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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: CAPTURE OF ONE U.S. PILOT AND BURIAL
OF ANOTHER IN THANH HOA PROVINCE

1. SOME TIME BEFORE MID-1968 A U.S. F-105 AIRCRAFT, WHICH WAS ACCOMPANIED BY AN UNIDENTIFIED SECOND AIRCRAFT, WAS SHOT DOWN AT 1500 HOURS IN THE AREA OF QUANG YEN VILLAGE, QUANG YONG DISTRICT, THANH HOA PROVINCE, NORTH VIETNAM.

COMMENT: [REDACTED], WHO LIVED IN THIS VILLAGE AND OBSERVED WHAT IS RECOUNTED BELOW, WAS UNABLE TO RECALL THE DATE OR YEAR OF THIS INCIDENT, OTHER THAN THAT IT OCCURRED IN THE PERIOD 1965-MID-1968.) THE WRECKAGE SITE OF THE F-105 AIRCRAFT WAS LOCATED ABOUT ONE KILOMETER SOUTH OF THE TAN (OR TAY) SAT RAILROAD STATION AT YEN THAI HAMLET ALONG THE MAJOR RAILWAY LINE FROM HANOI AND 300 METERS EAST OF THE RAILROAD IN YEN THAI HAMLET. THE AIRPLANE WAS SHOT DOWN BY PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM (PAVN) UNITS POSITIONED ALONG THE RAILWAY. THE OSTENSIBLE TARGETS OF THE SORTIE WERE THE CAU VAY BRIDGE ON PROVINCIAL ROUTE TEN AND THE RAILROAD STATION. AT 0900 HOURS THE FOLLOWING MORNING, U.S. HELICOPTER WAS OBSERVED IN THE AREA. ONE AMERICAN WHO WAS CAPTURED BY PAVN PERSONNEL HAD ALREADY BEEN SENT TO THANH HOA CITY, APPROXIMATELY 11 MILES AWAY. A SECOND AMERICAN WAS DEAD ON IMPACT IN THIS CRASH. COMMENT: APPARENTLY THIS WAS THE ONLY CRASH IN THIS VILLAGE DURING THE 1965-MID-1968 PERIOD.)

2. BOTH PILOTS WERE CAUCASIANS OF AVERAGE HEIGHT, OF THIN BUILD, WITH BLONDISH-BROWN HAIR, AND OVER 30 YEARS OF AGE. THE PRISONER OF WAR (POW) HAD BEEN ISSUED PRISON CLOTHES WHEN OBSERVED SEVERAL HOURS AFTER THE CRASH. THE LOCAL RESIDENTS HAD INITIALLY ABUSED THE POW AND HE APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN HIT ON THE FACE WITH A ROCK.

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3. A DETAIL WAS FORMED FOR THE BURIAL OF THE DEAD PILOT, WHOSE BODY WAS TRANSPORTED TO THE QUANG YEN VILLAGE BURIAL SITE (BAI THA MA) LOCATED IN A RICE GROWING AREA IN YEN THAI VILLAGE. THE DEAD AMERICAN WAS BURIED AT THE NORTHEAST PERIMETER OF THE GRAVEYARD AMONG COMMUNAL UNMARKED GRAVES. COMMENT: IDENTIFICATION AND RECOVERY OF THE REMAINS OF THE DEAD PILOT WOULD PROBABLY BE ALMOST IMPOSSIBLE. COMMENT: WAS UNABLE TO EXPLAIN WHY THERE WERE TWO PILOTS BUT ONLY ONE OBSERVED AIRCRAFT CRASH SITE.)

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