

**The original documents are located in Box 43, folder “Vietnam - Dolan, Edward” of the John Marsh Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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10/1/75

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 1, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH  
FROM: RUSS ROURKE *R*  
SUBJECT: John Cassidy/Edward Dolan

I have spoken with Tom Latimer <sup>↖</sup> within the last week twice re the John Cassidy/Edward Dolan matter. I have also spoken on two occasions with Cassidy. DOD is continuing its agency-wide search for the crash site. I advised Cassidy last week that DOD is painfully aware of the urgency of the matter and is exhausting all possible intelligence capabilities.

*Goode*



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 1, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:       RUSS ROURKE

FROM:                 JACK MARSH JOM

Check with Tom Latimer today to see what has happened on the request from John Cassidy for examination of aerial photos of that aircrash site.



see: Latimer

Cassidy, John<sup>3</sup>

August 14, 1975

Dear Tom:

Attached is a copy of the letter I talked with you about on the phone.

I would be grateful if you would look into this matter.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.  
Counsellor to the President

Mr. Thomas K. Latimer  
Special Assistant to the  
Secretary of Defense  
Department of Defense  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D. C.





LAW OFFICES  
MILLER, CASSIDY, LARROCA & LEWIN  
2555 M STREET, N.W. - SUITE 500  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20037

AREA CODE 202  
TELEPHONE 293-6400

HERBERT J. MILLER, JR.  
JOHN JOSEPH CASSIDY  
RAYMOND G. LARROCA  
NATHAN LEWIN  
MARTIN D. MINSKER  
WILLIAM H. JEFFRESS, JR.  
THOMAS D. ROWE, JR.  
R. STAN MORTENSON  
THOMAS B. CARR

JOSEPH S. MCCARTHY  
COURTNEY A. EVANS  
OF COUNSEL

August 4, 1975

Mr. John O. Marsh  
Counsellor to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Re: Edward Vincent Dolan, Jr.

Dear Jack:

A long-time and close friend of Jack Miller's and mine, Ed Dolan, was aboard an Air Vietnam plane which crashed in Viet Cong controlled territory in South Vietnam on March 12, 1975. Since that time Jack and I have been assisting his wife, Anne Dolan, who resides in Bethesda, in her efforts to determine his fate. To date, we have developed no solid information regarding his fate.

I understand that shortly after the crash, the crash site was photographed by our Government and that the photographs are here in Washington. It would be of considerable assistance to Anne Dolan if she and I could see these photographs to determine if there is any chance that Ed survived the crash, as we have received conflicting reports on the condition of the crashed plane.

The plane was a propeller-driven DC-4, Vietnamese Registration XVNUJ. It crashed at approximately 6:35 p.m., local time, on March 12, 1975 a few kilometers west of Thanh An village in South Vietnam's Central Highlands.




Mr. John O. Marsh  
Page Two  
August 4, 1975

The crash site has been alternatively reported as being 12 miles southwest of Pleiku and as being 12 miles south of Pleiku City. One report identified the crash site as follows: "UTM Grid Coordinates ZAO 55275, Geographic Coordinates 13 degrees, 48 minutes, 40 seconds north by 107 degrees, 49 minutes, 25 seconds east."

I would appreciate it if you could locate all photographs of the crashed plane and arrange for Anne Dolan and me to look at them and possibly obtain copies, if we so desire.

Ed Dolan made a substantial contribution to the people of South Vietnam, and both Jack Miller and I feel an obligation to do all that we can to aid Anne Dolan and her four children.

Sincerely,



John J. Cassidy

JJC:nlm



6  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Ann Dole - friend  
of Bill Colby - there  
were routinely pictures  
taken - by satellite  
air reconnaissance  
flights -

1. George Miller - AFD  
employee
2. interesting group  
of people - Miller  
son - entell. Price

7  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

in Bangkok...  
they feel the pictures  
are there

DIA -  
Cassidy  
Defense Intell. Agency  
took pictures -



8  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

1. DOD
2. AFD
3. State



9  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

— still digging

called Cassidy  
8/9/5 at 3:00 p.m.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

3 Sept -  
DAA spoke  
w/ Lutmer -  
will check &  
call back



September 2

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Mr. Marsh --

John Cassidy called about the attached.

He was just checking on the status.

Thanks.

donna



(see Latimer)

12

Dolan  
Edward V.

August 14, 1975

Dear Tom:

Attached is a copy of the letter I talked with you  
about on the phone.

I would be grateful if you would look into this matter.

Many thanks.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.  
Counsellor to the President

Mr. Thomas K. Latimer  
Special Assistant to the  
Secretary of Defense  
Department of Defense  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D. C.



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August 4, 1975

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The White House  
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Mr. John O. Marsh

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August 4, 1975

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I would appreciate it if you could locate all photographs of the crashed plane and arrange for Anne Dolan and me to look at them and possibly obtain copies, if we so desire.

Ed Dolan made a substantial contribution to the people of South Vietnam, and both Jack Miller and I feel an obligation to do all that we can to aid Anne Dolan and her four children.

Sincerely,



John J. Cassidy

JJC:nlm





November 18, 1975

Dear Ann:

It was thoughtful of you to write and thank us for our assistance to you and John Cassidy.

It was a pleasure to be of help, and Russ joins me in thanking you.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.  
Counsellor to the President

Mrs. Edward Dolan, Jr.  
5214 Falmouth Road  
Washington, D. C. 20016

JOM/dl





~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

NOV 6 1975



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

1 November 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR Mr. John O. Marsh, Jr.  
Counsellor to the President  
The White House

THROUGH: Captain Leland S. Kollmorgen, USM  
Military Assistant to the President  
The White House

SUBJECT: Edward Vincent Dolan, Jr.

Since Tom Latimer is on leave and we have already delayed so long in responding to your 14 August letter on Edward Dolan, I am replying in Tom's behalf.

I regret the delay in responding to your query, but we believed it was important to check out all of the leads available to us.

I am forwarding the only photography which we could locate relating to the crash site. In so doing we have learned that while other photography of the crash site may have been taken (one photo analyst thinks he remembers seeing such photography in Saigon) we have not located such photography. The possibility looms large that those photographs were either lost in the fall of Saigon or otherwise destroyed.

In the course of our checks we discussed the matter with the Joint Casualty Resolution Center (JCRC) located in Thailand. While they are primarily focused on military casualties, they are obviously in an excellent position to offer assistance, particularly if arrangements can be worked out with the NVA/PRG for casualty recovery operations in Vietnam. In this regard they have indicated an interest in obtaining any available information on Ed Dolan, particularly medical and dental records, in order to establish a file. I suggest that you raise the question with Mrs. Dolan. If she is interested in providing any information, we will make appropriate arrangements with the JCRC.

Kenneth R. Bailey  
Colonel, USA  
Military Assistant



- Attachments
1. Cable traffic
  2. DIA Memo
  3. DIA photography

Upon removal of attachments  
this document becomes

Sec Def Cont Nr. X- 3 2 3 6

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNCLASSIFIED

1 November 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR Mr. John O. Marsh, Jr.  
Counsellor to the President  
The White House

THROUGH: Captain Leland S. Bollmorgen, USN  
Military Assistant to the President  
The White House

SUBJECT: Edward Vincent Dolan, Jr.

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Kenneth R. Bailey  
Colonel, USA  
Military Assistant



Attachments

1. Cable traffic
2. DIA Memo
3. DIA photography

Sec Def Cont No. 3236

ENCLOSURE





ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

30 SEP 1975

PROGRAM ANALYSIS  
AND EVALUATION

Mr. Thomas B. Carr  
Miller, Cassidy, Larroca & Lewin  
2555 M Street, N.W. - Suite 500  
Washington, D.C. 20037

Dear Mr. Carr:

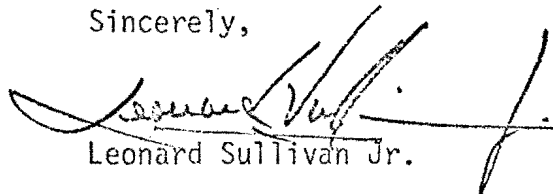
Thank you for your letter of September 29th, forwarding the information on the airplane crash in Vietnam involving my friend Mr. Edward V. Dolan, Jr.

I have forwarded this information to those responsible for searching for possible photography of that area at that time.

While I have no indication at present that such photography is available, this information should materially assist them in detecting the actual crash site if such photography is found to exist.

I cannot presently estimate when this search will be completed, but I can assure you that the Defense Department is responding to the request from Mr. John O. Marsh at the White House.

Sincerely,

  
Leonard Sullivan Jr.



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AREA CODE 202  
TELEPHONE 293-6400

ERT J. MILLER, JR.  
JOSEPH CASSIDY  
OND G. LARROCA  
AN LEWIN  
IN D. MINSKER  
AM H. JEFFRESS, JR.  
AS D. ROWE, JR.  
AN MORTENSON  
AS B. CARR

JOSEPH S. MCCARTHY  
COURTNEY A. EVANS  
OF COUNSEL

September 29, 1975

Mr. Leonard Sullivan, Jr.  
Assistant Secretary of Defense  
for Program Analysis and  
Evaluation  
Room 2E 812  
The Pentagon  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Sullivan: Re: Edward Vincent Dolan, Jr.

Pursuant to our telephone conversation last week, I am enclosing excerpts from a statement of a pilot who flew over the crash site of Air Vietnam Flight 499 on March 13, 1975. In addition I am enclosing a copy of a telegram which provides some information concerning the crash. If the xerox copies of the maps attached to the statement are not adequate for your purposes, I will be happy to loan the originals to you if you feel it would be helpful.

Please advise me if there is any additional material or assistance you need in this regard, and thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely yours,

*Thomas B Carr*

Thomas B. Carr

TBC/sl  
Enclosures



On the morning of March 13, 1975 I was flying an Air America aircraft near Ban Me Thuot on a radio relay mission. I had on board my plane at the time Mr. Spears, the American Consular General in Nha Trang, as well as one of his assistants. After we arrived overhead Ban Me Thuot and were unable to make radio contact with Ban Me Thuot, Mr. Spears requested that I fly north to Pleiku to investigate the reported crash of Air Vietnam Flight 499 from Vientiane in that area the previous evening. I confirmed this assignment with Air America offices in Saigon by radio and proceeded north to the area of the crash site. I landed my plane at the airport in Pleiku and discussed the matter with Earl Timme who was our chief customer for the Pleiku area. After learning the exact coordinates of the reported crash site, I flew alone from the Pleiku airport over the north-south road from Pleiku toward Ban Me Thuot for approximately five kilometers and turned west to fly over the east-west road towards Than An.\*\* The crash site was reported to be some four kilometers west of the Village of Than An.

That location would place the crash site at that time in a "no-man's land" some six kilometers from known hostile troop emplacements and some four kilometers from established friendly positions. However, both sides had patrols in that area.

\*\*Note: This may not be the correct name of the town.



