

W17412
CLASS OFFICE

1.3(a)(4)

COUNTRY : NORTH VIETNAM (NVN)
USSR

SUBJECT : Capture of U.S. Pilot who Was
Later Turned Over to a Vietnamese Security Agent and Three Soviets

DATE OF INFO : Early June 1967

DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION : 22 October 1967 (I - B)

DATE OF REPORT : 18/11/67

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SOURCE: []

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S U M M A R Y

In June 1967 a U.S. Pilot shot down in HAIPHONG Province was captured by an NVA unit in QUANG NINH Province. The capturing unit protected him from the local populace, who wanted to mistreat him, and turned him over to a civilian Vietnamese security agent and three unidentified Soviets who photographed the pilot and the capturing unit. The pilot was unharmed and was described as being about six feet six inches tall with light red hair. He was allegedly taken to HAIPHONG.

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ATTACHMENTS:
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1. Source assisted in the capture of one U.S. Pilot in QUANG NINH Province, NVN, in early June 1967. The capturing unit observed the aircraft when it was shot down somewhere in HAIPHONG Province and saw the wind carry the pilot, who had bailed out, into QUANG NINH Province. Source's unit was sent to capture the pilot when he landed and to protect him from maltreatment by the local populace. When Source's unit finally found the pilot he was surrounded by a crowd of local people who 'were beating and kicking him, as well as throwing stones at him. The capturing unit dispersed the crowd and took the pilot away from the immediate area. Except for some light bruises received at the hands of the crowd, the pilot was uninjured.
2. The pilot wore a one-piece green flying suit; he had short light red hair, copper colored eyes and appeared to be over six feet six inches tall with a medium build. Although Source saw some letters on the pilot's suit, he could not remember what they were and did not know what they meant. He could not recall the insignia either.
3. The pilot was immediately searched for documents and weapons; however, Source was busy holding back the crowd and did not observe what was found on the pilot. The POW was not tied or blindfolded. He was taken to the road connecting QUANG NINH and HAIPHONG Cities where he was turned over to a civilian Vietnamese security agent wearing a yellow khaki uniform and driving a jeep. The security agent was accompanied by three Westerners who were identified as Soviets by the soldier who turned over the pilot to the security agent. The three Soviets wore blue short-sleeved shirts and yellow khaki trousers identical to those of the security agent. All three Soviets carried briefcases and cameras. They took pictures of the pilot and the capturing unit. From the fact that they took pictures, Source believed they might be newsmen. Two of the Soviets wore glasses, and the third had a full beard and a moustache. They appeared to be very calm and did not speak to anyone. All of them were tall and stocky with light red hair and generally resembled the captured pilot.

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