

COUNTRY CAMBODIA
DOI 1971
SUBJECT GRAVE SITE OF AMERICAN PILOT
ACQ | (27 SEPTEMBER 1974) |
SOURCE A TRAINED VIETNAMESE DEBRIEFER, FROM RALLIER |

~~MOI~~
~~EWAL~~
ST. PAUL
RUE

WHO RALLIED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM (GVN) ON 9 MAY 1974 AT THE GVN OUTPOST AT MO CONG, PHUOC HINH DISTRICT, TAY NINH PROVINCE, SOUTH VIETNAM. [SOURCE] WHO HAD BEEN HIGHLY EDUCATED, EXHIBITED A MODERATE DEGREE OF RECALL AND APPEARED TO BE VERY INTELLIGENT. HE WAS COOPERATIVE DURING DEBRIEFING, ALTHOUGH HIS REPORTING RELIABILITY HAS NOT BEEN ESTABLISHED. LOCAL RESIDENTS TOLD [SOURCE] ABOUT THE CRASH AND BURIAL. [SOURCE] PERSONALLY OBSERVED THE IDENTIFICATION CARD OF THE PILOT AND THE DISPLAY OF THE DOWNED PLANE.

1. ENCLOSED IS A SKETCH OF THE CRASH SITE OF AN AMERICAN MILITARY PLANE WHICH CRASHED ABOUT 20 JULY 1971 IN THE XV129028 AREA NEAR A HAMLET IN THE VILLAGE OF SAN DAN, KRATIE DISTRICT, KRATIE PROVINCE, CAMBODIA, AND THE BURIAL SITE OF THE PILOT. THE PILOT WAS THROWN FROM THE PLANE

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UPON IMPACT AND APPARENTLY DIED INSTANTLY. LOCAL CAMBODIANS BURIED THE BODY IN THE AREA OF THE CRASH SITE AFTER PUMMELING THE HEAD. THE FOLLOWING WERE THE TWO LOCAL THEORIES AS TO THE CAUSE OF THE CRASH:

A. THE PLANE WAS CONDUCTING AN AIR STRIKE AND DIVED VERY CLOSE TO THE GROUND BUT FOR SOME REASON WAS UNABLE TO REGAIN ALTITUDE AND CRASHED.

B. THE PLANE, SWOOPING TO FIRE AT THREE VIET CONG (VC) SOLDIERS ON HIGHWAY 13 IN SAN DAN, FLEW TOO LOW AND WAS SHOT DOWN.

2. THE GREEN IDENTIFICATION (ID) CARD OF THE PILOT, SOME AMERICAN DOLLAR BILLS AND A VIETNAMESE-LANGUAGE MAP WERE DISPLAYED UNTIL ABOUT 1 OCTOBER 1971 IN THE CITY OF KRATIE. JUDGING FROM THE PHOTO ON THE ID CARD, THE PILOT WAS AN AMERICAN CAUCASIAN, ABOUT 23 YEARS OLD, WITH A DARK CREW-CUT HAIR. THE PILOT'S NAME, HANDWRITTEN ON THE ID CARD, STARTED WITH THE LETTERS "SCHEI." (FIELD COMMENT: THE SOURCE STATED DURING SUPPLEMENTARY DEBRIEFING THAT PICTURES W-100 AND C-009 IN VOLUME I OF "PRISONERS OF WAR AND MISSING IN ACTION IN SOUTHEAST ASIA" RESEMBLED THE ID CARD PHOTO, WITH PHOTO NO. C-009 APPEARING TO BE A CLOSER RESEMBLANCE.)

3. THE PLANE, WHICH WAS ESSENTIALLY INTACT EXCEPT FOR THE MISSING REAR SECTION OF ITS FUSELAGE, WAS TAKEN SHORTLY AFTER THE CRASH BY KHMER COMMUNIST (KC) OFFICIALS TO THE CITY OF KRATIE, WHERE IT WAS STILL ON DISPLAY AS OF APRIL 1974 AT THE INFORMATION OFFICE. (SOURCE COMMENT: [SOURCE] PROVIDED THE ATTACHED MAP SHOWING THE SITES OF THE CRASH AND THE

[source] GRAVE. [source] SAID THAT ALL PERMANENT RESIDENTS OF KRATIE WERE AWARE OF THE CRASH AND THAT T H U K KROEUNG YUTHA, A KC INFORMATION OFFICE OFFICIAL IN KRATIE, WAS ONE OF THE OFFICIALS WHO WAS KNOWLEDGEABLE OF THE CRASH AND BURIAL.) (FIELD COMMENT: IN SUBSEQUENT DEBRIEFING IN SAIGON, [source] SAID THAT THE DOWNED PLANE WAS EITHER AN OV-2 OR A C-119.)