After flying several kilometers down the road, towards Than An I flew into a fire fight between opposing troops and returned to the north-south highway. I made a second approach to the crash coordinates by flying several kilometers south of the east-west road and located the crash site by flying south along a creek bed. I did not receive any ground fire on this approach nor at any time I was over the crash site. I circled the crash site a number of times for about 15 minutes, fixing the crash site firmly in my mind.

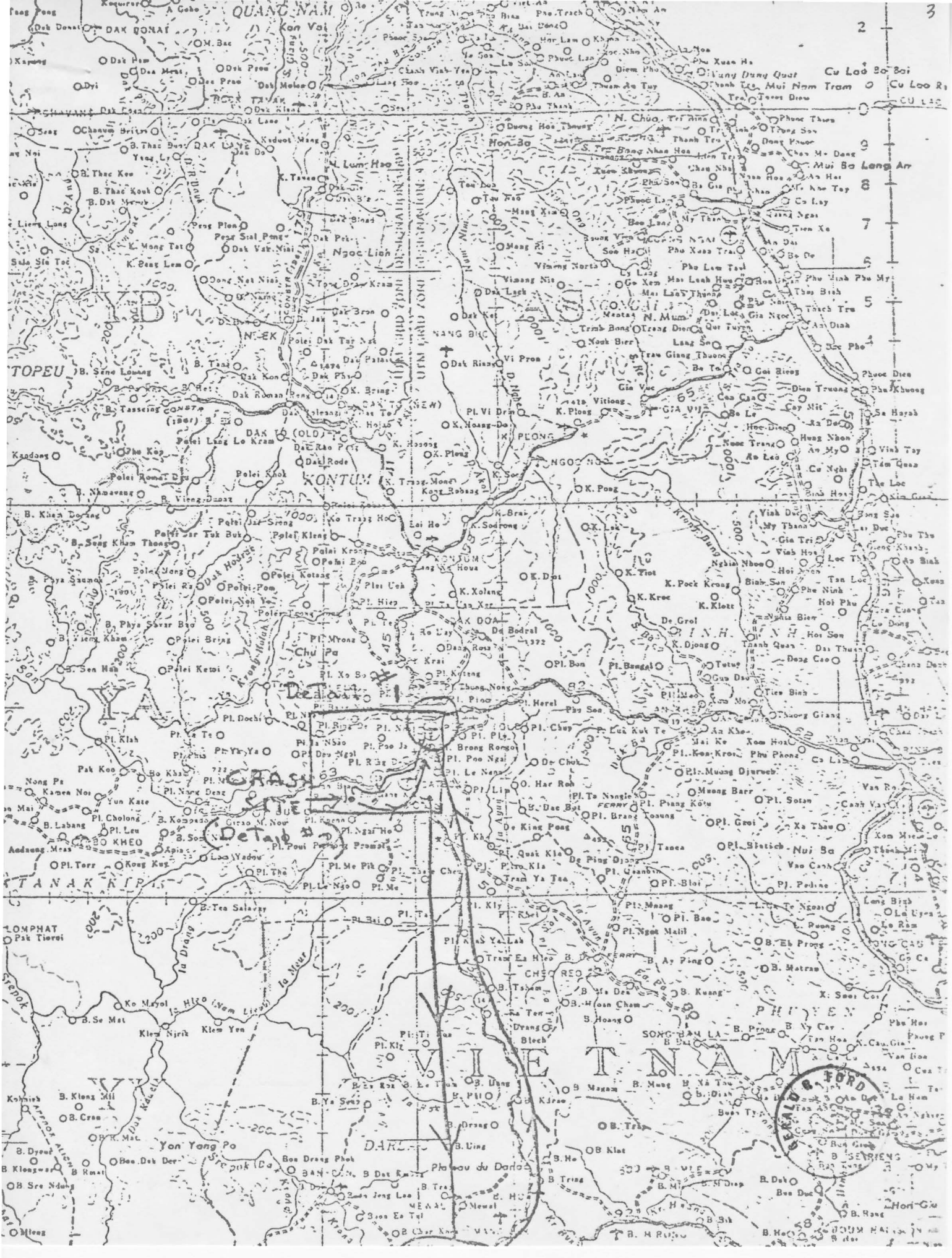
I have indicated this flight course on the attached exhibits to this statement.

The crash site was that of a very recent crash and was within several hundred yards of the reported crash site coordinates which would have placed it slightly north and to the west of the actual crash site. There was no other recent crash site in the vicinity of the crash site I observed. I determined that the crashed plane was a DC-4 type aircraft based upon the one section of wingtip still in tact and unburned, and based upon the skeleton outlines of the remainder of the plane. The fuselage of the crashed plane was completely burned out with only the structural spars in place. The tail section was not visible at all. The wings were completely burned except for one 10 to 14 foot section of the tip of the right wing. I saw no bodies and I saw no survivors, nor any activity on the ground in or around the airplane. The plane had crashed into the side of a hill with an approximate 30% slope, above and just east of a narrow creek bed. The terrain was rolling hills with a secondary growth of trees some 20 to 25 feet high.

At the time I viewed the crashed plane, the weather was clear. The plane was in a completely burned out area approximately twice the size of the airplane. There was no damage to any trees outside of this area and no debris outside of that area. It is my judgment that the plane plummeted into the hillside.







Cu Lao Ba Bai  
Cu Lao Trai

Mui Ba Lang An

Phu Vinh Phu My

Sa Hara

Phu Tho

Phu Ninh

Phu Phong

Phu Hoa

Phu Hoa

Phu Hoa

Phu Hoa

QUANG NAM

QUANG BINH

QUANG TRUNG

QUANG THON

QUANG PHU

QUANG BACH

QUANG THON

QUANG PHU

QUANG BACH

QUANG THON

QUANG PHU

QUANG BACH

QUANG BINH

QUANG TRUNG

QUANG THON

QUANG PHU

QUANG BACH

QUANG THON

QUANG PHU

QUANG BACH

QUANG THON

QUANG PHU



Departed PLEIKU SOUTH ALONG ROUTE 19 AT  
 0515 (30'-50'). Reaching Route 19 observed Roadblock  
 preventing westbound traffic and circled to check. Continued  
 to circle while engine westward along Route 19. While  
 overhead the hill just north of the District H.Q.,  
 felt, heard and observed heavy firefright with some  
 rounds directed at aircraft. Broke off towards the  
 S.W. and observed area from that area. When  
 area looked secure, returned towards site. Flying  
 along creek observed crash site. circled the  
 site to get firm observation and then departed  
 to the S.W. and returned to PLEIKU,

PLEIKU CITY

GERALD  
 FOR

Roadblock

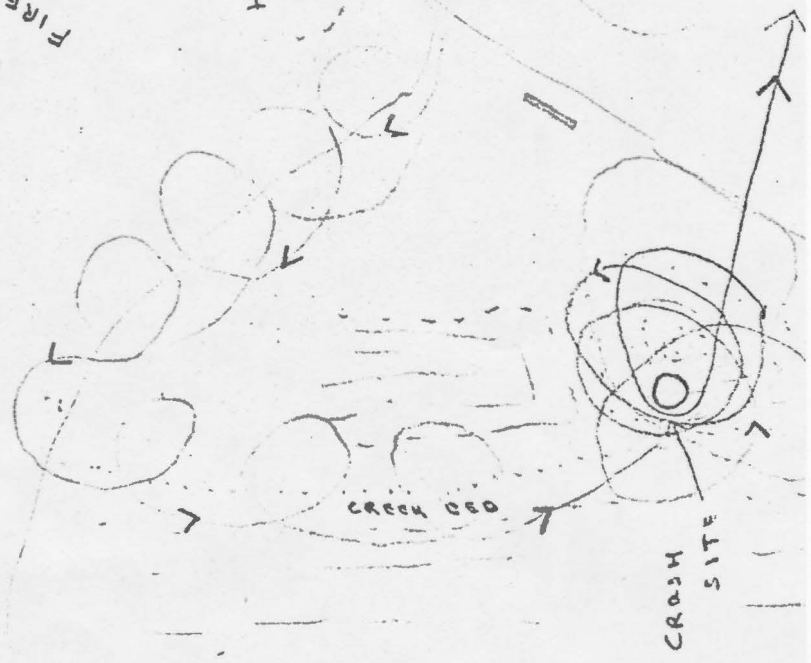
COMBINED  
 OVER HILL  
 TO ROAD

ROAD

FIRE FIGHT (SMALL FIRE)  
 AIRCRAFT DROPPED  
 GROUND TO GROUND  
 ACTIVITY

Hwy 19

Hwy 19

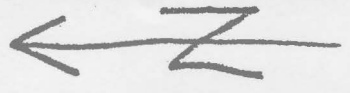


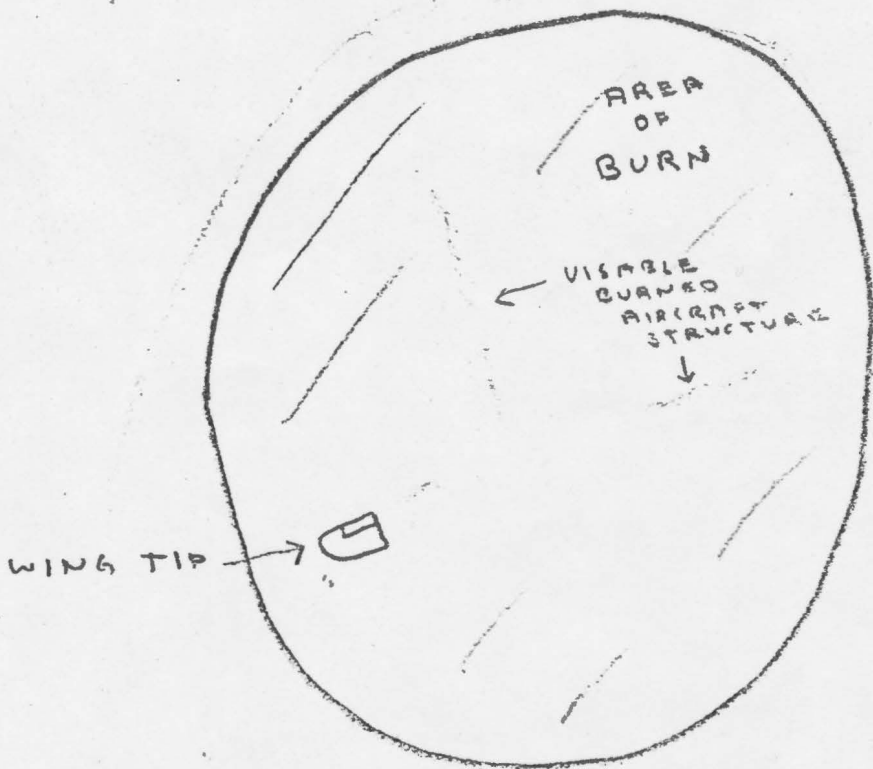
CRASH SITE

District Headquarters

HILL

CREEK





GROUND COVERED WITH  
SECONDARY GROWTH  
APPROXIMATELY 20' HIGH



This statement is made as a supplement to my August 15, 1975 statement concerning the crash of Air Vietnam Flight 499 in South Vietnam, on March 12, 1975. Since that statement I have been able to obtain a detailed map of the crash site area which I am attaching to this supplemental statement. The map which I have signed my name to is identified as Series 1501 Air, Sheet ND 48-12, Edition 3.

