

INFORMATION REPORT PRELIMINARY EVALUATION

INFORMATION REPORT NUMBER & DATE: VN94-028, Dated 29 Aug 94

ANALYST: Mr. [REDACTED]

CROSS REFERENCE(S): None

CATEGORY DATA: Crash Site - Burial Site/Firsthand Account

FINDINGS: Analysis of the information contained in the letter from the Vietnamese source indicates a probable correlation to REFNO 0343.

CORRELATE DATA: REFNO 0343: On 18 May 1966, Airman Second Class Andre R. Guillet was the observer and Captain Lee D. Harley was the pilot of an O1F light observation aircraft which was in a flight of two aircraft that had been controlling a strike mission along Route 912 (PAVN route 20) in Khammouan Province, Laos. The aircraft was calling in a bomb damage assessment when the transmission abruptly ended. The wingman turned and sighted the aircraft's wreckage, but came under heavy fire and had to leave the area. Search and Rescue forces heard an emergency beeper in the area, but when aircraft went to check the area, they received ground fire and it was determined this was probably an attempt to lure rescue aircraft into a trap. Reportedly the wreckage was removed by the following day. This incident has not been investigated by a joint team.

BACKGROUND COMMENTS: The information provided by the source generally correlates to the REFNO 0343 incident. The source indicates the aircraft was an L19 (O1) and the incident occurred on PAVN route 20 in Khammouan Province at the beginning of the 1966 rainy season. The REFNO 0343 O1F is the only light observation aircraft loss involving an unaccounted for individual along PAVN route 20 in Khammouan Province. The source indicated the aircraft was in a flight of two and the REFNO 0343 incident involved a flight of two O1 aircraft. Inconsistencies in the report are the source's statement that there was only one crewmember in the aircraft and the aircraft was shot down by a 37MM weapon. There were two crewmembers in the REFNO 0343 aircraft; the group 559 document indicates the aircraft was hit by a 12.7MM weapon.

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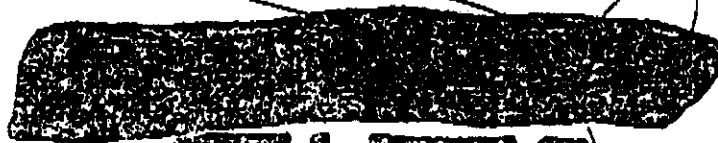
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By direction

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aircraft flying in the area observed the O-1F receive enemy fire and crash. The O-1F pilot was a captain and was probably in the aircraft at the time of the crash.

b. This information tentatively correlates to unresolved case 0261 based on aircraft type, incident location, and incident year. This case involves a 2 March 1966 O-1E loss in Boulapha District, Khammouan Province, Laos. The aircraft collided in mid-air with an F-105. The O-1E pilot was a captain and was in the aircraft at the time of the crash.

c. We will forward a copy of ~~this report~~ to the VNCSMP.



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LTC, USA
Commanding

cy to: DPMO/LNO

