### J-2 Report: Case 2003 Koh Tang, Kingdom of Cambodia



by

(b)(6)

Intelligence Directorate (J2)
Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command
310 Worchester Avenue
Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, HI 96853

19 May 2011

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# Intelligence Directorate (J2) Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command

### 19 May 2011

#### INDIVIDUALS ASSOCIATED

Name	Social Security Number	Rank	Posthumous Rank	Branch of Service	Date of Loss	Status
VANDEGEER, Richard	(b)(6)	2ndLt	N/A	USAFR	15 May 1975	Resolved
GAUSE, Bernard Jr.		HM1	N/A	USN	15 May 1975	Resolved
MANNING, Ronald J.		HN	N/A	USN	15 May 1975	Resolved
GARCIA, Andres		LCpl	N/A	USMC	15 May 1975	Resolved
TURNER, Kelton R.		PFC	N/A	USMC	15 May 1975	Resolved
SANDOVAL, Antonio R.		PFC	N/A	USMC	15 May 1975	Resolved
COPENHAVER, Gregory S.		LCpl	N/A	USMC	15 May 1975	Resolved
BOYD, Walter		PFC	N/A	USMC	15 May 1975	Resolved
BLESSING, Lynn		PFC	N/A	USMC	15 May 1975	Resolved
BENEDETT, Daniel A.		PFC	N/A	USMC	15 May 1975	KIA/BNR
JACQUES, James J.		PFC	N/A	USMC	15 May 1975	KIA/BNR
MAXWELL, James R.		PFC	N/A	USMC	15 May 1975	KIA/BNR
RIVENBURGH, Richard W.		PFC	N/A	USMC	15 May 1975	KIA/BNR

### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND<sup>1</sup>

Early on the morning of 15 May 1975, a CH-53A helicopter (serial number: 925; call sign: "Knife 31") was one of several aircrafts attempting to insert U.S. forces on to Koh (Khmer word for island) Tang, Cambodia, in support of the rescue of the crew of the S.S. *Mayaguez*. Aboard this helicopter were an Air Force Crew of four along with 22 passengers (20 Marines and two Navy corpsmen). Enemy fire, consisting of automatic weapons, heavy caliber machine guns, and possibly rockets or rocket-propelled grenades, struck the aircraft as it approached the "eastern" beach, causing it to explode in flames. The aircraft subsequently crashed into the water and burned near the shoreline of the island. Many of the servicemen, most suffering from burns, managed to exit the aircraft. All were targets of intense enemy fire as they attempted to swim out to sea. Thirteen of the servicemen were subsequently rescued. The thirteen unrecovered casualties from this aircraft included USAFR Second Lieutenant (2ndLt)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The historical background and investigation sections were compiled, unless otherwise noted, from information owned and published by the Department of Defense.

Richard VANDEGEER,<sup>2</sup> Hospital Corpsman First Class (HM1) Bernard GAUSE Jr.,<sup>3</sup> USN; Hospitalman (HN) Ronald J. MANNING,<sup>4</sup> USN; and the following ten U.S. Marines: Lance Corporal (LCpl) Andres GARCIA,<sup>5</sup> Private First Class (PFC) Kelton R. TURNER,<sup>6</sup> PFC Antonio R. SANDOVAL,<sup>7</sup> LCpl Gregory S. COPENHAVER,<sup>8</sup> PFC Walter BOYD,<sup>9</sup> PFC Lynn BLESSING,<sup>10</sup> PFC Daniel A. BENEDETT,<sup>11</sup> PFC James J. JACQUES,<sup>12</sup> PFC James R. MAXWELL,<sup>13</sup> and PFC Richard W. RIVENBURGH.<sup>14</sup> All thirteen were designated in the status of Killed-in-Action/Body not Recovered (KIA/BNR).

On 7 April 1986 a Joint Casualty Resolution Center (JCRC) Debriefer in Bangkok, Thailand, interviewed a Cambodian refugee who provided first-hand information regarding the alleged burial of three U.S. Marines on Koh Tang. The source stated that while transporting rice to Khmer Cadre on Koh Tang after the battle with U.S. Marines, he observed three bodies in green uniforms lying face down on the "eastern" beach. The source and four companions assisted Khmer Cadre by dragging the bodies up above the beach and burying them in individual graves beneath a large coconut grove. <sup>15</sup>

On 24 February 1988 a JCRC Debriefer interviewed a second Cambodian refugee who provided first-hand information regarding two U.S. helicopters that crashed on the "eastern" beach of Koh Tang. The source stated that after the fighting between Khmer Communist forces and U.S. Marines on the "eastern" beach, Khmer Cadre dragged the bodies of U.S. Marines who had been killed on the beach to an area near a Cadre house about 40 m from the beach. The bodies were then covered with gasoline and cremated. <sup>16</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, VANDEGEER, dated 2 Jun 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, GAUSE, dated 21 May 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, MANNING, dated 21 May 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, GARCIA, dated 23 May 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, TURNER, dated 23 May 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, SANDOVAL, dated 22 May 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, COPENHAVER, dated 22 May 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, BOYD, dated 22 May 1975.

 $<sup>^{\</sup>rm 10}$  DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, BLESSING, dated 22 May 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, BENEDETT, dated 22 May 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, JACQUES, dated 23 May 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, MAXWELL, dated 24 Jun 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> DD Form 1300 Report of Casualty, RIVENBURGH, dated 23 May 1975.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Message JCRC LIAISON BANGKOK TH 070734Z APR 86; Subject: JCRC Report T86-127, One American Captured and Bodies of Three Others Buried in Koh Kong.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Message JCRC LIAISON BANGKOK TH 240547Z FEB 88; Subject: JCRC RPT T88-060, One American Survivor of Mayaguez Incident Executed by Khmer Rouge During May 1975.

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#### INVESTIGATIONS

From 16 January through 26 February 2008, during Joint Field Activity (JFA) 08-2CB, a joint U.S./Kingdom of Cambodia team excavated three alleged burial sites associated with Case 2003 on Koh Tang, Koh Tang District, Koh Kong Province. The team recovered possible human remains and material evidence. In addition, the team received possible human remains and associated material evidence through three unilateral turnovers associated with Case 2003. On 26 February 2008, the Recovery Leader (RL) closed the three site areas and recommended no further excavation at these locations.<sup>17</sup> On 3 March 2008, the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command-Central Identification Laboratory (JPAC-CIL) received the possible human remains, personal effects, and material evidence and assigned them accession numbers CIL 2008-019, CIL 2008-020, CIL 2008-021, and CIL 2008-022.<sup>18</sup>

(b)(6)

Chief, Southeast Asia Research and Investigations Branch

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> Message JPAC ANNEX CAMP SMITH HONOLULU HI(U) 042138Z JUN 09; Subject: Excavation Summary Report of Case 2003 (Sites CB-00175, CB-00176, and CB-00197) Conducted during Joint Field Activity 08-2CB in the Kingdom of Cambodia.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> JPAC Centralized Accounting Repository and Information System (CARIS 7.1.17).



