

1 in there. And -- but anyways, as I was going back down,
2 across, going up the stairs, was, looked to be the same
3 individuals I saw the night before.

4 Q. And did you get a -- how long a time did you have to
5 look at him?

6 A. Oh, I was going down the stairs and just glancing
7 over at him -- he saw me, and I saw him. It was a
8 distance -- maybe ten of these rooms?

9 Q. Okay, and we have said that the room is about 30-
10 feet across. So you were 300 feet away? That's about 1
11 football field.

12 A. No, maybe a half a football field.

13 Q. Okay, about 150 feet?

14 A. I don't know if it was -- no, I think that would be
15 fine.

16 Q. Okay, and this was, again, inside?

17 A. Yes, it's -- well, it's outside but inside.

18 Q. So there's like an atrium, open-to-the-sky
19 courtyard?

20 A. It is open to the sky.

21 Q. Okay, so there's a building all around it, is that
22 right?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. It's enclosed by a building, but there's an open
25 courtyard inside?

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1 A. Yes.

2 Q. And that's -- you were about 150 feet away from the
3 individual you saw --

4 A. He was on the other side.

5 Q. And what time of day was this?

6 A. Morning.

7 Q. Were there any shadows -- strike that.

8 Was there anything between you and the individual,
9 or was it all open space?

10 A. Just the occasional post.

11 Q. No trees blocking your view?

12 A. No, there were no trees.

13 Q. Were there any shadows on the individuals that made
14 it hard for you to see him?

15 A. There was no sunlight -- I mean there was no -- I
16 don't remember that.

17 Q. Okay, when you looked at the individual, did you
18 recognize him?

19 A. At first, no, I didn't. But I kept looking, as I
20 was going down. And I could have sworn he was the same
21 individual I saw yesterday.

22 Q. That you'd seen the day before?

23 A. Yeah, I mean -- he was that close. He could have
24 passed for his twin brother.

25 Q. Okay, and what about him made you think it was the

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1 same individual?

2 A. Hair color, the beard growth -- just features, his
3 feature. I -- what I observed yesterday was just shoulder-
4 length, half -- the day before that.

5 Q. The top part of his body?

6 A. The top part of his body, yeah.

7 And that's pretty much what I focused in on.

8 Q. And when you looked at the individual, was he with
9 guards?

10 A. Yes, there was a guard.

11 What was different about his guard versus my
12 guard -- my guard always -- in fact, all the time, had right,
13 you know, like shoulder-arm slung, slung his weapon. His
14 guard didn't. His guard was at the ready.

15 Q. When you say "at the ready" his weapon was down?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And how close was he to the guard?

18 A. Well, his guard is -- his guard -- the sling was
19 slung around his neck, and the weapon, like this.

20 Q. When you say "like this" the stenographer doesn't
21 get it. You're holding -- as if holding a weapon in front of
22 you?

23 A. Yeah, he's holding it, but the sling is -- it's
24 slinged around your neck, and the weapon's really resting on
25 your neck. In military terms we call that "the ready."

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1 Slung arms, or sling arms is, the weapon is behind
2 your back in the sling. It's --

3 Q. And your guards -- was this -- strike that.

4 As a general course, did your guards keep their
5 weapons slung behind their backs?

6 A. Yeah.

7 Q. Did any of your guards keep their weapons at the
8 ready?

9 A. Only at the camp.

10 Q. When there were other ARVN present?

11 A. No, usually if I came too close to an area that I
12 wasn't supposed to be -- the guards always kept -- the guards
13 at the camp pretty much, when they were on-guard duty, pretty
14 much always kept their weapons at the ready, at the camp.

15 Q. Okay, but when you were out on these missions that
16 you were fixing generators, and you were fixing vehicles, they
17 would keep their arms on their backs?

18 A. Yeah, almost always, yeah.

19 Q. So was it your perception that this individual was
20 being more closely guarded than you were?

21 A. Yes, he was definitely in a more stressful situation
22 than me.

23 Q. And do you base -- you base that obviously on the
24 guard arms being at the ready. Anything else that you base
25 that on?

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1 A. He was kind of sluggish. He was going up the
2 stairs. He was kind of sluggish, you know? I think I went up
3 and down the stairs pretty normal, but he was kind of sluggish
4 like it was difficult or it was tiring to do so, as if one had
5 no energy.

6 Q. Were you able to determine how tall he was when you
7 saw him the next time -- the second time?

8 A. Maybe as tall as I was. I don't know. It's
9 difficult.

10 Q. And you're around 6 feet?

11 A. Almost 6'1" -- well, 5'11".

12 Q. Anything else you can recall about the prisoner that
13 you saw the second day?

14 A. No, I don't recall -- there was an incident
15 with -- I guess it was the -- the guy who was on duty there at
16 the gate.

17 We went back out to the jeep, and sat in the jeep.
18 And he sat in the jeep and he was called in. And I sat in the
19 jeep by myself for 20 minutes to a 1/2 hour. That was one of
20 the first times that had ever happened. It was unusual.

21 I mean there were people outside who were NVA people
22 from inside that lingered outside the entire time. But it was
23 really the first time that I can remember that I was ever left
24 in a vehicle by myself.

25 He had been called, and when he went in, you could

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1 tell -- because when he went in, when they called him in --

2 Q. This was your guard?

3 A. Yeah.

4 Q. The one who had walked you up the stairs to use the
5 latrine --

6 A. Right.

7 Q. -- and had walked you back?

8 A. Right.

9 Q. Had he seen the other American POW, if you know,
10 sir?

11 A. Sure, but they dressed him down. Because when he
12 came out, his ears were red.

13 Q. Could you tell his ears were red?

14 A. Oh, yeah, he was real upset. The only remark he
15 made to me is that I had gotten him in trouble. And from now
16 on, before we leave 17 Ly Nam De, that I am to ensure that I
17 don't have to go to the latrine.

18 Q. Do you know which guard this was?

19 A. I can see his face. I can't remember his name.

20 Q. It was not one of the ones you dealt with in the
21 Black Market with?

22 A. No.

23 Q. Was it one of your routine guards?

24 A. Occasional.

25 Q. Where was the driver when all this was happening?

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1 A. He came out later.

2 Q. As you described it earlier, you usually had a
3 guard, a driver -- at least -- and sometimes an officer.

4 A. Well, if the guard wasn't there, the guard usually
5 always went in. He went into mingle with his buddies or
6 whatever, people he knew there. But usually, if the guard
7 didn't stay with me, then the driver did. Usually always
8 someone stayed with me.

9 And when we came out the driver wasn't there. And
10 we were both sitting in the jeep. And they called him in.
11 When they called him in, there was about two, three people who
12 came out and just stood right there in the doorway right
13 outside the entrance where we had just come from, and just
14 stood there the whole time.

