

## LAOS, CAMBODIA & VIETNAM ESCAPEES TO THAILAND (Steve Darke)

This document tries to summarise what is known of the aircraft which escaped to Thailand from Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam from 1975 through to the early 1980's. Sources can be found in the References. There are more questions than answers, and comments etc very welcome to [steve.darke@psw ltd.com](mailto:steve.darke@psw ltd.com)

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**Green text** = WikiLeaks cable

US State Department telex of Oct75 states that the following 'recovered military items' re-allocated to Thailand:-

- 18 UH-1 'Previously Transferred'
- 4 UH-1 to be transferred for cannibalisation
- 2 T-41
- 15 O-1
- 4 C-47 (3 from Cambodia & 1 from Vietnam)
- 14 U-17B
- 4 T-28D (for spares)
- 12 UH-1 fuselages (and other components)

<u>Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Operator</u>	<u>Serial</u>	<u>Notes &amp; Fate</u>
<b><u>FROM CAMBODIA</u></b>						
<b>Known to have escaped to Don Mueang in April 1975 are:-</b>						
01Apr75 <sup>1</sup>	Phnom Penh	Bangkok	Caravelle 3	Air Cambodge	XU-JTB	Used by Lon Nol to escape; abandoned at Don Mueang; still present 2017
Apr75	Phnom Penh ?	Bangkok	Carvair	International Red Cross	LN-NAA	Abandoned at Don Mueang & broken up late 1980's
09Apr75	Phnom Penh ?	Bangkok	DC-4	Air Cambodge	XU-GAI	Abandoned at Don Mueang & broken up late 1980's
12Apr75	Phnom Penh ?	Bangkok	Convair 440	Cambodian Air Service	N102KA	John R. Mecalf, 4 crew & 35 pax; abandoned at Don Mueang; believed to Siam Park City late 1980's / early 1990's

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14Apr75	Kampong Som	Bangkok	C-47	Samakee Airline	XW-TFJ	1 pilot, 10 pax; wore "Samaki Peanich Airlines" titles (in Khmer) and the name 'Victory' (in English); stored at Don Mueang; broken up c.1984
14Apr75	Kampong Som	Bangkok	Convair 340		XW-PJZ	6 crew; believed moved on to Seletar
<b>Known to have escaped to U-Tapao are:-</b>						
		<b>U-Tapao</b>	<b>Lockheed 18</b>	<b>Indhanu AL</b>	<b>N5135</b>	<b>2 US pilots who abandoned the aircraft at UTP<sup>2</sup></b> ; moved on to Seletar & scrapped there
<b>97 a/c reported to U-Tapao (and other Thai bases) after 12Apr75</b> , including 13 x UH-1, 50 x T-28D <sup>3</sup> , 10 x C-123 <sup>4</sup> , 3x AU-24 <sup>5</sup> , 3 C-47, 7 AC-47 <sup>6</sup> & 1 x T-41.						
<b>Known are:-</b>						
<b>Bell UH-1</b> (contemporary telex of 18Apr75 states that 1 Khmer AF UH-1H had arrived at U-Tapao by that date, plus 2 more elsewhere in Thailand) <sup>7</sup>						
17Apr75	Ream	U-Tapao	UH-1H	Khmer AF		Flamed out on arrival at U-Tapao at 1600 but managed to land without damage just at the end of the runway <sup>8</sup> ; 26 crew & pax
17Apr75		Surin	2 UH-1			32 crew & pax; to Thai-Am (by USAF) 19Apr75
Apr75		Surin	4 UH-1			To Thai-Am (by USAF) 28Apr75
			UH-1H	Khmer AF ?	68-15641	At Thai-Am, Don Mueang 24Apr75; believed declared uneconomical to repair <sup>9</sup>
			UH-1H	Khmer AF ?	68-16208	'Under Contract Maintenance, Thai-Am, Don Mueang' 24Apr75 <sup>10</sup> ; to RTN 401
		Surin	UH-1H		68-16449	'Impounded By Thai Authorities, Surin' 24Apr75 <sup>11</sup> ; to RThaiAF H6-33/18
<b>30Apr75</b>	<b>Pochentong</b>	<b>Chantaburi</b>	<b>UH-1H</b>	<b>Khmer AF</b>	<b>147</b> (71-20147)	<b>1 pilot, Lt. Bin Lee Lim Kuan; helicopter marked with red flag and tail number 147<sup>12</sup></b> ; to RTN 404
		Surin			71-20239	'Impounded By Thai Authorities, Surin' 24Apr75 <sup>13</sup> ; to RThaiAF H6-38/46
			UH-1H	Khmer AF ?	71-20266	'Under Contract Maintenance, Thai-Am, Don Mueang' 24Apr75; declared uneconomical to repair <sup>14</sup>
			UH-1H	Khmer AF ?	71-20274	'Under Contract Maintenance, Thai-Am, Don Mueang' 24Apr75; declared uneconomical to repair <sup>15</sup>
		Surin	UH-1H	Khmer AF ?	72-20269	'Impounded By Thai Authorities, Surin' 24Apr75 <sup>16</sup>
		Surin	UH-1H	Khmer AF ?	72-21539	'Impounded By Thai Authorities, Surin' 24Apr75 <sup>17</sup>
17Apr75		Surin	UH-1H	Khmer AF ?	608 (72-21608)	4 crew & pax; to Thai-Am (by USAF) 19Apr75; to RThaiAF H6-37/18
			UH-1H	Khmer AF ?	72-21612	To RTN 402
<b>North American T28</b> (contemporary telex of 18Apr75 states that 7 Khmer AF T28 had arrived at U-Tapao by that date) <sup>18</sup>						
16Apr75		U-Tapao	2 T-28			

