

ORIGIN JCRC2 INFO AMB ECM POL SA3 DAO DAOSB EXA DATLO INHIBIT (12)

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RR RUHQBP RUEKJCS RUEKJCS RUHQHQA RUEKJCS RUADWW
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DE RUEHBY #2474/01 218 **
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R 060651Z AUG 90
FM JCRC LIAISON BANGKOK TH
TO RUHQBP / CDR JCRC BARBERS PT HI
INFO RUEKJCS / JCS WASHDC//OCJCS-PW-MIA/J5//
RUEKJCS / SECDEF WASHDC//OASD-ISA/PW-MIA//
RUHQHQA / USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3//
RUEKJCS / DIA WASHINGTON DC//PW-MIA//
RUADWW / WHITEHOUSE WASHDC//NSC//
RUEHC / SECSTATE WASHDC//EAP-VLC//
BT

SECTION 01 OF 02 BANGKOK TH 42474

553 AUG 90

SUBJ: JCRC RPT [REDACTED] TWO US PILOTS BURIED IN
VINH BAO, HAI PHONG (U)

1. SOURCE/ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

- A. NAME: DANG NGOC CHIEM (M)
- B. DOB: 7 SEP 50
- C. POB: THANH LUONG (V) VINH BAO (D) HAI PHONG
- (P)
- D. FORMER POSITION: 2LT PAVN [REDACTED]
- E. PRESENT LOCATION: 20B SHA TIN
- F. IDENTIFICATION DATA: ID 59247; BOAT 458
- G. DOI: 1965
- H. MAP USED: SHEET 6350-3; SERIES L7011
- I. DATE OF INTERVIEW: 10 FEB 90
- J. NAME OF INTERVIEWER: MR. G. E. BELL, GS-13,

DOD

K. OTHER: ARRIVED HONG KONG 27 JUN 89

2. SUMMARY: SOURCE, A 40 YOA MALE VM REFUGEE AND FORMER MEMBER OF PAVN RECON, PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING HIS ALLEGED OBSERVATION OF THE CRASH OF A US AIRCRAFT IN CO AM VILLAGE (X6282), VINH BAO DISTRICT, HAI PHONG. SOURCE SAW THE BODIES OF TWO PILOTS NEAR THE CRASH SITE AND

RATER SAW TWO GRAVES WITH MARKERS IN THE SAME AREA.
3. INFORMATION: SOURCE STATED THAT SOMETIME DURING 1965, WHILE RESIDING IN HAMLET (XOM) 3, CO AM VILLAGE, VINH BAO DISTRICT, HAI PHONG PROVINCE, HE OBSERVED THE CRASH OF A US AIRCRAFT. SOURCE SAID HE HAD JUST DEPARTED FROM THE CO AM VILLAGE SCHOOL ENROUTE FOR HOME ONE AFTERNOON DURING A PERIOD OF WARM, SUNNY WEATHER, WHEN HE SAW A US AIRCRAFT FLYING FROM THE NORTHWEST. SOURCE RECALLED THAT THE AIRCRAFT WAS ON FIRE AND SPECULATED THAT THE AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN HIT WHILE ATTACKING HAI DUONG BECAUSE IT WAS COMING FROM THE NORTHWEST. SOURCE

WATCHED THE AIRCRAFT MAKE A GRADUAL DESCENT AND CRASH INTO HAMLET (XOM) 3 OF CO AM VILLAGE (X6282).

Hai Phong

4. SOURCE DID NOT OBSERVE ANY CREW MEMBERS EJECT FROM THE AIRCRAFT PRIOR TO THE CRASH. THE AIRCRAFT WAS TORN APART UPON IMPACT BUT SOURCE WAS NOT ABLE TO TELL IF THIS WAS DUE TO THE FORCE OF IMPACT OR DUE TO EXPLODING ORDNANCE. SOURCE WENT TO THE CRASH SITE SHORTLY AFTER THE AIRCRAFT WENT DOWN. WHEN SOURCE ARRIVED AT THE SCENE MILITIA FORCES OF CO AM VILLAGE HAD SURROUNDED THE SITE. ON THE GROUND NEAR THE WRECKAGE SOURCE SAW TWO BURNED BODIES OF TWO CREW MEMBERS. DUE TO THEIR CONDITION SOURCE WAS NOT ABLE TO PROVIDE A PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION BUT RECALLED THAT ONE BODY WAS MISSING AN ARM AND THE SECOND BODY WAS MISSING THE HEAD.

