

UNCLASSIFIED
CLASSIFICATION

DEFENSE INFORMATION REPORT EVALUATION

INSTRUCTIONS: To be completed by
Typewriter or Ball Point Pen

CUSTOMER NUMBER B 390	IR NUMBER DDCS-314/13834-71	COLLECTION PROJECT NUMBER	IR DATE		
			YEAR	MONTH	DAY
			7	1	1 2 2 4
TO:	ICR NUMBER OTHER REFERENCE	SOURCE NUMBER	DATE ACQD BY DISSEMINATION ACTIVITY		
			YEAR	MONTH	DAY
THRU:	SII CODE(S)	TARGET COUNTRY (IES)	DATE RECEIVED BY EVALUATOR		
		LA	YEAR	MONTH	DAY
REASON FOR EVALUATION		3. ☐ SELECTED BY COL MGR	IR ORIGINATOR		
1. ☐ ICR		4. ☐ SPECIAL REQUEST			
2. ☐ COLLECTOR'S REQUEST		5. ☒ ANALYST INITIATIVE			
A. IR RESPONDED TO		B. RELIABILITY OF INFORMATION		C. VALUE OF INFORMATION	
1. ☐ OIRM Part Three		1. ☐ Confirmed by other sources		1. ☐ High (Unique, Timely, and of Major Significance)	
2. ☐ CIR		2. ☒ Substantially True		2. ☒ Moderate (Contributory and Useful)	
3. ☐ ICR - If checked, ICR was satisfied		3. ☐ Cannot be judged		3. ☐ Low (Marginal)	
a. ☐ Completely		4. ☐ Doubtful		4. ☐ None (Of no use)	
b. ☐ Partially (If b or c checked, include Guidance in Remarks Section)		5. ☐ False		5. ☐ Cannot be judged (Analyst has no basis for value judgement)	
c. ☐ Not at all					
4. ☐ Other					
D. USABILITY OF INFORMATION					
1. ☒ Used or planned for use in product		2. ☒ Incorporated in Data Base		4. ☐ Not used (All responses require explanation in Remarks section)	
a. ☒ Basic Intelligence		a. ☐ Potentially Useful		a. ☐ Unreliable	
b. ☐ Current Intelligence		b. ☐ Background/Confirmatory		b. ☐ Too Fragmentary	
c. ☐ Estimative Intelligence		3. ☐ Stimulus for Intelligence Guidance or Requirement		c. ☐ Duplication	
d. ☐ Other				d. ☐ Not Pertinent to Needs	

NAME OF PRODUCT:

REMARKS (Number and Classify each Paragraph)

The report provided information concerning the 24 December 1971 downing of a light fixed-wing observation aircraft in the vicinity of XC 40 50. The report further stated that the two crewmembers were picked up by a H-34.

This information probably relates to the 24 December 1971 loss of an OV-10A. The crewmembers of this aircraft were Timothy M. Tucker and William R. Finn (both USAF MIAs). However, the information that these individuals were recovered is erroneous. SAR was initiated on 26 December. However, there was no voice or beeper contact. Search efforts continued until 31 December and were officially terminated due to hostile activity in the area.

EVALUATOR'S RELEASE and DISCLOSURE GUIDANCE

1. ☐ Paragraph(s) _____ above are releasable to the government of _____
2. ☐ Evaluation is Not Releasable
3. ☒ Releasable Evaluation Not Requested

25 01 00Z DEC 71

71
Short
down

ZCZCNKECH5K0A545 SPA799
OO YSNKAZ YSNKQD YSNKQW YSAKQI
DE YEKADL 5425 3593685
ZNY MMHSH
ZKZK OO ZSL DE
O 250356Z ZYH
FM CIA
TO WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM
DIRNSA COMMAND CENTER
STATE (RCI)
COMNAVINTCOM
CND
SSO ACSS DA
SSO AMS VIRGINIA
AFSSO USAF
DIA/ISIC
JCS
NID
CIA-DCI
ZEM

BTH
DDE/AMC
DDE/CP
CMC
CJCS
DJS
SJS

CITE CIA 213423

DOCS 314/15654-71 (ADVANCED)
COUNTRY

OOI LAOS/NORTH VIETNAM
SUBJECT 24 DECEMBER 1971
DOWNING OF AN OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT BY ENEMY
AA GUNFIRE NORTHWEST OF SARAVANE, IRREGULAR GM MOVEMENTS
IN THE SARAVANE AND PAKSUNG AREAS, AND GOVERNMENT
CLASHES IN THE PAKSUNG AND CHAMPASSAK/SITHAKONE AREAS

