

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

CATEGORY = 4

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~~SECRET SPOKE~~ USM-808 FOLL UP NR 2 TO USA-32 CRITIC 12-68 REFLECTIONS OF AIRCRAFT SHOOTDOWNS POSSIBLY OVER LAOS A PROBABLY RELATED 24 DECEMBER MESSAGE ORIGINATED BY AN UNIDENTIFIED REAR SERVICE ELEMENT IN LAOS, REVEALED THAT AN F-105 HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN IN FLAMES "IN THE AREA OF KILOMETER 78" (UNLOCATED). THE ACTION WAS ACCOMPLISHED BY "COMRADE KHANH'S UNIT." THE PILOT HAD PARACHUTED TO SAFETY BUT COULD NOT BE RESCUED BY A HELICOPTER AND AN AD-6 WHICH HAD ARRIVED ON THE SCENE. THE MESSAGE FURTHER REVEALED THAT AN "AMBUSH" HAD BEEN PLANNED FOR THE FOLLOWING MORNING (25 DECEMBER) WHEN ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO RESCUE TO PILOT WOULD REPORTEDLY BE MADE. NO INFORMATION WAS REVEALED CONCERNING THE IDENTITY OF THE UNIT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INCIDENT OTHER THAN THE NAME OF THE PROBABLE COMMANDER AND NO FURTHER CLARIFICATION OF ITS AREA OF OPERATION IS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE. 200 NNNN

Approved for release by NSA on 06-06-2014, Transparency Case# 65886

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