

REFNO: 1835-0-01 (ACCNO 1646)
Name: YONAN, KENNETH JOSEPH

Status: (K)-- REMAINS RECOVERED
Date Status Assigned: 14-Oct-1988

Nationality: AMERICAN
Service: U.S. ARMY
Grade: O3
SSAN: 319425630
Serial No: 118857
Birth Date: 18-Jul-1947
Home State: ILLINOIS

Race: CAUCASIAN
Sex: MALE
Hair: BLACK
Eyes: BROWN
Height: 73 IN. / 1.85 MTRS.
Weight: 175 LBS. / 79.33 KG.
Religion: PROTESTANT

Blood Chit: \$
Blood Type: #
Complexion: FAIR
Weapon: #
Weapon No: #
Duty Pos: ADVISOR
PW Camp: #

SITE INFORMATION

INCIDENT LOCATION (0):

Site Type: GROUND SITE
UTM: 48PZB051218
Latitude: 143913N
Longitude: 1074958E
Mission Country: SOUTH VIETNAM
Mission Region: 2
Province: KON TUM
Formerly: KONTUM
District: DAC TO
Mission Date: 24-Apr-1972
Mission Category: 3 - SITE LOCATION UNKNOWN
Local Analysis: 1 - POPULATED AREA

JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY

Remains Repatriated: YES
Folders Passed: 25-Jan-1988 ** N/A ** ** N/A ** ** N/A **
Investigations: ** N/A **
Surveys: ** N/A **
Excavations: ** N/A **
Site Identified: ** N/A **
Additional Information: ** N/A **
Vessey: ONE
Case Type: DISCREPANCY
Survivability: ** N/A **

VEHICLE DATA

Vehicle Type: GRND
Crash Type: \$
Call Sign: \$
Year: \$
Serial: \$
Engine Type: \$
1 Serial: \$
2 Serial: \$

27-Nov-1974

(U) ON 24 APRIL 1972 CPT KENNETH U. YONAN WAS AN ADVISOR FOR THE ARVN 42D REGIMENT WHICH WAS ATTACKED AT TANH CANH CAMP, SOUTH VIETNAM BY THE PRG VIET CONG FORCES. ON THE EVENING OF 23 APRIL 1972, CPT YONAN ACCOMPANIED HIS ARVN COUNTERPART TO A WATER TOWER LOCATED ON THE WESTERN EDGE OF THE TANH CANH CAMP IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES (GC) ZB 051 218. AT APPROXIMATELY 0530 HOURS, (ON 24 APRIL), CPT YONAN WAS STILL IN THE WATER TOWER WHEN THE ENEMY BEGAN AN ATTACK ON THE TANH CANH PERIMETER.

ALTHOUGH TANKS FIRED AT AND HIT THE WATER TOWER, TWO ADVISORS TALKED WITH CPT YONAN BY RADIO AFTER THE FIRING, AND CPT YONAN REPORTED THAT HE WAS NOT HIT AND PLANNED TO JOIN THE OTHER ADVISORS WHEN IT WAS SAFE TO DO SO. RADIO CONTACT WITH CPT YONAN WAS LOST AT ABOUT 0730 HOURS, OTHER ADVISORS BEGAN THE EVACUATION, ESCAPE AND EVASION OPERATION WHEN NO FURTHER CONTACT WITH CPT YONAN COULD BE MADE.

(U) FOR THREE DAYS AFTER THE INCIDENT, A CONCENTRATED HELICOPTER SEARCH WAS CONDUCTED IN THE AREA WHERE CPT YONAN WAS LAST SEEN. GROUND SEARCH OF THE AREA WAS NOT PRACTICAL BECAUSE OF THE PRESENCE OF ENEMY FORCES. AN UNCONFIRMED REPORT FROM AN ARVN SOLDIER INDICATED YONAN MAY HAVE ESCAPED WITH HIS COUNTERPART AND A SMALL GROUP OF ARVN SOLDIERS. (REF 1)

(U) ON 2 JULY 1972 TWO ARVN NCO RETURNEES CLAIMED TO HAVE OBSERVED THE CAPTURE OF A U.S. ARMY CAPTAIN WHILE THEY WERE BEING DETAINED BY THE VC/NVA. ONE ARVN RETURNEE STATED THAT IN MID-MAY 1972 HE WAS CLOSE TO A BUNKER AT TANH CANH (IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES ZB 0622), WHEN THE ENEMY FOUND AN AMERICAN HIDING IN THE BUNKER. THE RETURNEE STATED THAT HE WAS CLOSE ENOUGH TO SEE THE ARVN INSIGNIA FOR CAPTAIN ON THE FRONT OF THE AMERICAN'S SHIRT. (U.S. ARMY ADVISORS WORE ARVN RANK INSIGNIA ON THE FRONT OF THEIR JUNGLE FATIGUES.)

