

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

REPORT OF CASUALTY		REPORT NUMBER AND TYPE 3788 - Final	DATE PREPARED 6 September 66
Corrects Report Number 3667 #			
1. SERVICE IDENTIFICATION (Name, Service Number, Grade or Rate, Component, Branch and Organization) MARTIN, Duane Whitney, ER 75 418, Captain Regular, USAF - Detachment 1, Western Air Rescue Center, Portland International Airport, Portland, Oregon TDY: *			
2. CASUALTY STATUS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BATTLE <input type="checkbox"/> NON-BATTLE			
Southeast Asia 20 July 1966 Killed in action			
3. Date of Birth: 3a. 2 January 1940			
4. DATE OF LAST ENTRY ON ACTIVE DUTY IN CURRENT STATUS AND HOME OF RECORD AT TIME 5 February 1963 - Denver, Denver County, Colorado			
5. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER, PAY GRADE, LENGTH OF SERVICE FOR PAY, BASIC PAY, INCENTIVE PAY CHECK IF APPLICABLE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CREW <input type="checkbox"/> NON-CREW			
6. DUTY STATUS Active duty			
7. INTERESTED PERSONS (Name, Address, Relationship) latest Record of Emergency Data: 20 April 1965 X Available Not Available			
Mrs. Dorcas I. Martin DATA wife (3) Christine L. Martin same daughter Cheryl L. Martin same daughter Mr. Whitney H. Martin DATA father Mrs. Violette F. Martin same mother			
8. REPORT FOR VA TO FOLLOW <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO Not Used			
9. REPORTING COMMAND AND DATE REPORT RECEIVED BY DEPARTMENT			
10. SELECTIVE SERVICE NUMBER, LOCAL BOARD, AND LOCATION (If unknown, enter date and place of first entry in Armed Services) 5 5 40 2 - Local Board Number 5 - Denver, Colorado			
11. PRIOR SERVICE DATA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PRIOR SERVICE NUMBER (S) 17 634 847; A0 3 136 662			
12. REMARKS * Detachment 1, 38th Air Rescue Squadron, APO San Francisco 96310 This individual is held to have been in a missing in action status for period commencing 20 September 1965 and terminating 29 July 1966, the date of receipt of evidence by the Department of the Air Force that the above named person is dead. The provisions of the Missing Persons Act, (Title 50, U. S. Code, app. 1001-1015) are considered applicable. Under the provisions of Section 1521, Title 10, U. S. Code, subject officer was posthumously promoted to the grade of Captain, effective 21 July 1966 by Department of the Air Force Special Orders Number A5-1575, dated 30 August 1966. This promotion is subject to the provisions of Section 1523, which state that no increased pay or gratuities may be derived from such action. # NOTE: THIS FORM MAY BE USED TO FACILITATE THE CASHING OF BONDS, THE PAYMENT OF COMMERCIAL INSURANCE, OR IN THE SETTLEMENT OF ANY OTHER CLAIM IN WHICH PROOF OF DEATH IS REQUIRED.			
FOOTNOTES: 1. Adult next of kin. 2. Beneficiary for gratuity pay in event there is no surviving wife or child as designated on record of emergency data. 3. Beneficiary for unpaid pay and allowances - as designated on record of emergency data.			
BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE R. S. NORTH, Major, USAF Directorate of Personnel Services			

H 0 8 2 7

JOINT MESSAGEFORM		RESERVED FOR COMMUNICATION CENTER	
CLASSIFICATION		12 SEP 66 20 23z	
TYPE MSG		HQ. USAF	
PRECEDENCE		DTG	
ACTION TRANSMIT		SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS	
INFO		FROM: OSAP	
		TO: COMMANDER LOWRY AFB COLO	
DATA		02010	
Reference telecon between Lt Col Jacks, SAF-OIPC and Capt Martin this date, Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense, Public Affairs, has arranged a press conference at 1000 hours PDT 13 Sept 66 in San Diego, California, at which time Navy Lieut. (JG) Dieter Dengler, will relate experiences as a POW and in escaping from North Vietnamese. Included in the statement which will be made by Lieut. Dengler will be previously unannounced details relating to the escape and death of First Lieut. Duane W. Martin, USAF. Widow and parents of Lieut. Martin reside in Denver, Colorado. You are authorized to pass the contents of this message to Mr. Whitney H. Martin, Lieut. Martin's father, and to Mr. Haras, father of Lieut. Martin's			
TYPED NAME AND TITLE		PHONE	SIGNATURE
JAMES HOWELL Major, USAF SAF-OIPC jfr DS 66-444-74		74496	MORVEN M. STAMM Chief, Public Information Division
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION		REGRADING INSTRUCTIONS	
DD FORM 173 NOV 63		REPLACES EDITION OF 1 MAY 65 WHICH MAY BE USED	

