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AMERICAN EMBASSY
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96346

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Gia Lai

Ref: RPT #M84-078
27 December 1984

FROM: JCRC-LNB
TO: Commander, JCRC

SUBJ: Helicopter Crash Site in Gia Lai-Kon Tum Area

REF: Amembassy Kuala Lumpur Msg, DTG 110739Z October 1984

Source:

- a. Name: Nguyen Thi Thu Thuy (F)
- b. DOB: 24 February 1952
- c. POB: Kon Tum
- d. Former position: Saigon middle school teacher
- e. Present location: Bldg D5, Room 5, Sungei Besi Refugee Camp, Malaysia
- f. Identification data: MB 215
- g. DOI: July 1984
- h. Map used: 1:50,000; Series L7014, Sheet 6536-2; Ban Do Hang Tin (ARVN maps), Sheet Pleiku
- i. Date of interview: 12 November 1984
- j. Name of interviewer: Thomas R. McKay, CW2, USA
- k. Other: Source departed Vietnam on 4 September 1984. Her final address in Vietnam was Cu Xa Nha May Dien, Tra Noc Ward, Can Tho City.

Source provides first hand information of an American aircraft crash site and hearsay of US remains at the site.

Information:

The following information was related by Source to interviewer as fact. In July 1984, Source and her two brothers, Nguyen Phi Hung and Nguyen Dung Tien departed the family residence in Can Tho and travelled to a New Economic Zone in the area of Ia Grai (V), Chu Pa (D), Gia Lai-Kon Tum (P) to visit relatives who were living there. Source's brothers commonly made trips into forested areas searching for sandalwood and aircraft crash sites to scavenge sellable materials. From the NEZ near Ia Grai (V) (possibly Plei Kueng Girai at vic ZA 112062. Also see P. L. Kueng Ia Grai at vicinity ZA 0519 on ARVN map sheets), Source and her brothers travelled for approximately two weeks (NFI) before arriving at the crash site. Source remembers nothing of the route to the site, but claims her brothers (still in Vietnam at the family address in Can Tho) would be able to remember it. Source only remembers the topography was like that of foothills and her brothers indicated to her they were near the Vietnamese-Kampuchian border.

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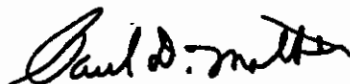
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The group had discovered a helicopter crash site. Source remembers seeing two large rotors. The original color of the aircraft was unknown to Source as it was badly faded. The wreckage appeared to have been almost completely stripped prior to their discovery. Source stood off from the site and did not see the wreckage clearly, but later her brothers told her they had seen human remains (NFI) and had left them where they saw them. Nothing more concerning remains was related to Source.

Source remembers seeing wreckage of another aircraft (NFI) somewhere along their two week journey, but remembers nothing else.

Comment:

Interviewer found it somewhat strange that a normally curious Vietnamese would travel for two weeks in search of crash sites, find two and never go close enough to examine the wreckage.



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