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ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE

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U N C L A S S I F I E D U

CONSISTS OF TWO TYPEWRITTEN PAGES.

2. A TRANSLATION AND EVALUATION OF THAT INTERVIEW IS PRESENTED
BELOW. TRANSLATOR/ANALYST COMMENTS APPEAR WITHIN DOUBLE PARENTHESES:
((BEGIN TRANSLATION))

UNILATERAL INVESTIGATION REPORT

CASE: 2003, KOH TANG ISLAND, CAMBODIA.

SEARCH FOR A VIETNAMESE WITNESS TO HELP WITH AN UNRESOLVED CASE
IN CAMBODIA.

I. INVESTIGATION:

PER THE SUGGESTION OF THE U.S. MIA OFFICE IN HANOI, BETWEEN 30 MARCH-1 APRIL 1999, TWO VNOSMP SPECIALISTS, (b)(6)

(b)(6) AND (b)(6), 49
(b)(6) INTERVIEWED (b)(6),
YOA, CAPTAIN AND FORMER SOLDIER OF NAVAL REGION FIVE, CURRENTLY
RETIRED. WE INTERVIEWED HIM FOR INFORMATION POSSIBLY CORRELATING
TO CASE 2003, KOH TANG ISLAND, CAMBODIA. ALSO PARTICIPATING IN
THE INVESTIGATION WERE THE MIA SPECIALISTS OF HA TAY PROVINCE,
THUONG TIN DISTRICT CADRE, AND NGHIEM XUYEN VILLAGE
REPRESENTATIVES. HA TAY PROVINCE.

II. INVESTIGATION RESULTS:

FOLLOWING ARE THE CONTENTS OF THE INTERVIEW OF (b)(6)
BASED ON DET TWO'S QUESTIONS:

A) (b)(6) SAW THE AIRCRAFT CRASH SITE IN APPROXIMATELY 1987 OR 1988 ON THE COAST OF KOH TANG ISLAND, CAMBODIA. AT THAT TIME (b)(6) WAS A CADRE MEMBER OF THE NAVAL STAFF SECTION WHO WAS ASSIGNED TO KOH TANG ISLAND.

B) THE AIRCRAFT THAT CRASHED WAS A HELICOPTER -- THE TYPE THE U.S. USUALLY USED TO INSERT TROOPS ON THE BATTLEFIELD. ACCORDING TO (b)(6) IT WAS POSSIBLY A UH-1A. HE WAS NOT CERTAIN OF THE EXACT TYPE OF AIRCRAFT.

C) (b)(6) WAS NOT NOT THE PERSON WHO RECOVERED THE REMAINS. THE DIRECT PARTICIPANTS WERE TROOPS FROM NAVAL REGION FIVE, STATIONED ON KOH TANG ISLAND. THEIR OBJECTIVE WAS TO COLLECT AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE TO SELL AS SCRAP METAL. WHEN (b)(6) WENT TO THE ISLAND TO WORK, THE TROOPS GAVE HIM TWO IDENTIFICATION TAGS OF A U.S. SOLDIER AND HE WENT TO THE SITE. HE WAS TOLD THAT WHEN THE TROOPS WERE DIGGING FOR METAL THEY DISCOVERED REMAINS, A RED PARACHUTE, AND TWO IDENTIFICATION TAGS ONE OF WHICH CAME FROM THAT AREA. BEFORE TROOPS WITHDREW FROM CAMBODIA IN 1989, (b)(6) (b)(6) TURNED OVER BOTH IDENTIFICATION TAGS (b)(6) DID NOT REMEMBER THE NAMES) TO THE POLITICAL DIRECTOR OF NAVAL REGION FIVE, BUT HE DID RECORD THE INFORMATION IN A JOURNAL. AT THE CRASH SITE THERE WERE ALSO PORTIONS OF AN M113 AMPHIBIOUS VEHICLE AND A SMALL SEA BOAT (CBF). THE AIRCRAFT CRASH LOCATION LIES ON THE COAST OF THE ISLAND, WITH TWO SMALL HILLS ON EITHER SIDE. THERE IS A SMALL DITCH THAT ONLY FLOWS DURING THE RAINY SEASON, AND A SEA-PINE TREE NEAR THE CRASH SITE.

D) ACCORDING TO MR. SUONG, THE DIRECT PARTICIPANTS WERE TROOPS FROM BATTALION 562 OF NAVAL REGION FIVE WHOSE OBJECTIVE

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WAS TO COLLECT WRECKAGE, NOT SEARCH FOR REMAINS. (b)(6) IS NOT AWARE OF THE DISPOSITION OF THE REMAINS.

E) (b)(6) STATED THAT WHEN HE WAS ASSIGNED TO KOH TANG ISLAND, HE WENT ALONG WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER CADRE, BUT ONLY HE WENT TO DIG UP THE AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE. THE OTHERS STAYED AT THE MEETING PLACE ((NFI)).

F) (b)(6) DOES NOT KNOW (b)(6)

(b)(6)

G) IF THE VNOSMP SUGGEST, (b)(6) CAN ACCOMPANY THE JOINT TEAM TO SEARCH KOH TANG ISLAND, CAMBODIA.

III. ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION:

THE UNILATERAL INVESTIGATION TEAM LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED (b)(6) FULFILLING THE REQUIREMENTS PUT FORTH BY THE AMERICAN SIDE. THE FACT THAT THERE IS AN AIRCRAFT CRASH SITE POSSIBLY CORRELATING TO CASE 2003 IN KOH TANG ISLAND IS TRUE. (b)(6) COULD NOT TELL THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN AN HU-1A AND A CH-53.

HANOI, 7 APR 99

((SIGNATURE))

(b)(6)

((END TRANSLATION))

3. JTF-FA EVALUATION:

A. CASE 2003: ON 15 MAY 1975, A CH-53 HELICOPTER WITH 26 SERVICEMEN ABOARD WAS SHOT DOWN JUST OFF THE NORTHERN SHORELINE OF TANG ISLAND DURING A RESCUE ATTEMPT OF THE SS MAYAGUEZ. 13 SERVICEMEN WERE RECOVERED; THIRTEEN REMAIN UNACCOUNTED-FOR. REPORTING BY SURVIVORS INDICATES THAT EIGHT OF THE PERSONNEL WERE UNABLE TO ESCAPE FROM THE WRECKAGE, WHILE THE OTHER FIVE WERE KILLED WHILE ATTEMPTING TO SWIM TO SAFETY.

B. JOINT TEAMS HAVE INVESTIGATED CASE 2003, ALONG WITH PROXIMITY CASES 1998, 2002, AND 2038, ON TANG ISLAND AND THE MAINLAND. IN OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 1995, AN UNDERWATER SALVAGE/EXCAVATION OPERATION RECOVERED REMAINS FROM THE WRECKAGE. REF A IS GERMANE. THESE REMAINS ARE UNDERGOING FORENSIC EXAMINATION AT THE CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY, HAWAII (CILHI). IN ADDITION, THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT HAS CONDUCTED UNILATERAL INVESTIGATIONS IN COASTAL DISTRICTS LOCATED IN THE PROVINCES OF KAMPOT AND KOH KONG.

C. IN AN AUGUST 1995 LETTER, (b)(6) REPORTED FINDING THE REMAINS OF TWO AMERICAN SOLDIERS KILLED IN A HELICOPTER CRASH IN CAMBODIA. HE PROVIDED IDENTIFICATION (ID) MEDIA DATA ASSOCIATED WITH CASES 2003-0-06 AND 2003-0-09, BOTH UNACCOUNTED-FOR. A JOINT TEAM INTERVIEWED (b)(6) REGARDING THIS INFORMATION DURING JFA 33. REFS B THROUGH D REFER. REF E IS THE TRANSLATION AND EVALUATION OF TWO LETTERS WRITTEN IN JUNE 1997 FROM (b)(6) (MENTIONED IN SUBJECT REPORT). IN HIS LETTERS, (b)(6) CLAIMED TO HAVE FOUND TWO U.S. REMAINS AND ID MEDIA INSIDE A CRASHED AIRCRAFT IN CAMBODIA. REF F PROVIDES THE RESULTS OF A JOINT INTERVIEW WITH (b)(6) REPORTED

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THAT WHILE STATIONED ON KOH TANG ISLAND IN 1985, (b)(6) (b)(6) (ALSO MENTIONED IN SUBJECT REPORT) FOUND TWO FULL SETS OF REMAINS AND ID MEDIA AT AN AIRCRAFT CRASH SITE. (b)(6) TOOK ONE SET OF REMAINS WITH HIM AND MR. HUNG BURIED THE OTHER SET ON A BEACH. DURING JFA 99-1C, A JOINT TEAM TOOK (b)(6) TO KOH TANG ISLAND, WHERE HE IDENTIFIED TWO ALLEGED GRAVESITES. REF G REFERS.

D. THE INFORMATION PRESENTED IN SUBJECT REPORT IS GENERALLY CONSISTENT WITH WITNESS ACCOUNTS OBTAINED DURING PREVIOUS JOINT AND UNILATERAL INVESTIGATIONS OF THE CASES ON KOH TANG. BECAUSE (b)(6) WAS PREVIOUSLY INTERVIEWED BY A JOINT TEAM AND REPORTEDLY HAS NO FIRSTHAND KNOWLEDGE REGARDING THE LOCATIONS OF ANY U.S. GRAVES OR THE CURRENT DISPOSITION OF ANY U.S. REMAINS.

SUBJECT REPORT PROVIDES NO NEW LEADS REQUIRING FUTURE JOINT OR UNILATERAL INVESTIGATIONS.

4. EVAL: KLE/JMC//
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CDSN = CFS517 MCN = 99128/01518 TOR = 991280107
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HEADER

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SUBJ: (MEC) SUBJ/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT 991C-002 CONCERNING TANG
//NOTICE// AUTOMATED MESSAGE ERROR CORRECTION

----- ORIGINAL MESSAGE TEXT -----

CDSN = CFS517 MCN = 99128/01518 TOR = 991280107
PTTUZYUW RUEKJCS1622 1280107-UUUU--RUEALGX.
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P 080107Z MAY 99

FM DIA WASHINGTON DC

INFO RUEOGHS/JWAC DAHLGREN VA

RUEALGX/SAFE

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FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J3//

INFO RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//CA/OCS/ACS/BCTLV//

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:ISA/DPMO//

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC//OEA/SEA/IB/DDO/EA/ICOG/CI//

RUEKDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC//CC//

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5//

RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3/J32//

RUEHBK/USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//

RUEHBK/CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH

RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI//CJTFFA DET TWO//

RUEHVN/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE//CJTFFA DET THREE//

RUHVAAA/CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//

RUBDPLA/SAFE WASHINGTON DC

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/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

MSGID/GENADMIN/CJTFFA-/MAY//

SUBJ/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT 991C-002 CONCERNING TANG
ISLAND PRIORITY CASE 1998 AND CASES 2002, 2003, AND 2038//

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REF/A/MSG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/071800ZMAY99//

REF/B/MSG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/190336ZJUL95//

REF/C/DOC/1:50,000 SCALE MAP SHEETS//

RMKS/1. REFERENCES.

A. REF A IS THE SUMMARY REPORT OF 99-1C JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY CONDUCTED IN THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA (KOC) FROM 09 MARCH THROUGH 07 APRIL 1999.

B. REF B IS (DET4 WALK-IN INTERVIEW REPORT OF MR. ROTH CHHOUN).

C. MAP DATA: NAME: Krong Kampong Saom; SHEET: 5730 III; SERIES: L7016; EDITION: 2-TPC, 1971.

D. ANALYTICAL COMMENTS IN THIS REPORT ARE BASED ON FIELD ANALYSIS AND ARE NOT INTENDED TO PROVIDE FINAL ANALYTICAL CONCLUSIONS.

2. SUMMARY.

A. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION: ON 15 MARCH 1999, THE INVESTIGATION ELEMENT (IE) INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS IN SIHANOUKVILLE AND ONE WITNESS ON TANG ISLAND. THE WITNESSES PROVIDED INFORMATION CONCERNING FINDING REMAINS ON KOH TANG AND TURNING THE REMAINS OVER TO THE U.S. EMBASSY IN PHNOM PENH. THIS INFORMATION POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO CASES 1998, 2002, 2003, AND 2038.

B. REMAINS/PERSONAL EFFECTS: THE IE DID NOT RECOVER OR RECEIVE ANY REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS WHILE INVESTIGATING THIS INFORMATION.

C. RECOMMENDATION: NONE.

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION.

A. PURPOSE: RE-INTERVIEW MR. ROTH CHHOUN, A RESIDENT OF VEAL RENH COMMUNE, PREY NOP DISTRICT, SIHANOUKVILLE. MR. CHHOUN WAS INTERVIEWED IN 1995 AT THE U.S. EMBASSY IN PHNOM PENH AND TURNED OVER SEVERAL SMALL PIECES OF REMAINS HE REPORTEDLY FOUND ON TANG ISLAND. HE CLAIMED TO HAVE OTHER REMAINS FROM TANG ISLAND IN HIS HOME IN VEAL RENH. (ACCOMPLISHED; SEE PARA 3.D BELOW).

B. ON 15 MARCH 1999, THE JOINT U.S./KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA INVESTIGATION TEAM INVESTIGATED THIS INFORMATION IN SIHANOUKVILLE (48P US 38 72) AND ON TANG ISLAND (TS 96 39).

C. TEAM COMPOSITION:

(1) U.S. CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER
ASSISTANT TEAM

LEADER/ANALYST/LINGUIST

(b)(6) ANALYST/LINGUIST

(b)(6) TEAM MEDIC

(2) CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER

(3) SIHANOUKVILLE CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER

D. ON 15 MARCH 1999, IE1 CONDUCTED A FOLLOW-UP INTERVIEW OF (b)(6) WHO PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

(1) WITNESS NAME: (b)(6)

(2) AGE: 48.

(3) CURRENT ADDRESS: VEAL MEAS VILLAGE, VEAL RENH COMMUNE, PREY NOP DISTRICT, SIHANOUKVILLE.

(4) OCCUPATION: FARMER.

(5) STATEMENT:

((A)) IN EARLY 1995, ABOUT ONE WEEK BEFORE HE WENT TO THE U.S. EMBASSY, (b)(6) WENT TO TANG ISLAND WITH ABOUT 15 OR 20 OTHER RESIDENTS (NFI) OF SIHANOUKVILLE TO SEARCH FOR PERFUME WOOD. WHEN HE ARRIVED ON THE ISLAND,

(b)(6) WENT TO THE ISLAND COMMAND POST AND MET HIS LONGTIME FRIEND (b)(6)

((B)) (b)(6) AND HIS BODYGUARD, LIEUTENANT SI NA (DECEASED) SHOWED (b)(6) A SET OF REMAINS THEY WERE KEEPING IN A DESK AT THE HEADQUARTERS. THE REMAINS CONTAINED AN ARM BONE, A PORTION OF SKULL, A PORTION OF JAW WITH TEETH, AND OTHER SMALL PIECES OF BONE. THERE WERE A TOTAL OF SIX OR SEVEN PIECES OF REMAINS KEPT WRAPPED IN A WHITE CLOTH.

(b)(6) GAVE (b)(6) SEVERAL SMALL PIECES OF BONE TO TAKE TO THE U.S. EMBASSY IN PHNOM PENH. (b)(6) ACCOMPANIED (b)(6) TO THE EMBASSY BECAUSE HE SPOKE SOME ENGLISH AND HAD AN AUTOMOBILE.

((C)) AT THE U.S. EMBASSY IN PHNOM PENH, (b)(6)

(b)(6) TURNED OVER SEVERAL SMALL PIECES OF REMAINS AND TOLD THE INTERVIEWER HE POSSESSED OTHER REMAINS AT HIS HOUSE. THE REMAINS WERE ACTUALLY UNDER THE CONTROL OF CAPTAIN CHHAY ON TANG ISLAND. (b)(6) REPORTEDLY MISLED THE INTERVIEWER, AT (b)(6) REQUEST, TO KEEP (b)(6) NAME SECRET.

E. ON 15 MARCH 1999, (b)(6) ACCOMPANIED IE1 TO TANG ISLAND TO TALK WITH CAPTAIN CHHAY. IT APPEARED (b)(6) AND (b)(6) IMMEDIATELY RECOGNIZED EACH OTHER.

(b)(6) HAS BEEN THE COMMANDER OF THE CAMBODIAN NAVY DETACHMENT ON TANG ISLAND SINCE 1989, AND STATED HE HAD BEEN INTERVIEWED BY JTF-FA ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. WHEN ASKED ABOUT THE REMAINS, CAPTAIN CHHAY REPORTED HE HAD ALREADY TURNED OVER THE REMAINS TO THE DETACHMENT FOUR COMMANDER DURING JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY 96-1C.

4. MATERIAL EVIDENCE.

A. MATERIAL EVIDENCE RETAINED BY JTF-FA: NONE.

B. MATERIAL EVIDENCE PHOTOGRAPHED AND LEFT IN PLACE: NONE.

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C. REMAINS: NONE.

5. SITE SURVEY RESULTS: NONE.

6. PERTINENT LOCATION OR DATA CHANGES: NONE.

7. ANALYST COMMENTS.

A. WITNESS STATEMENTS: CREDIBLE. MR. CHHOUN PROVIDED HIS INFORMATION IN A SINCERE, STRAIGHTFORWARD MANNER.

B. ANALYTICAL CONCLUSIONS: NONE.

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SUBJ/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT 991C-002 CONCERNING TANG

C. LIFE SUPPORT TECHNICIAN COMMENTS: N/A.

8. TEAM LEADER COMMENTS.

A. CONCLUSIONS: CONCUR WITH ANALYST'S COMMENTS.

B. HOST GOVERNMENT COOPERATION/SUPPORT: DURING THIS INVESTIGATION, THE U.S. CONTINGENT RECEIVED EXCELLENT SUPPORT FROM ALL LEVELS OF THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT.

9. RECOMMENDATION. NONE.

10. DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S COMMENTS. CONCUR.//

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FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J3//

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SUBJ: (MEC) SUBJ/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT 991C-001 CONCERNING TANG
//NOTICE// AUTOMATED MESSAGE ERROR CORRECTION

----- ORIGINAL MESSAGE TEXT -----

CDSN = CFS527 MCN = 99128/01526 TOR = 991280107
PTTUZYUW RUEKJCS1639 1280109-UUUU--RUEALGX.
ZNR UUUUU

P 080109Z MAY 99

FM DIA WASHINGTON DC

INFO RUEOGHS/JWAC DAHLGREN VA

RUEALGX/SAFE

P 071840Z MAY 99

FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J3//

INFO RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//CA/OCS/ACS/BCTLV//

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:ISA/DPMO//

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC//OEA/SEA/IB/DDO/EA/ICOG/CI//

RUEKDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC//CC//

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5//

RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3/J32//

RUEHBK/USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//

RUEHBK/CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH

RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI//CJTFFA DET TWO//

RUEHVN/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE//CJTFFA DET THREE//

RUHVAAA/CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//

RUBDPLA/SAFE WASHINGTON DC

RUHEMAD/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J3//

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SECTION 01 OF 04

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SUBJ/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT 991C-001 CONCERNING TANG
ISLAND PRIORITY CASE 1998 AND CASES 2002, 2003, AND 2038//

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REF/A/MSG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/071800ZMAY99//

REF/B/MSG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/231724ZMAR98//

REF/C/MSG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/091713ZJAN98//

REF/D/DOC/1:50,000 SCALE MAP SHEETS//

RMKS/1. REFERENCES.

A. REF A IS THE SUMMARY REPORT OF 99-1C JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY CONDUCTED IN THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA (KOC) FROM 08 MARCH THROUGH 07 APRIL 1999.

B. REF B IS THE MAR 98 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT CONCERNING CASE 2003.

C. REF C IS THE JAN 98 DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF CASE 1998 AND OTHER TANG ISLAND CASES 2002, 2003, AND 2038.

D. MAP DATA: NAME: KRONG KAMPONG SAOM; SHEET: 5730 III; SERIES: L7016; EDITION: 2-TPC, 1971.

E. ANALYTICAL COMMENTS IN THIS REPORT ARE BASED ON FIELD ANALYSIS AND ARE NOT INTENDED TO PROVIDE FINAL ANALYTICAL CONCLUSIONS.

2. SUMMARY.

A. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION: ON 9-10 MARCH 1999, THE INVESTIGATION ELEMENT (IE) INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS WHO SERVED ON TANG ISLAND DURING THE BATTLE WITH U.S. MARINES AND WHO PROVIDED FIRSTHAND AND HEARSAY INFORMATION THAT CORRELATED TO ALL FOUR CASES ASSOCIATED WITH THE MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT (CASES 1998/2002/2003/2038). THE WITNESS GUIDED THE IE, AND RECOVERY ELEMENT ONE (RE1) TEAM LEADER AND ANTHROPOLOGIST TO TWO BURIAL SITES NEAR SIHANOUKVILLE AND ONE SITE ON TANG ISLAND. THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE WITNESS WAS VERY DETAILED AND APPEARED CREDIBLE. THE TWO BURIAL SITES ON THE MAINLAND PROBABLY CORRELATE TO PRIORITY CASE 1998, WHILE THE BURIAL SITE ON TANG ISLAND IS PROBABLY ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003.

B. REMAINS/PERSONAL EFFECTS: THE IE DID NOT RECOVER OR RECEIVE ANY REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS WHILE INVESTIGATING THIS INFORMATION.

C. RECOMMENDATION: EXCAVATE.

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION.

A. PURPOSE: INTERVIEW MR. EM SON, A RESIDENT OF ANLONG VENG DISTRICT, ODDAR MEANCHEY PROVINCE. MR. SON ALLEGEDLY HAS INFORMATION REGARDING THE EXECUTION AND BURIAL IN SIHANOUKVILLE OF TWO U.S. PERSONNEL CAPTURED ON TANG ISLAND (ACCOMPLISHED; SEE PARA 3.D BELOW).

B. ON 9 MARCH 1999, THE JOINT U.S./KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA INVESTIGATION TEAM ARRIVED IN SIHANOUKVILLE (GRID 48P US 38 72) TO INVESTIGATE EIGHT CASES.

C. TEAM COMPOSITION:

(1) U.S. CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER
 (b)(6) ASSISTANT TEAM

LEADER/ANALYST/LINGUIST

(b)(6) ANALYST/LINGUIST
 (b)(6) TEAM MEDIC

(2) CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER

(3) SIHANOUKVILLE CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER

D. ON 9-10 MARCH 1999, THE JOINT TEAM COORDINATED WITH THE PROVINCE OFFICIALS FOR INVESTIGATION OF THIS INFORMATION. THE IE DEPARTED PHNOM PENH (VT 837 769) VIA LAO WEST COAST (LWC) HELICOPTER TO SIHANOUKVILLE AND LANDED AT GRID COORDINATE US 388 724. THE IE INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS AND OBTAINED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

(1) WITNESS NAME: (b)(6)

(2) AGE: 50 YOA.

(3) CURRENT RESIDENCE AND LENGTH OF TIME THERE:
 RESIDENT OF THNAL KENG VILLAGE, ANLONG VENG COMMUNE,
 ANLONG VENG DISTRICT, ODDAR MEANCHEY PROVINCE SINCE 1990.

