

ACTION PW/MIA INFO DCM POL SA2 FXA CJTF DALO INHB (9)

VZCZCTRC682BK0670

RR RUEHEK  
 DF RUFKJCS #0210 170111  
 ZNY EEEEE  
 R 172010Z JUN 93

19-JUN-93 TOR: 17:32  
 CHR: PAO  
 DIST: DA03

FM LIA WASHINGTON DC//CH-9//  
 TO RUEHEK/USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//  
 INFO RUHQHQI/CIP JTF-FA HONOLULU HI  
 RUHQHQE/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J32//  
 RHHMPCY/JICPAC HONOLULU HI  
 RUEHEK/CJTFFA IFT ONE BANGKOK TH  
 RUEHPI/USDAO KUALA LUMPUR MY//PW-MIA//  
 RUEHFK/USDAO HONG KONG HK//PW-MIA//  
 RUFKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA//  
 RUFKJCS/CJCS WASHINGTON DC//J5/PW-MIA//  
 RUHFC/SFCSTATE WASHINGTON DC//PAF/VIC//  
 FT

UNCLAS F F T O SECTION 01 OF 02

U-0807/PCT-2

SUBJ: COLLECTION SUPPORT REQUIREMENT

COUNTRY: LA

TITLE: ISI IA-004, PHOU PHA THI (LIMA SITE 05), HOUA PHAN PROVINCE, LAOS

REQNO: D-VOP-44554

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SUMMARY: PHOU PHA THI

90QTHE SURROUNDING AREA ARE NOMINATED AS AN AREA OF SPECIAL INTEREST FOR ISI INVESTIGATION.

TEXT:

1. THE FOLLOWING COLLECTION SUPPORT REQUIREMENT (CSR) CONTAINS VALIDATED HUMINT COLLECTION REQUIREMENTS WHICH AMPLIFY THE TASKING CONTAINED IN INTELLIGENCE OBJECTIVE (IO), D-VOP-2430-03-90 (SIGHTINGS OF AMERICANS). THIS CSR PROVIDES DETAILED INFORMATION NEEDED IN SUPPORT OF THIS IO. THIS MESSAGE STANDING ALONE DOES NOT CONSTITUTE TASKING.

IFSP: PG 2430

COMSOBJ: 52.

PRIORITY: 1.

FXHC: 9406.

PACKG:

A. ON THE EVENING OF 10 MAR 1968, A JOINT PATHET LAO (PL)/NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY (PAVN) FORCE ATTACKED LIMA SITE 05 ON PHOU PHA THI MOUNTAIN IN HOUA PHAN PROVINCE, LAOS. DURING THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF 11 MAR, A SMALL GROUP OF SOLDIERS, POSSIBLY SAPPERS WHO HAD INFILTRATED EARLIER IN THE WEEK, ASSAULTED AND OVERRAN THE TACTICAL AIR NAVIGATION (TACAN) SITE WHICH WAS LOCATED

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ON THE WESTERN RIM OF THE KARST. 11 OF THE 16 AMERICAN TECHNICIANS WHO WERE STATIONED ON PHOU PHA THI REMAIN UNACCOUNTED FOR TODAY. WHILE MOST OF THE AMERICANS LEFT ON THE KARST WERE KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN KILLED IN THE ATTACK, PERSISTENT REPORTING SUGGESTS THAT A FEW MAY HAVE SURVIVED AND BEEN CAPTURED.

B. CLOSERLY RELATED TO THE ABOVE CASE, IS THE LOSS OF AN A-1F ON 13 MAR 1968. MAJOR WESTBROOK WAS SHOT DOWN JUST EAST OF THE

FORTIFIED TOWN OF BAN PHOU YAO WHILE SEARCHING FOR SURVIVORS OF THE ABOVE DESCRIBED INCIDENT. HIS AIRCRAFT IMPACTED IN A HEAVILY MINED AREA WITHIN A FEW HUNDRED METERS OF BAN PHOU YAO. NO PARACHUTE WAS SEEN AND NO COMMUNICATIONS WERE HEARD.