The reported crash site coordinates (UTM Grid Coordinates ZA 055 275) are marked on the map with a lead penciled "X". I have marked the actual crash site with a red penciled circle which is at approximately ZA 062 263 on the map. I have also marked the hill from which I received ground fire with a red penciled "X" which is at approximately ZA 128 303 on the map.









Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 0140

PAGE 01 SAIGON 02814 131220Z

53  
ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 L-02 H-02 NSC-05 ES-07 AID-00

SCS-03 SCA-01 PPT-01 SSD-00 NSCC-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

1063 W

----- 030142

R 131050Z MAR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
TO SFLSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3601  
INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 2814

F.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAIR, VS  
SUBJECT: CRASH OF AIR VIETNAM C-540 AIRCRAFT

REF: VIENTIANE 1760, 10FAM 521.6, VIENTIANE 1769, SAIGON 2777,  
SAIGON 2813

DETAILS OF THIS PRELIMINARY AIRCRAFT ACCIDENT REPORT WERE OBTAINED FROM DCA AND ARE KEYED TO 10 FAM 521.6 AS FOLLOWS:

- A. DOUGLAS C-540, VIETNAMESE REGISTRATION XVNUJ
- B. AIR VIETNAM, OWNER AND OPERATOR
- C. MARCH 12 AT 1835 HOURS LOCAL TIME
- D. DEPARTED VIENTIANE AS AIR VIETNAM FLIGHT 499 FOR SAIGON
- F. CRASH LOCATION: UTM GRID COORDINATES TAPD8875, GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES 10 DEGREES 48 MINUTES 40 SECONDS NORTH BY 107 DEGREES 49 MINUTES 25 SECONDS EAST IN HILLY COUNTRY COVERED



LIMITED OFFICIAL USE



Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAIGON 02814 131220Z

WITH SCATTERED TREES.

F. 6 CREW MEMBERS INCLUDING FILIPINO FLIGHT ENGINEER AND 20 PASSENGERS.

G. AT THE REQUEST OF PILOT FLIGHT 499 WAS DELAYED SO AIRCRAFT COULD ARRIVE IN SAIGON AT 2030 HOURS. PILOT HAD PLANNED TO FLY WITHOUT NAVIGATIONAL LIGHTS OVER ENEMY CONTROLLED AREAS. AIRCRAFT WHICH WAS FLYING ON IFR AT FL 110 HAD LAST CONTACTED SAIGON TOWER AT 1830 HOURS FROM PES. PILOT INFORMED TOWER THAT INSTEAD OF FLYING SOUTH TO SAIGON HE WOULD PROCEED ON GS7 AND ARRIVE OVER QUI NHON AT 1900 HOURS. IN SO DOING AIRCRAFT APPARENTLY FLEW THROUGH RESTRICTED AREA "GOLF 4," WHICH NOTAM A-101 OF JANUARY 30, 1975 HAD WARNED AIRCRAFT TO KEEP OUT OF. ALTHOUGH DCA DOES NOT KNOW CAUSE OF CRASH, IT DID LEARN OF AN ARVN REPORT FROM PLEIKU THAT AN AIR VIETNAM PLANE HAD BEEN HIT BY GROUND FIRE. ANOTHER REPORT INDICATED THAT AIRCRAFT WAS SEEN BURNING AT CRASH SITE. DCA SUSPECTS AIRCRAFT IS TOTAL LOSS AND THERE ARE NO SURVIVORS.

H. CRASH WILL BE INVESTIGATED AS SOON AS AREA CAN BE SECURED AND DCA CAN SEND TEAM TO CRASH SITE.

COMMENT: AIR VIETNAM HAS ONLY ONE C-54 LEFT (XVNUJ) OUT OF ORIGINAL FLEET OF FIVE SUCH AIRCRAFT. ONE CRASHED AT LAI AHE IN SEPTEMBER 1972, ANOTHER AT BAN ME THUOT IN MARCH 1973 AND A THIRD WAS BLOWN UP BY HIJACKER AFTER DEPARTING QUI NHON IN FEBRUARY 1974.  
LEHMANN



LIMITED OFFICIAL USE



ROUTING AND TRANSMITTAL SLIP		ACTION	
1 TO (Name, office symbol or location) Mr. Frank Sievert Special Assistant for Prisoner of War and Missing in Action	INITIALS	CIRCULATE	
	DATE	COORDINATION	
2 Matters Department of State Room 7245A Washington, D.C. 20520	INITIALS	FILE	
	DATE	INFORMATION	
3  Bob - here's all I have on	INITIALS	NOTE AND RETURN	
	DATE	PER CON- VERSATION	
4 The Dolan case.	INITIALS	SEE ME	
	DATE	SIGNATURE	
REMARKS			
<p>Enclosed is everything we have on the South Vietnam Airlines crash on 13 March 1975 involving Mr. Edward V. Dolan and two other Americans.</p>			
<p>Do NOT use this form as a RECORD of approvals, concurrences, disapprovals, clearances, and similar actions.</p>			
FROM (Name, office symbol or location)  GARY KOBLITZ		DATE	12 May 1975
		PHONE	25191

OPTIONAL FORM 41  
AUGUST 1967  
GSA FPMR (41CFR) 100-11.206

GPO 043-16-81418-1 419-015 5041-101  
C-5480/DI-6A4





40 : Frank Siventa  
CM

29 April 1975

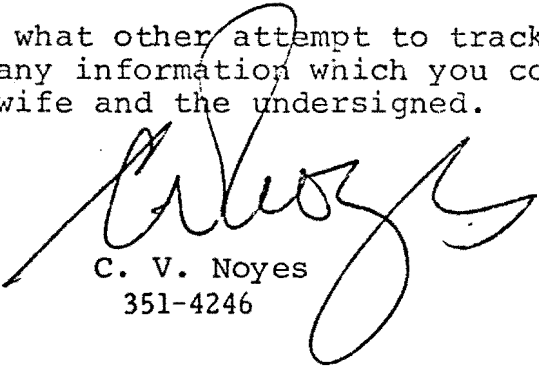
MEMORANDUM FOR: Mr. McManaway

SUBJECT : Edward Vincent Dolan

1. Mr. Dolan, who is an acquaintance, I have been advised is an employee of Moore Business Company and was on a flight on the South Vietnam Airlines from Laos to Saigon on 13 March 1975. The best I can determine is that the plane tried to land at Pleiku under some sort of emergency but did not make it.

2. I have some second hand information that Leonard Sullivan in the DDR&E has reported that the wreckage of the aircraft has been spotted from the air and there are photographs and is evidence of fire.

3. I don't know who or what other attempt to track down Mr. Dolan has been made but any information which you could find would be appreciated by his wife and the undersigned.

  
C. V. Noyes  
351-4246



WASH POST  
13 MARCH 73

# Viet Airliner Is Shot Down

From News Dispatches

SAIGON, March 13 (Wednesday)—Vietcong forces shot down an Air Vietnam airliner in the embattled Central Highlands Wednesday, killing all 26 persons aboard including two men from the Washington, D. C. area.

The two were identified as Edward V. Dolan and Robert Seidl, both employees of Moore Business Forms of Washington. [Dolan, who was manager of the Moore Company, lived at 5214 Falmouth in Bethesda. Seidl's address was not immediately available.]

A third American, George C. Miller, an official of the Agency for International Development, also died in the crash as did the Australian charge d'affaires in Hanoi, Graham Lewis.

The plane was en route from Vientiane, Laos to Saigon. It was shot down near Pleiku about 230 miles northeast of Saigon in an area which has seen heavy fighting in recent days.

The manifest identified the Americans as R. Seidl, Ed. Dolan, J. Louis and G. Miller.

The government announced the loss of Tritam district town, 40 miles northwest of Saigon. A province capital of major importance, Tayninh, is just 20 miles west of Tritam. Highway access from here to Tayninh has been cut for three days and a major assault on Tayninh is expected.

A force of 1,000 government militia, battered by a 300 rounds of mortars rockets and artillery, gave up Tritam and fled with an estimated 5,000 civilian refugees, about half the city's population, reports said.

The government also an-

nounced a "large-scale" operation to reinforce the defenders of Banmethuot with troops brought in by helicopters.

While the government called the situation "more favorable," other sources termed it desperate and said that the government has lost 22 warplanes and helicopters there in three days of fighting. U.S. officials said nine Americans still in the city were well.

A total of 33 Communist tanks have been destroyed in the three-day battle, including eight hit by air-to-ground missiles yesterday, the government spokesman said. He added that 17 more were destroyed elsewhere.

Banmethuot, with a population of 150,000, is located 150 miles northeast of Saigon and is a key government position in the lower part of the Central Highlands.

Fighting continued at several positions on the highway south of Banmethuot. There were also reports of heavy fighting north of Danang in the extreme north of the country, but no reports of any more major positions falling.

[The Saigon command on Thursday announced the fall of Buonho, a district town, 25 miles northeast of Banmethuot.]

The campaign has netted the North Vietnamese control over all overland supply routes in the highlands and many government hamlets, villages and outposts.

If the South Vietnamese fail to reopen the highways soon, experts said, airlifts would be required to supply major cities and towns, straining an air force already partly grounded by U.S. aid cuts.



EL1294  
RNR 905

13 MAR 68

INDOCHINA--LEAD PLANE

SAIGON, MARCH 13, REUTER -- AN AIR VIETNAM PLANE WITH 26 PEOPLE (ED: CORRECT) ON BOARD HAS CRASHED 15 MILES (25 KILOMETERS) ~~SOUTH~~ <sup>SOUTHWEST</sup> OF PLEIKU CITY, AIRLINE SOURCES SAID HERE TODAY.

AN INVESTIGATION TEAM HAS LEFT SAIGON FOR THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS AREA TO INVESTIGATE REPORTS THAT THE PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN BY COMMUNIST FORCES. FIFTEEN FOREIGNERS WERE AMONG THE PASSENGERS.

THE SOURCES SAID THE DC-4 AIRLINER CRASHED ON ITS WAY FROM VIENTIANE, LAOS, TO SAIGON YESTERDAY EVENING, BUT THE CAUSE OF THE CRASH HAD NOT YET BEEN ESTABLISHED.

THE FOREIGNERS ON BOARD WERE FOUR AMERICANS, TWO BRITISH, TWO FRENCH, TWO PAKISTANIS, ONE JAPANESE, ONE NEW ZEALANDER, ONE SWISS, ONE CANADIAN AND ONE LAOTIAN.

