



# **POW-MIA FACT BOOK**



**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**OCTOBER 1992**

EXHIBIT 21

000060



## ENCE OF CAPTURE OF UNRETURNED U.S. PERSONNEL

Following are examples of cases in which Americans were last seen under circumstances which clearly indicate the governments should have information on their fate. The capture of these is substantiated by evidence such as post-capture photography, reports, propaganda broadcasts, intelligence reports, etc. These are only a small sample of Americans carried as discrepancy cases, some last known alive, which are prioritized for joint investigation in the country of loss.

PERSON

M



Col Anderson's F-4 aircraft was downed over North Vietnam on October 6, 1972. He and his back seater were ejected and were in radio contact with rescue forces. Anderson said, "I have a good parachute, am in good shape and can see no enemy forces on the ground." Radio Hanoi reported the capture of a number of U.S. pilots that day, yet Anderson's plane was the only one lost. His back seater was immediately captured and released during "Operation Homecoming" the following year.

DEBRUIN

AN

S



Captured in September 1963, DeBruin was photographed with his surviving crewmembers (all foreign nationals) and in later years was joined by other Americans. In 1966, one of the Americans and a Thai national successfully escaped from the Pathet Lao and provided information on DeBruin. The Lao Government has recently participated with U.S. officials to conduct field investigations, however, the results to date are inconclusive.

DAVID HRDLICKA  
USAF  
LAOS



After bailing out of his plane over Laos in May 1965, Col Hrdlicka was seen on the ground and a flight member circling above believed he saw the American being led away by his captors. Information obtained from nearby villagers and "ralliers" indicated Hrdlicka was a prisoner. His captivity was further substantiated by a photograph published in a Soviet newspaper and a May 1966 broadcast of a recording he allegedly made. Intelligence reports indicate that he died in captivity. This case has been the subject of repeated joint investigations, thus far without success.

PHILIP TERRILL  
JAMES SALLEY  
USA  
VIETNAM



In March 1971 Viet Cong and Hanoi radio broadcasts recounting the capture of Americans appear to describe the circumstances surrounding the loss of SP5 Terrill and MSGT Salley. In addition to sighting reports of the two men, their status was confirmed by former U.S. POWs who said both men died after capture. Salley was on the Viet Cong died in captivity list, but Terrill was not. Both are still unaccounted for.







REGIONAL  
INTERNATIONAL  
SECURITY AFFAIRS

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-2400

DEC 2 1993

In reply refer to:  
I-93/56130

Mrs. Carol Hrdlicka

DATA

Dear Mrs. Hrdlicka:

This is in reply to your letter of October 14, 1993, to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Regional Security Affairs concerning allegations of misstatements and avoidance of your requests for information on the case of your husband, Colonel David Hrdlicka.

During the past several months, written responses have been prepared by the Defense POW/MIA Office in reply to each of your requests for information. These have included requests directly from you, requests through the Air Force casualty office, Freedom of Information requests, and requests referred from other agencies to me on your behalf. I have reviewed each of your requests and personally validated the information in the responses, whether they were signed by me or by others in the chain of command. Dated copies of each of these replies are placed in your husband's file for historical purposes. Each response has been as thorough as our knowledge of the known facts in his case has permitted. Apart from this, all other information in our possession that relates to Colonel Hrdlicka has been provided to you. I regret that you feel this is inadequate.

To summarize again the known facts in Colonel Hrdlicka's case: on 18 May 1965, his F-105 aircraft was hit by ground fire while over Houa Phan (formerly Sam Neua) Province, Laos. He ejected successfully and parachuted to the ground. Other flight members saw him being led away by people in the area of his landing. Intense ground fire prevented rescue aircraft from entering the area. A U.S. helicopter landed in a nearby friendly village where the inhabitants reported that he had been captured and taken away by the Pathet Lao. Several months later, a post-capture photograph of Colonel Hrdlicka appeared in the Soviet newspaper Pravda. In July 1966, the Vietnamese newspaper, Quan Doi Nhan Dan, featured a story on his capture, and a tape recording allegedly made by him was broadcast by Pathet Lao radio. Subsequent information indicates that he was held in caves in the vicinity of Ban Nakay Teu and Ban Nakay Neua, Laos. Regrettably, intelligence reporting indicates that he died in captivity in the mid-1960s, and was buried near the cave complex.

EXHIBIT 22

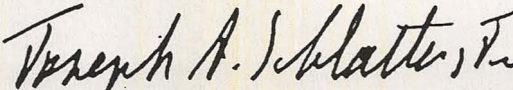
000062



In April 1991, a joint U.S.--Lao recovery team visited the cave area where Colonel Hrdlicka was likely held and searched the location for a grave. The area searched was based upon information provided unilaterally by the Lao Government, as well as first-hand and hearsay information provided by other Lao sources. While these investigations did not produce his remains, his case continues to be a high-priority in the ongoing efforts to account for our missing in action from the war in Southeast Asia. Colonel Hrdlicka figures prominently in our negotiations with the Lao Government.