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17Apr75	Khampong Chang <sup>19</sup>	U-Tapao	2 T-28			Landed 0315; 3 <sup>rd</sup> T-28 in this group failed to arrive <sup>20</sup>
17Apr75	Ream	U-Tapao	3 T-28			Landed 1330 <sup>21</sup>
			These T-28's probably include:-			
				Khmer AF	51-3480 <sup>22</sup>	To RThaiAF JF13-116/18
				Khmer AF	51-3706 <sup>23</sup>	To RThaiAF
<b><u>Fairchild C123</u></b> (contemporary telex of 18Apr75 states that 2 Khmer AF C123 had arrived at U-Tapao by that date) <sup>24</sup>						
16Apr75		U-Tapao	AC-123			68 crew & pax
17Apr75	Khampong Chang <sup>25</sup>	U-Tapao	C-123			Landed 0315 with the 2 T-28 listed above <sup>26</sup> ; 79 crew & pax, believed to include Brig. Gen. Kem Thi, Khampong Chang Military Region Commander
18Apr75		U-Tapao	C-123	Khmer AF		Landed am with the 2 AC-47 listed below <sup>27</sup>
<b><u>Helio AU24A Stallion</u></b> (contemporary telex of 18Apr75 states that 1 Khmer AF AU24 had arrived at U-Tapao by that date) <sup>28</sup>						
17Apr75		Trat	AU-24		Crashed into sea	4 crew & pax killed
17Apr75	Ream	U-Tapao	AU-24		Believed to USA	Landed 1330 <sup>29</sup> with 3 T-28 listed above; 2 pilots & 8 pax
17/18Apr75		U-Tapao	AU-24 (?)		Believed to USA	Possibly a duplicate report of one of the AU-24's above
			These AU-24 include:-			
			AU-24A	Khmer AF	72-1321	'Under Contract Maintenance, Thai-Am, Don Mueang' 24Apr75 <sup>30</sup> ; to N5779N
			AU-24A	Khmer AF	72-1322	'Under US Govt control at U-Tapao' 24Apr75 <sup>31</sup> ; to N550HZ
			AU-24A	Khmer AF	72-1330	'Under Contract Maintenance, Thai-Am, Don Mueang' 24Apr75 <sup>32</sup> ; to N9991F
<b><u>Douglas C47</u></b> (contemporary telex of 18Apr75 states that 3 Khmer AF AC47 had arrived at U-Tapao by that date) <sup>33</sup>						
17Apr75		U-Tapao	C-47			
17/18Apr75		U-Tapao	3 C-47			Probably includes the C-47 above
18Apr75			2 AC-47	Khmer AF		Landed am with the C-123 listed above <sup>34</sup> ; 120 crew & pax, including the party of Lt. Gen. Sak Sutsakhan <sup>35</sup>
			These C-47's probably include:-			
		U-Tapao	C-47		43-49210	To RThaiAF B.L2-41/18
		Udon	AC-47	Khmer AF	43-49254	'Under US Govt control at MacThai, Udon' 24Apr75 <sup>36</sup> ; to RThaiAF B.L2-42/18
		Udon or Don Mueang	AC-47	Khmer AF	43-49516	'Under Contract Maintenance, Thai-Am, Don Mueang' 24Apr75 <sup>37</sup> ; to RThaiAF B.L2-43/18
		Udon or Don	AC-47	Khmer AF	44-77152	'Under Contract Maintenance, Thai-Am, Don Mueang'

