

**From:** MacAlan Thompson [REDACTED]  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 25, 1999 2:13 AM  
**Subject:** 20 SOS [Re: "REVIS'D INFO" (CIA/CIV ?) - W. Martin, KIA on the PDJ]

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>From: [REDACTED]  
>Date: Mon, 24 May 1999 23:07:03 EDT  
>Subject: 20 SOS [Re: "REVIS'D INFO" (CIA/CIV ?) - W. Martin, KIA on the PDJ]  
>To: [REDACTED]  
>CC: [REDACTED]  
>X-Mailer: AOL 3.0 for Windows 95 sub 64

>Mac, Les, and TLCB,

>I just got this Email from DON DEIDRICH. I think you Bros should reply as  
>this incident was before my time (I was in the 10th grade when these fine  
men  
>were lost).

>I also see that Brother Don is looking for 20 SOS people, maybe you TLCBers  
>can help him out. (I don't think Don is a TLCB member, just checked out the  
>roster,  
>so I'm not sure if anyone else here in the TLCB recieved this Email).

>Don Deidrich's Email address is : [REDACTED]

>If I can research any more please let me know. Hope this info is helping  
>Walter Martin's mother-in-law.

>JIM - "GED"

>\*\*\*\*\*

>In a message dated 99-05-24 22:20:46 EDT, you write:

>>> Subj: Re: "REVISED INFO" (CIA/CIV ??) to - Walter Martin, KIA on  
>the PDJ

> Date: 99-05-24 22:20:46 EDT

> From: [REDACTED] (d2)

> To: [REDACTED]

> The chopper they were flying on was a CH-3E. It had 10 barrels of diesel  
> fuel on board. there was 3 who survived, all badly injured, the remaining 6  
> personnel were killed. They were all USAF men. The a/c did make a stop in

5/26/99

> route and their may be some confusion over that. I had a good friend killed  
 > in that accident, am in touch with the originator of this and hope I can  
 > help. thanks and only wish I could find a 20 SOS person who was closer than  
 > me. Please let me know if I can help as I have several links and e-mails Don  
 > Deidrich ([REDACTED])  
 >  
 >  
 > From: [REDACTED]  
 > To: [REDACTED]  
 > Cc: [REDACTED]  
 > Sent: Monday, May 24, 1999 12:28 AM  
 > Subject: "REVISED INFO" (CIA/CIV ??) to - Walter Martin, KIA on the PDJ  
 >  
 >  
 >> Les, Mac, and All,  
 >>  
 >> Sorry I didn't get back to you sooner Brothers. Les you are 100% CORRECT,  
 > I  
 >> goofed on the terminology that I used for "helicopter" that being HELIO.  
 > At  
 >> the time I was trying to get the info off to Mac lao lao, and it was late,  
 > so  
 >> I thought I'd save a few key strokes. Thus I type HELIO, I tried HELO, but  
 > it  
 >> didn't look right (I read that as similar to hello). Thanks for the  
 >> constructive criticism, I learned about the term Helio Courier/U10.  
 >>  
 >> Mac, you asked if LTC Bolton was ARMY, No, ALL (6) men were USAF, which  
 > made  
 >> me think about the "OTHER" members on board (18 - 20 total). The others  
 > may  
 >> have been ARMY, CIA, CIV, LAOS, etc. (This may partially EXPLAIN the "lack  
 > of  
 >> info" due to the nature of the mission).  
 >>  
 >> I did a search using "ALL" US Military Services (as I've outlined below,  
 > but  
 >> typed ALL), the results were the SAME (7) names again ALL were USAF, and  
 > (6)  
 >> had the same PDATE and consecutive REFNO#, thus that leaves only WHO ELSE  
 >> could the OTHER members of that 18 - 20 total be -- CIA, CIV, LAOTIAN,  
 > THAI,  
 >> etc. --- ??????  
 >>  
 >> Because I'm not certain which model helicopter was being used I don't know  
 >> what a normal size crew was used (have to consult our TLCB HELO Bros) -  
 > the  
 >> list of (6) includes 3 crew members, 2 of which were officers, Maj.  
 > MARTIN -  
 >> PILOT, and Capt. Fleming - "maybe" COPILOT - (my assumption).

