

MIA Recoveries, Inc
P.O. Box 12871
Prescott, AZ 86304-2871
928-899-1614
info@MIArecoveries.org
www.MIArecoveries.org

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Crashed Aircraft Site Report

Date Visited: 19 Dec 2021.

Model & Serial Number: C-46A #42-96721.

GPS Coordinates: N 27-38-00.1 E 096-35-59.4.

Datum: WGS 84.

Country: India.

State/Province: Arunachal Pradesh.

Nearest Town/Village: Ngwazakha.

Distance/Direction: 8-day trek NW of Ngwazakha.

Altitude: 13,000 ft.

Topography: Mountains.

Aspect: ESE.

Terrain Notes: Steep, rocky slope.

Vegetation: High-altitude bamboo and grasses.

Nearest Water: None noted, other than snowfields.

Site Disturbance: Significant disturbance caused by 1950 earthquake.

Aircraft ID Method: Engine with serial number FP-082316.

Engines/Propellers: 2 engines and propeller blades.

Wreckage/Artifacts/ID Tags: Wreckage extending approx. 200 yds. downslope from estimated point of impact.

Human Remains: None seen by investigator. Lisu hunter reported seeing human remains amongst the wreckage years previous during the summer months.

Removed from Site: Nothing removed by investigator. Not known if others removed anything.

Photos: See website for photos. Additional photos/video on file.

Misc. Notes: Crash site is located on ESE aspect of shoulder on S flank of Dapha Bum, slightly W of main summit. Dapha Bum is located in Namdapha National Park/Tiger Reserve. Dapha Bum is known to the local Lisu people as Yasu, and its summit is approx. 15,020 ft altitude. Estimated point of impact is approx. 50 vertical ft below ridge crest of Dapha Bum shoulder. Area is N of Dihing River Valley and near headwaters of Namdapha River. Namdapha River joins Dihing River from the W. Dihing River originates in vicinity of Chaukan Pass on India-Myanmar border and flows SE to NW. Very rugged 8-day trek NW from Ngwazakha village. Ngwazakha is a tiny Lisu village above E bank of Namdapha River. Dihing and Namdapha Rivers had to be waded across. River depths were chest-deep in some locations, making these river crossings extremely dangerous while carrying heavy packs. High camp on Dapha Bum was established at 11,000 ft altitude, at timberline and near a large snowfield. 3 Lisu hunters reportedly died of hypothermia at this high camp location during an early snowstorm in Sep 2018. My Lisu team members wanted to mutiny and flee downslope when it started snowing after nightfall during our first night at this location. Only the pleadings of my sirdar kept the Lisu on-location that night while snow fell on the campsite. All team members survived the night in good condition. The following morning, we trekked upslope for 4 hours and gained an additional 2,000 ft. of altitude before reaching the crash site at mid-day.

Investigator: Clayton Kuhles.