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		Mueang				24Apr75 <sup>38</sup> ; to RThaiAF B.L2-44/18
		Udon or Don Mueang	AC-47	Khmer AF	45-1116	'Under Contract Maintenance, Thai-Am, Don Mueang' 24Apr75 <sup>39</sup> ; to RThaiAF B.L2-45/18
		Udon	AC-47	Khmer AF	43-49010	'Under US Govt control at MacThai, Udon' 24Apr75 <sup>40</sup> ; to RThaiAF B.L2-46/18
		U-Tapao or Don Mueang	AC-47	Khmer AF <sup>41</sup>	43-49213	'Under Contract Maintenance, Thai-Am, Don Mueang' 24Apr75 <sup>42</sup> ; to RTN
		Udon	AC-47	Khmer AF	45-1079	'Under US Govt control at MacThai, Udon' 24Apr75 <sup>43</sup> ; to RThaiAF B.L2-47/18
		Udon ?	C-47	Khmer AF	42-100937	To RThaiAF B.L2-48/18
		Udon ?	C-47		43-48492	To RThaiAF B.L2-49/18
		U-Tapao ?	C-47		43-49703	To Ripley's, Pattaya 1995
<b>Cessna T41</b> (contemporary telex of 18Apr75 states that 1 Khmer AF T41 had arrived at U-Tapao by that date) <sup>44</sup>						
17/18Apr75		U-Tapao	1 T-41D	Khmer AF	73-1662	To RThaiAF B.F14-13/18
<b>Other types:</b>						
20Apr75		U-Tapao	C-54			
Apr75			12 O-1			
<b>Post-1975 escapees known are:-</b>						
30Apr76			UH-1H			With defector Lim Pech Kuon
by Mar78	Phnom Penh ?	Bangkok	DC-6	Church Air		Assumed broken up at Don Mueang
by 1978	Phnom Penh ?	Bangkok	DC-7	Air Services	N774R	Abandoned at Don Mueang & broken up c.1986
03Jan79 <sup>45</sup> or 06Jan79 <sup>46</sup>			5 UH-1 or 2 UH-1?	Khmer AF  Khmer AF		With Pol Pot & advisors; reported disabled by crews
11Feb82	Phnom Penh	Prachinburi / Sa Kaeo	An-26		26264	Forced down by 2 RThaiAF F-5E's whilst on intelligence-gathering mission; 13 crew of which 1 killed and 2/3 injured; crews returned by Vietnam AL VN832 21May82
<b><u>FROM LAOS</u></b>						
10May75	Vientiane	Udon	C-47		XW-PGW	Personal A/C of Gen Vang Pao; 1 American pilot, no pax
24May75	Vientiane	Bangkok	C-46	Lanezang Airline	XW-PMF	To HS-SKD 1978; preserved in Chonburi
24May75		Udon	T-41B		15033 (67-15033)	Into RThaiAF custody; sold to SPM 26Jan87; released as scrap by US 09Oct87; transferred to SPM 15Jan88
26May75		Bangkok	Cessna 150	Bird Air	XW-PGS	Possibly to RThaiAF

