

UNCLASSIFIED

CASE 1000

ELLIOTT, JERRY W. - Y

(b)(3):McCain

R 090401Z AUG 13 ZYB
FM CDR JPAC HICKAM AFB HI
TO RUEHHI/AMEMBASSY HANOI
INFO RUEKJCS/CDR USPACOM LO WASHINGTON DC
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
RUETIJS/CSG JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RHEFLGX/SAFE WASHINGTON DC
RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON DC
ZEN/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI
SECSTATE WASH DC
BT
CONTROLS
UNCLAS
BODY

MSGID/GENADMIN/MIL-STD-6040(SERIES)/B.0.01.00/CDR JPAC HIKCMA AFB HI

SUBJ/INSPECTION OF SITE RELATED TO CASE 1000 IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE//

GENTEXT/REMARKS/-SUBJ/INSPECTION OF SITE RELATED TO CASE 1000 IN
QUANG TRI PROVINCE/

GENTEXT/REMARKS/SUBJ/VN-SERIES INFORMATION REPORT VN-005-13:
INSPECTION OF SITE RELATED TO CASE 1000 IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE,
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV).

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

1. SUMMARY: ON 16 APRIL 2013, DURING JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY 13-3VM
(JFA 111), AN INVESTIGATION TEAM FROM THE VIETNAM OFFICE FOR SEEKING
MISSING PERSONS (VNOSMP) SURVEYED A SITE ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 1000
NEAR KHE SANH TOWNSHIP, QUANG TRI PROVINCE, SRV. THE TEAM
DETERMINED THAT WHILE SOME DISTURBANCE HAS OCCURRED IN THE
IMMEDIATE AREA OF THE OLD EXCAVATION SITE (PRIMARILY REMOVAL OF
BACKFILL DIRT), SURROUNDING AREAS HAVE NOT BEEN DISTURBED.

2. SOURCE DATA: NOT APPLICABLE; THE VNOSMP CONDUCTED THE SURVEY
BASED ON A REQUEST FROM JPAC TO SURVEY THE AREA OF THE LAST
EXCAVATION OF THE SITE (WHICH OCCURRED DURING JFA 77, APRIL 2004).

Reviewed by DPMO IAW US § 435
Note & DOD 5400.7-R
Date: 25 SEP 2013 Initials: RW

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QC by: DPMO
Date: 24 SEP 2013
Initials: LMR

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THE PRIMARY NEXT OF KIN OF THE UNACCOUNTED-FOR INDIVIDUAL IN THIS CASE REQUESTED THAT JPAC TAKE THIS ACTION TO DETERMINE THE STATUS OF THE SITE.

3. DETAILS:

((A TRANSLATION OF THE REPORT RECEIVED FROM THE VNOSMP INVESTIGATION TEAM FOLLOWS.))

INVESTIGATION AND SURVEY TEAM (APRIL 2013) THE RESULTS OF THE INVESTIGATION AND SURVEY OF CASE 1000 IN QUANG TRI

1. CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS: ON 21 JANUARY 1968, [REDACTED] AND PVT JERRY W. ELLIOT WERE GUNNERS ON TWO UH-1D GUNSHIPS ON A MISSION TO INSERT ARVN SOLDIERS IN THE VICINITY OF KHE SANH. WHEN [REDACTED] HELICOPTER TOUCHED DOWN, IT RECEIVED HEAVY GROUND FIRE FROM NEARBY ENEMY FORCES. THE AIRCREW IMMEDIATELY TRIED TO TAKE OFF, BUT THEIR HELICOPTER WAS SHOT DOWN. TWO OTHER HELICOPTERS, INCLUDING PVT ELLIOT'S AIRCRAFT, LANDED AND TRIED TO RESCUE THE SURVIVORS OF THE DOWNED GUNSHIP. WHEN HIS HELICOPTER TOUCHED DOWN, PVT ELLIOT JUMPED OUT AND WAS LAST SEEN MOVING TOWARD THE SURVIVORS. BOTH AIRCRAFT WERE ATTACKED WITH STRONG GROUND FIRE; THEREFORE, THEY HAD TO RETREAT AND LEFT PVT ELLIOT BEHIND. WHEN HIS FLIGHT RETURNED AND TRIED TO RESCUE PVT ELLIOT, THEY COULD NOT FIND HIM AND ENEMY GROUND FIRE AGAIN FORCED THEM TO DISENGAGE.

THE PILOT OF [REDACTED] HELICOPTER, WHO WAS RESCUED, REPORTED THAT [REDACTED] WAS LAST SEEN BEHIND THE AIRCRAFT'S DOORS BEFORE IT BURST INTO FLAMES AND CRASHED. ON THE GROUND, THE PILOT TRIED TO LOCATE [REDACTED] BUT COULD NOT FIND HIM AT THE BURNING HELICOPTER OR AROUND THE CRASH SITE. THE PILOT DID NOT SEE PVT ELLIOT COMING TO RESCUE HIM AND HE ALSO DID NOT KNOW WHERE PVT ELLIOT WAS.