15 Nobody came over and said anything to me, or sat
16 down in the jeep, or anything like that.

17 Q. Is that unusual?

18 A. No, that wasn't unusual -- actually, it would have
19 been very unusual for people not to stop and stare at my
20 caucasian features. But the only thing I found unusual is
21 that I believe it was the first time I can remember that I had
22 ever been left alone in a vehicle -- especially in the middle
23 of Hanoi.

24 Q. Your description -- this is happening, this incident
25 is happening at 17 Ly Nam De -- I'm sorry, at 3 Ba Duong Thang

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1 in the middle of the day?

2 A. The morning.

3 Q. In the morning, but not the early morning.

4 A. About -- it as pretty early.

5 Q. What time?

6 A. I didn't have a watch.

7 Q. 8, 9, 10?

8 A. Probably closer to 9.

9 Q. Were the streets -- the streets had people on them?

10 A. Oh, yes.

11 Q. They weren't just soldiers there?

12 A. No, in the building just soldiers.

13 Q. But on the streets?

14 A. No, on the streets there were people.

15 Q. And this is in Hanoi?

16 A. In Hanoi.

17 Q. And you were just sitting in a jeep by yourself, out

18 for a half an hour?

19 A. About 20 minutes to a 1/2 hour.

20 Q. Up until this point it seems like all your movements

21 had been at night -- they'd moved you at night. They seem to

22 try to hide you?

23 A. No.

24 Q. When did that change?

25 A. That changed when I started coming to Hanoi to

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1 repair vehicles. It was day or night, and the way they used
2 to do it -- ever time we went through checkpoints. Usually
3 when we went through checkpoints there would always be some
4 civilians -- especially children -- who came up to the jeep.
5 And they would go Lin So or Cuba. And the guards would reply
6 that I was either Cuban or Russian. They never told them I
7 was American -- never told them I was American. They just
8 kind of fell in that repertoire, even in Hanoi.

9 And they told me that if any of the civilians,
10 anybody asked who I was, to tell them I was either Cuban or
11 Russian, and never tell anyone that I was American. And they
12 said that the Vietnamese harbor -- most of the Vietnamese have
13 lost a loved one or a relative in the war, and harbor a lot of
14 hatred for Americans, and that if they found out that I was
15 American that it could put me in grave danger.

16 And they said just for security purposes, that if
17 anyone ever asked me what my nationality was, just tell them
18 that I was a Russian or a Cuban there in Vietnam helping to
19 rebuild Vietnam.

20 And I did so. I never told anybody I was American.

21 Q. Do you have any understanding why the Vietnamese
22 weren't concerned about having you drive around in a jeep
23 where other people could see you?

24 A. There was a lot of foreigners.

25 Q. Yes, but your dress was different. You were dressed

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1 in prison garb.

2 A. No, in worker's garb.

3 Q. And what was worker's garb?

4 A. Worker's was dark blue, you know, like a maintenance
5 or something.

6 Q. But that was also your prison garb, wasn't it?

7 A. Yeah.

8 Q. So --

9 A. I said -- the prison garb, it changed after 1973,
10 you know, the color -- whereas with the pajamas before, now
11 the trousers had pockets, the shirts had pockets, you know?
12 It took on a different look.

13 You couldn't -- unless you were some type of agent
14 or something, I was never questioned about the clothes I wore.

15 Q. Did you ever see any Cubans that were in Hanoi?

16 A. Better than that.

17 Q. I'm sorry?

18 A. Better than that -- I talked to them.

19 Q. So you talked to Cubans in Hanoi.

20 A. Oh, yeah.

21 Q. Did you ever see any Cubans that were dressed, as
22 you were, as workers in these blue clothes, when you were in
23 Hanoi?

24 A. Um, no, because -- no -- on the streets of Hanoi,
25 when I saw the foreigners, I really couldn't tell whether they

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1 were Cuban or Russian or Polish or whatever -- yeah, some of
2 them were -- I don't know if they were workers or not, but I
3 did see other foreigners that -- it was kind of similar, but
4 it was just a different color.

5 Q. Well, I guess that's what I'm leading to.

6 Did you ever see another caucasian --

7 A. Um-hum.

8 Q. -- and for the instant, let's add Cuban/Hispanic
9 dressed like you were?

10 A. No, most of the people that I saw in Hanoi were
11 dressed in blue jeans or suits.

12 Q. Now, the individual that you saw at 17 -- I'm
13 sorry -- the individual that you saw at 3 Ba Duong Thang, on
14 the two occasions -- in the morning you saw him, the second
15 morning -- how was he dressed?

16 A. The bot -- his pants were like the bottom part,
17 pajamas, and a cut-off shirt.

18 Q. Was it a prison uniform -- and you're going to have
19 to help me with this when you say the bottom part were like
20 pajamas --

21 A. They were flabby.

22 Q. What color were they?

23 A. Kind of dark. I don't know if they were black or
24 burgundy, or what. It's like somebody did a poor dye
25 job -- you know, when you dye clothes. They were kind of dark

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1 in places, and faded in others.

2 Q. What was the shirt like?

3 A. Same, pretty much the same but short sleeves -- no
4 collar.

5 Q. And was it the same color, dark burgundy or black?

6 A. No -- I don't know -- cannot tell the color. It
7 looked kind of dirty. I don't know. My memory now,
8 it's -- it wasn't the same kind of clothes I was wearing.

9 Q. Okay.

10 A. I can definitely say that.

11 Q. Was it the same kind of clothes that the people at
12 Thac Ba Lake had been wearing?

13 A. No.

14 Q. What had they been wearing at Thac Ba Lake?

15 A. It was a light blue.

16 Q. And had all the ones you saw at Thac Ba Lake been
17 wearing that?

18 A. Yeah, all of them wore the same thing.

19 Q. And how about the ones that you'd seen at Yen Bai
20 getting off the box car? Was it like the clothes they were
21 wearing at Yen Bai?

22 A. Thac Ba, yeah -- Thac Ba and Yen Bai, same type of
23 clothes.

24 Q. Thac Ba and Yen Bai were the same?

25 A. I'm sorry, Thac Ba and Yen Bai, yes, the boxcar --

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1 Q. The boxcar was --

2 A. The same kind of garb, yeah.

3 Q. But now, at Ba Duong Thang it looked different.

4 A. Yeah, different from mine and different from Thac
5 Ba, yeah.

6 MR. TAYLOR: Bill, let's stop just for a second.

7 MR. CODINHA: Fine.

8 (Brief recess.)

9 BY MR. CODINHA:

10 Q. After the first time you saw the individual at No. 3
11 Ba Duong Thang St., did you have any conversation with your
12 guard about that individual, the caucasian individual?

13 A. There was a brief conversation. I don't recollect
14 what it was. It had something to do pretty well along the
15 line that forget what you saw, or it wasn't what you thought
16 or what you saw wasn't what you think you saw.