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07Jun75 <sup>47</sup>	Vientiane	Udorn	C-47		965 (43-47965)	1 pilot, a disgruntled former student at the MACTHAI training and Logistics detachment; no pax; into RThaiAF custody; sold to SPM 26Jan87; released as scrap by US 09Oct87; transferred to SPM 15Jan88
17Jun75	Vientiane	Udorn	H-34D		3699 (Bu153699)	3 pilots (2 1 <sup>st</sup> lieutenants and 1 sergeant) <sup>48</sup> ; into RThaiAF custody; sold to SPM 26Jan87; released as scrap by US 09Oct87; transferred to SPM 15Jan88; later to Jesada Museum
25Jun75	Pakse	Udorn, then to Ubon	H-34D		0577 (Bu150577)	3 crew <sup>49</sup> ; into RThaiAF custody; to Pathum Thani temple
09Mar76	Savannakhet	Sakhon Nakon	O-1A		7343	1 pilot; flown back to Laos 21Mar76
07Jul76	Vientiane	Udorn	H-34D		0556 (Bu150556)	15 pax, including Police major, Phut Mingsisuphan, his family, the helicopter pilot, and a mechanic <sup>50</sup> ; into RThaiAF custody; sold to SPM 26Jan87; released as scrap by US 09Oct87; transferred to SPM 15Jan88; to RThaiAF Museum
11Jul76 <sup>51</sup>	Phone Savan	Udorn	H-34		0245 (Bu150245)	3 pilots, 3 women, 1 child; was commandeered by 3 RLAF officers and their families (total of 7 people); into RThaiAF custody; sold to SPM 26Jan87; released as scrap by US 09Oct87; transferred to SPM 15Jan88
30Dec76	Vientiane	Udorn	C-46		XW-PBV	Flown back to Laos 14Feb77
14Jan77		Udorn	O-1F		718	Flown back to Laos 14Feb77
19Jan77	Wangwieng	Udorn	O-1F		869	Flown back to Laos 14Feb77
24Aug79		Udorn	C-47		013 (43-49013)	Flown back to Laos 20Sep79
01Sep79	Hanoi	Uttaradit	An-26		RDPL-34037	Intended to land at Vientiane but lost on the way due to weather; 1 pilot, 4 crew, 68 pax, all returned to Laos on 10Sep79; aircraft repaired by Thai-Am; flown back to Laos 31Jan80, but crashed on landing at Vientiane
15Feb80	Plain of Jars	Udorn	T-28D		3409	1 pilot; into RThaiAF custody; sold to SPM 26Jan87; sold to Bill Wright, World Jet Inc, 1020 Northwest 62 <sup>nd</sup> Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 25Feb87
20Mar80	Plain of Jars	Sakhon Nakhon	T-28D		3404	1 instructor & 1 student; student returned to Laos; flown from Sakhon Nakhon to Udorn by Thai pilot; into RThaiAF custody; sold to SPM 26Jan87; sold to Bill Wright, World Jet Inc, 1020 Northwest 62 <sup>nd</sup> Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 25Feb87
16May82		Ubol	Mi-8		RDPL-34046	Flown back to Laos
24Jul84		Udorn	An-2	Laos Airways	RDPL-34025	2 pilots; into RThaiAF custody; sold to SPM 26Jan87; sold to Bill Wright, World Jet Inc, 1020 Northwest 62 <sup>nd</sup> Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 25Feb87; regd N30WJ 15Jul89; canx 13Nov95 <sup>52</sup> ;

