CASE 1541
FEATHERSTON, FIELDING W. III - Y
(b)(3): McCain

R 250000Z APR 13 ZYB
FM CDR JPAC HICKAM AFB HI
TO RUEHVN/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
INFO RUEKICS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC
SECSTATE WASH DC
RHEFLGX/SAFE WASHINGTON DC
ZEN/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI
RUEKICS/CDR USPACOM LO WASHINGTON DC
RHEHAAA/WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON DC
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC
RUETIJS/CSG JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC
BT

CONTROLS

UNCLAS

BODY

MSGID/GENADMIN/MIL-STD-6040(SERIES)/B.0.01.00/CDR JPAC HICKAM AFB HI/
SUBJ/EXCAVATION SUMMARY REPORT OF CASE 1541 (LA-00416) //
GENTEXT/REMARKS/SUBJ/EXCAVATION SUMMARY REPORT OF CASE 1541
(LA-00416) CONDUCTED DURING THE JOINT FIELD ACTIVITY JFA 13-3LA
(128TH JFA).
AKNLDG/COMMENTS IN THIS REPORT ARE NOT INTENDED TO PROVIDE FINAL
ANALYTICAL CONCLUSIONS. REF A/RMG/CDR JTF-FA HONOLULU HI/261718Z NOV
97.


REF D/DOC/1: 50,000 SCALE MAP.

NARR REFERENCES:
A. REF A IS THE DETAILED REPORT OF INVESTIGATION (DRI) OF CASE 1541
CONDUCTED DURING JFA 98-1L CONDUCTED IN THE L.P.D.R. FROM 30
SEPTEMBER THROUGH 01 NOVEMBER 1997.
B. REF B IS THE RESULTS OF PHASE TWO TESTING (P2T) ACTIVITIES AT REFNO
1541 CONDUCTED DURING JFA 08-3LA.
C. REF C IS THE INTERIM SEARCH AND RECOVERY REPORT CIL 2010-079, REFNO
1541 EXCAVATION DURING JFA 10-4LA.
D. REF D IS MAP DATA: NAME: THAML A; SHEET: 5648 I; SERIES: L7015;
RMKS/1. CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS: CASE 1541 INVOLVES THE 30 DECEMBER 1969 LOSS OF AN F-4D AIRCRAFT ON AN ARMED RECONNAISSANCE MISSION OVER LAOS RESULTING IN TWO UNACCOUNTED-FOR INDIVIDUALS. ON THE FINAL PASS OVER THE TARGET THE WINGS ROCKED ONCE AND THE AIRCRAFT CRASHED A QUARTER OF A MILE BEYOND THE TARGET. A LARGE FIREBALL WAS OBSERVED ALONG WITH WRECKAGE DEBRIS SCATTERING IN THE DIRECTION OF FLIGHT. NEITHER CANOPIES NOR EJECTION SEATS WERE SEEN LEAVING THE AIRCRAFT PRIOR TO IMPACT. NO PARACHUTES WERE SEEN AND NEITHER RADIO CALLS NOR BEEPER SIGNALS WERE HEARD.

2. SITE LOCATION:
   A. MAP COORDINATES: 48Q UH 410 100.
   B. MGRS GRID COORDINATES: 48Q UH 40998 10020 USING THE WORLD GEODETIC SYSTEM 1984 (WGS-84 DATUM), TRACKING EIGHT SATELLITES, +/- THREE METERS ESTIMATED POSITIONING ERROR, UTILIZING THE GARMIN GPS MAP 60CSX.
   C. ELEVATION: 1381 METERS.


4. MATERIAL EVIDENCE:
   A. RT1 RECOVERED AND RETAINED THE FOLLOWING PIECES OF POSSIBLE LIFE SUPPORT ITEMS.
      (1) POSSIBLE PARACHUTE COMPONENTS/HARNESS FRAGMENTS/CANOPY.
      (2) WEBBING PIECES.
      (3) POSSIBLE LPU FRAGMENTS.
      (4) POSSIBLE "D/V" RINGS.
      (5) POSSIBLE COMMUNICATION CORD FRAGMENT.
      (6) POSSIBLE EJECTION SEAT DATA PLATE.
      (7) POSSIBLE FLIGHT GLOVE FRAGMENTS.
      (8) POSSIBLE MEDICAL KIT COMPONENTS.
      (9) POSSIBLE G-SUIT FRAGMENTS.
      (10) POSSIBLE EJECTION SEAT FRAGMENTS.
(11) POSSIBLE SURVIVAL KIT COMPONENTS.
(12) POSSIBLE BLOOD CHIT FRAGMENTS.
(13) FABRIC MATERIAL.
(14) POSSIBLE SURVIVAL VEST MATERIAL.
(15) PERSONNEL LOWERING DEVICE PIECES.
(16) ZIPPER FRAGMENTS.
B. RT1 PHOTOGRAPHED BUT DID NOT RETAIN THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:
   (1) .38 CALIBER ROUNDS AND CASINGS.
   (2) NON-DIAGNOSTIC AIRCRAFT WRECKAGE.
C. LIFE SUPPORT INVESTIGATORS COMMENTS: THE LIFE SUPPORT SECTION WILL CONDUCT FURTHER ANALYSIS AT JPAC-CIL.
5. EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL (EOD) TECHNICIAN COMMENTS:
   A. RT1 RECOVERED THE FOLLOWING UNEXPLoded ORDNANCE (UXO) AND ORDNANCE-RELATED MATERIAL DURING EXCAVATION OF CASE 1541:
      (1) TWENTY-FOUR ROUNDS OF .38 CALIBER AMMUNITION.
      (2) ONE X BLU63-B, BLU63-A/B, BLU86-B, OR BLU86-A/B
   B. THE ORDNANCE ENCOUNTERED WITHIN THE PROJECT AREA AND SURROUNDING TERRAIN WAS CONSISTENT WITH THE TYPES OF ORDNANCE PREVIOUSLY ENCOUNTERED AND REPORTED.
   C. THE EOD TECHNICIANS INFORMED THE LAO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ABOUT THE UXO RECOVERED DURING EXCAVATION OPERATIONS. THE UXO PLACED IN A SAFE HOLDING AREA (MGRS GRID COORDINATES 48Q UH 41027 10214 USING THE WGS-84 DATUM, TRACKING EIGHT SATELLITES, +/ THREE METERS ESTIMATED POSITIONING ERROR, UTILIZING THE GARMIN GPSMAP 60 CSX GPS).
6. WITNESS STATEMENTS: RT1 DID NOT INTERVIEW ANY WITNESSES DURING THIS JFA.
7. REPORT WRITERS:
   A. [Name] JPAC, RECOVERY LEADER.
   B. [Name] JPAC, LIFE SUPPORT INVESTIGATOR.
   C. [Name] 354TH EOD COMPANY, EIELSON AFB, ALASKA, EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TECHNICIAN.
   D. [Name] 1ST EOD COMPANY, CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA, EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL TECHNICIAN.

ADMIN

BT
#1516