(4) CURRENT OCCUPATION: FARMER.

(5) OCCUPATION AT TIME OF INCIDENT: DETACHMENT
 COMMANDER, 450TH SPECIAL BATTALION, KHMER COMMUNIST 3RD
 DIVISION, TANG ISLAND.

(6) STATEMENT:

(A) (b)(6) WAS STATIONED ON TANG ISLAND IN
 MAY 1975. HE WAS THE COMMANDER OF A 45-MAN DETACHMENT FROM
 THE KHMER COMMUNIST (KHMER ROUGE) 450TH BATTALION.

((1)) THE 450TH BATTALION WAS A SPECIAL
 SAPPER BATTALION DIRECTLY SUBORDINATE TO THE 3RD DIVISION.
 THE REMAINDER OF THE 450TH BATTALION WAS IN KAMPONG SOM
 (SIHANOUKVILLE) AT THE TIME OF THE MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT AND
 WAS UNABLE TO DEPLOY TO THE ISLAND.

((2)) (b)(6) DETACHMENT WAS ARMED WITH
 PERSONAL WEAPONS AND ONE 106MM RECOILLESS RIFLE. HIS
 UNIT'S AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY ON THE ISLAND INCLUDED THE
 WESTERN SIDE OF THE NORTHERN TIP OF THE ISLAND, SOUTH TO
 THE BASE OF HIGHPOINT 440.

(B) THERE WERE DETACHMENTS FROM TWO OTHER 3RD
 DIVISION UNITS ON TANG ISLAND--THE 410TH BATTALION, 22D
 REGIMENT AND THE 480TH BATTALION, 21ST REGIMENT.

((1)) THE 410TH BATTALION, 22D REGIMENT,
 3RD DIVISION CONSISTED OF AN APPROXIMATE 30-MAN DETACHMENT
 ARMED WITH PERSONAL WEAPONS AND TWO 75MM RECOILLESS RIFLES.
 THE 410TH'S AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY INCLUDED THE EASTERN
 HALF OF THE NORTHERN TIP OF TANG ISLAND, SOUTH TO HIGHPOINT

440. THE 410TH BATTALION WAS UNDER THE COMMAND OF SEUN (ACTUAL NAME UNKNOWN). (b)(6) HAS SINCE DIED.

((2)) A DETACHMENT OF OVER 100 TROOPS FROM THE 480TH BATTALION, 21ST REGIMENT, 3RD DIVISION WAS UNDER THE COMMAND OF MEUN AND CONTROLLED THE AREA OF THE ISLAND SOUTH OF HILL 440. THE KHMER COMMUNIST 3RD DIVISION COMMANDER WAS MEAS MUT (AKA KHE MUT) AND HIS DEPUTY WAS /***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 *****/
SUBJ/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT 991C-001 CONCERNING TANG DHUM (DECEASED).

(C) THE 3RD DIVISION WAS ALSO KNOWN AS THE 164TH DIVISION; THE 450TH BATTALION WAS KNOWN AS THE 45TH; THE 410TH WAS ALSO CALLED 41; AND THE 480TH WAS CALLED 48. THERE WAS NO OVERALL COMMANDER ON TANG ISLAND, AND THE THREE UNITS PASSED INFORMATION BY RADIO (NFI).

(D) WHEN (b)(6) ARRIVED ON TANG ISLAND IN EARLY MAY 1975, THERE WAS A SMALL KHMER FISHING VILLAGE ALONG THE EASTERN SHORE OF THE NORTHERN PORTION OF THE ISLAND. THE VILLAGERS AND THREE REMAINING KHMER REPUBLIC TROOPS WERE EVACUATED FROM THE ISLAND TO KAMPONG SOM. THERE WERE NO WAREHOUSES OR OTHER LARGE FACILITIES ON THE ISLAND.

(E) AFTER THE KHMER COMMUNIST CAPTURE OF THE CARGO SHIP MAYAGUEZ, TROOPS ON TANG ISLAND HASTILY PREPARED FIGHTING POSITIONS. THE NIGHT BEFORE THE MARINE ASSAULT ON THE ISLAND, U.S. NAVAL VESSELS BOMBARDED KHMER POSITIONS ON THE ISLAND. THE NEXT MORNING AT APPROXIMATELY 0900, U.S. HELICOPTERS LANDED TROOPS ON THE ISLAND.

((1)) KHMER FORCES SHOT DOWN THREE HELICOPTERS. TWO CRASHED ON THE EASTERN BEACH. ONE HAD A BROKEN TAIL AND THE OTHER EXPLODED AND BURNED. THE THIRD HELICOPTER CRASHED OUT TO SEA OFF THE WESTERN BEACH AT THE HEIGHT OF FIGHTING ON THE ISLAND.

((2)) AT ABOUT 1200, (b)(6) UNIT WITHDREW SOUTH INTO THE CENTRAL PART OF THE ISLAND. NEAR SUNSET, U.S. FORCES WERE FINISHING THEIR WITHDRAWAL FROM THE ISLAND AS (b)(6) TROOPS BEGAN MOVING TOWARD THE WEST BEACH. AS U.S. FORCES WERE WITHDRAWING, U.S. AIRCRAFT DROPPED A LARGE BOMB AND POISON GAS (NOTE: ONE BLU-82B 15,000 POUND BOMB WAS DROPPED ON THE ISLAND AND NON-LETHAL CS AGENT WAS USED DURING THE INCIDENT) ON THE CENTER OF THE ISLAND AND U.S. VESSELS BEGAN HEAVY SHELLING. MR. SON FEARED THE NAVAL BOMBARDMENT MORE THAN THE BOMBS.

(F) AT DAYBREAK THE DAY AFTER THE BATTLE, MR. SON AND HIS UNIT FOUND AN AMERICAN BODY WRAPPED IN A PONCHO ON THE WESTERN BEACH. HIS TROOPS DRAGGED THE BODY OUT TO

SEA OFF THE WESTERN BEACH. HE DID NOT SEE OR HEAR OF THE BODY FLOATING BACK ONTO THE ISLAND.

(G) THE DAY AFTER THE BATTLE, THE 410TH BATTALION DETACHMENT RECEIVED REINFORCEMENTS FROM KAMPONG SOM. THESE REINFORCEMENTS INCLUDED MR. OU SOK (REPORTER'S NOTE: (b)(6) WAS PREVIOUSLY INTERVIEWED IN MARCH 1998, DURING JFA 98-1C. THE INFORMATION (b)(6) PROVIDED LED TO A RECOMMENDATION FOR EXCAVATION OF A BURIAL SITE ON KOH TANG. THE SITE WAS EXCAVATED IN MARCH 1999, DURING JFA 99-1C. SEE REF B). LATER, THE 410TH BATTALION DETACHMENT COMMANDER (b)(6) REPORTED TO (b)(6) THAT HIS UNIT FOUND TWO AMERICAN BODIES ON THE NORTHERN PART OF THE EASTERN BEACH. THEY BURIED THE BODIES IN A U-SHAPED FIGHTING POSITION NEARBY. ACCORDING TO MR. SOK THE FIGHTING POSITION WAS NEAR TWO LARGE, BROAD-LEAF TREES. (b)(6) DID NOT GO TO VIEW THE BURIAL LOCATION.

(H) APPROXIMATELY THREE TO FOUR DAYS AFTER THE BATTLE, MEMBERS OF MR. SON'S UNIT NOTICED THAT DURING TWO CONSECUTIVE NIGHTS FOOD WAS STOLEN FROM A KITCHEN AREA IN THE CENTER OF THE ISLAND. ON THE THIRD NIGHT, HIS UNIT SET A TRAP TO CATCH THE THIEF. AT APPROXIMATELY 2100 HOURS THAT NIGHT THEY CAUGHT TWO AMERICAN TROOPS ATTEMPTING TO STEAL FOOD. THEY BROUGHT THE AMERICANS TO THE SOUTH END OF THE EASTERN BEACH AND IMMEDIATELY REPORTED THE CAPTURE TO 3RD DIVISION HEADQUARTERS IN KAMPONG SOM VIA RADIO. THE DIVISION ORDERED THE AMERICANS BROUGHT TO KAMPONG SOM BY PATROL BOAT THE NEXT MORNING.

(I) (b)(6) DESCRIBED THE AMERICANS AS FOLLOWS:

((1)) THE FIRST INDIVIDUAL WAS ABOUT 75 INCHES TALL (NOTE: THE WITNESS STATED THE INDIVIDUAL WAS APPROXIMATELY THE SAME HEIGHT AS THE IE TEAM'S MEDIC WHO IS 75 INCHES TALL), WITH DARK SKIN, DARK EYES, AND SHORT, BLACK, PARTIALLY GREY HAIR. HE CARRIED AN M-16 WITH AN M-203 GRENADE LAUNCHER. HE WORE A CAMOUFLAGED VEST WITH SEVERAL POCKETS THAT CONTAINED AMMUNITION, A GREEN T-SHIRT, AND CAMOUFLAGED SHORTS WITH POCKETS AND A ZIPPER. HE WORE A LEATHER BELT ON HIS SHORTS, A WEB BELT AND BOOTS.

((2)) THE SECOND INDIVIDUAL WAS CAUCASIAN, WITH BROWN HAIR, LIGHT EYES, AND APPROXIMATELY 70 INCHES TALL (NOTE: THE WITNESS STATED THE INDIVIDUAL WAS APPROXIMATELY THE SAME HEIGHT AS THE INTERVIEWER WHO IS 70 INCHES TALL). HE WORE THE SAME TYPE OF UNIFORM AS THE FIRST INDIVIDUAL.

(J) THE MORNING AFTER THE AMERICANS WERE CAPTURED, THEY WERE TRANSPORTED TO KAMPONG SOM ABOARD A PATROL BOAT. (b)(6) DETACHMENT WAS ALSO WITHDRAWN TO

KAMPONG SOM THE SAME DAY BY AN ARMED FISHING VESSEL. (b)(6)
 (b)(6) UNIT WAS STATIONED ALONG THE OCEAN IN KAMPONG SOM BETWEEN THE GRAND HOTEL AND THE PORT FACILITY. ONE SQUAD WAS BASED AT THE HOTEL'S HELICOPTER LANDING ZONE. THE TWO AMERICANS WERE TAKEN TO AND HELD IN THE AN TI NEAN PAGODA (US 365 743) IN KAMPONG SOM. (b)(6) DID NOT PERSONALLY SEE THE AMERICANS IN THE PAGODA. MR. SON KNEW THE SECURITY COMMANDER IN KAMPONG SOM WAS CALLED IENG, BUT STATED IENG WAS LATER KILLED IN INTERNAL KHMER COMMUNIST PARTY PURGES.

(K) A FEW DAYS AFTER HE ARRIVED IN KAMPONG SOM, (b)(6) HEARD A RUMOR THAT A THIRD AMERICAN WAS CAPTURED AND KILLED ON TANG ISLAND AND BURIED NEAR A LARGE BOULDER OFF THE EASTERN BEACH. HE HAD NO DETAILS OF THE INCIDENT AND COULD NOT REMEMBER THE PRECISE DATE ON WHICH HE HEARD THE NEWS.

(L) ABOUT ONE WEEK AFTER THE AMERICANS WERE BROUGHT TO KAMPONG SOM, MR. SON WAS TASKED TO BURY THE BODY
 /***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 003 *****/

SUBJ/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT 991C-001 CONCERNING TANG OF THE TALL, DARK-SKINNED AMERICAN AT GRID COORDINATE US 36210 75379. THE AMERICAN WAS BEATEN TO DEATH THE NIGHT BEFORE AND HIS BODY WAS ABANDONED NEAR THE EDGE OF THE ROAD. THE AMERICAN WAS WEARING ONLY THE CAMOUFLAGED SHORTS

(b)(6) HAD SEEN HIM WEARING WHEN HE WAS CAPTURED. THE FOUR-MAN GROUP THAT BURIED THE BODY INCLUDED THE WITNESS, REUN (DECEASED), THIM (DECEASED), AND (b)(6) HAS SINCE LOST HIS LEFT LEG IN A MINE EXPLOSION AND IS CURRENTLY WITH FORMER KHMER ROUGE RESISTANCE TROOPS IN O SMACH, BATTAMBANG PROVINCE.

(M) THE FOLLOWING DAY, (b)(6) WAS CHECKING ON A BOAT BEING REPAIRED NEAR THE BURIAL SITE. (b)(6) SAW THE BODY OF THE SECOND AMERICAN ON THE SHORELINE. HE AND SEVERAL PEOPLE NEARBY TIED A VINE TO THE BODY'S FEET AND DRAGGED IT INTO AN AREA OF LARGE BOULDERS NEAR THE SHORELINE AT GRID COORDINATE US 35360 74192. (b)(6) OPINED THAT BOTH AMERICANS HAD BEEN KILLED THE SAME EVENING NEAR THE SHORE WITH THE INTENTION OF BURYING THEM AT SEA.

(N) WHEN QUESTIONED, (b)(6) RECOGNIZED THE NAMES OF (b)(6) (REPORTER'S NOTE: (b)(6) (b)(6) WAS PREVIOUSLY INTERVIEWED IN NOVEMBER 1997. SEE REF C ABOVE) AS INDIVIDUALS HE KNEW DURING THE TIME OF THE MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT. ACCORDING TO (b)(6) ARRIVED ON TANG ISLAND RIGHT AFTER THE BATTLE. (b)(6) (b)(6) WAS STATIONED ON POULO WAI ISLAND AT THE TIME OF THE BATTLE. (b)(6) NEVER SAW (b)(6) ON TANG ISLAND. (b)(6) DID NOT RECOGNIZE THE NAME OF (b)(6)

E. ON 9-10 MARCH 1999, (b)(6) GUIDED THE IE AND THE RE1 TEAM LEADER AND ANTHROPOLOGIST TO THE BURIAL LOCATION OF THE TALL, DARK-SKINNED AMERICAN AT GRID COORDINATE US 36210 75379. THE BURIAL LOCATION IS WITHIN 100M OF THE KAMPONG SOM BAY SHORELINE. THERE IS A BUILDING ON THE SHORE EAST OF THE SITE. THE GROUND SLOPES FROM THE HIGHWAY TO THE SHORELINE AND IS COVERED IN TALL GRASS WITH COCONUT, PLUMARIA, AND NORFOLK PINE TREES. THERE ARE NUMEROUS LARGE BOULDERS SCATTERED THROUGHOUT THE AREA. (b)(6) USED THE LOCATION OF AN OLD MANGO TREE NEAR THE ROAD, THE BUILDING, AND THE LOCATION OF A PARTIALLY BURIED LARGE BOULDER TO TRIANGULATE THE BURIAL LOCATION. (b)(6) NOTED THAT AN ADDITION HAD BEEN ADDED TO THE FRONT OF THE NEARBY BUILDING AND THAT A CONCRETE STAIRWAY WEST OF THE SITE AND MANY OF THE BOULDERS ON TOP OF THE GROUND WERE NOT PRESENT IN 1975. AT THE TIME OF THE BURIAL, THE AREA WAS COVERED WITH LOW TREES, BUSHES AND TALL GRASS. (b)(6) GROUP ATTEMPTED TO DRAG THE BODY TO THE SHORELINE TO THROW IT INTO THE OCEAN, BUT STOPPED PART WAY AND DECIDED TO BURY THE BODY INSTEAD. THEY DUG AN APPROXIMATE 1M X 50CM HOLE TO A DEPTH OF 50CM AND BURIED THE BODY FACE UP. THE AMERICAN'S LEGS WERE STILL PROTRUDING FROM THE HOLE, SO THE TEAM COVERED THEM WITH DIRT AND ROCKS. IN 1976, THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT USED A SIX-WHEELED GRADER TO SCRAPE AND LEVEL THE AREA. (b)(6) ESTIMATED THE GRADER SCRAPED ONLY APPROXIMATELY 15 CENTIMETERS OFF THE SURFACE. THE GRADER PUSHED THE DIRT FROM THE ROAD DOWN TO THE SHORELINE. (b)(6) WAS ON THE SITE AT THE TIME AND OBSERVED THE GRADER ONLY MOVED A SMALL AMOUNT OF DIRT. HE BELIEVED THE AMERICAN'S LEGS MAY HAVE BEEN MOVED TO THE SHORELINE, BUT THE TORSO AND HEAD MAY STILL BE IN THE GRAVE.

F. (b)(6) LED THE JOINT TEAM TO THE LOCATION OF THE SECOND AMERICAN AT GRID COORDINATE US 35360 74192. THE SITE IS MARKED BY LARGE BOULDERS AND IS ON THE KAMPONG SOM SHORELINE EAST OF THE FIRST SITE. THERE ARE CURRENTLY TWO RESTAURANTS AND A STONE WALKWAY LEADING DOWN TO THE BEACH THAT WERE NOT PRESENT AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT. (b)(6) INDICATED HE SAW THE BODY ON THE SHORE WEST OF THE BOULDERS AND RECOGNIZED IT AS THE SECOND AMERICAN. THE BODY HAD NO CLOTHING. (b)(6) CALLED TO SEVERAL INDIVIDUALS (NFI) AT A NEARBY BOAT CONSTRUCTION YARD TO HELP HIM TIE A VINE TO THE BODY'S LEGS AND DRAG IT THROUGH THE WATER INTO AN OPEN AREA WITHIN THE LARGE BOULDERS. (b)(6) THEN TIED THE VINE TO SOME TREES ON THE SHORELINE. HE RETURNED TO THE SITE SEVERAL TIMES OVER THE COURSE OF THE MONTH TO OBSERVE THE BODY. DURING HIS LAST VISIT TO THE SITE, HE

OBSERVED THE BODY HAD COMPLETELY DECOMPOSED BUT THE LIMBS WERE STILL ATTACHED. (b)(6) NOTED THE AREA HAD CHANGED SINCE THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT. IN ADDITION TO THE NEW RESTAURANTS, HE NOTICED SAND HAD BUILT UP IN THE AREA WHERE THE BODY WAS LEFT WHICH WAS NOT THERE AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT. HE ALSO BELIEVED THE SHORELINE WAS HIGHER IN 1975 THAN IT IS NOW.

G. ON 10 MARCH 1999, (b)(6) ACCOMPANIED RE1 TO TANG ISLAND TO POINT OUT THE FIGHTING POSITION WHERE HE HEARD AMERICAN BODIES WERE BURIED. HE LED THE TEAM TO THE LOCATION THE RE WAS CURRENTLY EXCAVATING AND CONFIRMED THIS AS THE BURIAL SITE. HE DESCRIBED THE LAYOUT OF THE FIGHTING POSITION AS U-SHAPED, KNOWN AS A "KA" POSITION AFTER THE FIRST CHARACTER OF THE KHMER ALPHABET. THE LONGEST PART OF THE FIGHTING POSITION FACED THE EASTERN BEACH AND WAS LINED WITH TREES. IT WAS APPROXIMATELY 2M X 50CM AND DEEP ENOUGH FOR A MAN TO SIT IN AND BE CONCEALED. THE LEGS OF THE POSITION FACED IN TOWARDS THE SHORE AND WERE USED AS FIRING POSITIONS FOR HEAVY MACHINE-GUNS. THE POSITION SURROUNDED TWO TREES, ONE OF WHICH HAS SINCE FALLEN OVER ON TOP OF THE OTHER. (b)(6) WAS TOLD AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT THE TWO AMERICAN BODIES WERE BURIED SIDE-BY-SIDE IN THE MAIN TRENCH WITH THEIR HEADS FACING OPPOSITE DIRECTIONS. HE DID NOT RECEIVE A DESCRIPTION OF THE TWO AMERICANS AND DID NOT GO TO THE SITE AT THE TIME OF THE BURIAL. HE CONFIRMED THAT (b)(6) WAS AT THE SITE AT THE TIME OF THE BURIAL.

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 004 *****/

SUBJ/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT 991C-001 CONCERNING TANG

(b)(6) NOTED TWO OTHER BODIES WERE PUSHED OUT OF A HELICOPTER (PROBABLE KNIFE 31) CRASH SITE, WERE DRAGGED OUT TO SEA, AND LATER FLOATED ONTO THE ROCKY SHORE NEAR THE TIP OF THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE EASTERN BEACH. A KHMER COMMUNIST PATROL REPORTEDLY SAW THE BODIES THERE THE DAY AFTER THEY WERE DRAGGED OUT TO SEA. THEY LEFT THE BODIES ON THE SITE. (b)(6) NEVER PERSONALLY SAW THE LOCATION.

4. MATERIAL EVIDENCE.

A. MATERIAL EVIDENCE RETAINED BY JTF-FA: NONE.

B. MATERIAL EVIDENCE PHOTOGRAPHED AND LEFT IN PLACE: NONE.

C. REMAINS: NONE.

5. SITE SURVEY RESULTS: NONE. THE IE SURVEYED THE TWO BURIAL SITES IN SIHANOUKVILLE TOGETHER WITH RE1. THE BURIAL SITE MR. SON INDICATED ON THE ISLAND WAS ALREADY BEING EXCAVATED.

6. PERTINENT LOCATION OR DATA CHANGES: NONE.

7. ANALYST COMMENTS.

A. WITNESS STATEMENTS: CREDIBLE. (b)(6) PROVIDED HIS INFORMATION IN A SINCERE, STRAIGHTFORWARD MANNER. THE IE INTERVIEWED (b)(6) OVER A PERIOD OF 2 DAYS, DURING WHICH TIME HIS ANSWERS REMAINED LOGICAL, CONSISTENT, AND EXTREMELY DETAILED.

B. ANALYTICAL CONCLUSIONS:

(1) PARAGRAPH 3.D.6.E.1 ABOVE PROVIDES INFORMATION REGARDING THE SHOOT DOWN OF THREE U.S. HELICOPTERS BY KHMER COMMUNIST FORCES. TWO CRASHED ON THE EASTERN BEACH. ONE HAD A BROKEN TAIL AND THE OTHER EXPLODED AND BURNED. THIS INFORMATION CORRELATES TO CASE 2003. THE THIRD HELICOPTER CRASHED OUT TO SEA OFF THE WESTERN BEACH AT THE HEIGHT OF FIGHTING ON THE ISLAND. THIS INFORMATION CORRELATES TO CASE 2002.

(2) PARAGRAPH 3.D.6.F ABOVE PROVIDES INFORMATION REGARDING (b)(6) UNIT FINDING AN AMERICAN BODY WRAPPED IN A PONCHO ON THE WESTERN BEACH AT DAYBREAK THE DAY AFTER THE BATTLE. THIS INFORMATION PROBABLY CORRELATES TO CASE 2038.

(3) PARAGRAPH 3.D.6.G ABOVE PROVIDES INFORMATION REGARDING THE 410TH BATTALION FINDING TWO AMERICAN BODIES ON THE NORTHERN PART OF THE EASTERN BEACH THE DAY AFTER THE BATTLE. THIS INFORMATION PROBABLY CORRELATES TO CASE 2003.

(4) PARAGRAPHS 3.D.6.H-J AND 3.D.6.L-M ABOVE PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING THE TWO U.S. PERSONNEL CAPTURED ON TANG ISLAND WHO WERE EXECUTED AND BURIED IN SIHANOUKVILLE, AND THE HEARSAY INFORMATION CONCERNING THE AMERICAN SHOT AND BURIED ON TANG ISLAND AFTER THE MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT. THIS INFORMATION PROBABLY CORRELATES TO CASE 1998.

