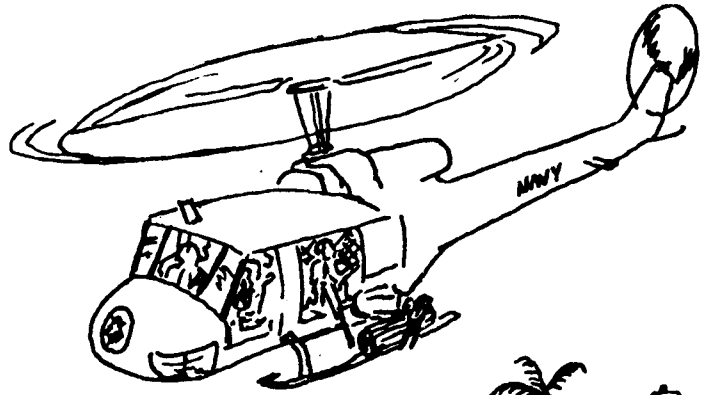




WOLFGRAM

Seawolf (HAL-3) Assoc.



After I requested info. on Reardon, Ott & Johnston. I received many calls and a few letters. I received the letter from Keyes, also a phone call from the Army pilot who rescued them. That whole operation is pretty much settled, we know what happened to Reardon.

As for Ott and Johnstone, I have some info. that has been disturbing for me. Before I place the info request in the Wolfgram. Navis and I went to locate Ed Ott family. We found his mother and father. We made contact with them explaining that we were involved in the MIA-POW issue also about the Seawolf Assoc. His father seemed to be uncomfortable, but his mother was very interested. We talked for awhile. His father staying out of most conversation. He finally said that if Ed were alive he would be home. But later on a few days later while thinking about what he said, there was something in the way he said it that bothered me. so I let it go at the time.



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He was not happy we were there. Ed's mother was in fact as we were leaving, out in the hallway. Marie asked her if she would like Ed's Pou-mia bracelet, that Marie was wearing. She got very excited and cried. A few months latter we made contact again. Marie called Mrs Ott to let them know they were invited to the Pens. reunion. Her reaction was strange. She told Marie that her two other sons (still in the Navy) had suggested she not pursue this, that Ed was missing - and he was dead, and that she really doesn't need to know the details. Don't quote me on this exact conversation. I got the impression that there was more that she wasn't being told. We have not made contact since and they have not contacted us.

Anyway I finally got the names of everyone on the crew that day, and more or less the same stories about what happened. I finally got a call from West Germany, my wife got the call one Sunday morning while I was at work so I never talked directly (can't remember his name - but I do have it somewhere) I was told that Doug Leaf lived in



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a town in Colorado. He was the other
gunner who was with att that day. So
I called info. but he wasn't living there
must be small towns because the operators
found a Doug Leaf in a nearby town. So
I took a chance and called. I got an
answer and it was the right Doug Leaf.
told him who I was, and that there was
a newly formed asse. He told me basically
what anyone else told me. also the fact
that no one knew Ed couldn't swim.

It wasn't 2 minutes later that the phone
rang and it was Doug Leaf and he sounded
a little shaky. The first thing he said was
that it had been 20 years since the incident
and what he was about to tell me he hadn't
never told anyone before.

Doug was told that he was going to
escort the bodies of Ed & Johnston home once he
got out of the hospital. He got out a few days
later and nothing else was said about it. But
never pursued it. He was told by a seal team
leader, that the bodies were found tortured-mutilated
and left.



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I never heard from Doug again-- and I just let the whole thing go.

I talked to Joe Mount, he said that Ed had a bad feeling about his next op. that he wouldn't make it. I guess it came true.

Anyway I in Sept. 1990 I went to the Pow-Mia Rolling Thunder Rally in NY city.

I found another "Wolf". So I got to talking. He was there when Ott & Johnston went in. He was very upset talking about it. tears. I mentioned Doug Leaf, said he couldn't remember the name. He basically told me the same story about the scramble, going off the LST., but then he came out with the info. he was told by a SEAL team leader almost exactly as Doug Leaf told me. That really upset me. this was now the 3rd person to mention the bodies were found..

The last thing to shake me up about this. I never saw the Bio on Ott till this past June. I was at a Pow-Mia Vigil (40hr) we do one hour for each et. mia in a cage. I just happened to sit down for a rest. (the Bio's are all hanging around this Haggard's people.



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can read them. I didn't intentionally sit in front of Ott's but there I was. so I read it and for the first time I noticed the date. He went down on Sept. 1, listed as M12 on Sept 1, then changed to KIA on Sept. 9. I talked to someone about this change. and was told that unless bodies are found the status isn't changed for a year.

Recently I talked about this to a Captain in USNR. who was a N120 in NAM. He flew with the Wolves. He told me that ~~if~~ there were times when a Seal team went on a mission they would find bodies but because of the mission could not bring them out. to me it seems like some thing ~~go~~ could be done after the mission. Who knows.

So between what ~~Mr Ott~~ Mr Ott said and what Mrs. Ott said her son's told. her and the seal team. It seems like what really happened was covered up so Mrs Ott would not find out.



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I hope you can read all this. I don't
know if you want any of this for the history.
I can't see how any of it can be confirmed
I have had to stop pursuing this. I still
have Att & Johnston mica bracelets but
don't wear them.

Sease.