



RETURNED IN 1972. THERE WAS NO MATERIAL EVIDENCE TO BE FOUND IN THE AREA. MR. AHRAO SAID THAT HE HEARD THAT THERE IS A CRASH SITE EAST OF THE RIVER, BUT HE DID NOT HAVE ANY FURTHER INFORMATION. NO VILLAGERS HAD ANY KNOWLEDGE ABOUT AMERICANS TAKEN PRISONER IN THE AREA.

5. (U) ON 4 JUN THE SURVEY TEAM WENT TO BAN SOAG KHE //UTM COORD: XI 1759// TO CONTINUE THE SURVEY OF REFNO 1120. A VILLAGER FROM BAN THA MONG //UTM COORD: YD 180564// NAMED "MR. PIAK" WAS IN THE VILLAGE. HE SAID THAT HE KNEW OF A CRASH SITE NEAR HIS VILLAGE. HE TOLD THE TEAM TO BAN THA MONG (ACT ON MAP), WHICH IS NEAR BAN VANG MEO (AEANICNML) //UTM COORD: 1857//. THE BAN THA MONG VILLAGERS MOVED FROM BAN VANG MEO OVER 10 YEARS AGO, AND THEY WERE NOT IN THE VILLAGE DURING THE WAR. THEY RETURNED TO THE AREA IN 1974/5. ALL THE VILLAGERS PARTICIPATED IN SALVAGING THE SITE IN 1988/9. PIAK HAD BUSINESS TO ATTEND TO, AND DID NOT WANT TO LEAD THE TEAM TO THE CRASH SITE. ALL THE VILLAGERS KNEW ABOUT THE CRASH SITE, AND THREE MEN NAMED "MR. HOK" (30 YOA), "MR. BOUNTHONG" (42 YOA) AND "MR. MAFANG" (21 YOA) VOLUNTEERED TO LEAD THE TEAM TO THE CRASH SITE //UTM COORD: XI 182565//. NO VILLAGERS HAD ANY INFORMATION ABOUT THE OCCUPANTS OF THE AIRCRAFT AND WERE UNAWARE OF ANY AMERICANS BEING CAPTURED ALIVE IN THE AREA. THE CRASH SITE APPEARED TO BE REFNO 1120. MR. BOUNTHONG SAID THAT HE WAS A PARAFET IAC SOLDIER DURING THE WAR IN THE AREA OF PHOU PADANG, ABOUT 10 KILOMETERS TO THE EAST. HE SAID THAT WHEN HE AND OTHER VILLAGERS SALVAGED THE SITE, THEY FOUND A PARACHUTE (NOT DEPLOYED), A LEATHER BOOT WITH A ZIPPER, AND A WEB BELT. ALL ITEMS WERE DISCARDED IN THE AREA, AND ONLY THE ALUMINUM WAS TAKEN AWAY. A PIECE OF LANDING GEAR, PARACHUTE HARNESS PARTS, TIRE PARTS, AND OTHER ITEMS WERE FOUND IN THE AREA. JTF ANALYSTS BELIEVE THAT THE EVIDENCE COLLECTED INDICATES THE AIRCRAFT WAS AN F-4.

COMMENTS: (U) (FIELD COMMENTS) - ALTHOUGH IT IS BELIEVED THAT THE CRASH SITE LOCATION CORRELATING TO REFNO 1120 WAS LOCATED, NO INFORMATION SURFACED PERTAINING TO THE FATE OF THE OCCUPANTS OF THE AIRCRAFT. FURTHER QUESTIONING OF LOCAL INHABITANTS IS RECOMMENDED, IF AND WHEN THE AREA IS EXCAVATED IN THE FUTURE.

//IPSP: (U) PG 2430//.  
 //COMSOBJ: (U) 521//.  
 PROJ: (U) 6999-10.  
 CCLI: (U) AC.  
 INSTR: (U) US - NO.  
 PREP: (U) 6-31597.  
 ACC: (U) LAOS, XEPON DISTRICT (920604).  
 DISSEM: (U) FIELD - AMEMBASSY BANGKOK (AMB, DGM,  
 POL, SA, DATLO, EX/A, CJTF).  
 WARNING: (U) THIS REPORT IS UNCLASSIFIED.

BT