C. LIFE SUPPORT TECHNICIAN COMMENTS: N/A.

8. TEAM LEADER COMMENTS.

A. CONCLUSIONS: CONCUR WITH ANALYST'S COMMENTS.

B. HOST GOVERNMENT COOPERATION/SUPPORT: DURING THIS INVESTIGATION, THE U.S. CONTINGENT RECEIVED EXCELLENT SUPPORT FROM ALL LEVELS OF THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT.

9. RECOMMENDATION. EXCAVATE.

10. DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S COMMENTS. CONCUR.//

BT

#1642

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----- END OF MESSAGE TEXT -----

ADMIN

UNCLASSIFIED

CDS

CDSN = CFS583 MCN = 99128/01876 TOR = 991280120

PTTUZYUW RUEKJCS1713 1280123-UUUU--RUEALGX.

ZNR UUUUU

HEADER

P 071825Z MAY 99

FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J3//

TO: SAFE

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CONTROLS

UNCLAS

BODY

SUBJ: (MEC) SUBJ/DETAILED REPORT OF EXCAVATION OF CASE 2003//

//NOTICE// AUTOMATED MESSAGE ERROR CORRECTION

----- ORIGINAL MESSAGE TEXT -----

CDSN = CFS583 MCN = 99128/01876 TOR = 991280120

PTTUZYUW RUEKJCS1713 1280123-UUUU--RUEALGX.

ZNR UUUUU

P 080123Z MAY 99

FM DIA WASHINGTON DC

INFO RUEALGX/SAFE

P 071825Z MAY 99

FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J3//

INFO RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//CA/OCS/ACS/BCTLV//

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:ISA/DPMO//

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC//OEA/SEA/IB/DDO/EA/ICOG/CI//

RUEKDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC//CC//

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5//

RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3/J32//

RUEHBK/USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//

RUEHBK/CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH

RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI//CJTFFA DET TWO//

RUEHVN/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE//CJTFFA DET THREE//

RUHVAAA/CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//

RUBDPLA/SAFE WASHINGTON DC

RUHEMAD/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J3//

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SECTION 01 OF 05

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

MSGID/GENADMIN/CJTFFA-/MAY//

SUBJ/DETAILED REPORT OF EXCAVATION OF CASE 2003//

REF/A/RMG/CDR JTF-FA, HONOLULU, HI/071800ZMAY99//

REF/B/RMG/JCRC, BARBERS PT, HONOLULU, HI/251214ZOCT91//

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REF/C/RMG/CDR USACILHI, HICKAM AFB, HI/230120ZJAN92//
REF/D/RMG/USMISSION, PHNOM PENH/120717ZMAR92//
REF/E/RMG/USMISSION, JTF-FA, DET FOUR, PHNOM PENH CB/
180347ZDEC92//
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REF/R/RMG/CDR JTF-FA, HONOLULU, HI/071820ZMAY99//
REF/S/1:250,000 SCALE MAP SHEET//
RMKS/1. REFERENCES.

A. REF A IS THE SUMMARY REPORT OF JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY (JFA) 99-1C CONDUCTED IN THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA (KOC) FROM 07 MARCH THROUGH 06 APRIL 1999.

B. REF B IS THE SUMMARY REPORT OF THE JOINT U.S./CAMBODIA POW-MIA OPERATIONS FOR CASE 2003 CONDUCTED DURING A JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER (JCRC) JFA IN OCTOBER 1991.

C. REF C IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF ID STATUS CONCERNING TWO REMAINS TURNED OVER BY THE STATE OF CAMBODIA (SOC) ON 11 JAN 92.

D. REF D IS THE SUMMARY REPORT OF JOINT U.S./CAMBODIAN POW-MIA OPERATION CONDUCTED ON JFA 92-2C.

E. REF E IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION FOR CASE 2003 CONDUCTED DURING JFA 93-2C.

F. REF F IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF SURVEY FOR CASE 2003 CONDUCTED DURING JFA 93-3C.

G. REF G IS AN ANALYSIS OF MATERIAL EVIDENCE ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003.

H. REF H IS AN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT (AIR) ON CASE 2003.

I. REF I IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION FOR CASE 2003 CONDUCTED DURING JFA 95-1C.

J. REF J IS DETACHMENT FOUR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT CB 95-06 FROM A JTF-FA DETACHMENT FOUR INVESTIGATION.

K. REF K IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF CASE 2003 CONDUCTED DURING JFA 96-1C.

L. REF L IS THE DETAILED SEARCH AND RECOVERY REPORT FOR

CASE 2003 CONDUCTED DURING JFA 96-1C.

M. REF M IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION FOR CASE 2003 CONDUCTED DURING JFA 96-3C.

N. REF N IS AN ANALYSIS OF MATERIAL EVIDENCE ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003.

O. REF O IS AN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT CONCERNING CASE 2003 OBTAINED BY JTF-FA DETACHMENT FOUR.

P. REF P IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF CASE 2003 CONDUCTED DURING JFA 98-1C.

Q. REF Q IS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT 991C-001 CONCERNING CASE 2003 OBTAINED DURING JFA 99-1C.

R. REF R IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF THE TRILATERAL INVESTIGATION OF CASE 2003 CONDUCTED ON JFA 99-1C.

S. MAP DATA: NAME: KAMPOT, KAMPUCHEA, VIETNAM; SHEET: NC 48-5; EDITION: 4; SERIES: 1501 AIR; SCALE: 1:250,000; HORIZONTAL DATUM: INDIAN DATUM, 1960.

2. SUMMARY OF EXCAVATION.

A. CASE 2003: FROM 07 MARCH THROUGH 01 APRIL 1999, DURING JFA 99-1C, RECOVERY ELEMENT ONE (RE1) EXCAVATED THREE SITES POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003 ON TANG ISLAND, KOH KONG PROVINCE, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA (KOC). THE SITES ARE HEREIN DESIGNATED 2003, 2003B, AND 2003C. RE1 EXCAVATED APPROXIMATELY 450 SQUARE METERS. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST CLOSED SITE 2003B ON 19 MARCH 1999, SITE 2003C ON 22 MARCH 1999 AND SITE 2003 ON 1 APRIL 1999. RE1 OBTAINED NO REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS DURING THE EXCAVATION OF THE THREE SITES. A MILITARY TYPE PONCHO WAS RECOVERED FROM SITE 2003C THAT IS POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE INCIDENT. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST RECOMMENDS FURTHER EXCAVATION OF SITE 2003 IN THE EVENT THAT NEW WITNESS TESTIMONY IS AVAILABLE. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST RECOMMENDS NO FURTHER EXCAVATION AT SITE 2003B AND SITE 2003C.

B. TEAM COMPOSITION:

(1) U.S. CONTINGENT:

(b)(6)	TEAM LEADER
	ASSISTANT TEAM LEADER
(b)(6)	ANTHROPOLOGIST
	MORTUARY AFFAIRS SPECIALIST
	MORTUARY AFFAIRS SPECIALIST
	MORTUARY AFFAIRS SPECIALIST
	TEAM MEDIC
(b)(6)	EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL
	(EOD) TECHNICIAN
(b)(6)	EOD TECHNICIAN
	LINGUIST
	TEAM PHOTOGRAPHER

(2) CAMBODIAN CENTRAL GOVERNMENT CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER/MINISTRY OF
INTERIOR
(b)(6) TEAM MEMBER/MINISTRY OF
INTERIOR

3. BACKGROUND.

A. ON 15 MAY 1975, A CH-53A HELICOPTER CRASHED NEAR

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 *****/

SUBJ/DETAILED REPORT OF EXCAVATION OF CASE 2003//

THE SHORELINE OF KOH (CAMBODIAN WORD FOR ISLAND) TANG, CAMBODIA, WHILE PART OF A MISSION TO RESCUE THE CREW OF THE U.S. CONTAINER SHIP "MAYAGUEZ." TWENTY-SIX PERSONNEL (FOUR USAF CREWMEMBERS, 20 USMC AND TWO USN PASSENGERS) WERE ABOARD THE HELICOPTER AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT. A SEARCH AND RESCUE TEAM RESCUED 13 PERSONNEL AT SEA, BUT THE HOSTILE ENVIRONMENT PRECLUDED FURTHER EFFORTS TO RECOVER THE REMAINING THIRTEEN CREWMEMBERS AND PASSENGERS.

B. FROM 14 TO 23 OCTOBER 1991, A JOINT U.S./K.O.C. TEAM CONDUCTED AN INTERVIEW WITH ALLEGED WITNESSES CONCERNING CASE 2003. THE TEAM FOUND SMALL FRAGMENTS OF POSSIBLE BONE-LIKE MATERIAL. THE TEAM ALSO SURVEYED THE CRASH SITE ASSOCIATED WITH THIS CASE. THE TEAM DID NOT RECOVER OR RECEIVE ANY REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS (REF B).

C. ON 11 JANUARY 1992, OFFICIALS OF THE STATE OF CAMBODIA UNILATERALLY TURNED OVER REMAINS AND TWO IDENTIFICATION TAGS ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003 (REF C).

D. ON 3 MARCH 1992, A JOINT U.S./K.O.C. TEAM CONDUCTED AN INVESTIGATION OF A REPORT THAT THREE AMERICAN SOLDIERS WERE BURIED IN A CAVE ON THE NORTHWESTERN PENINSULA OF KOH TANG. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED MILITARY OFFICIALS BUT DID NOT RECEIVE ANY INFORMATION. THE TEAM RECEIVED REMAINS FROM THE CAMP COMMANDER AND RECOVERED REMAINS ON THE BEACH (REF D).

E. BETWEEN 6 AND 14 DECEMBER 1992, A JOINT U.S./K.O.C. TEAM INVESTIGATED CASE 2003 ON TANG ISLAND. DURING THE INVESTIGATIONS THE TEAM RECOVERED POSSIBLE HUMAN REMAINS (REF E).

F. FROM 9 TO 11 FEBRUARY 1993, DURING JFA 93-3C, A JOINT U.S./K.O.C. TEAM SURVEYED THE CRASH SITE OF THE CASE 2003 HELICOPTER. THE TEAM CONDUCTED AN UNDERWATER SURVEY OF CH-53 WRECKAGE AND THE SURROUNDING AREA AT TANG ISLAND, CAMBODIA. THE PURPOSE OF THE SURVEY WAS TO EVALUATE THE SITE AND DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF A RECOVERY EFFORT. THE TEAM RECOVERED NUMEROUS PIECES OF AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE, LIFE-SUPPORT EQUIPMENT AND PERSONAL EFFECTS. THE TEAM RECOMMENDED THIS SITE FOR RECOVERY (REF F).

G. ANALYSIS OF ALL RECOVERED AIRCRAFT PARTS RECOVERED DURING JFA 93-3C DETERMINED THE PARTS TO BE CONSISTENT WITH A

CH-53 HELICOPTER, ALTHOUGH NO SPECIFIC AIRCRAFT SERIAL NUMBERS COULD BE DETERMINED (REF G).

H. ON 18 JANUARY 1995, DURING THE 33RD JFA IN THE SRV, THE TEAM RECEIVED INFORMATION FROM A JTF-FA ANALYST/LINGUIST WHO WAS A MEMBER OF THE ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM INTERVIEWING PERSONS IN THE HO CHI MINH CITY AREA. ON 18 JANUARY 1995, TWO VIETNAMESE MEN PRESENTED THEMSELVES AT THE EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICE WITH HUMAN REMAINS, MATERIAL EVIDENCE AND INFORMATION WHICH MAY CORRELATE TO CASE 2003. ONE OF THE MEN CLAIMED HE RECOVERED THESE REMAINS AND MATERIAL EVIDENCE FROM A CRASH SITE ON TANG ISLAND. HE ALSO CLAIMED TO HOLD ADDITIONAL MATERIAL EVIDENCE AT HIS HOME. HE WAS WILLING TO LEAD THE TEAM TO THE CRASH SITE (REF H).

I. FROM 30 APRIL THROUGH 2 MAY 1995 DURING JFA 95-1C, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF A U.S. NAVY SALVAGE TEAM, A TEAM CONDUCTED A SURVEY OF THE CASE 2003 CRASH SITE. THE TEAM CONDUCTED AN EXTENSIVE SEARCH OF THE AREA, WHICH YIELDED NO EVIDENCE OF PERSONAL EFFECTS OR HUMAN REMAINS. THE TEAM RECOMMENDED THE SITE FOR EXCAVATION (REF I).

J. ON 24 AUGUST 1995 A JOINT U.S./K.O.C. TEAM WAS ACCOMPANIED BY AN ALLEGED WITNESS WHO CLAIMED HE COULD PINPOINT THE BURIAL SITE AS REPORTED TO HIM BY THE COMBATANTS. THE TEAM EXCAVATED THE ENTIRE AREA INDICATED BY THE WITNESS, WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. THE TEAM DID NOT RECOVER OR RECEIVE ANY REMAINS, LIFE SUPPORT EQUIPMENT OR PERSONAL EFFECTS (REF J).

K. ON 20 OCTOBER 1995, A JOINT U.S./K.O.C. TEAM INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS CONCERNING CASE 2003. THIS WITNESS RECOUNTED INFORMATION THAT OTHER INDIVIDUALS PROVIDED TO HIM CONCERNING SCAVENGING A HELICOPTER CRASH SITE ON KOH TANG. THIS INDIVIDUAL AND HIS GROUP RECOVERED MATERIAL EVIDENCE AND REMAINS FROM THE CRASH SITE. THE WITNESS ALLOWED THE TEAM TO EXAMINE FIVE MATERIAL EVIDENCE ITEMS ASSOCIATED WITH A CH-53A HELICOPTER. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED A SECOND WITNESS WHO PROVIDED IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION ON ONE UNACCOUNTED-FOR INDIVIDUAL FROM THIS CASE. HE ALSO SKETCHED A MAP OF THE CRASH SITE LOCATION WHERE HE FOUND IDENTIFICATION MEDIA, MATERIAL EVIDENCE AND REMAINS (REF K).

L. FROM 28 OCTOBER TO 12 NOVEMBER 1995 DURING JFA 96-1C, A JOINT U.S./K.O.C. TEAM, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE USS BRUNSWICK SALVAGE TEAM, EXCAVATED THE CRASH SITE ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003. THE TEAM RECOVERED REMAINS, VARIOUS PERSONAL EFFECTS, AND AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE. A WITNESS PRESENTED POSSIBLE HUMAN REMAINS TO THE TEAM. THE TEAM CLOSED THE SITE OF 12 NOVEMBER 1995 (REF L).

M. FROM 21 TO 27 APRIL 1996, A JOINT U.S./K.O.C. TEAM INTERVIEWED THREE WITNESSES WHO CLAIMED TO HAVE FIRST-HAND

KNOWLEDGE OF THE ALLEGED REMAINS AND BURIAL LOCATIONS OF AMERICANS ON TANG ISLAND. ONE WITNESS POINTED OUT TWO POSSIBLE BURIAL SITES OF AMERICANS ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND. ANOTHER WITNESS POINTED OUT ANOTHER POSSIBLE BURIAL SITE ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND. THE TEAM DUG TEST PITS AT ALL REPORTED BURIAL LOCATIONS, BUT DID NOT RECOVER ANY REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS (REF M).

N. ON 1 NOVEMBER 1996, A DETACHMENT FOUR ANALYST-LINGUIST INTERVIEWED A ROYAL CAMBODIAN ARMED FORCES CAPTAIN. THE WITNESS PROVIDED INFORMATION ON REMAINS POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003. THE WITNESS STATED HE FOUND THE REMAINS ON TANG ISLAND IN 1989 AND TURNED THEM OVER TO ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL. THE WITNESS ALSO PROVIDED INFORMATION CONCERNING ADDITIONAL REMAINS HE FOUND IN THE SAME AREA AND TURNED OVER TO A JOINT TEAM IN NOVEMBER 1995. THE INTERVIEWER DID NOT RECEIVE OR RECOVER ANY REMAINS DURING THE INTERVIEW (REF O).

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 003 *****/

SUBJ/DETAILED REPORT OF EXCAVATION OF CASE 2003//

O. FROM 12 JANUARY THROUGH 14 FEBRUARY 1998, DURING, JFA 98-1C, A JOINT TEAM INVESTIGATED CASE 2003 ON KOH TANG. ON 2 FEBRUARY 1998, THE TEAM INTERVIEWED A WITNESS WHO ALLEGED HE BURIED TWO AMERICAN REMAINS A FEW DAYS AFTER THE 15 MAY 1975 FIGHTING ON KOH TANG. ON 6 FEBRUARY 1998, THE TEAM SURVEYED THE ALLEGED GRAVESITE IN THE VICINITY OF TS 944 397. THE TEAM DID NOT RECOVER OR RECEIVE ANY REMAINS, PERSONAL EFFECTS OR MATERIAL EVIDENCE. THE TEAM RECOMMENDED THE SITE FOR EXCAVATION (REF P).

P. ON 9 AND 10 MARCH 1999, A JOINT TEAM INTERVIEWED TWO WITNESSES WHO ALLEGED TO HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF THE BURIAL OF TWO AMERICANS ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003 ON KOH TANG, ON LAND IMMEDIATELY INLAND FROM THE HELICOPTER CRASH SITE. THE BURIAL SITES WERE ALLEGED TO BE IN THE VICINITY OF TS 944 397 (SITE 2003). THE JOINT TEAM ALSO INTERVIEWED ONE OF THE WITNESSES CONCERNING TWO AMERICANS, POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH ANOTHER KOH TANG CASE, BURIED ON THE MAINLAND IN THE VICINITY OF SIHANOUKVILLE, AT US 362 754 (SITE 1998A) AND AT US 354 742 (SITE 1998B), RESPECTIVELY (REF Q).

Q. ON 14 MARCH 1999 A TRILATERAL KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA, SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, AND US TEAM INTERVIEWED A VIETNAMESE WITNESS WHO WAS STATIONED ON KOH TANG FROM APRIL 1982 TO FEBRUARY 1986 AS PART OF A VIETNAMESE OCCUPATION FORCE. THE WITNESS ALLEGED TO HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF AMERICAN REMAINS THAT WERE REMOVED FROM THE HELICOPTER CRASH SITE ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003 AND BURIED IN TWO LOCATIONS ON KOH TANG ISLAND IN THE VICINITY OF TS 965 396 (SITE 2003B) AND TS 962 392 (SITE 2003C), RESPECTIVELY (REF R).

4. PROJECT LOCATIONS.

A. VICINITY OF KOH TANG, KOH KONG PROVINCE, KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA (SITES 2003, 2003B, 2003C).

B. GRID COORDINATES: THE SITE 2003 PROJECT AREA IS AT 48P TS 964 397; THE SITE 2003B PROJECT AREA IS AT 48P TS 965 395; AND THE SITE 2003C PROJECT AREA IS AT 48P TS 962 391, AS DETERMINED BY A GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (GPS) RECEIVER TRACKING FOUR SATELLITES ON THE INDIAN SPECIAL DATUM.

C. MAP: NAME: KAMPOT, KAMPUCHEA, VIETNAM; SHEET: NC48-5; EDITION: 4; SERIES: 1501 AIR; SCALE: 1:250,000; HORIZONTAL DATUM: INDIAN DATUM, 1960.

5. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AREA.

A. THE PROJECT AREA ASSOCIATED WITH SITE 2003 IS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY 10 METERS INLAND FROM THE POINT OF HIGH TIDE, IMMEDIATELY ADJACENT TO THE LOCATION OF THE HELICOPTER CRASH (KNIFE 31) ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003. THE VEGETATION WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA INCLUDED LARGE HARDWOOD TREES SPACED INTERMITTENTLY THROUGHOUT, LARGE COCONUT TREES, AND THICK UNDERBRUSH. THE SOIL WITHIN THE AREA IS POORLY DEVELOPED, CONSISTING MAINLY OF BEACH SAND WITH MODEST -O AND -A HORIZONS. THE TERRAIN IS GENERALLY FLAT, WITH A DROP IN ELEVATION OF APPROXIMATELY ONE METER WHERE THE BEACH SLOPES DOWN TO THE WATER'S EDGE.

B. THE PROJECT AREA ASSOCIATED WITH SITE 2003B IS LOCATED IN A COCONUT TREE GROVE APPROXIMATELY FIFTY METERS INLAND FROM THE BEACH, AND SEVERAL HUNDRED METERS SOUTH AND EAST OF SITE 2003. THE PROJECT AREA IS IN THE YARD OF A FORMER VIETNAMESE BARRACKS HOUSE. THE AREA WAS OVERGROWN WITH TALL GRASSES AND OTHER SECONDARY GROWTH WHEN THE PROJECT WAS BEGUN. THE SOIL IN THE PROJECT AREA IS POORLY DEVELOPED WITHIN BEACH SAND. THE BARRACKS HOUSE HAS BEEN COMPLETELY DESTROYED SINCE 1989 WHEN THE VIETNAMESE WITHDREW FROM KOH TANG, BUT THE FOUNDATION, WHICH IS THE EARTHEN PLATFORM TYPE, WAS CLEARLY VISIBLE. THE TERRAIN IN THE PROJECT AREA WAS GENERALLY FLAT. A LARGE FRESHWATER POND WAS LOCATED APPROXIMATELY FORTY METERS FROM THE FORMER BARRACKS HOUSE.

C. THE PROJECT AREA ASSOCIATED WITH SITE 2003C IS LOCATED NEAR THE TOP OF A MODEST HILL APPROXIMATELY 400 METERS WEST OF SITE 2003B. THE PROJECT AREA WAS OVERGROWN WITH SMALL HARDWOOD TREES, COCONUT TREES, DENSE SCRUB VEGETATION, AND GRASSES WHEN THE PROJECT WAS BEGUN. THE SOIL IN THE PROJECT AREA WAS A SANDY CLAY AND INCLUDED NUMEROUS ROCKS OF VARYING SIZES AS A NATURAL INCLUSION. THE FOUNDATION (PLATFORM TYPE) OF A FORMER VIETNAMESE COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING WAS CLEARLY VISIBLE ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE PROJECT AREA ONCE THE VEGETATION WAS CLEARED AWAY.

6. FIELD METHODS.

A. THE TEAM EXCAVATED THREE SITES (2003, 2003B, AND 2003C) IN RESPONSE TO WITNESS STATEMENTS CONCERNING THE BURIAL OF THE REMAINS OF AMERICAN SERVICE PERSONNEL. THE THREE SITES, 2003, 2003B, AND 2003C, WERE ALLEGEDLY BURIAL LOCATIONS ON LAND.

