

LIFELONG RESIDENT OF QUANG DAI VILLAGE, QUANG XUONG DISTRICT, THANH HOA PROVINCE.

- (4) WARTIME RESIDENCE: SAME AS ABOVE
- (5) CURRENT OCCUPATION: RETIRED
- (6) WARTIME OCCUPATION: VILLAGE PARTY MEMBER
- (7) STATEMENT:

(A) MR. TRUYEN SAID IN APR 65 A BURNING AIRCRAFT FLEW ACROSS THE AREA FROM NORTHWEST TO SOUTHEAST. THIS WAS THE SAME INCIDENT ABOUT WHICH THE PREVIOUS WITNESS, MR. CAM, HAD PROVIDED HEARSAY. MR. TRUYEN DID NOT KNOW WHERE THE AIRCRAFT CRASHED, BUT HE REMEMBERED SEEING ONE PARACHUTE. THE PILOT LANDED IN QUANG HAI VILLAGE, APPROXIMATELY 50 METERS FROM QUANG DAI VILLAGE. MR. TRUYEN DID NOT GO TO THE INCIDENT LOCATION. HE HEARD THE QUANG HAI VILLAGE MILITIA BURIED THE DEAD PILOT. HE HAD NO FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THIS INCIDENT.

(B) MR. TRUYEN ALSO REMEMBERED AN AIRCRAFT CRASH IN QUANG VINH VILLAGE (WG 9181). AT FIRST, HE SAID THIS INCIDENT TOOK PLACE IN 1970 OR 1971, BUT LATER, WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF OTHER VILLAGE OFFICIALS, HE CHANGED THE INCIDENT DATE TO THE AUTUMN OF 1967 OR 1968. MR. TRUYEN HEARD THE AIRCRAFT WAS AN A-6. THE AIRCRAFT CRASHED SOUTHWEST OF SAM SON (SAAMF SOWN) MOUNTAIN. (NOTE: PAVN MAP SHEET 6148 DEPICTS A SAM SON MT. AT WG 945 807. U.S. MAP SHEET 6148-II LABELS THIS POINT AS GAM MT.) MR. TRUYEN DID NOT SEE THE PILOT EJECT FROM THE AIRCRAFT, AND SO BELIEVES THE PILOT WAS IN THE AIRCRAFT WHEN IT IMPACTED THE GROUND. HE WENT TO THE CRASH SITE THREE DAYS AFTER THE INCIDENT. HE SAW THAT THE AIRCRAFT HAD CRASHED NOSE DOWN, AND LAY IN A CRATER APPROXIMATELY THREE METERS BELOW SURFACE LEVEL. HE DID NOT RECALL ANY MARKINGS ON THE WRECKAGE. HE //

/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 002 *****/
RMKS/

HAS NEVER HEARD OF ANYONE RECOVERING REMAINS FROM THIS SITE.

(C) MR. TRUYEN SAID HE SAW MANY AIRCRAFT BURNING AND FLYING OUT TOWARDS THE OCEAN DURING THE WAR, BUT COULD NOT PROVIDE DETAILS ABOUT ANY SPECIFIC INCIDENT.

E. THE RIT NEXT TRAVELED TO QUANG HAI VILLAGE, WHERE THEY INTERVIEWED TWO ADDITIONAL WITNESSES.

- (1) NAME: MR. VIEN DINH DONG (VIEEN DINHF DONGF)
- (2) AGE: 60 YOA
- (3) CURRENT RESIDENCE AND LENGTH OF TIME AT RESIDENCE:
LIFETIME RESIDENT OF QUANG HAI VILLAGE, QUANG XUONG DISTRICT, THANH HOA PROVINCE.
- (4) WARTIME RESIDENCE: SAME AS ABOVE
- (5) CURRENT OCCUPATION: VILLAGE PARTY OFFICIAL
- (6) WARTIME OCCUPATION: DEPUTY VILLAGE CHAIRMAN
- (7) STATEMENT:

(A) MR. DONG SAID THE FIRST INCIDENT HE REMEMBERED OCCURRED AROUND 0900 ON 2 JUN 65. THE QUANG HAI VILLAGE MILITIA

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SHOT DOWN AN AD-5 AIRCRAFT THAT CRASHED IN QUANG VINH VILLAGE. THE AIRCRAFT FLEW AT A LOW LEVEL, LIKE A RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT. IT WAS NOT A BOMBER. MR. DONG HEARD THAT FOUR TO FIVE CREW MEMBERS DIED IN THIS INCIDENT WITH NO SURVIVORS. THE QUANG VINH VILLAGE MILITIA WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR BURYING THE CREW MEMBERS. MR. DONG NEVER WENT TO THE CRASH SITE HIMSELF.

(B) ANOTHER INCIDENT OCCURRED AROUND 0900 HRS ON 18 FEB 66. THE AIRCRAFT FLEW FROM THE SOUTHWEST, BURNING AND

TRAILING SMOKE, AND CRASHED IN THE OCEAN. MR. DONG SAW TWO PARACHUTES EMERGE FROM THE BURNING AIRCRAFT. BOTH PILOTS LANDED IN THE OCEAN. ONE PILOT LANDED 100 METERS FROM THE SHORE AND THE OTHER PILOT LANDED FOUR KILOMETERS FROM THE SHORE. THE VILLAGE MILITIA SENT A BOAT TO CAPTURE THE PILOT FARTHEST AWAY FIRST. THIS PILOT HAD A LIFE RAFT, AND THE MILITIA CAPTURED HIM UNHARMED. THE PILOT NEAREST THE SHORE HAD SUFFERED INJURIES TO THE LOWER HALF OF HIS BODY AND LATER DIED. MEMBERS OF THE PROVINCE MILITARY UNIT CAME AND TOOK CHARGE OF THE SURVIVING PILOT. THE DEAD PILOT WAS BURIED ONE KILOMETER FROM THE COAST IN A CEMETERY. MR. DONG DID NOT KNOW ANY PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PILOTS. MR. DONG SAID MR. TIEN TOOK PART IN THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD PILOT.

(C) A THIRD INCIDENT TOOK PLACE AROUND 0700 HRS ON 20 OCT OR NOV 66. THE AIRCRAFT FLEW FROM THE NORTHWEST, IN THE AREA OF HAM RONG BRIDGE, AND CRASHED IN THE OCEAN. MR. DONG SAW ONE PILOT PARACHUTE FROM THIS AIRCRAFT. HE DID NOT KNOW THE NAME OR RANK OF THE PILOT. HE REMEMBERED THE PILOT WAS CAUCASIAN WITH SHORT BLACK HAIR AND ABOUT 1.7 METERS IN HEIGHT. MR. DONG SAID THE CAPTURED PILOT WAS RELEASED TO THE CUSTODY OF THE PROVINCIAL UNIT.

F. WITNESS #4:

- (1) NAME: MR. NGUYEN DINH TIEN (DINH TIENS)
- (2) AGE: 56 YOA
- (3) CURRENT RESIDENCE AND LENGTH OF TIME AT RESIDENCE:
LIFELONG RESIDENT QUANG HAI VILLAGE, QUANG XUONG DISTRICT, THANH HOA PROVINCE.
- (4) WARTIME RESIDENCE: SAME AS ABOVE
- (5) CURRENT OCCUPATION: VILLAGE PARTY SECRETARY
- (6) WARTIME OCCUPATION: VILLAGE MILITIA CADRE
- (7) STATEMENT: MR. TIEN WAS PRESENT DURING MR. DONG'S

INTERVIEW. MR. TIEN CORROBORATED ALL THE INFORMATION MR. DONG PROVIDED. MR. TIEN SAID THE PILOT'S REMAINS IN THE SECOND INCIDENT WERE WRAPPED IN WHITE CLOTH AND BURIED IN A COFFIN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH VIETNAMESE CUSTOM. HE SAID DISTRICT AND PROVINCE TEAMS CAME TO THE VILLAGE AND EXHUMED THE REMAINS AT THE END OF 1973. HE SAID THEY FOUND THE FLIGHT SUIT WITH A COMPLETE SET OF REMAINS. HE BELIEVES THE REMAINS WERE REPATRIATED.

