

PLACE Washington, D. C. LAST NAME, FIRST NAME, MIDDLE NAME BUGLIO, James	DATE 16 Apr 70	TIME	FILE NUMBER 70-CID011-00013
ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS Det B, 11th IP Co (CI), Ft Sill, OK	SOCIAL SECURITY ACCOUNT NO.		GRADE Crim Inves

SWORN STATEMENT

WANT TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING STATEMENT UNDER OATH

About 1200 hrs, 15 Apr 70, at Flint, Michigan, I interviewed Mr. Frank Donald BEARDSLEE, 18260 East Street Road, New Lothrop, Michigan. BEARDSLEE related essentially the following:

He was drafted on 2 Aug 66 and after Basic Training and AIT, was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 11th Infantry Brigade, Hawaii. His unit arrived in the Republic of Vietnam on 3 Dec 67. While with the 11th Brigade in Vietnam and during Task Force Barker, he was driver for Col BARKER, the Task Force Commander.

Col BARKER was going to award BEARDSLEE the Combat Infantryman's Badge, but BEARDSLEE declined to accept it until he felt that he had earned it, so Col BARKER agreed to let him participate in the Pinkville Operation with Co C, 1st Bn, 20th Inf, with the concurrence of the Company Commander, CPT MEDINA.

One day during Mar 68 (exact date unknown) he was present in the Command Bunker at LZ Dottie when Col BARKER briefed the unit commanders that were to participate in the operation. As BEARDSLEE recalled, CPT KOTOCUC, S-2 Officer; MAJ CALHOUN, Task Force Executive Officer; MSG JOHNSON, Operations Sergeant; CPT MICHELES, CO, P/4/3; CPT TWINKLE, CO, A/3/1 and CPT MEDINA were present at the briefing. COL BARKER performed most of the briefing and the intelligence portion was given by CPT KOTOCUC. As to the contents of the briefing, BEARDSLEE could only recall that they were to engage the 48th Viet Cong Battalion and that various aviation units were also to participate.

On the evening prior to the assault on MyLai (4), BEARDSLEE contacted CPT MEDINA at an ammunition bunker at LZ Dottie and MEDINA told him to be ready the next morning and to carry a double load (approximately 500 rounds) of ammunition for his weapon, an M-16. Other than to tell him not to get killed because COL BARKER would get him, CPT MEDINA gave him no further instructions.

Early the next morning he joined the second lift to be CA'D to MyLai(4). Joe GRIMES and members of his squad were in the same helicopter with BEARDSLEE. GRIMES, MEDINA and LT LACROSS are the only names of Co C personnel that he remembers.

The LZ at MyLai was just to the west of the village. It was a cold LZ and they remained there about 10 minutes before moving south to pick up a weapon from a dead Vietnamese that had been marked with smoke from a helicopter. The body was south of Road 521 near Hill 85. He saw the smoke, but never saw the body or weapon because he remained with the squad while two or three men went to get the weapon. Those men rejoined the squad without finding the weapon and the entire squad started to return to the LZ when they received a radio call to go back and continue the search until it was found. They went back again and as before, BEARDSLEE stayed on the road. BEARDSLEE did state that he vaguely recalls that the weapon was found.

BEARDSLEE further stated that while enroute to the road (521) the first time and at a distance of about 200 meters, they observed approximately 20 adult Vietnamese on the road running west. Someone ordered the Squad to open fire at them. BEARDSLEE

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ADDITIONAL PAGES MUST CONTAIN THE HEADING "STATEMENT OF _____ TAKEN AT _____ DATED _____ CONTINUED." THE BOTTOM OF EACH ADDITIONAL PAGE MUST BEAR THE INITIALS OF THE PERSON MAKING THE STATEMENT AND BE INITIALED AS "PAGE ____ OF ____ PAGES." WHEN ADDITIONAL PAGES ARE UTILIZED, THE BACK OF PAGE 1 WILL BE LINED OUT, AND THE STATEMENT WILL BE CONCLUDED ON THE REVERSE SIDE OF ANOTHER COPY OF THIS FORM.