5. SOURCE HEARD FROM MILITIA FORCES AT THE SITE THAT THE AIRCRAFT WAS A MODEL F-105. SOURCE HEARD THAT ONE OF THE PILOTS WAS OF RELATIVELY HIGH RANK AND SPECTATORS COMMENTED HE MIGHT BE A COLONEL. SOURCE REMAINED AT THE SITE FOR ONLY A FEW MINUTES, THEN RETURNED HOME. SOURCE LATER SAW TWO MOUNDS OF EARTH WHERE HE SAW THE BODIES ON THE GROUND AND ASSUMED THE TWO DEAD PILOTS WERE BURIED THERE. SOMETIME DURING 1975 SOURCE SAW TWO CEMENT MARKERS ON THE TWO GRAVES AND A BAMBOO FENCE AROUND THE GRAVES. SOURCE COULD NOT RECALL ANY INFORMATION PRINTED ON THE MARKERS. SOURCE LAST SAW THE TWO GRAVES DURING 1975 AND STATED THAT THE GRAVES APPEARED TO HAVE NOT BEEN DISTURBED, CAUSING HIM TO SPECULATE THAT THE REMAINS OF THE TWO PILOTS WERE STILL BURIED THERE AT THAT TIME. THE TWO GRAVES WERE LOCATED IN A RICE FIELD ABOUT 400 METERS FROM THE EDGE OF HAMLET 3, CO AM VILLAGE. SOURCE RECALLED THAT AT THE TIME OF THE CRASH THE HOMES OF TWO VILLAGERS IN THE AREA OF THE CRASH SITE WERE BURNED.

6. SOURCE SAID AT THE TIME OF THE INCIDENT, THE CHIEF OF THE VINH BAO DISTRICT PUBLIC SECURITY WAS MAJ NGUYEN THE LAN. SOURCE HEARD MAJ LAN DIED DUE TO A HEART AILMENT AFTER THE WAR. THE DEPUTY PSS CHIEF OF CO AM VILLAGE WAS MR. TRONG (TRONGJ) (LNU). WHEN SOURCE DEPARTED FROM CO AM IN LATE 1976

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THE PSS CHIEF WAS MR. NGUYEN VAN VIET (VIETJ). SOURCE SAID HIS BROTHER, DANG VAN DUNG (ZUNGX), WHO CURRENTLY RESIDES IN CUC THUY (H) (XH5783), THANH LUONG (V) VINH BAO (E) KNOWS THE LOCATION OF THE TWO GRAVES. SOURCE SAID SHORTLY AFTER THE CRASH, LOCAL VILLAGERS GATHERED UP ALL METAL FROM THE CRASH SITE AND HE BELIEVED LITTLE OR NOTHING WAS REMAINING.

7. SOURCE ENTERED SERVICE AS A PAVN IN OCTOBER 1967. SOURCE RECEIVED THREE MONTHS OF RECON TRAINING IN HA SON BINH AND WAS THEN ASSIGNED TO THE 10TH PAVN RECON BN OF THE 2ND DIV IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE. SOURCE HELD THE POSITION OF SQUAD LEADER AND PARTICIPATED IN RECON PATROLS WITH SR COL NGUYEN TON (TOWN), THE CDR OF THE 2D DIV. SOURCE SAID HIS PATROL ENCOUNTERED APPROXIMATELY 12 US MILITARY PERSONNEL NEAR TIEN PHUOC, QUANG NAM DURING APRIL 1968. SOURCE'S PATROL SUFFERED FOUR KIA AND THE AMERICANS SUFFERED ABOUT SIX KIA. NO US POWS WERE TAKEN AND SOURCE'S UNIT QUICKLY WITHDREW FROM THE AREA OF THE FIREFIGHT, LEAVING THE BODIES ON THE GROUND.