### JOINT POW/MIA ACCOUNTING COMMAND 310 WORCHESTER AVENUE JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, HAWAII 96853-5530

23 January 2012

#### MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subj: IDENTIFICATION OF CIL 1995-114

a. On 12 May 1975 Khmer Rouge gunboats captured the S.S. *Mayaguez* in the Gulf of Thailand, approximately 60 nautical miles off the coast of Kampuchea (Cambodia). The vessel was taken to Koh [island] Tang. Alerted to the capture, U.S. Navy and Air Force aircraft began an on-going surveillance of the island, and on 15 May 1975 six HH-53 and five CH-53 U.S. Air Force helicopters were dispatched to the island. On board were U.S. Marines, augmented by Navy corpsmen, who were charged with securing the island and rescuing the *Mayaguez* crew. As they neared the eastern beach of the island, one of the CH-53 helicopters was hit by enemy anti-aircraft fire and crashed into the surf with 26 men on board. Half of the crew was rescued at sea, leaving the following 13 men unaccounted for

2nd Lt Richard (NMN) VANDEGEER, U.S. Air Force Reserves HM1 Bernard (NMN) GAUSE, Jr., U.S. Navy HN Ronald James MANNING, U.S. Navy LCpl Gregory Scott COPENHAVER, U.S. Marine Corps LCpl Andres (NMN) GARCIA, U.S. Marine Corps PFC Daniel Andrew BENEDETT, U.S. Marine Corps PFC Lynn (NMN) BLESSING, U.S. Marine Corps PFC Walter (NMN) BOYD, U.S. Marine Corps PFC James Joseph JACQUES, U.S. Marine Corps PFC James Rickey MAXWELL, U.S. Marine Corps PFC Richard William RIVENBURGH, U.S. Marine Corps PFC Antonio Ramos SANDOVAL, U.S. Marine Corps PFC Kelton Rena TURNER, U.S. Marine Corps

The incident was designated by the Reference Number (REFNO) 2003, and these 13 men were placed in the status of Missing-In-Action. Subsequently, military review boards changed the status of each man to presumed Killed-In-Action.

- b. On 23 August 1991 officials of the State of Cambodia (formerly known as Kampuchea) unilaterally repatriated to the United States the purported remains of U.S. servicemen lost on Tang Island. The remains were received at the CIL on 25 August 1991 and accessioned as CILHI 0120-91. [Note: The CIL subsequently revised its case numbering system and CILHI 0120-91 was re-designated CIL 1991-120. This numbering format is used throughout the remainder of this memorandum.]
- c. On 14 October 1991 a joint U.S./State of Cambodia (S.O.C.) team traveled to Kompong Saom Province and interviewed a local villager who provided hearsay information concerning

the burial of three Americans on Tang Island. From 15-17 October the team visited the island and dug four test pits in an area indicated by the informant as the location of the burials. The team found several fragments of bone that subsequently were accessioned at the CIL as CIL 1991-159. Laboratory analysis revealed that all of the bone fragments were non-human. On 18 October 1991 a Cambodian official approached the joint team with information that individuals in Vietnam had remains and identification media in their possession that were associated with American servicemen lost on Tang Island. The Cambodian Ministry of Foreign Affairs agreed to arrange to have the remains and identification media transferred to Phnom Penh.

- d. On 11 January 1992 the S.O.C. repatriated to the United States the remains obtained from the individuals in Vietnam. Included with the remains were two identification tags for PFC JACQUES and PFC SANDOVAL. The remains were received at the CIL and accessioned as CIL 1992-005 and CIL 1992-006. Subsequent laboratory analysis, however, revealed some the fragments were non-human and the others were the remains of an indigenous Southeast Asian.
- e. On 3 March 1992 a joint U.S./S.O.C. team surveyed a cave on the northwestern peninsula of Tang Island that was alleged to have been the burial location of three Americans. The team found no evidence of a burial but did recover some bone fragments on the eastern beach. In addition, a Cambodian official unilaterally turned some bone fragments over to the team. The remains were received at the CIL on 17 March 1992 and accessioned as CIL 1992-026.
- f. From 6-14 December 1992 another joint U.S./S.O.C. team surveyed Tang Island and conducted some preliminary test excavations. The team recovered two bone fragments from the surface near the beach. In addition, a Cambodian sailor stationed on the island turned over a human jaw fragment. The remains were received at the CIL on 21 December 1992 and accessioned as CIL 1992-219.
- g. On 7 January 1993 the mandible accessioned as CIL 1991-120 was sent to the University of California-Berkeley (UCB) for mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) analysis. Preliminary results indicated a match to mtDNA obtained from a maternal relative of HN Ronald J. MANNING. For reasons unrelated to the case, the laboratory at UCB did not complete the analysis and the mandible was returned to the CIL.
- h. From 9-11 February 1993 a joint U.S./Kingdom of Cambodia (formerly State of Cambodia) team returned to Tang Island augmented by U.S. Navy divers. The team surveyed the helicopter wreckage lying immediately offshore. The team found wreckage and life-support equipment that correlates with REFNO 2003.
- i. On 18 January 1995 a joint U.S./Socialist Republic of Vietnam (S.R.V.) team interviewed two Vietnamese informants in Ho Chi Minh City who claimed to have recovered remains from Tang Island. The men turned the remains over to a representative of the S.R.V. government, who in turn transferred the remains to Hanoi for examination during the 29th Joint Forensic Review. The remains were selected for repatriation to the U.S. and were turned over to U.S. custody at

Noi Bai airport on 13 February 1995. The remains were received at the CIL on 14 February 1995 and accessioned as CIL 1995-009.