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						noted derelict at Livermore, CA May02 <sup>53</sup>
<b>FROM VIETNAM</b> (165 <sup>54</sup> a/c on 29Apr75)						
Landings on 29Apr75 at U-Tapao:-						
06:26			2 x F-5			
08:11			2 x F-5			
08:30			C-47			Possibly XV-NIA
09:15-09:30			16 x F-5			
09:40-09:48			5 x F-5			
10:07			F-5			
10:10			Cessna			
10:15			F-5B			
10:46			C-130			148 crews and pax
11:00			C-130			200 crews and pax
11:03			C-130			150 crews and pax
11:10			F-5			
11:14			C-130			250 crews and pax
11:42			Cessna			6 crews and pax
12:00			C-119			60 crews and pax
12:13			C-47			38 crews and pax
12:18			C-47			35 crews and pax
12:38			C-47			35 crews and pax
12:44			Caribou			40 crews and pax
12:51			C-47			8 crews and pax
12:54			C-47			20 crews and pax
12:57			A-1E			
13:00			4 x A-1E			
13:02			4 x A-1E			
13:05			C-47			38 crews and pax
13:05			C-130			115 crews and pax
13:08			C-47			
13:10			C-119			71 crews and pax
13:11			A-1E			
13:15			Caribou			66 crews and pax
13:18			Caribou			47 crews and pax
13:19			C-47			40 crews and pax

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13:20			C-119			55 crews and pax
13:23			C-47			29 crews and pax
13:44			C-47			32 crews and pax
13:46			C-47			67 crews and pax
14:58			U-17			7 crews and pax
15:02			U-17			7 crews and pax
15:03			U-17			7 crews and pax
15:05			U-17			7 crews and pax
15:20			U-17			7 crews and pax
15:50			C-47			70 crews and pax
16:05			Beechcraft			
16:06			U-17			
16:13			C-47			30 crews and pax
17:02			2 x A-37			
Summary is total of 74:- 27xF-5, 2xA-37, 10xA1E, 14xC-47, 3xC-119, 6xC-130, 3xCaribou, 2xCessna, 6xU-17 & 1x Beechcraft (1,917 crew & pax)						
Landings on 30Apr75 at U-Tapao:-						
04:45			Cessna			
09:06			2 x A-37			
09:07			2 x A-37			
10:21			2 x A-37			
11:05			A-1E			
11:21			2 x A-37			
11:24			A-37			
11:28			C-47			
11:29			C-47			
11:30			A-37			
11:32			C-130			
11:35			A-37			
11:38			C-47			
11:41			A-37			
11:42			A-37			
11:44			A-37			
11:45			Caribou			
11:53			A-37			
11:55			C-47			
11:59			Caribou			
12:01			A-37			

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12:02			A-37			
12:04			A-37			
12:10			C-130			
12:11			A-37			
12:12			A-37			
12:16			A-37			
12:18			Cessna			
12:19			A-37			
12:20			Cessna			
12:27			2 x Caribou			
12:58			Cessna			
13:12			Cessna			
13:35			Cessna			
13:46			Cessna			
14:31			Cessna			
14:43			Cessna			
14:44			Cessna			
15:00			A-37			
15:25			Cessna			
15:46			U-6			
15:47			Cessna			
Summary is total of 47:- 23xA-37, 1xA-1E, 4xC-47, 2xC-130, 4xCaribou, 1xU-6 & 12xCessna (993 crew & pax)						
The above include:						
29/30Apr75	Saigon	U-Tapao	11 x A-1E/H <sup>55</sup> :-		132528	Reported returned to Vietnam, presumably by Thai authorities
					132655	Reported returned to Vietnam, presumably by Thai authorities
					132683	Flown to Takhli & stored; to USA 1979 as N39147
					133860	Reported returned to Vietnam, presumably by Thai authorities
					133919	Reported returned to Vietnam, presumably by Thai authorities
					133920	Reported returned to Vietnam, presumably by Thai authorities
					135332	Flown to Takhli & stored; to USA 1979 as N39148
					139606	Flown to Takhli & stored; to USA 1979 as N39606
					139665	Flown to Takhli & stored; to USA 1979 as N39149
					139689	Reported returned to Vietnam, presumably by Thai authorities
					139744	Reported returned to Vietnam, presumably by Thai authorities
29/30Apr75	Saigon	U-Tapao	~27x F-5 <sup>56</sup>			5 F-5A reported given to RThaiAF; remainder shipped on USS Midway to Guam May75 (2 lost whilst loading)
			These include:-			