B. THE TEAM EMPLOYED A SET OF STANDARD ARCHAEOLOGICAL FIELD METHODS TO LOCATE AND EXCAVATE REPORTED HUMAN BURIALS IN SITES 2003, 2003B, AND 2003C THAT INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING STEPS. THE TEAM ESTABLISHED A GRID TO FACILITATE SPATIAL CONTROL DURING THE COURSE OF THE EXCAVATION. THE TEAM SYSTEMATICALLY STRIPPED THE SOIL WITHIN THE EXCAVATION UNIT AWAY TO A DEPTH OF TWENTY CENTIMETERS USING SHARPENED SHOVELS. THE TEAM PROCESSED ALL EXCAVATED SOIL THROUGH ONE-QUARTER INCH SCREENS. THE TEAM CUT CLEAN THE EXCAVATION FLOOR WITH TROWELS, SPRAYED IT WITH WATER, AND THEN PHOTOGRAPHED IT. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST OBSERVED AND RECORDED ALL EVIDENCES OF PRIOR DISTURBANCE OF THE SUBSOIL, SUCH AS PIT FEATURES. THE TEAM EXCAVATED ALL PIT FEATURES WITH SHOVELS AND TROWELS AND SCREENED ALL FEATURE FILL THROUGH ONE-QUARTER INCH SCREENS. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST EXAMINED ALL MATERIALS RECOVERED DURING THE RECOVERY OPERATIONS. THE TEAM RETAINED MATERIALS THAT POSSIBLY CORRELATE TO THE CASE.

7. ARCHAEOLOGICAL FINDINGS:

A. THE TEAM DID NOT RECOVER ANY HUMAN REMAINS FROM THE THREE EXCAVATION SITES. THE TEAM RECORDED OBSERVATIONS AND COLLECTED MATERIALS DURING THE EXCAVATION OF THE THREE SITES.

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 004 *****/

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THESE RESULTS ARE DETAILED BELOW FOR THE RESPECTIVE SITES.

B. SITE 2003. THE TEAM EXCAVATED A TOTAL OF 234 SQUARE METERS DURING THE RECOVERY OPERATION AT SITE 2003. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST WAS ABLE TO OBSERVE AS A RESULT OF THESE EXCAVATIONS A NUMBER OF DISTURBANCES IN THE PROJECT AREA. THE MOST NOTABLE DISTURBANCE IN THE PROJECT AREA IS A SERIES OF VIETNAMESE TRENCHWORKS THAT WIND IN A CURVILINEAR FASHION THROUGH THE PROJECT AREA. THE VIETNAMESE TRENCHWORKS ARE OBSERVABLE BOTH ABOVE GROUND, AS LINEAR DEPRESSIONS, AND BELOW GROUND, AS DARK LINEAR STAINS ON THE EXCAVATION FLOOR. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST ALSO OBSERVED ONE FEATURE THAT APPEARS TO BE AFFILIATED WITH A DOMESTIC STRUCTURE THAT PREDATES THE KHMER ROUGE OCCUPATION OF THE ISLAND, AND NUMEROUS FORMER TREE ROOT SYSTEMS. THE TEAM EXCAVATED THE VIETNAMESE TRENCHES IN SEVERAL LOCATIONS AND EXCAVATED ALL SMALLER AREAS SHOWING SIGNS OF DISTURBANCE. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST DID NOT OBSERVE ANY SUBSURFACE FEATURES THAT APPEARED TO REPRESENT HUMAN BURIALS NOR ANY THAT APPEARED TO REPRESENT THE U-SHAPED KHMER ROUGE FIGHTING

POSITIONS DESCRIBED BY BOTH CAMBODIAN WITNESSES. THE TEAM RECOVERED NUMEROUS ANIMAL REMAINS BUT NO HUMAN REMAINS NOR ANY MATERIALS THAT APPEAR TO RELATE TO THE TWO BURIALS ALLEGEDLY DUG IN THE PROJECT AREA. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST MEASURED THE SOIL PH AND FOUND IT TO BE APPROXIMATELY 6.6.

C. SITE 2003B. THE TEAM EXCAVATED A TOTAL OF EIGHTY-FOUR SQUARE METERS DURING THE RECOVERY OPERATION AT SITE 2003B. THE TEAM EXCAVATED A SINGLE EXCAVATION BLOCK THAT ENCOMPASSED THE ENTIRE AREA INDICATED AS THE LOCATION OF THE BURIAL BY THE WITNESS AS WELL AS AN ADDITIONAL FORTY-NINE SQUARE METERS SUCH THAT THE ORIGINAL AREA MARKED OFF BY THE WITNESS (THIRTY-FIVE SQUARE METERS) WAS GREATLY EXPANDED TO CORRECT FOR ANY ERRORS IN THE WITNESS' MEMORY. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST OBSERVED NUMEROUS PIT FEATURES IN THE PROJECT AREA. THE TEAM EXCAVATED ALL PIT FEATURES. THE TEAM RECOVERED LARGE QUANTITIES OF ANIMAL REMAINS AND OTHER GENERAL DEBRIS THAT RELATED TO THE REFUSE DISCARDED DURING THE OCCUPATION OF THE BARRACKS HOUSE. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST OBSERVED NO HUMAN REMAINS DURING THE RECOVERY OPERATION AT SITE 2003B. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST MEASURED THE SOIL PH AND FOUND IT TO BE APPROXIMATELY 6.4.

D. SITE 2003C. THE TEAM EXCAVATED A TOTAL OF ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-TWO SQUARE METERS DURING THE RECOVERY OPERATION AT SITE 2003C. THE TEAM EXCAVATED A SINGLE EXCAVATION BLOCK THAT ENCOMPASSED THE ENTIRE AREA INDICATED BY THE WITNESS AS THE LOCATION OF THE BURIAL AS WELL AS AN ADDITIONAL NINETY-SIX SQUARE METERS LAID OUT SUCH THAT THE PROJECT AREA WAS EXPANDED ON ALL SIDES IN CASE THE WITNESS' MEMORY OF THE EXACT BURIAL LOCATION WAS IN ERROR. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST OBSERVED SEVERAL PIT FEATURES AND OTHER SUBSURFACE DISTURBANCES IN THE PROJECT AREA. THE TEAM EXCAVATED ALL PIT FEATURES AND OTHER SUBSURFACE DISTURBANCES. THE TEAM RECOVERED NUMEROUS ANIMAL REMAINS BUT NO HUMAN REMAINS. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST MEASURED THE SOIL PH AND FOUND IT TO BE APPROXIMATELY 6.2. THE TEAM RECOVERED ONE PLASTIC MILITARY-TYPE PONCHO NEAR THE GROUND SURFACE THAT POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO THE CASE 2003C. THE PONCHO IS CONSISTENT WITH ONE DESCRIBED BY THE WITNESS AS HAVING BEEN USED TO WRAP AROUND THE REMAINS PRIOR TO BURIAL. THE PONCHO WAS NOT IN A PIT, NOR WERE ANY REMAINS RECOVERED WITH THE PONCHO. THE TEAM PHOTOGRAPHED THE PONCHO AND DISCARDED IT ON SITE.

8. MATERIAL EVIDENCE. THE TEAM PHOTOGRAPHED A PLASTIC MILITARY-TYPE PONCHO AT SITE 2003C. THE PONCHO WAS NOT RETAINED BY THE TEAM.

9. LIFE SUPPORT ANALYST COMMENTS. N/A.

10. ANALYST/LINGUIST COMMENTS. THE WITNESS FOR SITE 2003,

(b)(6) (REF R), STATED ON BOTH INTERVIEW OCCASIONS THAT THE

AREA OF EXCAVATION HAD BEEN PROFOUNDLY ALTERED BY VIETNAMESE OCCUPATION TROOPS DURING THE 1980S. HE STATED THE VIETNAMESE HAD DUG BOTH FIGHTING AND COMMUNICATIONS TRENCHES IN THE AREA OF THE KHMER ROUGE FIGHTING POSITIONS. RECOMMEND VIETNAMESE OCCUPATION TROOPS BE INTERVIEWED IN REFERENCE TO ANY HUMAN REMAINS WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN EXHUMED FROM THE FORMER KHMER POSITIONS. FURTHER INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THE BATTLEFIELD IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE BATTLE MIGHT BE OBTAINED BY INTERVIEWING FORMER KHMER ROUGE TROOPS WHO HAVE ENTERED GOVERNMENT CUSTODY.

11. EOD TECHNICIAN COMMENTS: NONE.

12. ANTHROPOLOGIST CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

A. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST WILL OFFER COMMENTS FOR THE THREE SITES BELOW.

B. SITE 2003 WAS EXCAVATED IN RESPONSE TO THE TESTIMONY OF A WITNESS (b)(6) WHO WAS REPORTEDLY A KHMER ROUGE SOLDIER STATIONED ON KOH TANG IN MAY, 1975. THE WITNESS STATED THAT HE BURIED TWO AMERICANS WHOSE BODIES WASHED ASHORE ONE WEEK AFTER THEIR HELICOPTER WAS SHOT DOWN DURING THE AMERICAN RESCUE OPERATION AT KOH TANG. THE BODIES WERE PLACED IN A KHMER ROUGE FIGHTING POSITION AND COVERED WITH SAND. THE WITNESS DESCRIBED THE FIGHTING POSITION AS U-SHAPED AND APPROXIMATELY ONE-METER DEEP. THE WITNESS STATED THAT THERE WERE THREE OR FOUR SUCH FIGHTING POSITIONS IN THE PROJECT AREA IN MAY 1975, AND DISPLAYED THESE LOCATIONS IN REFERENCE TO THE CRASHED HELICOPTERS, THE BEACH, AND THE KHMER ROUGE CAMP ON A SKETCH MAP. THE AMERICANS WERE ALLEGEDLY PLACED IN THE NORTHERNMOST SET OF FIGHTING POSITIONS. THE TEAM EXCAVATED 234 SQUARE METERS OF SOIL IN AN ATTEMPT TO LOCATE THE BURIALS DESCRIBED BY THE WITNESS. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST OBSERVED NO EVIDENCE IN ANY FORM THAT INDICATED THAT HUMAN BURIALS WERE PRESENT IN THE PROJECT AREA OR THAT U-SHAPED FIGHTING POSITIONS HAD EVER BEEN DUG IN THE PROJECT AREA. THERE ARE THREE PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATIONS FOR THESE RESULTS. THE FIRST IS THAT THE WITNESS HAS INDICATED THE WRONG AREA AS THE LOCATION OF THE FIGHTING POSITIONS. HOWEVER, WITH THE LOCATIONS OF THE
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HELICOPTER CRASHES POINTED OUT TO THE WITNESS ALONG WITH THE STILL-APPARENT COCONUT GROVE FORMERLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE KHMER ROUGE CAMP CLEARLY VISIBLE, IT IS DIFFICULT TO ACCEPT THAT THE WITNESS COULD BE IN ERROR BY A SPATIAL MARGIN LARGER THAN THAT COVERED BY THE EXCAVATION AREAS. THE SECOND EXPLANATION IS THAT THE EXTENSIVE DISTURBANCE OF THE AREA CAUSED BY THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE VIETNAMESE DEFENSIVE WORKS HAS COMPLETELY OBLITERATED ALL EVIDENCE OF KHMER ROUGE

FIGHTING POSITIONS. IF THIS EXPLANATION HAS MERIT, THEN IT IS LIKELY THAT THE VIETNAMESE ENCOUNTERED THE AMERICAN BURIALS DURING THEIR OCCUPATION OF KOH TANG DURING THE 1980'S. THE POSSIBILITY THAT THE VIETNAMESE HAVE INFORMATION AND/OR REMAINS THAT CORRELATE TO THE TWO BURIALS SHOULD BE PURSUED BY JTF-FA ANALYSTS. THE THIRD EXPLANATION IS THAT THE WITNESS IS SIMPLY NOT BEING TRUTHFUL WITH THE JOINT TEAM. IT APPEARS AT THIS TIME THAT THE MOST FRUITFUL AVENUE OF WORK WILL BE TO PURSUE FURTHER ANALYTICAL WORK WITH THE VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS WHO LIVED ON KOH TANG DURING THE OCCUPATION OF THE 1980'S. THE WITNESS WHOSE STATEMENT GUIDED THE EXCAVATIONS DURING 99-1C SHOULD BE INTERVIEWED NO FURTHER, AS IT APPEARS CERTAIN THAT HE HAS LITTLE ELSE TO OFFER OTHER THAN SPECULATION AS TO THE BURIAL LOCATIONS. FURTHER RECOVERY WORK AT SITE 2003 SHOULD BE PURSUED ONLY IN LIGHT OF NEW, COMPELLING INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM NEW, RELIABLE SOURCES.

C. SITE 2003B WAS EXCAVATED IN RESPONSE TO THE STATEMENTS OF A VIETNAMESE WITNESS (b)(6) WHO ALLEGEDLY RECOVERED THE REMAINS OF AMERICAN SERVICEMEN FROM THE HELICOPTER CRASH SITE IN THE WATER AT THE NORTHEAST END OF KOH TANG. THE WITNESS POINTED TO THE LOCATION OF THE CASE 2003 CRASH SITE AS THE PLACE WHERE HE RECOVERED THE REMAINS. THE WITNESS STATED THAT SOME OF THE REMAINS WERE BURIED IN A SMALL PIT IN THE YARD OUTSIDE OF THE BARRACKS HOUSE WHERE HE LIVED AT THE TIME (APPROXIMATELY 1986). THE WITNESS GUIDED THE TEAM TO THE LOCATION OF THE BARRACKS HOUSE AND POINTED TO THE APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF THE BURIAL PIT, SAID BY THE WITNESS TO BE WITHIN TWO TO THREE METERS OF THE HOUSE. HE ALSO NOTED THAT A VIETNAMESE FISHERMAN WAS BURIED IN THE SAME VICINITY. THE TEAM CLEARED THE PROJECT AREA AND LOCATED THE FOUNDATION OF THE BARRACKS HOUSE WHICH WAS WHERE THE WITNESS INDICATED IT SHOULD BE. THE TEAM EXCAVATED A LARGE AREA THAT ENCOMPASSED THAT INDICATED BY THE WITNESS AS THE LOCATION OF THE BURIAL PIT. SEVERAL PIT FEATURES WERE OBSERVED AND EXCAVATED, BUT NONE CONTAINED HUMAN REMAINS. SOME OF THE PITS WERE EMPTY. THE SOIL CONDITIONS IN THE SITE ARE FAVORABLE FOR PRESERVATION OF BONE (NEUTRAL PH, WELL DRAINED). THERE ARE THREE PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATIONS FOR THE LACK OF HUMAN REMAINS IN THE PROJECT AREA. THE FIRST IS THAT THE WITNESS DOES NOT REMEMBER WHERE THE REMAINS WERE BURIED. THIS EXPLANATION IS CONTRADICTED BY THE WITNESS' MEMORY OF THE PRECISE LOCATIONS OF THE HELICOPTER CRASH SITE, THE BARRACKS HOUSE, AND THE COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING (SEE BELOW). THE SECOND EXPLANATION IS THAT OTHER VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS EXHUMED THE REMAINS WITHOUT

THE WITNESS' KNOWLEDGE. THE THIRD EXPLANATION IS THAT THE WITNESS IS NOT BEING TRUTHFUL WITH THE JOINT TEAM. THIS EXPLANATION IS IMPOSSIBLE TO SUPPORT OR DENY GIVEN CURRENT INFORMATION. IT APPEARS THAT THE MOST REASONABLE AVENUE OF WORK TO FOLLOW IS TO CONDUCT FURTHER ANALYTICAL WORK WITH VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS WHO WERE STATIONED ON KOH TANG IN THE 1980'S TO DETERMINE IF ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL EXHUMED THE AMERICAN REMAINS BURIED OUTSIDE OF THE BARRACKS HOUSE.

D. SITE 2003C WAS EXCAVATED IN RESPONSE TO STATEMENTS FROM A VIETNAMESE WITNESS, THE SAME AS REPORTED ABOVE FOR SITE 2003B. THE WITNESS SAID THE REMAINS OF AN AMERICAN SERVICEMAN WERE RECOVERED FROM A HELICOPTER CRASH SITE AND BURIED IN THE YARD OF A VIETNAMESE COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING. THE WITNESS STATED THAT THE REMAINS WERE WRAPPED IN A PLASTIC PONCHO AND BURIED IN A PIT IN THE YARD OFF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE BUILDING. THE WITNESS SUCCESSFULLY LOCATED THE BUILDING FOUNDATION IN AN AREA OF DENSE UNDERGROWTH AND POINTED OUT THE GENERAL LOCATION OF THE BURIAL PIT. THE TEAM EXCAVATED A LARGE EXCAVATION AREA OFF THE NORTHWEST CORNER OF THE BUILDING FOUNDATION. THE ANTHROPOLOGIST NOTED SEVERAL PIT FEATURES. THE TEAM EXCAVATED THE FEATURES AND FOUND THEM TO BE LARGELY EMPTY. THE LACK OF HUMAN REMAINS IN THE PROJECT AREA CAN BE EXPLAINED WITH THE SAME PLAUSIBLE EXPLANATIONS OFFERED ABOVE FOR SITE 2003B. THE SAME RECOMMENDATIONS APPLY TO SITE 2003C. FURTHER ANALYTICAL WORK WITH THE VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS FROM KOH TANG APPEARS TO HOLD THE GREATEST PROMISE FOR RESOLVING THIS CASE.

13. TEAM LEADER COMMENTS:

A. CONCLUSIONS: CONCUR WITH TEAM ANTHROPOLOGIST'S COMMENTS.

B. HOST GOVERNMENT COOPERATION/SUPPORT: EXCELLENT AT ALL LEVELS.

14. DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S COMMENTS: NONE.//

BT

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ADMIN

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CDSN = CFS455 MCN = 99128/01238 TOR = 991280054

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SUBJ: (MEC) SUBJ/DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF TRILATERAL

//NOTICE// AUTOMATED MESSAGE ERROR CORRECTION

----- ORIGINAL MESSAGE TEXT -----

CDSN = CFS455 MCN = 99128/01238 TOR = 991280054

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INFO RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//CA/OCS/ACS/BCTLV//

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:ISA/DPMO//

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RUEKDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC//CC//

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5//

RHHMUNA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3/J32//

RUEHBK/USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//

RUEHBK/CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH

RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI//CJTFFA DET TWO//

RUEHVN/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE//CJTFFA DET THREE//

RUHVAAA/CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//

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SECTION 01 OF 03

/***** THIS IS A COMBINED MESSAGE *****/

MSGID/GENADMIN/CJTF-FA/-/MAY//

SUBJ/DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF TRILATERAL

CASE 2003//

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

REF/A/MSG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/071800ZMAY99//
REF/B/MSG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/280235ZAPR99//
REF/C/MSG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/051745ZDEC95//
REF/D/DOC/1:50,000 SCALE MAP SHEETS//

RMKS/1. REFERENCES.

A. REF A IS THE SUMMARY REPORT OF 99-1C JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY CONDUCTED IN THE KINGDOM OF CAMBODIA (KOC) FROM 08 MARCH THROUGH 07 APRIL 1999.

B. REF B IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION FOR CASE 2003 CONDUCTED DURING THE 54TH JFA IN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV).

C. REF C IS THE DETAILED SEARCH AND RECOVERY MESSAGE FOR UNDERWATER RECOVERY OF CASE 2003.

D. MAP DATA: NAME: KAMPONG SAOM; SHEET: 5730-III; SERIES: L7016; EDITION: 3.

E. ANALYTICAL COMMENTS IN THIS REPORT ARE BASED ON FIELD ANALYSIS AND ARE NOT INTENDED TO PROVIDE FINAL ANALYTICAL CONCLUSIONS.

2. SUMMARY.

A. CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS: CASE 2003 INVOLVES THE 15 MAY 1975 LOSS OF THIRTEEN U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL ONBOARD A CH-53A HELICOPTER DURING THE U.S. OPERATION ON KOH TANG TO RESCUE THE CREW OF THE SS MAYAGUEZ. THERE ARE A TOTAL OF 13 UNACCOUNTED-FOR AMERICANS ASSOCIATED WITH THIS CASE.

B. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION: ON 14-15 MARCH 1999, THE INVESTIGATION ELEMENT (IE) INVESTIGATED TRILATERAL CASE 2003 ON TANG ISLAND, SIHANOUKVILLE, KOC. THE IE INTERVIEWED ONE VIETNAMESE WITNESS WHO SERVED ON TANG ISLAND FROM 1982-1986. HE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND AND HEARSAY INFORMATION REGARDING FINDING AND BURYING REMAINS HE AND ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL FOUND IN AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE IN THE WATER NEAR THE BEACH. THE WITNESS LED THE JOINT TEAM TO THE CASE 2003 CRASH SITE AND TWO BURIAL SITES (NOTE: THE CRASH SITE HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY EXCAVATED). THE IE AND RECOVERY ELEMENT ONE (RE1) SURVEYED BOTH BURIAL SITES. THIS INFORMATION CORRELATES TO CASE 2003.

C. REMAINS/PERSONAL EFFECTS: THE IE DID NOT RECOVER OR RECEIVE ANY REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS WHILE INVESTIGATING THIS INFORMATION.

D. RECOMMENDATION: EXCAVATE.

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION.

A. PURPOSE: RE-INTERVIEW (b)(6) A RESIDENT OF PHU TAN DISTRICT, AN GIANG PROVINCE, SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV). (b)(6) WAS PREVIOUSLY INTERVIEWED DURING THE 54TH JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY IN THE SRV (SEE REF B) AND PROVIDED INFORMATION REGARDING FINDING AND BURYING U.S.

REMAINS ON TANG ISLAND. HAVE MR. HUNG LEAD A TRILATERAL TEAM TO THE BURIAL SITES (ACCOMPLISHED; SEE PARA 3.D BELOW).

B. ON 14-15 MARCH 1999, THE TRILATERAL U.S./KOC/SRV TEAM INVESTIGATED CASE 2003 ON TANG ISLAND.

C. TEAM COMPOSITION:

(1) U.S. CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER
(b)(6) ASSISTANT TEAM
LEADER/ANALYST/LINGUIST

(b)(6) DEBRIEFER
(b)(6) TEAM MEDIC

(2) CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER

(3) SIHANOUKVILLE CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER

(4) SRV CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) MINISTRY OF FOREIGN
AFFAIRS

(b)(6) MINISTRY OF PUBLIC
SECURITY

D. ON 14 MARCH 1999, THE TRILATERAL TEAM DEPARTED SIHANOUKVILLE (48P US 39 74) AND TRAVELED TO TANG ISLAND (48P TS 96 39) TO INVESTIGATE CASE 2003. THE IE LANDED AT GRID COORDINATE TS 960 391. THE IE INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS AND OBTAINED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

(1) WITNESS NAME: (b)(6)

(2) AGE: 35 YOA.

(3) CURRENT RESIDENCE AND LENGTH OF TIME THERE:
LIFELONG RESIDENT OF PHU NGUYEN THUONG HAMLET, PHO THO VILLAGE, PHU TAN DISTRICT, AN GIANG PROVINCE.

(4) CURRENT OCCUPATION: SMALL BUSINESS OWNER.

(5) OCCUPATION AT TIME OF INCIDENT: CHILD (MARINE SERGEANT 1982-1986).

(6) STATEMENT:

(A) (b)(6) WAS STATIONED ON TANG ISLAND FROM APRIL 1982 TO FEBRUARY 1986. HE WAS A MEMBER OF A RECONNAISSANCE SQUAD SUBORDINATE TO THE 562ND MARINE BATTALION. OTHER 562ND SUBORDINATE UNITS INCLUDED THE C5, C6, AND C7 INFANTRY COMPANIES, AND THE C2 ARTILLERY COMPANY. THERE WAS ALSO A SEPARATE RADAR COMPANY ON THE ISLAND WHICH WAS DIRECTLY SUBORDINATE TO NAVAL REGION 5 HEADQUARTERS ON PHU QUOC (PHU QUOOC) ISLAND, VIETNAM.