- j. From 30 April to 2 May 1995 another joint U.S./Kingdom of Cambodia (K.O.C.) team resurveyed the crash site offshore and evaluated the logistical requirements for a recovery.
- k. On 12 July 1995 two Cambodian nationals entered the Joint Task Force—Full Accounting Detachment 4 (DET 4) office in Phnom Penh and turned over a small plastic bag containing bone fragments. The men indicated that the remains had been found in the jungle near the beach on Tang Island. The remains were transferred to the CIL on 6 December 1995 and were accessioned as CIL 1995-113. (Subsequently, the Tang Island commander told DET 4 analysts that he had recovered these remains on Tang Island.)
- 1. On 24 August 1995 another joint team traveled to Tang Island and excavated an area identified by a Cambodian national as the burial location of a U.S. serviceman. The team found no evidence of a burial.
- m. On 12 October 1995 three bone samples (Samples A-C) taken from CIL 1995-009 were submitted to the Armed forces DNA Identification Laboratory (AFDIL) for mtDNA analysis.
- n. From 28 October to 12 November 1995 a joint U.S./K.O.C. team conducted an underwater recovery of the helicopter crash site. The team was augmented by the crew and equipment of the U.S.S. *Brunswick*—a U.S. Navy salvage vessel. The team recovered numerous fragments of bone as well as artifacts associated with the incident. The remains were escorted to the CIL on 6 December 1995 and accessioned as CIL 1995-114.
- o. On 5 January 1996, two bone samples (Samples A and B) taken from CIL 1995-113 and eleven bone samples (Samples A-I) taken from CIL 1995-114 were submitted to the AFDIL for mtDNA testing. In addition, two samples (Samples A and B) cut from CIL 1992-219 and a bone sample (Sample A) taken from a fibula fragment designated CIL 1991-120 were submitted.
- p. From 20 April through 11 May 1996 another joint U.S./K.O.C. team returned to Tang Island and excavated several inland areas that former Khmer Rouge soldiers had identified as the burial locations of American servicemen. No evidence of burials was found.
- q. On 15 October 1996 five additional samples (Samples D-H) from CIL 1995-009 were submitted to the AFDIL.
- r. On 27 June 1997 a tooth sample from CIL 1992-219 (Sample C) was submitted to the AFDIL. On 27 August 1997, two tooth samples from CIL 1991-120 (Samples B and C) were sent to the AFDIL. On 26 November 1997 an additional tooth from CIL 1992-219 (Sample D) was submitted for mtDNA analysis.
- s. On 2 February 1998 a Cambodian national led a joint U.S./K.O.C. team to a purported American grave site on Tang Island. No evidence of a burial was found.

- t. From 20-22 July 1998 an additional sample (Sample C) taken from CIL 1995-113 was submitted to the AFDIL for analysis. In addition, 14 samples taken from CIL 1995-114 (tooth samples J and K and bone samples L-W) were submitted, as were 3 samples (Samples A-C) from CIL 1992-026.
- u. On 23 and 25 November 1998 two additional bone samples were submitted to the AFDIL for mtDNA analysis: Sample E from CIL 1992-219 and Sample A.1 (a resample) from CIL 1991-120.
- v. From 7 March to 1 April 1999 another joint U.S./K.O.C. team returned to Tang Island and excavated several purported burial sites identified by a former inhabitant of the island. No evidence of any burials were found.
- w. Based on laboratory analysis, the remains accessioned as CIL 1991-120, CIL 1992-026, CIL 1992-219, CIL 1995-009, and CIL 1995-113 were consolidated into CIL 1995-114. On 23 June 2000, based on the results of mtDNA testing and CIL analysis, the remains of the following nine men were identified:

CIL 1995-114-I-01	2nd Lt Richard (NMN) VANDEGEER	U.S. Air Force Reserves
CIL 1995-114-I-02	HM1 Bernard (NMN) GAUSE, Jr.	U.S. Navy
CIL 1995-114-I-03	LCpl Gregory Scott COPENHAVER	U.S. Marine Corps
CIL 1995-114-I-04	LCpl Andres (NMN) GARCIA	U.S. Marine Corps
CIL 1995-114-I-05	HN Ronald J. MANNING	U.S. Navy
CIL 1995-114-I-06	PFC Lynn (NMN) BLESSING	U.S. Marine Corps
CIL 1995-114-I-07	PFC Walter (NMN) BOYD	U.S. Marine Corps
CIL 1995-114-I-08	PFC Antonio Ramos SANDOVAL	U.S. Marine Corps
CIL 1995-114-I-09	PFC Kelton Rena TURNER	U.S. Marine Corps

- x. In early 2007 a joint U.S./K.O.C. team was re-investigating the REFNO 2003 on Tang Island when a Cambodian national turned over human remains that he claimed to have recovered on the island. The remains were accessioned at the CIL on 21 April 2007 as CIL 2007-067.
- y. On 2 October 2007 a bone sample (Sample 01A) from CIL 2007-067 was submitted to the AFDIL.
- z. In February 2008 another joint U.S./K.O.C. team was re-investigating the REFNO 2003 on Tang Island when three Cambodian nationals—including the man who had turned over remains in 2007—approached them and turned over human remains that they claimed to have recovered on the island. The remains were accessioned at the CIL on 3 March 2008 as CIL 2008-019, CIL 2008-020, and CIL 2008-022.
- aa. On 2 July 2008 bone samples from CIL 2008-020 (Sample 01A) and CIL 2008-022 (Sample 01A) were submitted to the AFDIL. On 19 July 2008 a bone sample from CIL 2008-

019 (Sample 01A) was also sent to the AFDIL. Finally, on 18 August 2008 a second resample taken from CIL 1991-120 (Sample A.2) was submitted for mtDNA testing.

bb. Based on laboratory analysis and mtDNA testing, remains accessioned as CIL 2007-067, CIL 2008-019, CIL 2008-020, and CIL 2008-022 were consolidated into CIL 1995-114.

#### 2. Summary of Findings

- a. Non-biological evidence recovered from the site includes a military identification tag (dog tag) for "J.J. JACQUES," and a Zippo-brand cigarette lighter manufactured in 1974.
- b. The AFDIL reports that additional samples taken from [original] accessions CIL 1991-120, CIL 1995-114, CIL 2007-067, CIL 2008-019, CIL 2008-020, and CIL 2008-022 yielded 11 distinct mtDNA sequences, 10 of which match reference samples for individuals associated with case REFNO 2003 (Table 1). All of these samples previously were consolidated into CIL 1995-114.
- (1) MtDNA sequenced from CIL 1995-114 Samples VV and WW was shown to match mtDNA obtained from known maternal-line relatives (mother and brother) of James R. MAXWELL. The sequence data are rare in database used by the AFDIL (≈ 0.28% of the total database and ≈ 0.66% of the Caucasian sub-database) and can be assumed to be uncommon within the general population. In addition, the mtDNA does not match that of known maternal relatives of 12 of the other 13 men involved in the incident (no maternal relatives for PFC BENEDETT could be located) or 5 other Americans lost on Tang Island during the battle. For administrative purposes, the remains from which these samples were taken were sub-designated CIL 1995-114-I-10. (See Table 1 for listing of samples and sub-designators.)
- (2) MtDNA sequenced from CIL 1995-114 Samples Z, HH, NN, MMM and OOO and CIL 1991-120 Sample A.2 matches mtDNA obtained from a known maternal-line relative (brother) of James J. JACQUES. The sequence data are very rare in the database used by the AFDIL ( $\approx 0.02\%$  of the total database) and can be assumed to be rare within the general population. In addition, the mtDNA does not match that of known maternal relatives for the other men lost on Tang Island for whom maternal reference samples are available. For administrative purposes, the remains from which these samples were taken were sub-designated CIL 1995-114-I-11.
- (3) MtDNA sequenced from CIL 1995-114 Samples EEE, HHH, and III matches mtDNA obtained from a known maternal-line relative (brother) of Richard W. RIVENBURGH. The sequence data are unique in the database used by the AFDIL and can be assumed to be very rare within the general population. In addition, the mtDNA does not match that of known maternal relatives for the other men lost on Tang Island for whom maternal reference samples are available. For administrative purposes, the remains from which these samples were taken were sub-designated CIL 1995-114-I-12.
- (4) CIL 1995-114 Samples KK, MM, and OO yielded mtDNA sequence data that match mtDNA for the other men lost on Tang Island for whom maternal reference samples are

available. The sequence data exhibit a [U.S.] Native American haplotype ( $\approx 0.12\%$  of the total database and  $\approx 0.08\%$  of the Hispanic sub-database, but  $\approx 3.30\%$  of the Native American sub-database). For administrative purposes, the remains from which this sample was taken were sub-designated CIL 1995-114-I-13.