I hope you will understand how earnestly we are seeking the answers to the fate of our missing men.

Sincerely,

  
Joseph A. Schlatter, Jr.  
Colonel, USA  
Acting Deputy Director  
(POW/MIA Affairs)

CC:  
ASD/RSA  
U.S. Air Force casualty office

000063



JAN 17 '96 09:55AM

P.2

(illustration)

## In the Jungles of Central and Southern Laos

EXHIBIT 23

000064



321  
SHCH36

Artist V. Kochkin

Shedrov, Ivan Mikhaelovich

THE PARTISAN PATH OF LAOS: Recollections of Laotian  
Friends who were returning a bright future to a country of a  
million elephants and white awnings. M., "Young Guard",  
1970.

112 s.[pages] with ill. ("Rovesnik")

Editor I. Saboea

Artistic Editor I. Korodeynikov

Technical Editor U. Boyko

Sent for typesetting 27 Jan 1970 g.[year] sent to press 22  
May 1970 g.[year] L02624. Format 84x108 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>32</sub>. Paper No 2.  
Pech. l. 3,5 (usl. 5,88) + 8 vkl. Uch.-izd. l. 9,7. Tirazh  
60,000 ekz.[copies] Price 34 kopecks T.P. 1970 g.[year] No.  
169. Order 2900.

Press of the publishing house of the TSK VLKSM[Central  
Committee of the All-Union Lenin Young Communist  
League]"Young Guard", Moscow, A-30, Sushchevskaya[street  
name], 21.

000065



## Washington's Air War

The dim glow of the kerosene lamp won back a small lighted space from the endless semi-darkness of the cavern. The grotto beneath the gigantic one hundred meter stone boulder serves simultaneously as a refuge and a living space. Here is one's routine in life. Quiet now, it is possible to feast one's eyes through the broad apertures upon a quaint mountain landscape. Since the start of the latest air raids, all the inhabitants are retiring by way of the gloomy rock passageway to the humid interior of the cavern, where the light and the sound of battle cannot penetrate. In the sixth year of the war hundreds of thousands of Laotians live in such conditions. However it is not what it seems. This is a special cavern. The cavern's peculiarity is the work of "cave architecture", which has sprung up quite recently in the bleak war time conditions. This is a kind of experiment. In 1968, under a decision of the TSK PFL (Central Committee of the Laotian Patriotic Front), a special composite construction brigade was established. They are occupied, as well as conditions permit, in preparing well built, "multi-level mountain buildings." Demolition experts start the work and carpenters, joiners and painters complete it. We were already able to visit large "well-built mountain skyscrapers" - a military hospital, quarters, of the central organizations of the PFL. Our cavern was called the Hotel "Friendship". April 1969, the date of opening, was written on the walls. We, the delegation of the Union of journalists of the USSR - I. Loboda of Izvestiya, a Kievian from RATAU [Ukrainian News Agency] V. Eremko, and myself - the first permanent members of the delegation. Here in the cavern there is a restaurant, a movie theater, a living area separating one from another by curtains, and a safe bomb shelter in the depths of the cavern. But even here through the apertures of the cavern the caustic smoke of something burning penetrates, a reminder that tragedy is commonplace for these places.

A half-hour ago we heard the far off sound of aircraft engines. Without even peering into the foggy horizon, our Laotian escort Suktavong determined: "AD-6 from an aircraft carrier of the American Seventh Fleet. You need to be careful with him. He is most often used as a controller. He spots the targets and then calls the fighter-bombers." At high altitude a Naval Scout makes one sinister circle after another, he doesn't disappear from our field of vision behind the ridge, in whose depths our grotto is located. In a few seconds a fallen bomb explodes approximately 300



meters directly in front of us along side of the inhabited cavern. Thick, black streaks of fire and smoke swiftly began to crawl in various directions and then roll up into large, low, mushroom clouds over the valley. Cries for help are heard from the neighboring cavern, but anti-personnel bombs cover them up. A fatal whirlwind raged for about 20 minutes. "The Yanks" dropped 8 containers- nearly 900 thousand flying steel fragments in a small clearing with a radius of 300-400 meters. Hugging the humid rock wall of the cavern we silently observed one more bandit raid. Only after half an hour were they finally able to bring down the flames and get rid of the evidence of the raid. No one was injured in our grotto. Only the "Gazinki"[Lorries] which were hidden in the bushes were punctured by fragments.

This time the criminals left unpunished, but the people's retribution is catching up with them more frequently. I happened to have the occasion to meet with several of the pilots who were taken prisoner in northern Laos and to hear their confessions. Here is one of these meetings.

