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Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Status: [STAT]
 Report Number: FBIS-EAS-91-240 UDC Number:

Headline: VNA Reports U.S. MIA Search Results

Source Line: BK1312075691 Hanoi VNA in English 0600 GMT 13 Dec 91

FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE:

1. [Text] Hanoi VNA December 13-A joint Vietnamese-American excavation team has found bone fragments where Colonel John L. Robertson's F-4 fighter-bomber crashed on September 16, 1966, announced a Vietnamese official to Vietnamese and foreign correspondents coming to the site last week.
2. Ho Xuan Dich, director of the Vietnam Office for Missing Personnel said analyses at the identification laboratory in Hawaii, the United States, would be needed to determine if the finds-some bone fragments and teeth-really belong to Robertson whose death has been made a matter of doubt by the appearance in the United States last July of a photograph showing three men, one of them described as the pilot in question.
3. Garnett Bell, head of the US POW/MIA office in Hanoi said the finds, discovered at Chi Linh District, Hai Hung Province, 60 km northeast of Hanoi, were insignificant. "Up to this point we have received very little evidence: small pieces of wreckage and some small pieces of biological levels".
4. But inhabitants of Cong Hoa Village, Chi Linh, had no doubts about the death of the pilot. The flaming aircraft, shot down by a MiG jet fighter in the afternoon of September 16, 1966, crashed in the village, injuring several creche children and destroying a number of houses. Nguyen Van Cau, owner of the house directly hit by the downed aircraft, said he saw bits of flesh everywhere, even among bamboo groves.
5. Mr. Cau, now pushing 80, said he was too dazed to find out then how the other pilot was captured. Later he heard that the surviving American, Robertson's weapon officer, was caught as he landed in a village 16 km from the crash site.
6. The weapon officer, Hubert F. Buchanan, was returned to the United States in 1973.
7. Prior to the arrival of the joint excavation team, the crash site had been gone over by local militiamen who found pieces of the aircraft wreckage, charred personal effects and bone fragments. The bone fragments were returned to the United States on April 10, 1990

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and proved to be animal bones.

8. The recent joint excavation, which started on November 17 and ended on December 12, was a result of a meeting between Vietnamese and American MIA experts held in March 1991.
9. Also part of the joint search, 15th since 1988, a seven-member US team last Friday went to Lang Son, chief town of the province of the same name near the Sino-Vietnamese border, to interview witnesses about two cases in discrepancy.
10. The first, case 0213 in the US record, is based on the information gathered during the joint investigation conducted in September 1988. Examination of records and interviews of witnesses at that time did not lead to any crash in Luc Ngan District as supposed in US records. In June 1991, a unilateral investigation by Vietnam located the site of a crash in Cao Loc District, 70 km to the north.
11. The first witness, Mr. To Cuong Minh, 68, former secretary of the local party organisation, said he saw the surviving American a few minutes after he was captured and had to order the militia to protect the captive from possible attacks by the inhabitants. He also said he saw the body of the dead about 50 metres from the burning fuselage.
12. Mr. Minh then told the militia to get a coffin and a shroud for the pilot. He also had incense burned during the burial.
13. However, the 68-year-old man could not be of help much when it came to locating the burial site, and the only other man he knew who had participated in the burial had been dead for a long time.
14. Moreover, the terrain has changed much since.