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			F-5B	VNAF	01609 (73-1609)	To RThaiAF B.Kh18k-3/18
29Apr75		Sri Saket	F-5	VNAF	00882	Landed on Hwy24 near Kantoralak at 1015; minor damage
29Apr75		Chantaburi	F-5			Struck a tree and crashed whilst attempting to land on Hwy3 (Sukhumvit) km293-294 at 1100; w/o; 4 killed
29/30Apr75	Saigon	U-Tapao	~27 x A-37 <sup>57</sup>			
			These include:-			
			A-37B	VNAF	68-10786	Derelict at Takhli Feb04
			A-37B	VNAF	69-6439	To VH-IVI
29Apr75	Saigon		A-37	VNAF		Landed on road near Korat; flown to Udorn
30Apr75		Khon Kaen	A-37B	VNAF	71-0825	Landed on Hwy2 (Mitttrapap Road) km390-391 at 1115; damaged; to RThaiAF J6-18/25
29/30Apr75	Saigon	U-Tapao	~9 x C-130A <sup>58</sup>			
			These include:-			
					56-0518 <sup>59</sup>	Had 429 persons on board; flown to Guam & on to USA <sup>60</sup>
29/30Apr75	Saigon	U-Tapao	~16 x C-47 <sup>61</sup>			
				These probably include:-		
				VNAF ?	45-1093	To RThaiAF B.L2-50/19
				VNAF	45-0882	To RThaiAF B.L2-51/19
				Air America	559	To RThaiAF B.L2-52/19
				Air America	147	To RThaiAF B.L2-53/19
				Air America	083 <sup>62</sup>	
				Air Vietnam	XV-NIA <sup>63</sup>	Listed as "42-92572" <sup>64</sup> rather than 42-92972; moved to private house in Bangphra town early 1990's
				VNAF	43-48101	To RTN
				VNAF?	43-48777	To RTN
				VNAF	43-49095	To RTN
				VNAF	43-49925	To RTN
				VNAF	44-76418	To RTN
				VNAF	45-1044	To RTN
				RLAF	45-1127	To RTN
29/30Apr75	Saigon	U-Tapao	45 x UH-1 <sup>65</sup>			
				These probably include:-		
29Apr75		Chantaburi	UH-1B			Landed at 1130; 6 crew & pax
30Apr75		Chantaburi	6 x UH-1			
					66-16428	Preserved at Don Mueang (US Army to SVNAF Jan73)
					66-17063	Preserved at Chokchai Museum (SVNAF 233 Sqdn, damaged)

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						<i>17Mar72 at 16.419°, 107.631° just SE of Hue, 2 crew recovered)</i>
					68-15787	RThaiAF Security Training Center ( <i>dd new to SVNAF</i> )
					69-15746	Cabin at Don Mueang ( <i>US Army to SVNAF Nov71</i> )
					70-15868	To RThaiAF H6-34/18
					71-20085	To RThaiAF H6-35/18
					71-20100	To RThaiAF H6-36/18
29/30Apr75	Saigon	U-Tapao	6 x C-7A Caribou <sup>66</sup>			
29Apr75	Saigon	U-Tapao	3 x AC-119 <sup>67</sup>			
29Apr75	Saigon	U-Tapao	14 x U-17 <sup>68</sup>			
				These probably include:-		
					71-1438	To RTN
					71-1442	To RTN
					71-1455	To RTN
29/30Apr75	Saigon	U-Tapao	3 x O-1 Bird Dog <sup>69</sup>			
				These probably include:-		
					50-1682	To RTN
					51-4582	To RTN
					51-4597	To RTN
					51-7475	To RTN
					51-16905	To RTN
					51-16973	To RTN
30Apr75		Chantaburi	L-19		51-1278 (?)	Landed on Hwy3 km373-374 at 1430; 1 pilot & 5 pax
30Apr75		Chantaburi	2 x L-19			Landed at 1600
29Apr75			'Beechcraft' <sup>70</sup>			
30Apr75			U-6 Beaver <sup>71</sup>			
08Mar76	Can Tho	Chantaburi	UH-1H		854 (70-15854?)	1 pilot, his wife & 4 children & 1 mechanic <sup>72</sup> ; sold as scrap 1980; cabin to Lopburi
1980's			Mil-8			Forced (or shot) down by RThaiAF F-5E <sup>73</sup>