C. PERSISTENT REPORTING OF SURVIVORS AND THE SECRET NATURE OF AMERICAN AND VIETNAMESE INVOLVEMENT IN LAOS HAVE LED MANY AMERICANS TO BELIEVE THAT A SMALL NUMBER OF U.S. SERVICEMEN SURVIVED THE ABOVE DESCRIBED INCIDENTS. THE FOLLOWING THREE SUB-PARAGRAPHS SUMMARIZE LIVE SIGHTING REPORTS WHICH HAVE BEEN CORROBORATED TO CASE NUMBER 2052:

(1) IN 1972, A SOURCE REPORTED SEEING A YOUNG (APPROX 20 YCA) MALE CAUCASIAN WITH LIGHT COLORED FRAME GLASSES BEING TAKEN TO BAN NA KAY (VR 1957) SHORTLY AFTER THE FALL OF LS-85. THE

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CAUCASIAN, WHO DID NOT APPEAR TO BE INJURED, WAS FOUND. THE SOURCE LEARNED FROM THE CAUCASIAN'S GUARDS THAT HE HAD BEEN CAPTURED AT PHOU PHA THI. BAN NA KAY IS APPROX 55 KM WSW OF PHOU PHA THI.

(2) DURING A CHANCE ENCOUNTER WITH AN UNACCOUNTED FOR SERVICEMAN'S NEXT OF KIN IN 1990, U.S. OFFICIALS LEARNED OF A WARTIME REPORT WHICH SUGGESTED THAT THREE AMERICANS HAD BEEN TAKEN PRISONER AT LS-85 AND MOVED TO MUANG SON (APPROX 40 KM WEST OF PHOU PHA THI). MOVEMENT OCCURRED THREE DAYS AFTER THE SITE FELL. TO DATE, THE NOK HAS REFUSED TO PROVIDE DIA WITH A COPY OF THIS REPORT OR IF THE INDIVIDUAL WHO RELEASED IT.

(3) IN 1991, U.S. REPRESENTATIVES RECEIVED ANOTHER REPORT SUGGESTING INCIDENT SURVIVAL. IN THIS CASE, TWO TO THREE WOUNDED AMERICANS WERE REPORTEDLY CAPTURED DURING THE ASSAULT ON LS-85 AND TAKEN AWAY BY VIETNAMESE FORCES.

D. THUS FAR, DIA HAS BEEN UNABLE TO ASSESS THE CREDIBILITY OF THE ABOVE REPORTING. NEVERTHELESS, FORMER SENATE SELECT COMMITTEE ON PW-MIA AFFAIRS (SSC-PW/MIA) STAFFERS AND INVESTIGATORS EXPENDED HUNDREDS OF MANHOURS RESEARCHING THE POSSIBILITY OF AMERICAN PRISONERS BEING HELD IN HOUA PHAN PROVINCE. THE STAFFERS, USING THEIR "CLUSTER ANALYSIS", IDENTIFIED HOUA PHAN PROVINCE AS ONE OF

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THE AREAS IN WHICH AMERICAN PRISONERS WERE LIKELY TO HAVE BEEN HELD AFTER OPERATION HOMECOMING. TO HELP CONFIRM OR REFUTE THE COMMITTEE'S ASSESSMENT, A THOROUGH AND SUCCESSFUL ISI INVESTIGATION IS REQUIRED.

REQTS:

A. REQUEST THAT THE LIVE SIGHTING INVESTIGATOR COORDINATE VISIT WITH JTF-FA, AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE, AND APPROPRIATE LAO OFFICIALS IN VIENTIANE, YAM NEUA, BAN NA KAY, AND MUONG SON TO OBTAIN PERMISSION TO INVESTIGATE THE LIVE SIGHTING REPORTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE FALL OF LS-85.

B. DETERMINE HOW MANY DETENTION FACILITIES ARE LOCATED BTWN BAN NA KAY AND MUONG SON (PAST AND PRESENT) WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO AREA WITHIN 10 KM OF PHOU PHA THI. DETERMINE DETENTION FACILITY LOCATIONS; DETERMINE ETHNICITY AND NUMBER OF INMATES IN EACH FACILITY; REVIEW PRISON RECORDS FOR ANY ENTRIES WHICH SUGGEST DETENTION OF NON-ASIAN MEN.