In the middle of the cavern there is a long table. On it are small porcelain cups with fragrant green tea, dishes of candy and three kerosene lamps. At the table there are about fifteen people. Several managed to take off their Brownings and Colts, hanging them on the crossbeam alongside the table. The others placed their weapons on the back of the benches.

The short Laotian is addressing those gathered:

-Comrades, friends, brothers! Allow me to open the press conference, organized by the departments of propaganda and agitation of the TSK PFL. At this conference we will discuss the new measures being taken by the USA to broaden the armed intervention in our country and will get to know an American pilot, who was shot down over Laos. I give the floor to Sisan Sisane, a member of the TSK PFL.

We do not intend to have the same sort of press conference - he says. Therefore, today I would like to briefly give a general overview of the situation.

Those who are present know about the situation that has developed in Laos over the past several years. Since the first days of peace and afterwards, the days of war, we witnessed for ourselves the rapidly developing events. More than once, fate has taken us with several of the correspondents who are sitting here, on the front lines of Laos. More than once we have been bombed and shared the last bowl of rice in the gray dismal caves. Almost all have come here from the regions near the front, going tens and even hundreds of kilometers on broken and eroded roads.

In a few minutes we will hear from an American pilot shot down in this region. His name is Dehvid Luis Khrdlika.



He is a Captain in the United States Air Force. He flew from the American base in Tahkli in neighboring Thailand. He was the lead aircraft in a group of three jet-powered F-105 fighter bombers. Having bombed a marked objective, right here in the province of Sam-Nea, Khrdlicka was shot down by an anti-aircraft battery while en route home. This was the fourth and final combat mission for the American Captain. "I admit, - the voice of the pilot was heard in the entire cavern, - that I took part in the aggression against the peaceful Laotian people, who are carrying on a just struggle. While a prisoner I was given modern medical treatment. I have been well treated. I ask for forgiveness..." The son of a Czech immigrant who abandoned his native land in the search of good fortune, became a mercenary and war criminal.

The article on Dehvid Luis Khrdlicka and his prison mates was published in Pravda along with a photograph. Several months later I received a letter from California. Mrs. Dzheyms Dzh. Ehvans wrote, that on the advice from friends, she found Pravda where the article was written. In the newspaper photograph she saw a man who looked much like her husband. He too was a military pilot who bombed Laos and did not return from one of his missions. She asked for help to clear up the fate of her husband. Is he alive or dead? "Maybe, - inquired Mrs. Ehvans, - you confused the photograph. If this is not him, maybe you met my husband. Maybe some European was detained several years in the dark caves?"

Representatives from the Pathet-Lao reported to me that they don't know anything about Mr. Ehvans. Possibly he died in the crash. I am now writing my response to Alameda, California. I am reporting that I don't know anything about her husband, I am telling her about Washington's "secret war" against Laos.

The widows of America should know with what their husbands were and are involved in Laos, you know they are hiding the truth...

In January 1966 the Pentagon confirmed for the first time a report that two American military planes had been shot down by anti-aircraft fire over Laos. However, it was stressed that they were allegedly "completing a reconnaissance mission." In May of the same year, an official representative of the Pentagon reported that in the past two years eleven military servicemen were killed and about twenty were missing in action in Laos. In August a newer, more precise definition was given: "Since May of 1964, when American aviation started reconnaissance flights over Laotian territory, thirty American military servicemen have died." Only in the summer of 1967 did several Pentagon Generals make a partial admission that the United States Air



Force has been conducting one-man, self-defense raids in Laotian territory since May of 1964.

In the spring of 1969 some very curious documents fell into my hands - The list of 97 American pilots missing in action in Laos. The list gives the first name, last name, military rank, and even the date of their last flight. Although the document was stamped with the seal of the International Red Cross, from entirely reliable sources one could ascertain that the real authors of the document were the special services of the Pentagon. The list opens with Lieutenant Dzh. Adam, "missing" 22 May 1968, and Colonel Armstrong, "missing" 9 Nov 1967. Although the list was somewhat "obsolete" (it was created in the fall of 1968) and far from complete, it is possible to get a clear picture of the escalation of the war. In 1965 the number of "missings" was thirteen, in 1968 more than 30. However, in the summer of 1969 American diplomats in Vientiane were already unofficially talking about more the 200 American pilots, who were "missing in action" during missions over the Liberated regions.

On 17 May 1969 warring Laos celebrated the fifth anniversary since the beginning of armed resistance against the American aggressors. Towards the evening of that day a representative of the Commander in Chief's Headquarters arrived at our place in the cave "hotel" and gave the latest battle report: 1127 American airplanes and helicopters were shot down over the Liberated region.

