

SECRET

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PTTUZYUW RUEKJCS2456 2041212-UUUU--RUEALGX.
ZNR UUUUUHEADERP 231212Z JUL 91
FM JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
INFO RUEALGX/SAFE
P R 231203Z JUL 91
FM FBIS BANGKOK TH
TO RUCWAAA/FBIS RESTON VA
RUDKMKB/FBIS LONDON UK//BBC//
INFO RAYWBF/ONA CANBERRA AS
RAYWDA/DIO CANBERRA AS
RHHMBRA/JICPC HONOLULU HI
RUAJMAB/FOSIF WESTPAC KAMI SEYA JA
RUGIPGA/HQ AFESC TYNDALL AFB FL//DEHM//
RUDPMA/FAISA FT BRAGG NC
RUEACMC/CMC WASH DC//MSPA-1 INTC//
RUEACNP/COMNAVMILPERSCOM WASH DC//NMPC-12//
RUEADWD/CSA WASHINGTON DC//DAAG-CAD//
RUEAHQA/AFIA WASHINGTON DC
RUEBHAA/STORAGE CENTER FBIS RESTON VA
RUEHBT/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR/EAP//
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//D/PW//
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//EAP/VLC//
RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC//INR/SEA//
RUEKJCS/DEFINTAGENCY WASH DC
RUEOACC/CDR PSYOPGP FT BRAGG NC//ASOF-POG-SB//
RUETIAV/MPC FT GEO G MEADE MD
RUHDBKT/DATT-TLO BANGKOK TH
RUHQHQA/USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI
RULWIOC/SAC INTELLIGENCE OPS CNT. OFFUTT AFB NE
RUMJBP/FBIS OKINAWA JA
RUMTFS/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
RUWSMXI/MAC INTEL CEN SCOTT AFB IL//INO//
ACCT FBBK-EWDK

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CONTROLS

UNCLAS 4N

WARNING: ATTN BANGKOK AE
ATTN BANGKOK LOCAL

SERIAL: BK2307120391

BODY

PASS: ATTN POL

COUNTRY: SRV

SUBJ: RADIO COMMENTS ON PHOTOGRAPH OF U.S. MIAS

REF: BK2007150691 HANOI VNA ENGLISH 201429 -- FOREIGN MINISTRY

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NOTE TO U.S. ON PHOTO OF MIA'S

SOURCE: HANOI VOICE OF VIETNAM IN ENGLISH 1000 GMT 23 JUL 91
TEXT:

//((STATION COMMENTARY))

((TEXT)) CONTROVERSY HAS BEEN RAISED BY THE U.S. PRESS AROUND A PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING THREE AMERICAN PILOTS MISSING IN THE INDOCHINESE WAR SAID TO BE ALIVE. OUR RADIO GIVES THE FOLLOWING VIEWS ON THE ISSUE:

THE PHOTOGRAPH SHOWING THREE AMERICAN PILOTS MISSING IN THE INDOCHINA WAR IS BEING MUCH PUBLICIZED IN THE UNITED STATES, CAUSING CONTROVERSY AMONG THE PRESS ON THE FATE OF THESE AMERICAN SERVICEMEN. SOME SAY THAT THEY ARE STILL ALIVE. THE PRODUCER OF THIS PHOTOGRAPH, STILL UNIDENTIFIED, AFFIRMED THAT THOSE SERVICEMEN ARE STILL ALIVE AND ARE BEING DETAINED BY THE VIETNAMESE SIDE.