C. DETERMINE IF THERE ARE ANY RESTRICTED ZONES OR AREAS BTWN BAN NA KAY AND MUONG SON WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION PAID TO THE AREA IMMEDIATELY AROUND PHOU PHA THI. WHY IS THE AREA RESTRICTED; WHO NORMALLY HAS ACCESS; WHO CONTROLS ACCESS; WHAT TYPE OF ACTIVITY IS CONDUCTED

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COULD BE MISTAKEN FOR AN AMERICAN IMPRISONED OR OTHERWISE HELD AGAINST THEIR WILL WITHIN THE AREA; ARE ANY AMERICANS LIVING FREELY WITHIN THE AREA?

D. IN ADDITION TO PERSONAL OBSERVATION, DETERMINE THROUGH CONVERSATIONS WITH VILLAGE AND DISTRICT OFFICIALS WHETHER ANY AMERICANS OR INDIVIDUALS WHO COULD BE MISTAKEN FOR AN AMERICAN, ARE/WERE IN THE ABOVE DESCRIBED AREA. IF POSSIBLE, LOCATE AND INTERVIEW THESE INDIVIDUALS TO DETERMINE WHO THEY ARE (NAMES, BASIC BIOGRAPHICAL DETAILS, ETHNICITY, NATIONALITY, ETC.), WHERE THEY CAME FROM, WHEN THEY ARRIVED, AND HOW THEY CAME TO BE THERE.

E. A GOOD INVESTIGATION WILL DEPEND UPON INFORMANTS

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FROM THE LOCAL POPULACE AND THE PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS OF THE ISI. INFORMATION FROM OFFICIALS, LOCAL AND/OR CENTRAL, PARTICULARLY NEGATIVE INFORMATION, WILL CARRY LITTLE WEIGHT UNLESS CORROBORATED BY EXTEMPORANEOUS STATEMENTS OF OTHERS OR ISI'S OBSERVATION.

F. IF WESTERNERS OR OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO COULD BE MISTAKEN FOR AN AMERICAN ARE KNOWN OF, BUT CANNOT BE LOCATED, DETERMINE THEIR IDENTITIES AND LAST KNOWN LOCATIONS FROM WITNESSES.

G. IF WESTERNERS OR OTHER INDIVIDUALS WHO COULD BE MISTAKEN

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FOR AMERICANS ARE LOCATED/WHICH/JJJFQOF, DETERMINE THEIR IDENTITIES (NAMES, ETHNICITY, NATIONALITY, OTHER DETAILS), WHERE THEY CAME FROM, WHEN THEY ARRIVED (AND WHEN THEY LEFT, IF GONE), WHY THEY ARE/WERE THERE, WHERE THEY WORKED, AND IDENTITY OF FRIENDS/ACQUAINTANCES, IF KNOWN.

H. IF AN AMERICAN IS IDENTIFIED OR SUSPECTED, TAKE THE

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ACTIONS SPECIFIED BY THE STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES FOR LSI IN LAOS (USIAC BANGKOK TH/PW-MIA MSG 130312Z MAR 92, SUBJ: TRAFF LIVE SIGHTING INVESTIGATOR (LSI) SOP--VIENTIANE, LAOS.

I. LOCATE AND REVIEW ANY HISTORICAL DATA ON OPERATION SOLIDARITY 1 (THE ASSAULT ON LS-85). LOCATE AND INTERVIEW INDIVIDUALS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE ATTACK WITH PARTICULAR ATTN TO LIVE SIGHTINGS OF AMERICANS OR CAUCASIANS AFTER THE SITE WAS OVERRUN.

J. DETERMINE FROM LOCAL OFFICIALS IF WARTIME RECORDS ARE STORED IN THE AREA. IF THERE ARE RECORDS, ASK FOR ACCESS TO THE RECORDS TO DETERMINE IF THEY RELATE TO THE FATE OF ANY AMERICANS MISSING IN LAOS. IF RECORDS ARE IDENTIFIED, ASK FOR COPIES OF THESE SPECIFIC RECORDS WHICH RELATE TO AMERICAN PRISONERS AND/OR AMERICANS KILLED IN ACTION.

K. DETERMINE THE LOCATION OF OFFICE 200 IN VIENG XAI. OBTAIN BACKGROUND DATA ON FUNCTION OF THIS OFFICE. REVIEW OFFICE RECORDS FOR ANY REFERENCE TO AMERICAN POWS OR MIAs. L. BASED ON THE LSI'S CIRCUMSTANCES, TAKE SUCH OTHER PRACTICAL AND IMAGINATIVE ACTIONS, IN COOPERATION WITH HIS HOST GOVERNMENT COUNTERPART, WHICH MAY

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SHED LIGHT ON THESE ALLEGED SIGHTINGS.