- (5) CIL 1995-114 Samples EE, FF, GG, FFF, and JJJ yielded mtDNA that matches that obtained from a known maternal-line relative (mother) of Richard VANDEGEER. The sequence data are unique in the database used by the AFDIL and can be assumed to be very rare within the general population. In addition, the mtDNA does not match that of known maternal relatives for the other men lost on Tang Island for whom maternal reference samples are available. For administrative purposes, the remains from which these samples were taken were sub-designated CIL 1995-114-X-01.
- (6) CIL 2008-019 Sample 01A, CIL 2008-020 Sample 01A, and CIL 2008-022 Sample 01A yielded mtDNA that matches that obtained from a known maternal-line relative (mother) of Gregory S. COPENHAVER. The sequence data from both the bone samples and the family reference include heteroplasmy at base position 16150. Overall, the sequence is rare in the database used by the AFDIL ( $\approx 0.22\%$  of the total database and  $\approx 0.50\%$  of the Caucasian subdatabase) and can be assumed to be rare within the general population. In addition, the mtDNA does not match that of known maternal relatives for the other men lost on Tang Island for whom maternal reference samples are available. For administrative purposes, the remains from which these samples were taken were sub-designated CIL 1995-114-X-02.
- (7) CIL 1995-114 Samples BB, CC, DD, ZZ, BBB, CCC, DDD, GGG, and KKK yielded mtDNA that matches that obtained from known maternal-line relatives (mother and brother) of Andres G. GARCIA. The sequence is very rare in the database used by the AFDIL ( $\approx 0.01\%$  of the total database and  $\approx 0.08\%$  of the Hispanic sub-database) and can be assumed to be rare within the general population. In addition, the mtDNA does not match that of known maternal relatives for the other men lost on Tang Island for whom maternal reference samples are available. For administrative purposes, the remains from which these samples were taken were sub-designated CIL 1995-114-X-03.
- (8) CIL 1995-114 Samples X, JJ, PP, SS, TT, YY, and NNN yielded mtDNA that matches that obtained from a known maternal-line relative (mother) of Ronald J. MANNING. The sequence data are rare in the database used by the AFDIL ( $\approx 0.10\%$  of the total database and  $\approx 0.06\%$  of the Caucasian sub-database) and can be assumed to be rare within the general population. In addition, the mtDNA does not match that of known maternal relatives for the other men lost on Tang Island for whom maternal reference samples are available. For administrative purposes, the remains from which these samples were taken were sub-designated CIL 1995-114-X-04.
- (9) MtDNA sequenced from CIL 1995-114 Samples LL, AAA, and LLL and CIL 2007-067 Sample 01A matches mtDNA obtained from known maternal-line relatives (sister and brother) of Lynn BLESSING. The sequence data are unique in the AFDIL database and can be assumed to be very rare within the general population. In addition, the mtDNA does not match

that of known maternal relatives for the other men lost on Tang Island for whom maternal reference samples are available. For administrative purposes, the remains from which these samples were taken were sub-designated CIL 1995-114-X-05.

- (10) CIL 1995-114 Samples Y, AA, II, RR, and XX yielded mtDNA that matches that obtained from known maternal-line relatives (mother and brother) of Antonio R. SANDOVAL. The sequence data are unique in the database used by the AFDIL and can be assumed to be very rare within the general population. In addition, the mtDNA does not match that of known maternal relatives for the other men lost on Tang Island for whom maternal reference samples are available. For administrative purposes, the remains from which these samples were taken were sub-designated CIL 1995-114-X-06.
- (11) CIL 1995-114 Samples QQ and UU and CIL 2008-019 Sample 02A yielded mtDNA sequence data that match that of two known maternal-line relatives (mother and brother) of Kelton R. TURNER. The sequence data are very rare in the database used by the AFDIL ( $\approx 0.02\%$  of the total database and  $\approx 0.13\%$  of the African-American sub-database) and can be assumed to be rare within the general population. In addition, the mtDNA does not match that of known maternal relatives for the other men lost on Tang Island for whom maternal reference samples are available. For administrative purposes, the remains from which these samples were taken were sub-designated CIL 1995-114-X-07.

Table 1. Bone and Tooth Samples Associated by mtDNA Analysis

Sub-Designator	Pesignator Bone Samples		
1995-114-I-10	1995-114 Samples VV, WW	MAXWELL	
1995-114-I-11	1991-120 Sample A.2 1995-114 Samples Z, HH, NN, MMM, OOO	JACQUES	
1995-114-I-12	1995-114 Samples EEE, HHH, III	RIVENBURGH	
1995-114-I-13	1995-114 Samples KK, MM, OO	BENEDETT*	
1995-114-X-01	1995-114 Samples EE, FF, GG, FFF, JJJ	VANDEGEER	
1995-114-X-02	2008-019 Sample 01A 2008-020 Sample 01A 2008-022 Sample 01A	COPENHAVER	
1995-114-X-03	1995-114 Samples BB, CC, DD, ZZ, BBB, CCC, DDD, GGG, KKK	GARCIA	
1995-114-X-04	1995-114 Samples X, JJ, PP, SS, TT, YY, NNN	MANNING	
1995-114-X-05	1995-114 Samples LL, AAA, LLL 2007-067 Sample 01A	BLESSING	
1995-114-X-06	1995-114 Samples Y, AA, II, RR, XX	SANDOVAL	
1995-114-X-07	1995-114 Samples QQ, UU 2008-019 Sample 02A	TURNER	