THE REMAINING FIVE PASSENGERS WERE VIETNAMESE IN ADDITION TO A VIETNAMESE CREW OF SIX, THE SOURCES SAID.

COMMUNIST FORCES....FIFTH GRAF RNR 891-RNA 892.

68

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6A1  
6A2  
6A3  
6A4

REUTER 2146

EL1313  
RNR 906

INDOCHINA-- FIGHTING

SAIGON, MARCH 13, REUTER -- COMMUNIST FORCES HAVE CAPTURED THEIR SIXTH DISTRICT TOWN IN FIVE DAYS AND FIGHTING IS STILL GOING ON IN BAN HE THUOT IN THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS, THE SAIGON COMMAND SAID TODAY.

THE COMMAND SAID BUON HO DISTRICT TOWN, 25 MILES (40 KILOMETERS) NORTHEAST OF BAN HE THUOT, WAS LOST YESTERDAY AFTERNOON SEVERAL HOURS AFTER COMMUNIST TROOPS ATTACKED IT.

WITH FIGHTING RAGING INSIDE BAN HE THUOT FOR THE FOURTH DAY, GOVERNMENT PILOTS REPORTED DESTROYING 18 TANKS AROUND THE TOWN YESTERDAY.

REUTER 2203



DIAI  
 ACTION DIAI DIA(10)  
 DISTR J3(10) NMCC SECDEF(04) ASD:ISA(10) NIC(01) HCCC(01) CMC(06)  
 CSAF WASH DC  
 CNO WASH DC  
 CSA WASH DC  
 NMCC:MC(01) RF(01) FILE(1)

(045)

TRANSIT/130221Z/130415Z/001154TOR0720346  
 DE RUMOFBA #1161 0720225  
 ZNR UUUUU ZZH ZYN  
 P 130221Z MAR 75  
 FM FBIS BANGKOK  
 TO RHMSMYA/USDAO SAIGON  
 RUAOFBA/FBIS OKINAWA JAPAN  
 RUADFBA/FBIS TOKYO JAPAN  
 RUCLAKA/CDR 4TH PSYOP GROUP FT BRAGG NC  
 RUMOMKA/FBIS LONDON  
 RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
 RUMOMHA/FBIS SAIGON  
 RUTLAAA/FBIS WASHDC  
 RHMFMTA/JUSMAG MACHTAI J-2  
 RHMFMTF/AFOSI DIST 51 BANGKOK THAILAND  
 RUADAHM/376TH STRAT WG/DCI  
 RUEADAG/DA CASUALTY DIV WASHDC  
 RUEKJCS/DIA (DC-4)  
 RUENBUA/BUPERS WASHDC  
 RUEOFIA/COE DNA WASHDC  
 RUEOLKN/NAVINTCOM (NIC-38)  
 RUMOSRA/DIR INT DEP COMD 7AR/13AF UDORN  
 RUMHRADA/CG THIRD MAF OKINAWA JAPAN  
 RUVHCCC/USAFMPC RANDOLPH AFB TEXAS  
 FBBK

BT  
 UNCLAS BBC RUHO  
 FOUR AMERICANS, ALL OTHERS KILLED IN AIR VIETNAM CRASH  
 BK130221 FOR EARLIER REPORT SEE SG130100 SAIGON DOMESTIC VIETNAMESE  
 122300HONG KONG AFP IN ENGLISH 0210 GMT 13 MAR 75 BK  
 ((TEXT)) SAIGON, MARCH 13 (AFP)-- ALL 26 PEOPLE ABOARD AN AIR  
 VIETNAM DC-4 DIED IN THE CRASH OF THE PLANE 25 KMS (16 MILES)  
 EAST OF PLEIKU IN THE WAR-TORN CENTRAL HIGHLANDS, AIR VIETNAM  
 PAGE 1

UNCLASSIFIED

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13 MAR 1975 00 20

6



DI-6		DISTRIBUTION -9	
Chief			
Dep Cur	✓	6A2	
Dep Proc	✓	6A2(C)	
Exec O.		6A2(L)	
6A		6A3	
6A1	✓	6A4	✓
6A1(a)	✓	6C	✓

EDWARD DOLAN; AND R. SEIDL -- LATTER TWO NO FURTHER IDENTIFIED,  
WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT DOLAN, AND PERHAPS  
SEIDL, MAY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH MOORE BUSINESS FORMS  
COMPANY. WE HAVE DETERMINED THAT FOURTH US SHOWN ON THE  
MANIFEST (J. LEWIS) IS ACTUALLY GRAEME LEWIS, AUSTRALIAN  
CHARGE IN HANOI.

3. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS TO EFFECT PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN.  
WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF THAT, WE ARE SEEKING INFORMATION AS  
TO CAUSE OF CRASH.

4. WE HAVE JUST BEEN INFORMED THAT A VIETNAMESE SEARCH TEAM HAS  
NOW REACHED THE CRASH SITE AND REPORTS THAT ALL ABOARD ARE DEAD.

LEHMANN

BT

#2777

ANNOTES

CAP 332

PAGE 2

NNNN

130350Z

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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G) G. SAVAB	PAKISTANI
H) SISANATH	LAO
I) G. MILLER	AMERICAN
J) PELPOIR	FRENCH
K) MRS. MADITHLE	VIETNAMESE
L) H. McDERMOTT	BRITISH
M) MRS. N. TURNBULL	BRITISH
N) TRAN SEANG HOR	CAMBODIAN
O) DR. STURZENEGGER	SWISS
P) RIDING	NEW ZEALAND
Q) MRS. HA NGOC LIEN	VIETNAMESE
R) MRS. DO THI TUOI	VIETNAMESE
S) MRS. TRAN THI NGHIA	VIETNAMESE
T) MRS. LE THI Y	VIETNAMESE

2. MR. GEORGE MILLER WAS USAID NARCOTICS ADVISER ASSIGNED TO THIS MISSION. MRS. MILLER IS HERE IN VIENTIANE AND HAS BEEN INFORMED OF HER HUSBAND'S PRESUMED DEATH.

3. FORTUNATELY, USMC CORPORAL F. J. RICHARD, WHOSE NAME INITIALLY APPEARED ON MANIFEST AND WHO IS MEMBER OF EMBASSY MARINE SECURITY DETACHMENT, HAD PASSPORT PROBLEMS AND THEREFORE DID NOT RPT NOT BOARD AIRCRAFT.

4. TWA AGENT HERE REPORTS THAT MESSRS. SIEDL AND DOLAN WERE U.S. CITIZENS TRAVELING ON TWO TICKETS ISSUED IN U.S. THEIR PASSPORT NUMBERS ARE, RESPECTIVELY, F-037851 AND A-986761; WE ARE UNABLE TO OBTAIN THEIR FORWARDING ADDRESSES. REQUEST DEPARTMENT OBTAIN HOME ADDRESSES AND REPORT DEATHS TO NEXT OF KIN.

5. MR. GRAHAM LEWIS, THE AUSTRALIAN CHARGE IN HANOI, WAS ALSO ON BOARD FLIGHT. AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY WAS INFORMED OF THIS FACT AT 0045 HOURS MARCH 13.

WHITEHOUSE

BT

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ANNOTES

CAP 332

PAGE 2

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ACTION

DISTR CJCS:(04) CJCS(01) DJS(01) SJCS(02) J3(10) J5(01) NMCC  
SECDEF(04) SECDEF:(P1) ASD:ISA(10) ASD:COMP(01) ASD:PA&E(01)  
ASD:PA(01) DIA: :DIA(15) NMCC(01) CMC(06)  
CSAF WASH DC  
CNO WASH DC  
CSA WASH DC  
NMCC2 FILE(1)

(060)

TRANSIT/130307Z/130349Z/000:42TOR0720336  
ZNY CCCC ZOC STATE ZZH  
THJB079JIA353  
OO RUEHC RUEHBAC  
DE RUMJIR #2777 0720320  
ZNY CCCC ZZH  
O 130307Z MAR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3574  
INFO RUEHBAC/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE 3701  
RUMJFS/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE 3808  
RUMJNE/AMCONSUL NHA TRANG IMMEDIATE 2831  
BT

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 2777  
E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, EAIR, MILI, VS  
SUBJECT: AIR VIET-NAM CRASH NEAR PLEIKU  
1. REGULARLY SCHEDULED AIR VIET-NAM DC-4 FLYING FROM VIENTIANE TO SAIGON MARCH 12 CRASHED IN PLEIKU PROVINCE IN THE VICINITY OF ZA 055275 (ABOUT 25 KM SOUTHWEST OF PLEIKU CITY) ABOUT 1830 HOURS LOCAL.  
2. AIR VIET-NAM INFORMED US LATE LAST EVENING THERE WERE NINETEEN PASSENGERS AND SIX CREW ON THE FLIGHT, FLIGHT MANIFEST OBTAINED FROM AIR VIET-NAM THIS MORNING LISTS 25 PASSENGERS, INCLUDING FOUR US. WE HAVE DETERMINED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WERE THREE AMERICANS ABOARD: G. MILLER, USAID/VIENTIANE/

PAGE 1

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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DPO, 4/25/82



DI-6 DISTRIBUTION			
Chief	✓	6A2	
Dep Dir	✓	6A2(C)	
Dep Proc	✓	6A2(L)	
Exec C.		6A2(T)	
6X		6A3	✓
6Y	✓	6A4	✓
6Z	✓	6A5	✓
6AA	✓	6A6	✓

REC'D 1303 071-21  
12 MAR 1975 23 57



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

12791

EDWARD DOLAN; AND R. SEIDL -- LATTER TWO NO FURTHER IDENTIFIED.  
WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT DOLAN, AND PERHAPS  
SEIDL, MAY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH MOORE BUSINESS FORMS  
COMPANY, WE HAVE DETERMINED THAT FOURTH US SHOWN ON THE  
MANIFEST (J. LEWIS) IS ACTUALLY GRAEME LEWIS, AUSTRALIAN  
CHARGE IN HANOI.

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TO CAUSE OF CRASH.

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NOW REACHED THE CRASH SITE AND REPORTS THAT ALL ABOARD ARE DEAD.

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ANNOTES

CAP 332

PAGE 2  
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ACTION:

DISTR CJCS(01) OJS(01) SJCS(02) J3(10) J5(01) NMCC SECDEF(04)  
SECDEF:(01) ASD:ISA(10) ASD:PA&E(01) ASD:PA(01) DIAI :DIA(15) NMCC(01)  
CMC(06)  
CSAF WASH DC  
CND WASH DC  
CSA WASH DC  
NMCC2 NMCC:MC(01) FILE(1)

(056)

TRANSIT/130330Z/130409Z/000139TOR0720406

ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH

TMJA707JFA384

OO RUEHC

DE RUMJFS #1762 0720335

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

O 130330Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2873

BT

UNCLAS VIENTIANE 1762

AIDAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJ: GEORGE C. MILLER/71

MR. MILLER WAS A PASSENGER ON AIR VIETNAM FLIGHT VN 499 DEPARTING VIENTIANE TO SAIGON ON MARCH 12 WHICH CRASHED IN THE VICINITY OF PLEIKU, VIETNAM. SAIGON REPORTS INDICATE NO SURVIVORS, HOWEVER AN ON-SITE EXAMINATION HAS NOT YET BEEN MADE.