G. AFTER THE INTERVIEWS, THE JOINT TEAM TRAVELED TO THE LAST KNOWN LOCATION OF THIS INCIDENT CARRIED IN U.S. RECORDS (WG 893 785). THIS LOCATION IS 500 METERS EAST OF THE TAN DAI CEMETERY, IN QUANG DAI VILLAGE. THE TEAM SURVEYED THE AREA WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. NONE OF THE LOCAL RESIDENTS OR OFFICIALS KNOW OF ANY AMERICAN REMAINS EVER BURIED IN THE TAN DAI CEMETERY.

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H. THE RIT NEXT PROCEEDED TO THE AREA FROM WHICH, ACCORDING TO WARTIME INFORMATION, LOCAL FISHERMEN RECOVERED THE FLOATING BODY OF AN AMERICAN PILOT. THIS LOCATION, WG 905 795, LIES IN MY LAM HAMLET, QUANG HUNG VILLAGE. THE TEAM CANVASSED LOCAL RESIDENTS, INCLUDING MANY WHO HAD LIVED THERE ALL THEIR LIVES. THESE PERSONS WERE UNANIMOUS THAT NO PILOT'S BODY EVER WASHED ASHORE AND WAS BURIED IN THIS AREA.

4. MATERIAL EVIDENCE: NONE
5. SURVEY RESULTS: THE RIT SURVEYED AN ALLEGED BURIAL SITE POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH CASE 0067. SEARCH AND RECOVERY SPECIALIST OBSERVED THE FOLLOWING:

A. PROJECT LOCATION:

- (1) GRID COORDINATES 48Q WG 893 785. (ALL COORDINATES DETERMINED IN THIS REPORT USING THE GLOBAL POSITIONING SYSTEM (GPS) TRACK-

ING A MINIMUM OF THREE SATELLITES.)

(2) MAP NAME: SAM SON, 1:50,000 MAP SHEET NUMBER 6148 II, EDITION: AMS (AM), SERIES: L7014, PRINTED - 1967.

B. OUTSTANDING FEATURES: THE ALLEGED BURIAL SITE IS LOCATED WITHIN A CULTIVATED RICE FIELD WITH NO OUTSTANDING FEATURES.

C. TERRAIN: FLAT FARM LAND FLOODED BY WATER

D. SOIL CONDITIONS: VERY SOFT AND MUSHY

E. VEGETATION: RICE PLANTS

F. SURVEY METHOD: VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE

G. HAZARDS: USUAL BIOLOGICAL HAZARDS EXIST

H. RESULTS:

(1) REMAINS SEEN: NONE

(2) IDENTIFICATION MEDIA SEEN: NONE

(3) PERSONAL EFFECTS SEEN: NONE

(4) AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE SEEN: N/A

6. PERTINENT LOCATION OR DATA CHANGES: NONE

7. AREA OR CASE FILE INFORMATION NOT INVESTIGATED: NONE

8. ANALYST'S COMMENTS:

A. CORRELATIONS:

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/***** BEGINNING OF SECTION 003 *****/

RMKS/

(1) WITNESS #1: MR. TRAN HUU CAM RECOUNTED A HEARSAY INCIDENT OF AN AIRCRAFT CRASH IN QUANG HAI VILLAGE WHERE ONE PILOT DIED AND ANOTHER PILOT WAS CAPTURED. THIS INCIDENT CORRELATES WITH RESOLVED CASE 0255 BASED ON INCIDENT LOCATION AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS. WITNESS 3, MR. DONG, VERIFIED THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS.

(2) WITNESS #2: MR. NGUYEN HUY TRUYEN

(A) MR. TRUYEN RECOUNTED AN INCIDENT IN WHICH A PILOT LANDED, DIED AND WAS BURIED AT QUANG HAI VILLAGE. HE LATER SAID THIS WAS THE SAME INCIDENT RELATED BY THE FIRST WITNESS, MR. CAM. THIS INCIDENT CORRELATES WITH RESOLVED CASE 0255 BASED ON INCIDENT LOCATION AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS.

