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5Z JUN 93

03-JUN-93 TOR : 21:46

CER3: CJTF
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BASSY VIENTIANE
HQE/CDR JTFFA HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
ECSTATE WASHDC 4271
/SECDEF WASHDC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA/DDI/C3I//
/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3//
USDAO BANGKOK//PW-MIA//
CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH
/DIA WASHDC//POW-MIA/DOF/DOF-3
/JOINT STAFF WASHDC//J5 PW-MIA/J3-JOD/CJCS PA-J//
AGAAA/COMUSKORFA SEOUL KOR//FKJ3//
/CINGFOR FT MCPHERSON GA//J3//
/DIRNSA FT GEORGE G MEADE MD//B51/DCN/P-S//
/MISSION PHNOM PENH//JTF-FA DET FOUR// 0050
/COMALCOM ELMENDORF AFB AK//J3//
/JICPAC OIC HONOLULU HI//OIC//
/CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-R//
/COMSOPAC HONOLULU HI//SOJ3//
/NCPAC PEARL HARBOR HI
/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA//J3//
/CDRUSARPAC FT SHAFTER HI//APJP//
/CIA WASHDC//DDO/EA/ICOG/CI//
/USDLO HONG KONG HK

/AMBASSY BANGKOK 4494
/USDAO KUALA LUMPUR MY//PW-MIA//
/CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//02/724/6//
/CDRPERSCOM ALEXANDRIA VA//TAPC-PED-P//
/BUPPNS WASHDC//PERS663P/N64DD//
/CDRINSCOM FT BELVOIR VA//IA//
/HQS DEA WASHDC
/CMC WASHDC//MNP-LO/INT//
/CNO WASHDC//OP-092/DNI//
/USCINCSOC MACDILL AFB FL//J3//
/HQ7A237Q L72N83QTX//DPMCA//
/DA 2ASHDC//DAMO-ODO-ACC/DAMT-FIII//
/HQ USAF WASHDC//I4//
/WHITE HOUSE WASHDC//NSC//
/COMNAVMIIPERSCOM WASHDC//N54DD//
/CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI//DO/DPX//

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FOR EAP/VLC

2356: N/A
KPOW, MOPS, LA
DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION: CASE 1598

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LB 1/4

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FROM CJTFPA DET THREE, VIENTIANE
DIA: PASS TO DOD POW/MIA CENTRAL DOCUMENTATION
OFFICE

REF: AMEMB VTNE 1375/JTFFA-DET 3 300559Z MAY 93

MAP: SERIES L7015, SHEET 6243-4

1. SUMMARY OF INVESTIGATION: REF IS THE SUMMARY
REPORT OF JOINT U.S.-LAO JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY 93-
5L, WHICH WAS CONDUCTED FROM 3-23 MAY 1993. ON 25
MAY 1993 A JOINT U.S.-LAO TEAM INVESTIGATED CASE
1698 AND SURVEYED ONE CRASH SITE. THE TEAM
INTERVIEWED VILLAGERS IN THE TWO VILLAGES CLOSEST TO
THE LAST KNOWN LOCATION OF THIS CASE; BAN NONG MA
(XE241052) AND BAN SAN (XE223093). NONE OF THE
RESIDENTS OF THESE VILLAGES HAD ANY INFORMATION
RELATED TO CASE 1698. THE U.S. TEAM REQUESTED TO
SURVEY THE GENERAL AREA OF THE LAST KNOWN LOCATION
BY FLYING OR WALKING TO THIS REMOTE AREA NEAR THE
LAO-VIETNAMESE BORDER, BUT THE LAO TEAM DID NOT
CONCUR WITHOUT A WITNESS OR MORE PRECISE INFORMATION
CONCERNING A POSSIBLE GRAVE SITE. LAO COOPERATION
WAS GOOD DURING THIS INVESTIGATION. RECOMMEND THIS
CASE FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION. END SUMMARY.

2. JOINT TEAM MEMBERS:

- A. U.S.:
MR. WILLIAM R. GADJURY, JR; TEAM LEADER
GYSGT DONALD A. DAY, ANALYST
SSGT THOMAS M. CHASE, ANALYST ????? K??D ???QQ?AU, L7A
INVESTIATOR
SSG JILLIAM M. ?OLERM???QL??TECHNICIAN
SSG JOHN SIEGFRIED, MA TECHNICIAN
SSG BRET A DUNKELBARGER, EOD
CPT MICHAEL R. VOORHIES, MEDIC
- B. LAO:
L??KHAMKHONG INTHILATH, MND
LT TRONGVANH SENGVONGCHIT, MND

