

(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

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CATEGORY = 4

M = 1122

MESSAGE = #2142947

ZCZC#4 7929EXC#47 LOG LN NO. #69

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ENR#1E0072354 3/001 NCA-F/R355-72 AVN/AVIA-A, OPER-A-V-H TRNG-A-V [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] NORTH VIETNAMESE AIR SUMMARY FOR 17/1700Z TO

18/1700Z DECEMBER 1972

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(ALL TIMES ZULU) PART ONE, HIGHLIGHTS A. SUMMARY 1. NVN AIR/AIR DEFENSE REACTION TO U.S. AIR STRIKES OVER NVN 18 DEC. 2. NVAF INCREASES EFFORTS TO DEPLOY MIG-21 TO QUANG TE AIRFIELD. 3. CAAC IL-18 FLIES TO HANOI GIA LAM. B. DETAILS 1. BETWEEN 1149 AND 2237 ON 18 DECEMBER, NVN AIR SURVEILLANCE FACILITIES REFLECTED A TOTAL OF AT LEAST 204 AIRCRAFT, INCLUDING 69 IDENTIFIED AS B52'S AND 2 AS F-111S IN THE AREAS OF NA SAN, MOC CHAU, HOA LAC, KEP, YEN BAI, PHUC YEN, HANOI, HAIPHONG, THANH HOA, DONG SUONG, NAM DINH AND LANG SON. IN ADDITION [REDACTED] 15 AIRCRAFT, THREE UNIDENTIFIED AND 12 IDENTIFIED AS SMALL TYPES IN THE AREAS OF HANOI, PHUC YEN, KEP, HAIPHONG, YEN BAI, AND LANG SON. [REDACTED] WERE NOTED. A MINIMUM OF TWENTY FIVE SAMs WERE LAUNCHED. AN UNIDENTIFIED SAM UNIT REPORTED THAT AT 1300Z WE SHOT DOWN ONE B-52 AT THAN KIM ANH (21-13N 105-45E) WHICH IS NEAR PHU LO (21-12N 105-51E). ACCORDING TO THE PRELIMINARY REPORT, THERE WERE FIVE PILOTS. TWO ARE DEAD AND WE WERE ABLE TO CAPTURE THREE OF THEM BETWEEN 1537 AND 1504 POSSIBLY THE 234TH SAM REGIMENT (HANOI AREA) REPORTED THE CAPTURE OF A PILOT. DURING THE 1800 HOUR THE PROBABLE 272ND SAM REGIMENT (UNLOCATED, HANOI AREA) REPORTED SHOOTING DOWN AN AIRCRAFT. AT 2148, AN UNIDENTIFIED SAM UNIT REPORTED SHOOTING DOWN ONE AIRCRAFT AND CAPTURING THE PILOT 15 KILOMETERS WEST OF HANOI. NEITHER THE IDENTITY OF THE PILOT NOR THE TYPE OF AIRCRAFT WAS REVEALED. AT 2210Z AN UNIDENTIFIED SAM BATTALION, PROBABLY LOCATED SOUTH OF HANOI, REPORTED THAT A B-52 HAD BEEN SHOT DOWN. ON 19 DECEMBER THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE 250TH AAA REGIMENT STATED SHOT DOWN SIX ENEMY AIRCRAFT. IN THAT NUMBER, THREE WERE THREE B5-52S. IN PARTICULAR, HANOI AND BINH PHU SHOT DOWN TWO B52'S ON THE SPOT AND TWO F4S AND HAVE MANY OF THE PIRATE PILOTS OF THE B52S. BETWEEN 1228 AND 1318, TWO PHUC YEN BASED MIG-21 PILOTS WERE NOTED AIRBORNE IN REACTION TO U.S. B-52'S ACTIVE IN THE HANOI AREA. NEITHER MIG PILOT REPORTED FIRING ANY WEAPONS AND BOTH MIGs RECOVERED SAFELY AT PHUC YEN. AT 1732, HANOI BACH MAI REPORTED THAT A MIG-21 WAS AIRBORNE; HOWEVER, NO FURTHER REFLECTIONS OF THIS MIG WERE NOTED. DURING THE 2100, AND 2200 HOURS, TWO MIG-21S FROM HANOI GIA LAM REACTED TO U.S. AIRCRAFT AND ONE PILOT REPORTED FIRING A MISSILE WITHOUT SUCCESS. ONE MIG WAS DAMAGED AND NOT FURTHER NOTED AND THE OTHER RECOVERED AT GIA LAM. (2/001 VCK/R59#-72, 190811Z AND FOLLOW-UP. 2. A TRANSFER OF A MIG-21 FROM EITHER PHUC YEN OR HANOI GIA LAM AIRFIELD TO QUANG TE AIRFIELD HAD BEEN PLANNED ON 17 DECEMBER BEFORE THE RESUMPTION OF U.S. BOMBING NORTH OF 2# DEGREES AND AGAIN ON 18 DECEMBER. THESE TRANSFERS WERE POSTPONED BECAUSE OF WEATHER. AT

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Approved for release by NSA on 07-16-2014, Transparency Case# 65886

- (b) (1)
- (b) (3) - 50 USC 403
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2307, HANOI BACH MAI ORDERED QUANG TE TO PREPARE TO ACCEPT THE MIG-21. QUANG TE AGAIN REPORTED BAD WEATHER. TWO HOURS LATER BACH MAI ASKED IF QUANG TE COULD ACCEPT AN MI-16 CARRYING A MIG-21 BUT THE WEATHER WAS STILL UNFAVORABLE. (2/00/VCA/R110-72) 3. BETWEEN 0016 AND 0742 ONE CAAC IL-18/220 FLEW FROM PEICHING CAPITAL AIRFIELD TO HANOI GIA LAM AND RETURNED TO HANNING. NO VWRGD DESCRIPTION OR REASON FOR THE FLIGHT WAS GIVEN. (2/00/VCA/R39-72) ((2/00/VCA/R11-72)) PART TWO, ROUTINE ACTIVITY A. SAM/AAA-NTR B. RADAR ACTIVITY NVN AIR SURVEILLANCE REFLECTED THE BUFFALO HUNTER DRONE IN THE HAIPHONG AREA DURING THE 0300 HOUR, BUT DID NOT REFLECT THE BUFFALO HUNTER DRONE FLOWN IN THE VINH AND DONG HOI AREAS DURING THE 0500 HOUR. C. COMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENTS-NTR PART THREE, ADDENDA/CORRECTIONS-NTR XXHH 3251 XXHH 700 03251 NNNN

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