PRECEDENCE	RELEASED BY	DRAFTED BY	PHONE
IMMEDIATE		000057	74496
<p>widow, at 1100 hours MDT 13 Sept. Request Capt Martin make an appointment with Mr. Martin and Mr. Hanes at 1100 hours MDT 13 Sept for that purpose. Following are excerpts from the statement which will be made by Lieut. Dengler which relate to Lieut. Martin:</p> <p>QUOTE Immediately upon his (Lt Dengler's) arrival at the first prison camp, Dengler urged that an immediate escape attempt be made. The other prisoners, with one exception, argued that it would be better to wait for the spring monsoon. They maintained that it would be easier to travel at that time. Dengler and the other prisoner, U.S. Air Force first Lieutenant Duane Martin, a helicopter rescue pilot, went along with this decision.</p> <p>During the waiting period, a new commandant — the prisoners called him "little Hitler" — took over and conditions at the prison camp worsened. Food, mostly rice, became scarce. Sometimes the prisoners were able to supplement this with snakes and rats, at other times, they were given raw rotten meat. Dengler and Martin, who both had previously escaped or evaded were constantly harrassed by the guards and were shackled day and night. The physical condition of all prisoners deteriorated as a result of repeated attacks of dysentery and other diseases.</p> <p>On 29 June the prisoners decided to execute their escape plan. After overpowering the guards, the prisoners gathered up some food</p>			
CONTROL NO.	TOR/TOD	PAGE NO.	NO. OF PAGES
			5
REGRADING INSTRUCTIONS			INITIALS
REGRADING INSTRUCTIONS			SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

DD FORM 173-1

1 NOV 63

REPLACES EDITION OF 1 MAY 55 WHICH MAY BE USED.

PRECEDENCE	RELEASED BY	DRAFTED BY	PHONE
IMMEDIATE		000058	74496
<p>Soon after this escape, Martin was stricken with malaria and several days later Dengler contracted jaundice. The two men, mindful of their impaired physical condition, decided to risk travel along a creek, rather than through the dense jungle.</p> <p>On the evening of July 1st, they managed to build a lean-to and slept there most of the night. During the second day they survived on a handful of rice which they had taken from the prison guards and some snails which they had found along the way. The creek on which they were traveling had high waterfalls with steep walls and cliffs. They followed the creek for two more days. Their travel became increasingly difficult due to the high ridges and cliffs. Painfully, they constructed a raft, but lost it in a waterfall.</p> <p>On what they estimated to be the 10th day after their escape, the two men found an abandoned village. Martin now was desperately ill with malaria. They decided to stay together in a deserted hut.</p> <p>The night of the 11th day and the morning of the 12th, they floated down a river on a small raft that they found near the deserted village. As they floated in the darkness, the raft bumped into a man who was fishing in the river. The fisherman fled and Dengler and Martin floated on for several hundred yards, discarded the raft, then traveled by foot until dawn.</p> <p>On the afternoon of the 12th day, they continued to travel until</p>			
CONTROL NO.	TOR/TOD	PAGE NO.	NO. OF PAGES
			5
REGRADING INSTRUCTIONS			INITIALS
REGRADING INSTRUCTIONS			SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

DD FORM 173-1

1 NOV 63

REPLACES EDITION OF 1 MAY 55 WHICH MAY BE USED.

and/or CONTINUATION SHEET

PRECEDENCE	RELEASED BY	DRAFTED BY	PHONE
ACTION IMMEDIATE		JAMES HOWELL, MAJ, USAF	30-059 71196
INFO			

The next morning they found some corn. After eating this, they traveled east over the mountain and to their shock found themselves back at the village where they had picked up the raft. Because Martin now was too sick to travel, they decided to stay and attempt air contact.