((1)) THE NAVAL REGION 5 HQ COMMANDER WAS LY (LYS) (NFI).

((2)) THE C5 INFANTRY COMPANY COMMANDER WAS

FIRST LIEUTENANT CHUC (CHUCS)(NFI).
 ((3)) THE C2 ARTILLERY COMPANY COMMANDER
 WAS FIRST LIEUTENANT DAI (DAIF)(NFI).

(b)(6) DID NOT KNOW THE WHEREABOUTS OF THESE INDIVIDUALS
 AND COULD NOT RECALL THE NAMES OF OTHER SOLDIERS STATIONED
 ON THE ISLAND WITH HIM.

(B) (b)(6) STATED THAT ALMOST EVERYONE ON
 /***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 *****/
 SUBJ/DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF TRILATERAL
 THE ISLAND KNEW ABOUT THE WRECKAGE OF THE AIRCRAFT JUST OFF
 THE NORTHEAST BEACH. STANDING ON THE BEACH, HE COULD SEE
 TWO PARTS OF THE WRECKAGE ABOVE THE WATER. HE BELIEVED
 THESE TO BE THE REMNANTS OF THE PROPS OF A TWIN PROPELLER
 AIRCRAFT.

(C) SOMETIME DURING 1985, (b)(6) AND HIS SQUAD
 LEADER, (b)(6) LOOKED THROUGH THE
 WRECKAGE. THEY PULLED WHAT APPEARED TO BE PARACHUTE
 MATERIAL OUT OF THE SAND AND SAW BONES. THEY CONTINUED TO
 DIG IN THE SAND INSIDE THE WRECKAGE AND FOUND TWO FULL SETS
 OF REMAINS, A DOG TAG, AN IDENTIFICATION CARD, A .45
 CALIBER PISTOL AND AN M-18 (SIC) RIFLE. (b)(6) STATED HE
 COULD NOT READ THE DATA ON THE DOG TAG OR I.D. CARD AND LOST
 THEM ON AN UNRECALLED DATE SOMETIME LATER. HE LEFT THE TWO
 WEAPONS ON THE ISLAND WHEN HE LEFT IN 1986 BECAUSE THEY WERE
 CORRODED AND HE WAS NOT ALLOWED TO BRING ANYTHING WITH HIM
 EXCEPT HIS UNIFORMS.

(D) (b)(6) BROUGHT ONE SET OF REMAINS BACK TO
 HIS SQUAD'S LIVING QUARTERS ON THE ISLAND. THEY LIVED IN A
 BAMBOO HUT, APPROXIMATELY 100 METERS FROM THE BEACH ON THE
 EAST SIDE OF THE ISLAND, SOUTH OF THE WRECKAGE. (b)(6)
 SHOWED THE REMAINS TO THE SEVEN OR EIGHT OTHER MEMBERS OF
 HIS SQUAD (NFI) AND THEN BURIED THE REMAINS WITHIN ONE-TO-
 TWO METERS FROM THE SOUTH END OF THE HUT. HE BURIED THE
 REMAINS NEXT TO THE EXISTING GRAVE OF A VIETNAMESE FISHERMAN
 (NFI) WHOSE BODY HAD WASHED ASHORE SEVERAL YEARS EARLIER.
 THE GRAVE WAS UNMARKED AND APPROXIMATELY 40-50 CENTIMETERS
 DEEP. HE PLACED THE REMAINS IN THE GRAVE WITHOUT ANY TYPE
 OF CONTAINER OR WRAPPING. THE SOIL WAS SANDY WITH NO ROCKS.

(E) (b)(6) SQUAD LEADER, (b)(6) REPORTEDLY
 BURIED THE OTHER SET OF REMAINS IN AN UNMARKED, 40-50
 CENTIMETER DEEP GRAVE, NEAR THE COMMUNICATIONS STATION. (b)(6)
 (b)(6) WRAPPED THE REMAINS IN A SQUARE PIECE OF "NYLON"
 MATERIAL WHICH (b)(6) THOUGHT WAS A MILITARY RAINCOAT OR
 PONCHO. THE SOIL WAS ROCKY AND THERE WERE SEVERAL LARGE
 BOULDERS NEAR THE GRAVE. (b)(6) DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN
 THIS BURIAL, BUT OBSERVED THE GRAVE ON ONE OCCASION A FEW

DAYS AFTERWARDS.

E. ON 14 MARCH 1999, (b)(6) GUIDED THE TRILATERAL TEAM AND THE RE1 TEAM LEADER AND ANTHROPOLOGIST TO THE CRASH SITE WHERE HE REPORTEDLY FOUND THE REMAINS. HE INDICATED THE LOCATION OF THE PREVIOUSLY EXCAVATED CASE 2003 HELICOPTER WRECKAGE (KNIFE 23) AS THE SITE WHERE HE AND HIS SQUAD LEADER FOUND THE REMAINS.

F. (b)(6) LED THE TEAM TO THE SITE WHERE HE ALLEGEDLY BURIED REMAINS NEXT TO HIS SQUAD'S HUT. HE TOOK APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR TO ORIENT HIMSELF AND LOCATE WHAT HE BELIEVED TO BE THE BURIAL SITE. HE STATED THE AREA HAD CHANGED A GREAT DEAL. HE USED A SMALL, FRESH WATER POND, A STAND OF BAMBOO AND TWO COCONUT TREES AS LANDMARKS. HE INDICATED A 10 X 5 METER AREA WHERE HE BELIEVED THE HUT WAS FORMERLY LOCATED. THERE WERE NO VISIBLE SIGNS THAT A HUT HAD EXISTED THERE EXCEPT THE AREA WAS RELATIVELY FLAT AND CLEAR OF TREES. THE AREA CONTAINED THICK GRASS. THE SURROUNDING AREA HAD MANY SMALL BUSHES AND COCONUT TREES.

(b)(6) INDICATED A 5 X 7 METER AREA (TS 965 395) DIRECTLY TO THE SOUTH AS THE BURIAL LOCATION.

G. (b)(6) LED THE TEAM TO THE SECOND BURIAL LOCATION. AGAIN, HE TOOK APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR TO ORIENT HIMSELF. HE LED THE TEAM THROUGH AN AREA OF THICK BRUSH AND TREES. HE INDICATED AN OLD FOUNDATION AS THE FORMER LOCATION OF A COMMUNICATIONS STATION AND A CLEARING IN THE WOODS AS THE FORMER LOCATION OF A MEETING HOUSE. HE LOCATED SEVERAL LARGE ROCKS AND A LARGE TREE STUMP TO HELP DETERMINE THE APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF THE BURIAL SITE. THE AREA HE INDICATED CONTAINED THICK BRUSH. THE RE TEAM LEADER AGREED TO CLEAR THE BRUSH OUT OF THE AREA SO (b)(6) COULD NARROW DOWN THE AREA OF THE BURIAL. THE JOINT TEAM RETURNED TO SIHANOUKVILLE.

H. ON 15 MARCH, (b)(6) THE TRILATERAL TEAM, AND THE RE1 TEAM LEADER AND ANTHROPOLOGIST RETURNED TO THE SECOND BURIAL SITE. THE AREA WAS COMPLETELY CLEARED OF BRUSH, INCLUDING THE AREA SURROUNDING THE FOUNDATION OF THE FORMER COMMUNICATION STATION. (b)(6) INDICATED A 6 X 6 METER AREA (TS 962 391) WHERE HE BELIEVED THE GRAVE WAS LOCATED. THE SOIL IN THE AREA CONTAINED NUMEROUS LARGE ROCKS AND SEVERAL BOULDERS ABOVE THE GROUND.

4. MATERIAL EVIDENCE.

A. MATERIAL EVIDENCE RETAINED BY JTF-FA: NONE.

B. MATERIAL EVIDENCE PHOTOGRAPHED AND LEFT IN PLACE: NONE.

C. REMAINS: NONE.

5. SITE SURVEY RESULTS: NONE. THE IE SURVEYED THE TWO

BURIAL SITES ON KOH TANG TOGETHER WITH RE1. THE TWO BURIAL SITES WERE BEING EXCAVATED DURING THE ON-GOING 99-1C JFA.

6. PERTINENT LOCATION OR DATA CHANGES: NONE.

7. ANALYST COMMENTS.

A. WITNESS STATEMENTS: CREDIBLE. (b)(6) PROVIDED HIS INFORMATION IN A SINCERE MANNER. THE IE INTERVIEWED (b)(6) OVER A PERIOD OF 2 DAYS, DURING WHICH TIME HIS ANSWERS REMAINED LOGICAL, CONSISTENT, AND EXTREMELY DETAILED. (b)(6) TOOK A LONG TIME TO ORIENT HIMSELF ON THE ISLAND IN ORDER TO FIND THE TWO BURIAL SITES AND APPEARED TO PUT FORTH A LOT OF EFFORT TO DETERMINE THEIR LOCATIONS. THE TERRAIN THE TEAM OBSERVED AT BOTH SITES WAS CONSISTENT WITH THE INFORMATION HE PROVIDED BEFORE LEADING THE TEAMS TO THESE SITES.

B. ANALYTICAL CONCLUSIONS: THE WITNESS INDICATED THE CASE 2003 INCIDENT LOCATION AND WRECKAGE AS THE LOCATION /***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 003 *****/

SUBJ/DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF TRILATERAL WHERE HE AND HIS SQUAD LEADER FOUND REMAINS IN 1985. A JOINT U.S./KOC TEAM EXCAVATED THIS SITE IN NOVEMBER 1995, AND RECOVERED U.S. REMAINS (SEE REF C). THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY (b)(6) CORRELATES TO CASE 2003.

C. LIFE SUPPORT TECHNICIAN COMMENTS: N/A.

8. TEAM LEADER COMMENTS.

A. CONCLUSIONS: CONCUR WITH ANALYST'S COMMENTS.

B. HOST GOVERNMENT COOPERATION/SUPPORT: DURING THIS INVESTIGATION, THE U.S. CONTINGENT RECEIVED EXCELLENT SUPPORT FROM ALL LEVELS OF THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT.

9. RECOMMENDATION. EXCAVATE.

10. DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S COMMENTS. CONCUR.//

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----- END OF MESSAGE TEXT -----

ADMIN

PTTUZYUW RUHEMAD0001 1180235-UUUU--RHMCSUU.
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FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J3//
INFO WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC
SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//CA/OCS/ACS/BCTLV//
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:ISA/DPMO//
CIA WASHINGTON DC//OEA/SEA/IB/DDO/EA/ICOG/CI//
DIA WASHINGTON DC//CC//
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5//
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3/J32//
USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//
CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH
AMEMBASSY HANOI//CJTFFA DET TWO//
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE//CJTFFA DET THREE//
CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//
SAFE WASHINGTON DC
CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J3//
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MSGID/GENADMIN/CJTF-FA/-/APR//
SUBJ/DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION OF CAMBODIA CASE
2003//
REF/A/MSG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/272300ZAPR99//
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REF/C/ DOC 1:250,000 SCALE MAP SHEET//
RMKS/1. REFERENCES.

A. REF A IS THE SUMMARY REPORT OF THE 54TH JOINT FIELD
ACTIVITY (JFA) CONDUCTED IN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
(SRV) FROM 23 FEBRUARY THROUGH 27 MARCH 1999.

B. REF B ARE LETTERS ADDRESSED TO THE U.S. AMBASSADOR IN
HANOI ON 11 AND 12 JUNE 1997.

C. MAP DATA: (b)(5), (b)(6).

D. ANALYTICAL COMMENTS IN THIS REPORT ARE BASED ON FIELD
ANALYSIS AND ARE NOT INTENDED TO PROVIDE FINAL ANALYTICAL
CONCLUSIONS.

2. SUMMARY.

A. IN AUGUST 1997, THE U.S. EMBASSY IN HANOI RECEIVED
TWO LETTERS DATED 11 AND 12 JUNE 1997 FROM A VIETNAMESE
CITIZEN PROVIDING INFORMATION RELATED TO AN ALLEGED CRASH
SITE AND POSSIBLE AMERICAN REMAINS.

B. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION: ON 2 MARCH 1999,
INVESTIGATION ELEMENT 2 (IE2) INVESTIGATED AN UNCORRELATED
CASE IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE. THE TEAM INTERVIEWED ONE
WITNESS. THE WITNESS PROVIDED INFORMATION THAT CORRELATES
TO CAMBODIA CASE 2003.

C. REMAINS/PERSONAL EFFECTS: IE2 DID NOT RECOVER OR
RECEIVE ANY REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS WHILE INVESTIGATING
THIS CASE.

D. RECOMMENDATION: CONTINUE TO INVESTIGATE.

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION.

A. PURPOSE: INTERVIEW (b)(6)
REGARDING THE DISPOSITION OF A MILITARY IDENTIFICATION (ID)

CARD AND ALLEGED AMERICAN REMAINS. (ACCOMPLISHED; SEE PARA 3. E., BELOW).

B. ON 2 MARCH 1999, THE JOINT U.S./VIETNAM INVESTIGATION TEAM ARRIVED IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE TO INVESTIGATE TWO CASES.

C. TEAM COMPOSITION:

(1) U.S. CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER
ASSISTANT TEAM

LEADER

(b)(6) ANALYST
ANALYST
ANALYST/LINGUIST
ANALYST/LINGUIST
ANALYST/LINGUIST
MEDIC

(2) VIETNAMESE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER
(b)(6) TEAM MEMBER
(b)(6) TEAM MEMBER
(b)(6) TEAM MEMBER
(b)(6) TEAM MEMBER

(3) KIEN GIANG PROVINCE CONTINGENT:

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER
(b)(6) TEAM MEMBER
(b)(6) TEAM MEMBER
(b)(6) TEAM MEMBER

D. ON 2 MARCH 1999, THE JOINT TEAM MET WITH THE KIEN GIANG PROVINCE TEAM TO DISCUSS THE INVESTIGATION PLAN. THE PROVINCE TEAM INFORMED THE JOINT TEAM THEY LOCATED THE REQUESTED WITNESS.

E. ON 2 MARCH 1999, IE2 INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS AT THE AU CO V BANKING HOTEL, RACH GIA TOWN, KIEN GIANG PROVINCE, AND OBTAINED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

(1) WITNESS NAME: (b)(6)

(2) AGE: 35 YOA.

(3) CURRENT RESIDENCE AND LENGTH OF TIME THERE:

LIFELONG RESIDENT OF PHU NGUYEN THUONG HAMLET (AAPS PHUS NGUYEENX THWONGJ), PHU THO VILLAGE (XAX PHUS THOJ), PHU TAN DISTRICT, AN GIANG PROVINCE.

(4) CURRENT OCCUPATION: FAMILY OWNED, SMALL BUSINESS.

(5) ADDRESS AT TIME OF INCIDENT: KOH TANG ISLAND, CAMBODIA.

(6) OCCUPATION AT TIME OF INCIDENT: MARINE JUNIOR SERGEANT.

(7) BACKGROUND: IN TWO LETTERS ADDRESSED TO THE U.S. AMBASSADOR IN HANOI DATED JUNE 1997, (b)(6) CLAIMS TO HAVE DISCOVERED TWO SETS OF REMAINS, A MILITARY ID CARD AND PERSONAL EQUIPMENT INSIDE A CRASHED AIRCRAFT IN CAMBODIA. IE2 WAS ASSIGNED TO INVESTIGATE THIS CASE AS UNCORRELATED INFORMATION DURING THIS (54TH) JFA.

(8) STATEMENT:

(A) IN 1985, (b)(6) WAS A MEMBER OF THE

RECONNAISSANCE SQUAD, 562ND MARINE BATTALION STATIONED ON KOH TANG ISLAND, CAMBODIA, FROM 1982 TO 1986. (b)(6) AND (b)(6) HIS SQUAD LEADER AT THE TIME, WERE SEARCHING FOR SOUVENIRS AND SCAVENGING WHEN THEY FOUND AN AIRCRAFT CRASH SITE. HE DESCRIBED THE AIRCRAFT AS A TWO-ENGINE PROPELLER TRANSPORT. (b)(6) DID NOT REMEMBER ANY ID NUMBER OR OTHER DISTINGUISHING MARKS ON THE AIRCRAFT. HE SAID EVERYBODY STATIONED ON THE ISLAND KNEW OF THE CRASH SITE LOCATION.

(B) THE AIRCRAFT WAS PARTIALLY BURIED IN THE SAND ON THE BEACH AND THE CREW CABIN AND CARGO SECTION WAS FILLED WITH SAND AND DEBRIS. (b)(6) ENTERED THE AIRCRAFT CARGO SECTION AND DUG AROUND UNTIL HE FOUND A PARACHUTE. WHILE TRYING TO FREE THE PARACHUTE FROM THE DEBRIS, HE CAME ACROSS SEVERAL BONES. HE CONTINUED TO DIG THROUGH THE DEBRIS UNTIL HE LOCATED TWO FULL SETS OF REMAINS. (b)(6) ALSO FOUND ONE SET OF ID TAGS AND A MILITARY ID CARD. HE DESCRIBED THE PICTURE ON THE ID CARD AS AN AMERICAN, CAUCASIAN MALE, WITH A LONG FACE, MUSTACHE, AND LIGHT BLOND HAIR. HE COULD NOT READ THE NAME ON THE CARD BUT BELIEVED THE INDIVIDUAL'S RANK TO BE A FIRST LIEUTENANT. (b)(6) SAID THAT SINCE THEN HE HAS LOST THE ID TAGS AND ID CARD. HE ALSO FOUND A 45-CALIBER PISTOL, AND AN M-18 RIFLE (POSSIBLY AN M-16 RIFLE). HE LEFT THESE WEAPONS ON THE ISLAND WHEN HE DEPARTED.

(C) WHEN THE TWO LEFT THE CRASH SITE, (b)(6) TOOK ONE SET OF REMAINS BACK TO HIS UNIT. HE SHOWED THE REMAINS TO HIS FRIENDS AND LATER BURIED THEM CLOSE WHERE THEY WERE CAMPED. (b)(6) USED A SHOVEL TO BURY THE SECOND SET OF REMAINS ON A BEACH, APPROXIMATELY TWO KILOMETERS FROM THE CRASH SITE. THE REMAINS WERE BURIED IN A GRAVE APPROXIMATELY 50 CENTIMETERS DEEP, IN PROXIMITY TO A COMMUNICATION BUILDING AND APPROXIMATELY 80 METERS FROM THE WATER'S EDGE. NO MARKER WAS PLACED ON THE GRAVE SITE. (b)(6) SAID THE LOCATION OF THE GRAVE SITE IS ON THE HIGH GROUND AND IS IN A LOCATION WHERE IT SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED OR WASHED AWAY.

(D) (b)(6) AGREED TO LEAD THE JOINT TEAM TO THE AREA WHERE HE BURIED THE REMAINS. HE ALSO PROVIDED INFORMATION ON A POSSIBLE THIRD WITNESS, A (b)(6) (b)(6) WHO MIGHT KNOW WHERE (b)(6) BURIED THE OTHER SET OF REMAINS. (b)(6) SAID HE DID NOT KNOW THE LOCATION OF (b)(6) (b)(6) WAS A MARINE PRIVATE STATIONED ON KOH TANG WITH (b)(6)

4. MATERIAL EVIDENCE.

- A. MATERIAL EVIDENCE RETAINED BY JTF-FA: NONE.
- B. MATERIAL EVIDENCE PHOTOGRAPHED AND LEFT IN PLACE: NONE.
- C. REMAINS: NONE.

5. SITE SURVEY RESULTS. N/A.

6. PERTINENT LOCATION OR DATA CHANGES. NONE.

7. ANALYST COMMENTS.

A. WITNESS STATEMENTS: CREDIBLE. (b)(6) PROVIDED HIS INFORMATION IN A STRAIGHTFORWARD AND COOPERATIVE MANNER.

HE APPEARED CONFIDENT IN HIS STATEMENTS. WITNESS INFORMATION CORRELATES TO CASE 2003 BASED ON LOCATION.

B. ANALYTICAL CONCLUSIONS: THE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE WITNESS CORRELATES TO CASE 2003 BASE UPON LOCATION AND AIRCRAFT TYPE. A JOINT TEAM SHOULD LOCATE AND INTERVIEW

(b)(6) WHO RESIDES IN MONG THO VILLAGE (XAX MONG THOJ,) WHICH IS NOW DIVIDED INTO TWO VILLAGES, MONG THO A VILLAGE AND MONG THO B VILLAGE, CHAU THANH DISTRICT, KIEN GIANG PROVINCE. A TEAM SHOULD ALSO INTERVIEW (b)(6) NANG (LEE HOANGF NAWNG) TO OBTAIN INFORMATION ABOUT THE LOCATION OF THE OTHER SET OF REMAINS. (MR. NANG PREVIOUSLY LIVED IN KIEN GIANG PROVINCE, BUT LAST YEAR TOOK HIS SECOND WIFE AND DEPARTED. THE JOINT TEAM COULD NOT FIND ANYONE WHO KNOWS HIS WHEREABOUTS.)

C. LIFE SUPPORT TECHNICIAN COMMENTS: NONE.

8. TEAM LEADER COMMENTS.

A. CONCLUSIONS: CONCUR WITH ANALYST'S COMMENTS. RECOMMEND THAT (b)(6) BE BROUGHT TO KOH TANG, CAMBODIA, TO GUIDE A JOINT TEAM TO THE BURIAL SITE LOCATION FOR RECOVERY. THE VNOSMP SHOULD ATTEMPT TO LOCATE (b)(6) AND ALSO TRANSPORT HIM TO KOH TANG TO GUIDE A TEAM TO THE OTHER BURIAL SITE.

B. HOST GOVERNMENT COOPERATION/SUPPORT: DURING THIS INVESTIGATION, THE U.S. CONTINGENT RECEIVED GOOD SUPPORT FROM ALL LEVELS OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT. THE VIETNAMESE CONTINGENTS SEARCHED FOR AND PROVIDED THE WITNESS ON SCHEDULE.

9. RECOMMENDATION: CONTINUE TO INVESTIGATE.

10. DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S COMMENTS: NONE.//

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(1) U.S. CONTINGENT:

TEAM LEADER
ASSISTANT TEAM LEADER
ANTHROPOLOGIST
MORTUARY AFFAIRS SPECIALIST
MORTUARY AFFAIRS SPECIALIST
TEAM MEDIC
TEAM MEDIC
EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL
(EOD) TECHNICIAN
LIFE SUPPORT TECHNICIAN
LINGUIST
LINGUIST
TEAM PHOTOGRAPHER

(2) KOC POW/MIA COMMITTEE CONTINGENT:

TEAM LEADER
TEAM MEMBER

C. ON 2 FEBRUARY 1998, WHILE RECOVERY ELEMENT TWO (RE2) WAS EXCAVATING AN ISOLATED BURIAL SITE NEAR REAM AIRFIELD, A CAMBODIAN WITNESS CAME TO THE SEASIDE HOTEL IN SIHANOUKVILLE CLAIMING HE BURIED TWO AMERICANS ON TANG ISLAND. RE2 INTERVIEWED THE WITNESS AND OBTAINED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- (1) WITNESS NAME: (b)(6)
(2) AGE: 43 YOA.
(3) CURRENT RESIDENCE AND LENGTH OF TIME THERE: PHUM (KHMER VILLAGE) SMACH DAENG, GROUP FIVE, KHUM (KHMER WORD FOR REAM, KAMPONG SOM PROVINCE; SINCE 1985.
(4) CURRENT OCCUPATION: FARMER.
(5) OCCUPATION AT TIME OF INCIDENT: KHMER ROUGE SOLDIER ON AND.