5/26/99

>>  
>>  
>> As for the BIOS for MARTIN and the 5 others here's how to see them ALL for  
>> yourself  
>> This way you will see the HOME TOWN of each LOST BRO (which may be another  
>> lead  
>> to family and friends of these men). (I could not find any Synopsis for  
> any  
>> of these 6 men). Go to the LINK below:  
>>  
>>  
>>  
><A HREF="http://www.no-quarter.org/html/adv.html">ADVANCED POW/MIA  
Search</A>  
>>  
>>           <http://www.no-quarter.org/html/adv.html>  
>>  
>>  
>> Then fill in the dates of the casualty (I used the same date for "both"  
>> (FROM: and THRU:), make sure you type it the way the example shows  
>> (year/month/day) Next I picked USAF for BRANCH of SERVICE, and LAOS for  
>  
>> COUNTRY. Now hit SUBMIT QUERY.  
>>  
>> You should get a list of (7) NAMES the last name on the list was in a  
>> different aircraft  
>> (fixed wing), and I noticed the REFNO# and PDATE were no similar to the  
> other  
>> (6) NAMES.  
>>  
>> Once you have the list of names, just click on the # to the left of the  
> name,  
>> that will load  
>> the BIO of that particular individual. To see a SYNOPSIS you would see  
> that  
>> by going to the very bottom of the individuals BIO, and click on AUTOMATED  
>> SEARCH, that loads another page, and you will see a LINK for "this person  
>> resides at ...../m1.htm", etc, "and /or" to go to the alphabetical  
> LISTING  
>> click on that link manually (which will list ALL persons with last name  
>> beginning w/ the same letter of the person you are searching for).  
>>  
>> To see other POW/MIA info and the source of the Bios and Synopsiss click  
> on  
>> OPERATION SMOKING GUN, (at bottom of each person's BIO page) then scroll  
> down  
>> that page to OPERATION SMOKING GUN then FULL DOCUMENTS.  
>>  
>>  
>> \*\*\*\*\* CORRECTIONS and ADDITIONS \*\*\*\*\*

5/26/99

>>  
>> Here's the LIST I sent before, but I've put them in order according to the  
>> RENFO#,  
>> "added" the men's HOME TOWN, and corrected HELO (from helio).  
>>  
>> Subj: Re: Walter Martin, KIA on the PDJ  
>> Date: 99-05-22 06:52:19 EDT  
>> From: [REDACTED]  
>> Sender: [REDACTED]  
>> To: [REDACTED]  
>> CC: [REDACTED]  
>>  
>> Mac,  
>>  
>> This one seems like the mission must have been kept very "SECRET or  
> QUIET", I  
>> found little to no info in the POW/MIA/KIA databases. And the mother in  
> law  
>> mentioned 18 - 20 aboard the Helicopter.  
>>  
>> I see from what I can gather thus far, the Highest Ranking NON CREW I  
> believe  
>> I found to be on board is a Lt Col BOLTON.  
>>  
>> I ran the date of crash and found 6 names (all were in a Helio, that  
> crashed  
>> in LAOS on January 17, 1969). The very STRANGE thing about this is that  
> ALL  
>> names listed DO NOT have any SYNOPSIS, just a BIO w/ name, rank, etc, and  
>> Panel Row location on THE WALL.  
>>  
>> I'm "ASSUMING" all these casualties were from the same Helio crash (but  
> NO  
>> coordinates were given either).  
>>  
>> Common to ALL = same crash date, in Laos, in Helicopter, and same PDATE  
> 6901  
>> - note that Refno# are consecutive from #58 - #63. Also the Panel Row  
>> Locations are within the same section on THE WALL.  
>>  
>>  
>> MARTIN, WALTER WESLEY (O4 Maj) - Helo PILOT or COPILOT [Refno 58 PDATE  
> 6901]  
>> Opolis, KS  
>>  
>>  
>> FLEMING, RICHARD ALAN (O3 Capt) - Helo CREW MEMBER - [Refno 59 PDATE  
> 6901]  
>> Johnston City, IL  
>>