Representatives of the Main Staff reported that many American pilots were unable to eject from their airplanes. If the Pentagon receives confirmation of their deaths, then the dead are automatically included in the total number of losses in Vietnam. Moreover, in the mountainous, hard to reach, sparsely populated regions of Laos special U.S. helicopter rescue detachments are successful in "fishing out" the majority of the pilots who survived. The rest of those who remain captive in the gray caves are awaiting the end of the war and the decision on their fate.

But they will have to answer for the robbery. At the end of 1968 a commission was formed in the Liberated regions to expose the crime of the American imperialists. Here are some facts it collected. In 1966, United States air forces conducted 20 thousand combat sorties over the Liberated regions, in 1967 more than 29 thousand. In the first half of 1969 by data of American writers, the number quadrupled in comparison to 1967.

The results of this illegal war are monstrous. Nearly all of the cities and large population centers in the Liberated territory are destroyed. Hundreds of thousands were forced to relocate to the jungles and caverns.



However, the Pentagon was obviously not pleased with the events. American military specialists calculated, that for 1968 alone, the war had cost the round sum of - one billion dollars, and 83 percent of the equipment did not result in losses inflicted on the enemy. The United States Air Force Command's excuse cited data on the sharp increase of power and effectiveness of anti-aircraft activity of the patriotic armed forces. All of this is secret. The monstrous facts of the "secret war" are used in the development of new adventurous plans.

In the sixth year of the war, the Pentagon is forced to acknowledge their helplessness. The strategy of "undermining the economy" as well as the numerous attempts to expand the large offensive operations of the right wing crack troops against the patriots collapsed.

000070



INTERNATIONAL  
SECURITY AFFAIRS

## OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301-2400

06 AUG 1993

In reply refer to:  
I-93/54309MEMORANDUM FOR HEADQUARTERS, AIR FORCE MILITARY PERSONNEL CENTER  
(ATTENTION: MR. GEORGE ATKINSON)SUBJECT: Request for Analysis of Information Correlated to  
Colonel David HrdlickaReference: Phonecon btwn Mrs. Carol Hrdlicka (PNOK of Col  
David Hrdlicka) and LTC Jim Caswell of 24 Jun 93.

During referenced telephone conversation, Mrs. Hrdlicka raised three questions/concerns, and requested an impartial review of available information. In particular, Mrs. Hrdlicka would like the following addressed:

1. Col Hrdlicka's assessed date of death.
2. Evidence of Col Hrdlicka's survival in the former Soviet Union.
3. Basis for statement in October 1992 edition of the POW-MIA Factbook regarding Col Hrdlicka's death while in captivity.

Since Col Hrdlicka's loss incident on 18 May 1965, this office has received a large volume of reporting from a number of sources which suggests that he survived the downing of his F-105 aircraft, was apprehended, and held captive by Pathet Lao forces near Vieng Xai, Houa Phan Province, Laos. On 24 May 1965, Pathet Lao officials released a statement acknowledging the capture of Col Hrdlicka; a photograph of Col Hrdlicka under armed escort appeared in the 22 July 1965 edition of a Vietnamese magazine. In 1966, Pathet Lao Radio broadcast portions of a letter allegedly written by Col Hrdlicka to Prince Souphanouvong. On 18 May 1967, Mr. Phoumi Vongvichit, Secretary General of the Lao Patriotic Front, confirmed Col Hrdlicka's capture in a telegram to Canadian Minister of External Affairs. Two reports suggest that an unidentified American pilot was transported from the Vieng Xai area of Laos to Vietnam. One of these reports (TDCS-314/04249-66 of 29 March 1966) which was previously believed to be associated with Col Hrdlicka can no longer be correlated to him because Col Hrdlicka was known to be alive in the Vieng Xai area well after the source claimed he was transported to Vietnam. The second report does not provide a date of information, but it had to be prior to 5 January 1969, the date of the report. This report states that two American pilots (one elderly and one young) were moved to Hanoi because they were considered incorrigible. Available information suggests Col Hrdlicka was not considered incorrigible. It should also be noted that no Americans held in the Vieng Xai area were ever seen by American POWs who returned from Vietnam. In late 1989, this office

EXHIBIT 24

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obtained hearsay information regarding an alleged escape attempt by Col Hrdlicka, and his subsequent recapture and movement to one of two areas, Vinh Province, Vietnam or the tri-border area between Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. Follow-up collection activity determined that a well-known fabricator/self-proclaimed resistance leader was behind this reporting. During a subsequent interview, this individual admitted that he did not believe the information reported.

