

[REDACTED]

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI 28 JANUARY 1973

SUBJECT DOWNING OF TWO U.S. CREWMEN AND JET AIRCRAFT

ACC VIETNAM, SAIGON (12 JUNE 1974) [REDACTED]

SOURCE [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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1. AT ABOUT 0700 HOURS ON 28 JANUARY 1973, TWO CREWMEN BAILED OUT OF A U.S. F-4H JET FIGHTER BOMBER WHICH WAS SHOT DOWN OVER TRIEU PHUOC VILLAGE, TRIEU PHONG DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM (SVN), BY 12.6MM ANTIAIRCRAFT MACHINE GUN FIRE FROM AN UNIDENTIFIED NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY (NVA) UNIT. ONE CREWMAN, IN A RED PARACHUTE, WAS CAPTURED BY THE VIET CONG (VC) TRIEU PHUOC VILLAGE GUERRILLA UNIT AFTER LANDING, HE WAS WOUNDED IN THE LEFT THIGH. THE OTHER CREWMAN, WHO BAILED OUT IN A WHITE PARACHUTE, WAS SHOT AND KILLED BY SMALL ARMS FIRE DURING HIS DESCENT.

2. THE SURVIVOR AND THE BODY OF HIS COMPATRIOT LANDED AT LUONG KIM HAMLET (YD333650), TRIEU PHUOC VILLAGE, TRIEU PHONG DISTRICT, AND THE AIRCRAFT CRASHED INTO THE SEA. THE

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WOUNDED CREWMAN WAS BANDAGED AND ESCORTED ON FOOT TO THE
COMMAND SECTION OF THE VC TRIEU PHONG DISTRICT UNIT AT GIA
DO HAMLET (YD279635), TRIEU DO VILLAGE, TRIEU PHONG DISTRICT,
BY TWO SOLDIERS OF THE VC TRIEU PHUOC VILLAGE GUERRILLA UNIT.
HE STAYED IN THE HAMLET UNTIL THE NEXT MORNING WHEN HE WAS
TAKEN ON FOOT TO THE SECURITY SECTION OF THE VC QUANG TRI
PROVINCE PARTY COMMITTEE. DURING HIS OVERNIGHT STAY IN THE
HAMLET, THE CREWMAN WAS PROVIDED WITH MEDICAL CARE, CHINESE
CANNED FOOD AND A SET OF BLACK PAJAMAS. THE CREWMAN WAS A
CAUCASIAN AND AN AIR FORCE COLONEL, WHO WAS BORN IN 1935,
MARRIED AND HAD TWO CHILDREN. HE WAS ABOUT 1.80 METERS TALL,
WEIGHED ABOUT 70 KILOS AND HAD CREWCUT BLOND HAIR, A THIN
FACE AND HEAVY EYEBROWS. HE HAD JUST COME TO VIETNAM
AND WAS ON HIS FIRST FLYING MISSION.

3. THE DECEASED CREWMAN WAS ALSO CAUCASIAN. HIS BODY WAS
BURIED AT THE SITE OF LANDING BY MEMBERS OF THE VC TRIEU
PHUOC VILLAGE GUERRILLA UNIT.

B 4. [REDACTED] COMMENT: [REDACTED] SEEMED TO BE UNWILLING TO
GUIDE A SEARCH PARTY BACK INTO THE AREA BECAUSE OF FEAR OF
POSSIBLE VC REPRISAL. HE SAID THAT ANY MEMBERS OF THE VC

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TRIEU PHUOC VILLAGE GUERRILLA UNIT WOULD BE ABLE TO LOCATE
THE BURIAL SITE OF THE DEAD CREWMAN. [REDACTED] REVIEWED THE
VOLUMES OF PHOTOGRAPHS OF MISSING AND CAPTURED PERSONNEL
IN SOUTHEAST ASIA BUT WAS UNABLE TO IDENTIFY ANYONE AS
RESEMBLING THE SURVIVING CREWMAN.) A

5. (FIELD COMMENT: THE JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION
CENTER (JCRC) COMMENTED AS FOLLOWS ON THE PRECEDING REPORT.
"THIS REPORT DESCRIBES THE INCIDENT INVOLVING NAVY
LCDR PHILLIP ALLEN KIENTZLER (JCRC NR 1978) AND COMMANDER
HARLEY HUBERT HALL (JCRC NR 1977). LCDR KIENTZLER AND CMDR
HALL WERE FLYING AN F4U ON A STRIKE MISSION OVER SVN. THEIR
AIRCRAFT WAS DOWNED BY ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE ON 27 JANUARY 1973. LCDR
KIENTZLER STATED IN DEBRIEFING THAT HE THOUGHT HIS
CREWMEMBER WAS KILLED WHILE DESCENDING IN HIS PARACHUTE.
WHEN HE ASKED THE NVA GUARD ABOUT HIS CREWMEMBER, THEY
INDICATED THAT CMDR HALL WAS DEAD. LCDR KIENTZLER WAS WOUNDED
IN THE LEFT LEG DURING DESCENT. LCDR KIENTZLER IS CARRIED IN
A RELEASED STATUS; CMDR HALL IS CARRIED IN A CAPTURED, CONFIRMED
STATUS.")

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[REDACTED]