5/26/99

Information Removed by the Vietnam Archive

>>  
>> DAVIS, ALBERT JACKSON (E5 SSgt) - Helo CREW MEMBER - [Refno 60 PDATE  
> 6901]  
>> Fallbrook, CA  
>>  
>>  
>> BOLTON, WAYNE FRANKLIN (O6 - Lt Col) - Helo NON CREW - [Refno 61 PDATE  
> 6901]  
>> Gordonsville, MN  
>>  
>>  
>> KURTYKA, GEORGE ALBERT (E6 Tsgt) - Helo NON CREW [Refno 62 PDATE 6901]  
>> Derby, CT  
>>  
>>  
>> MALDONADO, JUAN ARTURO (E6 Tsgt) - Helo NON CREW [Refno 63 PDATE 6901]  
>> Santurce, PR  
>>  
>>  
>> Here's Martin's Bio:  
>>  
>> --- General / Personal ---  
>>  
>> Last name: MARTIN  
>> First name: WALTER WESLEY  
>> Home of Record (official): OPOLIS  
>> State (official): KS  
>> Date of Birth: Wednesday, October 16, 1935  
>> Sex: Male  
>> Race: Caucasian  
>> Marital Status: Married  
>>  
>> --- Military ---  
>>  
>> Branch: Air Force  
>> Rank: MAJ  
>> Serial Number: 66567  
>> Component: Regular  
>> Pay grade: O4  
>> MOS (Military Occupational Specialty code): Unknown/Not reported  
>>  
>> --- Action ---  
>>  
>> Start of Tour: Monday, April 22, 1968  
>> Date of Casualty: Friday, January 17, 1969  
>> Age at time of loss: 33  
>> Casualty type: (A1) Hostile, died  
>> Reason: Air loss - Crashed on land (Pilot - Helicopter)  
>> Country: Laos  
>> Province: Unknown/Not Reported

5/26/99

> > The Wall: Panel 34W - Row 026  
> >  
> > -----  
> >  
> > Operation Smoking Gun has detailed information on several thousand vets  
> > listed on the Wall who at one time were listed as MIA or POW.  
> > Click here to perform an Automated Search of their files.  
> >  
> > Hope these "ASSUMPTIONS" can lead to more concrete answers !!!  
> >

> > \*\*\*\*\*

> > MAC POSTED

> > Subj: Walter Martin, KIA on the PDJ  
> > Date: 99-05-22 03:12:30 EDT  
> > From: [REDACTED] (MacAlan Thompson)  
> > Sender: [REDACTED]  
> > To: [REDACTED]

> > Any info on this incident??

> > Mac

> > From: "Idwoodson" [REDACTED]  
> > To: "MacAlan Thompson" [REDACTED]  
> > Subject: Walter Martin, Pittsburg, Ks.  
> > Date: Fri, 21 May 1999 22:17:50 -0700

> > According to Walter's mother-in-law, Walter was killed on the Plain des  
> > Jars  
> > on January 17, 1969. According to her version, Walter had volunteered to  
> > fly co-pilot on a helicopter and there were 20 +/- souls on board. The  
> > helicopter landed on the Plain and (?) occurred which killed 18 of the 20  
> > souls on board.

> > Any details on this incident?? Any information appreciated.

> > Walter's mother-in-law lives about 6 miles south of the home 20 here in  
> > Overbrook, Ks.

> > \*\*\*\*\*

> > LES WROTE:

> > Jim,

5/26/99

>> Do they actually use the term "Helio" to mean helicopter? A Helio was  
 >> actually a Helio Courier/U10, a four seat STOL airplane operated in SEA  
 > by  
 >> Air America.  
 >>  
 >> Just curious, not criticizing! :>)  
 >>  
 >> Les  
 >>  
 >> >>  
 >>  
 >> In a message dated 99-05-22 21:48:17 EDT, you write:  
 >>  
 >> << Subj: Re: TLC-Mission: Re: Walter Martin, KIA on the PDJ  
 >> Date: 99-05-22 21:48:17 EDT  
 >> From: [REDACTED] (Les Strouse)  
 >> To: [REDACTED]  
 >>  
 >> At 06:35 AM 22-05-1999 EDT, you wrote:  
 >> >Mac,  
 >> >  
 >> >This one seems like the mission must have been kept very "SECRET or  
 >> QUIET", I  
 >> >found little to no info in the POW/MIA/KIA databases. And the mother in  
 >> law  
 >> >mentioned 18 - 20 aboard the Helicopter.  
 >> >  
 >> >I see from what I can gather thus far, the Highest Ranking NON CREW I  
 >> believe  
 >> >I found to be on board is a Lt Col BOLTON.  
 >> >  
 >> >I ran the date of crash and found 6 names (all were in a Helio, that  
 >> crashed  
 >> >in LAOS on January 17, 1969).  
 >>  
 >> \*\*\*\*\*  
 >>  
 >> JIM - "GED"  
 >>  
 >>  
 >> >>  
 >>  
 >>

If you  
 Must sample  
 Her "pucker paint"  
 Better drive  
 Where traffic ain't

5/26/99

Burma-Shave 1949