THREE DAYS LATER, WHILE ON AN AIR RECONNAISSANCE MISSION, TWO WITNESSES OBSERVED A BODY AT THE CRASH SITE. THE REMAINS COULD HAVE BEEN THOSE OF PVT ELLIOT. ENEMY ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA HINDERED THE RETURN OF SEARCH AND RESCUE EFFORTS FOR [REDACTED] AND PVT ELLIOT.

2. INVESTIGATION REQUIREMENTS: RESURVEY THE TWO GRID COORDINATES OF THE HELICOPTER CRASH SITE AND THE LOCATION WHERE THE ASSUMED BODY OF PVT ELLIOT WAS SEEN. BOTH LOCATIONS WERE EXCAVATED DURING JFA 77 IN KHE SANH TOWNSHIP, HUONG HOA DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE.

3. RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION:

WITNESSES:

MR. LE PHUOC TIEN (LEE PHWOCS TIEENS), YEAR OF BIRTH 1981. A CADRE AT THE OBSERVATORY OF HUONG HOA MILITARY DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE. MR. TIEN SAID HE KNEW THE EXCAVATION SITE IN 2004 BECAUSE IT WAS LOCATED NEXT TO THE BASE OF HIS UNIT'S OBSERVATORY. IN 2011, HUONG HOA DISTRICT RECEIVED INVESTMENT FUNDS TO BUILD A CEMETERY AND A MEMORIAL FOR FALLEN SOLDIERS FROM THE VIETNAM WAR. THE

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LOCATION OF THE MEMORIAL IS ABOUT 60 METERS FROM THE EXCAVATION SITE; THE CEMETERY IS ABOUT 80 METERS FROM THE SITE. THE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY USED BULLDOZERS TO TAKE AWAY ONE SECTION OF THE EXCAVATED SOIL ((BACKFILL)) AT THE EXCAVATION SITE TO FILL IN THE GROUND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION SITE. WHEN MOVING THE SOIL, NO AMERICAN REMAINS OR ARTIFACTS WERE FOUND; THE ONLY OBJECT FOUND WAS A CANTEEN OF THE TYPE USED BY VIETNAMESE SOLDIERS.

MR. TIEN ALSO SAID THAT AN AMERICAN WOMAN AND TWO VIETNAMESE PERSONS VISITED THIS AREA IN FEBRUARY 2013 AND ARRANGED AN EFFORT TO FIND THE REMAINS USING PSYCHIC METHODS. THE LOCATION THAT THESE PEOPLE ASSUMED COULD POSSIBLY CONTAIN REMAINS IS ABOUT 100 METERS FROM THE OLD EXCAVATION SITE TOWARD THE STREAM BANK. THIS AREA IS IN A TWELVE YEAR OLD PINE FOREST AND THE PSYCHIC RITUAL OCCURRED THERE. THESE PERSONS MADE IT KNOWN THAT THEY WOULD COME BACK AND ORGANIZE AN EXCAVATION AT THIS SITE TO FIND THE REMAINS IN THE FUTURE.

SURVEY OF THE SITE: THE INVESTIGATION TEAM SURVEYED THE AREA SURROUNDING THE SITE AT GRID COORDINATES (GC) GC 48Q XD 855387 AND 48Q XD 859386, BUT FOUND NO REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS. AT GC 48Q XD 85522 38748, WHICH WAS THE EXCAVATION SITE DURING JFA 77 IN APRIL 2004, AND WHERE SOME AMOUNT OF EXCAVATED SOIL ((BACKFILL)) WAS TAKEN AWAY, THE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY HAS NOW PLACED SURPLUS SOIL AFTER COMPLETING THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL FOR FALLEN SOLDIERS. (PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE SITE ARE INCLUDED ON A CD WITH THIS REPORT.)

4. COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: THE VIETNAM UNILATERAL INVESTIGATION TEAM SURVEYED AND REEXAMINED THE SITE OF CASE 1000 AT THE REQUEST OF THE AMERICAN SIDE. THE RESULTS OF THE SURVEY SHOW THAT ONLY THE AREA OF THE JFA 77 EXCAVATION SITE (APRIL 2004) HAS BEEN ALTERED DUE TO THE REMOVAL OF THE EXCAVATED SOIL ((BACKFILL)) TO FILL IN THE GROUND FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL FOR THE FALLEN SOLDIERS IN HUONG HOA DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE. OTHER AREAS SURROUNDING THE OLD EXCAVATION SITE ARE STILL INTACT AND THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE OR MODIFICATION.

16 APRIL 2013

TEAM LEADER

/SIGNED/

NGUYEN HONG CHIEN (NGUYEENX HOONGF CHIEENS)

4. COMMENTS: NONE.

ADMIN

BT

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