(6) BACKGROUND INFORMATION: FROM APPROXIMATELY MARCH TO SEPTEMBER 1975, (b)(6) WAS A SOLDIER ON TANG ISLAND.

(7) STATEMENT:

(A) (b)(6) AND 11 OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS UNIT SHOT DOWN AN AMERICAN HELICOPTER WHICH CRASHED IN THE COVE ON THE EASTERN SHORE OF TANG ISLAND. THE KHMER ROUGE CONTINUED SHOOTING AS THE AMERICANS EMERGED FROM THE AIRCRAFT AND BEGAN INFLATING THEIR LIFERAFTS. SEVERAL AMERICANS (NFI) AND FOUR KHMER ROUGE SOLDIERS WERE KILLED DURING THE BATTLE. AFTER THE BATTLE, (b)(6) AND THREE MEMBERS OF HIS UNIT, ONE NAMED MR. METH (DECEASED) AND TWO OTHERS, PULLED TWO BLOATED CORPSES FROM THE WATER. (b)(6) DID NOT REMEMBER THE NAMES OF THE OTHER TWO INDIVIDUALS.

(B) THE BODIES OF THE TWO AMERICANS HAD NO WOUNDS. BOTH BODIES WERE CAUCASIAN AND THEY WORE U.S. UNIFORMS. ONE INDIVIDUAL HAD REDDISH HAIR AND THE OTHER HAD LIGHT BROWN HAIR. THEY DID NOT REMOVE ANY PERSONNEL ITEMS FROM THE BODIES AND DID NOT NOTICE ANY NAME TAGS ON THE UNIFORMS. THE FOUR KHMER ROUGE SOLDIERS BURIED THE BODIES IN A TRENCH APPROXIMATELY ONE METER DEEP AND APPROXIMATELY 25-30 METERS FROM THE EASTERN SHORELINE. THEY FILLED THE GRAVES WITH

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U U N C L A S S I F I E D U

THE TEAM DUG A SECOND TEST PIT (1 X 1 X 1 METERS) TEN METERS SOUTH OF THE SOUTHERN TREE IN A LARGE MOUND THAT MAY HAVE BEEN CREATED BY VIETNAMESE FORCES LONG AFTER THE INCIDENT. THE TEAM FOUND ONE LARGE PIECE OF AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE IN THIS PIT. OTHER PIECES OF AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE WERE OBSERVED ON THE SURFACE THROUGHOUT THE AREA.

(3) (b)(6) STATED THAT HE FILLED THE BURIALS WITH SURROUNDING CORAL. SEVERAL PROBES INTO THE SOFT GROUND WITH A MACHETE DID NOT STRIKE ANY CORAL OR ROCK DEPOSITS. (b)(6) BELIEVES HE IDENTIFIED THE CORRECT GENERAL AREA OF THE BURIALS, BUT IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE REFERENCE TREE IS GONE. THEREFORE, THE ANTHROPOLOGIST STATED THAT ANY EXCAVATION IN THE AREA SHOULD ENCOMPASS AN APPROXIMATELY 20-METER LONG BY TEN-METER WIDE AREA PARALLEL TO THE BEACH THAT IS CENTERED ON THE FALLEN MIDDLE TREE. THIS AREA INCLUDES ALL THREE TREES AND THE BEACH SIDE TRENCH. EXPANSION OF THE SITE TO INCLUDE THE LARGE MOUND ON THE SOUTH MAY ALSO BE NECESSARY.

(4) (b)(6) WAS IN THE 42ND BATTALION, 62ND REGIMENT. THEIR AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY WAS THE EASTERN HALF OF THE ISLAND. HIS UNIT HAD APPROXIMATELY 200 PERSONNEL AND THE COMMANDER'S NAME WAS (b)(6) (NFI). THE 62ND REGIMENT COMMANDER'S NAME WAS MIENG (NFI). THE OTHER UNIT ON KOH TANG RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WESTERN HALF OF THE ISLAND WAS THE 41ST BATTALION WITH APPROXIMATELY 200 SOLDIERS. (b)(6) NEVER WENT TO THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND. HE HEARD ONE AMERICAN DIED ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND, BUT HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM. HE ALSO HEARD TWO AMERICANS WERE TAKEN FROM THE ISLAND AND SENT TO REAM NAVAL BASE (NFI). (NOTE: THIS INFORMATION CONTRADICTS HIS PREVIOUS INTERVIEW ON 2 FEBRUARY).

4. MATERIAL EVIDENCE.

- A. MATERIAL EVIDENCE RETAINED BY JTF-FA: NONE.
B. MATERIAL EVIDENCE PHOTOGRAPHED AND LEFT IN PLACE: NONE.

5. SITE SURVEY RESULTS:

A. AREA DATA:

- (1) PROVINCE: KAMPONG SOM.
(2) DISTRICT: KOH TANG.
(3) VILLAGE/TOWN/CITY: KOH TANG.
(4) VICINITY GRID COORDINATE: 48P TS 94420 39743. THE IE

(4) VICINITY GRID COORDINATE: 48P TS 94420 39743. THE IE OBTAINED THE GRID COORDINATE BY USING A TRIMBLE TRIMPACK SATELLITE GLOBAL POSITIONING RECEIVER, TRACKING FOUR SATELLITES USING THE WGS-84 DATUM.

B. MAP DATA:

- (1) MAP NAME: KAMPOT, KAMPUCHEA, VIETNAM.
- (2) MAP SHEET: NC-48-5.
- (3) MAP SERIES: 1501-AIR.
- (4) MAP EDITION: 4.

C. SITE ACCESSIBILITY: THIS ISLAND IS APPROXIMATELY ONE AND ONE-HALF HOURS VIA FAST BOAT, FOUR HOURS VIA DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES BOAT, OR 20 MINUTES VIA LAO WESTCOAST HELICOPTER.

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(1) TYPE OF SITE: BURIAL SITE.
(2) DIMENSIONS: TWENTY METERS BY TEN METERS.
(3) SIGNIFICANT FEATURES:
 (A) DISTANCE TO NEAREST ROAD: N/A.
 (B) NEAREST POPULATED AREA:
 ((1)) NAME: MILITARY CAMP (NAME UNKNOWN)
 ((2)) DISTANCE FROM SITE: APPROXIMATELY ONE KILOMETER
FROM THE BURIAL SITE.
 ((3)) ESTIMATED AVAILABLE LABORERS: APPROXIMATELY 40
SOLDIERS LIVE ON THE ISLAND.
 ((4)) SITE SENSITIVITY: NONE.
 ((5)) MAJOR TERRAIN FEATURES: THE COFFER BOXES USED
DURING JFA 96-1C WERE APPROXIMATELY 30 METERS EAST OF THE BURIAL
SITE. THERE WERE TWO LARGE TREES NEXT TO THE ALLEGED BURIAL SITE.
ONE TREE WAS LYING ON THE GROUND AND THE OTHER TREE HAS AN X MARKED
IN THE TREE.

(1) LOCATION: (b)(5); (b)(6) (EASTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND).
(2) DISTANCE TO SITE: APPROXIMATELY ONE KILOMETER.
(3) DISTANCE TO BASE CAMP: 27 KILOMETERS IF BASE CAMP ON
MAINLAND IS USED, OR 1 KILOMETER IF TEAM IS BASE CAMPED ON ISLAND.
(4) CONSIDERATIONS: LZ WAS USED DURING JFA 96-1C AND 96-3C.
ANOTHER LZ COULD BE CUT CLOSER TO THE SITE WITH PRIOR COORDINATION
WITH THE BASE COMMANDER.

(1) LOCATION: THERE IS NO HOTEL ON KOH TANG. THE SEASIDE HOTEL IN SIHANOUKVILLE IS A 20-MINUTE FLIGHT TO KOH TANG. IT CAN ACCOMMODATE A STANDARD SIZE RECOVERY ELEMENT. DURING JFA 96-1C AND 96-3C, BOTH RE TEAMS BASE CAMPED ON THE ISLAND.

(2) DISTANCE TO SITE: 27 KILOMETERS, OR 100 METERS IF TEAM BASE CAMPED ON THE ISLAND.

(3) WATER SOURCE: NONE. THE TEAM WOULD HAVE TO BRING THEIR OWN WATER ALONG WITH POTABLE WATER FOR THE WORKERS AND GUARDS.

(4) HOTEL AVAILABILITY: THERE IS NO HOTEL ON KOH TANG. THE SEASIDE HOTEL IN SIHANOUKVILLE IS A 20-MINUTE FLIGHT TO KOH TANG. IT CAN ACCOMMODATE A STANDARD SIZE RECOVERY ELEMENT.

H. ESTIMATED EXCAVATION REQUIREMENTS:

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PERTAINING THESE CASES. THE KOC POW/MIA COMMITTEE LOCATED (b)(6)
(4) FROM 14 TO 16 OCTOBER 1997, THE KOC POW/MIA COMMITTEE
ESCORTED (b)(6) TO PURSAT PROVINCE TO LOCATE (b)(6) AT LEAK COMMUNE,
PURSAT PROVINCE. THEY CANVASSED THE VILLAGE BUT COULD NOT LOCATE
HIM. HE RECALLED THE NAME OF ANOTHER POTENTIAL WITNESS, (b)(6)
KHAN, WHO HE THOUGHT MAY KNOW THE POSSIBLE BURIAL SITE OF SEVEN
AMERICANS IN AN ORANGE PLANTATION, O TRAV VILLAGE, PREY NOP DISTRICT,
KAMPONG SOM PROVINCE.

(5) FROM 17 TO 19 OCTOBER 1997, A JOINT U.S./KOC INVESTIGATION ELEMENT (IE) INVESTIGATED CASES 1998, 2002, 2003 AND 2038 IN KAMPONG SOM PROVINCE. THE JOINT IE SURVEYED TWO POSSIBLE GRAVE SITES AND INTERVIEWED THREE WITNESSES. ONE WITNESS LED THE JOINT TEAM TO THE LOCATION WHERE THE KHMER ROUGE ALLEGEDLY KILLED TWO AMERICANS. THE OTHER GRAVE SITE WAS WHERE THE KHMER ROUGE ALLEGEDLY KILLED SEVEN AMERICANS.

(6) ON 10 NOVEMBER 1997, DETACHMENT FOUR RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE SIHANOUKVILLE POLICE INDICATING THEY HAD LOCATED A POTENTIAL WITNESS FROM BUNG TA PROM VILLAGE, PREY NOP DISTRICT, KAMPONG SOM PROVINCE WHO KNOWS OF GRAVE SITE 250 METERS NORTH OF THE GRAVE WHERE THE KHMER ROUGE KILLED SEVEN AMERICANS.

(7) ON 15 NOVEMBER 1997, THE JOINT IE/STONY BEACH REPRESENTATIVE INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS AND SURVEYED THE ALLEGED GRAVES REFERENCED IN THE 10 NOVEMBER 1997 LETTER FROM THE SIHANOUKVILLE

~~POLICE. THE IE DUG SEVERAL TEST PITS WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS (SITE 3).~~
THE WITNESS WAS NOT SURE IF REMAINS HE ALLEGEDLY DUG UP WERE
AMERICAN, VIETNAMESE OR CAMBODIAN.

(8) ON 18 NOVEMBER 1997, THE USDAO BANGKOK REPRESENTATIVE INTERVIEWED FIVE WITNESSES IN BUNG PRUM COMMUNE, PREY NOP DISTRICT, KAMPONG SOM PROVINCE, BUT THEY DID NOT PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO UNACCOUNTED-FOR AMERICANS.

(9) ON 19 NOVEMBER 1997, THE JOINT IE INTERVIEWED (b)(6) AT HIS HOME IN KAMPOT CITY, KAMPOT PROVINCE. HE STATED HE SAW SEVEN
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CAPTURED AMERICANS BOARDING A BOAT ON KOH TANG AND HEADING FOR KAMPONG SOM PROVINCE. (b)(6) ALSO PROVIDED A SKETCH MAP WHERE SEVERAL OTHER AMERICANS DIED ON KOH TANG.

(10) FROM 22 TO 24 NOVEMBER 1997, THE KOC POW/MIA COMMITTEE SENT ONE REPRESENTATIVE TO PURSAT PROVINCE AND ONE REPRESENTATIVE TO SIHANOUKVILLE TO LOCATE MR. TI. BOTH REPRESENTATIVES OBTAINED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO (b)(6), BUT DID NOT LOCATE HIM.

C. REMAINS/PERSONAL EFFECTS: THE IE DID NOT RECEIVE OR RECOVER ANY REMAINS, BUT THEY DID RECOVER A GREEN BUTTON WHILE INVESTIGATING THESE CASES.

D. RECOMMENDATION: EXCAVATE.

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION.

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A. PURPOSE: LOCATE AND INTERVIEW (b)(6) A FORMER KHMER ROUGE THIRD BATTALION LOGISTICS OFFICER. (b)(6) WAS REPORTEDLY BORN IN SRE AMBEL DISTRICT, KOH KONG PROVINCE AND IDENTIFIED BY A WITNESS USED DURING JFA 97-1C. (b)(6) REPORTEDLY MAY HAVE INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CAPTURE AND TRANSPORTATION OF THE FOUR ALLEGED AMERICANS FROM TANG ISLAND TO THE MAINLAND. ALSO IF ANY OTHER WITNESSES ARE IDENTIFIED DURING THE INVESTIGATION, INTERVIEW THEM ALSO. (ACCOMPLISHED; SEE PARA 3.D., BELOW).

C. TEAM COMPOSITION:

(b)(6) DETACHMENT COMMANDER
TEAM LEADER/LINGUIST/ANALYST
USDAO BANGKOK/PW-MIA LINGUIST/ANALYST

(b)(6) TEAM LEADER, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
TEAM MEMBER
TEAM MEMBER
TEAM MEMBER

D. ON 2 OCTOBER 1997, THE KOC POW/MIA COMMITTEE TRAVELED TO PHUM (VILLAGE) SRE AMBEL, SROK (DISTRICT) SRE AMBEL, KOH KONG PROVINCE. THEY TALKED WITH THE SRE AMBEL VILLAGE CHIEF AND SEVERAL OTHER VILLAGERS, BUT NOBODY KNEW OR HEARD OF A MR. CHHIN. THE IE THEN TRAVELED TO SROK TRAM KAK, TAKEO PROVINCE AND INTERVIEWED ONE INDIVIDUAL WHO PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

U2) AGE: OVER 50.

3) RESIDENCE AND LENGTH OF TIME THERE: REGION THREE
HEADQUARTERS, TRAM KAK DISTRICT, TAKEO PROVINCE; DID NOT ASK.

(4) CURRENT OCCUPATION: DEPUTY STAFF OFFICER, REGION THREE, TAKEO PROVINCE, ROYAL CAMBODIAN ARMED FORCES. HE SPEAKS ENGLISH, CHINESE, FRENCH AND VIETNAMESE.

(5) OCCUPATION AT THE TIME OF INCIDENT: COMMANDER OF THE KHMER ROUGE 3RD DIVISION WHICH WAS IN KAMPOT, TAKEO, KAMPONG SPEU, KAMPONG SOM AND KOH KONG PROVINCES.

(6) STATEMENT: COL SOMBATH HEARD ABOUT AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF AMERICANS TAKEN FROM KOH TANG AND EXECUTED NEAR REAM NAVAL HEADQUARTERS IN KAMPONG SOM PROVINCE (NFI). HE NEVER HEARD OF A (b)(6) (b)(6) WHO MAY HAVE BEEN THE THIRD BATTALION LOGISTICS OFFICER IN SRE AMBEL. COL SAMBOTH STATED ONE OF HIS REGIMENT COMMANDERS, MR. LAN, WHO LIVES IN TAKEO PROVINCE MAY HAVE INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THIS INCIDENT. HE AGREED TO CONTACT (b)(6) (b)(6) DID NOT HEAR ABOUT ANY OTHER INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THIS INCIDENT.

E. ON 4 OCTOBER 1997, DETACHMENT FOUR MET WITH THE KOC POW/MIA COMMITTEE. COL SAMON (KOC/POW MIA COMMITTEE MEMBER) RECEIVED A SKETCH MAP DRAWN BY MR. LAN FROM COL SAMBOTH AT HIS HOUSE IN PHNOM PENH ON 3 OCTOBER 1997. COL SAMBOTH DROPPED OFF THE SKETCH WHILE

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ENROUTE TO THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV) FOR A VACATION.
THE SKETCH MAP SHOWS A GENERAL AREA WHERE THE KHMER ROUGE ALLEGEDLY
EXECUTED TWO AMERICANS.

(1) (b)(6) TOLD (b)(6) ABOUT TWO OTHER OFFICERS WHO MAY HAVE SOME ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THIS INCIDENT, (b)(6) (b)(6) WAS THE BATTALION COMMANDER WHO WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE AREA WHERE THE KHMER ROUGE EXECUTED AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF AMERICANS NEAR THEIR HEADQUARTERS IN THE VICINITY OF REAM TOWN. (b)(6) IS DEAD, BUT HIS EXECUTIVE OFFICER, (b)(6) IS STILL ALIVE AND LIVING IN TAKEO PROVINCE. (b)(6), A FORMER KHMER ROUGE OFFICER WITH (b)(6) LIVES IN TRAPEANG RONEAP, TRAM KAK DISTRICT, TAKEO PROVINCE. (b)(6) SHOULD KNOW WHERE (b)(6) LIVES IN TAKEO PROVINCE.

(2) (b)(6) STATED (b)(6) WAS THE 18TH DIVISION COMMANDER AND THE 63RD REGIMENT COMMANDER. HE CONTROLLED KOH TANG, KOH PRING AND KOH POULO WAI FROM 1975 TO 1978. HE DEFECTED FROM THE KHMER ROUGE IN 1993. (b)(6) LIVES IN KHUM (COMMUNE) KAMPONG BYE, KAMPOT PROVINCE AND IS A DURIAN FARMER.

F. ON 07 OCTOBER 1997, THE KOC POW/MIA COMMITTEE SEARCHED FOR THE TWO POSSIBLE WITNESSES IN PHUM TRAPEANG RONEAP, SROK TRAM KOK, TAKEO PROVINCE, BUT COULD NOT LOCATE THE CORRECT WITNESSES. THEY TALKED WITH THREE PEOPLE WITH THE FIRST NAME OF VAN AND THREE ADDITIONAL PEOPLE WITH THE FIRST NAME OF HAN. NONE OF THESE INDIVIDUALS HAD ANY INFORMATION PERTAINING TO THIS INCIDENT. LATER THAT DAY, THE KOC POW/MIA COMMITTEE RETURNED TO KAMPOT PROVINCE AND INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS WHO PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

(1) WITNESS TWO: (b)(6)

(2) AGE: 45.

(3) RESIDENCE AND LENGTH OF TIME THERE: (b)(6) WAS BORN IN PHUM TELOK YUL, KHUM SREY KNONG, SROK JUM KIRI. HE CURRENTLY LIVES IN KHUM (COMMUNE) KAMPONG BYE, KAMPOT PROVINCE; DID NOT ASK.

(4) CURRENT OCCUPATION: DURIAN FARMER.

(5) OCCUPATION AT THE TIME OF INCIDENT: FROM 1975 TO 1978

(b)(6) WAS THE COMMANDER OF THE KHMER ROUGE 63RD REGIMENT. HE CONTROLLED KOH (ISLAND) TANG, KOH PRING AND KOH PAULO WAI. FROM 1979 TO 1993, (b)(6) WAS THE COMMANDER OF KHMER ROUGE 18TH DIVISION AND DEFECTED TO THE CAMBODIAN GOVERNMENT SOMETIME IN 1993. (NOTE: DURING (b)(6) SECOND INTERVIEW ON 19 NOVEMBER, (b)(6) STATED HE WAS THE COMMANDER OF THE KHMER ROUGE 330TH BATTALION, 61ST REGIMENT, 3RD DIVISION.)

(6) STATEMENT:

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(A) (b)(6) HEARD THAT ON 25 DECEMBER 1975, THE KHMER ROUGE CAPTURED 19 AMERICANS AND BROUGHT THEM TO SIHANOUKVILLE. TWO WERE BROUGHT TO THE KHMER ROUGE 634TH BATTALION, 3RD DIVISION. (b)(6) (b)(6) (FULL NAME UNKNOWN) KILLED THE TWO AMERICANS NEAR TUK SAP VILLAGE, PREY NOP DISTRICT, KAMPONG SOM PROVINCE. (b)(6) BELIEVES

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(A) SOMETIME BETWEEN 1975 AND 1979, (b)(6) WORKED TWO YEARS FOR THE KHMER ROUGE AS A FARMER IN SROK TA KEN, KO SALA, KAMPOT CITY, KAMPOT PROVINCE. (NOTE: (b)(6) STATED HE DID NOT RETURN UNTIL SOMETIME IN 1979, THEREFORE, HE PROBABLY LEFT TOEK SAP VILLAGE SOMETIME IN 1977.) (b)(6) DID NOT KNOW ABOUT THE KHMER ROUGE KILLING AMERICANS NEAR TOEK SAP VILLAGE. DURING THAT TIME, HE WAS VERY AFRAID OF THE KHMER ROUGE. HE HEARD THE KHMER ROUGE KILLED AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF AMERICANS NEAR PHUM POU TE (US 550 734). (NOTE: THIS VILLAGE IS APPROXIMATELY THREE KILOMETERS NORTH OF THE FIRST SURVEYED BURIAL SITE.) (b)(6) DID NOT KNOW NOR HAD HE HEARD WHO KILLED THE AMERICANS OR WHO BURIED THEM.

(B) THERE WERE KHMER ROUGE SOLDIERS ALL AROUND SROK PREY NOP, BUT HE DID NOT REMEMBER ANY OF THE UNIT DESIGNATIONS. (b)(6) BELIEVES HE IS THE ONLY PERSON STILL LIVING IN PHUM TOEK SAP WHO LIVED THERE DURING 1975. THERE MAY BE OTHER PEOPLE FROM PHUM TOEK SAP STILL LIVING IN PHNOM PENH, KAMPOT, OR KAMPONG SOM, BUT HE DID NOT REMEMBER ANY NAMES OR POSSIBLE ADDRESSES. HE HAD NO FURTHER INFORMATION PERTAINING UNACCOUNTED-FOR AMERICANS.