- \*No maternal reference on file. Presumptive association on the basis of haplotype and exclusion.
- c. Odontological and anthropological analyses were limited by the amount and type of remains.
- (1) CIL 1995-114-I-10 consists of a right humerus shaft and a right tibia shaft that are attributed to James R. MAXWELL on the basis of mtDNA testing. The remains are consistent with those of an adult or older juvenile. No other significant biological characteristics can be determined.
- (4) CIL 1995-114-I-11 consists of several cranial fragments, a vertebral fragment, rib fragment, right fibula fragment, and a right calcaneus fragment that are attributed to James JACQUES on the basis of mtDNA testing. The remains are consistent with those of an adult male. No other significant biological characteristics can be determined.
- (3) CIL 1995-114-I-12 consists of two innominate fragments and a fragment of patella. MtDNA testing associates the remains to Richard W. RIVENBURGH. The remains are consistent with those of an adult male. No other significant biological characteristics can be determined.
- (4) CIL 1995-114-I-13 consists of fragments of a rib and two vertebrae. MtDNA testing excludes all of the known crewmen except PFC Daniel A. BENEDETT. The remains are consistent with those of an adult; however, no other significant biological characteristics can be determined.
- (5) CIL 1995-114-X-01 consists of fragments of a mandible, right clavicle, lumbar vertebra, right patella, and a tibia that are attributed to Richard VANDEGEER on the basis of mtDNA testing. The remains are consistent with those of an adult. No other significant biological characteristics can be determined. A comparison of CIL 1995-114-X-01 with the remains previously identified as those of Richard VANDEGEER reveals no duplication.
- (6) CIL 1995-114-X-02 consists of fragments of a right femur and right and left tibias that are attributed to Gregory S. COPENHAVER on the basis of mtDNA testing. The remains are consistent with those of an adult White male. No other significant biological characteristics can be determined. A comparison of CIL 1995-114-X-02 with the remains previously identified as those of Gregory S. COPENHAVER reveals no duplication.
- (7) CIL 1995-114-X-03 consists of three loose, unrestored teeth—#1, #4, and #16—as well as a fragment of right zygomatic, two left metacarpals, [hand] phalanx, fragment of right patella, and a fragment of tibia that are attributed to Andres GARCIA on the basis of mtDNA testing. The remains are consistent with those of an adult. No other significant biological characteristics can be determined. The available dental records for Andres GARCIA indicate that tooth #4 was present and unrestored. The records also chart teeth #1 and #16, i.e., his maxillary "wisdom" teeth, as missing. This is a common charting discrepancy in that unerupted third molars that are not visible clinically are charted as not present. Given that LCpl GARCIA was 21 years old at the time of his last dental visit, it is possible that his third molars had yet to

erupt. A comparison of CIL 1995-114-X-03 with the remains previously identified as those of Andres GARCIA reveals no duplication.

- (8) CIL 1995-114-X-04 includes fragments of a right scapula, three rib fragments, and three vertebra fragments that are attributed to Ronald MANNING on the basis of mtDNA testing. The remains are consistent with those of an adult male. No other significant biological characteristics can be determined. A comparison of CIL 1995-114-X-04 with the remains previously identified as those of Ronald J. MANNING reveals no duplication.
- (9) CIL 1995-114-X-05 includes an unrestored tooth—#1—as well as fragments of a vertebra, left rib, and a left tibia that are attributed to Lynn BLESSING on the basis of mtDNA testing. The remains are consistent with those of an adult. No other significant biological characteristics can be determined. The available dental records for Lynn BLESSING indicate that tooth #1 was present and unrestored. A comparison of CIL 1995-114-X-05 with the remains previously identified as those of Lynn BLESSING reveals no duplication.
- (10) CIL 1995-114-X-06 includes fragments of a petrous portion of temporal bone, a humerus, a thoracic vertebra, a left rib, and a right first metatarsal that are attributed to Antonio SANDOVAL on the basis of mtDNA testing. The remains are consistent with those of an adult. No other significant biological characteristics can be determined. A comparison of CIL 1995-114-X-06 with the remains previously identified as those of Antonio SANDOVAL reveals no duplication.
- (11) CIL 1995-114-X-07 includes fragments of two ribs and a left tibia that are attributed to Kelton R. TURNER on the basis of mtDNA testing. The remains are consistent with those of an adult. No other significant biological characteristics can be determined. A comparison of CIL 1995-114-X-07 with the remains previously identified as those of Kelton TURNER reveals no duplication.
- (12) Dental and skeletal remains associated with this case that cannot be associated to a specific individual are grouped and sub-designated as CIL 1995-114-G-01.

#### 3. Summary and Conclusions

Available evidence—including eyewitness accounts of other U.S. personnel involved in the mission—suggest that 2nd Lt VANDEGEER and 12 passengers on board his helicopter died near Tang Island, Cambodia, when their HH-53 helicopter crashed into shallow water near the shore after being struck by enemy ground fire. Half of the 26 men on board the aircraft were rescued at the time; the remaining 13—including 2nd Lt VANDEGEER—were not. In 1995 a U.S.-led team recovered human remains from the wreckage of the helicopter. In 2000 those remains, as well as additional remains unilaterally turned over by several sources with access to the island, were identified as those of 2nd Lt VANDEGEER and 8 of the 12 passengers on board his aircraft: HM1 Bernard GAUSE, Jr.; HN Ronald MANNING; LCpl Gregory COPENHAVER; LCpl Andres GARCIA; PFC Lynn BLESSING; PFC Walter BOYD; PFC Antonio SANDOVAL; and PFC Kelton TURNER. Subsequent analysis of the unidentified remains, as

well as analysis of additional remains unilaterally turned over since 2000, now allows for the identifications of three of the other four men involved in the loss—PFC James JACQUES, PFC James MAXWELL, and PFC Richard RIVENBURGH. Additional remains of 2nd Lt VANDEGEER, LCpl COPENHAVER, LCpl GARCIA, PFC BLESSING, HN MANNING, PFC SANDOVAL, and PFC TURNER were also identified.

#### 4. Findings

a. In my opinion, the results of laboratory analysis and the totality of the circumstantial evidence made available to me establish the remains designated CIL 1995-114-I-10 as those of

PFC James Rickey MAXWELL, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps

b. In my opinion, the results of laboratory analysis and the totality of the circumstantial evidence made available to me establish the remains designated CIL 1995-114-I-11 as those of

PFC James Joseph JACQUES, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps

c. In my opinion, the results of laboratory analysis and the totality of the circumstantial evidence made available to me establish the remains designated CIL 1995-114-I-12 as those of

PFC Richard William RIVENBURGH, (b)(6), U.S. Marine Corps

d. In my opinion, the results of laboratory analysis and the circumstantial evidence made available to me establish CIL 1995-114-X-01 as the additional remains of

2nd Lt Richard (NMN) VANDEGEER, (b)(6) U.S. Air Force Reserves

e. In my opinion, the results of laboratory analysis and the circumstantial evidence made available to me establish CIL 1995-114-X-02 as the additional remains of

LCpl Gregory Scott COPENHAVER, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps

f. In my opinion, the results of laboratory analysis and the circumstantial evidence made available to me establish CIL 1995-114-X-03 as the additional remains of

LCpl Andres GARCIA, (b)(6), U.S. Marine Corps

g. In my opinion, the results of laboratory analysis and the circumstantial evidence made available to me establish CIL 1995-114-X-04 as the additional remains of

HN Ronald James MANNING, (b)(6), U.S. Navy

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	h. In my opinion, the results of laboratory analysis and the circumstantial evidence made
ava	ilable to me establish CIL 1995-114-X-05 as the additional remains of

i. In my opinion, the results of laboratory analysis and the circumstantial evidence made available to me establish CIL 1995-114-X-06 as the additional remains of

j. In my opinion, the results of laboratory analysis and the circumstantial evidence made available to me establish CIL 1995-114-X-07 as the additional remains of

k. Based on the results of laboratory analyses, as well as on the circumstantial evidence made available to me, I designate CIL 1995-114-G-01 as the Group Remains from an incident involving:

2nd Lt Richard (NMN) VANDEGEER, (b)(6), U.S. Air Force Reserves
HM1 Bernard (NMN) GAUSE, Jr., (b)(6), U.S. Navy
HN Ronald James MANNING, (b)(6) U.S. Navy
LCpl Gregory Scott COPENHAVER, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps
LCpl Andres (NMN) GARCIA, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps
PFC Daniel Andrew BENEDETT, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps
PFC Lynn (NMN) BLESSING, (b)(6), U.S. Marine Corps
PFC Walter (NMN) BOYD, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps
PFC James Joseph JACQUES, (b)(6) , U.S. Marine Corps
PFC James Rickey MAXWELL, (b)(6), U.S. Marine Corps
PFC Richard William RIVENBURGH, (b)(6), U.S. Marine Corps
PFC Antonio Ramos SANDOVAL, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps
PFC Kelton Rena TURNER, (b)(6), U.S. Marine Corps

1. In my opinion, the results of laboratory analysis and the circumstantial evidence made available to me suggest that the remains designated CIL 1995-114-I-13 likely are the remains of

Unfortunately, the association of these remains to PFC BENEDETT cannot be confirmed to a reasonable degree of scientific certainty at this time. These remains will be held at the CII. pending further case developments.



#### 90 Encls

Scientific Director, JPAC-CIL

- 1. J-2 Report: case 2003, Koh Tang, Kingdom of Cambodia; dtd 19 May 2011
- 2. Forensic Anthropology Report: CIL 1995-114-G-01; dtd 1 November 2011
- 3. Forensic Odontology Report: CIL 1995-114-G-01; dtd 1 November 2011
- 4. Forensic Anthropology Report: CIL 1995-114-I-10; dtd 2 June 2010 (MAXWELL copy only)
- 5. Department of Defense; AFIP-CME-DNA (40-31a); Consultation Report on Contributor Material; MAXWELL, James R. (BTB); dtd JUN 03 2010 (MAXWELL copy only)
- Department of the Army; Armed Forces Medical Examiner System; MCMR-MED-DM (40-31a); Consultation Report On Contributor Material; MAXWELL, James R. (BTB); dtd NOV 30 2010 (MAXWELL copy only)
- 7. Forensic Anthropology Report: CIL 1995-114-I-11; dtd 18 October 2010 (JACQUES copy only)
- 8. Department of Defense; AFIP-CME-DNA (40-31a); Consultation Report on Contributor Material; JACQUES, James J. (BTB); dtd MAR 05 2010 (JACQUES copy only)
- 9. Department of Defense; AFIP-CME-DNA (40-31a); Consultation Report on Contributor Material; JACQUES, James J. (BTB); dtd JUN 03 2010 (JACQUES copy only)
- Department of the Army; Armed Forces Medical Examiner System; MCMR-MED-DM (40-31a); Consultation Report On Contributor Material; JACQUES, James J. (BTB); dtd NOV 30 2010 (JACQUES copy only)
- 11. Forensic Anthropology Report: CIL 1995-114-I-12; dtd 1 February 2011 (RIVENBURGH copy only)
- Department of the Army; Armed Forces Medical Examiner System; MCMR-MED-DM (40-31a); Consultation Report On Contributor Material; RIVENBURGH, Richard W. (BTB); dtd NOV 30 2010 (RIVENBURGH copy only)
- 13. Forensic Anthropology Report: CIL 1995-114-I-13; dtd 1 February 2011 (BENEDETT copy only)
- Department of the Army; Armed Forces Medical Examiner System; MCMR-MED-DM (40-31a); Consultation Report On Contributor Material; NO NAME; dtd NOV 30 2010 (BENEDETT copy only)
- 15. Forensic Anthropology Report: CIL 1995-114-X-01; dtd 1 February 2011 (VANDEGEER copy only)
- Department of the Army; Armed Forces Medical Examiner System; MCMR-MED-DM (40-31a); Consultation Report On Contributor Material; VANDE GEER [sic], Richard (BTB); dtd NOV 30 2010 (VANDEGEER copy only)

- 17. Forensic Anthropology Report: CIL 1995-114-X-02; dtd 9 September 2011 (COPENHAVER copy only)
- Department of Defense; AFIP-CME-DNA (40-31a); Consultation Report on Contributor Material; COPENHAVER, Gregory S. (BTB); CIL Case No. 2008-019; dtd MAR 09 2010 (COPENHAVER copy only)
- Department of Defense; AFIP-CME-DNA (40-31a); Consultation Report on Contributor Material; COPENHAVER, Gregory S. (BTB); CIL Case No. 2008-020; dtd MAR 09 2010 (COPENHAVER copy only)
- Department of Defense; AFIP-CME-DNA (40-31a); Consultation Report on Contributor Material; COPENHAVER, Gregory S. (BTB); CIL Case No. 2008-022; dtd MAR 08 2010 (COPENHAVER copy only)
- 21. Forensic Anthropology Report: CIL 1995-114-X-03; dtd 1 February 2011 (GARCIA copy only)
- 22. Forensic Odontology: CIL 1995-114-X-03; dtd 4 November 2010 (GARCIA copy only)
- Department of the Army; Armed Forces Medical Examiner System; MCMR-MED-DM (40-31a); Consultation Report On Contributor Material; GARCIA, ANDRES G. (BTB); dtd NOV 30 2010 (GARCIA copy only)
- 24. Forensic Anthropology Report: CIL 1995-114-X-04; dtd 9 September 2011 (MANNING copy only)
- Department of the Army; Armed Forces Medical Examiner System; MCMR-MED-DM (40-31a); Consultation Report On Contributor Material; MANNING, Ronald J. (BTB); dtd NOV 30 2010 (MANNING copy only)
- 26. Forensic Anthropology Report: CIL 1995-114-X-05; dtd 9 March 2011 (BLESSING copy only)
- 27. Forensic Odontology: CIL 1995-114-X-05; dtd 4 November 2010 (BLESSING copy only)
- Department of Defense; AFIP-CME-DNA (40-31a); Consultation Report on Contributor Material; BLESSING, Lynn (BTB); CIL Case No. 2007-067; dtd MAR 5 2010 (BLESSING copy only)
- Department of the Army; Armed Forces Medical Examiner System; MCMR-MED-DM (40-31a); Consultation Report On Contributor Material; BLESSING, Lynn (BTB); dtd NOV 30 2010 (BLESSING copy only)
- Forensic Anthropology Report: CIL 1995-114-X-06; dtd 9 September 2011 (SANDOVAL copy only)
- 31. Department of the Army; Armed Forces Medical Examiner System; MCMR-MED-DM (40-31a); Consultation Report On Contributor Material; SANDOVAL, Antonio R. (BTB); dtd NOV 30 2010 (SANDOVAL copy only)
- 32. Forensic Anthropology Report: CIL 1995-114-X-07; dtd 9 September 2011 (TURNER copy only)
- Department of Defense; AFIP-CME-DNA (40-31a); Consultation Report on Contributor Material; TURNER, Kelton R. (BTB); CIL Case No. 2008-019; dtd MAR 09 2010 (TURNER copy only)
- 34. Department of the Army; Armed Forces Medical Examiner System; MCMR-MED-DM (40-31a); Consultation Report On Contributor Material; TURNER, Kelton R. (BTB); dtd NOV 30 2010 (TURNER copy only)
- 35. Material Evidence Report: CIL 1995-114-A-01 Through 06; dtd 13 September 2011