3. DETAILS OF INVESTIGATION:

- A. ON 25 MAY, 1993, THE JOINT TEAM INVESTIGATED
CASE 1698. MR. BOUNKOU (BOUALAPHA DISTRICT
OFFICIAL) ACCOMPANIED THE TEAM. THE TEAM FLEW TO
BAN NONG MA (XE241062; NOTE: VILLAGE IS LABELED
INCORRECTLY AS "BAN SAN" ON REF MAP. END?) AND? INTERVIEWED SEVE?L VILLAGERS.
NON??OQ(???CH KNA]?? "T77,
B??E59??QIDENT.
- B. TWO VILLAGERS, MR. KHAMPAN (50 YEARS OLD) AND
MR. MA (40 YEARS OLD) REPORTED DIRECT CONTACT WITH
AN AMERICAN PILOT. MR. KHAMPAN RELATED THAT IN
1968, HE ASSISTED AN AMERICAN PILOT WHOSE KNEE HAD
BEEN INJURED AT A LOCATION IN THE FOREST ABOUT THREE

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KILOMETERS WEST OF BAN NONG MA. THE PILOT, WHO HE RECALLED WAS A "YOUNGER MAN" HAD A BADLY INJURED LEG AND WAS UNABLE TO WALK ON HIS OWN, AND WAS CARRIED WITH GREAT DIFFICULTY TO BAN NONG MA BY MR. MA. THE PILOT SPENT THREE DAYS IN THE VILLAGE BEFORE VIETNAMESE TROOPS ARRIVED AND TOOK CUSTODY OF THE AMERICAN. NEITHER WITNESS KNEW THE PILOT'S NAME. COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE WITNESSES AND THE PILOT WAS ACCOMPLISHED BY GESTURES.

- C. THE TEAM SHOWED MR. KHAMPHAN AND MR. MA PHOTOGRAPHS OF THREE UNACCOUNTED FOR AMERICAN SERVICEMEN; LTC ARMSTRONG (CASE 0833), LTC STANDERWICK (CASE 1698), AND LTC MCINTIRE (CASE 1792), FOR POSSIBLE ID PURPOSES. THE TEAM DID NOT HAVE A PHOTO OF LT SIJAN (ALSO CASE 0933) TO SHOW WITNESSES. MR. KHAMPHAN STATED THAT THE PILOT HE ASSISTED WAS NOT ONE OF THE MEN DEPICTED IN THE PHOTOGRAPHS. MR. MA STATED THAT IT WAS SO LONG AGO THAT HE COULD NOT BE SURE, BUT HE DID NOT RECOGNIZE THE PILOT HE HAD CARRIED.

- D. BAN NONG MA VILLAGERS WERE NOT SURE WHICH AIRCRAFT THE PILOT HAD PARACHUTED FROM, BUT WERE AWARE OF A CRASH SITE WHICH OCCURRED PRIOR TO 1967/9. THIS PLANE CRASHED APPROXIMATELY THREE KILOMETERS NORTH-NORTHEAST OF THE VILLAGE. AS FAR AS THE VILLAGERS KNEW, IT WAS THE FIRST AIRCRAFT TO CRASH IN THE AREA.

- E. THE TEAM NEXT FLEW TO BAN SAN (XE225088) AND SPOKE TO MR. BEU (VILLAGE CHIEF) AND MR. UDON (CRASHSITE WITNESS). MR. BEU (50 YEARS OLD), SAID HE SPENT THE WAR YEARS IN THE FOREST AND CAVES SEVERAL KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF THE VILLAGE. HE SAID HE KNEW OF ONE CRASHSITE WHICH IS LOCATED WITHIN ONE KILOMETER OF THE LAO-VIETNAM BORDER. HE VISITED THE CRASHSITE ONCE AND NOTICED A LARGE INTERNALLY MOUNTED GUN. HE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE PILOT'S WHEREABOUTS OR STATUS. MR. BEU HEARD THAT A JOINT VIETNAMESE/AMERICAN TEAM FLEW INTO THE AREA DURING THE PAST YEAR AND EXCAVATED A CRASHSITE IN THE SAME AREA, BUT HE WAS NOT SURE IF IT WAS THE SAME CRASHSITE HE HAD VISITED.