THE AMERICAN WAS VERY THIN AND APPEARED TO BE WEAK. THE RETURNEE WAS TOLD BY HIS CAPTORS THAT THE AMERICAN HAD BEEN HIDING IN THE BUNKER FOR ABOUT 30 DAYS PRIOR TO HIS CAPTURE. THE OTHER ARVN RETURNEE STATED THAT HE ONLY OBSERVED THE AMERICAN FROM A DISTANCE, AND DESCRIBED HIM AS ABOUT SIX FEET TALL, WITH BROWN HAIR AND A BEARD, VERY THIN, AND DRESSED IN WHAT APPEARED TO BE VERY DIRTY US JUNGLE FATIGUES.

THE AMERICAN WAS DETAINED IN ONE OF THE BUILDINGS IN THE TANH CANH COMPOUND FOR A SHORT TIME, AND THEN WAS TAKEN OUT OF TANH CANH. WHEN LAST SEEN, THE AMERICAN WAS BEING ESCORTED TOWARD A MOUNTAIN EAST OF TANH CANH, THIS RETURNEE ALSO INDICATED THAT THE INCIDENT HAD OCCURED IN MID-MAY 1972. (INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT PROBABLY CORRELATES TO CPT YONAN.) (REF 2)

(U) A REFUGEE QUESTIONED IN EARLY FEBRUARY 1973 STATED THAT ON 30 APRIL 1972, WHILE HE WAS BEING TAKEN INTO THE TANH CANH COMPOUND, HE HAD SEEN THE BODY OF A US SOLDIER IN THE VICINITY OF THE COMPOUND WATER TOWER. HE ESTIMATED THE BODY TO HAVE BEEN DEAD FOR THREE DAYS. THE REFUGEE BELIEVED HE RECOGNIZED THE DEAD AMERICAN AS AN INDIVIDUAL HE HAD SEEN WALKING IN THE COMPOUND DURING THE PERIOD OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1971, AND WHOM HE HAD SEEN OTHER ADVISORS SALUTING.

(INFORMATION IN THIS REPORT POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO CPT YONAN, AS HE WAS THE LAST SEEN IN THE AREA OF THE COMPOUND WATER TOWER, ALTHOUGH HE WAS NOT AT TANH CANH DURING THE PERIOD OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1971) CPT YONAN'S NAME DID NOT APPEAR ON THE CAPTURED OR DIC LISTINGS FURNISHED BY THE DRV/PRG. (REF 3)

(U) DURING THE EXISTENCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITES INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THIS INDIVIDUAL'S NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. CPT YONAN IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE PRESUMPTIVE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED.

05-Jan-1982

(U) A REFUGEE REPORTED IN 1972 HE WAS IMPRISONED WITH TWO AMERICANS. ONE AMERICAN BECAME VERY SICK AND DIED AND REFUGEE HELPED BURY HIM. REFUGEE DOES NOT KNOW WHAT HAPPENED TO THE SURVIVING AMERICAN THIS REPORT POSSIBLY CORRELATES TO KENNETH J. YONAN. (REF 4)

30-Apr-1986

(U) SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING HIS DISCOVERY OF THE REMAINS OF SIX OR SEVEN SOLDIERS IN THE VICINITY OF ZB 0617. ALL THE REMAINS WERE APPROXIMATELY TWO TO THREE METERS APART AND SOURCE RECALLED SEEING HELMETS, M-16 RIFLES, WATCHES, HAND GRENADES. THIS POTENTIALLY CORRELATES TO CPT KENNETH J. YONAN. (REF 5)

05-Jan-1982

REFERENCES: <1> RPT (U) 456 HQ, TM 21, 01 MAY 72. <2> (U) COMUSMACV 120754Z JUL 72. <3> (U) DIA, IR 6-918-7694-74, 092234Z JAN 75. <4> REFCON (C) P80- 013, 10 MAR 80. <5> REFCON (C) M85-040, 09 MAY 85. <6> (U) TALKING POINTS PASSED DURING 25-28 JUL 88 TECH MEETING. <7> (U) CDR TAPA 142040Z OCT 88. <8> J223 MEMO DTD 7 FEB 00.

21-Sep-1978

(U) A NEGOTIATION FOLDER FOR THIS INDIVIDUAL WAS PASSED TO THE SRV GOVERNMENT DURING THE WEEK OF 21 AUG 1978 FOR USE IN CASUALTY RESOLUTION.