17 Q. I may have just misled you by that question.

18 When you first saw that caucasian -- I think you
19 first saw him at 17 Ly Nam De?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. On the first day -- and the second day, you saw him
22 at Number 3 Ba Duong Thang?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Do I have it correctly?

25 A. That's true -- well, the second day I saw an

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1 individual that looked like -- and I came to the conclusion it
2 was the same individual the day before.

3 Q. Now, you knew Earl Clyde Weatherman?

4 A. Yes, I did.

5 Q. Was the individual you saw at Number 3 Ba Duong
6 Thang, Earl Clyde Weatherman?

7 A. No, it wasn't.

8 Q. So it was someone else?

9 A. Yes -- I'd never seen this individual before in my
10 life. And that was the first and last time I ever saw him.

11 Q. Earl Clyde Weatherman?

12 A. No, this individual.

13 Q. Well, you saw him twice -- you think you saw him
14 twice?

15 A. Well, I'm talking about this incident, this trip to
16 Hanoi.

17 Q. And you mentioned another person, McKinley Nolan,
18 who you have been shown pictures of. But McKinley Nolan is
19 black?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. So you don't believe --

22 A. I never knew that before. But I heard McKinley
23 Nolan's name a lot, but I didn't know he was black until I saw
24 a photo of him.

25 Q. Who did you hear McKinley's name from, while you

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1 were in Vietnam?

2 A. I heard it occasionally while I was in Vietnam, and
3 heard it a lot after my arrival back in the United States.

4 Q. While you were in Vietnam, who used the name
5 McKinley Nolan?

6 A. It was a name that just floated around. It was
7 supposed to have been this black and this white person. The
8 black person was supposed to have been a member of a Black
9 Panther party. And the white person was supposedly a part of
10 some committee, a member of some committee in Stockholm,
11 Sweden.

12 Anyway, these people were supposedly working with
13 the Vietnamese in the propaganda section in Hanoi. And they
14 were going throughout North and South Vietnam. And one of the
15 people's name was supposed to have been McKinley Nolan.

16 And his name was mentioned briefly. Now, I remember
17 seeing his name on paper in 1976 -- I believe these two were
18 supposed to have went to Cuba, Russia and Cuba with some
19 heroic delegation or something, and received some medals or
20 whatever -- revolutionary medals or something.

21 Q. Was the second man who was with McKinley Nolan, or
22 supposed to be with McKinley Nolan in this participation Earl
23 Clyde Weatehrman?

24 A. I don't know that. I had my own suspicions.

25 Q. What did you suspect?

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1 A. I suspected, because I didn't know of anyone else,
2 or hear of anyone else in the same categories -- but
3 white -- in the same category as Earl Clyde Weatherman. I
4 figured it was him.

5 Q. Now, there was someone called Ba, B-a?

6 A. Yes, his Vietnamese name.

7 Q. That was Weatherman's Vietnamese name?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Did Nolan have a Vietnamese name that you know of?

10 A. Yes, I did, but I don't remember.

11 Q. Now, after this incident at Number 3 Ba Duong Thang
12 St. in 1977, when was the next time you had occasion that you
13 had to see an American POW?

14 Or, strike that.

15 When was the next time that you had occasion to see
16 a caucasian who you believed to be a POW?

17 A. I can't remember the exact timetable now. Again,
18 another trip to Hanoi, at 17 Ly Nam De. It was pretty late in
19 the evening. It was after the evening meal. I was locked
20 into my room.

21 When lights-out, it was usually about 10:00, 9:30 or
22 10:00. They always locked my room, I guess so that I wouldn't
23 wander out into the streets of Hanoi. But it was a group of
24 people that went by my room -- I don't know how many -- three,
25 approximately -- three or four. And I just remember I

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1 distinguished that because that's what sticks in my mind was
2 the different voices. But I concluded that there were
3 Americans just because of the language they were using. I
4 could have very well been wrong. I didn't see them. I only
5 heard them. They were going to bathe in a sistern at 17 Ly
6 Nam De -- and just cussing, using American slang. I cannot
7 even remember what that was, now. I don't even remember the
8 conversation.

9 They were going to bathe. They were going to bathe
10 at the sistern.

11 Q. You were in your room?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. And was this the same room that you routinely used
14 at 17 Ly Nam De?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Was it on the first floor or the second floor?

17 A. No, I never -- that building, I never stayed in that
18 building, the same building -- the structure, the masonry
19 structure -- I never stayed in that structure.

20 Q. Okay, at Ly Nam De, where did you stay?

21 A. There's one building, it's a long building, and
22 split up into rooms, or partitioned off. And the
23 guards -- guards stayed there, drivers stayed in it, in these
24 rooms. And I stayed in one room.

25 Q. What was in the room? A bed?

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1 A. Yup, just a bed and a little lamp, an oil lamp.

2 Q. What --

3 A. They had light bulbs, but they weren't used that
4 much.

5 Q. Was there a door on the room?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And was it a slatted door, or was it a wood door?

8 A. It was a wood door.

9 Q. Did it have a way to look out through the door?

10 A. No, it was solid.

11 Q. A solid door? Were there any windows into the room?

12 A. No.

13 Q. Did the room face the street, or the courtyard,
14 or --

15 A. It faced the other building, the big building, which
16 was in the center of the compound.

17 Q. Was there a corridor outside the room?

18 A. Corridor?

19 Q. If you opened the door, where would you be at the
20 door of the room?

21 A. Outside in the compound.

22 Q. Okay.

23 Now, were you able to tell from the voices that you
24 heard whether the individuals were in the compound or out on
25 the street?

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1 A. In the compound, it went right in front of my room.
2 You had to go that way to get to the sistern, anyway.

3 Q. Were you able to tell what time of night it was?

4 A. It was just very shortly after they locked my door,
5 they just padlocked it. So guessing, at 10:00, 9:30, 10:00.

6 Q. And you say you heard, you thought, three or four
7 people going by?

8 A. That sticks in my mind because of the number of
9 voices.

10 Q. So you thought you could determine three or four
11 different voices?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Was -- were the voices -- you can't recall today
14 what they were saying?

15 A. It was -- American slangs, cussing -- I can't recall
16 exactly what.

17 Q. Did you hear the three or four voices all speaking
18 English?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And how far could you hear the voices -- for how
21 long a time could you hear the voices?

22 A. Um -- all the way to, I guess to the sistern. I
23 could still hear them, but I couldn't hear -- I couldn't make
24 out what they were saying.

25 Q. Did the voices --

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1 A. Because of the distance.

2 Q. Did the voices seem to be happy voices, sad voices,
3 jocular voices -- what did they sound like?

4 A. As one would carry on a conversation.

5 Q. So they sounded conversational to you?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. And the -- the Americans -- were they speaking to
8 each other?

