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FROM THE WOUNDS COULD HAVE RESULTED IN HIS DEATH. IN ANY CASE, THE SHORT TIME IN CAPTIVITY WOULD EXPLAIN WHY REPATRIATED U.S. PWS FROM SOUTH VIETNAM NEVER HAD CONTACT WITH HUNT.

4. HOW THE IDENTITY MIX-UP DEVELOPED IS OPEN TO SPECULATION; FOR WHATEVER REASONS, PERHAPS HUNT INTENTIONALLY ATTEMPTED TO DECEIVE HIS CAPTORS BY USING SCUITIER'S NAME OR MAYBE THE VC AMBUSHING PARTY RETRIEVED IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS FROM SCUITIER AND THEN SOMEHOW LATER ASSOCIATED THEM WITH HUNT. AS A RESULT, ERRONEOUS INFORMATION WAS PASSED THROUGH HIGHER COMMANDS AND REPORTED AS SUCH IN PARIS IN JANUARY 1973.

5. IN CONCLUSION, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT SHOULD THE SRV AUTHORITIES EVER RETURN THE REMAINS OF THE INDIVIDUAL THEY HAVE IDENTIFIED AS SCUITIER, THAT PRIMARY CONSIDERATION BE GIVEN TO HUNT IN THE IDENTIFICATION PROCESS.

BT  
#2549  
ANNOTES  
CEV

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DAAG-PES Hunt, Robert

DATE:

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF STATUS OF MISSING/MIA/CAPTURED PERSONNEL

TO: DIRECTOR, PERSONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE

RECOMMENDATION #1 (MSG Berny)

COMMENT:

RECOMMENDATION #2 (MSG Bernosky) SFC Hunt was known to have been in a vehicle fired

COMMENT: on by hostile forces. Two others with him were killed in the same incident. The severity of the incident and the lack of further information during the 10 years he has been carried as missing, lead me to believe he did not survive. Recommend PFOD  
BRN 20 Jul 78 MSG Bernosky

RECOMMENDATION #3 (MSG Carter) Indications are that SFC Hunt could have been

COMMENT: wounded as a result of enemy fire from the RPG hit on the tank in which he was a crewmember and later died in the hands of the enemy, because two other members were found the next day deceased. In view of extensive search, POW reports with negative finding. Recommend PFOD/BNR/MSG CARTER, 20 July 1978. *John F. Manning*

RECOMMENDATION #4 (Mr. Demester) Indications are that SFC Hunt was wounded in the

COMMENT: incident, captured, and died shortly thereafter. The remains of the other two missing personnel were recovered the following day. With no evidence to suggest survival. Recommend PFOD/BNR/MSG Demester, 20 July 1978.

RECOMMENDATION #5 (Mr. Manning) Since SFC HUNT was a crew member aboard tank

COMMENT: C-37 when it was hit by hostile fire, since a search was conducted with negative results, since returned PW's have no additional information, and since over 10 years have elapsed from the time of the incident, it is assumed that SFC HUNT is dead. RECOMMEND PFOD/BNR 20 July 78 John F. Manning *John F. Manning*

ACTION OF DIR, PERSONAL AFFAIRS DIRECTORATE

APPROVED/RECOMMEND APPROVAL:

1.  CONTINUE STATUS AS PW/MIA/MISSING UNDER MISSING PERSONS ACT.
2.  CHANGE STATUS FROM MIA/MISSING TO KIA  DEAD  HOSTILE/NOX  
HOSTILE
3.  CHANGE STATUS FROM PRISONER OF WAR TO KIA  DEAD  HOSTILE/NOX  
HOSTILE
4.  CHANGE STATUS FROM MIA/MISSING/NOX TO PRESUMED DEAD (PFOD)  
(ISSUANCE OF Finding of Death Under Sec 555 and 556, Title 37,  
US Code).