04-Aug-1988

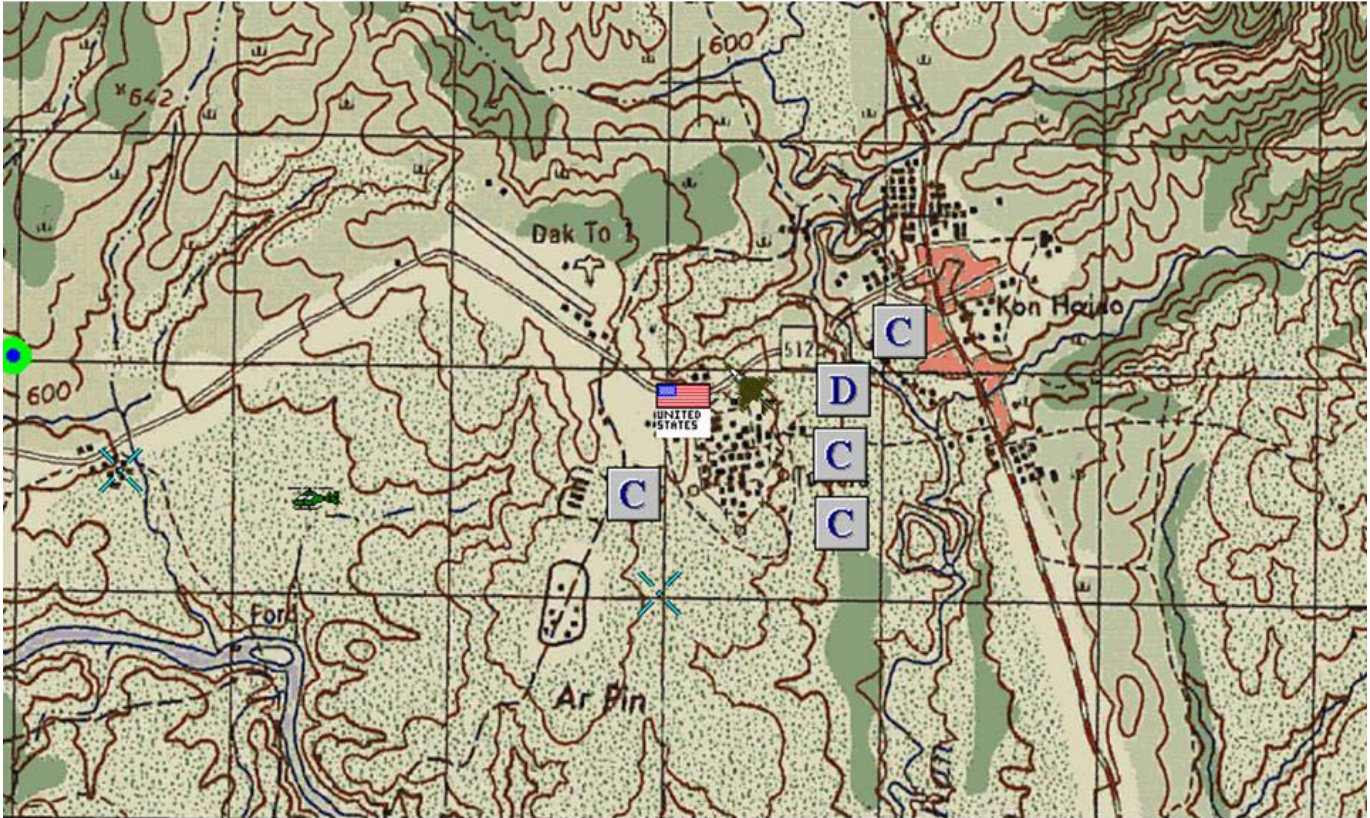
JCRC DISCUSSED THIS CASE WITH THE VNOSMP DURING THE 25-28 JULY 1988 TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI. (REF 6)

01-Jun-2000

CHANGE INCIDENT LOCATION FROM 48QZB051218/234040N1075928E TO 48PZB051218/143913N1074958E BASE ON DATA ENTRY ERROR. (REF 8)

21-Oct-1988

(U) ON 6 APRIL 1988, THE SRV REPATRIATED REMAINS THEY IDENTIFIED AS MAJOR KENNETH J. YONAN, USA. ON 14 OCTOBER 1988, THE ARMED FORCES IDENTIFICATION REVIEW BOARD APPROVED THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE REMAINS AS MAJOR KENNETH J. YONAN, USA. (REF



7)