4. A CAMBODIAN WHO SAID HE HAD COLLECTED PARTS OF THE PLANES FOR LOCAL SALE REPORTED THAT THREE OTHER AMERICAN MILITARY PLANES, INCLUDING TWO JETS AND ONE PLANE OF THE TYPE WHICH CRASHED IN JULY 1971, HAD CRASHED AROUND DECEMBER 1971 IN A JUNGLE NEAR SVAY CREAH (XU423595), SNUOL DISTRICT, KRATIE PROVINCE, CAMBODIA.

5. (FIELD COMMENT: THE JOINT CASUALTY RESOLUTION CENTER (JCRC) EVALUATES THIS REPORT AS FOLLOWS: "A SEARCH OF JCRC RECORDS WAS CONDUCTED WITHIN A 50-MILE RADIUS OF THE REPORTED CRASH COORDINATES (XV129028) AND A SIX-MONTH PARAMETER WAS USED FOR THE REPORTED CRASH DATE (20 JULY 1971). THE SEARCH REVEALED ONLY TWO FIXED-WING AIRCRAFT LOSSES WITHIN THE INDICATED PARAMETERS. AN F-100D WAS DOWNED ON 4 APRIL 1971 AT WU325872. THE PILOT WAS PERFORMING HIS FIFTH STRAFING PASS OVER THE TARGET WHEN HIS AIRCRAFT WAS OBSERVED TO BE STREAMING WHITE SMOKE PRIOR TO IMPACT. THE OTHER LOSS WAS AN OV-10A WHICH LAST HAD RADAR CONTACT AT 0643 ON 29 JANUARY 1971 IN THE VICINITY OF WV650810. THE OV-10 FLIGHT PLAN INCLUDED RECONNAISSANCE ALONG ROUTE 13 FROM SAMBOR (XV085130) TO STOENG TRENG (XV085950). THE PILOTS OF BOTH AIRCRAFT WERE CAUCASIANS WITH DARK HAIR. IN 1971, THE F-100D PILOT WAS 26 AND THE OV-10 PILOT WAS 37. NEITHER OF THE PILOT'S NAMES BEGINS WITH "SCHEI,"

BUT THE PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION BASED ON THE ID PHOTO COULD CORRELATE WITH EITHER OF THE TWO MEN. ASSUMING THAT THE OV-10, PILOTED BY AIR FORCE MAJOR HAROLD L I N E B E R G E R, FOLLOWED THE FLIGHT PLAN, IT WOULD HAVE PASSED OVER THE GENERAL AREA OF THE CRASH SITE. THE REPORT MAY CORRELATE WITH THE FLIGHT OF WINEBERGER WHO IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN A MISSING STATUS.")

6. FIELD DISSEM: DEFENSE ATTACHE FOR JCRC REPRESENTATIVE IN SAIGON: SENT TO CINCPAC (FOR CINCPAC AND POLAD ONLY) USSAG AND VIENTIANE (FOR JCRC REPRESENTATIVES ONLY).