This office has received several reports which suggest that American pilots being held in the Vieng Xai area died in captivity. Two reports, TDCS-314/04155-68 of 12 March 1968, and JCRC LIAISON message 160230Z April 1991, respectively identified the deceased pilot as Davis/Davit or David and David K. Causes of alleged death range from stomach disorders to malaria, fever, and gunshot wounds. Dates of alleged death range from July 1965 to 1968; the 1968 date was provided by a Lao official during a 1982 League of Families trip to Vieng Xai. This Lao official's reporting, however, is questionable as he alleges that both Shelton and Hrdlicka died of natural causes in 1968, and that their graves both sustained direct hits by American bombs. Additionally, the individual who reportedly buried the two pilots (and should be able to identify the grave site) was allegedly killed during the war. It should be noted that this office has identified and spoken to two firsthand witnesses and several hearsay witnesses to the alleged burial of an American pilot during the 1965-1968 time frame. The witness interviewed in the above referenced JCRC message claims to have personally cared for "David K" for approximately eight months and was with the prisoner when he died during the rainy season of 1967, "around October". The information provided by these sources has been pursued but no further details have been developed. Efforts are still being made to interview an individual in Vientiane Province who claims to know where an American pilot was buried near Vieng Xai. Several of the reports of death once correlated to Col Hrdlicka are now known not to correlate to him because they contain dates of death prior to his last known alive date. This confusion regarding date and cause of death is most likely due to the fact that at least one other American, Col Shelton, was known to have been captured and held in the caves of Vieng Xai at approximately the same time as Col Hrdlicka. Other alleged Americans were also reported to have been held in the Vieng Xai area as well, but this office has not been able to identify any other specific individuals. Concerning cause of death, while it is not certain (all but one of the reports of Col Hrdlicka's death are hearsay), it is believed that Col Hrdlicka died in 1968 from malaria, some unidentified fever, or dietary complications exacerbated by the lack of food and medicine in the area. This conclusion is based on three factors: First, from available reporting, we do not believe Col Hrdlicka was incorrigible, reducing the likelihood of his being shot. Second, live sightings of American pilots being held in the caves of Vieng Xai are virtually non-existent after 1967. And finally, the Vieng Xai area was subjected to an extensive bombing campaign in 1968

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which severely reduced food and medical supplies. It should also be noted that Mr. Vongvichit, the Lao official who acknowledged Col Hrdlicka's captivity in May of 1967, stated on 10 May 1973 that the Pathet Lao were holding no additional U.S. POWs. Mr. Vongvichit also agreed to gather information regarding Col Hrdlicka's fate and respond to American authorities at a later date. This office has no record of Mr. Vongvichit providing the requested information. U.S. representatives have taken every opportunity throughout the years to obtain additional data relative the status of Col Hrdlicka, and Mr. Vongvichit has been included on the list of Lao officials to be interviewed as part of an oral history project currently being developed (the Lao Government has not yet approved). As an aside, it should be noted that Mr. Vongvichit's statement regarding no additional Americans in captivity was made three days after American citizen Emmet Kay's Pilatus Porter was shot down over northern Laos. Mr. Kay was returned to U.S. custody on 18 September 1974. On 21 November 1977, Col Hrdlicka's status was administratively changed from detained to killed in action.

With regard to a possible Soviet/Russian connection, this office has received no evidence/reporting of Col Hrdlicka being transported out of Southeast Asia. The first suggestion of a Russian connection occurred in 1993 when Mrs. Hrdlicka announced her intent to question Major General Aleksander Kandaurov, Director of the Center for Public Information of the Ministry of Security. During a follow-up interview with the General, Task Force Russia interviewers were told that he had never seen Col Hrdlicka's name on any list, and is not sure how Mrs. Hrdlicka got the impression that he had. General Kandaurov's best guess is that he told Mrs. Hrdlicka that the Joint Commission was most likely aware of her husband's case and that his name was on a list, probably the list of unaccounted for Americans which was provided to the Russian side of the Joint Commission last year.

Mrs. Hrdlicka's concerns regarding statements made in the 92 edition of the POW-MIA Factbook will be addressed during next revision of the Factbook.

*Joseph A. Schlatter, Jr.*

Joseph A. Schlatter, Jr.  
Colonel, USA  
Acting Deputy Director  
POW/MIA Office



000073



VV MSA99LA218TV QLA733EVV FGA460  
RR RUMSBJ  
DE RUMBDG 5 0900750

**POSSIBLE  
POW's**

0084-1-01

R. QLA7307 *Mar 66*  
FM (USAIRA) VIENTIANE LAOS  
TO RUMSBJ/2AD TSN RVN  
RUMFUAJ/CTF 77  
INFO RUHLHQ/C INCPAC  
RUHLHM/C INCPACAF  
RUHLHL/C INCPACFLT  
BT

*Wood*

*D1*

*MC-4-1-1377*

AIRA 00603 MAR 66.

