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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~

DIST: 04 SEPTEMBER 1987

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COUNTRY: VIETNAM

SUBJ: POM/RIA: GRAVE SITE OF AN ALLEGED U.S. AIRMAN AT
HUNG THUY VILLAGE, HUNG NGUYEN DISTRICT, NGHE TINH
PROVINCE, AS OF LATE MAY 1966-MARCH 1985

DOI: LATE OCTOBER 1966-MARCH 1985

SOURCE:

TEXT: 1. ABOUT 0800 HOURS ONE DAY IN LATE OCTOBER 1966, ONE ALLEGED AMERICAN AIRCRAFT CRASHED ON AN ISLAND (WF 7763) IN THE CA RIVER. THE AIRMAN WAS BURNED BEYOND RECOGNITION. HE APPARENTLY WAS A CAUCASIAN, ABOUT 1.8 METERS TALL AND BIG. THE MILITIA MOVED HIS REMAINS TO THE NORTHERN BANK. HE WAS BURIED IN A PLASTIC BAG ON THE SOUTHERN OUTSKIRTS OF THE GRAVEYARD SOUTHEAST OF HUNG THUY VILLAGE (WF 7463), HUNG NGUYEN DISTRICT, NGHE TINH PROVINCE. THE GRAVEYARD IS ABOUT 1.8 KILOMETERS NORTH-NORTHWEST OF THE OIL DEPOT ON THE CA RIVER BANK AND THREE KILOMETERS NORTH OF THE BEN THUY FERRY (WF 7581). THE REMAINS WERE BURIED BY (FNU) ((NGA)), BORN 1945; CAO THI ((QUE)), BORN 1947; AND CAO THI ((PHUONG)), BORN 1940. ALL THREE WERE FEMALE AND WERE THE LEADER OF THE RESCUE TEAM, A MEMBER OF THE VILLAGE MILITARY UNIT AND SECRETARY OF THE PARTY YOUTH UNION, RESPECTIVELY. AS OF MARCH 1985, THE GRAVE WAS STILL AT THE ABOVE LOCATION AND THE THREE WOMEN WERE STILL IN THE VILLAGE. PHUONG'S FATHER IS NOW SECRETARY OF THE VILLAGE PARTY COMMITTEE.

2. ACCORDING TO THE LOCAL AIR OBSERVATION TEAM, ONE F-8 AND ONE A-3J FIRST CAME FROM THE MOUTH OF THE NOI RIVER (WF 8274) TO RECONNOITER. ABOUT ONE HOUR LATER TWO A-6A'S AND FOUR A-4'S CAME TO BOMB THE BEN THUY FERRY, ROUTE ONE, AND THE LOCATIONS OF THE NGUYEN VIET XUAN BATTALION AND THE 233RD REGIMENT. THE DOWNED AIRCRAFT WAS BELIEVED TO BE AN A-6A.

3. COMMENT:

ACTION DIA/SPEC(8)

(1.W)

BURIAL CASES WERE NO LONGER REPORTED TO HANOI UNLESS WAS DOCUMENTATION THAT THE AIRCRAFT WERE INVOLVED IN INTELLIGENCE/RECONNAISSANCE MISSIONS. THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, HOWEVER, HAD TO KEEP RECORDS OF ALL INCIDENTS. IN MARCH 1985, TOLD HIM THE GRAVE WAS STILL AT ITS LOCATION. DATE OF THE AIRMAN'S DEATH WAS ESTIMATED BASED ON THE TIME OF BLOOMING OF THE RICE PLANTS IN THE AREA, THE NINTH LUNAR MONTH OCTOBER.)

4. COMMENT:

ACQ: (LATE AUGUST 1987).

DISSEM: NONE.

WASHINGTON DISSEM:

TO WHSTON: EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR,
WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM
TO STATE EXCLUSIVE FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY, INR
TO DIA EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR, DIA
TO NSA EXCLUSIVE FOR THE DIRECTOR, NSA

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