

JOINT CASUALTY
RESOLUTION CENTER

CASUALTY DATA DIVISION
ANALYSIS & STUDIES

SOURCE DATA: *SOURCE*
REFUGEE REPORT INTERVIEW NR & DATE: T84-187, 2 October 1984
ANALYST: SFC R.R. HILL
CROSS REFERENCE (S): *SOURCE DATA*

CATEGORY DATA: Identification Media Data/First hand account - Alleged live
American/Second hand account
FINDINGS: Review of data supplied by the source reveals a probable correlation
to REFNO 1561-0-02.

CORRELATE DATA: REFNO 1561-0-02 concerns the loss on 18 February 1970 of CAPT
Thomas C. Daffron, pilot, and 1LT Charles F. Morley, navigator, who were flying
in F4C as the wingman in a flight of two on a night strike mission over Laos.
While making a bomb attack on a target, their aircraft was hit by 37mm anti-
aircraft fire. A large fireball was seen on the ground about one mile east of
the target, vicinity of XD070912. Both 1LT Morley and CAPT Daffron are carried
in the presumptive status of Dead-Body not recovered.

BACKGROUND/COMMENTS: Identification media data pertaining to DAFFRON, Thomas
, correlates to REFNO 1561-0-02 and has been reported before. The hearsay
information about a live American living freely in Laos could not be correlated.

Joe B. Harvey
JOE B. HARVEY
TC, USA
Commander

DISPOSITION: JCRC LIAISON OFFICE, BANGKOK
JCRC A&S FILES
OSD/ISA, PW-MIA AFFAIRS
DIA, DC-2
JCRC REFNO FILE: 1561-0-02

FOLLOW-UP:

113

ROUTINE

R 022139Z NOV 84 *file*

FM DIA WASHINGTON DC

INFO JCRC LIAISON BANGKOK TH
AMEMB VIENTIANE LA

CDRJCRC BARBERS PT HI

R 292235Z OCT 84 *file*

FM CIA

TO DIA//DC2

BT

SUBJECT: POW INFORMATION
CIR: 316/05843/84

1. OUR BANGKOK FIELD STATION OBTAINED THE FOLLOWING
INFORMATION WHICH CONCERNS AMERICAN POWS IN LAOS AND VIETNAM:
A. "ON 5 SEPT 83, MR. *SOURCE*, A LEADER OF A LAO
RESISTANCE GROUP, CROSSED INTO LAOS TO CONDUCT AN OPERATION.
AT A LATER DATE, HE REPORTED TO MAJ *NAME* IN THAILAND THAT HIS
TEAM HAD SIGHTED TWO AMERICANS NAMELY:

"1.1: MR. PAUG SOMMER (BASED ON LAO SPELLING), TYNL
DATA, B. POS, CUTH KAN, WHO IS MARRIED TO A LAOTIAN GIRL
PAGE 2 RUEAIIA 1056
FROM THE KHAMU TRIBE. THEY HAVE ONE CHILD. HE IS CURRENTLY WORKING
ON A FARM IN THE AREA OF BAN PHU MUT.

"1.2: MR. DAERON THONASO, *DATA* TR, O. POS,
BARZIST, WHOSE PLANE CRASH LANDED IN MUANG SIPHON, KHAENG
SAWANNAKHET, IN AUGUST 1971. HE IS MARRIED TO A LAOTIAN GIRL FROM
THE KHAMU TRIBE. THEY HAVE ONE CHILD. HE IS NOW WORKING ON A
FARM IN BAN PHU MUT.

ADDED THAT THERE ARE STILL NINE MORE AMERICAN POWS
DETAINED IN THE AREA OF PHU MUT. ONE OF THEM IS KNOWN AS MR.
NAME AN AMERICAN TOURIST, WHO WAS ARRESTED ON 15 JUN 1974, IN
MUANG PAK HINWABUN, KHAENG KHAMMUAN.

B. "IN ORDER TO GET TO THE AMERICAN POWS IN ITEMS 1.1 AND

DLVR:CDR JCRC BARBERS PT HI(1)...INFO

file

RTD:000-000/COPIES:0001

475427/4647/307 1 OF 2 M1-0881 307/22:05Z 292235Z OCT 84
CSN:8PRX0939 CIA

114

2 ABOVE, MONEY MUST BE PAID TO THE VILLAGE HEADMAN AND THIS CAN BE DONE ONLY BY THROUGH NAME. HE IS THE ONLY PERSON WHO CAN GET IN TOUCH WITH THE VILLAGE HEADMAN OF BAN PHU MUT.

C. "IN MAY 1984, CAPT SUBSOURCE, AN LPDR TROOP MEMBER, CROSSED INTO THAILAND AND IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS A MEMBER OF THE COMMITTEE WHICH CONTROLS THE AMERICAN POWS AT A DETENTION CAMP IN VIETNAM LOCATED CLOSE TO THE LAO BORDER. HE CLAIMED THERE WERE 180 AMERICAN POWS IN THE CAMP, WHICH ARE CONTROLLED BY 40 PAGE 3 RUEAIIA 1086

SOLDIERS - 20 PAVN TROOPS AND 20 LAOTIAN TROOPS - FROM THE KHAMU TRIBE. SUBSOURCE RESIDES IN THE SAME VILLAGE AS NAME AND HIS YOUNGER BROTHER, NAME

D. SOURCE AND SOURCE WANTED A REWARD FOR THE ABOVE INFORMATION AND CLAIMED THEY SAW A "MR. BOB IN UDDN THANI". AFTER GIVING HIM A RING FROM AN AMERICAN POW, HE GAVE THEM 16,000 BAHT, AN ENGLISH BID DATA FORM FOR AMERICAN POWS, AND A CAMERA. THESE ITEMS WERE TO BE HANDED OVER TO CAPT SUBSOURCE IN ORDER THAT THE AMERICAN POWS COULD FILL OUT THE FORMS AND HAVE THEIR PICTURES TAKEN.