M. IF NO AMERICANS OR OTHER WESTERNS ARE INDICATED, NOW OR IN THE PAST, AND THE LSI IS PERSUADED THAT THE ACCUMULATED EVIDENCE REASONABLY PRECLUDES BOTH POSSIBILITIES VICINITY PHOU PHA THI, BAN NA KAY, AND MUONG SON, HE SHOULD TERMINATE THE INVESTIGATION.

- GUID:
1. THE INVESTIGATIVE COLLECTION EFFORT WILL BE ENTIRELY OVERT, WITH THE SANCTION OF APPROPRIATE LAO OFFICIALS. THE LSI WILL UNDOUBTEDLY BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ESCORT, HOPEFULLY WITH AUTHORITY TO ENSURE LOCAL COOPERATION AND ACCESS.
  2. IIR DISTRIBUTION: ADDRESS IIR'S IN RESPONSE TO THIS CSR TO JIA WASHINGTON IC//PW-MIA/CH-3// AND CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI WITH INFO COPIES FOR CJTF-FA FT OXFORD BANGKOK TH, AND USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J32//. ALL RESPONSES SHOULD INCLUDE THE STATEMENT "THIS IS A STONY PEACH REPORT." ORIGINALS OR LEGIBLE PHOTOCOPIES OF ALL SKETCHES, DOCUMENTS, PERSONAL EFFECTS, ETC. (EXCEPT HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS) SHOULD BE SENT VIA REGISTERED MAIL DIRECTLY TO THE DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY, ATTN: PW-MIA (ROOM CI921) 3100 CLARENTON BLVD, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA 22201. IF POSSIBLE HUMAN SKELETAL REMAINS ARE RECEIVED DURING AN INVESTIGATION, ADDRESSEES SHOULD

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1. SUBMIT AN IIR TO THAT EFFECT WITH AN INFO COPY TO CIRCUSACIHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//. THE DISPOSITION OF SUCH REMAINS OR BONE FRAGMENTS RECEIVED IN COUNTRY IS THE CHARTER OF THE JTF FIELD TEAM CHIEF TO COORDINATE WITH THE HOST GOVERNMENT.
  2. PUBLIC LAW AND DOD POLICY MANDATE THAT ALL PW/MIA-RELATED

REPORTS THAT CORRELATE TO OR CONTAIN THE NAME OF AN AMERICAN MISSING OR UNACCOUNTED FOR BE FORWARDED TO THE PARENT MILITARY SERVICE CASUALTY OFFICE OR TO DEPARTMENT OF STATE (DOS) FOR CIVILIANS, FOR FURTHER REFUSE TO THE NEXT OF KIN. UPON REQUEST FROM SERVICES OR DOS, COLLECTORS ARE REQUIRED TO SANITIZE THESE REPORTS FOR RELEASE. WHILE SOURCES AND METHODS SHOULD BE PROTECTED, EVERY EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO RELEASE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INFORMATION.

4. IAW ASD/C3I MEMORANDUM DATED 20 FEBRUARY 1992, SUBJECT: SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF DOD POW/MIA INFORMATION, RESPONSES TO THIS REQUIREMENT WILL BE CLASSIFIED AS FOLLOWS:

- A. LIVE SIGHTINGS REPORTS: SECRET (WHERE SOURCES AND METHODS ARE INCLUDED); CONFIDENTIAL (LESS SOURCES AND METHODS).
- B. CRASH OR GRAVE SITE REPORTS: UNCLASSIFIED (LESS SOURCES AND METHODS).

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C. ALL OTHER PW/MIA-RELATED INFORMATION (E.G. INFORMATION REGARDING REMAINS, PERSONAL EFFECTS, INCLUDING LOG TAGS, DETENTION CAMPS, ETC.): CONSISTENT WITH POLICY CONCERNING SOURCES, METHODS OF COLLECTION, AND CONTENT.

ORIGNO: I-VOP-2430-03-90-CSH-LA-004

ORIGNM: IAVE ROSENAU, ANALYST.

ORIGTEL: COMMERCIAL/STU-III (COLLECT) (703) 908-2740 OR SECURE (GRFY) 961-7337.

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