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As part of the 1995 comprehensive review of each case of an unaccounted for American in Southeast Asia, Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office analysts created an electronic database of relevant facts. This ever-changing working tool reflects a snapshot in time summarizing data collected to date, as well as analytical opinions and recommendations. It permits analysts to review pertinent case information quickly, update each record as new information is collected, and develop investigative leads. Following is a narrative of the information contained in the electronic database on this loss.

Family Conference

Case Releasable? NO

Case Summary Information:

Refno: 0512	BIO: 02	Lat: 211049N	Ctry: VN
Name: SCUNGIO, VINCENT ANTHONY		Long: 1061923E	Province: HAI DUONG
Loss Rank: O3		UTM: 48QXJ3732642473	District: CHI LINH
Service: USAF	Status: XX	OffscopeCase: N	Township: HUNG DAO
Incident Date: 1966/11/04		PriorityCase: N	
Vehicle Type: F105F		Fate Determined: NA	

Case Summary

On 4 November 1966, Capt Scungio and Lt Col Brinckman (pilot) were flying an F-105F "Wild Weasel" in a flight of four. Due to the missile threat, the flight was forced to split into two elements. As Capt Scungio's aircraft was attacking, another of the F105s observed a long stream of fire trailing from the aircraft. He called three times to inform the pilot, who replied he knew. At this time the other F-105 saw a SAM launch and maneuvered away, losing sight of Capt Scungio and Lt Col Brinckman's aircraft in the vicinity of XJ 243 667. The aircraft was not seen or heard from after this time.

The remains of Lt Col Brinckman were repatriated by the SRV government in July 1989. CILHI identified them in December 1989.

US Government Information

DEC 00: CILHI assessed the fragmented remains (CILHI 1999-042) from the excavation during the 54th JFA and determined the following:

- Two fragments are non-osseous material, neither human nor animal in origin.
- One fragment is from a large animal (non-human).
- Three fragments are from a large animal, but cannot be assigned to a species due to lack of diagnostic features.

Joint Investigations

OCT 93, JFA 26: A joint team investigated this case in Tien Luc Village, Lang Giang District, the last known location carried in U.S. records (XJ 243 667). Examined 100x100 meter area, found nothing, recommended pending.

FEB-MAR 95, JFA 34: Team investigated case in Tri Yen Village, Yen Dung District, Ha Bac Province, at the site identified in Vietnamese records.

- Tran Van Cung described a burning jet from which one pilot ejected. The pilot was wounded and soon

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Refno # 0512

Reviewed by DPMO
IAW 50 USC 435 Note & DOD 5400.7-R
Date: 6/7/07 Initials: RRD

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died. The militia turned over the pilot's equipment and personal effects to the province military commander, Dang Van Dong, now dead. Two days later they were ordered to bury the body. In 1972-73, Cung heard that unidentified officials and Vu Thi Ngac recovered the remains.

- Ta Dao Ly, provided similar information.
- Vu Thi Ngac provided similar information adding that remains were recovered in 1975.
- Central government: Mr. Tuan of MOD said Pham Teo said the Vietnamese government had already provided all records and documentation associated with American remains and remains recoveries. Local officials don't have many records concerning these issues.

JAN 96, JFA 39: Team searched for crashsite in the vicinity of Tri Yen.

- VNOSMP said it could not find any witnesses in Tri Yen Village or in villages to the southeast: Dong Cong Hamlet, Cam Ly Village; Dan Hoi Village; Le Loi Village.
- Team interviewed two witnesses and saw a reported crashsite in Bac An Village, Chi Linh District, Hai Hung. Mid-1965 captured one American pilot--probably Case 0176 (returnee) according to Ha Bac Command Chronology).
- Three witnesses in Hung Dao Village, Chi Linh District, described a crash (12:00 - 14:00) in the Sep-Nov 66, after which locals found small pieces of flesh. Vu Duy Do provided hearsay that "Lap", now dead, buried the remains, including a skull. Do identified the crashsite at XJ 37326 42473 and the grave area at XJ 37304 42345. Wreckage analysis was unable to associate a specific aircraft.

DEC 96, JFA 43: A joint team excavated a burial site near Hung Dao Village, Chi Linh District, Hai Hung Province, at XJ 37703 42070 -- area was a cultivated cabbage and lettuce patch but reportedly an active cemetery at the time of the incident. Team found four Vietnamese burial containers with Mongoloid remains which locals reburied. Also found 206 possible pieces of bone, but these were nonhuman. Along with wreckage team found a piece of a flight suit, a piece of boot leather, and other items. Wreckage analysis identified the right aircraft type by the J-75 engine but could not make a case-specific association.

- Vo Duy Do described seeing a burning aircraft flying from the direction of Ha Bac that crashed and exploded near his house. Later that afternoon, he and villagers went to the site where they saw numerous pieces of wreckage and remains. Do heard that Mr. Lap, who died in 1987, gathered the remains and wrapped them in a tarp, then buried them on the edge of a local cemetery. After the war villagers covered the cemetery with one meter of clay. The cemetery remained untouched since it was an ancient burial ground, and any remains still there were unclaimed by local villagers.

Team recommended further excavation but also recommended that when a team found Vietnamese burial containers, that these should not be opened but left in place.

(Comment: The Vietnamese later indicated that local people were strongly opposed to further excavation in this cemetery, which offended their religious beliefs and exacerbated local superstitions. Per Col Bien, initially the locals did not want the excavation at all, but the VNOSMP persuaded them. As the effort continued and only the graves of local people were opened, locals decided to put a halt to excavation activity.)