1. A NORTH VIETNAMESE CORPORAL WAS CAPTURED ON 19 FEB 66-5, 9, & ( - , & (VH 0480) AND HAS SUPPLIED FOLLOWING *analyst correlates to A/C at VH148539*  
INFORMATION TO DATA REGARDING DOWNED AMERICAN PILOTS: *SN 591731.*

A. ON AN UNSPECIFIED DAY BETWEEN 12 AND 16 JAN 66 *LOST 18 MAY 1965*  
ASSISTED IN A SEARCH FOR DOWNED AMERICAN PLANE. PLANE *raining season in area from 9 May*  
WAS FOUND ON THIRD DAY, BUT DATE PILOT FOUND NOT KNOWN. *To Oct 66 would not be inspected until the dry season*  
PLACE FOUND VIC VH149559, THE FUSALAGE BORE DESIGNAT

5. ON OR ABOUT 16 JAN PW WAS IN BAN NAKAY NEUA (VH

PAGE 2 RUMBDG 5

1967) AND SAW ONE AMERICAN PILOT PLACED ABOARD A VE7  
HICLE AND MOVED TOWARD ROUTE 65. PILOT WAS TIED AROUND  
HIS CHEST. HE WAS TALL, LIGHT COMPLEXIONED, HAD BROWN  
HAIR, WEARING A YELLOW "PILOT TYPE" UNIFORM AND CRASH  
HELMET. APPEARED UNINJURED. PRISONER LEARNED FROM  
FELLOW SOLDIERS THIS THE PILOT SENT TO NORTH VIETNAM.  
PW HEARD FROM HIS FELLOW SOLDIERS THERE WERE 26  
AMERICAN PILOTS IN HANOI.

*will*

2. EMB REQUESTS INFORMATION ON ANY DOWNED US A/C  
IN THIS AREA OF LAOS BETWEEN 10 AND 16 JAN 1966.

*TTC*

NEW PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

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*JCRC  
JGRIE*

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EXHIBIT 25

000074



FORM 3006 OBSOLETE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
Intelligence Information Cable• PRIORITY  
IN 15550

PAGE 1 OF 2 P/

STATE/INR	DIA	NMCC/MC	SECDEF	JCS	ARMY	NAVY	AIR	CIA/NMCC	NIC	NSA	SDO	ONE
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212132Z

CITE TDCS -314/08455-68

Content UNCLASSIFIED

058375

DIST 21 MAY 1968

per  
date 8 NOV 1975

COUNTRY: LAOS

DOI: EARLY JANUARY 1968

SUBJECT: PROPAGANDA DISPLAY OF FOUR AMERICAN PILOTS IN

HOUA PHAN PROVINCE

ACQ:

SOURCE:

1. DURING THE PATHET LAO MEQ NEW YEAR CELEBRATION OF 1966, WHICH FELL BETWEEN 28 DECEMBER 1966 AND 3 JANUARY 1967, FOUR AMERICAN PILOTS WERE DISPLAYED FOR PROPAGANDA PURPOSES IN BAN HANG LONG (VH 1262). DURING THE HALF HOUR THAT THE PILOTS WERE ON DISPLAY, A PATHET LAO PROPAGANDIST EXPLAINED TO THE VILLAGERS

SANITIZED COPY

EXHIBIT 26

000075



FORM  
1-68

3007

USE PREVIOUS  
EDITIONS

IN 15550

TDCS-314/08455-68

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

(classification)

(dissem controls)

THAT THE PILOTS WOULD NOT BE KILLED, BUT WOULD BE HELD FOR PRISONER EXCHANGE AFTER THE START OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS. THE PILOTS APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD HEALTH AND VILLAGERS SAID THEY HAD RECEIVED GOOD TREATMENT; THEY WERE GETTING MILK AND OTHER FOODS TO WHICH THEY WERE ACCUSTOMED. THE PROPAGANDIST TOLD THE VILLAGERS THE PILOTS' NAMES, BUT SAI VANG HEU COULD NOT REMEMBER THEM.

2. FIELD DISSEM: STATE ARMY AIR USMACV 7TH AIR FORCE CINCPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF  
REPORT CLASS