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stated that he could only surmise that GRIMES, the Squad Leader, issued the order and that he did so because the Vietnamese were "evading". He stated they all fired, but does not know if he himself hit anyone, nor who in the squad did. Upon reaching the road he saw 10-15 bodies. Some or all could have been killed by gunships. He stated he did not recall seeing any children in the group of dead and did not notice if there were any women.

After returning to the LZ they took a short break of about 5 minutes and entered the village on the west side. Upon entering, he noticed that a large portion of the village was burning. They finished burning houses and killing livestock such as water buffalo and pigs. He stated they "zig-zagged" through the village in an easterly direction and came out on the south edge near the middle of the village, almost on the north-south trail, where they then took a second break. It was here on the trail where they took a second break and was detailed to secure the LZ for the helicopter utilized to medevac CARTER.

BEARDSLEE explained that while at the north-south trail at the south edge of the village he saw approximately 15-20 bodies that appeared to consist mostly of women and children. CPT MEDINA was there and according to BEARDSLEE, "must have seen the bodies".

Prior to that time he "crossed paths" with CPT MEDINA at least twice while in the western half of the village. BEARDSLEE stated that MEDINA must also have observed the scattering of bodies, consisting of men, women and children, that he himself observed on the ground and in huts.

After the dust-off of CARTER they went to a small group of huts where someone in the group found an old man in an air raid shelter. That man was taken back to the main village unharmed. BEARDSLEE stated that he believed that the man had two or three children, 5-6 years old, with him. He did not know the location of the air raid shelter, except that he felt it was east of the main village. While the man and children were taken back to the village they searched the huts, subsequently he did not know what became of those Vietnamese.

He recalled then going back into the village and that just about everything was on fire at that time. He stated that they continued to search, burn and blow up tunnels prior to breaking for lunch just west of a ditch to the east of the village. He related that he did not go near the ditch, nor did he see what was in it.

After entering the village the second time, he saw more bodies of men, women and children, estimating the number to be about 10. He stated that he did not recall if he saw CPT MEDINA in this section of the village or not.

BEARDSLEE was queried concerning other allegations that developed during the course of this investigation. He stated that he could not recall specific slayings or other acts of misconduct and that not being a member of Co C, could not identify the perpetrator(s) if he did. The only positive testimony obtained from BEARDSLEE concerning any allegation was that he had witnessed the interrogation of a Vietnamese captive by CPT MEDINA during which MEDINA fired his rifle over the man's head at a tree near the coast, but could not even provide any specific information concerning that incident. X X X X X X X X X X END OF STATEMENT X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X X

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AFFIDAVIT

1. JAMES BUGLIO

HAVE READ OR HAVE BEEN READ OR DONE THIS STATE.

MENT WHICH BEGINS ON PAGE 1 AND ENDS ON PAGE 3. I FULLY UNDERSTAND THE CONTENTS OF THE ENTIRE STATEMENT MADE BY ME. THE STATEMENT IS TRUE. I HAVE INITIALED ALL CORRECTIONS AND HAVE INITIALED THE BOTTOM OF EACH PAGE CONTAINING THE STATEMENT. I HAVE MADE THIS STATEMENT FREELY WITHOUT HOPE OF BENEFIT OR REWARD, WITHOUT THREAT OF PUNISHMENT, AND WITHOUT COERCION, UNLAWFUL INFLUENCE, OR UNLAWFUL INDUCEMENT.

James Bugglio
(Signature of Person Making)

(Signature of Person Making Statement)

WITNESSES:

Subscribed and sworn to before me, a person authorized by law
to administer oaths, this 16th day of April, 1970
at Washington, D.C.

ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS

Barbula effusa (L.) T. A. Gray

RICHARD E. SHERWOOD
(Third Name of Person Administering Oath)

ORGANIZATION OR ADDRESS

(Authority To Administer Oaths)

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