- 36. MSG CDR JCRC Barbers Pt HI, 092000Z FEB 87, [SUBJ]: Evaluation of RPT T86-127
- 37. MSG JCRC Liaison Bangkok TH, 251214Z OCT 91, SUBJ: Summary Report of Joint U.S. Cambodian POW-MIA Operations, 14-23 Oct
- 38. MSG CDRUSACILHI, 230120Z JAN 92, SUBJ: ID Status Two Remains Turned Over by SOC on 11 Jan 92
- 39. MSG SECSTATE, 072227Z MAR 92, SUBJ: Interim Summary Report of Joint U.S. Cambodian POW-MIA Operation, 20 Feb-4 Mar
- 40. MSG USMISSION Phnom Penh CB, 180347Z DEC 92, SUBJ: Detailed Report of Investigation: Case 2003 (VANDEGEER, GAUSE, MANNING, GARCIA, TURNER, SANDOVAL, RIVENBURGH, MAXWELL, JACQUES, COPENHAVER, BOYD, BLESSING, BENEDETT), incident Location Grid 48PTS965400, Tang Island, Kampong Saom Province, Cambodia
- 41. MSG CJTFFA DET FOUR Phnom Penh CB, 220637Z FEB 93, SUBJ: Detailed Report of Survey: Case 2003 (VANDEGEER, GAUSE, MANNING, GARCIA, TURNER, SANDOVAL, RIVENBURGH, MAXWELL, JACQUES, COPENHAVER, BOYD, BLESSING, BENEDETT), incident Location Grid 48PTS965400, Tang Island, Kampong Saom Province, Cambodia
- MSG CDR JTF-FA 051322Z MAY 93, SUBJ: Analysis of Material Evidence Associated with REFNO 2003
- 43. MSG CDR JTF-FA 081804Z FEB 95, SUBJ: Additional Information Report on Cambodia Case 2003
- 44. MSG CDR JTF-FA 171717Z MAY 95, SUBJ: Detailed Report of Investigation of Case 2003
- 45. MSG CJTFFA DET FOUR Phnom Penh, 270308Z JUL 95, SUBJ: Walk-in Interview CB 95-027A
- 46. MSG CJTFFA DET FOUR Phnom Penh, 140806Z AUG 95, SUBJ: Detachment Four Additional Information Report CB 95-03
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- 49. MSG CDR JTF-FA 050912Z OCT 95, SUBJ: JTF-FA Report VN95-036: PAVN Veteran Provides ID Media Data for Case 2003
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- MSG CDR JTF-FA 051745Z DEC 95, SUBJ: Detailed Search and Recovery Report of Case 2003
- Memorandum For Commander, U.S. Army Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii;
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- 53. MSG CDR JTF-FA 090722Z APR 96, SUBJ: Analysis of Material Evidence Associated with Case 2003
- 54. MSG CDR JTF-FA 051754Z JUN 96, SUBJ: Detailed Report of Investigation for Case 2003

- MSG CDR JTF-FA 270702Z DEC 96, SUBJ: Additional Information Report Concerning Case 2003
- 56. MSG CDR JTF-FA 091713Z JAN 98, SUBJ: Detailed Report of Investigation of Priority Case 1998 and Other Tang Island cases 2002, 2003 and 2038
- 57. MSG CDR JTF-FA 231724Z MAR 98, SUBJ: Additional Information Report Concerning Case 2003
- 58. MSG CDR JTF-FA 280235Z APR 99, SUBJ: Detailed Report of Investigation of Cambodia Case 2003
- MSG CDR JTF-FA 071820Z MAY 99, SUBJ: Detailed Report of Investigation of Trilateral Case 2003
- 60. MSG CDR JTF-FA 071825Z MAY 99, SUBJ: Detailed Report of Excavation of Case 2003
- 61. MSG CDR JTF-FA 071840Z MAY 99, SUBJ: Additional Information Report 991C-001 Concerning Tang Island Priority Case 1998 and Cases 2002, 2003, and 2038
- 62. MSG CDR JTF-FA 071850Z MAY 99, SUBJ: Additional Information Report 991C-002 Concerning Tang Island Priority Case 1998 and Cases 2002, 2003, and 2038
- 63. MSG CDR JTF-FA 060902Z JUL 99, SUBJ: Translation and Evaluation of Vietnamese document: Report of Unilateral Investigation of Case 2003
- 64. Relevant Antemortem Medical and Personnel Records (VANDEGEER) (VANDEGEER copy only)
- 65. Relevant Antemortem Medical and Personnel Records (GAUSE) (GAUSE copy only)
- 66. Relevant Antemortem Medical and PersonnelRecords (MANNING) (MANNING copy only)
- 67. Relevant Antemortem Medical and PersonnelRecords (COPENHAVER) (COPENHAVER copy only)
- 68. Relevant Antemortem Medical and Personnel Records (GARCIA) (GARCIA copy only)
- 69. Relevant Antemortem Medical and Personnel Records (BENEDETT) (BENEDETT copy only)
- Relevant Antemortem Medical and Personnel Records (BLESSING) (BLESSING copy only)
- 71. Relevant Antemortem Medical and Personnel Records (BOYD) (BOYD copy only)
- 72. Relevant Antemortem Medical and Personnel Records (JACQUES) (JACQUES copy only)
- 73. Relevant Antemortem Medical and Personnel Records (MAXWELL) (MAXWELL copy only)
- 74. Relevant Antemortem Medical and Personnel Records (RIVENBURGH) (RIVENBURGH copy only)
- 75. Relevant Antemortem Medical and Personnel Records (SANDOVAL) (SANDOVAL copy only)
- 76. Relevant Antemortem Medical and Personnel Records (TURNER) (TURNER copy only)
- 77. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (VANDEGEER); dtd 4 Jun 75 (VANDEGEER copy only)
- 78. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (GAUSE); dtd (GAUSE copy only)
- 79. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (MANNING); dtd 1975 May 21 (MANNING copy only)
- 80. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (COPENHAVER); dtd 22May75 (COPENHAVER copy only)

