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DIST: 04 AUGUST 1987

EXCLUSIVE DISSEMINATION TO ADDRESSEES LISTED AT END OF REPORT

COUNTRY: VIETNAM

SUBJ: POW/MIA: DEATH OF AN ALLEGED U.S. AIRMAN ON DONG
CHEN ISLAND, CAI BAU DISTRICT, QUANG BINH PROVINCE,
IN 1970; DISCOVERY OF HIS REMAINS IN 1974
DOI: 1970-1974

SOURCE:

TEXT: 1. IN 1970, EXACT DATE NOT KNOWN, AN ALLEGED U.S. AIRMAN
BAILED OUT OF HIS AIRCRAFT OVER THE UNINHABITED ISLAND OF DONG CHEN
(APPROXIMATE COORDINATES YJ 5820), CAI BAU DISTRICT, QUANG BINH
PROVINCE, AND PROBABLY DIED WHEN HIS PARACHUTE BECAME ENTANGLED IN
THE TREES. AS OF 1974 HIS REMAINS FORMED A HEAP AT THE FOOT OF A
TREE ON WHICH A WHITE PIECE OF PARACHUTE STILL HUNG. THE TREE WAS
ABOUT HALF AN HOUR WALK FROM A BEACH WHERE SMALL FISHING BOATS LANDED
AND MOORED.

2. COMMENT: SAW THE PILE OF
BONES IN 1974 WHEN WENT INTO
THE JUNGLE ON DONG CHEN ISLAND TO GATHER FIRE WOOD.
 TOLD THEM THAT IN 1970 A BURNING AIRCRAFT CRASHED
NEAR DONG CHEN AND AN AIRMAN BAILED OUT. HE KNEW OF THE BONES AND
ASSUMED THAT THE BODY HAD DECOMPOSED NATURALLY BECAUSE THE ISLAND WAS
UNINHABITED AND THE DENSE FOREST IS OFF-LIMITS BY STATE REGULATION.
HE CALLED THE REMAINS "THE HEAP OF A WESTERN PHANTOM'S BONES."

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ACTION DIA/SPEC(8)
INFO CJCS(5) SECDEF-(1) USDP-(5)

(I.M)

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