(B) MR. TRUYEN RECOUNTED AN AIRCRAFT CRASH IN QUANG VINH VILLAGE. THIS INCIDENT CORRELATES TO RESOLVED CASE 0092 BASED ON INCIDENT LOCATION.

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(3) WITNESS #3: MR. VIEN DINH DONG

(A) MR. DONG RECOUNTED AN AIRCRAFT CRASH IN QUANG VINH VILLAGE IN WHICH FOUR TO FIVE CREW MEMBERS DIED. THIS INCIDENT CORRELATES WITH RESOLVED CASE 0093 BASED ON INCIDENT DATE, LOCATION AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS.

(B) MR. DONG RECOUNTED A SECOND INCIDENT, AN AIRCRAFT CRASH AT QUANG HAI VILLAGE, IN WHICH ONE PILOT DIED AND ANOTHER PILOT WAS CAPTURED. THIS INCIDENT CORRELATES WITH RESOLVED CASE 0255 BASED ON INCIDENT DATE, LOCATION AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS.

(C) MR. DONG RECOUNTED A THIRD INCIDENT, AN AIRCRAFT CRASH AT QUANG HAI VILLAGE, IN WHICH ONE PILOT WAS CAPTURED. THIS INCIDENT CORRELATES WITH RESOLVED CASE 0499 BASED ON INCIDENT DATE, TIME, LOCATION AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS.

(4) WITNESS #4: MR. NGUYEN DINH TIEN CORROBORATED MR. DONG'S STATEMENT ABOUT THE BURIAL OF THE PILOT IN THE SECOND INCIDENT. THIS INCIDENT CORRELATES WITH RESOLVED CASE 0255 BASED ON INCIDENT DATE, LOCATION AND CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS.

B. POTENTIAL LEADS: NONE

C. WITNESS RELIABILITY: INTERVIEWERS ASSESSED THE RELIABILITY OF ALL FOUR WITNESSES AS GOOD. THEY ANSWERED ALL QUESTIONS IN AN

APPARENTLY STRAIGHTFORWARD MANNER, WITHOUT HESITATION OR RESERVATION, AND APPEARED EAGER TO ASSIST THE TEAM.

D. INTERVIEWER'S COMMENTS:

(1) THE TEAM INVESTIGATED EVERY LEAD OBTAINED THROUGH ANALYSIS OF THE CASE 0067 FILE, BUT OBTAINED NO INFORMATION ABOUT THE CASE. LIFELONG RESIDENTS OF QUANG DAI VILLAGE CONFIRMED THAT NO U.S. AIRCRAFT EVER CRASHED IN THE VILLAGE, NOR WAS ANY PILOT EVER BURIED THERE. THE TEAM SURVEYED BOTH THE LAST KNOWN LOCATION IN U.S. RECORDS (WG 893 785) AND THE TAN DAI CEMETERY, FINDING NO EVIDENCE OF THE GRAVE OF AN AMERICAN. LIFELONG RESIDENTS OF MY LAM HAMLET, QUANG HUNG VILLAGE HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF A U.S. PILOT'S BODY WASHING ASHORE.

(2) THE FIELD ASSESSMENTS IN THIS REPORT DO NOT CONSTITUTE FINAL ANALYTICAL CONCLUSIONS.

9. SEARCH AND RECOVERY SPECIALIST COMMENTS: THE TEAM SEARCHED THE AREAS IN THE VICINITY OF GC WG 893 785 BUT FOUND NO EVIDENCE OF A GRAVE SITE.

10. TEAM CHIEF'S COMMENTS:

A. DURING THIS INVESTIGATION THE TEAM RECEIVED EXCELLENT SUPPORT FROM THE VIETNAMESE CENTRAL, PROVINCIAL, AND DISTRICT GOVERNMENT CONTINGENTS.

B. AGREE WITH ANALYST/INTERVIEWER'S COMMENTS.

11. RECOMMENDED FUTURE ACTIONS: NONE//

ADMIN

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