PLEASE INFORM SON, FIRST LIEUTENANT RICHARD MILLER, 1ST MI CO., 1ST INFANTRY DIVISION, FORT RILEY, KANSAS, OFFICE PHONE 913-239-7776, HOME PHONE 913-239-2402. ALSO INFORM MRS. MILLER'S SISTER MRS. PHIL PONTIUS, 3624 TERRACE HILL N.E., CEDAR RAPIDS IOWA, (PHONE NUMBER NOT KNOWN).

MRS. MILLER REQUESTS SON JOIN HER IN VIENTIANE ASAP. IF TRAVEL CANNOT BE PROVIDED BY USG, MRS. MILLER ASKS THAT HE OBTAIN FUNDS FROM MRS. PONTIUS WHOM SHE WILL REIMBURSE. DUE TO SITUATION IN LAOS LT. MILLER MUST RPT MUST TRAVEL AS CIVILIAN AND MUST BE IN POSSESSION VALID NON-OFFICIAL PASSPORT.

PAGE 1

UNCLASSIFIED

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13 MAR 75 00 14



MRS. MILLER RECENTLY UNDERWENT SURGERY IN BANGKOK. THERE ARE NO COMPLICATIONS AND SHE IS FACING SITUATION COURAGEOUSLY BUT NEEDS SON'S HELP IN MANAGING PERSONAL AFFAIRS. PLEASE EXTEND OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY TO LT. MILLER AND MRS. PONTIUS AND ASSURE THEM THAT WE ARE DOING ALL WE CAN TO ASSIST MRS. MILLER. WE WILL FURNISH FURTHER DETAILS WHEN KNOWN.  
ADVISE ETA SON.

WHITEHOUSE

BT

#1762

ANNOTES

CAP 332.

PAGE 2  
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ACTION

DISTR CJCS(01) DJS(01) SJCS(02) J3(10) J5(01) NMCC SECDEF(04)  
SECDEF:(01) ASD:ISA(10) ASD:PAKE(01) ASD:PA(01) DIAI :DIAI(15) NMCC(01)  
CNC(06)  
CSAF WASH DC  
CNO WASH DC  
CSA WASH DC  
NMCC2 NMCC:MC(01) FILE(1)

(056)

TRANSIT/130407Z/130420Z/000122TOR0720427  
ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH  
THJA704JFA389  
OO RUEHC RUEHGN.  
DE RUMJF8 #1769 0720413  
ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
O P 130407Z MAR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2879  
INFO RUEHGN/AMEMBASSY SAIGON PRIORITY 460  
BT

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UNCLAS VIENTIANE 1769  
E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAIR, CASC, LA  
SUBJECT: FURTHER IDENTIFICATION OF AMERICAN CITIZENS INVOLVED  
IN CRASH OF AIR VIETNAM FLIGHT 499  
REF: VIENTIANE 1760  
ACCORDING TO AMERICAN SOURCE HERE IN VIENTIANE, MESSRS. SIEDL  
AND DOLAN BOTH WORKED FOR MOORE BUSINESS FORMS, INC., FEDERAL  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS OFFICE, 305 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING,  
WASHINGTON, D.C., 20004, THE OFFICE TELEPHONE NUMBER IS  
LISTED AS (202) 393-3863.  
WHITEHOUSE

BT  
#1769  
ANNOTES  
CAP 332

PAGE 1  
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D-6 DISTRIBUTION			
Chief		072	
Dep Dir		0200	
Dep Proc		0200	
Exec S.		0200	
GA		0200	
GA	✓	0200	✓
GA1	✓	0200	
GA1 (a)	✓	0200	

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

MESSAGE CENTER

*(Handwritten initials)*

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RUEKJCS

ACTION

DISTR ANMCC EAO CJCS(01) DJ8(01) SJCS(02) J1(01) J3(10) J4(06) J5(01)

J6(01) NMCC SECDEF(04) SECDEF:(01) ASD:ISA(10) ASD:PA(01) DIA:

SECSTATE WASH DC

CIA

:DIA:(05) NSC(05)

WHITE HOUSE WASH DC

MCCC(01) CMC(06)

CSAF WASH DC

CNO WASH DC

CSA WASH DC

NMCC2 NMCC:MC(01) FILE(1)

(050)

60

IMMEDIATE

TRANSIT/131943Z/132327Z/003:44TOR0722321

DE RUEADUA #1644 0722320

ZNR UUUUU

OTTUZYUW RUEADUA1644 0721946-UUUU--RUMOUHA RHMSMVA RUHHAGA RUHHRGA

RUEKJCS.

ZNR UUUUU

O P 131943Z MAR 75

FM DIR USA MEMORIAL AFFAIRS WASH DC //DAAG-MED//

TO RUMOUHA/CDR USMACTHAI SPT GP SAMAE SAN THAI //THCIL/THSS-M//

INFO RHMSMVA/USDAO SGN RVN

RUHHAGA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI //J318/J31//

RUHHRGA/CDR USA CINCPAC SPT GP FT SHAFTER HI //GPLO-SS-8//

RUMOUHA/CDR JCRC CP SAMAE SAN THAI //COD/OPS//

RHMSMVA/CDR JCRC LNS SGN RVN

RUEKJCS/JCS WASH DC

BT

UNCLAS

SUBJECT: RECOVERY OF U. S. PERSONNEL ABOARD AIR VIETNAM AIRLINES  
ARMY MORTUARY FACILITIES ARE AVAILABLE IN THAILAND TO PROVIDE  
ASSISTANCE AS NECESSARY TO EFFECT RECOVERY AND IDENTIFICATION OF  
U. S. PERSON ABOARD AIR VIETNAM AIRLINES WHICH WAS LOST 12 MAR 75.  
IF DESIRED THAT REMAINS BE PROCESSED BY U. S. ARMY MORTUARY  
FACILITIES, REQUEST REMAINS BE DELIVERED TO U.S. ARMY MORTUARY  
IN THAILAND FOR FINAL PROCESSING AND RETURN TO CONUS.

BT

#1644

ANNOTES

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PAGE 1

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ACTION

DISTR CJCS:(04) DJS(03) SJCS(02) J1(03) J3(10) J5(02) NMCC  
SECDEF(04) OSD:ADM(04) SECDEF: ASD:IL(02) ASD:M&RA(01) ASD:ISA(10)  
ASD:COMP(01) ASD:PA&E(01) ASD:PA(01) GC(01) DIA: DIA(15) NMCC  
CNC  
CSAF WASH DC  
CNO WASH DC  
CSA WASH DC  
FILE(1)

(065)

TRANSIT/150420Z/170615Z/049:55TOR0760554.

ZNR UUUUU ZDC STATE ZZH

THJA916JFA754

OO RUEHC RUEHGN RUEHGNN RUEHGNP

DE RUMJFS #1856 0740430

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

O 150420Z MAR 75 ZDK

FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2922

INFO RUEHGN/AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE 467

RUEHGN/AMCONSUL NHA TRANG IMMEDIATE 01

RUEHGNP/AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH PRIORITY 3095

BT

UNCLAS VIENTIANE 1856

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CD&S, VS (DOLAN, EDWARD AND SEIDL, ROBERT)

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE DEATH OF DOLAN AND SEIDL

REF: STATE 057947 (NOTAL)

VIENTIANE 1760 (NOTAL)

1. INFORMATION CONTAINED IN VIENTIANE REFERENCE WAS BASED ON  
A COPY OF PASSENGER MANIFEST RECEIVED FROM AIR VIETNAM WHICH  
LISTED MESSRS DOLAN AND SEIDL. FURTHER, PASSPORT NUMBERS WERE  
CONFIRMED BY LANE XANG HOTEL WHERE BOTH MEN WERE REGISTERED  
THE NIGHT PRIOR TO THE FLIGHT. NO FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAIL-  
ABLE IN VIENTIANE AT THIS TIME.

2. FOR SAIGON AND NHA TRANG: WE ALSO HAVE INTENSIVE INQUIRIES

PAGE 1

UNCLASSIFIED

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6-0  
DISTRIBUTION

Chief		6A2	/
Dep Cur		6A2(C)	/
Dep Proc		6A2(L)	/
Exec O.		6A2(T)	/
6X		6A3	/
6A	/	6A4	/
6A1	/	6C	/
6A1 (a)	/	6D	/



FROM WIFE OF USATO OFFICER MILLER AND WIFE OF SWISS PASSENGER  
DR. STRUZENEGER WHO IS RESIDENT LUANG PRABANG. (FYI, LAO  
LANGUAGE DATES SIENG SEPI AND SAY KANG, IN THEIR MARCH 14  
EDITIONS PUBLISHED AFTERNOON MARCH 13, CARRIED UNSOURCED STATE-  
MENT THAT 20 PERSONS DIED BUT SIX SURVIVED CRASH. WE BELIEVE  
THESE REPORTS MAY DREIVE FROM DISCREPANCY BETWEEN NUMBER OF  
PASSENGERS ORIGINALLY MANIFESTED AND NUMBER WHO ACTUALLY  
BOARDED FLIGHT; IN ANY CASE, WE KNOW OF NO RPT NO BASIS IN  
FACT FOR REPORT OF SURVIVORS. SIENG SERI REPORT ADDED, ALSO  
WITHOUT IDENTIFYING ANY SOURCE, THAT PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN BY  
NVA/VC.) REQUEST ANY NEW INFORMATION SOONEST.  
WHITEHOUSE

BT

#1856

ANNOTES

OPIG TRANS NOT IDENTIFIED

RCR 332

PAGE 2

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REC'D INMIC (DI-2)

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26 MAR 1975 21 45

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SECT 60 OF 03535

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DIA:

ACTION

DISTR CJCS(01) DJS(03) SJCS(02) J3(10) J4(08) J5(02) SECDEF(04)  
SECDEF: ASD:ISA(10) ASD:PA&E(01) ASD:PA(01) DIA: IDIA(15) MCCC  
CMC  
CSAF WASH DC  
CNO WASH DC  
CSA WASH DC  
FILE(1)

6

(058)

TRANSIT/260905Z/270046Z/015:41TOR0860045

ZNR UUUUU ZOC STATE ZZH

TSUP365R

109773 GNS520 (TREAT AS ORIG)

PP RUEHC

DE RUEHGN #3535 0851115

ZNR UUUUU ZZH

P 260905Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO RUMJFS/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY 2835

INFO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4154

BT

UNCLAS SAIGON 3535

REF: VIENTIANE 2051

1. EMBASSY PREPARED FORM FS-192, REPORT OF THE PRESUMPTIVE DEATH OF AN AMERICAN CITIZEN, ON GEORGE C. MILLER, AIR POUCHED TO VIENTIANE TODAY.

