

RETIRED MAJOR YANG BEE  
Commanding Officer at LS – 20A  
United States Airforce Special Unit  
The U.S. Secret War in Laos 1961 – 1975  
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Date: July 12, 2020

MEMORANDUM OF RECORD FOR 1<sup>st</sup> LT. YEE ROBIN XIONG AKA “ROBIN 07” OF  
THE U.S. AIRFORCE SPECIAL UNIT, U.S. SECRET WAR IN LAOS, 1972 – 1975  
(9132 92<sup>nd</sup> STREET SOUTH; COTTAGE GROVE, MN 55016)

SUBJECT: Letter of Commendation and/or Appreciation

1. I take great pride in commending, Lieutenant Yee Robin Xiong AKA “Robin 07,” for his service of flying 1050 missions with the United States Airforce Special Unit of the U.S. Secret War in Laos from 1970 to 1975.
2. I, Major Yang Bee AKA “ROBIN 01,” was the commanding officer of Forward Air Control (FAC) Unit at Lima Site 20A (LS 20A) under General Vang Pao (GVP), Region II Military Commander of the Royal Lao Arm and the United States Special Guerrilla Unit of the Secret War in Laos.
3. On March 25, 1972, the North Vietnamese Army attacked GVP’s ground troops at LS 20, in the City of Samthong. Robin 07 was the back seater of Raven 24. They flew low flight and used the M16 guns from the Raven to disrupt and stall the enemy while waiting for the fighter bombers to arrive. They were hit by AK47 fired by the enemy which caused several holes on the left wing.
4. On June 10, 1972, Robin 07 and Raven 21. After they helped rescued a Hmong T-28 pilot who got shut down by Enemy anti-aircraft gun 12.7mm between Phou Phaxay and Southeast of Plain De Jar on a narrow Valley ( Hav qhuav). After unsuccessful rescued the downed pilot, they flew couple miles West of the crashed site just South of the LS 72 Valley. This target was a North Vietnamese troop, and a Anti-aircraft gun position which always posting a significant threat to other low flying aircrafts. They brought in a Royal Lao Air Force flight of 4 T-28s (Chao Pha Khao) to destroyed the target; however, one of the T-28 got shut down by 12.7mm and the pilot bill out of the air craft but the plane circling downward toward Raven 21 and missed them less than 10 feet. If they did not see and made a hard right the result was a disaster midair collision, they can hear the cripple air craft roaring sounds just a few feet away toward the ground.

5. On November 7, 1972, Robin 07 was with Raven 20 on their Second mission of the day. Just when they were strapped on the plane ready to start the engine, a new Raven, Raven 27, landed and was taxiing into the ramp calling for a back seater. Robin 07 was the only one available onsite. He got pulled out from Raven 20 to assist Raven 27. Meanwhile, Raven 20 took off solo and headed off to the Plain of Jars (PDJ). Consequently, Raven 20 was shot down and killed in action (KIA).
  
6. Over a month later, December 24, 1972, Robin 07 was with Raven 21. Upon landing at LS 20A, he was approached by me, Robin 01, to switch plane and fly with another Raven. On this particular occasion, I had a long meeting at Region II Office with GVP and missed my flight with Raven 21. He took off solo and headed toward PDJ to coordinate with a flight of Jets bombing a target at Phou Keng area. One of the fighter jets got hit by anti-aircraft guns. As the Jet tried to pull out, it was too fast to avoid the FAC so it collided with Raven 21. The Jet were jettison but Raven 21 KIA.
  
7. Early in January and one month before the Peace Treaty Agreement was signed to end the war in Laos on February 20, 1973, Robin 07 flew with the new Raven 20 over the southeastern part of PDJ. They spotted a group of enemy trucks hiding under the caves just east of Phou Phaxai so they called for the F-111 to destroy the target. As they were circling over the target, the U.S. Airforce Reconnaissance F4 Phantom flew on opposite direction at only a few feet above the same altitude on a collision course ended up blasting them into a spin nearly 1000 feet downward.

Let my letter, from this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2020 forward serve as a gratitude for your service to FAC under the command of General Vang Pao and the United States Airforce Special Unit during the U.S. Secret War in Laos and let your heroic efforts be recognized and recorded for future generations.

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Major Yang Bee, Retired

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