9 A. I perceived, yes. That was it.

10 Q. Did you hear questions being put, or answers being
11 put, or conversations?

12 A. I don't remember.

13 Q. And you never saw those individuals?

14 A. No, no I didn't.

15 Q. Did you say anything to them?

16 A. No, I did not.

17 Q. Do you know -- then you wouldn't know if they were
18 guarded or not?

19 A. No.

20 Q. Was that -- did you have occasion to ever see those
21 individuals?

22 A. I don't know.

23 Q. Did you have occasion to have a conversation with
24 your guards about those individuals?

25 A. No, not that I remember now.

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1 Q. Would -- following that incident -- and do you
2 recall when that took place?

3 A. I think it was in the fall --

4 Q. The fall --

5 A. Sometime in the fall of 1977.

6 Q. Were you able to make any determination about the
7 voices you heard as to whether they were prisoners or not?

8 A. No.

9 Q. After that incident, in the fall of 1977, when was
10 the next occasion you had to see caucasians that you believed
11 to be American prisoners?

12 A. At Gia Lam warehouse.

13 Q. When did that take place?

14 A. 1978.

15 Q. When in 1978?

16 A. It was after Tet -- oh, just before summer, just
17 after summer. I'm not really sure. It wasn't during the
18 rainy season.

19 If it were in the rainy season, it would always
20 stuck in my mind because when it rains over there, the clay
21 turns to -- the mud turns to real clay. It's very nasty,
22 nasty stuff. And it's hot and dry.

23 Q. What was the circumstance that you were at Gia Lam
24 warehouse?

25 A. To pick up spare parts.

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1 Q. And who were you with?

2 A. Just a driver -- there were three of us. There were
3 four of us there -- no, four of us. There were four of us all
4 together. No, I take that back. There were only three. We
5 had dropped -- we had dropped the lieutenant off at his home
6 there in Hanoi. And we were to pick him up on the way back.

7 Q. Do you remember who you were with that day?

8 A. But he didn't live in Hanoi. He lived close to the
9 day to the River, to the Red River there. It was like on the
10 outskirts of Hanoi. So we had to cross the Red River to get
11 over there.

12 Q. So you were with the driver, the guard, and the
13 lieutenant?

14 A. No, the lieutenant, we had dropped off at his
15 family's home, or I guess it was his family's home or
16 whatever. And we were to pick him up on the way back.

17 Q. Do you remember what lieutenant that was?

18 A. No -- yeah, I do. But I don't remember his name.

19 Q. Do you remember who the driver and the guard were?

20 A. Ah, it was one of three drivers. No, I don't -- I
21 mean I do, but I don't --

22 Q. You don't remember his name.

23 A. Well, on the driver -- I mainly think of three
24 different people.

25 Q. Do you think it was -- was this your Black Market

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1 driver?

2 A. No, no it wasn't.

3 Q. And was it your Black Market guard?

4 A. No.

5 Q. So it was somebody who was -- so do you remember who
6 the guard was?

7 A. I think, but I'm not sure.

8 Q. Okay, who do you think it was?

9 A. Again, I don't remember his name right now. I'd
10 have to really dwell on it. If I dwell on it, I'll remember.

11 Q. Okay.

12 When you have an opportunity to read the transcript,
13 if you've thought, and you can recall who it is, just add in
14 who you believe to be --

15 A. Sometimes that happens, and sometimes the name just
16 will come to me, like right now. I try too hard to remember
17 it.

18 Q. That's fine, if, you know, if at a later time you
19 recall who it is, just tell Mr. Taylor. He'll convey the
20 information to us, and we can fill this in.

21 A. Yeah, unlike Kien and Quy who I had kind of a
22 relationship with, most of the other guards and drivers in the
23 center, we weren't friendly, you know? It was the -- I
24 remember like who I was, and I knew who they were. And it was
25 that kind of a relationship. They were the guards, you know?

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1 I was the American. I was the prisoner. And it was that type
2 of relationship. We understood, and nobody made a point of
3 it. I knew what place I had to stay in, and I remained there.

4 And I didn't want to do anything or act in any way
5 suspicious which would -- may have jeopardized my coming and
6 going. Because I know when -- all my actions got reported.
7 And my behavior depended on whether or not I ever left that
8 camp again. So I was -- when I wasn't with Kien or Quy, I was
9 always pretty careful not to cross the line or screw up.

10 Q. When you went to the warehouse in Gia Lam, in this
11 1978 occasion --

12 A. We went in a jeep. We were in a truck.

13 Q. You were in a truck.

14 A. Yeah, I remember a truck. We went to pick up -- to
15 pick up quite a bit of stuff.

16 But anyway, um -- I was sitting on the door side.
17 The guard was sitting in the middle, and then the driver. And
18 I had my elbow kind of out the door. And we pulled up, and
19 there was another truck in facing towards us. And it was an
20 American -- an American truck, called a 5-ton, or duce-and-a-
21 half. And we pulled up almost parallel with it, not quite,
22 but across from it. I don't know how many feet -- 30, 40 feet
23 from it.

24 And there were some caucasians there, five or six of
25 them. And I saw them, and when they saw me, and it was very

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1 distinct and clear. And they said great, another fuckin'
2 Cuban. And that's what caught my attention. Because if they
3 hadn't said that, I wouldn't have paid any attention to them
4 at all, really.

5 And I stared at them. And I wanted to answer them
6 back, but I didn't. And the only reason I didn't was because
7 I didn't want to -- I knew my actions by these people got
8 reported to back to the camp. And I wanted to say I ain't no
9 goddamn Cuban. But I didn't.

10 And the people I was with didn't seem concerned that
11 they'd seen me, or I'd seen them.

12 Q. Was that unusual?

13 A. Yeah, kind of really. They didn't seem alarmed.
14 They didn't seem to be alarmed at all. Yeah, it was
15 indifferent -- well, unusual.

16 There were so many -- what you would class unusual,
17 or someone else would class unusual, was everyday life for me
18 in Vietnam. So, did I stop and think was that unusual? No, I
19 didn't.

20 When someone was cutting off somebody's head in the
21 streets of Hanoi, I wouldn't have thought that was
22 unusual -- a little unordinary, maybe. But it wouldn't have
23 disturbed me. That's the culture. That's the situation over
24 there.

25 You know, I didn't really give a shit. The only

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1 person I gave a shit at that time was me, was Bob Garwood.
2 You know, I couldn't do anything for anybody else. I couldn't
3 even do anything for me, let alone anybody else.

4 I couldn't do nothing about them; I couldn't do
5 nothing for them; I couldn't help them. The worse I could do
6 was maybe hinder their situation. And so my observing them,
7 or their observing me, that's -- their attitude was pretty
8 much the same as my attitude. You know? It's -- the only
9 comforting thought that came out of it was that you weren't
10 the only one. That's about the only comforting thought to
11 ever come out of seeing any of these people -- that it
12 actually -- it was good for me, morale-wise. Because I knew,
13 and I realized that I wasn't in Vietnam alone, I wasn't the
14 only one in this situation. And there was hope.