MAY 98, JFA 50: Due to the sensitive nature of this excavation, a small team offered only technical expertise to a Vietnamese excavation team. However, the site had been transformed from a cemetery into an agricultural field by adding 30 cm of fill dirt to the ground surface. With the exception of this topsoil, the ground was very mottled compact clay, making the excavation difficult and slow. Time constraints and the size of the site prevented the completion of the excavation. No human remains or personal effects were found.

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MAR 99, JFA 54: The team completed the excavation of the burial site (XJ 377 420) and crashsite in Chi Linh District, Hai Duong Province. The team excavated approximately 158 square meters to culturally sterile soil, recovering possible human remains, life support equipment, and aircraft wreckage from the burial site. The crashsite was located 200 meters north of the burial site on a hillside. The area had been altered for the cultivation of fruit trees and had also been used as a cemetery. Wreckage included mostly small unidentifiable pieces that could not be correlated conclusively to a specific aircraft; however, pieces of a back style parachute are consistent with an F-105. No remains were recovered.

SEA Government Unilateral information/Investigations

REMAINS: On 31 July 1989, the SRV repatriated the remains of Lt Col Brinckman, which were subsequently identified, and Lt Col Brinckman's military identification card.

RECORDS: Ha Bac Command Chronology lists this incident; says rocket company shot down one F4 this date; one pilot dead, burned one (illegible word) The, Tri Yen, Yen Dung.

RECORDS: V95E6B. Typewritten record from Ha Bac Province Ministry of Public Security, dated 17 November 1972 was given to Congressman Richardson Delegation 30 May 1995. It stated: 20 enemy pilots were killed over Ha Bac; 7 burned to death leaving 13 survivors. Entry # 13 comments on crewmember Brynck Mann Robert: 1Lt, died 21 Jun 1966, buried at Tan Thinh, Chi Yen, Yen Dung.

RECORDS: V95E6C: Handwritten, Statistic of Information Source and Aircraft of American Pilots in the Ha Bac Area. Provided to Congressman Richardson Delegation 30 May 1995. Undated but compares information provided by Ha Bac Province team, Ha Bac Police, and U.S., implying relatively recent creation. Ha Bac Province team information appears to be drawn from the Ha Bac Command Chronology. Contains 20 entries. Entry 1 relates to this case. Province team and police agree pilot died in Chi Yen, Yen Dong.

UNILATERAL REPORT, DELIVERED 24 JUNE 1996: Unilateral team working in June 1996 interviewed two witnesses (Vu Hai Khanh and Vu Chi Cu), who knew about a pilot who ejected and landed in Tri Yen Village. The pilot died and was buried. The remains were later exhumed and repatriated. Khanh saw smoke in the vicinity of Hung Dao Hill, Chi Linh District, Hai Hung. He later heard there was aircraft wreckage at the site, and that the second pilot had died in the aircraft. Two witnesses (Tran Van Ba and Vu Thi Hao) in Phuong Son Hamlet, Hung Dao Village, Chi Linh District agreed that local people found many pieces of flesh, etc., but no personal effects. Ba said he'd heard another villager had found a skull and buried it in an area that had since been flattened and turned into a junkyard; however, Hao didn't think that was true because local government would have known about it.

Knowledgeability Assessment

There is knowledge of this incident as demonstrated by the return of the remains of one crew member and by province military records. The remains already repatriated are those of the crewmember who apparently was able to eject from the aircraft prior to impact. Though officials were probably knowledgeable about the incident, the fact that Capt Scungio was in the aircraft at time of impact (and his remains were fragmented and scattered, and probably never under any official custody) makes the recovery of his remains very problematic.

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<u>Re-Coordination</u>	<u>Date</u>
A--USA RESEARCH (DPMO) (REAFFIRM); USA RESEARCH (JPAC-CIL 1999-042 NO MTDNA POTENTIAL) (REAFFIRM)	2006/06/09
A--USA RESEARCH (DPMO); USA RESEARCH (JPAC-CIL REVIEW REPATRIATED REMAINS & 1999-042 NO MTDNA POTENTIAL)	2004/10/29
A--USA CILHI (PENDING FURTHER INFO OR REMAINS)	1999/08/06
PP--JFA 54	1999/03/12
PP--JFA 52	1998/09/04
A--JOINT EXCAVATE (WAIT AWHILE)	1997/05/09
A--JOINT EXCAVATE (V43 FINDING RMNS, EV IN A/C)	1996/11/22
A--JOINT EXCAVATE (XJ 373 423 & XJ 373 424), UNILATERAL ARCHIVES, UNILATERAL WITNESS (RPT + WIT ON BRINCKMAN REMAINS)	1996/04/12
A--JOINT INVESTIGATE, UNILATERAL WITNESS, UNILATERAL ARCHIVES (SEARCH & CORRELATE SITE NOT VISITED)	1995/05/27

Further Pursuit Information

US RESEARCH/JPAC-CIL: Conduct research into the turnover of Lt Col Brinckman's remains to determine if any information might help in the resolution of this case. Remains at JPAC-CIL have no mtDNA potential.

US RESEARCH/DPMO: Review files for any information that might assist in the identification of Capt Scungio. NOTE: DPMO has found nothing as of May 2006.

Further Pursuit Deferred Information

NA

No Further Pursuit Information

NA

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