**References**

<sup>1</sup> Sak list of 29/5/04 shows 9/4/75

<sup>2</sup> Cable\_ 1976BANGKO00233\_b

<sup>3</sup> 'Air Commando One' pp251

<sup>4</sup> 'Air Commando One' pp251

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<sup>5</sup> The 3 AU24's should be 72-1320 (c/n 004), 72-1321 (c/n 006) and 72-1322 (c/n 007); all 3 have later histories, making identification difficult for that lost off Trat

<sup>6</sup> 'Air Commando One' pp251

<sup>7</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>8</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>9</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>10</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>11</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>12</sup> Cable\_ 1976BANGKO12468\_b

<sup>13</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>14</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>15</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>16</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>17</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>18</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>19</sup> Listed as 'KOOPONG CHHNANG'

<sup>20</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>21</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>22</sup> <http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/aa-eastasia/cambodia/cam-af1-aircraft.htm>

<sup>23</sup> Jan Forsgren e-mail 10/5/04 & <http://www.aeroflight.co.uk/waf/aa-eastasia/cambodia/cam-af1-aircraft.htm>

<sup>24</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>25</sup> Listed as 'KOOPONG CHHNANG'

<sup>26</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>27</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>28</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>29</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>30</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>31</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>32</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>33</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>34</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>35</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>36</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>37</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>38</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>39</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>40</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>41</sup> Was previously listed as ex VNAF, but included on a list of ex Khmer aircraft in Thailand dated 24Apr75. Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11