WILLIAM L. ENGLAND  
Major, GS  
Chief, Status Determinations  
Division

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MEMO FOR		COVER SHEET						
<input type="checkbox"/> C/S TAGCEN	<input type="checkbox"/> XO	ACTION OFFICER		DATE	TELEPHONE NO	QFC/DIR		
<input type="checkbox"/> DTAG	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TAG	MSG Tommy G. Gary			36452	Per Aff Dir		
<input type="checkbox"/> ADCSPER	<input type="checkbox"/> DCSPER	SUBJECT						
Change of Status of SFC Robert W. Hunt -- DECISION MEMORANDUM								
<input type="checkbox"/> INFORMATION	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> APPROVAL	<input type="checkbox"/> SIGNATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> INITIALS					
TAGO	DCSPER	DAS	ASA	OSA	OSD			
COMMENTS								
PURPOSE: To obtain TAG approval for status change on Sergeant First Class Robert W. Hunt, <u>DATA</u>								
DISCUSSION: A summary of the MIA status of Sergeant Hunt is attached at Tab B. In accordance with the provisions of AR 600-10, the primary next of kin of the above servicemember, Mrs. Conley L. Hunt (Wife) waived her right to a hearing. Election of rights form is attached at Tab C. Letter with Election of Rights Form was dispatched to Mrs. Eleanor M. Hunt (mother and secondary next of kin) on 22 February 1978 explaining her rights in connection with the status review. A second status review letter was dispatched on 28 April 1978. Copies of both letters are attached at Tab D. To date, no response has been received to either letters. Paragraph 8-13e, AR 600-10 "The Army Casualty System" provides that if no response is received, it will be presumed that the NOK have elected not to exercise the rights provided. The Board Report pertaining to Sergeant Hunt is attached at Tab E. SFC Hunt was selected for promotion by the DA E-8 Promotion Selection Board which adjourned 16 November 1977. Individual promotion will commence approximately March 1979. His Sequence Number is 1892.5. RESOURCE IMPLICATION: None. RECOMMENDATION: That TAG approve status change from MIA to PFOD and initial DA Form 2496 attached at Tab A.								
COORDINATION	APPROVAL	INITIALS	DATE	ACTION TAKEN	CONCUR	APPROVE	NOTED	SEE ME
MILPERCEN DIA JCRC	DIV CHIEF	WFC	14/2/78	DTAG				
	DIR	SSE	14/2/78	TAG				
	C/S TAGCEN			ADCSPER				
	TJB X22A/14/78			DCSPER				
FXEC OFC ACTION		<input type="checkbox"/> STAMP	<input type="checkbox"/> DISPATCH	<input type="checkbox"/> READING FILE				

1 AGO Form 1-8, 1 Nov 77

PREVIOUS EDITION IS OBSOLETE

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## DISPOSITION FORM

For use of this form, see AR 340-15; the reporting agency is The Adjutant General's Office.

REFERENCE OR OFFICE SYMBOL	SUBJECT
DAAG-PES	Status Change for Army PW/MIA/MISSING PERSONNEL
TO DAAG-2A	FROM DAAG-PES
	DATE SFC GARY/693-6452
CMT 1	
1. <u>PROBLEM</u> : Change of Status for: <u>SFC Robert W. Hunt</u> <u>DATA</u>	
2. <u>BACKGROUND</u> : (a) Date of Loss 28 February 1968 (b) Location: XT 742 014 Gia Dinh (c) Circumstances: Individual was passenger on a military vehicle on a reconnaissance mission when unit encountered a hostile force	
3. <u>DISCUSSION</u> : SGT Hunt was gunner on an armored vehicle, in a column of vehicles, returning to command post from a reconnaissance mission. His vehicle was first in the column. As the column passed through a small village, an old man ran across the road and driver of first (over)	
4. <u>RECOMMENDATION</u> : (a) Change status from <del>(MIA)</del> (MIA) <del>(MIA)</del> to <u>PFOD</u> (b) Continue in current status.	
5. <u>COORDINATION</u> : (a) DIA See Ltr, dtd 26 May 1978 in Board Report (b) JCRC (c) Prom Br. Sequence Number 1892.5 for prom to E-8 Other: (d) <u>CAPT Vohden (DOD TF)</u> (e)	
6. <u>ACTION</u> : TAG APPROVES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DISAPPROVES <input type="checkbox"/>	
Incl	W. J. WINTER, JR. Colonel, GS Director, Personal Affairs
NOTED: <u>W.K. Merrill</u> (OSA)	DATE: <u>20/5/78</u>
WILLIAM K. MERRILL Colonel, GS Chf Mil Pers Pol Dir	142

