



JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER

LIAISON OFFICE  
AMERICAN EMBASSY

APO SAN FRANCISCO 96346

UNCLASSIFIED

*Kon Tum*  
*re-ed*

From: JCRC-LNO  
To: Commander, JCRC

JCRC RPT M90-046  
26 October 1990

Subj: AIRCRAFT CRASH SITES IN GIA LAI - CONG TUM PROVINCE (U)

*Kontum(?)*

1. Source/administrative data:

- a. Name: Nguyen Hong Hoa (M)
- b. DPOB: 10 Oct 51; Rach Gia town, Kien Giang (P)
- c. Occupation:  
Pre-1975: Student  
Post-1975: Miller (animal feed)
- d. Present location: Bldg. 12/1 Zone F, Pulau Bidong  
Refugee Camp, Malaysia
- e. Identification data: Boat No. MC 504058, ID No. 166173
- f. Education: M.S. (Chemistry), 1974
- g. Languages: Vietnamese (native), English (fair), French  
(limited)
- h. Religion: Buddhist
- i. Status: Asylum seeker
- j. Final address/POC in Vietnam: 6/38 To 9, Ly Thuong Kiet  
St., Ph. 9, Q. Tan Binh, HCMC
- k. Date of arrival in 1st asylum: 5 July 89
- l. Date of information: 1981-83
- m. Resettlement address/POC: None
- n. Interview data: Source was interviewed at Pulau Bidong  
on 8 Sep 90 by James M. Coyle, GS-12, DOD.
- o. Maps used: Scale: 1:100,000; Series: L607; Sheets:  
6538, 6539

2. (U) Summary: Source claims to have seen the crash sites of three aircraft while held in a re-education camp in Dac To (D), Gia Lai - Cong Tum Province (vic. ZB 1658). Local inhabitants said that all three aircraft were propeller-driven, were piloted by Americans, and crashed in 1971 and 1972. The locals also said that there were American graves in the area, but pointed out none to Source.

3. (U) Information: From 10 Dec 81 to 10 Apr 83 Source was held in the Ngoc Linh "Re-education" Camp in Mang Xang (V), Dac To (D), Gia Lai - Cong Tum Province (vic. ZB 1658), for organizing illegal departures from Vietnam. During his time at the camp he saw three aircraft crash sites in the hamlets of Plong Plai (probably ZB 163578), Chung Tam, and Long Hy (not located). According to Source, these hamlets are located north and south of Plong Plai, respectively).

CLASSIFIED BY: DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS, USCINCPAC  
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

4. (U) The aircraft wreckage at the crash sites has largely been salvaged already. The surfaces and instruments have been stripped away; all that remains are the "bones" (in Source's phrase) of the aircraft. Consequently Source was able to see no identification numbers at any of the sites.

5. (U) The information that the aircraft were American was provided to Source by the local residents, of the Sedang ethnic minority. They told Source that all three aircraft crashed in 1971 or 1972, that all had been propeller-driven, and that all had been piloted by Americans. They also said that the graves of the pilots were located near the crash sites. They did not point out to Source any of the alleged grave sites, nor did they indicate how many Americans were buried there. Source saw no remains at any of the sites.

6. (U) In late 1982 a group of PSS from Dac Glel and Dac To districts came to look at the sites. Source does not know any of the details or results of their inquiries.

7. [REDACTED] Source provided a rough sketch map (attached) of the area in which the crash sites are located. A number of the toponyms on this map appear on U.S. maps of the area, but because the scale of Source's map appears to vary, it is difficult to assign coordinates to the crash sites.

*James D. Spurgeon III*  
JAMES D. SPURGEON III  
Lt Col, USAF  
Chief, Liaison Division

atch:  
Sketch map (1 p.)

cy to:  
DIA/PW-MIA

CLASSIFIED BY: DIRECTOR FOR OPERATIONS, USCINCPAC  
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

[REDACTED] UNCLASSIFIED