On the morning of the fourteenth day Dengler left Martin to locate material to make contact with aircraft. On the 15th day he returned and made a signal fire. They prayed that their fire had been seen, but the next day no rescue aircraft came.

On the 17th day after their escape, Dengler and Martin walked and crawled toward what they thought was another abandoned village. They moved on their hands and knees to within 20 feet of a hut. Someone shouted and suddenly a villager leaped from a hidden hut on the right. He carried a long machete which was curved at the end.

Without warning the villager attacked with his machete. Martin was slightly ahead of Dengler, in a crouched position. The villager struck Martin twice with this machete. The first blow hit Martin in the left leg and the second blow hit him at the junction of his left shoulder and neck. Martin collapsed, mortally wounded. The villager swung at Dengler, but missed. Gathering his remaining strength, Dengler dove into the bush and fled up a gully. UNQUOTE. End excerpts from statement. The full text of

CONTROL NO.	TOR/TOD	PAGE NO.	NO. OF PAGES	MESSAGE IDENTIFICATION	INITIALS
		4	5	SAF-OIPC	
REGRADE INSTRUCTIONS				SECUR	

DD FORM 1 NOV 63 173-1

REPLACES EDITION OF 1 MAY 55 WHICH MAY BE USED.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT		ATTN: JRC
NOTE: This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the espionage laws, Title 18, U.S.C., Sec. 793 and 794, the transmission or the revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.		This report contains unprocessed information. Plans and/or policies should not be evolved or modified solely on the basis of this report.
(Classification and Control Markings)		
COUNTRY: LAOS	8. REPORT NUMBER: 2 222 1429 66	
SUBJECT: INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY, PRISONERS OF WAR: Downed Flier Report	9. DATE OF REPORT: 29 September 1966	
CLASSIFICATION: UNCLASSIFIED	10. NO. OF PAGES: 1	
11. REFERENCES: EEL 7-3 SICR D-1E6-14483, par 7H(2)(n) DIRM 66I		
12. ORIGINATOR: 500th INTC Gp (UFDEC)		
13. PREPARED BY: FRANK W. TRINKLE, LTC, AIS		
14. APPROVING AUTHORITY: JACK L. WEIGAND Colonel, AIS CO, 500th INTC Gp		
15. SUMMARY: COMPLETE TEXT	(Leave Blank)	
Report, a follow-up to msg Cite OSD-0980, 28 Sep 66, forwards information on two downed U.S. fliers reportedly detained by Pathet Lao Forces which appeared in the 31 August 1966 issue of Pravda (R), Moscow. 1LT Duan Martin (phonetic; probably Duane Martin), (probably USAF), 754118A is reported downed in central Laos in October 1965. Also reported downed in Laos but with no location or date given is MAJ Robert Francis Ronca, USAF, 41A57A (photo of ID card available at UFDEC).		
Neither flier is listed in PACAF SEA Casualty Work Deck Listing as of 27 August 1966.		
DISTRIBUTION BY ORIGINATOR: SOG ✓		16. ATTACHMENT DATA: None
17. DOWNGRADING DATA:		
16. DISTRIBUTION: (cont)		
DIA 1		
G2 USARPAC 6		
ACSI, DA 1		
CINCPAC 1		
PACFLT 1		
PACAF 1		
MACV/J2 1		
DI, 7AF 2		
2d Air Div 1		
5th AF For D/I 1		
13th AF For H/F 1		
COM 7th FLT 1		
NAVFORJAPAN 1		
CPT 27 1		
FORM 1 SEP 62 18		
REPLACES DA FORM 1048, 1 AUG 60, OPNAV FORM 3820 (Rev 10-61), AF FORM 112, JUL 61, WHICH MAY BE USED UNTIL 1 JAN 65.		