

[REDACTED]

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI MID-JUNE 1969

SUBJECT SIGHTING OF A U.S. PRISONER OF WAR IN TAY NINH  
PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM

ACC

SOURCE

[REDACTED]

1. ONE MORNING IN MID-JUNE 1969, [REDACTED] SAW

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

A U.S. PRISONER OF WAR (POW) ESCORTED BY THREE ARMED VIET CONG (VC) GUARDS, RESTING BY A ROAD NEAR XI243795, NORTH OF BA DEN MOUNTAIN AND VERY CLOSE TO THE SUOI KY STREAM, PHU KHUONG DISTRICT, TAY NINH PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM. ONE OF THE GUARDS TOLD [REDACTED] THAT THE POW BELONGED TO A UNITED STATES ARMY ARMORED UNIT THAT WAS CAMPED AT THE TRA PHI FORK, PROVINCE HIGHWAY 4, PHU KHUONG DISTRICT. THE VC HAD ATTACKED THIS UNIT THE NIGHT BEFORE AND THE PRISONER'S TANK HAD BEEN HIT. ALL MEMBERS OF THE TANK CREW ESCAPED EXCEPT THE PRISONER.

2. THE POW DID NOT APPEAR TO BE WOUNDED. HIS HANDS WERE TIED BEHIND HIS BACK WITH ROPE, HE WAS BAREHEADED AND BAREFOOTED, AND WAS WEARING HIS OLIVE DRAB UNIFORM. THE POW WAS A NEGRO AND APPEARED TO BE APPROXIMATELY 1.80 METERS TALL. THE VC SEEMED TO BE TAKING THE POW IN THE DIRECTION OF MINH DISTRICT, CAMBODIA.

3. [REDACTED] COMMENT: THE JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER (JCRC) EVALUATED THE REPORT AS FOLLOWS:

"THIS REPORT DOES NOT READILY CORRELATE WITH INFORMATION IN JCRC FILES. JCRC RECORDS DO NOT REFLECT ANY GROUND INCIDENTS OCCURRING DURING JUNE 1969 IN THE XI GRID WHICH COMPRISES PHU KHUONG DISTRICT, TAY NINH PROVINCE. A SEARCH OF ALL GROUND

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INCIDENTS THAT OCCURRED IN THE XT GRID REVEALS TWO INCIDENTS WHICH MAY CORRELATE WITH THE DESCRIBED INCIDENT.

A. "ON 28 FEBRUARY 1968, E4 ROBERT W. HUNT (JCRC ACC. NO. 0132) WAS SEEN WORKING AS A GUNNER ON A TANK WHEN THE TANK RECEIVED RPG AND AUTOMATIC WEAPON FIRE. A SEARCH OF THE AREA, XT742017, THE NEXT DAY DID NOT DETERMINE HUNT'S WHEREABOUTS, ALTHOUGH THE BODIES OF TWO OTHER CREWMEN WERE RECOVERED. LATER INTERROGATION REPORTS INDICATED HUNT WAS WOUNDED. HUNT IS CARRIED IN THE STATUS OF MISSING-IN-ACTION.

B. "ON 3 FEBRUARY 1968 PFC VERNON Z. JOHNS (JCRC ACC. NO. 0139) WAS WORKING AS A TRACK COMMANDER ON AN APC WHEN RPG FIRE CAUSED THE VEHICLE TO BE ABANDONED AT XT638218. JOHNS WAS LAST SEEN JUMPING FROM THE VEHICLE. A RESCUE TEAM RESCUED THE ASSISTANT GUNNER FROM INSIDE THE APC, BUT COULD NOT FIND JOHNS. PFC JOHNS IS CARRIED IN A STATUS OF CAPTURED BASED ON LATER REPORTS."

4. [REDACTED] DISSEM: DEFENSE ATTACHE FOR JCRC REPRESENTATIVE IN SAIGON; SENT TO CINCPAC (FOR CINCPAC AND POLAD ONLY) USSAG AND VIENTIANE (FOR JCRC REPRESENTATIVE ONLY).

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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