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R 061430Z AUG 90 PSN 961122P21

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FM DIA WASHINGTON DC//PW-MIA//

1536

TO CDR JCRC BARBERS PT HI

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0788

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE LA
JCRC LIAISON BANGKOK TH
AFMPC RANDOLPH AFB TX//DPMCB//

USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J2/J3/J36//
USDAO BANGKOK TH//PW-MIA//

0690

BT

0912/PW-MIA

SUBJ: SYNOPSIS OF DIA ANALYST MTG WITH LTCOL CARLSON, USAF (RET.)
OF 16 JUL 90

REF: A. DIA LTR 0850/PW-MIA DTD 9 JUL 90 (NOTAL)
B. DIA WASHINGTON DC 071300Z MAY 90, REVIEW OF REFNO 1083,
MAJ DONALD E. WESTBROOK

1. REF (A) REQUESTED LTCOL. CARLSON'S ASSISTANCE IN IDENTIFYING MAJ. WESTBROOK'S (REFNO 1083) CRASH SITE NEAR PHOU PHA THI, HOUA PHAN PROVINCE, LAOS. ON 16 JUL, LTCOL. CARLSON, WHO HAPPENED TO BE VISITING WASHINGTON, D.C., AND ONE OF HIS FRIENDS WHO SERVED AS AN INTEL OFFICER DURING THE SEA CONFLICT, VISITED DIA PW-MIA TO DISCUSS CRASH SITES. LTCOL. CARLSON, WHO WAS ORBITING PHOU PHA THI ON THE MORNING OF 13 MAR 68 WHEN MAJ. WESTBROOK'S A-1 CRASHED, WAS UNABLE TO POINT OUT THE CRASH SITE WITHOUT SOME ASSISTANCE. HE HAD THE RIGHT AREA/DIRECTION, BUT THOUGHT THE CRASH WAS A LITTLE FURTHER DOWNHILL (SOUTHEAST). WHEN SHOWN THE BEFORE AND AFTER SHOTS OF THE AREA, HE AGREED WITH DIA ANALYST THAT THE AREA SPECIFIED IN REF (B), UG 684598, WAS IN FACT MAJ. WESTBROOK'S CRASH SITE. THE FORMER INTEL OFFICER, WITH NO PROMPTING FROM DIA ANALYST OR LTCOL. CARLSON, PUT HIS FINGER RIGHT ON THE REF (B) CRASH SITE.

2. AFTER POINTING OUT MAJ. WESTBROOK'S CRASH SITE, THE FORMER INTEL OFFICER PULLED OUT SEVERAL PHOTOS OF THE PHOU PHA THI AREA, MOST TAKEN BEFORE THE LIMA SITE FELL, AND A FEW TAKEN AFTER IT WAS OVERRUN. THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS PERTAIN:

A. FROM THE IMAGERY SHOWN, DIA ANALYST WAS ABLE TO CONFIRM THE LOCATION OF ONE OF THE TWO 105 MM HOWITZERS KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN ON PHOU PHA THI PRIOR TO THE NVA ATTACK ON 11 MAR 68. THE SECOND

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HOWITZER'S LOCATION IS STILL UNKNOWN/UNCONFIRMED. IT WAS ONLY ON THE KARST FOR A FEW DAYS BEFORE THE LIMA SITE WAS OVERRUN. THE LOCATION OF THESE WEAPONS IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE ONE OF THE SOURCES IDENTIFIED IN REF (9) CLAIMS TO HAVE CARRIED/DROGGED A WOUNDED AMERICAN FROM THE TACAN SHELTERS TO A HOWITZER POSITION BEFORE BEING FORCED TO ABANDON HIM. THE AMERICAN WAS REPORTEDLY TOO HEAVY FOR THE HMONG SOLDIERS TO CARRY.

2. ONE OF THE PHOTOS TAKEN AFTER THE FALL OF PHOU PHA THI PROVIDED A REASONABLE VIEW OF THE CLIFF JUST WEST OF THE TACAN SHELTERS. THE LEDGE WHERE SEVERAL AMERICANS SOUGHT SHELTER SHORTLY BEFORE AND DURING THE NVA RAID IS NOT APPARENT IN THIS PICTURE. A SMALL CREVICE OR NICHE IN THE CLIFF'S FACE, HOWEVER, IS VISIBLE. THIS CREVICE, WHICH IS APPROX 15 METERS FROM THE TACAN SHELTERS, COULD BE THE INFAMOUS LEDGE WHERE SEVERAL U.S. TECHS ARE BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN KILLED. DIA ANALYST WAS UNABLE TO DISCERN ANY HUMANOID SHAPES IN THE PHOTO, EVEN WITH THE HELP OF THE FORMER INTEL OFFICER, WHO POINTED OUT AREAS WHERE PREVIOUS ANALYSTS CLAIMED TO HAVE SEEN POSSIBLE REMAINS. WHILE STUDYING THE PHOTO, DIA ANALYST WAS INFORMED THAT SIMILAR IMAGERY, WITH POSSIBLE REMAINS ANNOTATED, WAS PROVIDED TO GEN KINGSTON ON OR ABOUT 1972. DURING THE MTG, ANALYST WAS ALSO TOLD THAT GEN KINGSTON HAD ALSO BEEN GIVEN SOME PHOTOS OF CAPT. MASTERSON'S AND PIRRUCCELLO'S CRASH SITES, REFNO 1303 AND 1536 RESPECTIVELY. FOR JCRC: REQUEST YOU SEARCH FILES FOR IMAGERY DESCRIBED ABOVE AND PROVIDE COPIES TO DIA PW-MIA.

3. WHILE REVIEWING FORMER INTEL OFFICER'S PHOTO COLLECTION, DIA ANALYST SAW SEVERAL PICTURES OF LIMA SITE 36 LOCATED VIC UH 4009 IN NORTHERN XIANG KHOANG PROVINCE. AT THIS TIME, THE FORMER INTEL OFFICER INTERJECTED THAT 1LT NAME 'S (REFNO 1395) A-1 HAD CRASHED APPROX 300 METERS NW OF THE SITE'S AFLD. THIS SUPPORTS THE CRASH SITE LOCATION CURRENTLY RESIDENT IN JCRC FILES (UH 404095).

4. AS THE MTG WAS BREAKING UP, THE FORMER INTEL OFFICER IDENTIFIED HIS PREDECESSOR IN SEA AND STATED THAT HE SHOULD HAVE SOME INFO ON CAPT. CHERRY'S (REFNO 0788) AND MAJ. NAME 'S (REFNO 0690) CRASH SITES. DIA ANALYST PLANS TO INITIATE AND MAINTAIN CONTACT WITH BOTH THESE FORMER INTEL OFFICERS. THEIR CORPORATE KNOWLEDGE MAY PROVE USEFUL IN SUBSEQUENT CRASH SITE INVESTIGATIONS.

5. DIA/PW-MIA POC IS DAVE ROSENAU, COMM (202) 697-9192, (STU III) 697-9192, OR AV 225-0501.

BT