

Waiting North Vietnamese Army.

AS THE FIRST HUEY BEGAN ITS FINAL APPROACH ONTO HILL 883, TWO CAMOUFLAGED SOVIET 12.7 mm. ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS OPENED UP FROM AN ADJACENT UNDAUNTED HILLSIDE LESS THAN FIVE HUNDRED METERS AWAY. THE LEAD HUEY TOOK FOUR 12.7 ROUNDS THROUGH THE PLEXIGLAS, BLOWING THE HEAD OF THE PILOT INTO THE REAR OF HIS OWN HUEY. THAT BIRD, CROWDED WITH ITS PILOT, CO-PILOT, TWO DOOR GUNNERS, AND ONE SIX-MAN RECON TEAM, PITCHED WILDLY AS THE CO-PILOT TRIED IN VAIN TO WRESTLE THE CONTROLS FROM THE DEAD PILOT'S HANDS. THE HUEY CRASHED ON ITS SIDE IN THE L.I.Z. AND IMMEDIATELY BEGAN TO BURN.

THE SECOND HUEY, TRAILING BEHIND THE FIRST, CAME UNDER IMMEDIATE FIRE FROM THE SAME GUN EMPLACEMENT, AND IT TOO, CRASHED AND BURNED JUST BEHIND THE WRECKAGE OF THE LEAD BIRD. ONE LIGHT COACH THAT CAME IN TO CLOSE TO THE CRASH SITE WAS HIT BROADSIDE BY AN RPG-7 ROCKET, AND IT EXPLODED IN MIDAIR INSTANTLY KILLING THE TWO WARRANT OFFICER PILOTS INSIDE.

WITHIN SECONDS, SIX MARINES WERE INJURED AND THREE ARMY AIR CAU. PERSONNEL WERE DEAD.

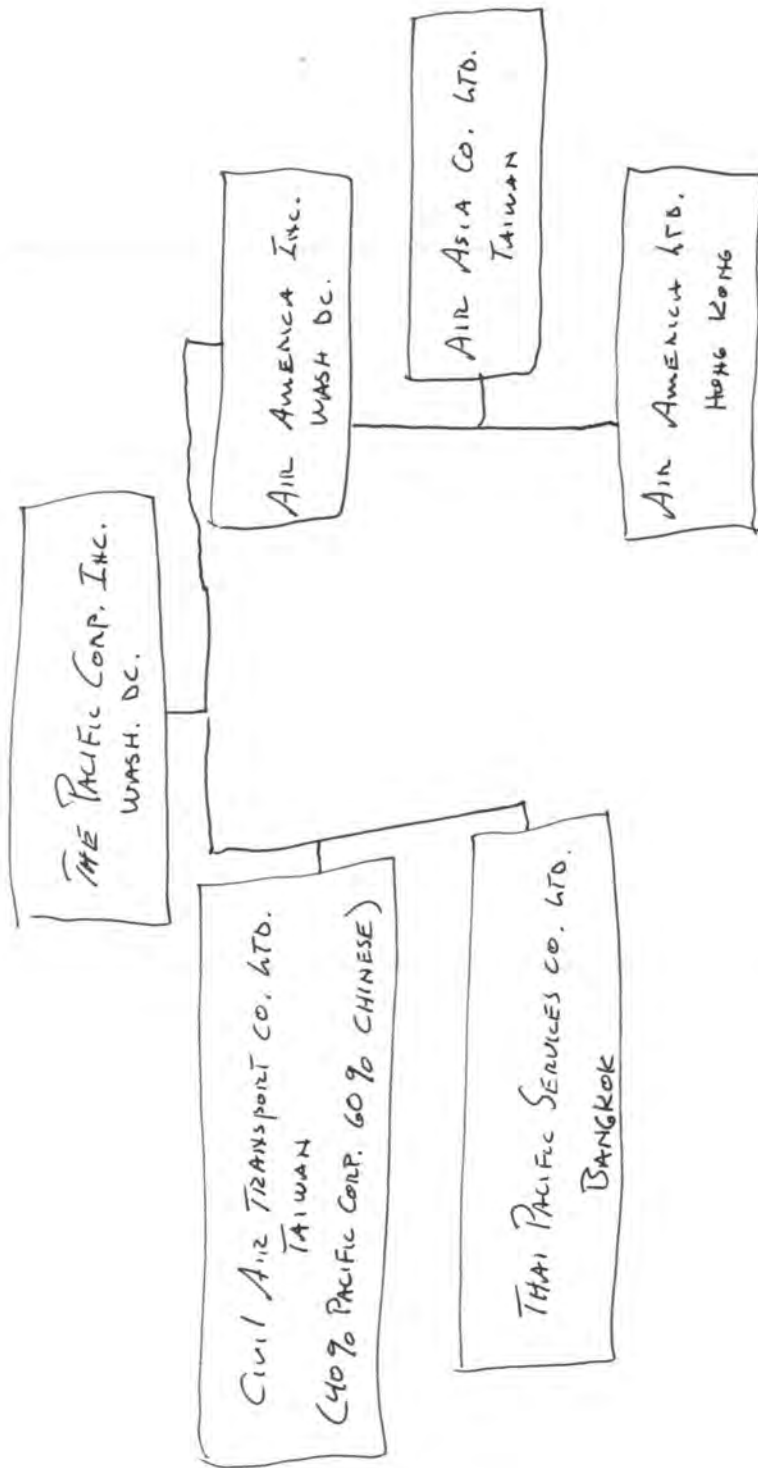
I AM ENCLOSED A PHOTO OF ONE OF THE SHOOT DOWNS. AS STATED, I CAN'T FIND A THING ON THIS INCIDENT. COULD IT HAVE BEEN CLASSIFIED DUE TO 292 RADIO SETUP?

MORE STUFF TO CHARLIE RAY IN MAIL TODAY. VERY INTERESTING MATERIAL FROM USAF. ALSO, RECEIVED WORD FROM UHFA HQ ON DIRECTORY - LATE PRINTING. GOOD NEWS AS I THOUGHT THESE WONDERFUL PEOPLE "RE-ROUTED" IT TO TIM-BUCK-TWO.

AS YOU CAN SEE FROM LOGO, ALL IS ABOUT THE SAME. WILL INURE YOUR AO AGAIN IN NEAR FUTURE.

Ygh.

P.S. DO ME A FAVOR - PASS ON CONTINENTAL AIR LINE ADDRESS OF ~~OF~~ THEIR MAIN OFFICE - THESE PEOPLE ARE THE "CAS" PEOPLE OF NAME! TO ME.



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