DA FORM 2496 PREVIOUS EDITIONS OBSOLETE

stopped to check the man's ID. As the vehicle stopped, it was struck by enemy weapons fire and became immobilized. The other vehicles returned fire and set up a defensive position. Driver of the vehicle managed to escape to one of the other vehicles. It was later learned that two other persons aboard the vehicle were killed and witnesses stated that when they last saw SGT Hunt, he was standing on the deck of vehicle. A search was made the next morning after the enemy troops had withdrawn, but no trace of SGT Hunt could be found. No information received indicating that he was captured and returned PWs had no info concerning him.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL AND THE ADJUTANT GENERAL CENTER  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314

31 AUG 1978

DAAG-PES

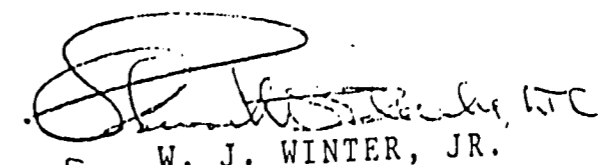
MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: Review of Missing Person's Status: Hunt, Robert W.,  
*DATA*

Pursuant to the provisions of the Missing Persons Act, (and in accordance with an election of rights made by the legal next of kin) a review of the missing status of Sergeant First Class Robert W. Hunt, has been completed. All available information pertaining to his status has been given careful consideration. The circumstances attendant to his disappearance, plus the lapse of time without any further information to support a presumption of survival can lead only to the conclusion that Sergeant Hunt is no longer alive. Further, the debriefing of returned prisoners of war following the ceasefire agreement of 27 January 1973, has revealed no information of his fate. Therefore, a determination has been made by the Department of the Army to change the status of Sergeant First Class Robert W. Hunt, from missing in action 28 February 1968 to dead, as of 31 August 1978.

An official finding of death will be recorded under the provisions of Sections 555 and 556, Title 37, United States Code. The date of 31 August 1978, is not an actual or probable date of death, but is a date established in accordance with the statute.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

  
W. J. WINTER, JR.  
Colonel, GS  
Director, Personal Affairs

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SUMMARY OF CASUALTY STATUS EVENTS

SFC ROBERT W. HUNT, DATA

SUMMARY OF INCIDENT- On 28 Feb 68 Sergeant Hunt was a gunner on an armored military vehicle, in a column of vehicles, returning to the unit command post from a reconnaissance mission. As the vehicles passed through a small village, an old man ran across the road. The vehicle stopped to check the man's identification, as it stopped, it came under attack from enemy weapons fire, immobilizing the vehicle. The other vehicles returned fire and set up a defensive position. It was later learned that two persons aboard the vehicle were killed and witnesses stated that when they last saw Sergeant Hunt, he was standing on the deck of the vehicle. The following morning a search of the area was conducted, however, no trace of Sergeant Hunt could be found.

14 Mar 68: Report of Proceedings by Investigation Officer (Board of Officers) convened and recommended that Sergeant Hunt be placed in a missing in action status.

26 Mar 68: Chief, Casualty Division approved continuance of Sergeant Hunt as missing in action.

26 Feb 68: Year and Day Review conducted; status continued as missing in action.

No information has been received to show that Sergeant Hunt was ever captured, and the returned prisoners of war had no information concerning the missing service member. Both the House of Representatives Select Committee and the Presidential Commission that visited Vietnam and Laos in March 1977 have concluded that there is no evidence of any living Americans being detained in Southeast Asia or elsewhere as a result of the war in Indochina.