MEKONG RIVER

DIET ROAD

HARD SURFACE ROAD

NH 13

SAMBAN

KRACHÉH

SANDAN

2 KM

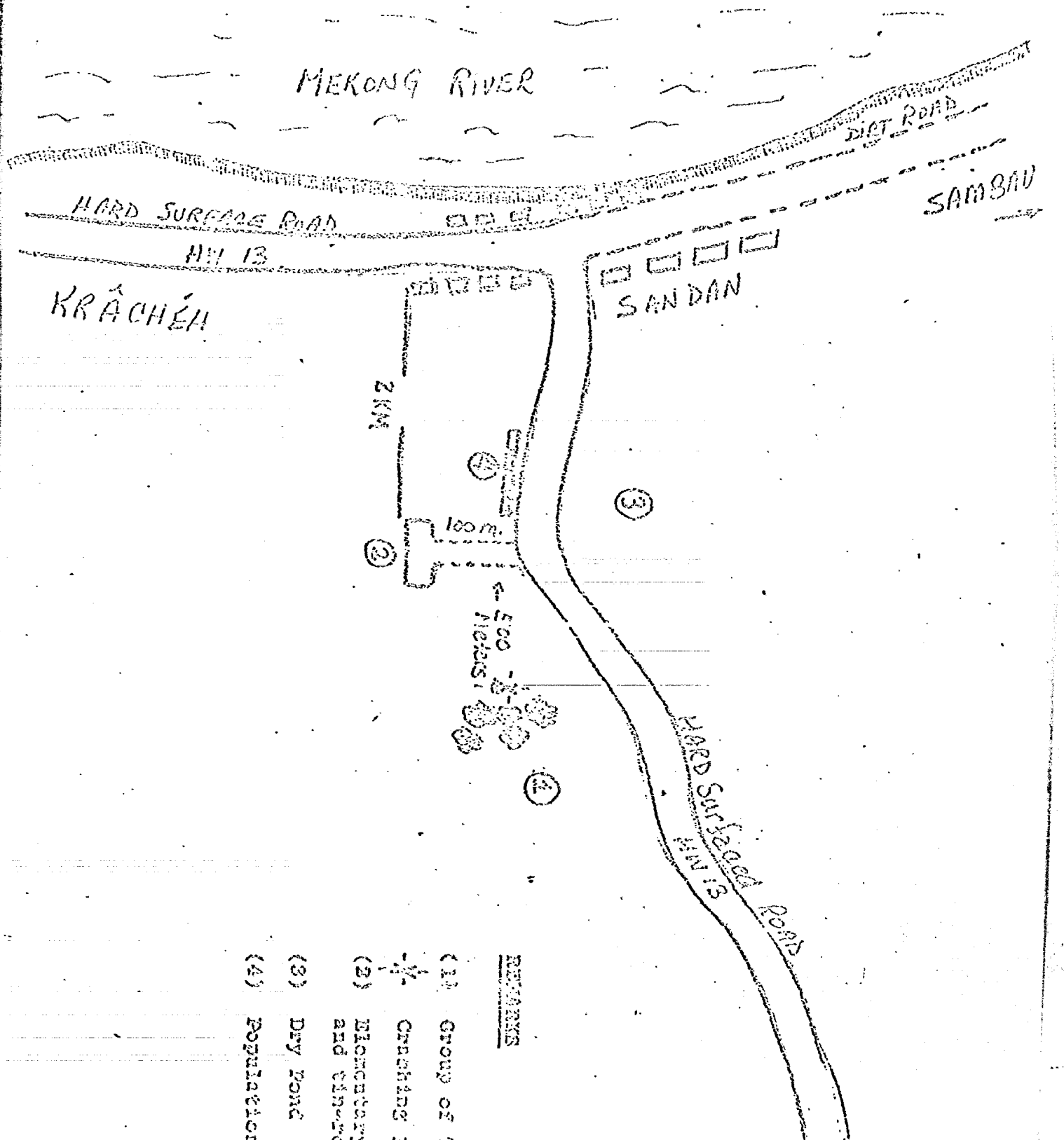
100 m.

← Eco -
Netsi

HARD SURFACE ROAD
NH 13

REMARKS

- (1) GROUP OF ...
- (2) CRACKING ...
- (3) HIGHWAY ...
- (4) POPULATION ...



MEKONG RIVER

DIRT ROAD

HARD SURFACED ROAD

HWY 13

SAMBAU

KRACHÉA

SANDAN

2 KM

100 m.

Eco-
Notes

HARD SURFACED ROAD
HWY 13

UNG TREM

LEGEND

- (1) Group of trees
- (2) Group of trees
- (3) Dry zone
- (4) Population

Gravestone

1 built by ...

5 (Thatched ...)