2. AIR VIETNAM STATES ALL NEXT OF KIN OF OTHER PASSENGERS ON PLANE MAKING SAME INQUIRIES REGARDING COMPENSATION FOR VICTIMS. AT AIR VIETNAM'S REQUEST, AS THEY CLAIM SEVERAL DIFFERENT OFFICES MUST ANSWER QUERIES, EMBASSY SUBMITTED LETTER DATED MARCH 21 REQUESTING INFORMATION ON INSURANCE COVERAGE CARRIED BY AIR VIETNAM, WILL ADVISE YOU WHEN REPLY RECEIVED.

LEHMANN

BT

#3535

ANNOTES

JFW 332

PAGE 1

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GARY

EMPA

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

*Unclassified*

*Mar 30, 1975*

*Re: [unclear] EA/W*

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 1806

PAGE 01 SAIGON 02777 130330Z

**ACTION COPY**

FM ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00  
USIE-00 INRE-00 INR-07 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05  
L-02 H-02 PM-03 SC3-03 SCA-01 PPT-01 ATD-05 EB-07

1066 W

0 130307Z MAR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3574  
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG IMMEDIATE

022518

Action Assigned to W

Action taken \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Action \_\_\_\_\_

Action Office Symbol \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Officer \_\_\_\_\_

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 2777

R. N. 110521 N/A  
TAGS: CGEN, FAIR, MILI, VS  
SUBJECT: AIR VIET-NAM CRASH NEAR PLEIKU

1. REGULARLY SCHEDULED AIR VIET-NAM DC-4 FLYING FROM VIENTIANE TO SAIGON MARCH 12 CRASHED IN PLFIKU PROVINCE IN THE VICINITY OF ZA 055275 (ABOUT 25 KM SOUTHWEST OF PLEIKU CITY) ABOUT 1830 HOURS LOCAL.

2. AIR VIET-NAM INFORMED US LATE LAST EVENING THERE WERE NINETEEN PASSENGERS AND SIX CREW ON THE FLIGHT. FLIGHT MANIFEST OBTAINED FROM AIR VIET-NAM THIS MORNING LISTS 25 PASSENGERS, INCLUDING FOUR US. WE HAVE DETERMINED, HOWEVER, THAT THERE WERE THREE AMERICANS ABOARD: G. MILLER, USAID/VIENTIANE; EDWARD DOLAN; AND R. SEIDL -- LATTER TWO NOT FURTHER IDENTIFIED. WE HAVE JUST RECEIVED INFORMATION THAT DOLAN, AND PERHAPS SEIDL, MAY HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH MOORE BUSINESS FORMS COMPANY. WE HAVE DETERMINED THAT FOURTH US SHOWN ON THE MANIFEST (J. LEWIS) IS ACTUALLY GRAEME LEWIS, AUSTRALIAN CHARGE IN HANOI.



*Unclassified*  
*Re: [unclear] EA/W*  
*Mar 30, 1975*  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE



Department of State

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAIGON 02777 130330Z

3. THERE HAVE BEEN REPORTS TO EFFECT PLANE WAS SHUT DOWN.  
WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OF THAT. WE ARE SEEKING INFORMATION AS  
TO CAUSE OF CRASH.

4. WE HAVE JUST BEEN INFORMED THAT A VIETNAMESE SEARCH TEAM HAS  
NOW REACHED THE CRASH SITE AND REPORTS THAT ALL ABOARD ARE DEAD.  
LEHMANN



LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 7





Department of State

TELEGRAM

*Handwritten:* EA/M, May 30, 1975

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 3950

*Handwritten:* crash

PAGE 01 SAIGON 02813 131351Z

51  
ACTION EA-10

ACTION COPY

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 EB-07 LIAE-00 DODE-00

NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USTE-00 INRE-00 INR-07 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSC-05 L-02 H-02 PM-03 PPT-01

AID-05 /056 W

031289

O P 131045Z MAR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3600  
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY  
AMCONSUL NHA TPANG PRIORITY

Routing slip with fields: Action Assigned to, Action Taken, etc.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAIGON 2813

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CASC FAIR MOPS MILI VS  
SUBJECT: AIR VIET-NAM CRASH NEAR PLEIKU

REF: A. SAIGON 2777 B. VIENTIANE 1760 C. VIENTIANE 1769  
D. SAIGON 2814

1. PARA 4 REF A APPEARS TO BE INCORRECT. WE HAVE RECEIVED LATER WORD FROM CONGEN NHA TRANG THAT AN ARVN COMPANY WAS DISPATCHED TO THE CRASH SITE BUT DID NOT REPEAT NOT REACH IT. THE COMPANY RETURNED TO ITS HQ REPORTING IT COULD NOT FIND THE SITE.

2. AIR AMERICA PILOT CIRCLED THE CRASH SITE EARLIER TODAY AT ALTITUDE OF ONE HUNDRED FEET DURING WHICH HE DREW GROUND FIRE. PILOT REPORTED HE COULD SEE ABOUT HALF OF AN AIRPLANE, AND FROM THE GENERAL VIEW DEEMED IT PROBABLE THERE NO SURVIVORS. HE SAID SURROUNDING FOLIAGE DID NOT APPEAR CUT, LEADING HIM TO BELIEVE THAT THE PLANE PLUMMETED INTO THE HILLSIDE. PILOT ALSO SAW EVIDENCE OF A PIPE.

*Handwritten:* Undispatched May 30, 1975  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
*Handwritten:* EA/M





*EA/vn  
R. R. Underhill  
May 30, 1976*

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAIGON 02813 131351Z

3. JUST PRIOR TO THE CRASH THE THANH AN DEPUTY DISTRICT CHIEF AND AN ARVN OFFICER REPORTEDLY SAW THE PLANE FLYING AT APPROXIMATELY 1500 FEET AND THEN SAW A SMALL EXPLOSION. WE HAVE LEARNED FROM AIR VIET-NAM IN SAIGON THAT THE PILOT OF THE AIR VIET-NAM FLIGHT HAD ASKED PLEIKU TOWER FOR PERMISSION TO MAKE AN EMERGENCY LANDING. THAT WAS THE LAST WORD FROM THE PLANE. AIR VIET-NAM HAS NO INDICATION AS TO WHY THE EMERGENCY LANDING REQUEST WAS MADE.

4. FOR SPS: MRS DOLAN'S HOME TELEPHONE NUMBER IS 301-229-8655, AND MRS SEIOLE'S IS 312-587-9247.

5. RE PARA 2, REFTEL A, CLARIFICATION OF PASSENGER LIST INDICATES 19 PASSENGERS.  
LEHMANN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE





UNCLASSIFIED 3515

PAGE 01 STATE 056248

01  
ORIGIN SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 S/ -01 /019 P

DRAFTED BY SCA:SCS:KJGREEN:00  
APPROVED BY SCA:SCS:LPMULLIN  
EA - MR. R.G. RICHMOND  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
EA

*KW*  
*FB*  
*BB*

031882

O 131429Z MAR 75  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH IMMEDIATE

*Cont*  
*File*

UNCLAS STATE 056248

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CDSES, VS (DOLAN, EDWARD AND SEIDL, ROBERT)  
SUBJECT: PRESUMED DEATH OF DOLAN AND SEIDL

REF: VIENTIANE 1769

1. BILL HAMILTON OF MOORE BUSINESS FORMS INC., FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS OFFICE, 385 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING WASHINGTON, D. C. 20024, TELEPHONE 202-393-3863 CONFIRMS SUBJECTS AFFILIATED WITH HIS OFFICE. NEXT-OF-KIN HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED BY FIRM. APPEARS MOORE WILL HANDLE NECESSARY DETAILS RE POSSIBLE DISPOSITION OF REMAINS. FIRM WILL COMMUNICATE VIA DEPARTMENT CONCERNING CASE. MR. HAMILTON STATED MOST INSISTENT QUERY FROM ALL CONCERNED IS WHETHER CRASH SITE HAS BEEN REACHED AND POSITIVE CONFIRMATION OF DEATHS MADE.
2. POSTS REQUESTED TO REPORT TO DEPARTMENT EARLIEST ON DEVELOPMENTS REGARDING CRASH. INGERSOLL

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 3565

PAGE 01 STATE 056270

53  
ORIGIN SNM-02

INFO OCT-01 PA-10 ISO-02 AID-05 DE -00 /018 R

DRAFTED BY S/NM1JFRAFFERTY:BB  
APPROVED BY S/IM:DHERNST  
AID:HWAMPLER (SUBS)

032176

G P 131456Z MAR 75  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY MANILA IMMEDIATE  
INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 056270

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR

SUBJECT: M., GEORGE MILLER, USOM-LAOS

EMBASSIES PLEASE PASS AMB. VANCE - S/NM

1. MR. GEORGE MILLER, RECORDS AND IDENTIFICATION OFFICER  
ASSIGNED TO THE AID MISSION IN LAOS AND FUNDED BY  
SECTION 482 FUNDS AS HE WAS ASSIGNED TO NARCOTICS  
MATTERS, WAS KILLED 3/L;12 IN CRASH OF AIR VIETNAM  
COMMERCIAL AIRLINER SHOT DOWN OVER VIETNAM. AID PERSONNEL  
OFFICE HAS NOTIFIED HIS SON AND IS TAKING CARE OF ALL  
PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS. AID  
ADMINISTRATOR WILL BE SENDING LETTER OF CONDOLENCE TO  
FAMILY IN LAOS. INGERSOLL

*Rw*

*AV-C  
Crash*

UNCLASSIFIED

*23*





Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 7086

*Handwritten:* RTH Request  
copy sent

PAGE 01 SAIGON 02902 141251Z

44  
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 FA-10 ISO-00 DOT-00 FAA-00 /018 W  
----- 050457

R 141035Z MAR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3661

UNCLAS SAIGON 02902

F.O. 11652;; ,/A  
TAGS: EAIR, ASAF, VS  
SUBJECT: READOUT OF FLIGHT RECORDER

REF: STATE 027991

DCA HAS INQUIRED ONCE AGAIN ABOUT RESULTS OF READOUT. PLEASE  
ADVISE WHEN NTSB WILL FORWARD RESULTS TO POST.  
LEHMANN

*Handwritten:* for files?  
aircraft  
Subject



UNCLASSIFIED

*Handwritten:* 47





Department of State

INFORMATION

UNCLASSIFIED 7446

PAGE 01 STATE 057947

73  
ORIGIN SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 H-02 CIAE INR-07 NSAE-04  
EB-07 /026 R

DRAFTED BY SCA:SCS:WJGREEN:BB  
APPROVED BY SCA:SCS:LPMULLIN  
DESIRED DISTRIBUTION  
EA

AV-6

\*\*\*\*\* 058796

O 142101Z MAR 75  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 057947

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CDES, VS (DOLAN, EDWARD AND SEIDL, ROBERT)  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE DEATH OF DOLAN AND SEIDL