15 Q. There was hope that what would happen?

16 A. That what they'd told me, that there was some kind
17 of secret negotiations or something was going to come about
18 and there was going to be another release.

19 Q. Who told you that?

20 A. The people at Bat; the people at Camp 5. And when
21 the United States, you know, paid what they promised for post-
22 war construction, and we'll get to the promise to pass peace
23 accords, and normalization of relations between Vietnam and
24 the United States had been restored, then of course. You
25 people will go home and join your families.

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1 Q. Did you believe that anyone in the United States
2 knew that you still were alive in Vietnam?

3 A. Sure, I do.

4 Q. And what did you base that on?

5 A. They didn't keep me in the ground, in a hole. I'm
6 military. I'm Marine Corps, you know? And Intelligence. I
7 had a strong belief that there wasn't any place in Vietnam
8 that there wasn't Intelligence, U.S. Intelligence. And I had
9 no doubt at all that they -- our Intelligence, U.S.
10 Intelligence knew where I was, what I was doing, every minute,
11 every time of day.

12 Q. What did you think they'd been doing for 14 years
13 while you were in Vietnam?

14 A. Who?

15 Q. Intelligence, our Intelligence?

16 A. I questioned that.

17 Q. You -- being a human being, you must have begun to
18 lose faith at some point.

19 A. I wasn't an office.

20 Q. You were a PFC.

21 A. I was a PFC. I was a number. I was expendable.

22 Q. Right -- but I don't understand where you're going.

23 A. Officers first; peons last.

24 Q. So you assumed that the Americans had tried to get
25 the officers back first, and that they were going to hold up

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1 on people who weren't officers?

2 A. Right.

3 Q. Now, the five or six -- no, strike that.

4 Now what did you base that on? Just your own
5 belief?

6 A. What?

7 Q. That the officers would go home first and, as you
8 quote, peons last?

9 A. Well, what I based it on is what I actually
10 happened. Supposedly it was going to take place in South
11 Vietnam and it never occurred. It was supposed to have been
12 released in South Vietnam in 1967 and I would come back. But
13 it didn't go down, because the U.S. side wanted to
14 exchange -- there was an exchange of prisoners. There was no
15 such thing as any release on humanitarian or any other goddamn
16 thing. It was a bullshit thing that the Vietnamese went
17 through. And it was actually prisoner exchange between our
18 side and the Cong side.

19 And when our side found out that I was an enlisted
20 man, it didn't go down. They wanted an officer. They wanted
21 Captain Eisenbraun. They didn't want me.

22 Q. You were told that.

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And who told you that?

25 A. Ho An.

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1 Q. Was Ho An a Vietnamese?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And was he one of your captors at the time, or was
4 he ARVN?

5 A. He was like a general or something. I don't know
6 what his rank was.

7 Q. Okay, he was a North Vietnamese general?

8 A. No, he was South.

9 Q. He was a South Vietnamese general?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Was he --

12 A. And that was also -- I didn't really believe
13 that --

14 MR. TAYLOR: Let me just correct you for a minute.
15 You said that he was a South Vietnamese general. That
16 indicates that he was with the U.S. forces.

17 THE WITNESS: No, he was with the South Vietnam
18 National Front for Liberation, as they call it -- or, as we
19 call it, the Viet Cong.

20 BY MR. CODINHA:

21 Q. So he was Viet Cong?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And this was an incident that happened back in 1967?

24 A. Yes, and I didn't really believe it at the time. As
25 a matter of fact, I just couldn't believe that if there was

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1 going to be an exchange, that there wouldn't be a
2 distinction -- at that time, a distinction between
3 officer -- anybody they could get, they'd get.

4 Well, I had an incident, since my return, to talk to
5 an individual, a former CIA, by the name of Frank Snept.

6 Q. How do you spell his name?

7 A. S-n-e-p-t.

8 Q. And how did you have occasion to talk to Mr. Frank
9 Snept?

10 A. He called me at my home when I lived here in Falls
11 Church, Virginia.

12 Q. And when did that happen?

13 A. 1984 -- I think the year was 1984, I'm not
14 sure -- about 1983, 1984.

15 Q. And what did he tell you?

16 A. He told me that he was involved in negotiations with
17 the Viet Cong in 1967 in a prisoner exchange. And there were
18 to be two Americans exchanged for two, high-level Viet Cong.
19 And when the names came across and he submitted them, the
20 commands said that they wanted officers, they wanted pilots.

21 And the Cong said no, no pilots. And these are the
22 names, these are the people that we will release. And from
23 what happened, the negotiations broke down, and the exchange
24 did not occur. And he said, I can't tell you for security
25 reasons whether it was you, he said. But it was the exact

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1 time-frame that you were supposed to be release and it didn't
2 go down.

3 And he said, I said what happened? And he says, he
4 says you got the royal shaft. He said, they didn't know what
5 they hell to do with you.

6 Q. "They" being who?

7 A. The Cong. And they had to isolate you for their own
8 credibility to the other POWs and the propaganda. And he says
9 I'm really sorry in what happened to you. But he says there's
10 nothing -- there's nothing I can do for you. He said I can't
11 give you any names of anybody or anything. He says my mere
12 calling and telling you this, he said, is just for your piece
13 of mind that it was not your fault.

14 Q. Did you ever meet him face-to-face?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Is there any reason you believe he was a CIA agent?

17 A. I checked up on him just to see how, you know, if he
18 was or nothing. A friend of mine got a book, a pamphlet that
19 he had written called -- oh, what was the name of it? I can't
20 think of the name of it right now. But he wrote some
21 pamphlet.

22 I'll remember -- I can't remember what the name of
23 it is now.

24 Q. Do you know where Mr. Snept is now?

25 A. No, I don't.

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1 Q. Do you know whether he still works for the CIA?

2 A. No, I do not.

3 Q. Going back to the Gia Lam warehouse, what time of
4 day or night did this incident occur?

5 A. Daytime.

6 Q. What time of day? Do you recall?

7 A. I don't recall.

8 Q. Do you remember what the weather conditions were,
9 lighting conditions?

10 A. Daylight -- no, I don't.

11 Q. And was it raining or misty or?

12 A. No, I don't remember it raining, no. I don't
13 remember it being wet.

14 When we got rain over there, the ground got really
15 nasty.

16 Q. When you were looking at the individuals, you said
17 they were 30 or 40 feet away.

18 A. Yeah, about that.

19 Q. Did you observe any guards?

20 A. Yeah, there were guards standing around. I couldn't
21 tell whether there were guards -- I didn't know whether they
22 were those people's guards, or the guards of the warehouse.

