

ORIGIN CJTF2 INFO AMB ICM POI SA DAO DAO/SE EXA DATLO INHIBIT (10)

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 RR RUHQQA RUEKJCS RUEKJCS RUHQQA RUEKJCS RUEKJCS
 RUEAIIA RUHVAAA RUADWW RUEHC
 EE RUEHRY #8002/01 163 **

R 110456Z JUN 92
 FM CJTF-FA DET ONE BANGKOK TH
 TO RUHQQA / CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU
 INFC RUEKJCS / JCS WASHDC//OCJCS-PW-MIA/J3//
 RUEKJCS / SECDEF WASHDC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA//
 RUHQQA / USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3//
 RUEKJCS / USCIAC PAC LO WASHDC//
 RUEKJCS / DIA WASHDC//POW-MIA//
 RUEAIIA / CIA WASHDC//OEA/SEA/IR/DDO/ICOG//
 RUHVAAA / CDRUSACILBI HICKAM AFB HI//
 RUEADWW / NSC WASHDC
 RUEHC / SECSTATE WASHDC//EAF-VLC//
 BT

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EIA PASS TO DOD POW-MIA CENTRAL DOCUMENTATION OFFICE

SUBJ: JTF-FA RPT 191-040, ALLIGED U.S. GRAVE IN SON LA;
 HEARSAY CAPTURE OF TWO AMERICANS AND SUBSEQUENT DEATH OF
 ONE (U)

1. SOURCE/ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:
 - A. NAME: TRAN HOANG THAI (TRAN HOANG THAIS) (M)
 - B. DPOB: JUN 45/CAN THO (C), HAU GIANG (P)
 - C. OCCUPATION:
 - PRE-1975: MAJ, ARVN 33RD BN, 21ST INF DIV
 - POST-1975: 13 YEARS REEDUCATION; UNEMPLOYED
 - I. PRESENT LOCATION: HUT 123/7, ZONE D, GALANG 2
 CAMP, INDONESIA
 - E. IDENTIFICATION DATA: BK0611
 - F. EDUCATION: 12/12; GRADUATE OF THU DUC
 OFFICERS' ACADEMY
 - G. LANGUAGES: VIETNAMESE (NATIVE), FRENCH (FAIR),
 ENGLISH (POOR)
 - H. RELIGION: BUDDHIST
 - I. STATUS: ASYLUM SEEKER
 - J. FINAL ADDRESS IN VIETNAM: 23/4 THANH KHAC CHAN,
 SUBWARD 15, PHU NHUAN WARD, HC CHI MINH CITY
 - K. FORWARDING ADDRESS IN THE U.S.:
 - L. DATE OF ARRIVAL IN INDONESIA: 11 JUN 89
 - M. INTERVIEW DATA: SOURCE WAS INTERVIEWED AT
 GALANG 2 CAMP, INDONESIA ON 10 APR 91 BY MICHAEL E.
 JANICH, GS-12, DOD.
 - N. MAP(S) USED: SHEET 59511V; SERIES L7014;
 EDITION 1.

2. (U) SUMMARY: SOURCE PROVIDED HEARSAY CONCERNING THE
 SHOOT DOWN OF A U.S. F-4 AIRCRAFT IN SON LA PROVINCE AND
 THE CAPTURE OF ITS TWO CREW MEMBERS BY MEMBERS OF THE

MUONG ETHNIC MINORITY. BOTH AMERICANS WERE REPORTEDLY
 BEATEN AFTER BEING CAPTURED. ONE SURVIVED AND WAS LATER
 TURNED OVER TO THE PHU YEN DISTRICT MILITARY COMMAND.
 THE SECOND AMERICAN DIED AND WAS ALLEGEDLY BURIED NEAR
 BAN THOAI (H) (VICINITY VJ7054), SON LA (P). END
 SUMMARY.

