONALLY INVESTIGATED BY SOURCE, A CRASH SITE, WAS ALSO LOCATED IN THE "QUANG TRI - KHE SANH" AREA. SOURCE DOES NOT KNOW THE TYPE OF AIRCRAFT INVOLVED IN THE CRASH. AT THE CRASH SITE SOURCE FOUND TWO PIECES OF A WATCHBAND. FIFTY OR 60 METERS FROM THE IMPACT POINT HE FOUND THE DOG TAG (BERKSON, REFNO 1939) WHICH HE SUBSEQUENTLY ASSOCIATED WITH REMAINS NO 10. THE LESS THAN 1 KG OF BONE FRAGMENTS WHICH COMPRISE THIS REMAINS WERE FOUND IN A DIFFERENT PLACE BUT IN THE SAME GENERAL AREA AS THE DOG TAG AND THE CRASH SITE.

9. (C) SOURCE CLAIMS THAT HE BROUGHT TEN REMAINS WITH HIM TO MALAYSIA: NOS. 1, 5-8, AND 12-14. SOURCE GAVE NINE OF THE REMAINS TO MALAYSIAN AUTHORITIES. (NOTE: THESE NINE REMAINS WERE BROUGHT TO US EMBASSY BANGKOK IN SEPTEMBER, 1988, AND CARRIED BY INTERVIEWER TO HQ, JCRC ON 19 SEP 88. THE REMAINS WERE ACCOMPANIED BY PHOTOGRAPHS AND DOG TAG INFORMATION.) SOURCE SAID THAT HE "LOST" REMAINS NO. 13 ON PULAU BILONG, BUT DOES NOT KNOW HOW HE "LOST" IT. IT

SHOULD BE NOTED HERE THAT REF D MENTIONS ONLY NINE REMAINS. THE OTHER FOURTEEN REMAINS ARE SUPPOSEDLY STILL IN VIETNAM, UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE REMAINS RECOVERY GROUP. SOURCE DOES NOT KNOW THE SPECIFIC LOCATION IN WHICH THESE REMAINS ARE SUPPOSEDLY BEING KEPT. REMAINS 20-24 WERE PROVIDED TO SOURCE'S GROUP BY LE PHUOC MOT'S GROUP, AFTER MOT'S GROUP WAS "BROKEN" BY SRV AUTHORITIES IN LATE 1987 OR EARLY 1988. THE AUTHORITIES SUPPOSEDLY CONFISCATED 63 REMAINS FROM THIS GROUP. SOURCE SAID THAT HE HAS NOT ACTUALLY SEEN THESE 5 REMAINS, BUT WAS TOLD ABOUT THEM BY MOT. (SEE FOLLOWING PARAGRAPH). IT IS POSSIBLE, SAID SOURCE, THAT THESE REMAINS MAY HAVE BEEN SENT TO THE US AFTER HE LEFT VIETNAM.

10. (C) AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE INTERVIEW SOURCE GAVE INTERVIEWER EIGHT METAL TOG TAGS (THOSE ASSOCIATED WITH REMAINS 1, 6-8, 10-12, AND 14), 56 RUBBINGS OF THOSE TOG TAGS, ONE HALF-BURNED GENEVA CONVENTION CARD (ASSOCIATED WITH REMAINS 5), ONE AIRCRAFT DATA PLATE, AND 15 PHOTOGRAPHS OF REMAINS. THE REMAINS DEPICTED IN THE PHOTOGRAPHS ARE NOS. 2-4, 9, 13, AND 15-24. THEY APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN TAKEN IN THE SAME CIRCUMSTANCES AS THE FIVE PHOTOGRAPHS BROUGHT TO HQ, JCRC IN SEPTEMBER, 1988. SOURCE APPEARED IN EACH OF THOSE PHOTOGRAPHS. THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF REMAINS 9, 13, 17, 23, AND 24 SHOW PART OF A HUMAN FIGURE

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WHO IS PROBABLY SOURCE. THIS OBSERVATION APPEARS TO CONTRADICT SOURCE'S ASSERTION, NOTED IN THE PRECEDING PARAGRAPH, THAT HE HAD NOT SEEN REMAINS 20-24. SOURCE ALSO SHOWED INTERVIEWER THE ITEMS LISTED IN PAR 6, REF H. POSSESSION FOR LOCAL STONY BEACH REP TO USE DURING HIS INTERVIEW. ALL OF THE ITEMS MENTIONED IN THE FIRST SENTENCE OF THIS PARAGRAPH WILL BE FORWARDED TO HQ, JCRC BY SEPARATE CORRESPONDENCE.

11. (C) COMMENTS: AS NOTED IN THE FINAL PARAGRAPH OF REF I, SOURCE APPEARS TO BE MORE OF A "SHOW-OFF" THAN A PROVOCATEUR. HE WAS COOPERATIVE TO THE POINT OF EAGERNESS, ALTHOUGH, AS NOTED IN THE COMMENTS PARAGRAPHS OF REF H, HE PREFERRED TO TALK AROUND SUBJECTS RAISED BY INTERVIEWER'S QUESTIONS AT LENGTH RATHER THAN TO ANSWER THOSE QUESTIONS DIRECTLY. MOST OF HIS INFORMATION IS HEARSAY, AND EVEN HIS FIRSTHAND INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED AS A RESULT OF OTHER PARTIES POINTING HIM IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. HE APPEARED SURPRISED, BUT NOT UPSET IN THE SLIGHTEST WHEN INTERVIEWER INFORMED HIM THAT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF REMAINS NO. 13, WHICH HE SUPPOSEDLY "LOST," NONE OF THE OTHER NAMES OR REMAINS HE PROVIDED WERE ASSOCIATED WITH CASES OF ACTIVE JCRC INTEREST. DECL: OADR

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