23 Q. How many guards did you see, if you can recall?

24 A. I don't recall that -- more than two. People were
25 milling around -- they walk up and down. They go -- this

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1 warehouse area, it's very big. And there are guards always
2 walking around, most of the time two-at-a-time.

3 So I couldn't give a number, no. I just didn't pay
4 any attention.

5 Q. Did the guards you saw have their -- have weapons?

6 A. Oh, yes.

7 Q. Were the weapons at the ready, or were they slung?

8 A. Both.

9 Q. The five or six caucasians that you saw, where were
10 they located?

11 A. They were loading the vehicle.

12 Q. Were you -- was the back of the vehicle facing you,
13 or was the front of the vehicle facing you?

14 A. The front of the vehicle.

15 Q. So you were looking at the front of the vehicle?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And you had the side angle to the vehicle?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. How much of the vehicle could you see at the time?

20 A. The entire -- facing the front of the vehicle,
21 standing in front of the -- as you would stand in front of the
22 vehicle, and facing the front of the vehicle, I could see the
23 entire left side.

24 Q. Where were the five or six caucasians located?

25 A. Behind the vehicle. They were loading stuff from

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1 the Gia Lam warehouse onto the truck.

2 Q. Was it a loading platform?

3 A. Not existent in Vietnam.

4 Q. So it was just the ground that they were loading
5 from.

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. For how long a time could you see the five or six
8 caucasians?

9 A. I don't know. I watched them for a little while,
10 then I had to start loading. I had to go into the warehouse
11 and start filling my shopping list.

12 Q. When you say you watched them for a little while,
13 how long was the little while -- in minutes, in seconds? Do
14 you recall?

15 A. No, I followed normal procedure. The guard had to
16 go in and get the individuals in charge of the warehouse
17 there. The part we had to go into -- and you had to go and
18 unlock the padlock so you could go in.

19 Q. Did that take a couple of minutes?

20 A. Normally. Sometimes it was right away, sometimes it
21 took as long as 5 minutes, maybe.

22 Q. How long after you arrived did the individual make
23 the comment about you that it was another f-ing Cuban?

24 A. We had just pulled up.

25 Q. So as soon as you pulled up that happened?

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1 A. Yeah, the vehicle -- we had just shut down the
2 vehicle, and as soon as we turned the motor off.

3 Q. And as you had approached the other truck, had your
4 attention been drawn to that truck?

5 A. I saw it -- I mean, it was a warehouse.

6 Q. Were there other trucks in-between your two trucks?

7 A. No.

8 Q. Was your vision unimpeded between the two trucks?

9 A. No.

10 Q. Was there something in-between the two trucks that
11 prevented you from seeing?

12 A. No.

13 Q. So you could see perfectly where the five or six
14 individuals were?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And you say they were loading? Were any of them
17 aboard the truck?

18 A. I don't know.

19 Q. So the five or six you saw were all outside the
20 truck?

21 A. Yes, well they were -- they had kind of -- there
22 was -- they weren't going in and carrying one thing out. They
23 had a thing set up. They were putting it on the truck, a
24 relay -- kind of a type of relay.

25 Q. And were they working loading the truck during the

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1 entire time you saw them?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. How close were the guards to them at that time?

4 A. I don't know. I don't remember.

5 Q. What were they dressed in? What were these five or
6 six dressed in?

7 A. Blue. The same kind of clothes I had on -- pretty
8 close to the same color, too.

9 Q. Were they wearing short-sleeved shirts or long-
10 sleeved shirts?

11 A. Some of them wore no shirts at all.

12 Q. Were they wearing jackets?

13 A. No, I don't remember jackets.

14 Q. Are you indicating that some of them were naked to
15 the waist?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. The ones that were naked to the waist, how many of
18 the five or six were naked to the waist?

19 A. I don't know -- maybe a couple. It would be
20 easier -- I don't remember. I only remember one having a
21 shirt on.

22 Q. You only remember one with a shirt on?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. So then the other four or five didn't have shirts
25 on? Is that what you're saying?

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1 A. If my memory serves me right, yes. I didn't zero in
2 on these people. I mean if they hadn't said what they did, I
3 wouldn't even have known they could speak English.

4 Q. But you recognized them as being caucasians?

5 A. Yes, and if they hadn't said the words -- what they
6 did, you know, another fuckin' Cuban -- actually, I was angry
7 when they said it. It didn't even click to me that, well,
8 these are Americans or whatever, should I talk to them, no. I
9 was angry that they called me, the language they used.

10 Q. Why would you care whether they considered you a
11 Cuban or an American or a Soviet?

12 A. Because I wasn't. That's the only reason I cared.

13 Q. The individual five or six caucasians, were you able
14 to tell anything about their hair color? Did you notice that?

15 A. I didn't zero in on these people. Because of their
16 language, I just didn't really give a shit.

17 Q. Your description of the people at Thac Ba Lake, and
18 also your description of the individuals at Yen Bai at the
19 boxcar was different than this. I mean you were able to give
20 more -- a better description. Had something changed that
21 prevented you from giving a better description? Had your
22 mental attitude changed? Had --

23 A. No, it was just a -- see, I think it was just their
24 language. These other people -- the atmosphere was different.
25 There was not -- like an immediate, hostile atmosphere, I

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1 guess.

2 Q. So what you're saying is these --

3 A. So therefore, my curiosity -- I guess, my curiosity
4 was more towards these other people than to these guys.

5 Q. Was this the first time that you can recall
6 seeing -- strike that.

7 A. At this warehouse? No, I never -- it's the first
8 time I'd seen any other caucasians at this warehouse, yes.

9 Q. And you believe these people to be Americans?

10 A. Yes -- Americans, Australians, English, or
11 something. They were not Cubans or Russians or any of that.

12 Q. And you said that based on the language you heard,
13 you believed them to be Americans.

14 A. Yeah -- deductive reasoning, really. The
15 Allied -- Vietnam's Allied forces, whether Cuban or Russian,
16 whatever, I couldn't perceive anybody -- why they would use,
17 you know, fuckin' Cuban if they were the comrades, or
18 whatever.

19 The way they said it was almost -- in hostility,
20 level. It was like they didn't give a shit whether I heard it
21 or not.

22 Q. The -- did they appear to be under guard to you?

23 A. Everyone inside that compound was under guard, as
24 far as I'm concerned.

25 Q. At Gia Lam?

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1 A. Yeah -- it was a pretty high secure area. It was a
2 warehouse area.

3 Q. Was this the first time that you had had occasion to
4 see American prisoners working?

5 A. No.

6 Q. When -- in reviewing in my mind the other incidents
7 when you saw American prisoners, I can't remember another time .
8 when you had described them as working.