<sup>42</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

<sup>43</sup> Sid Nanson list 22/5/11

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- <sup>44</sup> Sid Nanson e-mail 22/5/11
- <sup>45</sup> [http://www.acig.org/artman/publish/article\\_411.shtml](http://www.acig.org/artman/publish/article_411.shtml)
- <sup>46</sup> 'The PolPot Regime' (Kiernan)
- <sup>47</sup> Dept of State telegram confirms 07-Jun. Other sources say 09-Jun
- <sup>48</sup> Cable\_ 1975BANGKO16724\_b
- <sup>49</sup> Cable\_ 1975BANGKO16724\_b
- <sup>50</sup> Cable\_ 1976BANGKO19713\_b
- <sup>51</sup> Previously listed as 11-Sep-76, but Dept of State telegram confirms 11-Jul-76
- <sup>52</sup> Jan Forsgren e-mail 16/5/04 & Tony Morris e-mail 18/5/04
- <sup>53</sup> Derek Healey e-mail to ab-ix 18/5/04
- <sup>54</sup> 'Flying Dragons' pp164 says total 142 of which 70 were shipped out on *USS Midway*
- <sup>55</sup> 'Flying Dragons' pp164 & 'Air Commando One' pp251. Serials listed in 'The A-1 Skyraider in Vietnam - The Spad's Last War' (Wayne Mutza). U-Tapao tower log shows 10 A-1 on 29/4 and 1 on 30/4
- <sup>56</sup> 'Flying Dragons' pp164 lists 25 F-5's, including 22 F-5E & 1 RF-5. 'Air Commando One' pp251 notes 22 F-5E. U-Tapao tower log shows 27 F-5 on 29/4 and 0 on 30/4
- <sup>57</sup> 'Flying Dragons' pp164 & 'Air Commando One' pp251. U-Tapao tower log shows 2 A-37 on 29/4 and 23 on 30/4
- <sup>58</sup> 'Flying Dragons' pp164. U-Tapao tower log shows 6 C-130 on 29/4 and 2 on 30/4
- <sup>59</sup> Jan Forsgren e-mail 17/5/04
- <sup>60</sup> 'Flying Dragons' pp164
- <sup>61</sup> 'Flying Dragons' pp164. U-Tapao tower log shows 14 C-47 on 29/4 and 4 on 30/4
- <sup>62</sup> 'The Invisible Air Force' pp288
- <sup>63</sup> XV-NIA probably the aircraft referred to in:- *"Just assumed crew chief duties for the day in U-Tapao Tower. Around 7 am a lone C-47 appeared on the horizon over the Gulf, continued inbound despite our calls to identify itself. Landed without clearance and was promptly surrounded. It was an Air Vietnam plane overloaded with refugees. This turned out to be the first of more than two hundred that landed at UT that day. The most exciting day in my one year tour needless to say, but the Mayaguez was a close second"*.
- U-Tapao tower log from Sak records a single C-47 landing at 0830 on 29/4/75; may well be XV-NIA. 'VNAF' (Jim Mesko) pp63 notes an Air Vietnam DC-3 escaping to U-Tapao
- <sup>64</sup> Cable\_ 1976BANGKO00233\_b
- <sup>65</sup> 'Flying Dragons' pp164
- <sup>66</sup> 'Flying Dragons' pp164. U-Tapao tower log shows 3 Caribou on 29/4 and 4 on 30/4
- <sup>67</sup> 'Flying Dragons' pp164. U-Tapao tower log shows 3 C-119 on 29/4 and 0 on 30/4
- <sup>68</sup> 'Flying Dragons' pp164. U-Tapao tower log shows 6 U-17 (and 2 'Cessna') on 29/4 and 0 (and 12 'Cessna') on 30/4
- <sup>69</sup> 'Flying Dragons' pp164. U-Tapao tower log shows 2 'Cessna' on 29/4 and 12 on 30/4
- <sup>70</sup> U-Tapao tower log shows 1 'Beechcraft' on 29/4 and 0 on 30/4
- <sup>71</sup> U-Tapao tower log shows 1 U-6 on 30/4 (0 on 29/4)
- <sup>72</sup> New York times 10apr76:-  
*BANGKOK Thailand, March 9 (AP) A young South Vietnamese air force lieutenant flew to Thailand yesterday in a stolen helicopter with his wife, four children and a mechanic.  
The pilot, whose 300-mile flight was the first known airborne escape from South Vietnam since the Communist take over last. May was undergoing interrogation today by Thai authorities.*

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*Because Thailand grants only temporary asylum to refugees and because the helicopter was apparently headed for the American airbase at U Taphao when it ran out of fuel, the escapees were expected to seek refuge outside the country.*

*Thai officials identified the pilot as Ho Kan Hai, 30 years old, but said they were not sure of the spelling or the age.*

*Boonchuay Sisalakam, governor of Chantaburi Province, said the pilot had, been a flight lieutenant in the South Vietnamese air force before Communist forces took over the country. Mr. Boonchuay said the lieutenant had told him he did not want his family to live in a Communist society and had planned the escape for more than two months.*

*According to the Thai governor, he took off Monday morning from the Mekong Delta city of Can Tho in the UH-1 helicopter, the standard type used by the United States in the Vietnam War.*

*Lieutenant Hai and his passengers were forced to land near a rural gasoline station at Chantaburi, about 130 miles southeast of Bangkok, when their craft ran out of fuel, the governor said.*

<sup>73</sup> [http://www.acig.org/artman/publish/article\\_177.shtml](http://www.acig.org/artman/publish/article_177.shtml)