"IN AUGUST 84, CAPT SUBSOURCE RETURNED TO THAILAND WITH THE COMPLETED BID DATA FORM AND PICTURES OF 10 MEV. HE DEMANDED 50,000 BAHT IN EXCHANGE FOR THE LOCATION OF THE CAMP. BECAUSE SOURCE AND SOURCE DID NOT HAVE THE MONEY TO PAY HIM, HE RETURNED TO LAOS WITH THE DOCUMENTS.

E. "ON 5 SEPT 84, NAME MET WITH MAJ NAME IN THAILAND AND STATED THAT IF THE U.S. AUTHORITIES ARE INTERESTED IN HELPING THE POWS, HE WILL SEND SOURCE AND SOURCE BACK TO LAOS TO CONTACT CAPT SUBSOURCE TO "TAKE ACTIONS AFTERWARD" (SIC)." PAGE 4 RUEAIIA 1086

2. ON 15 OCTOBER AN OFFICER FROM OUR AGENCY IN BANGKOK DISCUSSED THE ABOVE WITH ANOTHER AGENCY OFFICER AND THE CHIEF/JCRC. JCRC BELIEVES THAT "MR PAUG SONMER" IS PROBABLY IDENTICAL TO ((PAULSON)), MERLYN LE ROY, WHOSE C-130 WAS SHOT DOWN IN LAOS IN MARCH 72, AND WHOSE SERIAL NUMBER IS IDENTICAL TO THE ONE GIVEN IN I.I ABOVE. JCRC CONCLUDES THAT "MR. DAERON THONASO" IS PROBABLY IDENTICAL TO ((DAFFRON)), THOMAS CARL, SERIAL NUMBER DATA (NOTE SLIGHT VARIATION) WHOSE F-4C WENT DOWN IN LAOS IN FEB 70. ADDITIONALLY, JCRC BELIEVES THAT "MR. MARIDINE" IS PROBABLY IDENTICAL TO CHARLES ((DEAN)), A U.S. CIVILIAN CAPTURED BY THE PATHET LAO IN SEPTEMBER 74. NUMEROUS REPORTS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES INDICATE THAT DEAN WAS ALIVE AND IN PATHET LAO HANDS DURING 74-75 TIME FRAME.

3. ONE OF OUR OFFICERS IN THAILAND WILL ATTEMPT TO CONTACT MAJ NAME FOR DETAILED DEBRIEFING.

T

475427/4647/307 2 OF 2 41 0881 307/22:05Z 292235Z OCT 84
CSN:BPRX0939 CIA

CORRECTED COPY

7 Nov 84 - 11 533

ROUTINE

R 061815Z NOV 84

FM CDR JCRC BARBERS PT HI

TO JCRC LIAISON BANGKOK TH

INFO DIA WASHINGTON DC//DC 2//
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI//J

BT

SUBJ: PW/MIA INFORMATION

A. DIA WASHINGTON DC 022139Z NOV 84
B. JCRC-LNB LTR RPT T84-173, DTD 27 AUG 84

1. REF A PROVIDED THE NAMES OF TWO ALLEGED AMERICANS RESIDING IN LAOS AS FARMERS. THEIR NAMES, AS PROVIDED BY THE SOURCE, WERE MR. PAUG SONMER AND MR. DAERON THONASO. SOURCE ALSO PROVIDED SOME BIOGRAPHIC DATA ON THE TWO AMERICANS.

2. REF B PROVIDED INFORMATION ON THE ALLEGED REMAINS OF TWO AMERICANS. THE NAMES OF THE TWO DECEASED AMERICANS WERE SPELLED THE SAME AS THE TWO NAMES MENTIONED IN PARAGRAPH ONE ABOVE.

3. PARAGRAPH TWO OF REF A CORRELATED THE TWO NAMES TO MERLYN LEROY PAULSON (REFNO 1807-0-08) AND THOMAS CARL DAFFRON (REFNO 1561-0-02). BOTH INDIVIDUALS ARE UNRESOLVED CASES.

4. THE INFORMATION ON "SONMER" AND "THONASO" PROVIDED IN REFS A AND B APPEARS TO HAVE COME FROM A COMMON SOURCE (NFI). THE SPELLING OF THE NAMES AND THE ASSOCIATED BIOGRAPHIC DATA IS NEARLY IDENTICAL IN CONTENT.

BT

DLVR:CDR JCRC BARBERS PT HI DA.ORIG

RTD:000-000/COPIES:0001

494386/8835/312 1 OF 1 M1 0451 312/10:39Z 061815Z NOV 84
CSN:BPRX0500 CDR JCRC BARBERS PT HI