

SECRET -

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: THE CRASH OF U.S. AIRCRAFT IN HAI DUONG PROVINCE IN APRIL 1966 AND BURIAL OF PILOT THERE.

1. IN APRIL 1966, THREE FORMATIONS OF U.S. AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT WERE OBSERVED FROM THE BANKS OF THE VAN UC RIVER BOMBING THE VICINITY OF NIEN HAO VILLAGE, KIM THANH DISTRICT, HAI DUONG PROVINCE, NORTH VIETNAM. ONE OF THE THREE PLANES FLYING IN THE THIRD FORMATION WAS SHOT DOWN BY A SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILE (SAM) AND CRASHED IN A RICE PADDY IN DONG HA HAMLET, NIEN HOA VILLAGE, KIM THANH DISTRICT (20-55N, 106-30E - NOW RENAMED KIM MON), HAI DUONG PROVINCE (NOW RENAMED HAI HUNG). THE PLANE, WHICH WAS BELIEVED TO BE EITHER AN F-105 OR AN F-4H, BURNED UPON IMPACT. LOCAL MILITIA AND SECURITY FORCES IMMEDIATELY CORDONED OFF THE CRASH SITE THE SAME DAY AND THAT EVENING A TRUCK ARRIVED TO CARRY AWAY THE BURNED AIRFRAME. THE PILOT'S BODY, WHICH WAS ALSO BURNED, WAS BURIED IN THE LOCALITY OF THE CRASH SITE.

COMMENT: THE SOURCE DID NOT INDICATE WHETHER HE SAW THE GRAVE OR LEARNED OF IT FROM SOMEONE ELSE. NIEN HAO OR NIEN HOA VILLAGE IN FORMER HAI DUONG PROVINCE IS UNLOCATED.)

2. THE PILOT'S BODY WAS NOT EXHUMED WHEN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (SRV) AND U.S. GOVERNMENTS ENTERED INTO NEGOTIATIONS AFTER 1976 FOR THE RETURN OF THE REMAINS OF U.S. SERVICEMEN BURIED IN THE SRV. COMMENT: THE REFUGEE REGULARLY RETURNED TO THE CRASH AREA ON ANNUAL VISITS FOR THE TET LUNAR NEW YEAR HOLIDAY AND TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE THE PILOT'S REMAINS WERE STILL BURIED IN THE ORIGINAL GRAVE AS OF EARLY 1982.)

REPORT CLASS SECRET -

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