3. (U) INFORMATION: SOURCE EXPLAINED THAT HE WAS
 IMPRISONED IN REEDUCATION CAMP 6, CAMP GROUP 2 (VICINITY
 VJ721543) IN PHU YEN (I), SON LA (F) FROM 1 JUL 76 UNTIL
 APR 78. APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH AFTER HIS ARRIVAL IN
 THE CAMP, HE WAS ASSIGNED TO A ROAD CONSTRUCTION DETAIL.
 ONE DAY WHEN HE WAS GATHERING ROCKS FROM A ROCK PILE
 NEAR THE CAMP, HE NOTICED A SMALL PILE OF ROCKS ABOUT
 ONE METER HIGH AND 1.5 METERS LONG THAT LOOKED LIKE A
 BURIAL MOUND. WHEN HE ASKED A LCCAL MUONG VILLAGER
 (NFI) WHAT IT WAS, THE VILLAGER TOLD HIM THAT IT WAS THE
 GRAVE OF A U.S. PILOT. THE VILLAGER REPORTEDLY
 EXPLAINED THAT THE AMERICAN WAS SHOT DOWN DURING A
 PERIOD WHEN HANOI WAS BOMBED FOR 11 CONSECUTIVE DAYS
 (EXACT PERIOD UNKNOWN). FOUR MIG AIRCRAFT AND FOUR U.S.
 F-4 AIRCRAFT HAD AN AERIAL BATTLE, AFTER WHICH ONE OF
 THE F-4S MADE A BOMBING RUN IN THE AREA. AS IT DROVE, IT
 WAS STRUCK BY SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM TROOPS ON THE GROUND
 (NFI) AND CRASHED. ITS TWO CREW MEMBERS BOTH EJECTED
 AND WERE CAPTURED BY MUONG VILLAGERS (NFI). THE
 AMERICANS WERE THEN LED TO BAN THOAI (H) (VICINITY
 VJ7054), PHU YEN (D) WHERE THEY WERE BEATEN BY THE
 VILLAGERS. ONE OF THE AMERICANS DIED FROM THE BEATING
 AND WAS BURIED AT THAT SITE. THE SECOND AMERICAN
 RECEIVED HEAD WOUNDS BUT SURVIVED. HE WAS LATER TURNED
 OVER TO THE PHU YEN DISTRICT MILITARY HEADQUARTERS, BUT
 HIS DISPOSITION THEREAFTER IS UNKNOWN.

4. (U) SOURCE EXPLAINED THAT THE GRAVE
 WAS LOCATED ON THE NORTHWEST SIDE OF MILITARY ROUTE 4
 (DWCNGE CHIEFNS LWOCJ 4), JUST WEST OF BAN THOAI HAMLET.
 MORE SPECIFICALLY, IT WAS LOCATED DIRECTLY ACROSS THE
 ROAD FROM THE HOME OF (INU) NHUT (NHUTJ), THE LEADER OF
 THE AREA TRANSPORTATION MAINTENANCE TEAM (HATJ GIAC
 THCCNG), WHICH WAS ABOUT 20 METERS EAST OF THE CAMP
 GROUP 2 HEADQUARTERS. MS. NHUT'S HOME WAS MADE OF
 WHITENASHED EARTHEN WALLS WITH A THATCHED ROOF. THE
 GRAVE WAS NOT MARKED IN ANY WAY. BASED ON SOURCE'S
 DESCRIPTION OF THE LOCATION AND A SKETCH HE PROVIDED,
 THE GRAVE WAS LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF VJ705541.

UNCLASSIFIED

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5. WHEN SOURCE LEFT CAMP GROUP 2 IN APR 78, THE GRAVE OF THE ALLEGED AMERICAN WAS STILL INTACT. HE LATER HEARD FROM A FELLOW PRISONER, FORMER RVNAF MAJ DO IAI DONG (DOX DAJ DOONG), THAT THE GRAVE WAS STILL UNDISTURBED WHEN HE WAS EVACUATED FROM THE CAMP IN 1979 TO AVOID ADVANCING CHINESE FORCES.

6. (U) COMMENTS: SOURCE WAS COOPERATIVE AND ANSWERED ALL QUESTIONS IN A STRAIGHTFORWARD MANNER. HE ASKED NO FAVORS.

7. (U) SOURCE WAS NOT ABLE TO LOCATE BAN THOI HAMLET OR THE ALLEGED GRAVE SITE ON A MAP, BUT PROVIDED A DETAILED SKETCH OF THE GRAVE SITE AREA. THE COORDINATES ATTRIBUTED TO THE GRAVE SITE AREA WERE BASED ON A COMPARISON OF THIS SKETCH TO A MAP. IT SHOULD BE NOTED THAT THE ROAD SOURCE REFERRED TO AS "STRATEGIC ROUTE 4" IS LISTED ON THE CITED MAP AS ROUTE 13A.

8. (U) DURING SOURCE'S IMPRISONMENT IN CAMP 6, CAMP GROUP 2, HE ALSO OBSERVED THE WRECKAGE OF A U.S. F-4C AIRCRAFT. THE INFORMATION SOURCE PROVIDED CONCERNING THIS WRECKAGE IS REPORTED SEPARATELY IN JTF-FA REPORT 191-042. DECL: OADR

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