- 81. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (GARCIA); dtd 23May75 (GARCIA copy only)
- 82. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (BENEDETT); dtd 22May75 (BENEDETT copy only)
- 83. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (BLESSING); dtd 22May75 (BLESSING copy only)
- 84. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (BOYD); dtd (BOYD copy only)
- 85. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (JACQUES); dtd 23May75 (JACQUES copy only)
- 86. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (MAXWELL); dtd 24Jun75 (MAXWELL copy only)
- 87. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (RIVENBURGH); dtd 23May75 (RIVENBURGH copy only)
- 88. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (SANDOVAL); dtd 22May75 (SANDOVAL copy only)
- 89. DD Form 1300, Report of Casualty (TURNER); dtd 23May75 (TURNER copy only)
- 90. Consultant Comments [Finnegan]; dtd 29 November 2011 (applicable copies only)

### JOINT POW/MIA ACCOUNTING COMMAND



#### 310 WORCHESTER AVENUE JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM, HAWAII 96853

CIL 1771 Ser: 0005-12 23 Jan 12

#### **MEMORANDUM**

From: JPAC Central Identification Laboratory

To: Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps

Manpower & Reserve Affairs (MRPC)

3280 Russell Road Quantico, VA 22134

Commander, Navy Casualty Affairs (N135C) Casualty Assistance Branch POW/MIA Section, PERS-665 5720 Integrity Drive Millington, TN 38055-6210

Air Force Mortuary Affairs Operations Center AFMAO/MA 116 Purple Heart Drive Dover AFB, DE 19902

Subj: IDENTIFICATION OF JPAC CIL 1995-114

Encl: (1) Case File CIL 1995-114

- 1. Forwarded is the case file establishing the following identifications:
  - a. CIL 1995-114-I-10 as those of:

PFC James Rickey MAXWELL, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps

b. CIL 1995-114-I-11 as those of:

PFC James Joseph JACQUES, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps

c. CIL 1995-114-I-12 as those of:

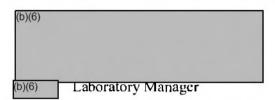
PFC Richard William RIVENBURGH, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps

## Subj: IDENTIFICATION OF JPAC CIL 1995-114 d. CIL 1995 -114-X-01 as the additional remains of: 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt Richard (NMN) VANDEGEER, (b)(6) U.S. Air Force Reserves e. CIL 1995-114-X-02 as the additional remains of: LCpl Gregory Scott COPENHAVER, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps f. CIL 1995-114-X-03 as the additional remains of: LCpl Andres GARCIA, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps g. CIL 1995-114-X-04 as the additional remains of: HN Ronald James MANNING, (b)(6) U.S. Navy h. CIL 1995-114-X-05 as the additional remains of: PFC Lynn (NMN) BLESSING, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps i. CIL 1995-114-X-06 as the additional remains of: PFC Antonio Ramos SANDOVAL, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps j. CIL 1995-114-X-07 as the additional remains of: PFC Kelton Rena TURNER, (b)(6) , U.S. Marine Corps k. CIL 1995-114-G-01 as the Group Remains from an incident involving:

2nd Lt Richard (NMN) VANDEGEER, (b)(6) U.S. Air Force Reserves HM1 Bernard (NMN) GAUSE, Jr., (b)(6) U.S. Navy HN Ronald James MANNING, (b)(6) U.S. Navy LCpl Gregory Scott COPENHAVER, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps LCpl Andres (NMN) GARCIA, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps PFC Daniel Andrew BENEDETT, (b)(6) , U.S. Marine Corps PFC Lynn (NMN) BLESSING, (b)(6) , U.S. Marine Corps PFC Walter (NMN) BOYD, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps , U.S. Marine Corps PFC James Joseph JACQUES, (b)(6) PFC James Rickey MAXWELL, (b)(6) , U.S. Marine Corps PFC Richard William RIVENBURGH, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps PFC Antonio Ramos SANDOVAL, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps PFC Kelton Rena TURNER, (b)(6) U.S. Marine Corps

2. Enclosed reports and documents in the CIL case file have been checked for accuracy and completeness and represent those documents deemed relevant and probative. One copy is for your retention and the other is the casualty individual's family. All presentations are marked appropriately on the inside cover of the booklet. For administrative questions, please contact (b)(6)

3. Please provide this office with disposition instructions. Point of contact for the identification process is Dr. Gregory Berg, (b)(6)





#### CIL 1995-114

2nd Lt Richard (NMN) VANDEGEER U.S. Air Force Reserves HM1 Bernard (NMN) GAUSE, Jr, HN Ronald James MANNING U.S. Navy LCpl Gregory Scott COPENHAVER LCpl Andres (NMN) GARCIA PFC Daniel Andrew BENEDETT PFC Lynn (NMN) BLESSING PFC Walter (NMN) BOYD PFC James Joseph JACQUES PFC James Rickey MAXWELL PFC Richard William RIVENBURGH PFC Antonio Ramos SANDOVAL PFC Kelton Rena TURNER **U.S. Marine Corps** Part 2 of 2

# Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command Central Identification Laboratory 310 Worchester Avenue Hickam AFB, HI 96853

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#### CIL 1995-114

2nd Lt Richard (NMN) VANDEGEER **U.S. Air Force Reserves** HM1 Bernard (NMN) GAUSE, Jr, **HN Ronald James MANNING** U.S. Navy LCpl Gregory Scott COPENHAVER LCpl Andres (NMN) GARCIA PFC Daniel Andrew BENEDETT PFC Lynn (NMN) BLESSING PFC Walter (NMN) BOYD PFC James Joseph JACQUES PFC James Rickey MAXWELL PFC Richard William RIVENBURGH PFC Antonio Ramos SANDOVAL PFC Kelton Rena TURNER **U.S. Marine Corps** Part 2 of 2

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#### CIL 1995-114

2nd Lt Richard (NMN) VANDEGEER U.S. Air Force Reserves HM1 Bernard (NMN) GAUSE, Jr, HN Ronald James MANNING U.S. Navy LCpl Gregory Scott COPENHAVER LCpl Andres (NMN) GARCIA PFC Daniel Andrew BENEDETT PFC Lynn (NMN) BLESSING PFC Walter (NMN) BOYD PFC James Joseph JACQUES PFC James Rickey MAXWELL PFC Richard William RIVENBURGH PFC Antonio Ramos SANDOVAL PFC Kelton Rena TURNER **U.S. Marine Corps** Part 1 of 2

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#### CIL 1995-114

2nd Lt Richard (NMN) VANDEGEER **U.S. Air Force Reserves** HM1 Bernard (NMN) GAUSE, Jr, **HN Ronald James MANNING** U.S. Navy LCpl Gregory Scott COPENHAVER LCpl Andres (NMN) GARCIA PFC Daniel Andrew BENEDETT PFC Lynn (NMN) BLESSING PFC Walter (NMN) BOYD PFC James Joseph JACQUES PFC James Rickey MAXWELL PFC Richard William RIVENBURGH PFC Antonio Ramos SANDOVAL PFC Kelton Rena TURNER **U.S. Marine Corps** Part 1 of 2

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#### CIL 1995-114

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