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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Assistant Vice Director for Collection Management
Department of Defense
Principal Advisor for Prisoner of War Missing in
Action Affairs
(International Security Affairs)
Director, Vietnam, Laos and Kampuchea
Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs
Department of State

SUBJECT: Collection of the Remains of Four U.S. Pilots in
Nghia Binh Province; Public Security Confiscation

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

1. Attached as of possible interest to you is a report about the collection of the remains of four U.S. pilots from the crash site of a U.S. helicopter in Nhoia Binh Province. The remains, gathered in March 1982 [REDACTED] were later confiscated by public security officers of Hoa An District in that province.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Deputy Director for Operations

cc: DCI
DDCI
EXEC DIR
STATE/EAP
DIA
MIO/EAP
NSA

Attachment: Report as stated

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

SUBJECT: Collection of the Remains of Four U.S. Pilots in Nghia Binh Province; Public Security Confiscation

TEXT: 1. In March 1982, four Vietnamese men collected the skeletal remains of four U.S. pilots from the crash site of a U.S. helicopter on a hill north-northeast of Nghia Dien Hamlet, Nghia Binh Province. The group placed the remains in four sandbags. They also picked up four pilots' watches with black dials and outer turnable rings, and a faded cellophane wrapped color photograph of a Caucasian woman with some children less than ten years old. 130X6

[REDACTED]

2. The group which found the bones consisted of (fau) ((Tam)), born circa 1948, and three men born circa 1960. They discovered the crash site by chance when they went deep into the jungle to pick wild nuts. They did not know the type of helicopter or date of the crash. Two of the skeletons were in the aircraft and two were on the ground beside it. Flesh and clothing had decomposed. The men took the remains because they expected a reward from the U.S. Government if they were able to turn them over to U.S. authorities.

3. One week later the four men were arrested by public security officers of Hoi An District, interrogated and imprisoned. Hoi An public security officials confiscated the four skeletons, watches and the photograph. Second Lieutenant Luong Tuan ((Truc)) and (fau) ((Chau)) of the Nghia Dien Reeducation Camp, on the orders of Senior Captain (fau) ((Xiang)), went to the crash site to dismantle the helicopter. Comment: The four men were still imprisoned at Hoi An as of November 1982. The above events were known to most inhabitants of Nghia Dien Hamlet and to most inmates of the Nghia Dien Camp.)

[REDACTED]

4. The following map indicates the crash site, on the border of Tay Son (formerly known as Binh Ke) and Hoai An (formerly known as Hoai An and An Lao) Districts:
(NOT TO SCALE)

