

~~TOP SECRET~~

2 May 68

Following is cover plan to be implemented immediately:

"U-2 aircraft was on weather mission originating Adana, Turkey.

Purpose was study of clear air turbulence.

During flight in Southeast Turkey, pilot reported he had oxygen difficulties. This last word heard at 0700Z over emergency frequency. U-2 aircraft did not land Adana as planned and it can only be assumed is now down. A search effort is under way in Lake Van area."

FYI normal procedures for search for aircraft will be initiated by Adana Base Commander and initial press release will be from Adana. Pilot's name being withheld pending notification of next of kin.



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