



DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20340



DIA EVALUATION OF PW/MIA INFORMATION
PROVIDED BY VIETNAMESE REFUGEE
SOURCE

SUMMARY: An ethnic Hmong refugee from northern Vietnam, reported information on two U.S. aircraft loss incidents in Muong Sen Village, Nghe Tinh Province, Vietnam.

DETAILS: < provided two reports of U.S. aircraft losses. He stated that in early 1969 he saw a T-28 aircraft impact in a vertical crash in Muong Sen Village. The aircraft, which he said had been attacking an underground rice storage facility, was completely destroyed, and the pilot's remains were not found. Later that year, in September 1969, < stated that, at approximately 0800 hours, one U.S. aircraft in a flight of two crashed near Route 7 at Muong Sen. The two aircraft had been attacking a truck park when one of them struck a tall tree near the boat dock on the Nam Mo River two kilometers east of Muong Sen. > heard from PAVN soldiers that the pilot was killed in the crash.

ANALYSIS: A computer-assisted search was performed for all air losses within a 40 kilometer radius of the Muong Sen area. No T-28's were lost in or near this area nor was there an incident near the boat dock. The two incidents describes are, in reality, made up of details unique to the one incident that occurred in Muong Sen.

On 9 August 1967, Captain Allen S. Cherry, USAF, flying an A-1E aircraft in a flight of two, was attacking a truck park in Muong Sen Village near Route 7. Captain Cherry was apparently unable to pull his aircraft out of a dive and crashed straight into the ground. No ejection was seen and no beeper signals heard. Captain Cherry did not hit a tall tree, but crashed vertically into the ground. Captain Cherry's remains have not been recovered.

The fact that < believes that elements of this incident belong to two incidents indicates he was not a witness as he claims, but has fabricated reports based upon a confused remembrance of hearsay from Muong Sen residents. The two accounts are embellishments based upon hearsay of the actual incident of Captain Cherry. This report will be retained in the DIA database for future reference.

EVALUATION: These two accounts are based upon the incident of Captain Allen S. Cherry, USAF.

DATE OF EVALUATION: 11 February 1988.