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SECRET

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DIST 13 MARCH 1969

1.3(a)(4)

COUNTRY LAOS
DOI MAY 1967
SUBJECT CAPTURE OF TWO U.S. PILOTS DURING THREE DAY AIR
ATTACK IN THE SAM NEUA AREA OF HOUA PHAN PROVINCE

207B

Handwritten notes

ACQ LAOS, VIENTIANE / [REDACTED]

1.3(a)(4)

SOURCE

1. IN MAY 1967, PATHET LAO /PL/ POSITIONS IN THE VICINITY OF

2U
2T

May 1967

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SAN NEUA /VH 0157/ AND THONG NAKAI IN HOUA PHAN
 PROVINCE WERE SUBJECTED TO A THREE-DAY AIR ATTACK. DURING THE
 ATTACK, PL FORCES SHOT DOWN AND CAPTURED TWO U.S. PILOTS. BOTH
 WERE OVER SIX FEET IN HEIGHT AND BLOND. THE PILOTS WERE UNINJURED.
 THE TYPE OF THE AIRCRAFT IN WHICH THE PILOTS WERE DOWNED WAS
 UNDETERMINED. MOST OF THE PLANES PARTICIPATING IN THE ATTACK,
 HOWEVER, WERE DESCRIBED AS F-105'S AND THE PL AUTHORITIES ANNOUNCED
 THAT THE PILOTS HAD EJECTED FROM TWO SEPARATE F-105'S.

OBSERVED THE PILOTS BEING LED AWAY TO AN UNKNOWN PRISON
 AREA AND WAS APPROXIMATELY 35 YARDS FROM THEM WHEN THEY PASSED
 HIS POSITION. OTHER SOLDIERS TOLD HIM THAT THE PILOTS WERE
 AMERICANS BUT HE DID NOT ACTUALLY HEAR THEM SPEAK.

1.3(a)(4)

WAS UNABLE TO PROVIDE FURTHER DETAILS CONCERNING THE
 INCIDENT.

2. THE TOTAL EXTENT OF THE DAMAGE RESULTING FROM THE AIR
 ATTACK WAS UNDETERMINED. PATHET LAO AUTHORITIES ANNOUNCED THAT 15
 F-105'S HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN. THE NUMBER OF PL KILLED WAS BELIEVED
 TO HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY HIGH AND THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE TO
 VEHICLES AND DEFENDING WEAPONS. FROM PERSONAL OBSERVATION
 REPORTED AT LEAST ONE PLATOON OF PL AND NORTH VIETNAMESE DEAD

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AND THREE 37MM ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUNS DESTROYED. THE PL CEASED TO DEFEND THEIR POSITIONS THREE DAYS AFTER THE AIR ATTACKS BEGAN AND HID IN CAVES IN THE AREA TO WAIT FOR THE ATTACKS TO STOP.

3. [REDACTED] DISSEM- STATE ARMY AIR USMACV 7TH AIR FORCE CINCPAC PACOM ARPAC PACAF [REDACTED] SAIGON/.

1.3(a)(4)

Classified
Review on

13 MAR 1987

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