REF: STATE 056248 AND PREVIOUS

1. DUE INTENSE CONGRESSIONAL, FAMILY AND PRESS INQUIRIES IF POSSIBLE POST IS REQUESTED TO FURNISH FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING POSITIVE CONFIRMATION OF DEATHS OF DOLAN AND SEIDL. IF CONFIRMATION OF DEATH NOT IMMINENT CAN POST INSTRUCT AS TO REASONS FOR DELAY AND WHEN SUCH CONFIRMATION MAY BE FORTHCOMING. INGERSOLL





UNCLASSIFIED 0802

~~RW~~  
~~AB~~  
RR

PAGE 01 VIENTI 01856 170549Z

17  
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SCA-01  
EB-07 SSO-00 INRE-00 AID-05 PPT-00 DODE-00 SY-05

7038 W

082139

0 150420Z MAR 75 ZDK  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2922  
INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL NHA TRANG IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH PRIORITY

CP

UNCLAS VIENTIANAV1856

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CDES, VS (DOLAN, EDWARD AND SEIDL, ROBERT)  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE DEATH OF DOLAN AND SEIDL

REF: STATE 057947 (NOTAL)  
VIENTIANE 1760 (NOTAL)

1. INFORMATION CONTAINED IN VIENTIANE REFERENCE WAS BASED ON A COPY OF PASSENGER MANIFEST RECEIVED FROM AIR VIETNAM WHICH LISTED MESSRS DOLAN AND SEIDL. FURTHER, PASSPORT NUMBERS WERE CONFIRMED BY LANE XANG HOTEL WHERE BOTH MEN WERE REGISTERED THE NIGHT PRIOR TO THE FLIGHT. NO FURTHER INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN VIENTIANE AT THIS TIME.

2. FOR SAIGON AND NHA TRANG: WE ALSO HAVE INTENSIVE INQUIRIES FROM WIFE OF USAID OFFICER MILLER AND WIFE OF SWISS PASSENGER DR. STRUZENEGGER WHO IS RESIDENT LUANG PRABANG. (FYI, LAO-LANGUAGE DALIES SIENG SERI AND SAY KANG, IN THEIR MARCH 14 EDITIONS PUBLISHED AFTERNOON MARCH 13, CARRIED UNSOURCED STATEMENT THAT 20 PERSONS DIED BUT SIX SURVIVED CRASH. WE BELIEVE THESE REPORTS MAY DERIVE FROM DISCREPANCY BETWEEN NUMBER OF PASSENGERS ORIGINALLY MANIFESTED AND NUMBER WHO ACTUALLY BOARDED FLIGHT; IN ANY CASE, WE KNOW OF NO RPT NO BASIS IN



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PAGE 02 VIENTI 01806 170549Z

FACT FOR REPORT OF SURVIVORS. SIENG SERI REPORT ADDED, ALSO WITHOUT IDENTIFYING ANY SOURCE, THAT PLANE WAS SHOT DOWN BY NVA/VC.) REQUEST ANY NEW INFORMATION SOONEST.  
WHITEHOUSE

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 02923 150726Z

*Crash site*

15  
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 H-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SCA-01

EB-07 SSO-00 INRE-00 SS-15 PFS-01 /044 W  
068181

*AV-6 file*

O R 150641Z MAR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3676  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH  
INFO AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

UNCLAS SAIGON 2923

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CDOS, VS (DOLAN, EDWARD AND SEIDL, ROBERT)  
SUBJECTS: POSSIBLE DEATH OF DOLAN AND SEIDL

REF: A) STATE 057947 B) SAIGON 02813 C) SAIGON 02814  
D) SAIGON 2777

1. EMBASSY REGRETS THAT DUE TO HIGH LEVEL OF NORTH VIETNAMESE MILITARY ACTIVITY IN CRASH SITE AREA IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO PROVIDE POSITIVE CONFIRMATION OF DEATHS OF DOLAN AND SEIDL AT THIS TIME. AS STATED IN REF B. AIR AMERICA PILOT WHO FLEW OVER CRASH SITE ON MARCH 13 AND WAS FIRED ON, REPORTED THAT PLANE WAS BADLY DISINTEGRATED AND THAT IT UNLIKELY THAT THERE WERE SURVIVORS. EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT DOLAN AND SEIDL SHOULD BE PRESUMED DEAD.

2. CONGEN NHA TRANG CONTINUES TO WORK CLOSELY WITH VIETNAMESE MILITARY AUTHORITIES AND AS SOON AS SECURITY PERMITS VIETNAMESE TEAM WILL ATTEMPT TO REACH CRASH SITE. GIVEN CURRENT INTENSITY OF NORTH VIETNAMESE ATTACKS IN CENTRAL HIGHLANDS AREA WE CANNOT PREDICT WHEN CONFIRMATION WILL BE MADE.  
LEHMANN

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 0870

PAGE 01 VIENTI 01869 170719Z

21  
ACTION AID-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 SNM-02 L-02 /035 W

082754

R 170614Z MAR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2927  
INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

UNCLAS VIENTIANE 1869

AIDAC

Q.O. 11652: N/A  
SUBJECT: GEORGE C. MILLER, NARCOTICS ADVISOR

REF: (A) STATE 058067  
(B) VIENTIANE 1760  
(C) VIENTIANE 1762  
(D) VIENTIANE 1856

1. APPRECIATE EARLY CONSIDERATION AUTHORITY HANDLE MILLER CASE. HOWEVER, AS ALL REFERENCES TRANSMITTED FROM THIS POST HAVE CLEARLY STATED, WE HAVE NO CONFIRMATION OR FACTUAL EVIDENCE OF DEATH BEYOND THE FACT THAT MR. MILLER WAS A PASSENGER (ON PERSONAL BUSINESS) ON THE AIRVIETNAM FLIGHT AND THAT THE AIRCRAFT WENT DOWN ABOUT 25 MILES FROM PLEIKU IN VIETNAM.

2. THE CRASH SITE IS IN CONTEXTED TERRITORY AND OUR INFORMATION FROM SAIGON CONTINUES TO BE THAT NO REPEAT NO ON-SITE INSPECTION HAS YET BEEN ACCOMPLISHED, NOR CAN ANYONE PROJECT WHEN SUCH WILL HAPPEN.

3. IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH INVESTIGATION, SPECIFIC ACTIONS SUCH AS PREPARATION OF DEATH CERTIFICATES, FORM CONCERNING LEAVE RECORDS, FINAL SALARY PAYMENT, ETC. ARE PREMATURE.

4. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PROVIDE AS MUCH INFORMATION AS CAN BE DEVELOPED HERE, BUT WE MUST CONTINUE TO EMPHASIZE THAT REQUESTED ACTIONS, WHICH HAVE CONSIDERABLE LEGAL IMPLICATIONS,

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RR  
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PAGE 02 VIENTI 01869 170719Z

CANNOT BE UNDERTAKEN UNTIL MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION AND EVIDENCE IS RECEIVED FROM SAIGON. (AT THAT TIME, AMEMB SAIGON HAS AUTHORITY ISSUE PRESUMPTIVE REPEAT PRESUMPTIVE CERTIFICATE OF DEATH.)

5. WE WILL ISSUE TRAVEL AUTHORITY FOR MRS. MILLER ON BASIS HER WISHES AND FAMILY DECISIONS MADE AFTER ARRIVAL HERE HER SON RICHARD.  
WHITEHOUSE

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Department of State

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20520-1200

UNCLASSIFIED 3287

PAGE 01 STATE 059507

*rw*  
*gs*  
*act*

67  
ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 C E-00 COME-00 DODE-00  
DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-9 /030 R

DRAFTED BY NTSB/BAS-30:BCDOYLE/EB/OA/AYP:JKGD  
APPROVED BY EB/OA/AYP:DBORTMAN

094609

R 172109Z MAR 75  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

UNCLAS STATE 059507

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR/ASAF/VS

*Air Crash*

SUBJECT: READOUT OF FLIGHT RECORDER, AIR VIETNAM B-727

REF: SAIGON 2902

PASS J. H. ASHIDA

NTSB ADVISES FLIGHT DATA RECORDER READOUT REPORT; GRAPH,  
WORKSHEETS AND TAPE WILL BE SENT ON MARCH 18. PLEASE  
ADVISE IF DCA DESIRES RETURN OF FLIGHT RECORDER REMAINS.  
SLUG RESPONSE FOR NTSB/BAS-30 B.C.DOYLE. ROBINSON

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46





Department of State

TELEGRAM

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 03125 191223Z

AV-6

AK

70  
ACTION EG-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIA-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 1030 W

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119629

R 190920Z MAR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3834

UNCLAS SAIGON 3125

FOR NTSB/BAS-30 B.C. DOYLE

F.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAIR, ASAF, VS.

SUBJECT: READOUT OF FLIGHT RECORDER

REF: STATE 059507

DCA IS EXTREMELY GRATEFUL FOR NTSB'S ASSISTANCE ON FLIGHT  
RECORDER READOUT AND ANALYSIS OF ACCOMPANYING DATA. HE WOULD  
APPRECIATE NTSB HOLDING RECORDER REMAINS UNTIL HIS STAFF HAS  
STUDIED REPORTS BEING SENT.  
LEHMANN



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47



Department of State

TELEGRAM

UNCLASSIFIED 2005

PAGE 01 SAIGON 03221 201320Z

21  
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 /012

015416

R 201101Z MAR 75  
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3918  
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

UNCLAS SAIGON 3221

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: CDES, VS (DOLAN, EDWARD, SEIDL, ROBERT AND  
MILLER, GEORGE)  
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE DEATH DOLAN, SEIDL AND MILLER

REF: STATE 056248 AND PREVIOUS

1. DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY VIENTIANE MAY WISH TO PASS THE FOLLOWING LETTER DATED MARCH 19 FROM AIR VIETNAM TO AMBASSADOR MARTIN TO THE FAMILIES OF MR. EDWARD DOLAN, MR. ROBERT SEIDL, AND MR. GEORGE MILLER:

2. EXCELLENCY, WE ARE DEEPLY MOVED TO LEARN THAT MR. DOLAN EDWARD, MR. SEIDL R., MR. G. MILLER OF AMERICAN NATIONALITY, WERE AMONG THE PASSENGERS OF OUR DC4 FLIGHT THAT CRASHED NEAR PLEIKU ON MARCH 12, 1975 ON THE WAY FROM VIENTIANE TO SAIGON.

3. AT FIRST REPORT OF THE ACCIDENT WE HAD IMMEDIATELY NOTIFIED THE RELATIVES OF SAID PASSENGERS AND URGENTLY REQUESTED THE ASSISTANCE OF THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES, THAT OF THE VIETNAMESE AIR FORCE AS WELL AS OTHER MILITARY AND CIVILIAN CENTRAL AGENCIES FOR AN ALL OUT SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATION.

