

ORIGIN CJTF2 INFO AMB DCM POL SA DAO DAO/SB EXA DATLO INHIBIT (10)

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RR RUHQQA RUEKJCS RUEKJCS RUHQQA RUEKJCS RUEKJCS
RUEAIIA RUHVAAA RUEADWW RUEHC
DY RUEHRC #8001/01 163 **RUEADWW #8001/01 163 **
RUEADWW JUN 92IN CJTF-FA DET ONE BANGKOK TH
TC RUHQQA / CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI
INFO RUEKJCS / JCS WASHDC//OCJCS-PW-MIA/J5//
RUEKJCS / SECDEF WASHDC//CASD-ISA/PW-MIA//
RUHQQA / USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J3//
RUEKJCS / USCINCPAC LO WASHDC//
RUEKJCS / DIA WASHDC//POW-MIA//
RUEAIIA / CIA WASHDC//OEA/SEA/IB/DDO/ICOG//
RUHVAAA / CDRUSACILHI HICKAM AFB HI//
RUEADWW / NSC WASHDC
RUEHC / SECSTATE WASHDC//FAF-VLC//
BTCLASS: [REDACTED]
CHRG: CJTF 0E/11/9
APPRV: CJTF:DAG
DRFTD: CJTF:MIJ
CLEAR: NONE
DISTR: CJTF
ORGIN: OCR

[REDACTED] SECTION 01 CF 02 BANGKOK TR 20001

[REDACTED] 75 JUN 92

EIA PASS TO DOD POW-MIA CENTRAL DOCUMENTATION OFFICE

SUBJECT: [REDACTED] 191-042/CRASH SITE OF U.S. F-4C
[REDACTED] IN SON LA PROVINCE; HEARSAY CAPTURE OF TWO
AMERICANS (U)

1. SOURCE/ADMINISTRATIVE DATA:
 - A. NAME: THAN HONG THAI (TRANH HOONG THAIS) (M)
 - B. IPOB: JUN 45/CAN THC (C), HAU GIANG (P)
 - C. OCCUPATION:
 - PRE-1975: MAJ. ARVN 33RD BN, 21ST INF DIV
 - POST-1975: 13 YEARS REEDUCATION; UNEMPLOYED
 - D. PRESENT LOCATION: HUT 123/7, ZONE D, GALANG 2 CAMP, INDONESIA
 - E. IDENTIFICATION DATA: BK0611
 - F. EDUCATION: 12/12; GRADUATE OF THU DUC OFFICERS' ACADEMY
 - G. LANGUAGES: VIETNAMESE (NATIVE), FRENCH (FAIR), ENGLISH (POOR)
 - H. RELIGION: BUDDHIST
 - I. STATUS: ASYLUM SEEKER
 - J. FINAL ADDRESS IN VIETNAM: 23/4 THAN KHAC CHAN, SUEWARD 15, PHU NHUAN WARD, HO CHI MINH CITY
 - K. FORWARDING ADDRESS IN THE U.S.:
 - L. DATE OF ARRIVAL IN INDONESIA: 11 JUN 89
 - M. INTERVIEW DATA: SOURCE WAS INTERVIEWED AT GALANG 2 CAMP, INDONESIA ON 10 APR 91 BY MICHAEL D. JANICH, GS-12, IOD.
 - N. MAP(S) USED: SHIET 5951IV; SERIES L7014; EDITION 1.

2. (U) SUMMARY: SOURCE PROVIDED FIRSTHAND INFORMATION CONCERNING THE CRASH SITE OF A U.S. F-4C AIRCRAFT AND LIMITED HEARSAY CONCERNING THE CRASH INCIDENT.

ACCORDING TO THE HEARSAY, BOTH CREW MEMBERS OF THE AIRCRAFT WERE CAPTURED, BUT THEIR DISPOSITION THEREAFTER IS UNKNOWN. END SUMMARY.

