

AMERICAN FORCES VIETNAM NETWORK
Detachment 2, Drawer 40
APO 96337

RWJ:fha
4 Mar 1968

MEMORANDUM FOR: OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, AMERICAN FORCES VIETNAM NETWORK

Subj: AFVN, Detachment 5; information concerning

Encl: (1) Tape recorded interview with SP5 John BAGWELL, USA
(2) Statement of GySgt Frank ALMEIDA, USMC
(3) Statement of Sgt Robert G. NEELY, USMC
(4) Set of four 8x10 photographs of Detachment 5 Quarters area

1. Enclosures (1) through (4) are submitted for information and action deemed appropriate.

2. As indicated in previous communications, there is now substantial information to indicate that Lt. DiBernardo, SFC Anderson, SFC Gouin, Cpl. Deering and SP5 Ettmueller were captured. The body of Sgt. Young is still awaiting papers from HQMC to establish positive identification. Identification by personal friends was not adequate due to the state of body decomposition. His body is still at the DaNang morgue.

3. In an interview with SP5 BAGWELL, I learned that three men of Detachment 5, on two different occasions, went back to the station area to obtain cigarettes and water. I asked Bagwell why they didn't attempt to use the KWM-2 (sideband) to seek help. He said he asked the same question but got no answer. From all information the generators and the KWM-2 were in working order. In addition to the carbines and pistols issued to detachment personnel they were armed with one M-79 (never fired) and an M-60 (which it now appears was taken from SFC Gouin by the VC in the beginning of the action). The two First Cav men had M-16 rifles. Due to the profile of the quarters area and the surrounding terrain, it appears to be an impossible area to defend against the number of troops and fire power of the enemy.

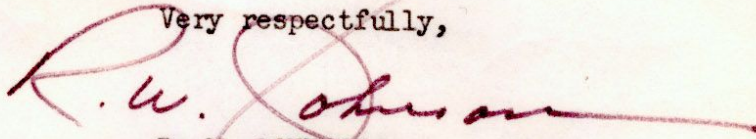
4. The health record and check mentioned in enclosure (2), were turned over to Marine and Army personnel representatives at I Corps Headquarters in DaNang.

5. It is recommended that a special letter of appreciation be sent to CWO Howard, USA, Advisory Team 3, Signal Office, for the assistance he rendered to the personnel of Detachment 2 during their mission. His interest in the safety of AFVN and GVN equipment, and his personal labor to help pack the gear for shipment, were well out of his normal area of responsibility.

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6. It is also believed that GySgt. Almeida, GySgt. Dylewsky and Sgt. Neely deserve special recognition for the successful and professional way they carried out their assignment.

Very respectfully,



R. W. JOHNSON
Captain, U. S. Marine Corps
Officer-in-Charge