THESE OPINIONS FORCE US TO GO BACK TO FILES ON THIS ISSUE. ACCORDING TO FILES GIVEN TO HANOI BY WASHINGTON, AIR FORCE MAJOR ALBRO LUNDY AND NAVY LIEUTENANT LARRY STEVENS WERE SHOT DOWN OVER LAOS IN 1966 AND 1969 AND HAD BEEN LISTED AS KILLED IN ACTION. AIR FORCE COLONEL JOHN ROBERTSON IDENTIFIED BY RELATIVES IN THE UNITED STATES AS THE THIRD MAN IN THE PHOTOGRAPH WAS KILLED WHEN HIS F4C CRASHED IN HAI HUNG PROVINCE IN NORTH VIETNAM ON SEPTEMBER 16, 1966. A JOINT VIETNAMESE-AMERICAN SEARCH IN FEBRUARY AND MARCH LAST YEAR DETERMINED THAT ROBERTSON HAD BEEN KILLED AND HIS REMAINS HAD MOSTLY BEEN DESTROYED IN THE CRASH. SOME OF HIS REMAINS COLLECTED AT THE PLACE WHERE HIS AIRCRAFT CRASHED WERE RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES OCTOBER 1 LAST YEAR. MEANWHILE, ROBERTSON'S CO-PILOT [REDACTED] HAD PARACHUTED TO THE GROUND AND HAD BEEN CAPTURED AND LATER RELEASED TO THE UNITED STATES.

EVIDENTLY, THE NEWS ABOUT THE THREE AMERICAN PILOTS SHOWN IN THE PHOTOGRAPH MUCH PUBLICIZED IN THE UNITED STATES SAYING THAT THEY ARE STILL ALIVE IS GROUNDLESS.

VIETNAM HAS REITERATED THAT ALL AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR CAPTURED IN THE VIETNAM WAR WERE RETURNED TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT AFTER THE PARIS AGREEMENT ON VIETNAM. AT PRESENT, SOME FIGURES IN THE AMERICAN POLITICAL CIRCLES HAVE AGREED WITH THESE CONCLUSIONS MADE BY VIETNAM.

IN ITS JULY 21 EVENING BROADCAST, THE VOICE OF AMERICA QUOTED CONGRESSMAN STEPHEN SOLARZ AS AFFIRMING THAT THE PHOTOGRAPH IS FAKED. HE ALSO SAID THAT THOSE PILOTS SHOT DOWN EITHER IN VIETNAM OR LAOS ARE NO LONGER ALIVE. MR. SOLARZ DREW AMERICAN PUBLIC ATTENTION ON THE FACT THAT THE PHOTOGRAPH MADE PUBLIC LAST WEEK WAS JUST AN ATTEMPT OF THE OPPORTUNISTS WHO WERE MISUSING THE WORRISS AND SORROW OF AMERICAN PERSONNEL'S FAMILIES.

IN HIS VISIT TO VIETNAM IN MAY THIS YEAR, AMERICAN SENATOR JOHN KERRY SAID THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE THE OPINION SAYING THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT STILL DETAINS AMERICAN SERVICEMEN IN THE VIETNAM WAR.

THESE ARE CRYSTAL FACTS. AS THIS IS A HUMANITARIAN QUESTION, VIETNAM IS READY TO COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED STATES TO MAKE CLEAR THE MATTER RELATING TO THAT PHOTOGRAPH. VIETNAM URGES THE UNITED STATES TO ENSURE THAT WHOEVER MADE PUBLIC THE PHOTOGRAPH COOPERATE

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WITH THE UNITED STATES AND THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT TO CLEAR UP THE QUESTION.

AS POINTED BY A LETTER SENT TO THE U.S. BY THE VIETNAMESE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON JULY 20, IF THEY REFUSE TO COOPERATE IN THE INVESTIGATION OF THIS, IT WOULD BE CLEAR EVIDENCE OF THEIR MONEY-MAKING INTENTION IN PRODUCING THE FAKED PHOTOGRAPH AND SHOULD BE PUNISHED AND CONDEMNED BEFORE PUBLIC OPINION FOR INTENTIONAL PROLONGATION OF THE MIA FAMILIES' SUFFERINGS.

THOUGH IN THE PROCESS OF SETTLING THE MIA QUESTION, THERE HAD BEEN MANY ILL-INTENTIONED NEWS REPORTS ABOUT VIETNAM, VIETNAM STILL PERSISTS IN ITS EFFORT TO POSITIVELY SOLVE THE ISSUE. AT PRESENT, VIETNAM IS CARRYING OUT JOINT SEARCHES WITH THE UNITED STATES FOR AMERICANS MISSING IN THE VIETNAM WAR. SO FAR, VIETNAM HAS ON 34 OCCASIONS RETURNED TO THE U.S. 452 SETS OF REMAINS.

ADMIN

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