K. ON 19 OCTOBER 1997, THE JOINT TEAM INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS (b)(6) WHO LED THE TEAM TO A SECOND POSSIBLE BURIAL SITE OF SEVEN AMERICANS AT GRID COORDINATE US 44931 70400. AFTER SURVEYING THE ALLEGED BURIAL SITE, THE IE INTERVIEWED AN ADDITIONAL WITNESS FROM A VILLAGE LOCATED NEAR THE ALLEGED BURIAL SITE. THE WITNESSES PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- (1) WITNESS FOUR: (b)(6)
- (2) AGE: 38 YOA.
- (3) CURRENT RESIDENCE AND LENGTH OF TIME THERE: CHROUY SVAY VILLAGE, SRE AMBEL, KOH KONG PROVINCE; TWO YEARS.
- (4) CURRENT OCCUPATION: FISHERMAN.
- (5) OCCUPATION AT THE TIME OF INCIDENT: A MEMBER OF THE LOCAL MILITIA, COURIER AND A BODY GUARD FOR (b)(6) WHEN HE VISITED THE KHMER ROUGE 24TH COMPANY, 615TH BATTALION, 62ND REGIMENT, 164TH DIVISION.

(6) STATEMENT:

(A) SOMETIME DURING THE RAINY SEASON (APRIL TO SEPTEMBER) IN 1975, HE HEARD SEVERAL PEOPLE TALKING ABOUT THE KHMER ROUGE KILLING AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF AMERICANS. (b)(6) WAS VERY YOUNG AT THE TIME. HE COULD NOT REMEMBER IF THE AMERICANS WERE CIVILIANS OR MILITARY (NFI). HE HEARD A (b)(6) (FULL NAME UNKNOWN) KILLED SEVEN AMERICANS NEAR (b)(6) HOUSE. (b)(6) WAS ALSO A BODYGUARD FOR (b)(6) WHEN (b)(6) WAS ESCORTING (b)(6) AT THE 24TH COMPANY HEADQUARTERS, HE SCARED (b)(6) INTO BELIEVING THERE WERE GHOSTS AROUND THE ALLEGED BURIAL SITE. (b)(6) STATED (b)(6) HAD SEVERAL BODYGUARDS AND COURIERS. HE ONLY GUARDED (b)(6) WHEN HE VISITED THE COMPANY AREA. THE ALLEGED BURIAL SITE WAS APPROXIMATELY 60 TO 70 METERS EAST OF (b)(6) HOUSE (NOTE: THE UNIT HAD A HOUSE AVAILABLE FOR (b)(6), BUT HE DID NOT STAY THERE ON A DAILY BASIS.) THERE WAS A MEETING HOUSE APPROXIMATELY 50 METERS FROM (b)(6) HOUSE. (b)(6)

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10. ON 18 NOVEMBER 1997, THE JOINT IE INTERVIEWED FIVE WITNESSES IN ROMEAS NGOP VILLAGE (US 653 663), BUNG PRUM COMMUNE, PREY NOP DISTRICT, KAMPONG SOM PROVINCE. THEY PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

(A) NAME: (b)(6) .

(C) CURRENT R

(D) CURRENT OCCUPATION: MOTORCYCLE TAXI DRIVER.

(E) OCCUPATION AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT: MEMBER OF

(F) STATEMENT:

((2)) (b)(6) HEARD FOUR AMERICANS WERE CAPTURED

((3)) ABOUT TWO OR THREE MONTHS AFTER THE INCIDENT,

HE NEVER SAW REMAINS IN THE AIRCRAFT WITH THE BROKEN TAIL. ALONG THE SHORELINE HE SAW THE REMAINS OF POSSIBLY TWO OR THREE PEOPLE AND ONE PAIR OF GREEN TROUSERS WITH LARGE POCKETS. HE DID NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE REMAINS, AND HE NEVER HEARD OF OR FOUND ANY OTHER AMERICAN EQUIPMENT OR REMAINS ON THE ISLAND. HE NEVER HEARD OF ANYONE FINDING A BODY ON THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND. HE HEARD FROM OTHER MEMBERS OF HIS UNIT WHO WERE STATIONED ON THE ISLAND AT THE TIME OF THE BATTLE THAT A THIRD HELICOPTER CRASHED OUT TO SEA OFF THE WESTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND, BETWEEN KOH TANG AND KOH PRINS. HE DID NOT KNOW IF ANYONE WAS KILLED IN THAT CRASH. HE SURMISED THERE

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IN THE HOSPITAL, HE HEARD FOUR AMERICAN TROOPS WERE CAPTURED ON KOH TANG. HE HAD NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE FATE OF UNACCOUNTED FOR AMERICANS.

(4) WITNESS NINE:

(A) NAME: (b)(6)

(B) AGE: 41.

(D) CURRENT OCCUPATION: FARMER.

(F) STATEMENT:

((2)) (b)(6) WAS NOT ON KOH TANG AT THE TIME OF THE MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT, BUT WAS STATIONED THERE SOME TIME AFTER THE INCIDENT. HE COULD NOT REMEMBER PRECISELY WHEN. (b)(6) HEARD THAT FOUR AMERICANS WERE CAPTURED DURING THE BATTLE, BUT HE NEVER SAW THEM AND HAD NO INFORMATION ON THEIR FATE. IN 1977 THE KHMER ROUGE EXECUTED ALL COMMANDERS ON KOH TANG FOR TREASON AND SENT ALL THE TROOPS TO WORK AT KOANG KENG AIRFIELD. HE HAD NO OTHER INFORMATION ON U.S. LOSSES.//

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Section 2: PSN 066955H31
Section 3: PSN 066968H35
Section 4: PSN 066971H29
Section 5: PSN 066974H32
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2003

ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE

R 270702Z DEC 96 ZYB

FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J2//

TO SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:ISA/DPMO//

INFO WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC
SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//CA/OCS/ACS/EAP/VLC//
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5//
DIA WASHINGTON DC
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J3/J32-M//
USCINCPAC LO WASHINGTON DC
CIA WASHINGTON DC//DEA/SEA/IB/DDO/EA/ICOG//
CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH//
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE//CJTFFA DET THREE//
AMEMBASSY HANOI VM//CJTFFA DET TWO//
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH CB//CJTFFA DET 4//
CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//

BT
UNCLAS //N03460//

MSGID/GENADMIN/CDR JTF-FA/J2//

SUBJ/ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT CONCERNING CASE 2003//

REF: A. CDR JTF-FA, HONOLULU, HI 051745Z DEC 95

RMKS/1. REFERENCES.

A. REF A IS THE DETAILED SEARCH AND RECOVERY OF CASE 2003 DURING JFA 96-1C.

2. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION. ON 1 NOVEMBER 1996, DETACHMENT FOUR ANALYST-LINGUIST INTERVIEWED A ROYAL CAMBODIAN ARMED FORCES (RCAF) CAPTAIN. THE WITNESS PROVIDED INFORMATION ON REMAINS POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003 HE HAD FOUND ON TANG ISLAND IN 1989 AND THE TURN OVER OF THE REMAINS TO ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL. THE WITNESS ALSO PROVIDED INFORMATION CONCERNING ADDITIONAL REMAINS HE FOUND IN THE SAME AREA AND TURNED OVER TO A JOINT TEAM IN NOVEMBER 1995. THE INTERVIEWER DID NOT RECEIVE OR RECOVER ANY REMAINS DURING THE INTERVIEW.

3. DETAILS OF INTERVIEW.

A. ON 1 NOVEMBER 1996, THE DETACHMENT FOUR ANALYST-LINGUIST INTERVIEWED AN RCAF CAPTAIN WHO HAD FOUND REMAINS POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003. THE INTERVIEW TOOK PLACE AT THE RESIDENCE OF THE KOC POW/MIA COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN, (b)(6)

B. INTERVIEWERS.

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AIR2003 362/18:42Z CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI
V123456444 /

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- (1) SFC LUNDGREN
INTERVIEWER/DETACHMENT FOUR INTELLIGENCE
ANALYST-LINGUIST
- (2) LTG NUON SARETH
TEAM LEADER; MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

C. ON 1 NOVEMBER 1996, DETACHMENT FOUR ANALYST-LINGUIST INTERVIEWED ONE WITNESS WHO THE WITNESS PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- (1) NAME: (b)(6)
(2) AGE: APPROX 35 YOA
(3) CURRENT RESIDENCE AND LENGTH OF TIME THERE: TANG
YEARS

- (4) RESIDENCE AT TIME OF INCIDENT: UNKNOWN
(5) CURRENT OCCUPATION: RCAF CAPTAIN
(6) OCCUPATION AT TIME OF INCIDENT: UNKNOWN
(7) BACKGROUND: (b)(6) PREVIOUSLY FOUND REMAINS ON

TANG ISLAND. HE COULD NOT BE INTERVIEWED DURING JFA 96-3C AS HE HAD BEEN DEPLOYED TO BATTAMBANG PROVINCE AND WAS WOUNDED WHILE FIGHTING THE KHMER ROUGE.

- (8) STATEMENT:

(A) IN 1989, (b)(6) FOUND A HUMAN SKULL, TEETH AND A JAW BONE IN A HELICOPTER ON TANG ISLAND (PROBABLY REFNO 2003). HE TURNED OVER THE REMAINS TO (b)(6) IN SIHANOUKVILLE. ACCORDING TO THE CAMBODIAN TEAM LEADER, THESE REMAINS WERE SENT TO HAWAII SOON AFTER THEY WERE FOUND.

(B) IN 1995, THE WITNESS GAVE ADDITIONAL REMAINS TO THE JFA 96-1C INVESTIGATION/RECOVERY TEAM (REF A). SOME OF THESE REMAINS WERE FOUND TWO TO THREE METERS NORTH OF THE HELICOPTER. THE WITNESS BELIEVES THERE ARE MORE BONES IN THE AREA BECAUSE UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE AND BULLETS FROM THE HELICOPTER WERE ALSO FOUND NEAR THE BONES OUTSIDE THE HELICOPTER.

(C) THE WITNESS DID NOT KNOW OF ANY OTHER SOLDIERS FROM TANG ISLAND THAT HAD OR KNEW OF ANY AMERICAN REMAINS FOUND ON THE ISLAND. HE CLAIMED A FUNCINPEC (CAMBODIAN POLITICAL PARTY) RCAF OFFICER IN REAM KNEW OF VIETNAMESE CITIZENS WHO HAVE REMAINS OF MISSING AMERICANS. HE DID NOT KNOW THE OFFICER'S NAME. WHEN ASKED HOW HE KNEW THE OFFICER WAS FROM THE FUNCINPEC PARTY, HE SAID HE DIDN'T KNOW, BUT IF THE OFFICER WAS FROM THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLES PARTY (CPP), HE WOULD HAVE GOTTEN THE REMAINS AND TURNED THEM OVER TO LTG NUON SARETH.

4. MATERIAL EVIDENCE. N/A.

5. SITE SURVEY RESULTS. N/A.

6. PERTINENT LOCATION OR DATA CHANGES. N/A.

7. AREAS OR CASE FILE INFORMATION NOT INVESTIGATED. N/A.

8. ANALYST COMMENTS.

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B. INCIDENT LOCATION SURVEY: NONE.

(b)(6) ARE POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003.

10. TEAM LEADER COMMENTS.

B. ANALYTICAL CONCLUSIONS: CONCUR WITH ANALYST COMMENTS.

D. DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S COMMENTS: I BELIEVE CPT CHEA TURNED OVER ALL REMAINS HE HAD IN HIS POSSESSION. IF HE HAD ANY FURTHER INFORMATION OR REMAINS, HE WOULD HAVE MADE IT KNOWN BECAUSE IT WOULD HAVE BEEN PERSONALLY BENEFICIAL TO DO SO.//
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ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE

P 051754Z JUN 96 ZYB

FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI

INFO WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC
SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:ISA/DPMO//
SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//CA/OCS/ACS/EAP/VLC//
JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5//
DIA WASHINGTON DC
CIA WASHINGTON DC//OEA/SEA/IB/DDO/EA/ICOG//
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3/J33//
USCINCPAC LO WASHINGTON DC
CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//
CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE//CJTFFA DET THREE//
AMEMBASSY HANOI VM//CJTFFA DET TWO//
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH CB//CJTFFA DET 4//

BT
UNCLAS //N03000//AMEMBASSY HANOI PASS TO CJTFEFA DET TWO

MSGID/GENADMIN/CDR JTF-FA/-/JUN//

SUBJ/DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION FOR CASE 2003//
REF: A. CDR JTF-FA, HONOLULU, HI, 281703Z MAY 96
B. CDR JTF-FA, HONOLULU, HI, 051745Z DEC 95
C. CDR JTF-FA, HONOLULU, HI, 051733Z DEC 95 AND
051734Z DEC 95
D. CDR JTF-FA, HONOLULU, HI, 161700Z MAY 95
E. CDR JTF-FA, HONOLULU, HI, 051322Z MAY 93
F. CDR JTF-FA, HONOLULU, HI, 220637Z FEB 93
G. CDR JTF-FA, HONOLULU, HI, 180347Z DEC 92
H. CDR JTF-FA, HONOLULU, HI, 160522Z MAR 92
I. JCRC LIAISON, BANGKOK, TH 2512147Z OCT 91
J. JCRC LIAISON, BANGKOK, TH, 241215Z FEB 88

RMKS/1. REFERENCES:

A. REF A IS THE SUMMARY REPORT OF JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY 96-3C CONDUCTED FROM 20 APR TO 11 MAY 96.

B. REF B IS THE DETAILED SEARCH AND RECOVERY OF CASE 2003 DURING JFA 96-1C.

C. REF C IS THE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION REPORT CORRELATING TO CASE 1998 AND 2003.

D. REF D IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION FOR CASE 2003 DURING JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY 95-1C.

E. REF E IS ANALYSIS OF MATERIAL EVIDENCE ASSOCIATED WITH CASE

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2003.

I. REF I IS THE SUMMARY REPORT OF U.S. - CAMBODIAN POW/MIA

D. RECOMMENDATION: N/A.

U U N C L A S S I F I E D U

PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

(A) NAME: (b)(6)

(A) NAME: (b)(6)

(B) AGE: 41 YOA.

(C) CURRENT RESIDENCE AND LENGTH OF TIME THERE: ANDONG
TOEUK SUBDISTRICT, BATUM SAKAR, (GRID UNKNOWN) KOH KONG PROVINCE,
KOC. WITNESS HAS LIVED IN ANDONG TOEUK SINCE 1988.

(D) RESIDENCE AT TIME OF INCIDENT: POULO WAI ISLAND, KOC (b)(5); (b)(6)

(E) CURRENT OCCUPATION: G-2 POLICE DEPARTMENT, ANDONG
TOEUK SUBDISTRICT, KOH KONG PROVINCE SINCE 1990.

(F) OCCUPATION AT TIME OF INCIDENT: 2ND SQUAD LEADER,
2ND PLATOON (PLT), 420TH COMPANY (CO), 386TH BATTALION (BN).

(G) BACKGROUND: (b)(6) STATED HE ENTERED THE KHMER ROUGE IN 1972 IN KAMPONG SALA, SRE AMBIL DISTRICT, KOH KONG PROVINCE. UPON HIS ENTRY INTO THE KHMER ROUGE, HE WAS ASSIGNED TO THE 386TH BATTALION (BN), 621ST REGIMENT (RGT), 164TH DIVISION (DIV). DURING THE FINAL YEARS OF THE CAMBODIAN WAR (1970 TO APRIL 1975) HIS UNIT

OPERATED AROUND SIHANOUKVILLE AND IN KAMPONG SOM PROVINCE. AFTER THE FALL OF PHNOM PENH, HIS UNIT WAS SENT TO POULO WAI ISLAND. IN SEPTEMBER 1975, FOUR MONTHS AFTER THE INCIDENT, HIS UNIT DEPLOYED TO TANG ISLAND TO REPLACE THE KHMER ROUGE 110TH BN, 22D RGT, 3RD DIV. HE SAID THE 410TH BN WAS STATIONED ON TANG ISLAND DURING THE AMERICAN ATTACK TO RECOVER THE USS MAYAGUEZ. HIS UNIT WAS STATIONED ON TANG ISLAND UNTIL MARCH 1977, WHEN IT WAS SENT TO KONG KENG AIRFIELD NEAR SIHANOUKVILLE.

(A) NAME: (b)(6)

(A) NAME: (b)(6)

(B) AGE: 41 YOA.

(C) CURRENT RESIDENCE AND LENGTH OF TIME THERE: ANDONG
TOEUK SUBDISTRICT, KOH SEH (SEH ISLAND), KOH KONG PROVINCE, KOC.
WITNESS HAS LIVED IN ANDONG SINCE 1979.

KOC. (D) RESIDENCE AT TIME OF INCIDENT: POULO WAI ISLAND,

(E) CURRENT OCCUPATION: G-2 POLICE DEPARTMENT, ANDONG
TOEUK SUBDISTRICT, KOH KONG PROVINCE SINCE 1990.

(F) OCCUPATION AT TIME OF INCIDENT: ASSISTANT SQUAD
LEADER OF 2ND SQUAD, 1ST PLT, 408TH CO, 386TH BN.

(G) BACKGROUND: (b)(6) WAS A KHMER ROUGE SOLDIER STATIONED ON POULO WAI ISLAND AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT AND WAS SENT TO TANG ISLAND FROM SEPTEMBER 1975 TO JUNE 1977. HE JOINED THE MILITARY IN 1970 AND LEFT THE MILITARY IN 1979. (b)(6) (WITNESS ONE) AND MR. KANN WERE INTERVIEWED TOGETHER. THEY STAYED ON TANG ISLAND WITH RE1 TO ASSIST IN LOCATING REPORTED BURIAL LOCATIONS.

(H) STATEMENTS:

((1)) AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT BOTH WITNESSES WERE STATIONED ON POULO WAI ISLAND. THEY SAID AT THE TIME OF THE ATTACK, THEY KNEW OF ONLY TWO SQUADS FROM THE 410TH BN, RGT UNKNOWN, 3RD DIV, KAMPONG SPEU, TAKEO PROVINCE STATIONED ON TANG ISLAND.

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THEY WERE NOT SURE OF THE TIME OF ATTACK, SINCE THERE WAS SHOOTING ALL OVER THE AREA THAT MORNING BECAUSE OF AMERICAN PLANES FLYING OVER THE REGION. BOTH WITNESSES ARRIVED ON TANG ISLAND IN SEPTEMBER 1975 AND STAYED UNTIL JUNE 1977.

((2)) WITNESS ONE'S AREA OF OPERATION WAS ON THE SOUTHERN END OF THE ISLAND. WITNESS TWO'S AREA OF OPERATION WAS ON THE EASTERN BEACH AREA, CURRENTLY ABOUT 100 METERS SOUTH OF WHERE RE1 WAS DIGGING (GRID 48P TS 96334 40034).

((3)) WHEN THEY ARRIVED ON TANG ISLAND THEY WERE TOLD TO BE CAREFUL BECAUSE AMERICANS MIGHT STILL BE ALIVE ON THE ISLAND. BOTH WITNESSES SAW ONE HELICOPTER (NOTE: CALLSIGN KNIFE 31) COMPLETELY BURNED. ANOTHER HELICOPTER (NOTE: CALLSIGN KNIFE 23) HAD A STAR ON IT AND WAS SITTING ON THE BEACH AND LOOKED LIKE IT WAS

OPERATIONAL. THERE WAS ALSO A KHMER ROUGE MARINE BOAT FROM THE 410TH COMPANY SUNK OFF THE SHORE. WITNESS ONE SAID HE TOOK THE OIL FILTER OUT OF KNIFE 23 TO USE AS A PILLOW. WITNESS ONE ALSO STATED THERE WERE BLOOD STAINS, BREAD, AND COLAS, INSIDE KNIFE 23. HE STATED THAT KNIFE 23 WAS USED FOR SHELTER DURING HEAVY RAIN STORMS.

((4)) BOTH WITNESSES HEARD OF ONE AMERICAN WHO SURVIVED A COUPLE DAYS OR WEEKS AFTER THE ATTACK, BUT WAS CAPTURED AND EXECUTED WHILE STEALING FOOD ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND. WITNESS ONE WAS TOLD THE AMERICAN WAS WHITE AND HAD A MUSTACHE. BOTH WITNESSES COULD NOT PROVIDE ANY OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE AMERICAN. NEITHER WITNESS KNEW WHERE THE AMERICAN WAS BURIED.

((5)) WITNESS TWO SAID AN AMERICAN WAS BURIED AT THE END OF THE JUNGLE IN A CULTIVATED AREA OF THE KHMER ROUGE CAMP ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND. HE WAS SHOWN SOME 1975 AERIAL PHOTOS OF THE ISLAND WHICH SHOWED THE OLD KHMER ROUGE COMPOUND. WITNESS TWO SAID THE AREA HAD CHANGED TOO MUCH IN TWENTY YEARS FOR HIM TO PINPOINT THE ALLEGED GRAVE SITE.

((6)) (b)(6) SAID DURING HIS TENURE ON TANG ISLAND, HE SAW THREE ALLEGED AMERICAN BODIES IN A CAVE. BOTH WITNESSES HEARD FROM TROOPS STATIONED ON THE ISLAND WITH THE 410TH BN THAT APPROXIMATELY ONE MONTH AFTER THE AMERICAN ATTACK ON THE ISLAND, MEMBERS OF THE 410TH BN WERE PATROLLING ON THE NORTHWESTERN END OF THE ISLAND WHEN THEY ENCOUNTERED THREE AMERICAN TROOPS WHO WERE HIDING IN A CAVE ON THE NORTH END OF THE ISLAND. THEY FOUGHT WITH THE AMERICANS FOR OVER TWO HOURS BEFORE THE AMERICANS WERE KILLED. BOTH WITNESSES SAID THE KHMER ROUGE DID NOT BOTHER TO BURY THE BODIES, BUT LEFT THEM, THEIR EQUIPMENT, AND SHELL CASINGS IN THE CAVE. (b)(6) SAID HE SAW THE SITE WHILE HE WAS OFF DUTY AND WALKING ON THE NORTHWESTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND. HE DESCRIBED THE CAVE AS A SORT OF TRENCH, APPROXIMATELY 40M FROM THE SHORELINE, ON THE NORTHWESTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND. HE DESCRIBED THE AMERICANS AS WEARING U.S. TYPE UNIFORMS. HE COULD NOT REMEMBER ANYTHING ELSE ABOUT THE AMERICANS.

((7)) BOTH WITNESSES SAID THE 386TH BN WAS A SEPARATE BN ON POULO WAI ISLAND. IT CONSISTED OF THREE CO'S, DESIGNATED 408, 409, AND 420. EACH CO CONSISTED OF THREE PLT'S.

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WITNESS ARRIVED ON TANG ISLAND ON APPROXIMATELY 20 APRIL 1975. (b)(6)
b(6) STATED THAT TANG ISLAND WAS TAKEN OVER BY THE KHMER ROUGE FORCES
AROUND 17 APRIL 1975, WHEN LON NOL REGIME FORCES FELL TO THE KHMER
ROUGE FORCES. THE WITNESS LEFT TANG ISLAND APPROXIMATELY TWO YEARS
LATER, SOMETIME IN 1977. IN 1979, THE WITNESS JOINED THE RESISTANCE
FORCES AT "SITE B," OH SMACH, AND STAYED UNTIL 1991. THE WITNESS
STATED HIS BATTALION COMMANDER IN THE RESISTANCE FORCE WAS SWEET
THOEN.

