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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: The Capture of One U.S. Airman and the Burial of
Another in Quang Ninh Province in 1968

TEXT: 1. Between 1000 and 1100 hours on a day in May or June 1968, the lead jet of a three-aircraft flight formation of U.S. military planes was shot down by a People's Army of Vietnam (PAVN) surface-to-air missile in Cong Hao Village, south of Quang Yen, the provincial seat of Quang Ninh Province, in what is now called the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The jet was hit just after the formation had bombed the Dong Bi electric power plant and was en route back to sea.

2. Two U.S. pilots bailed out from the downed aircraft. One pilot, who suffered a broken left jaw, was captured by local militia and carried on a stretcher to a clinic in Quang Yen. Local militia reported soon afterwards that the injured pilot was evacuated elsewhere for treatment. The second U.S. pilot died after parachuting to the ground and was buried close to where he landed. Personnel of the local militia unit said the buried U.S. pilot was a major and that on his body they had found a picture of himself and his wife and son. The gravesite was located adjacent to a dirt trail, about one kilometer (km) west of National Route 10 in Cong Hao village. To reach the gravesite one traveled south on National Route 10 about seven km beyond Quang Yen, and then west on the dirt trail for another kilometer to the gravesite; the actual site was located a few meters to the right of the trail. The site of the plane crash was about one km to the left of the trail, opposite the gravesite. [redacted] comment: It was not known whether the dead pilot's body was exhumed after the end of the Vietnam War in 1975.]

SECRET - [redacted]

DECL: OADR DRV [redacted] BY RECORDED REPORTING OFFICER. ALL
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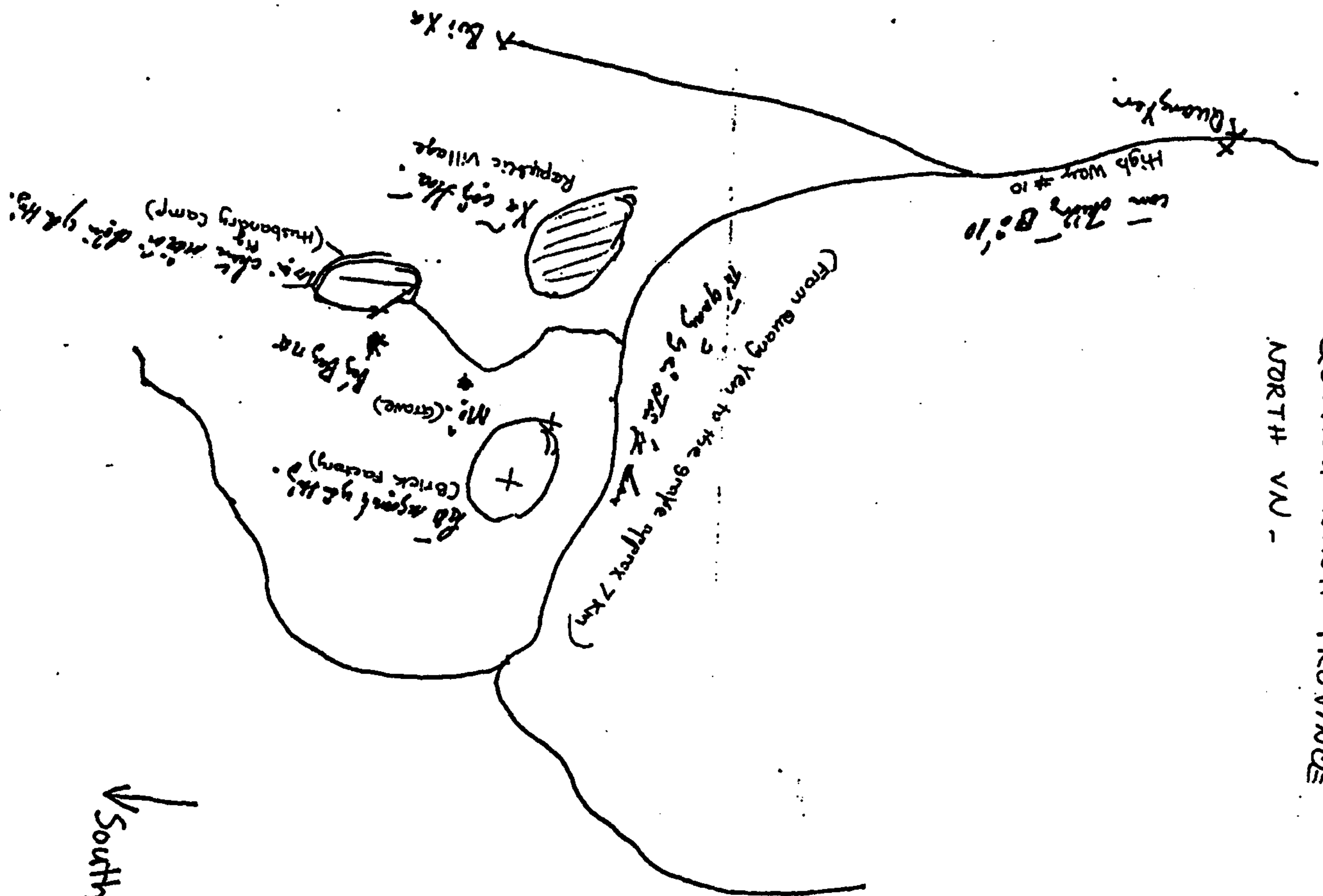
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QUANG NINH PROVINCE
NORTH VN



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