4. RECONNAISSANCE PLANES HAD LOCATED THE MISSING PLANE A FEW KILOMETERS FROM THANH AN VILLAGE ON MARCH 13. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF THE INTENSE ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE OF THE VIET-CONG AND THE FIERCE FIGHTING GOING ON IN THE VICINITY

*RW*  
*AP*  
*AV-60msl*  
*Air crash victims*

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Department of State TELEGRAM

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 03221 201328Z

OF THE SITE, IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE TO REACH IT EITHER BY AIR OR ROAD.

5. A TEAM OF EXPERTS AND OFFICIALS FROM THE DIRECTORATE OF CIVIL AVIATION AND AIR VIETNAM HAS BEEN IN PLEIKU READY TO RUSH TO THE SITE OF THE ACCIDENT AS SOON AS THE ARMED FORCES SUCCEED IN CLEARING ACCESS TO THAT AREA.

6. WE HAVE BEEN RECEIVING RELATIVES OF THE VICTIMS AND HAVE GIVEN THEM ALL THE INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THE MOMENT.

7. WE WOULD RESPECTFULLY REQUEST YOU, EXCELLENCY, TO CONVEY TO THE FAMILIES OF MESSRS. DOLAN EDWARD, SEIDL R., G. MILLER OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY AND PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT WE WILL KEEP ON TRYING EVERY MEANS POSSIBLE TO ASSIST THE VICTIMS AND THEIR ANXIOUS GRIEF-STRIKEN FAMILIES.

8. NATURALLY WE WILL CONTINUE TO KEEP YOU INFORMED OF ANY NEW TURN IN OUR SEARCH AND RESCUE OPERATION. FOR ANY OTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL US AT AIR VIETNAM, 278 PHAN-DINH-PHUNG SAIGON (MR. DANG-MEO-TY, PHONE 99.764 OR MR. CHUNG-TUT PHONE 99.910 EXT. 81).

9. WITH OUR RENEWED SYMPATHY, WE BEG TO REMAIN, EXCELLENCY, YOURS RESPECTFULLY, NGUYEN TAN TRUNG, CHAIRMAN-PRESIDENT.  
LEHMANN



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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

MESSAGE CENTER

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ACTION

DISTR SECDEF(05) SECDEF: ASD:ISA(10) FILE(1)  
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TRANSIT/140512Z/141227Z/007115TOR2871226  
DE RUEADWD #2427 2871221  
ZNR UUUUU ZOV RUEADWD REROUTE OF RUHHMBA2427 2870628  
R 140512Z OCT 75  
FM CDR JCRC CAMP SAMAE SAN TH/CDD CR  
TO RUEKJCS/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC  
INFO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC  
RUMJQB/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
RUEADWD/DIA WASHINGTON DC  
RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI  
BT

UNCLAS

SECDEF FOR OASD/ISA (DR. SHIELDS); CINCPAC FOR J-318  
1. ON 9 OCTOBER 1975, THE FOLLOWING THREE CIVILIANS  
WERE ADDED TO THE JCRC BRIGHT LIGHT SYSTEM AS ASSOCIATED  
CASES WITH MR. GEORGE C. MILLER, U.S. CIVILIAN  
EDWARD VINCENT DOLAN U.S. CIVILIAN  
ROBERT SEIDL U.S. CIVILIAN  
MALCOLM RIDING NEW ZEALAND CIVILIAN  
2. REQUEST ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION ON ABOVE NAMED  
INDIVIDUALS BE FORWARDED TO THIS COMMAND, WITH SPECIAL  
EMPHASIS PLACED ON MEDICAL AND DENTAL RECORDS AND  
PHOTOGRAPHS.

BT

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ANNOTES  
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PAGE 1

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16

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
MESSAGE CENTER

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ACTION ASD:ISA(10)

DISTR OPR CJCS(01) DJS(03) SJCS(02) J1(03) SECDEF(05)

SECDEF:

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NSC(05) FILE(1)

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TRANSIT/252141Z/252156Z/000:15GRP0214

DE RUEKJCS #2762 2682156

ZNR UUUUU

P 252141Z SEP 75

FM SECDEF WASH DC

TO RUMMHUA/CDR JCRC CAMP SAMAE SAN THAILAND

INFO RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

RUMTBK/AMEMB BANGKOK THAILAND

RHMFMTHA/COMUSMACHTHAI BANGKOK THAILAND

BT

UNCLAS 4568

FROM ISA

SUBJ REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON MISSING AMCIT EDWARD V. DOLAN

REFS A. SAIGON 2777/DTG 130307Z MAR 75 B. VIENTIANE 1760/DTG

130840Z MAR 75 C. VIENTIANE 1769/DTG 13040Z MAR 75

1. WE RE REVIEWING ALL AVAILABLE

FILES ON THE CRASH OF AN AIR VIETNAM DC 4 WHICH CRASHED IN VIETCONG CONTROLLED TERRITORY NEAR PLEIKU ON 12 MARCH 1975. THE PURPOSE IS TO DEVELOP INFORMATION ON EDWARD VINCENT DOLAN, A PASSENGER ON THE AIRCRAFT.

2. REF A INDICATED A VIETNAMESE SEARCH TEAM WAS ABLE TO REACH THE CRASH SITE AND REPORTED THAT ALL ABOARD WERE DEAD. REF B PROVIDED PASSENGER LIST OF AIRCRAFT. REF C IDENTIFIED DOLAN AS EMPLOYED BY MOORE BUSINESS FORMS, INC., WASHINGTON, DC.

3. REQUEST THE FOLLOWING IF AVAILABLE:

A. REPORT OF THE VIETNAMESE SEARCH TEAM

B. PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE CRASH SITE

C. CURRENT STATUS OF ANY EXISTING FILE ON EDWARD V. DOLAN.

BT

#2762

ANNOTES

JEP

PAGE 1

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
MESSAGE CENTER

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ACTION ASD:ISA(10)

DISTR CJCS DJS SJCS(02) J1(03) SECDEF(05) SECDEF: FILE(49)  
(021)

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TRANSIT/020413Z/021045Z/006:32TOR2751003

DE RUHHHBA #0370 2750637

ZNR UUUUU

P 020413Z OCT 75

FM CDR JCRC CAMP SAMAE SAN TH/CDD CR

TO RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASH DC

INFO RUHQHQA/CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

BT

UNCLAS

CINCPAC FOR J-318

SUBJECT: INFORMATION ON MISSIN AMCIV EDWARD V. DOLAN

REFERENCE MSG SECDEF WASH DC; DTG 252141Z SEP 75

1. REFERENCE LISTS THREE MESSAGES AS FOLLOWS:

REF A. SAIGON 2777/DTG 130307Z MAR 75; B. VIENTIANE 1760/

DTG 130840Z MAR 75; C. VIENTIANE 1769/DTG 13040Z MAR 75.

AS THIS COMMAND DOES NOT HOLD THESE MESSAGES, REQUEST A  
COPY OF EACH BE PROVIDED.

2. WE HAVE NO FILE ON MR. DOLAN, BUT DO HAVE A FILE ON  
MISSING AMCIV GEORGE C. MILLER, ALSO IN THE SAME INCIDENT.

ALL AVAILABLE INFORMATION IN MILLER FILE PERTAINING TO  
THE INCIEENT IN GENERAL IS BEING SENT UNDER SEPARATE

COVER. IF INFORMATION PERTAINING ONLY TO MILLER IS  
REQUIRED, PLEASE ADVISE.

BT

#0370

ANNOTES

DGR





~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

C-2169/DIN-2C2

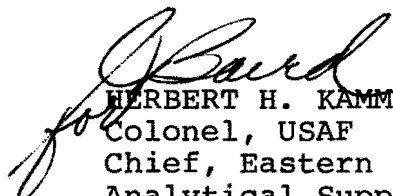
TO : Assistant for Southeast Asia  
East Asia and Pacific Region, OSD/ISA

DATE: 22 Oct 75

FROM : Eastern Branch, DIN-2, DIA

SUBJECT: Photography of 12 March 1975 Air Vietnam Flight 499 Crash Site in South Vietnam's Central Highlands (U)

1. (C) A thorough search by DIA of aerial photography held in the Washington area failed to locate any photography in which the subject crash site was identifiable.
2. (C) DIA then tasked the Intelligence Center Pacific (IPAC) to conduct a search. IPAC undertook a thorough effort, including the tasking of its own subordinates. This search also was unsuccessful in recovering photographs which would allow identification of the crash site.
3. (C) It is DIA's conclusion that there currently is no aerial photography in the intelligence community which would allow identification of the subject crash site.

  
HERBERT H. KAMM  
Colonel, USAF  
Chief, Eastern Branch  
Analytical Support  
Division, DI, DIA

Classified by DI-DIA  
SUBJECT TO GENERAL DECLASSIFICATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO  
YEAR INTERVALS  
DECLASSIFIED ON 31 DECEMBER 1981...



5010-108

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IMAGERY ANALYSIS MEMORANDUM

TO : DIN-2C2 (Attn: Mr. Wolfman)

C-1124/DIR-5C

DATE: OCT 02 1975

FROM : DIR-5C

SUBJECT : Crash Search

COUNTRY: VS

1. REFERENCE/REQUIREMENT: PHONCON MAJ Campbell 25 SEP 75

B.E. NO: -

2. TARGET INFORMATION:

Geo Coords

13° 48' 40" N 107° 49' 25" E

Map/Chart Ref:

ZA 062263

TDI Cat.

3. IMAGERY DATA:

Project	Mission	Date	Camera	Frame	X	Y
OMTA	51A	21 MAR 75	OBC	1437	34.1	6.3
				1442	15.1	5.1

4. COLLATERAL REFERENCES:

NONE

5. IMAGERY ANALYSIS/COMMENTS:

NOTE: Information contained in this report is derived primarily from interpretation of imagery sources and is not intended to constitute all-source, finished intelligence.

Attached photography is best available coverage of requested coordinate. Due to the scale of photography and obliquity, it would be difficult to locate a crash. There is no wreckage apparent in these photos, but the angle of view causes considerable terrain masking.

P. I. C. R. Snyder (433-2871)

EDWARD MONSOUR  
Chief, Eastern Branch  
Imagery Analysis Division

Enclosure  
Two Enlg Photos

Classified by DIA  
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SUBJECT TO EXECUTIVE DECLASSIFICATION  
SCHEDULE OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652  
AUTOMATICALLY DOWNGRADED AT TWO  
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GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

The item described below has been transferred from this file to:

- Audiovisual Unit  
 Book Collection  
 Ford Museum in Grand Rapids

Item: Four 10 x 12" BTW aerial photographs of the site of a plane crash in Vietnam

The item was transferred from:

Marsh Files  
General Subject File  
Vietnam - Dolan, Edward Plane Crash

Initials/Date WHM 6/25/86

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