3. (U) INFORMATION: SOURCE EXPLAINED THAT HE WAS IMPRISONED IN REEDUCATION CAMP 6, CAMP GROUP 2 (VICINITY VJ701543) IN PHU YEN (I), SON LA (P) FROM 1 JUL 76 UNTIL APR 78. ON 6 JUL 76, HE AND APPROXIMATELY 20 OTHER PRISONERS WERE LED TO THE CRASH SITE OF A U.S. F-4C AIRCRAFT TO RECOVER ITS TWO UNEXPLODED 500 POUND BOMBS. SOURCE'S GROUP WAS LED FROM THEIR CAMP WEST ALONG "STRATEGIC ROUTE 4" (DUONG CHIEFENS LWOCJ 4) AND THROUGH BAN THOAI HAMLET (VICINITY VJ7054). THEY THEN TURNED NORTH AND TRAVELED NOT MORE THAN FIVE KM BEFORE ARRIVING AT THE CRASH SITE, WHICH WAS SITUATED ABOUT HALFWAY UP THE NORTH SIDE OF A MOUNTAIN (NFI) IN A HEAVILY FORESTED AREA.

4. (U) ACCORDING TO SOURCE, THE AIRCRAFT DID NOT EXPLODE WHEN IT IMPACTED AND ITS TAIL WAS STILL COMPLETELY INTACT. SOURCE RECALLED THAT THE TAIL WAS MARKED WITH SEVERAL UN-RECALLED NUMBERS AND LETTERS AND THE WORD "NAVY". THE AIRCRAFT CANOPY WAS ALSO STILL ATTACHED. SOURCE SUPPOSEDLY HEARD LATER FROM A NUMBER OF LOCAL MUONG VILLAGERS (NFI) THAT THE AIRCRAFT DID NOT EJECT AND REMAINED IN THE AIRCRAFT WHEN IT IMPACTED. BOTH CREW MEMBERS REPORTEDLY SURVIVED AND WERE CAPTURED SHORTLY AFTER THE CRASH. SOURCE CLAIMED THAT THE VILLAGERS WHO RECOUNTED THIS STORY PROVIDED NO FURTHER DETAILS, TO INCLUDE THE YEAR OR DATE THE INCIDENT TOOK PLACE OR THE DISPOSITION OF THE CAPTURED AMERICANS.

5. (U) SOURCE CLAIMED THAT HIS GROUP REMAINED AT THE SITE FOR 1-2 HOURS AND SUCCESSFULLY RECOVERED THE BOMBS FROM THE WRECKAGE. DURING HIS PRESENCE AT THE SITE, HE NEVER OBSERVED ANY REMAINS OR PERSONAL EFFECTS. HE ALSO CLAIMED THAT NEITHER HE NOR ANY OTHER MEMBER OF HIS GROUP EVER LOOKED IN THE COCKPIT OF THE AIRCRAFT TO SEE IF ANY TRACES OF THE CREW REMAINED.

6. (U) SOURCE WAS UNABLE TO IDENTIFY THE LOCATION OF THE CRASH SITE ON A MAP, BUT PROVIDED A DETAILED SKETCH OF THE AREA. BASED ON A COMPARISON OF THIS SKETCH WITH AVAILABLE MAPS, THE SITE HAS LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES VJ706554.

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SECTION 02 OF 02 BANGKOK TH 28001

7. (U) COMMENTS: SOURCE HAS COOPERATIVE AND ANSWERED ALL QUESTIONS IN A STRAIGHTFORWARD MANNER. HE ASKED NO FAVORS.

8. SOURCE ALSO PROVIDED HEARSAY CONCERNING THE SHOOT DOWN OF ANOTHER U.S. AIRCRAFT IN THE VICINITY OF THE AREA DESCRIBED IN THIS REPORT. BOTH CREW MEMBERS OF THIS AIRCRAFT WERE CAPTURED, BUT ONE WAS KILLED AND ALLEGEDLY BURIED IN THE AREA. THE COMPLETE DETAILS OF THIS INFORMATION ARE REPORTED SEPARATELY IN JTF-FA REPORT 191-041.

9. (U) THE ROAD REFERRED TO BY SOURCE AS "STRATEGIC ROUTE 4" IS LISTED ON THE CITED MAP SHEET AS ROUTE 13A. DECL:OADR

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