

12-31-1976

Unclassified Report

San Dewayne Francisco

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UNCLASSIFIED

11. WITNESSES AND/OR PERSONS BELIEVED TO HAVE KNOWLEDGE OF MISSING PERSONNEL OR AIRCRAFT
 ATTACH PERTINENT STATEMENTS FROM EACH

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	MIDDLE INITIAL	GRADE	SERVICE NUMBER
Wall, John R.			Major	EW2225979
Constantina, Gary R.			Capt	FR72510
Woldman, James D.			1st Lt	Unknown
Dallum, Ralph C.			Capt	Unknown
Witzsimmons, Robert J.			Capt	Unknown

12. DETAILED CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING DISAPPEARANCE (Duration, extent and results of search; life-saving equipment available and/or used; if applicable, peculiarities of tides, terrain, etc., and any other details pertinent to a determination of status not included elsewhere in this report.)

Major Morrison and Lt Francisco (Grommet 02) F4D escorted an RF-4C into NVN at approximately 1241L, Coordinates 171640/1061140. Grommet 02 reported at approximately 1242L, in vicinity of 1720/10612 heading 13° altitude 1.0' AGL minimum and ground speed approximately 540KTS, "We've taken a hit". Recce crew broke off run, climbed to altitude and remained in the vicinity. Grommet 01 heard a steady beeper. Grommet 01 notified Grommet 06 that his wingman was down and gave approximate location by coordinates and proximity to a delta reference point. Misty 41 relayed the information to Invert control and proceeded to the area where he sighted the aircraft wreckage and established voice and visual contact with Grommet 02 Alpha at 1256L. At 1305L Misty 41 established probable contact with Grommet 02 Bravo. [The reply was extremely garbled, but review of the taped conversation has convinced both crew members of Misty 41 that it was Grommet 02 Bravo.] They were however unable to pinpoint his exact location. The aircraft wreckage, Grommet 02 Alpha and Grommet 02 Alpha's parachute were observed to be within 700 meters of an enemy encampment on one side and a highway segment on the other with numerous personnel and trucks in the vicinity. During the SAR effort which continued throughout the daylight hours a Misty 51 (F100F) received battle damage one of at least four 37MM double gun positions located 2-4 miles south of the survivors position. Jolly Green 20, a rescue helicopter, also received numerous automatic weapons impact from one of approximately 10 areas of small arms/automatic weapons firing on all sides and within 2000 meters of the survivors. It is believed that Grommet 02 Bravo landed in very close proximity to enemy personnel and was detained shortly after the initial and inconclusive attempt to contact him at 1315L. Grommet 02 Alpha successfully evaded during the hours of darkness and voice contact was re-established at 0555L, 26 Nov 68, by Misty 11. (See Continuation Sheet)

13. OPINION OF THE COMMANDING OFFICER

A. CIRCUMSTANCES WARRANT CONTINUATION IN A MISSING STATUS

B. CHANGE FROM MISSING TO DEAD

C. REASONS

The nature of the disappearance indicates that the possibility for survival does exist and there is no conclusive evidence of death.

Definite voice contact was made with Major Morrison on 25 November and 26 November. Probable voice contact was made with Lt Francisco on 25 November.

One chute was observed on the ground.



~~Classified by: Wendell L. Bevan, Col~~
~~SUBJECT TO GENERAL~~
~~DECLASSIFICATION SCHEDULE~~
~~OF EXECUTIVE ORDER 11652~~
~~APPLICABLE TO UNCLASSIFIED~~
~~AT THE TEN YEAR INTERVALS.~~
 DECLASSIFIED ON
 31 DECEMBER 1976

TYPED NAME AND GRADE OF COMMANDING OFFICER
 WENDELL L. BEVAN JR., Colonel, USAF
 Commander

SERVICE NUMBER: FR12162

SIGNATURE: *Wendell L. Bevan*

UNCLASSIFIED

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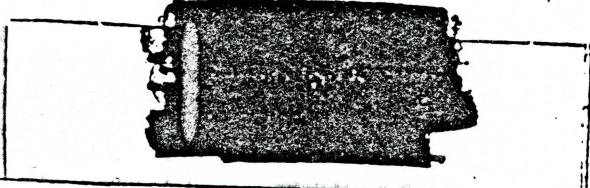
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