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TO: DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE, DIA, WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM,

SERIAL

PASS:

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT CLASS ~~SECRET~~

DIST: 25 SEPTEMBER 1987

EXCLUSIVE DISSEMINATION TO ADDRESSEES LISTED AT END OF REPORT

COUNTRY: VIETNAM

SUBJ: POW/MIA: CAPTURE OF AN ALLEGED U.S. AIRMAN AT KHE VE CREEK ON THE BORDER OF THE FORMER PROVINCES OF QUANG BINH AND HA TINH, ABOUT AUTUMN 1966; DEATH OF THE AIRMAN FROM WOUNDS THREE DAYS LATER

DOI: ABOUT AUTUMN 1966

SOURCE:

TEXT: 1. ABOUT AUTUMN 1966, AN ALLEGED BLACK U.S. AIRMAN BECAME ENTANGLED IN A TREE AT KHE VE CREEK WHEN HE PARACHUTED DOWN AND HIS AIRCRAFT CRASHED AT KHE TANG NEARBY. HE WAS CAPTURED. HIS RIGHT LEG WAS BROKEN. HE WAS ABOUT 1.75 METERS TALL, IN HIS 30'S, HAD A BEARD AND CLAIMED TO BE A LIEUTENANT. HE WAS TAKEN TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE NEAREST VANGUARD YOUTH UNIT. HE WAS REPORTED DEAD FROM WOUNDS THREE DAYS LATER. THE CREEKS OF KHE VE AND KHE TANG ARE ON STRATEGIC TRAIL 15B, ABOUT 26 KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST OF KY ANH TOWN (XF 3609), HA TINH (NOW PART OF NGHE TINH) PROVINCE, NEAR THE BORDER WITH QUANG BINH (NOW PART OF BINH TRI THIEN) PROVINCE.

2. COMMENT:

HE HAPPENED TO WITNESS THE AIRMAN'S CAPTURE. WHEN HE RETURNED TO THE AREA LATER, HE WAS TOLD OF THE AIRMAN'S DEATH. HE DID NOT

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KNOW THE TYPE OF THE AIRCRAFT THAT WAS DOWNED OR THE DISPOSITION OF THE AIRMAN'S BODY. HE INDICATED ON A MAP THAT KHE TANG AND KHE VE SHOULD BE AT THE APPROXIMATE COORDINATES XE 1590, AND ADDED THAT THE DISTANCE FROM KY ANH TO THE BEGINNING OF THE HO CHI MINH TRAIL TO THE SOUTH WAS 36 KILOMETERS. IT WAS THE END OF THE RAINY SEASON AND THE BEGINNING OF THE DRY SEASON. VANGUARD YOUTH UNIT WAS LED BY ONE NATIVE OF THAI BINH PROVINCE AND ONE FROM HAI HUNG PROVINCE.)

3. [] COMMENT: []

ACQ: [] (LATE SEPTEMBER 1987). []

DISSEM: []

WASHINGTON DISSEM:

TO WHSITRM: 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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DECL: OADR DRV [] BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER. ALL PORTIONS
CARRY CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.>
ORIG/REL: []
NNNNEND OF MESSAGE

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