



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Bust.

16 November 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: Vice Admiral V. P. de Poix

Director

Defense Intelligence Agency

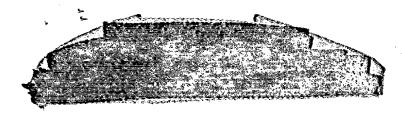
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SUBJECT

Death of a U.S. Pilot in the Crash of a Light
Reconnaissance Aircraft in South Vietnam
in 1970

1. The attached report is forwarded in this channel because it concerns the possible death and location of the remains of a U.S. Army officer currently carried as Missing in Action by his service. No further dissemination of the report is being made in Washington.

copies of this report have been made available to the following organizations as the companies of this report have been made available to the following organizations as the companies of this report have been made available to the following organizations as the companies of this report have been made available to the following organizations as the companies of this report have been made available to the following organizations as the companies of this report have been made available to the following organizations as the companies of this report have been made available to the following organizations as the companies of this report have been made available to the following organizations as the companies of this report have been made available to the following organizations as the companies of the

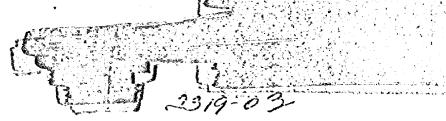


Attachment CS 317/09133/72

cc: Admiral Rectanus
Admiral Whitmire
Admiral Murphy
General Ogan
Colonel Iles

olonel Allen
olonel Tope
captain Adams
Mr. Negroponte
Mr. Sieverts

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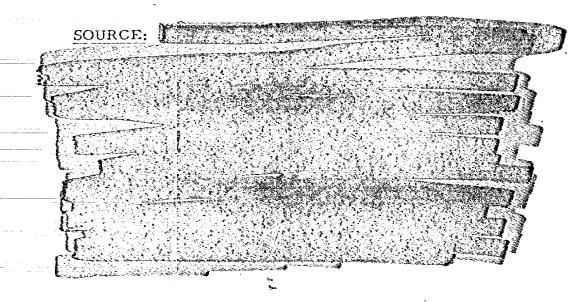




10 November 1972

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: Death of a U.S. Pilot in Crash of a U.S. "L-19"
Reconnaissance Plane in Vinh Binh Province,
South Vietnam, in 1970



1. In March or April 1970, a U.S. "L-19", i.e., O-1, reconnaissance aircraft crashed on the periphery of a forest located approximately 300 meters east of the Co Chien River passing through Vinh Hung Hamlel, Long Duc Village, Chau Thanh District, Vinh Binh Province, South Vietnam, near XR475039. The pilot, who was a First Lieutenant, Caucasian, and about 25 years old, was killed in the crash.

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2. Shortly after the crash, VC guerrillas from Vinh Hung Hamlet arrived at the site of the wreck and stripped the plane and its engine of some movable parts and buried the pilot near the wreckage. Following the crash, Army of the Republic of Vietnam troops conducted search operations in the area. They found the wreckage but failed to locate the pilot's grave./1/ and /2/

Center (JPRC) who made the following remarks: "The report correlates well with an O-1G lost on 20 March 1970. This is the only single engine light aircraft JPRC has for the time frame and coordinates. That aircraft carried two persons, Captain Robert E. Cozart, Jr. (pilot) and WOI James R. Butler (observer). Both are presently listed as Missing in Action by the Army. The source's basic information follows intelligence reports received at the time and since, with the exception of two on board the aircraft. There are indications that one died in or prior to the crash, and the other was killed shortly thereafter by the VC. These reports supposedly indicate that both were buried in the general vicinity. Following search operations turned up part of the tail section, but no remains or traces of either men were found. There have been occasional conflicting reports that possibly could indicate that one or both survived."