9 A. The vegetable gardens at Bat.

10 Q. That was to bring their own food in.

11 A. I don't know if they were working for themselves or
12 for somebody else.

13 Q. But it was the vegetable gardens right around
14 there -- where their huts were.

15 A. Right.

16 Q. But this was loading a truck. And it was doing
17 something more similar to what you were doing, was it not?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Had you ever had occasion to see any other Americans
20 working in conditions such as you were working in?

21 A. That was the first time in North Vietnam.

22 Q. Again, I'm only talking after 1973. I'm not going
23 back to the early days.

24 A. No, I don't -- yeah, I think it's the first time,
25 yeah. Yeah, it's the first time.

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1 Q. Did it make you angry that they were able -- that
2 here were people in the same situation that you were, and they
3 were with other Americans and you had to be alone?

4 A. No -- maybe subconsciously. I think that my
5 immediate anger was, again, just their language towards me.
6 When I went in the warehouse and -- I don't know, I was in
7 there for quite a while. And by the time I come back out they
8 were gone. So --

9 Q. Were you able to get a good look at the faces of the
10 individuals on this occasion?

11 A. A couple of them, pretty much, yeah.

12 Q. Okay, have you ever been shown any photographs and
13 asked to try to identify them?

14 A. No.

15 Q. The couple of faces that you got looks at, did you
16 see any identifying features or marks that you can recall?

17 A. I don't recall any.

18 I was shown, by DIA analysts, I was shown a lot of
19 photographs, albums, and whatever. And basically what they
20 wanted to know is if I recognized anyone in those photographs.

21 But again, it was -- it was kind of ludicrous, those
22 photographs. They were in uniform -- a lot of these people in
23 uniform, a lot of them were in civilian clothes. Most of them
24 were very young. I was really no help. I couldn't tell.

25 Actually, I find it difficult to recognize myself,

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1 what I looked like 20 years ago -- let alone somebody else.

2 Q. Did you have any conversation with your guards about
3 those five or six caucasians?

4 A. I'm sure I made one comment or another.

5 Q. Well, didn't you ask your guards at that time, hey,
6 I don't look like a Cuban, do I?

7 A. It's quite possible, but I don't think I used the
8 words "do I look like a Cuban." I mean who do I look like? I
9 look more like a Russian, or a Cuban, or an American? You
10 look like a European.

11 Q. That is what your guards told you?

12 A. Yes, muy la -- you have a big nose, big eyes. You
13 all look alike.

14 Q. So do you recall having a conversation like that
15 with your guard?

16 A. Vaguely.

17 Q. Do you recall having any conversation with your
18 guards about those other Americans?

19 A. It was a no-no.

20 Q. But you had indicated your guards this time, and it
21 was unusual -- didn't seem to care that you had seen the other
22 Americans?

23 A. They -- maybe it had to do with my reaction. I
24 don't know.

25 Q. When you say "your reaction" that you were angry?

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1 A. Yes, kind of, I guess. I don't know. But they -- I
2 don't remember anything ever being said about it. I'm sure
3 there was some type of conversation, and it was like they look
4 like Russian, Cuban, or American -- muy la -- big nose, big
5 eyes, European features. You all look alike -- something to
6 that effect. And I really never thought any more about it.
7 It was an incident and it was dealt with psychologically in
8 just that way, and then let go.

9 I was to see -- by this time I had been going in and
10 out of the hotels in Hanoi quite frequently.

11 Q. And this was because of your Black Market scheme?

12 A. That's right.

13 Q. And this is like the summer of 1978?

14 A. In that area, yes. My contact with other foreigners
15 had, by this time -- had become quite common. It was nothing
16 unusual.

17 I don't know -- I just didn't put any importance on
18 it. If it had not been -- if it had not been for the
19 importance of -- I mean, even today of the live sightings, I
20 wouldn't put any credence on it then. I mean now, of course,
21 I care about these people, if they were Americans. But when I
22 was in Vietnam, acknowledged it. But again, I knew there was
23 nothing I could do for them. I mean I couldn't do anything
24 for them. They couldn't do anything for me. Let it be.

25 Q. Did you believe them to be American prisoners at

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1 that time?

2 A. Yes, yes I did.

3 Q. What did you base that on?

4 A. Because the Gia Lam warehouse is controlled by the
5 Cuc Quan Phap.

6 Q. You were starting to say something else. Was there
7 something else on your mind about these individuals?

8 A. The American jeep -- I mean the American
9 truck -- most of the other foreigners that I saw in Vietnam
10 that were in vehicles that I had witnessed were mostly in
11 Russian or Chinese vehicles. I don't remember seeing
12 foreigners in any of the American vehicles, other than people
13 in my situation or Army persons.

14 Q. With respect to -- you described that you only
15 remember one of them having a shirt on, what kind of pants
16 were they wearing?

17 A. The same color.

18 Q. Is it a dark blue?

19 A. Yes, but not as dark as mine.

20 Q. Anything else you recall?

21 A. I don't recall what kind of footwear they had.

22 MR. CODINHA: Let's go off the record.

23 (Brief recess.)

24 THE WITNESS: This was not only a U.S. vehicle, but
25 the are was controlled by the Cuc Quan Phap.

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1 And just for the record, I want to clarify something
2 here. During this time I was still in incarceration. And
3 my -- I don't know, mind, or state of being during
4 incarceration was that I was going to die in Vietnam. It was
5 more that of survival.

6 I never thought in my wildest dreams that I would
7 ever get out. Once I did get out, and it did happen, only
8 because of my freedom then that I reflect back on these
9 people. And it was -- that's when guilt -- it's basically
10 survivor's guilt. I was guilty because I was free, and then
11 these people weren't.

12 And my whole attitude changed, and thought pattern
13 changed.

14 BY MR. CODINHA:

15 Q. Turning your attention now to the Gia Lam warehouse
16 incident, did you ever see those caucasians again, if you
17 know?

18 A. No, not that I can remember, no. I think -- just
19 for the record, we need to back up on something here. Because
20 we're into 1978.

21 There was an incident that took place in 1977. It
22 wasn't a sighting. I think -- if we can, and not dwell on it
23 too much, I feel for the record it should be put down of a
24 discussion about POWs having to do with Third World countries.

25 Q. All right, when did the incident happen?

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1 A. This was just prior to me passing the first note.

2 Let me tell it first, and whatever the time frame,
3 exactly, it will come in.

4 My memory was before passing the note, it was in
5 1977. But I had gotten really sick while I was in Hanoi. And
6 these weren't the normal people that I usually travelled to
7 Hanoi with. It wasn't the people who went to the Black Market
8 or nothing. And I remember I was taken to -- and there was an
9 emergency, to break down -- a supply truck or something had
10 broken down with perishables.

11 But anyway, the truck -- I believe it was the
12 transmission. But anyway, the weight -- something, whatever
13 it did, strained or hurt the stomach muscles, and my stomach
14 muscles very badly. And I ended up vomiting, vomiting blood.
15 And I was bent over. I felt like I was dying.