22 Feb 78: Status review letter dispatched to next of kin of Sergeant Hunt.

1 Mar 78: Received election of rights from the next of kin electing to waive all rights afforded in connection with the pending review of the status.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL AND THE ADJUTANT GENERAL CENTER WASHINGTON, D.C. 20315			
REPORT OF CASUALTY		1. REPORT NUMBER AND TYPE A-0961 FINDING OF DEATH RVN 30196	2. DATE PREPARED 6 SEP 1978
3. SERVICE IDENTIFICATION (Name, Social Security Number, Grade or Rate, Component, Branch and Organization), (MOS/ NJC) HUNT, ROBERT WILLIAM; DATA MSG; RA; TRP C, 3D SQDN, 4TH CAV, 25TH INF DIV, VIETNAM 11E40			
4. CASUALTY STATUS a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BATTLE <input type="checkbox"/> NON-BATTLE b. COMMENCED TOUR DATE: 3 Feb 68			
c. STATUS: <input type="checkbox"/> DEATH <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> KIA <input type="checkbox"/> MISSING <input type="checkbox"/> MISSING IN ACTION <input type="checkbox"/> CAPTURED <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER			
d. DATE: 31 August 1978 e. PLACE: Vietnam (South) (Specify)			
f. CAUSE & CIRCUMSTANCES See item 13.			
5. a. DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH 16 August 1939; Beckley, WV		b. RACE Negroid	c. SEX Male
d. RELIGIOUS PREFERENCE Protestant			
6. DATE AND PLACE OF LAST ENTRY ON ACTIVE DUTY IN CURRENT STATUS AND HOME OF RECORD AT TIME 2 September 1967; Ft Gordon, GA Beckley, WV			
7a. PAY GRADE E-7		b. BASIC PAY	c. INCENTIVE/ADDITIONAL PAY <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
d. CHECK IF APPLICABLE <input type="checkbox"/> CREW <input type="checkbox"/> PASSENGER			
8. DUTY STATUS ACTIVE: ON DUTY			
9. INTERESTED PERSONS (Name, Address, Relationship)		DATE OF RECORD OF EMERGENCY DATA FORM: 14 Dec 67	
Comley L. Hunt, Terry Lynn and Michelle Hunt. DATA Eleanor M. Hunt, Father-deceased		Wife 1,3 Daughters Mother	
10. REPORT FOR VA TO FOLLOW <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO		11. REPORTING COMMAND AGENCY AND DATE REPORT RECEIVED IN DEPARTMENT TAGCEN, WASHINGTON, D.C. 31 Aug 78	
12. PRIOR SERVICE DATA <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO RA 13 603 548			
13. REMARKS Ref 4f: Under the provisions of Sections 555 & 556, Title 37, United States Code, and upon direction and delegation of authority by the Secretary of the Army, The Adjutant General finds MSG Robert W. Hunt, to be dead. He was officially reported as missing in action on 28 February 1968, while a passenger on military vehicle on a reconnaissance mission when unit encountered hostile force. As provided by, and for the purposes of Sections 551-558, Title 37, United States Code, death is presumed to have occurred on 31 August 1978. Remains not recovered. SFC Robert W. Hunt was promoted posthumously to grade of MSG E-8, AUS, as of 31 August 1978, under provisions of PL 680, 77th Congress, as amended. Pay grade shown in item 7a is that of E-7 since additional pay is not involved. Replaces 4TH Corrected Missing In Action Report issued 2 Aug 74. EM was CPL E-4 with base pay of DATA when he became missing. GIA DINH (24) III MR			
FOOTNOTES: 1. Adult next of kin. 2. Beneficiary for gratuity pay in event there is no surviving wife or child—as designated on record of emergency data. 3. Beneficiary for unpaid pay and allowances—as designated on record of emergency data.			
14. DISTRIBUTION B-2-4 KNOX		15. SIGNATURE ELEMENT BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:  D.L. England Adjutant General	

DD FORM 1300  
1 FEB 73

REPLACES DD FORM 1300, 1 MAR 60, WHICH IS OBSOLETE.

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