(H) STATEMENT:

(1) AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT, THE WITNESS STATED THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 100 KHMER SOLDIERS ON TANG ISLAND. THE WITNESS WAS IN CHARGE OF 36 SOLDIERS, BUT COULD NOT REMEMBER HIS FULL UNIT DESIGNATION OR ANY MEMBERS UNDER HIS CONTROL. DURING THE ATTACK, WITNESS WAS IN THE TRENCH ON THE EASTERN BEACH DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF INTACT THE DOWNED (KNIFE 23) HELICOPTER. WITNESS DID NOT SEE ANYONE GET OUT OF THE HELICOPTER. (b)(6) STATED HE HAD TO FALL BACK INTO THE JUNGLE BECAUSE OF THE TEAR GAS.

(2) THE WITNESS SAID ABOUT ONE MONTH LATER AN AMERICAN BODY WASHED UP ON THE SHORE. (b)(6) STATED THAT HE SAW A SOLDIER NAMED KI (NO FURTHER INFORMATION) BURY THE AMERICAN APPROXIMATELY 3 TO 4 METERS SOUTH OF THE COCONUT TREE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE STREAM. THE GRAVE WAS APPROXIMATELY 60CM DEEP (COULD NOT REMEMBER THE LENGTH OR WIDTH) AND APPROXIMATELY 30 TO 40 METERS FROM THE BEACH. AT THE TIME OF THE BURIAL, WITNESS WAS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE STREAM NEAR THE FIRST COCONUT TREE.

((3)) THE WITNESS SAID HE WAS A MEMBER OF ZONE 35 OF THE 386TH BN. (b)(6) STATED ZONE 36 AND ZONE 37 WERE ALSO UNDER THE 386TH BN. THE BATTALION COMMANDER'S NAME WAS TORN. HE WAS ARRESTED IN KOH KONG PROVINCE AND KILLED. THE WITNESS SAID THAT MEMBERS OF ZONE 36 AND ZONE 37 WERE PURGED.

((4)) APPROXIMATELY A MONTH AND A HALF AFTER THE BATTLE, THE WITNESS SPENT FOUR MONTHS IN THE HOSPITAL IN KAMPONG SOM FOR MALARIA. (b)(6) THEN RETURNED TO TANG ISLAND UNTIL SOMETIME IN 1977.

((5)) THE WITNESS STATED HE NEVER KNEW NOR HEARD OF HOW MANY AMERICANS WERE KILLED ON TANG ISLAND. FURTHER, THE WITNESS STATED HE NEVER SAW THE BURNT KNIFE 31 HELICOPTER WHILE STATIONED ON TANG ISLAND BECAUSE THE SOLDIERS WERE NOT PERMITTED TO GO VERY FAR.

F. ON 21 APR 96, WITNESS TWO POINTED OUT AN AREA ON THE EASTERN BEACH (VICINITY GRID 48P TS 965 405) WHERE HE SAW A LARGE HOLE WITH FIVE BODIES INSIDE. THE AREA WAS NORTH OF THE STREAM AND BEHIND A ROW OF PALM TREES. HE STATED THAT THE BODIES HAD BLACK UNIFORMS AND HE WAS NOT SURE IF ANY WERE AMERICAN.

G. ON 21 APR 96, WITNESS TWO TOOK THE TEAM TO A SECOND AREA AT GRID 48P TS 960 408 WHERE HE SAID ONE AMERICAN WAS BURIED. CURRENTLY, THE AREA IS BEHIND A ROW OF TREES ALONG THE EASTERN BEACH IN WHAT LOOKS LIKE AN OLD RICE PADDY AREA. WITNESS TWO SAID THE AMERICAN WAS BURIED AT THE END OF THE JUNGLE IN A CULTIVATED AREA OF THE CAMP. HE WAS SHOWN SOME 1975 AERIAL PHOTOS OF THE ISLAND WHICH

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N. ON 27 APRIL 1996, WITNESS TWO RETURNED TO THE SECOND AREA AT GRID (b)(5), (b)(6) TO REVERIFY THE LOCATION. HE STATED THE BODY WAS LAYING ON THE EASTERN BEACH WHEN HE ARRIVED IN SEPTEMBER 1975. WITNESS TWO STATED THE BODY WAS BURIED BY A MEMBER OF THE 410TH BN, BUT HE DID NOT KNOW THE NAME OF THE INDIVIDUAL WHO BURIED HIM. THE GRAVE WAS TWO M WIDE X TWO M LONG X 80CM DEEP AND FLAT. (NOTE: THE AREA LOOKS LIKE IT WAS AN OLD RICE PADDY FIELD.) WITNESS TWO POINTED OUT AN AREA ABOUT FIVE M FROM HIS FIRST LOCATION. RE1 LINGUIST AND WITNESS TWO SPENT MORE THAN ONE AND A HALF HOURS TRYING TO FIND THE EDGE OF THE JUNGLE AND THE CULTIVATED AREA OF THE OLD KHMER ROUGE COMPOUND. AGAIN, WITNESS TWO STATED HE WAS SORRY, AND THE LOCATION WAS HIS BEST GUESS.

O. ON 30 APRIL 1996, WITNESS THREE LED US TO THE TOP OF A BIG BERM AT GRID (b)(5); (b)(6). THE WITNESS STATED THAT AT THE TIME OF THE BURIAL, THERE WERE NO TRENCHES. CURRENTLY, THERE ARE TRENCHES ON BOTH SIDES OF WHERE THE WITNESS LED THE TEAM WHICH ALLEDGEDLY WERE DUG DURING THE VIETNAMESE OCCUPATION OF TANG ISLAND FROM 1979 TO 1989. THE ALLEGED GRAVE SITE IS APPROXIMATELY ONE METER FROM WHERE A TEST PIT WAS DUG DURING 96-1C.

P. ON 9 MAY 1996, THREE MEMBERS OF RE1, ALONG WITH THREE SECURITY OFFICIALS, DUG THREE TEST PITS. THE FIRST TEST PIT WAS POINTED OUT BY WITNESS THREE ON 30 APRIL 1996 AT GRID (b)(5), (b)(6). THE SECOND AND THIRD TEST PITS WERE POINTED OUT BY WITNESS TWO AND WERE ONLY ONE METER APART AT GRID (b)(5), (b)(6). NOTHING WAS FOUND AT THESE TEST PITS.

4. MATERIAL EVIDENCE: ONE M-16 SPEED LOADER FOUND ON 25 APRIL 1996 AT GRID (b)(5); (b)(6)

5. SURVEY RESULTS:

(1) ON THE MORNING OF 29 APRIL 1996 TWO MORTUARY AFFAIRS PERSONNEL LEFT THE BASE CAMP LOCATED AT GRID 48P TS 96300 40122 AND TRAVELED BY FOOT TO GRID 48P TS 96235 40358 WHICH WAS THE POSSIBLE LOCATION IDENTIFIED BY WITNESS TWO IN REFERENCE TO CASE 2003. THERE WERE TWO TEST PITS DUG. TEST PIT ONE WAS DUG ONE M LENGTH (L) X ONE M WIDE (W) X 50CM DEEP (D), AND YIELDED NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE. TEST PIT TWO WAS DUG ONE M (L) X ONE M (W) X 50CM (D), AND YIELDED NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE RELATING TO THIS CASE.

(2) ON THE AFTERNOON OF 9 MAY 1996, THREE MEMBERS OF RE1 LEFT THE BASE CAMP AND TRAVELED BY FOOT TO GRID (b)(5); (b)(6), THE POSSIBLE LOCATION IDENTIFIED BY WITNESS THREE AND DUG ONE TEST PIT. THE TEST PIT WAS ONE M (L) X ONE M (W) X 80CM (D), AND YIELDED NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE. THE THREE MEMBERS OF RE1 THEN TRAVELED TO GRID (b)(5); (b)(6), THE LOCATION IDENTIFIED BY WITNESS TWO AND DUG TWO TEST PITS. TEST PIT ONE AS TWO M X TWO M X 80CM AND THE SECOND TEST PIT WAS ONE M (L) X ONE M (W) X 70CM (D) AND YIELDED NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE. THE MORTUARY AFFAIRS PERSONNEL MADE THE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS OF THE TEST PIT DUG ON 29 APRIL 1996:

A. PROJECT AREA:

(1) THE SITE IS LOCATED AT GRID (b)(5); (b)(6).

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APPROXIMATELY 30 METERS FROM TEST PIT ONE. ANOTHER LARGE PALM TREE
AT 230 DEGREES AND APPROXIMATELY 50 METERS FROM TEST PIT ONE.

C. TERRAIN: FLAT.

D. SOIL CONDITIONS: BEACH SAND.

E. VEGETATION: GRASSY

F. METHOD OF SEARCH: A SURFACE SEARCH OF THE AREA 20M X 20M WAS CONDUCTED, AND TWO TEST PITS WERE DUG, TEST PIT ONE WAS ONE M (L) X ONE M (W) X 50CM (D), YIELDING NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE. TEST PIT TWO WAS ONE M (L) X ONE M (W) X 50CM (D), YIELDING NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE RELATED TO THIS CASE.

G. HAZARDS: SNAKES.

H. RESULTS:

(1) REMAINS SEEN: NONE

(2) IDENTIFICATION MEDIA SEEN: NONE

(3) PERSONAL EFFECTS SEEN: NONE

(4) AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE SEEN: NONE

I. LOGISTICS: SITE COULD BE EXCAVATED BY A STANDARD SIZE RECOVERY ELEMENT AND 15 TO 20 LOCAL WORKERS. ANTICIPATING THREE TO FIVE DAYS REQUIRED TO EXCAVATE THE SITE, USING STANDARD RECOVERY EQUIPMENT. A BASE CAMP COULD BE ESTABLISHED AT THIS LOCATION. DUE TO THE REMOTENESS OF THE SITE, COORDINATION WOULD BE REQUIRED TO ACQUIRE LOCAL LABOR. THE SITE IS LOCATED ON TANG ISLAND APPROXIMATELY 27 MILES OFF THE COAST OF CAMBODIA IN THE GULF OF THAILAND.

6. PERTINENT LOCATION OR DATA CHANGES: NONE

7. AREAS OR CASE FILE INFORMATION NOT INVESTIGATED. NONE.

8. ANALYST COMMENTS.

A. WITNESS STATEMENTS:

(1) WITNESS ONE AND TWO STATEMENTS WERE MADE IN A STRAIGHT-FORWARD MANNER AND SPOKE OPENLY ABOUT THEIR TIME ON TANG ISLAND. THEY SEEMED HONEST AND RELIABLE. WITNESS ONE DID MOST OF THE TALKING DURING THE INTERVIEWS. THE ONLY DISCREPANCY IN THEIR STATEMENT IS HOW MANY KHMER ROUGE SOLDIERS WERE ACTUALLY ON TANG ISLAND AT THE TIME OF THE MAYAGUEZ INCIDENT.

(2) WITNESS THREE'S STATEMENT IS VERY SKETCHY. HE COULD BARELY RECALL ANY DETAILS. SINCE HE STATED HE WAS POSITIONED IN FRONT OF THE INTACT DOWNED HELICOPTER (KNIFE 23) AND OBSERVED THE SUNK KHMER ROUGE BOAT, IT IS UNLIKELY THAT HE WOULD NOT OBSERVE KNIFE 31 WHICH WAS ONLY 100M FROM HIS ALLEGED POSITION.

B. CANVASSING RESULTS: THE RGC POW/MIA COMMITTEE WAS TASKED TO LOCATE FOUR WITNESSES. THEY LOCATED WITNESS ONE AND CONFIRMED THAT TWO WITNESSES ARE DECEASED. ONE WITNESS COULD NOT BE LOCATED.

C. INCIDENT LOCATION SURVEY: THERE WAS A LOT OF THICK AND DENSE VEGETATION OVER THE LARGE ROCKS ON THE NORTHWESTERN SIDE OF THE ISLAND MAKING IT VERY DIFFICULT FOR THE WITNESSES TO PINPOINT AN

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D. ANALYTICAL CONCLUSION: THE INFORMATION PROVIDED POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO THE 2003 INCIDENT AND POSSIBLY THE THREE INDIVIDUALS UNACCOUNTED FOR IN THE 1998 INCIDENT.

10. TEAM LEADER COMMENTS.

B. ANALYTICAL CONCLUSIONS: CONCUR WITH ANALYST COMMENTS.

D. DETACHMENT COMMANDER'S COMMENTS: CONCUR WITH SEARCH AND RECOVERY SPECIALIST, AND ANALYST COMMENTS.

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ADMINISTRATIVE MESSAGE

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TO CMC WASHINGTON DC//MHP-10//

SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//USDP:ISA/DPMO//

SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//CA/OCS/ACS/EAP/VLC//

JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//J5//

CIA WASHINGTON DC//DEA/SEA/IB/DDO/EA/ICOG//

DIA WASHINGTON DC

USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J3/J30-M//

USCINCPAC LO WASHINGTON DC

USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//

CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//

BT

UNCLAS //N03460//

MSGID/GENADMIN/CDR JTF-FA/J221//

SUBJ/ANALYSIS OF MATERIAL EVIDENCE ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 2003//

REF/A/RMG/CDR JTF-FA/051745ZDEC95//

AMPN/DETAILED SEARCH AND RECOVERY REPORT OF CASE 2003 //

RMKS/1. FROM 28 OCTOBER TO 12 NOVEMBER 1995, A JOINT US/KOC TEAM EXCAVATED A SUSPECTED CH-53 CRASH SITE AT GRID COORDINATES 48PTS 96439 40716 IN KAMPONG SOM PROVINCE, CAMBODIA. JTF-FA ANALYSIS INDICATES THE ITEMS RECOVERED ARE SUFFICIENT TO ESTABLISH A PROBABLE CORRELATION TO THE AIRCRAFT INVOLVED IN THE CASE 2003 INCIDENT.

2. THE TEAM RECOVERED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

A. AIRCREW EQUIPMENT:

- (1) TWO FLASHLIGHT PORTIONS
- (2) TWO LIFE PRESERVER STRAP SECTIONS
- (3) NUMEROUS UNKNOWN BUCKLES
- (4) SEVERAL UNKNOWN CLOTH MATERIAL PIECES
- (5) VARIOUS METAL WEB BELT PIECES
- (6) TWO WEBBING SECTIONS WITH HOOKS
- (7) TWO POSSIBLE HELMET LINER SECTIONS
- (8) SEVERAL UNKNOWN FABRIC/MATERIAL PIECES
- (9) NUMEROUS UNKNOWN ZIPPER PULL TABS
- (10) PROBABLE PILOT CHECKLIST

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- (11) NUMEROUS UNKNOWN SNAP ASSEMBLIES
- (12) UNKNOWN WEBBING PORTION WITH SNAPS
- (13) TWO POSSIBLE RAFT REPAIR PLUG PIECES
- (14) POSSIBLE SIGNAL MIRROR SECTION
- (15) TWO UNKNOWN METAL BRACKETS WITH WEBBING STRAPS
- (16) SEVERAL POSSIBLE WEB BELT STRAP HOOKS
- (17) SEVERAL FLAK VEST PORTIONS
- (18) POSSIBLE LAP BELT BUCKLE
- (19) M-16 RIFLE AMMUNITION CLIP PORTIONS
- (20) THREE SURVIVAL SHOVEL SECTIONS
- (21) TWO POSSIBLE COMMUNICATION CORD RELAY SWITCHES
- (22) PROBABLE GUNNER'S BELT WITH CONNECTORS
- (23) UNKNOWN D-RING
- (24) ALL PURPOSE CLIP
- (25) SEVERAL POSSIBLE PONCHO SECTIONS
- (26) MESS KIT WITH FORK AND ONE PORTION OF MESS KIT
- (27) LIFE PRESERVER CASE WITH CELL (RIGHT SIDE)
- (28) SEVERAL LIFE PRESERVER UNIT (LPU) PORTIONS
- (29) NUMEROUS UNKNOWN WEBBING PIECES
- (30) SMALL VINYL COVER
- (31) PAIR OF PLIERS
- (32) THREE POSSIBLE AIR MATTRESS PORTIONS
- (33) M-17 CHEMICAL DEFENSE MASK AND HEAD STRAP PIECE
- (34) HANDSET H-33F/PT
- (35) M-16 RIFLE SECTIONS
- (36) LOWERING DEVICE WITH HARDWARE AND WEBBING SECTION
- (37) POSSIBLE LAP BELT WEBBING WITH BUCKLE
- (38) FLIGHT GLOVE PORTION
- (39) MISCELLANEOUS UNKNOWN GROMMETS
- (40) UNKNOWN BAG SHAPED MATERIAL WITH ZIPPER AND METAL BAR
PIECE
- (41) TWO UNKNOWN BLUE FABRIC PIECES
- (42) HEADSET OR HELMET EARCUP CUSHION
- (43) TWO CANTEEN CUPS
- (44) UNKNOWN ZIPPER SECTION WITH UNIDENTIFIABLE ITEMS
ATTACHED
- (45) THREE POSSIBLE RAIN GEAR SECTIONS
- (46) SEVERAL POSSIBLE PONCHO LINER PIECES
- (47) MISCELLANEOUS UNKNOWN BUTTONS
- (48) MULTIPLE POSSIBLE METAL STRAP END PIECES
- (49) UNKNOWN WEBBING WITH D-RING SECTION
- (50) UNKNOWN WEBBING SECTION WITH BUCKLE
- (51) POSSIBLE RIFLE CLEANING BORE PIECE
- (52) TEN METAL HELMETS
- (53) PORTION OF METAL HELMET

B. AIRCRAFT COMPONENTS:

- (1) DATA PLATE: AXIVANE FAN, P/N 500702-5700, S/N 1A58888
- (2) DATA PLATE: MOTOR, AC, MFRS P/N 9420015, S/N ON 198
- (3) DATA PLATE: ANTENNA AT-780/ARN, S/N 139B
- (4) DATA PLATE: AIRCRAFT MOD. CH-53C, MFR. CODE 78286, P/N

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C. MATERIAL EVIDENCE PHOTOGRAPHED AND LEFT AT THE SITE:

- (1) UNKNOWN AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE
- (2) POSSIBLE AIRCRAFT INSULATION MATERIAL
- (3) TWO AIRCRAFT SEATS

3. THE TEAM RECOVERED THE FOLLOWING ITEMS WHICH WERE RETAINED BY CILHI:

- (1) U.S. QUARTER DATED 1966
- (2) U.S. DIME DATED 1970
- (3) PERSONNEL IDENTIFICATION CHAIN PORTION
- (4) TOOTHBRUSH PORTION
- (5) SHAVING RAZOR PORTION

4. JTF-FA ANALYSIS INDICATES: THE TWO FLASHLIGHT PORTIONS (PARA 2A (1)) ARE TWO SEPARATE U.S. STANDARD ISSUE FLASHLIGHTS. THE ITEMS LISTED IN (PARA 2A (2), (27), AND (28)) ARE PORTIONS OF A LPU-3/P LIFE PRESERVER. THE NUMEROUS UNKNOWN BUCKLES (PARA 2A (3)) ARE FIVE ADJUSTMENT BUCKLES FROM A LPU-3/P LIFE PRESERVER UNIT AND SEVERAL UNIDENTIFIABLE BUCKLES. THE SEVERAL UNKNOWN CLOTH MATERIAL PIECES (PARA 2A (4)) ARE THREE INDIVIDUAL SOCKS, ONE PIECE OF NOMEX FLIGHT GLOVE AND OTHER UNIDENTIFIABLE CLOTH PIECES. THE ITEMS IN (PARA 2A (5) AND (16)) ARE PARTS OF WEB BELT USED FOR ATTACHING VARIOUS ACCESSORIES. THE PROBABLE PILOT CHECKLIST (PARA 2A (10)) IS A CHECKLIST USED BY FLIGHT CREW PERSONNEL TO PERFORM AIRCRAFT FLIGHT

OPERATIONS. THE POSSIBLE SIGNAL MIRROR SECTION (PARA 2A (14)) IS A SIGNALING DEVICE USED TO AID IN RESCUE OPERATIONS. THE SEVERAL PORTIONS OF FLAK VEST (PARA 2A (17)) ARE USED TO PROVIDE PERSONAL BODY PROTECTION. THE ITEMS IN (PARA 2A (18) AND (37)) ARE PORTIONS OF A LAP BELT ASSEMBLY USED TO SECURE CREWMEMBERS TO AIRCRAFT SEATS DURING FLIGHT. THE M-16 RIFLE AMMUNITION CLIP PORTIONS (PARA 2A (19)) AND M-16 RIFLE SECTIONS (PARA 2A (35)) ARE STANDARD U.S. ISSUE ITEMS FOR COMBAT PERSONNEL. THE THREE SURVIVAL SHOVEL SECTIONS (PARA 2A (20)) ARE STANDARD ISSUE ENTRENCHING TOOLS. THE PROBABLE GUNNER'S BELT WITH CONNECTORS (PARA 2A (22)) IS USED TO SECURE THE GUNNER TO THE AIRCRAFT DURING FLIGHT OPERATIONS. THE ITEMS IN (PARA 2A (5), (6) AND (25)) ARE USED TO PROTECT INDIVIDUALS FROM ADVERSE WEATHER CONDITIONS. THE ITEMS IN (PARA 2A (26) AND (43)) ARE STANDARD U.S. ISSUE MESS KITS AND CANTEEN CUPS. THE M-17 CHEMICAL DEFENSE MASK AND HEAD STRAP PIECE (PARA 2A (33)) PROVIDES PROTECTION AGAINST CHEMICALLY CONTAMINATED ENVIRONMENTS. THE ITEM IN (PARA 2A (36)) IS A PERSONNEL LOWERING DEVICE USED BY CREWMEMBERS TO LOWER THEMSELVES FROM OBSTACLES ENCOUNTERED DURING PARACHUTE DESCENT. THE FLIGHT GLOVE PORTION (PARA 2A (38)) IS PART OF A NOMEX GLOVE WORN DURING FLYING OPERATIONS. THE ITEMS IN (PARA 2A (52) AND (53)) ARE METAL HELMETS ISSUED TO COMBAT PERSONNEL. THE ITEMS IN (PARA 2B (1) THROUGH (4)) CORRELATE TO A CH-53 TYPE AIRCRAFT BUT COULD NOT BE EXCLUSIVELY CORRELATED TO CASE 2003.

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5. JTF-FA COMMENTS: JTF-FA FILES INDICATE THERE IS ONE OTHER CH-53 CRASH SITE WITHIN 15 KILOMETERS OF GRID COORDINATES (b)(5); (b)(6) AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CASE 2003 INCIDENT INDICATE THE CRASH SITE EXCAVATED PROBABLY CORRELATES TO THIS CASE. 139 BONE FRAGMENTS, NINE (9) POSSIBLE HUMAN TEETH WITH APPARENT RESTORATIONS, AND 13 POSSIBLE HUMAN TEETH WITHOUT RESTORATIONS WERE RECOVERED FROM THIS SITE. JTF-FA ANALYSIS INDICATES THE ITEMS RECOVERED ARE SUFFICIENT TO ESTABLISH A PROBABLE CORRELATION TO THE AIRCRAFT INVOLVED IN THE CASE 2003 INCIDENT.

6. FOR HQ CMC WASHINGTON DC: THIS INFORMATION IS FORWARDED FOR APPROPRIATE ACTION. A COPY OF REF A WAS PROVIDED ON 18 DEC 1995.

7. EVAL/RDC/RTR//
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