16 But anyway, the officer who was in charge of me
17 panicked, and immediately took me straight to Hospital 108 in
18 Hanoi, and took me straight to the emergency room. He took me
19 to the emergency room, and they gave me some kind of an
20 injection. And, I don't know, it must have been some kind of
21 drug because it put me out.

22 But anyway, when I came to, I was in a ward. And
23 the ward I was in, it was very strange because I was in a ward
24 with other foreigners. And I knew immediately somebody had
25 screwed up. I knew where I was at, I was not supposed to be

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1 there, from the mere fact of who I was.

2 And these people were more curious to find out who I
3 was, really, than I was to them. I was actually scared to
4 talk to them. And the one who made the initial introduction,
5 he introduced himself as a Palestinian commando.
6 And -- Abdullah -- he told me his full name. And he just went
7 on talking in a way -- his introduction, it had my name. And
8 he said I'm a Palestinian commando, and da, da, da -- just
9 come from Beirut; I've been in a famous battle -- he told me
10 about famous battles he'd been in in Lebanon, et cetera. He
11 just went on talking. I didn't respond to anything. He just
12 went on, and on, and on.

13 And I didn't really know anything about the PLO
14 other than once in a while there was -- something would come
15 over the Hanoi radio about the Palestinian struggle.

16 There were two other people in the room besides
17 myself, in this room -- this hospital room. There were four
18 beds, in each corner of the room. And there was a patient in
19 each bed. I was one of the patients. And the other two
20 patients were Cubans.

21 This Palestinian, he told me the name -- one of
22 them's name was Garcia. I remember Garcia. He said that they
23 had just -- they were -- had just come and were heroes of the
24 battle in Angola. And he was speaking English. He spoke
25 English quite well. And I was thinking to myself, you know, I

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1 was talking to him and you know, I don't know how does he
2 know -- find out that I speak English. You know?

3 I later found out that he had asked one of the
4 people on the ward, and they told him that I could speak
5 English.

6 But anyway, he finally asked me who I was. And I
7 replied that it was a military secret. I mean I couldn't
8 divulge that. And he says oh, okay. I understand that. And
9 he says, well, what nationality are you? And I said European.
10 And he said I know that. And I said, well, what nationality
11 do I look like? And he says I don't know. It could be
12 English, it could be French, it could be American. And I just
13 smiled. I didn't answer him.

14 And finally, I got rescued by the doctor. The
15 doctor came in and I asked the doctor in Vietnamese you know,
16 where was I? And he told me that I was in the -- where I was
17 at, that I was in the hospital. And he told me what section
18 of the hospital I was in, and the ward. And he said -- and
19 he said -- he told me that cadre -- my cadre brought me in,
20 and that I was bleeding from my mouth, and from my anal tract,
21 and et cetera, and it was due to serious muscle strain. I had
22 busted some muscles or something in my stomach, and that I
23 would be in the hospital there for a while.

24 And I asked him, I said well, who do you think I am?
25 And he said -- he used the word trinhgia. And trinhgia is

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1 advisor -- I guess it translates as like an advisor.

2 Q. You're going to have to spell it.

3 A. Oh, t-r-i-n-h-g-i-a.

4 Q. Please continue.

5 A. That I was an adviser helping rebuild Vietnam and I
6 asked him, I said, well, do you know what nationality I am.
7 He said, you are English.

8 I didn't know what. I really -- I was scared. I
9 was really scared. I was more frightened there than I was in
10 the prison camp. Anyway this went on, this charade, nobody
11 came from the camp to see how in the hell I was doing. I
12 mean, they like they just left me there and --

13 But the food was great. I mean, it was the best
14 food I had eaten in, Jesus Christ in 12, 13 years. I mean, it
15 was -- they brought menus, and order from a menu, you know;
16 and I was really enjoying this treatment. You know I was
17 eating it up. I really was. I was really enjoying it.

18 So I just continued on this charade. I mean, there
19 didn't seem to be a problem, and these Palestinians and these
20 Cubans, they just fully trusted Vietnam, to the point that
21 they just could not believe that Vietnam would put an American
22 prisoner in with them.

23 I mean it was just totally un- -- you know --

24 Q. Did you tell them you were an American prisoner?

25 A. Hell no. No.

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1 Q. Well, how did that subject even come up? You are
2 pointing to your head, what does that mean?

3 A. That was just my own conclusion because of their
4 actions. They treated me like one of their comrades, like --
5 this whole ward I found out after a couple of days, this whole
6 ward was, it was -- there were Angolans, there was Ethiopians,
7 there was Russians, there was Cubans, there was Palestinians,
8 but every one on that ward was military. They were in the
9 military. They were not civilians.

10 And there was this charisma -- yeah, I guess, it was
11 a charisma that, and it was you didn't, you don't ask what I
12 do, I don't ask what you do, or why you are here, or why I am
13 here, what my duties are, or what your duties are. It was
14 just this air that it was kind of like everyone on this floor
15 were comrades, you know, revolutionaries, et cetera. And so I
16 just left well enough alone. I enjoyed the treatment. I
17 enjoyed the food.

18 It was like, almost like it wasn't even Vietnam. I
19 mean, this is how this whole thing was set up. The only way
20 you could really tell that you were in Vietnam was when you
21 went outside the ward and when the nurses and the doctors were
22 all Vietnamese.

23 Q. You said that you had some conversations about
24 POW's?

25 A. Yeah. I became very friendly with this Palestinian.

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1 Actually two of them, two Palestinians. One, there were
2 three, there were three Palestinians in the hospital at this
3 time. One of them had busted a blood vessel in his head, he
4 died; he died right there in the hospital. The other two, one
5 had chronic headaches and the other one had dysentery, but the
6 one that was in my room, roomed with me, he had the chronic
7 headaches.

8 The other Palestinian, he was in the room down the
9 hall and he was the one. But anyway these Palestinians always
10 got together. He was very talkative, extremely talkative.
11 The Cubans were pretty tied up.

12 Q. What language did you use?

13 A. English. He was amazed and he wanted to talk to the
14 nurses and stuff, but didn't know how, and when he found out
15 that I could speak Vietnamese because he heard me talking to
16 the doctor, he immediately wanted to become my friend. He
17 wanted to get to know the women, the girls, and -- but when we
18 conversed, we conversed in English. I didn't tell him hardly
19 anything about me, my background, nothing, and but he was
20 very, very open, bragging, boasting about who he was, what he
21 was doing in Vietnam, where were his exploits.

22 He was part of a 22-member commando team that was in
23 Vietnam. They were in -- it was -- the way he explained it is
24 that they were in a school. It was -- they were like cross-
25 referencing their experiences, their guerrilla and battle

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