8. SOMETIME DURING LATE 1968, SOURCE'S UNIT MOVED TO SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE LAOS. SOURCE SAW APPROXIMATELY 100 ARVN POWS IN THE AREA OF BINH TRAM 21, BUT DID NOT SEE ANY AMERICANS. IN EARLY 1971 SOURCE WAS IN KHAMMOUANE PROVINCE LAOS WHERE HE OBSERVED ABOUT 80-90 ARVN POWS CAPTURED IN SOUTHERN LAOS. THE ARVN POWS WERE BEING MOVED BY THE 19TH TRANSPORT BN OF THE 2D PAVN DIV. IN OCTOBER 1971 SOURCE MOVED TO THE TAN CANH AREA IN NORTHERN KON TUM PROVINCE. IN FEBRUARY 1972 SOURCE BEGAN RUNNING PATROLS INTO SPECIAL AREA 24 (BIET KHU 24) AROUND KON TUM CITY. SOURCE WORKED IN SUPPORT OF ARMOR OPERATIONS IN THE KON TUM AREA AND RECALLED THAT PAVN FORCES LOST A TOTAL OF 24 TANKS DURING APRIL 1972.

9. IN LATE APRIL 1972 SOURCE WAS TRANSFERRED TO WESTERN BINH DINH PROVINCE WHERE HIS UNIT RESTED UNTIL SEPTEMBER 1972, WHEN THEY WERE TRANSFERRED TO THE MO LUC AREA OF QUANG NGAI PROVINCE. IN NOVEMBER 1972 SOURCE SUFFERED A FRACTURED SKULL AND LOST ONE EAR FROM US BOMBING. SOURCE WAS EVACUATED TO THE 20TH MEDICAL BN OF THE 2D DIV LOCATED IN THE LAKE AREA ON THE BORDER OF QUANG NGAI AND KON TUM PROVINCES. FOUR MONTHS LATER, SOURCE WALKED UP THE O CHI MINH TRAIL TO HOSPITAL CT 14 IN NINH BINH PROVINCE. IN 1974 SOURCE WAS MOVED TO THE 225TH CONVALESCENT CAMP IN HAI DUONG PROVINCE. SOURCE WAS ALLOWED TO RETURN TO HIS POB FOR PERIODIC VISITS AND IN 1976 HE MOVED TO AN DUONG TOWN IN HAI PHONG CITY WHERE SOURCE'S PARENTS WORKED AS SCHOOL TEACHERS. SOURCE WAS PLACED IN CHARGE OF A COOPERATIVE, BUYING AND SELLING BUILDING MATERIALS UNTIL HIS DEPARTURE BY BOAT.

10. SOURCE SAID THAT WHILE UNDERGOING TRAINING IN HA SON BINH ONE OF HIS INSTRUCTORS IN RECON AND SPECIAL FORCES WAS TRAN NPU. SOURCE RECALLED THAT TRAN NHU WAS A COMPANY GRADE OFFICER WHO HAD SERVED AS A SAPPER IN LAOS PRIOR TO HIS ARRIVAL IN HA SON BINH (NOTE: THIS IS PROBABLY THE SAME TRAN NHU WHO HAS PARTICIPATED IN JOINT INVESTIGATIONS IN SON LA PROVINCE). SOURCE SAID HE HAD HEARD THAT TRAN NHU WAS DEAD BUT WAS NOT SURE. SOURCE SAID TRAN NHU WAS A CLOSE FRIEND OF SR COL VIET SON, THE FORMER CDR OF THE PAVN 71ST DIV WHO WAS BLINDED DUE TO A BOMBING ATTACK IN QUANG NGAI DURING 1972. SOURCE RECALLED THAT TWO OTHER CLOSE FRIENDS OF TRAN NHU, LTC HUNG (HUNG), THE 2D DIV CHIEF OF STAFF, AND SR COL LOI (LOI), THE 2D DIV CDR, WERE BOTH KIA DURING THE SAME BOMBING ATTACK. SOURCE CLAIMED TO HAVE NO KNOWLEDGE CONCERNING AMERICANS REMAINING IN VIETNAM. DECL: OADR

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