



JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER

LIAISON OFFICE
AMERICAN EMBASSY
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96346

Hai Phong

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REFERENCE: HK84-044
16 April 1984

FROM: JCRC-LNB

SUBJ: Refugee Report, Shootdown of Aircraft, Capture of One Pilot and Death of One Other Pilot Near ~~Hai Phong~~

TO: COMMANDER, JCRC
Barbers Point, HI 96862

Source: Nguyen Duc Chieu; DPOB 20 Oct 52, Hai Phong. A former plastics factory worker, Source is presently located at Hei Ling Chau, Hong Kong. ID #2068, date of info 1972, date of interview 28 Mar 84. Map used: sheet 6350IV, series L7014. Source arrived Hong Kong 28 June 83, boat LM 1907.

Source stated that some time during mid 1972 (not sure of month but possibly May) at approx 2100 hours he was at home when he heard the firing of anti-aircraft guns in the vicinity of Kien An Airfield near Hai Phong City. Source heard shortly thereafter a loud crash and explosion. Source went outside his home and saw that numerous villagers were heading to a mountain near his village. Source, being curious, asked about the movement from the village and was told that an American aircraft had crashed on Nui Tien Hoi aka Nui Phuong Mountain (vic XJ650037). Source heard from the villagers that the aircraft had been flying from the north when it crashed. Source stated that he joined the throng of villagers and went to the mountain to see the wreckage of the aircraft. When Source arrived he saw a large crater where the aircraft had impacted near the top of the mountain (aircraft impacted on the crest). Some PAVN soldiers present at the time told the villagers that the aircraft had broken apart on impact and that the tail section had carried over to the reverse crest of the mountain. The PAVN soldiers then spread out two parachutes (one red and one white in color) for the villagers to see. Source observed two U.S. pilots lying on the ground near the parachutes and recalled that one was dead and the other apparently badly injured. Source described the dead pilot as male caucasian, young, tall, medium build, with light hair (possibly brown but not sure due to light conditions). Source described the unconscious but still alive pilot as male caucasian, stocky build, and slightly shorter than the dead pilot. Source stated that the PAVN soldiers buried the dead pilot at the same site and that the injured pilot was carried down the mountain and placed in a vehicle. Source heard the PAVN soldiers say that the injured pilot was being taken to military aid station C-21 which was located on the other side of Nui Tien Hoi Mountain. Source last observed the unmarked grave of the dead pilot in 1983 and speculated that the remains were still buried there because it looked to him like the grave had not been disturbed. Source never saw the injured pilot again after he was taken away in the vehicle. Source opined that the pilot still living had been injured when

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REFERENCE HK84-044
PAGE TWO

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he landed on the rocky mountain and had not been shot since he saw no bullet holes or bleeding. Source recalled that the incident was reported on the radio the following day and that the announcer referred to the aircraft as an AD6. Source stated that the area where the body of the dead pilot was buried was called Ngan Nghia Trang (H), Thien Hoi (V) Kien An (D) Hai Phong City.

Paul D. Mather

PAUL D. MATHER
Lt Col, USAF
JCRC Liaison Officer

GEB/mbr

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SOURCE DATA: NGUYEN DUC CHIEU, 31
REFUGEE REPORT INTERVIEW NR & DATE: HK84-044, 16 Apr 84
ANALYST: SFC W. A. BLACK
CROSS REFERENCE(S): HK82-011, HK82-004, HK83-025, HK83-040, HK83-075.

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CATEGORY DATE: Shootdown - Capture - Death of Pilots/first hand account.

FINDINGS: Review of data supplied by source reveals a probable correlation to REFNO 1963.

CORRELATE DATA: On 21 Dec 72, LCDR Robert S. Graustein, pilot, and LCDR Barton S. Wade, navigator were aboard an A6A aircraft on a night low-level bombing mission in the vicinity of Yen An Airfield, North Vietnam. All facets of the mission were normal including the last transmission, "Bombs away". Shortly afterwards another aircraft crew in the area observed heavy AA fire and LCDR Graustein's ordnance detonating. They also saw a large airborne explosion and fire in the vicinity of XJ677012. No radio calls or emergency beepers were heard in the area. A SAR effort was conducted, but due to darkness, density of population and lack of communications with the crew, it was downgraded to an electronic surveillance with negative results. LCDR Graustein and LCDR Wade are currently carried in the status of Head-Body Not Recovered.

BACKGROUND/COMMENTS: Although there is a discrepancy in months (May-December), the location, number of personnel involved, time of day and type of aircraft all correlate to REFNO 1963.

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Joe B. Harvey

JOE B. HARVEY
AFC, USA
Commander

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DIA, DC-2
JCRC REFNO FILE: 1963
NMPC (N-64)

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FOLLOW-UP: DECL: OADR