CLASS--1

000076



OFFENSE INFORMATION REPORT EVALUATION				INSTRUCTIONS: <i>Be completed by Typewriter or Ball Point Pen</i>									
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						<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>YEAR</td> <td>MONTH</td> <td>DAY</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>6</b></td> <td><b>8</b></td> <td><b>0 3 1 2</b></td> </tr> </table>		YEAR	MONTH	DAY	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0 3 1 2</b>
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<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0 3 1 2</b>											
TO:		ICR NUMBER/OTHER REFERENCE		SOURCE NUMBER		DATE RECD BY DISSEMINATION ACTIVITY							
						<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>YEAR</td> <td>MONTH</td> <td>DAY</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		YEAR	MONTH	DAY			
YEAR	MONTH	DAY											
THRU:		SII CODE(S)		TARGET COUNTRY (IES) <b>LA</b>		DATE RECEIVED BY EVALUATOR							
						<table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>YEAR</td> <td>MONTH</td> <td>DAY</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		YEAR	MONTH	DAY			
YEAR	MONTH	DAY											
		REASON FOR EVALUATION		3. <input type="checkbox"/> SELECTED BY COL MGR		IR ORIGINATOR							
		1. <input type="checkbox"/> ICR		4. <input type="checkbox"/> SPECIAL REQUEST		<b>CIA</b>							
		2. <input type="checkbox"/> COLLECTOR'S REQUEST		5. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ANALYST INITIATIVE									
A. IR RESPONDED TO		B. RELIABILITY OF INFORMATION		C. VALUE OF INFORMATION									
1. <input type="checkbox"/> DIRM Part Three 2. <input type="checkbox"/> CIR 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ICR - If checked, ICR was satisfied a. <input type="checkbox"/> Completely b. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partially <i>(If b or c checked, include Guidance in Remarks Section)</i> c. <input type="checkbox"/> Not at all 4. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other		1. <input type="checkbox"/> Confirmed by other sources 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Substantially true 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cannot be judged 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Doubtful 5. <input type="checkbox"/> False		1. <input type="checkbox"/> High <i>(Unique, Timely, and of Major Significance)</i> 2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Moderate <i>(Contributory and Useful)</i> 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Low <i>(Marginal)</i> 4. <input type="checkbox"/> None <i>(Of no use)</i> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Cannot be judged <i>(Analyst has no basis for value judgement)</i>									
D. USABILITY OF INFORMATION													
1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Used or planned for use in product a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basic Intelligence b. <input type="checkbox"/> Current Intelligence c. <input type="checkbox"/> Estimative Intelligence d. <input type="checkbox"/> Other		2. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Incorporated in Data Base a. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Potentially Useful b. <input type="checkbox"/> Background/Confirmatory 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Stimulus for Intelligence Guidance or Requirement		4. <input type="checkbox"/> Not used <i>(All responses require explanation in Remarks section)</i> a. <input type="checkbox"/> Unreliable b. <input type="checkbox"/> Too Fragmentary c. <input type="checkbox"/> Duplication d. <input type="checkbox"/> Not Pertinent to Needs									
NAME OF PRODUCT:													
REMARKS <i>(Number and Classify each Paragraph)</i> <b>** RE-EVALUATION **</b>  Source stated that a USAF plane was shot down near Ban Na Kay in early June 1966 and that the pilot was captured and imprisoned in one of the caves. According to the source, who claimed he gave the pilot anti-malaria and other injections on about ten occasions, the pilot had blue or green eyes and thinning dark brown hair. The source was told that the pilot's name was Davis, Davit, or David and that he had three sons. Source further stated the pilot and one of his guards were killed when a relief guard fired in their direction. Additionally, source stated he heard that a USAF pilot, shot down in late 1965 in the Ban Na Kay area, had been captured by the Pathet Lao and died of malaria in 1966. The pilots referred to probably correlate to Charles E. Shelton and David L. Hrdlicka (both USAF unaccounted-for PWs). Although the incident dates source provided are in error, the Ban Na Kay shot down area correlates to both Shelton, downed on 29 April 1965, and Hrdlicka, downed on 18 May 1965. In other reports which have described two U.S. pilots and have been correlated to these individuals, it has been difficult to positively ascertain which of the PWs was Shelton and which was Hrdlicka. This difficulty is caused by the fact that the incident, descriptions, and confinement of these two individuals were quite similar. There have been other reports that one pilot was shot and another died of malaria.													
EVALUATOR'S RELEASE and DISCLOSURE GUIDANCE													
1. <input type="checkbox"/> Paragraph(s) _____ above are releasable to the government of _____ 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Evaluation is Not Releasable                      3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Releasable Evaluation Not Requested													
EVALUATOR'S ORGANIZATION <b>DIR-4H</b>		NAME OF EVALUATOR <i>Penny Gardner</i> <b>PENNY GARDNER</b>		DOWNGRADING AND DECLASSIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS									
DATE EVALUATED		SIGNATURE OF APPROVING AUTHORITY											
YEAR <b>75</b>	MONTH <b>09</b>	DAY <b>12</b>	<i>Charles M. Frow</i> <b>CDR CHARLES F. TROWBRIDGE, JR.</b>										



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## CONTINUATION OF EVALUATION OF TDCS-314/04155-68

while in captivity. However, if these reports are true, it cannot be positively determined exactly which individual was shot and which died of malaria. Furthermore, sources reporting on these individuals may have provided confused and/or erroneous information.