ACQ

SOURCE

SARAVANE AREA

1. ON 24 DECEMBER 1971 AT 0905 HOURS A FORWARD AIR CONTROLLER (FAC) FLYING A LIGHT FIXED-WING OBSERVATION AIRCRAFT ON A RECONNAISSANCE MISSION WAS SHOT DOWN IN THE VICINITY OF XC 4050, 18 KILOMETERS (KMS) NORTHWEST OF SARAVANE (XC 5358), BY AN ESTIMATED 100 ROUNDS OF 12.7MM/14.5MM ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNFIRE. THE AIRCRAFT SUSTAINED MULTIPLE HITS IN THE ENGINE CAUSING IT TO LOSE OIL PRESSURE. THE PILOT MANAGED TO MAKE A DEAD-STICK LANDING IN AN OPEN FIELD. BY 0957 HOURS THE FAC AND HIS ACCOMPANYING BACKSEATER WERE PICKED UP BY AN H-34 HELICOPTER. NEITHER MAN WAS SERIOUSLY WOUNDED IN THE CRASH. AT 1115 HOURS ON 24 DECEMBER THE REMAINS OF THE AIRCRAFT WERE DESTROYED BY A ROYAL LAO AIR FORCE T-28 AIR STRIKE.

2. THE IRREGULAR GROUPEMENT MOBILE (GM) COMPOSED OF THE FOUR BATTALIONS (BNS) WHICH HAD BEEN OPERATING IN THE SARAVANE AREA HAS COMPLETED ITS LINK-UP WITH ROYAL LAO ARMY (FAR) FORCES NORTH OF THE SE (RIVER) DON IN THE VICINITY OF XC 1839. THE TWO MISSING COMPANIES FROM THIS IRREGULAR GM HAVE NOW BEEN LOCATED AND ALL MEN HAVE BEEN ACCOUNTED FOR. AS OF 1645 HOURS ON 24 DECEMBER, THIS IRREGULAR GM WAS LOCATED AS FOLLOWS:

ONE BN	XC 1437
ONE BN	XC 1235
ONE BN	XC 1637
ONE BN	XC 1637

RETYPE FOR CLARITY

0004
CINCPAC 7 703-70313/DB-4

3. THROUGHOUT THE DAY OF 24 DECEMBER, A LAO NEUTRALIST ARMY (FAN) TAKA HUE IN 101 POSITION ON PHOU NOBLE (XB 35524), 2 KMS NORTH OF PAKSANG (XB 5273), RECEIVED INTERMITTENT MORTAR BARRAGES OF SIX TO EIGHT ROUNDS. ONE OF THESE P/WEAPONS AT 1500 HOURS ON 24 DECEMBER RESULTED IN ONE FAN SOLDIER KILLED IN ACTION (KIA).

4. THERE WAS NO OTHER ENEMY ACTIVITY IN THE PAKSANG AREA ON 24 DECEMBER. DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 24 DECEMBER THE IRREGULAR GM THAT HAD BEEN OPERATING IN THE THATENG (XC 4996) AREA CLOSED INTO PAKSANG. THESE TROOPS WERE SHIPPED BY A TRUCK CONVOY FROM PAKSANG TO PAKSE (XB 8771) AND BY 1630 HOURS ALL UNITS OF THIS GM HAD ARRIVED IN PAKSE. DURING THEIR MOVE FROM THATENG TO PAKSE VIA PAKSANG THE GM ENCOUNTERED NO ENEMY ACTIVITY.

CHAMPASSAK/SITHANDONE AREA

5. AT 0800 HOURS ON 24 DECEMBER A COMPANY OF FAR VOLUNTEER BN 48 WITH POSITIONS IN BAN MAI-VANGMAKXEO (WA 888132) ON THE CHAMPASSAK/SITHANDONE PROVINCE BORDER, 55 KMS NORTH OF MUANG KHONG (WA 9260), WAS ATTACKED BY AN ESTIMATED ONE NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY (NVA) COMPANY. DURING THE 1-HOUR FIREFIGHT WHICH FOLLOWED FAR CASUALTIES WERE FOUR KIA AND ONE COUNDED. THE NVA COMPANY WITHDREW WITH UNKNOWN CASUALTIES.

6. [REDACTED] DISSEM. STATE ARMY AIR USAID CINCPAC ABNAC PACAF
PACFLT NAVY 7TH AF 7/15TH AF TFA/NKP 7TH KRFS [REDACTED]

GP-1
550
5428

NNNN

RETYPE FOR CLERK

REF ID: A5

(B) On 21 December 1971, Raven F-4E 45, an F-4E, Low 2000 and oil pressure and made a forced landing northwest of Polson on the Bolovens Plateau of Laos. He landed in a field with two other Ravens orbiting over the spot. A SAR was initiated, and Sandys 05 and 06 launched from Udon RTAFB at 0930, shortly after Jolly Greens 57 and 63.⁶⁹

(C) Raven 40 was overhead and took on-scene command at the time of the forced landing. He located 45 Alpha and Bravo near the downed aircraft. A nearby Drexel Helicopter, Hotel 89, arrived on the scene at 0955. In spite of some small arms fire in the area, Raven 40 directed Hotel 89 in the rescue of both Alpha and Bravo. The rescue was completed at 1007 just as the Sandys and Jolly Greens arrived. With the SAR completed the Sandys were released to Hillabore for assignment to strike missions.⁷⁰

69. 34000 Report for Raven 45, 28 Dec 71, (Doc 18).

70. Ibid.