

~~SECRET~~

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

ACTION PRECEDENCE  
ROUTINE

INFO PRECEDENCE  
ROUTINE

SPECIAL HANDLING  
~~COMINT CHANNELS~~

DISTRIBUTION

FROM: DIRNSA DATE: 8 MAY 1969  
TO: CGUSASA  
INFO: CUSASAPAC  
509TH RR GP  
ASALNGP (FORT MEADE) BY COURIER

DIR  
D/DIR  
ADP  
ADPM  
DI/PIO  
DI2  
D33  
B  
B04  
B6  
B604  
P04  
M5  
M55  
SI31  
ASALNGP/FM

~~SECRET COMINT CHANNELS~~ GEN DENHOLM FROM GEN CARTER

DIR -71

POSSIBLE COMPROMISE DUE TO LOSS OF RU-1 "CAFE GIRL"

AIRCRAFT

REF 224TH AVNBN MSG 121530Z, IAPV 224/S2 9043/3055 AND  
146TH AVN CO (RR), ROI - 12 FEB 69, 509TH RR GP CONTROL  
NO. SCC - 1174-69. NO FURTHER NSA ACTION REQUIRED. CASE  
CLOSED.

I WISH TO PERSONALLY THANK ALL OF THE ASA PERSONNEL WHO  
WERE INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THE MESSAGES ADVISING ME OF  
THE STATUS OF THE CASE WERE TIMELY AND THE FINAL REPORTING  
OF PERTINENT DETAILS WAS EXCELLENT. I PARTICULARLY WISH  
TO CONGRATULATE THE FOUR US ASA PERSONNEL DIRECTLY INVOLVED  
IN THE INCIDENT, MAJ QUERIN E. HERLICK, CWO LAIRD P.  
OSBURN, SP5 JOHN B. FISCHER AND SP5 ROBERT PRYOR FOR THE  
SUPERIOR MANNER IN WHICH THEY CONDUCTED THEMSELVES BOTH

DR *B.G. Cwalina*  
B. G. CWALINA, M552, 3863s

RELEASING OFFICER  
*Marshall S. Carter*  
MARSHALL S. CARTER, LTGEN, USA  
DIRECTOR

RELEASED AT (ZULU)

DOCUMENT MARKING

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REFERS TO MESSAGE

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

SMI NR.

SMO

SMI 12419

DTG 121530Z

SUSPENSE

SMO NR.

DTG

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~~SECRET~~

*05037/08*

*081436Z*

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DISTRIBUTION

PRIOR TO AND AFTER CAPTURE BY THE VIET CONG AND DURING  
LATER DETENTION BY THE CAMBODIANS. THEIR ALERT ACTIONS  
ARE A CREDIT TO THE USASA AND TO THE 509TH RR GP.

DRAFTER

RELEASING OFFICER

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

SMI NR.

SMO

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DTG

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DISTRIBUTION

M/R: On 12 Feb 1969, CGUSASA reported that a United States Army RU-1 "Cafe Girl" aircraft of the 146th RRCO had been shot down by the Viet Cong in Cambodia. The aircraft carried COMINT and cryptographic materials along with four COMINT cleared crewmen. Documents and equipment were classified and ranged from Confidential to Secret Codeword. Investigation revealed that the classified material was placed in a green mission bag and thrown into the burning aircraft flames and in all probability was destroyed. The four ASA crewmen Maj Herlick, CWO Osburn, SP5 Fischer and SP5 Pryor were captured by the Viet Cong and eventually handed over to the Cambodians. Prior to capture, they defended themselves until surrounded. It is believed that the enemy lost nine personnel in this action. When captured they used a cover story indicating that they were flying the airplane on a cargo run to Tay Ninh which apparently was believed by the Viet Cong and Cambodians. In all probability, no compromise occurred and the four ASA crewmen are now back in US control. No further NSA action is required and Case 51.6-2217 is closed. Because the four ASA personnel conducted themselves in such a conscientious manner, the Director, NSA has personally commended their action. The final report of this possible compromise was forwarded to USIB on 17 Apr 1969, NSA Serial: N 0353. Content of this message was coordinated with Mr. Parry, D12. Statement preceding DIRNSA's congratulations constitutes standard M5 case closing terminology.

- DIR
- D/DIR
- ADP
- ADPM
- D1/PIO
- D12
- D33
- B
- ~~B04~~
- B6
- ~~B604~~
- ~~P04~~
- M5
- M55
- SI31
- ASALNGP/FM

DRAFTER

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SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

SMI NR.

SNO

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037/08

DTG

~~SECRET~~

DTG

SUSPENSE