

11 January 1980

TO: Commander, JCRC
Barbers Point HI 96862

SD

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ unit had no American advisors and he does not know if any report was made of this incident to other American advisors, or to Vietnamese officials.

CHARLES V CLAYTON

SFC

JCRC Operations Sergeant

10/17/91

NOVEMBER 1991

LATE INF

AYTON

USA

Sergeant

25 MAR 1980
Reference: RP79-010A
(Refer to RP79-010 and
DIA msg 051536Z FEB 80)
6 March 1980

FROM: JCRC - OPS

SUBJ: Burial of American Remains

TO: Commander, JCRC
Barbers Point, HI 96862

SD

~~Source~~ provided the following information during this interview:

1. The date of the burial would have been about April 1971, as opposed to June 1971 as originally reported. This new date is based on source's discovery of a death certificate of a friend who had been killed at about the same time.

2. In attempting to establish a more precise location a series of questions produced the following information:

a. ~~Source~~ unit was airlifted by US aircraft, (C-130s) from Kontum to the vicinity of Tan Can (probably Dak To) and moved by VNAF helicopter to the battle area.

b. The battle occurred near the Cambodian border (within 2-10 km) and in the vicinity of Ben Het.

c. Source identified an area in the vicinity of YB7622 as the location of the battle.

d. The remains were first observed while they were in a trench that had been part of the 22nd Division's defenses

3. In response to questions that were raised concerning the individual's description and the condition of the remains the following was reported:

a. The remains were those of a white man, with a very thin face and wearing a mustache.

b. Source believed that the individual was a non-commissioned officer advisor to the 22nd Division.

c. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ seemed to recall that the individual was related to supply or replacements or may have been a replacement, or involved in resupply. This recollection was based on comments made by other ARVN soldiers at the time of the incident.

d. He was quite sure that the individual had previously been at Tan Can with the 22nd Division.

e. He estimated that the individual may have been dead as long as one month when he saw the remains.

f. He could recall no equipment being associated with the burial site.

4. Attached as an inclosure is a sketch of the area in which the incident took place.

Interviewer's Comments: Some of the inconsistencies may result from the initial interviewer not understanding the circumstances that ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ was describing. For example his unit was not involved, directly, in the battle for FSB 5, and FSB 6 but were engaged in action that related to this battle. I am convinced that the incident that ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ describes took place, basically as he describes it, allowing for any deviations based on memory and recollection. I am also convinced that ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ does not have the requisite skill and/or recollection to establish a precise or even close approximation, on a map, of the area in which the action took place. Further, it is likely that he never knew exactly where he was even during the period of the battle, as far as a map location is concerned.

Charles V Clayton
CHARLES V CLAYTON
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JERC Operations Sergeant

1 Incl

Sketch of burial site

4 ON Interview with SOURCE

