

02:06 11/11/92

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RR RUEHBT

DE RUHQHQA #5154 3160044

ZNR UUUUU

R 100802Z NOV 92 ZYB

FM CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI//J2//

TO RHRMPC/HQ AFMPC RANDOLPH AFB TX//DPMCB//

INFO RHEHNSC/WHITE HOUSE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASH DC

RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA//

RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//EAP/VLC/CCS/OCS//

RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC//OCJCS/J5/PW-MIA/J3-JOD//

RUHQHQB/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3/J30-M//

RUEKJCS/USCINCPAC LO WASHINGTON DC

RUEKJCS/DIA WASHINGTON DC//PW-MIA//

RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC//DEA/SEA/IB/DDO/EA/ICOG//

RUEHBT/CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH

RUHVAAA/CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//TAPC-PED-H//

BT

UNCLAS //N03460//

DIA PASS TO DOD POW-MIA CENTRAL DOCUMENTATION OFFICE//

MSGID/RRJ/CDR JTF-FA//

AMPN/SUBJ: EVALUATION OF RPT VN92-002//

REF/A/RMG/JCRC LNO/060926ZJAN92//

RMKS/1. ANALYSIS OF THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN REF A INDICATES

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A PROBABLE CORRELATION TO REFNO 0135. THIS IS NOT A FINAL EVALUATION.

2. REFNO 0135: ON 4 SEPTEMBER 1965, CAPTAIN JAMES A. BRANCH AND FIRST LIEUTENANT EUGENE M. JEWELL WERE CREWMEMBERS ABOARD AN F4C AIRCRAFT IN A FLIGHT OF FOUR ON AN ARMED RECONNAISSANCE AND STRIKE MISSION OVER NORTHERN VIETNAM. THE AIRCRAFT, SERIAL NUMBER 63-7700, WAS HIT BY ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE DURING A LOW ALTITUDE STRAFING RUN AND CRASHED IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES WG666169, IN CHU GIAT VILLAGE, NGHE AN (FORMERLY NGHE TINH) PROVINCE, VIETNAM. OTHER MEMBERS OF THE FLIGHT OBSERVED NO PARACHUTES AND HEARD NO ELECTRONIC BEACON SIGNALS. SEARCH AND RESCUE EFFORTS WERE NOT INITIATED DUE TO INTENSE ENEMY ACTIVITY IN THE AREA. CAPTAIN BRANCH AND LIEUTENANT JEWELL ARE UNACCOUNTED FOR.

3. THE SOURCE OF THIS REPORT PROVIDED PHOTOGRAPHS OF HUMAN REMAINS, AN IDENTIFICATION TAG INSCRIBED WITH CAPTAIN BRANCH'S PERSONAL DATA AND A HAND DRAWN DEPICTION OF DATA ON A SWITCH FOUND WITH THE REMAINS. THE SOURCE'S DESCRIPTION OF THE LOCATION WHERE THE REMAINS WERE DISCOVERED AND HIS HEARSAY ACCOUNT OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS CORRELATE WELL WITH DATA CONTAINED IN JTF-

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FA FILES PERTAINING TO REFNO 0135.

4. THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE REMAINS WERE SENT TO THE U.S. ARMY CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY - HAWAII FOR ANALYSIS. ON 27 MARCH 1992, THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT REPATRIATED PARTIAL REMAINS ALLEGED TO BE CAPTAIN BRANCH AND LIEUTENANT JEWELL. THE REMAINS ARE CURRENTLY UNDERGOING ANALYSIS AT THE U.S. ARMY CENTRAL IDENTIFICATION LABORATORY - HAWAII. FURTHER RESEARCH OF THE DATA ON THE SWITCH REVEALED THAT IT WAS ACTUALLY PART OF AN ELECTRICAL SWITCH COMMON TO MANY AIRCRAFT.

5. FOR HQ AFMPC: THIS EVALUATION MAY BE RELEASED TO THE NOK OF CAPTAIN BRANCH AND LIEUTENANT JEWELL. A SANITIZED COPY OF REF A WILL BE FORWARDED SEPARATELY TO HQ AFMPC/DPMCB FOR RELEASE TO THE NOK.

6. EVALZKLE//

JTF

Nghe An