



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE**  
**HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE MILITARY PERSONNEL CENTER**  
**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE TEXAS**

HQ AFMPC/DPMCB  
550 C Street West, Suite 15  
Randolph AFB TX 78150-4717

09 NOV 1994

Ms. Colleen Shine  
Executive N #704, 1850 Columbia Pike  
Arlington VA 22204

Dear Ms. Shine

The attached letter and Analysis of Material Evidence message that we received from the Joint Task Force-Full Accounting (JTF-FA) are forwarded for your information.

The letter (Attachment 1) is in response to the memorandum and letter you data faxed to this office on 5 October 1994 for further dispatch to the Central Identification Laboratory, Hawaii and to General Viale, CDR JTF-FA. The analysis message (Attachment 2) indicates the items recovered during the 18 May 1994 investigation of a burial site associated to the case of your father, Lieutenant Colonel Anthony C. Shine, are insufficient to exclusively correlate them to Case 1950. The corresponding investigation report was forwarded to you on 8 July 1994

We are furnishing this material in keeping with our policy of providing everything we receive which may relate to your father's case. We have attached an extra copy of Attachment 2 for release to your grandmother at your discretion.

If you have any questions concerning this material, please call us on our toll free telephone line (800-531-5501).

Sincerely

WILLIAM R. FRAMPTON  
Senior Liaison Officer  
Missing Persons & Inquiries Division

Attachments:

1. JTF-FA/J24 Ltr, Ser: 174,  
28 Oct 94
2. CDR JTF-FA/J2 260902Z OCT 94  
Message (2)

**JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING****BOX 64044****CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-4044**

J24  
1771  
Ser: 174  
28 Oct 94

To: Headquarters, Air Force Military Personnel Center  
Attn: DPMCB, Randolph AFB, TX 78150-6001

Subj: RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR INFORMATION - REFNO 1950

Ref: (a) HQ AFMPC/DPMCB Fax of 5 Oct 94

1. In response to reference (a), the following information is provided for release to the next of kin of Anthony C. Shine (REFNO 1950-0-01).

2. On 18 May 94, a joint U.S./SRV team investigated a burial site associated with case 1950 at coordinates 48QVG1664142561 in Nghe An Province, Vietnam. JTF-FA analysis indicates the items recovered are insufficient to exclusively correlate the burial site to case 1950. All of the evidence found at the burial site is aircrew, or aircrew related equipment. Some of the items have burn marks, but none had identifiable markings or numbers which specifically relate to Case 1950. As a result, all of these items will be sent to the Life Sciences Equipment Laboratory for analysis.

3. During the 30th Joint Field Activity (23 Jun - 19 Jul 94), a Joint Team investigating case 1950 in Hieu Kiem Village, Ky Son District, Nghe An Province located a witness, Mr. Quynh. He stated that approximately 30 machine shop workers observed, from a distance, soldiers burying a pilot's body. He went on to say that, in 1974, the machine shop and the workers relocated to Vinh. During the 31st Joint Field Activity (10 Sep 94) in Vinh City, Nghe An Province, a Joint Team investigating case 1950 failed to locate the alleged machine shop workers who reportedly relocated to Vinh from Hieu Kiem Village, Ky Son District in 1974. Colonel Lap of the Nghe An Province Task Team reported that none of the 30 possible witnesses could be found. JTF-FA has requested that the VNOSMP reattempt to locate them. However, it should be noted that without names or locations of the possible witnesses, it is unlikely new investigative leads will be generated from this action.

4. JTF-FA files indicate only two A-7D aircraft were lost during the Vietnam war. One is the REFNO 1950 loss in Vietnam and the other occurred in Laos. In the area of LTC Shine's last known location, witnesses testified that an aircraft crashed into a

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hill. The parts recovered from the crash site correlate to an A-7D indicating the crash probably involved LTC Shine's aircraft. A discrepancy does exist in the serial number of the aircraft. JTF-FA files indicate the serial number is 71-0312. This serial number is contained in the original squadron loss report (AF Form 484) and other contemporary records, such as the Pacific Air Force (PACAF) Aircraft Loss File (ACLOSS) and Aircraft Mishap Report (10 Dec 72). In November 1993, JTF-FA requested information from the Air Force Historical Research Agency on A-7D losses in Southeast Asia. The response from this agency shows LTC Shine's aircraft as having the serial number of 71-0310. This variance would account for the confusing differences in circle search results. Multiple entries in the All Loss database appear to be separate aircraft, but are in fact the same loss reported multiple times. Because the serial number, 71-0312, was consistently reported in a variety of contemporary documents, we believe it is accurately reflected in JTF-FA files and may be a transposition error in Air Force historical documents. Nevertheless, we will attempt to research the historical documents to verify the aircraft serial number.

5. On 15 September 1994, the American Embassy passed a diplomatic note to the government of Laos. This note requests the Lao government locate and make available for interview the individuals allegedly involved in exhuming remains associated with LTC Shine from a burial site near the Lao/Vietnam border in the vicinity of 48QVG1664142561. This site was excavated in May 1994, recovering six bones (no teeth), one U.S. Coin, and pilot related gear.

6. The Defense POW/MIA Office (DPMO) has the responsibility to verify and substantiate the credibility of live sighting reports received from all sources. In support of the DPMO effort, the Stony Beach team is tasked to conduct live sighting investigations, when necessary. These investigations are coordinated with the JTF-FA Detachment Commander and the host nation. The limited information provided in the JTF-FA Det Four report, CB-93-020, was very similar to a number of other reports from walk-in sources in Cambodia who have proven to be less than credible. In many instances, the information provided related to unaccounted-for Americans. However, many of the names reported simply were not valid. Valid correlations to unaccounted-for Americans were based upon associated biographic information alone rather than substance, and do not meet the criteria for a live sighting investigation. Based upon analytical review of this body of reporting, DPMO prepared a composite evaluation and determined it to be a fabrication. Despite repeated attempts by both JTF-FA and the DIA Stony Beach Team to obtain additional information from these sources, they have failed to respond. Nevertheless,

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JTF-FA and Stony Beach continue their joint efforts to investigate live sightings.

*Charles R. Marineau, Jr.*

CHARLES R. MARINEAU, JR.  
By direction

Copy to:  
DPMO-RD