In TDCS-314/04155-68 neither, of the incident dates (early June 1966 and late 1965) equates to either Hrdlicka or Shelton. However, as previously mentioned, the Ban Na Kay incident location is accurate for both individuals. Source stated that the first PW had blue or green eyes, thinning dark brown hair and was named Davis, Davit or David. This description could refer to David Hrdlicka who does have brown hair and blue eyes. (Shelton has brown hair and brown eyes). However, the information that this pilot had three sons correlates exactly to the number of sons Shelton has, whereas Hrdlicka has only two sons.

Although a positive differentiation between the two pilots cannot be made, the report is of value for casualty resolution consideration inasmuch as it indicated both individuals died in captivity.

A copy of this report and evaluation will be placed in the files of Shelton and Hrdlicka.

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000078





CAROL HRDLICKA  
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CONWAY SPRINGS, KS.67031  
(316) 456-2439 PH  
(316) 456-2702 FAX

SEPTEMBER 19, 1994

HONORABLE SHEILA E. WIDNALL  
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE  
THE PENTAGON, ROOM 4E871  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20330-1670

DEAR SECRETARY WIDNALL:

IN THE LIGHT OF THE RECENT DEVELOPMENT WITH THE SHELTON FAMILY GROWING WEARY OF THE FIGHT TO GET COL. SHELTON RETURNED TO THEIR FAMILY, I WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST A HEARING TO HAVE MY HUSBAND, COL. DAVID L. HRDLICKA, TAKE COL. SHELTON'S PLACE AS THE LAST KNOWN "POW".

IN 1977 WHEN THEY HAD THE HEARING ON COL. DAVID L. HRDLICKA'S CASE THEY ASKED ME IF I HAD ANY INFORMATION---AT THAT TIME I HAD NO ACCESS TO INFORMATION. AS THE YEARS HAVE PASSED I NOW HAVE MANY REPORTS AND DOCUMENTS THAT I HAVE RECEIVED THROUGH FREEDOM OF INFORMATION. I WOULD NOW LIKE TO ADDRESS THE BOARD AND MAKE A FORMAL REQUEST THAT COL. DAVID L. HRDLICKA BE REINSTATED AS A "POW".

IN DAVID'S CASE THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY CONCRETE EVIDENCE THAT HE DIED ALTHOUGH THE D.I.A. HAS MADE STATEMENTS, THEY HAVE A 1966 REPORT THAT "INDICATES" DAVID DIED IN CAPTIVITY. THEY HAVE NEVER SHOWN ME ANY REPORT, ALTHOUGH, I HAVE REQUESTED A MEETING TO BE SHOWN THE REPORT. MY REQUEST FOR A MEETING HAS NOT TAKEN PLACE IN THE LAST FOUR YEARS. I NOW HAVE A DOCUMENT THAT SHOWS THAT IN JUNE OF 1973 DAVID WAS CONSIDERED A "POW" NOT "KIA" AS THE D.I. A. CLAIMS.

REGARDS,

EXHIBIT 28

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## Intelligence Information Cable

PAGE 1 OF 2 P.

STATE/INR DIA NMCC/MC SECDEF JCS ARMY NAVY AIR CIA/NMCC NIC NSA SDO ONE  
OER FBIS DCS IFS AID L

THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

212051Z

CITE TDCS 314/08450-68

DIST 21 MAY 1968

COUNTRY: LAOS

DOI: 1 APRIL 1968

SUBJECT: AMERICAN PILOTS IMPRISONED IN A CAVE IN  
HOUA PHAN PROVINCE

ACQ

SOURCE:

ON 1 APRIL 1968 SOME AMERICAN PILOTS WERE IMPRISONED  
IN A CAVE AT VH 196557 BETWEEN BAN NAKAY NEUA (VH 1957)

AND BAN NAKAY TEU (VH 1955) IN HOUA PHAN PROVINCE. THE CAVE WAS  
ABOUT 500 METERS FROM A WELL-TRAVELED ROAD THAT RAN BETWEEN THE

APPROVED FOR RELEASE

DATE 26 OCT 1978

EXHIBIT 29

2  
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TDCS 314/08450-68

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

[REDACTED]  
(classification) (dissem controls)

TWO VILLAGES. THE CAVE WAS AT THE END OF A TRAIL THAT SEPARATED FROM THE ROAD AND WOUND PAST A TEN-FOOT WATERFALL THAT HAD A POOL OF POTABLE WATER AT ITS BASE. IT WAS 30 TO 40 FEET ABOVE THE ROAD THAT RAN BETWEEN THE VILLAGES. THE HEADQUARTERS OF GENERAL KAISON SISAVAT, THE PATHET LAO COMMANDER FOR HOUA PHAN PROVINCE, WAS ABOUT ONE KILOMETER NORTH OF THE CAVE.

2. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE ARMY AIR USAMCV 7TH AIR FORCE CINCPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

000081