- F. WHEN ASKED ABOUT ARTIFACTS, MR. BEU EXPLAINED THAT SINCE THE WAR, VIETNAMESE TRADERS HAVE VISITED BAN SAN TO PURCHASE SCRAP METAL. RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS REGARDING TRAVEL TO AND FROM VIETNAM, MR. BEU STATED THAT DURING THE WAR, THERE WAS A TRAIL JUST NORTH OF BAN SAN WHICH CONNECTED TO ROUTE 912 WHICH LED TO VIETNAM. SINCE THE WAR, HOWEVER, THIS TRAIL HAS BEEN NEGLECTED, AND ONE MUST WALK SOUTH TO BAN NONG MA IN ORDER TO LINK-UP WITH ROUTE 912. THE PURPOSE OF THIS LINE OF QUESTIONING WAS TO DETERMINE HOW LTC STANDERWICK AND/OR MAJ GOTNER MIGHT HAVE

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BEEN TRANSPORTED TO VIETNAM. FROM INFORMATION PROVIDED, IT APPEARS THAT NEITHER PILOT WOULD HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO BAN SAN OR BAN NONG MA ENROUTE TO VIETNAM. DURING THE WAR, A VIETNAMESE UNIT OPERATED OUT OF A CAVE IN THE KARST LOCATED NEAR GRID XE237085, BUT MR. BEU COULD NOT KNOW THE UNIT IDENTIFICATION. THE ONLY AMERICAN PILOT HE KNEW ABOUT WAS CAPTURED NEAR BAN NONG MA. (NOTE: THE PILOT HE HEARD ABOUT IS PROBABLY THE SAME CASE REPORTED BY THE WITNESSES IN BAN NONG MA AS REPORTED ABOVE. END NOTE)

4. MATERIAL EVIDENCE: NONE

5. SURVEY RESULTS: NONE

6. PERTINENT DATA OR LOCATION CHANGES: NONE

7. CASE FILE INFORMATION NOT INVESTIGATED: NONE

8. LKA INVESTIGATOR COMMENT: THE TEAM COULD FIND NO WITNESSES TO CASE 1698 LOSS INCIDENT. TEAM DID NOT ATTEMPT A ROAD MARCH TO LAST KNOWN LOCATION BECAUSE OF LIMITED TIME AND LACK OF SPECIFICITY PROVIDED IN REPORTING. RECOMMEND VIETNAMESE, WHO CONTROLLED THE AREA AT TIME OF LOSS, AND WHO RECOVERED PERSONAL ARTIFACTS ASSOCIATED WITH LTC STANDERWICK, BE REQUESTED TO LOCATE WITNESSES, PROVIDE ADDITIONAL INFO, AND ACCOMPANY U.S. AND LAO REPRESENTATIVES IN A TRILATERAL INVESTIGATION. A FACE-TO-FACE MEETING WITH MAJ GOTNER WITH MAPS AND AERIAL IMAGERY OF THE LOSS AREA (THEN AND NOW) SHOULD PROVE USEFUL IN IDENTIFYING SPECIFIC AREAS WHERE LTC STANDERWICK MAY HAVE BEEN BURIED, IF DECEASED.

9. SEARCH AND RECOVERY SPECIALIST COMMENTS: N/A

10. TEAM CHIEF COMMENTS: THE U.S. TEAM PROPOSED A GROUND SEARCH AROUND THE RECORD COORDINATE OF THE LAST KNOWN LOCATION FOR THIS CASE. THE LAO TEAM CHIEF DID NOT CONCUR WITH THIS PROPOSAL. HE INDICATED THAT WITHOUT A DEFINITE LOCATION BACKED UP BY WITNESS REPORTS IT WOULD BE POINTLESS TO WALK TEN KILOMETERS OVER DIFFICULT TERRAIN IN ORDER TO SEARCHED AN UNDEFINED AREA FOR AN UNMARKED GRAVE WHICH MAY NOT EXIST. CONCUR WITH ANALYST RECOMMENDATION TO CONSULT WITH MR. GOTNER TO DETERMINE IF HE CAN PROVIDE A DETAILED SKETCH-MAP OF THE LAST KNOWN LOCATION OF LT COL STANDERWICK. IF HIS SKETCH CAN BE CORRELATED WITH DEFINITE TERRAIN FEATURES, THIS CASE SHOULD BE PROPOSED FOR REINVESTIGATION TO INCLUDE A VISIT TO THIS LOCATION.

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ELEMENT OF THE LAO TEAM CHIEF'S RELUCTANCE
O THE SITE MAY HAVE BEEN THE CLOSE PROXIMITY
VIETNAMESE BORDER. WHILE HE HAD PERMISSION
S SUPERIORS TO ALLOW THE INVESTIGATION, IT
AR THAT HE DID NOT SPEND MORE TIME THAN
RY IN THE AREA AND DID NOT WANT A TEAM OF
ERICANS SEARCHING AN ILL DEFINED AREA ONLY A
DRED METERS FROM THE UNMARKED LAO-VIETNAM

-FA/DET 3 COMMANDER RECOMMENDATIONS:
ND THIS CASE FOR FURTHER INVESTIGATION.

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