

982023-22-4097 1715

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

CATEGORY = 3

M = 264

MESSAGE = 01503666

LNGMSG1511020DE

00683 0650611

ZNY MMNSH

ZKZK 00 NND DE

O 060605Z ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO NSA/UNIFORM WHISKEY

ZEM

~~SECRET SPOKE~~ 2/00/VCK/R50-71 FOLLOW-UP AND FINAL TO 24 VCK/R02-71  
 042250Z (AVN;KUS/AVIA,OPER-V/2) 06 MARCH 1971 SONGBIRD BATTALION 83 OF NVN 238TH  
 SAM REGIMENT REPORTS SHOOTDOWN OF UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT ((ALL TIMES ZULU UNLESS  
 OTHERWISE NOTED)) AT 0045 ON 4 MARCH, THE NVN 238TH SAM REGIMENT'S BATTALION  
 83, LOCATED AT VN-411 (17-06N 106-47E), REPORTED FIRING ONE MISSILE AT AN  
 UNIDENTIFIED AIRCRAFT AND SUCCESSFULLY DOWNING IT. THE POST LAUNCH REPORT,  
 FILED BY BATTALION 83 WITH REGIMENT AT 0110, REPORTED THE \$TARGET\$ AT 16-48N E  
 AT THE TIME OF INITIAL DETECTION. BEGINNING AT 0040, THE BATTALION WAS  
 INITIALLY INTERCEPTED REPORTING PLOTS ON FOUR TRACKS. TRACK 01, AMPLIFIED AS  
 TWO AIRCRAFT AND IDENTIFIED LATER AS THE TARGET AND THE ONLY TRACK REPORTED  
 SUBSEQUENT TO 0042, WAS NOT INTERCEPTED UNTIL PLOTS HAD BEEN PASSED ON TRACKS  
 02 AND 04. THIS INDICATES THAT BATTALION 83 BEGAN REPORTING ON TRACK 01 PRIOR  
 TO INITIAL INTERCEPT. THE FOLLOWING REPRESENTS THE FLIGHT PATH OF THE TARGET  
 (TRACK 01) FROM INITIAL INTERCEPT (READ TIME, NORTH/EAST COORDINATES,  
 ALTITUDE), 0040 16-50 107-02 11,484 FEET (3500 METERS) 0042 16-52 107-02 0043  
 16-55 107-02 0043 16-56 107-02 9842 FEET (3000 METERS) 0044 16-56 107-02 0044  
 16-56 106-59 0044 16-59 106-57 0045 16-59 106-55 11,484 FEET (3500 METERS) 0045  
 16-56 106-55 0045 16-59 106-55 0045 16-56 106-55 0045 16-59 106-55 0045 LAUNCH  
 REPORTED 0046 \$FADE\$ 0046 TARGET DESTROYED THE SUCCESSIVE PLOTS DURING THE 45  
 MINUTE PROBABLY REPRE- SENT THE UNCONTROLLED DESCENT OF THE TARGET PRIOR TO  
 \$FADE\$ AT 0046. THE COMPUTED GROUND SPEED FOR THIS TRACK WAS 230 KNOTS. THE  
 FOLLOWING ARE READABLE VALUES FROM THE COLUMNIZED POST LAUNCH REPORT FOR THIS  
 INCIDENT, A. TIME OF LAUNCH, 0744 (GOLF) (0044Z) B. NUMBER OF MISSILES  
 EXPENDED, 1 C. TYPE OF AIRCRAFT MISSION, \$FLYING SLOWLY\$ D. TARGET RANGE AND  
 AZIMUTH AT DETECTION, 35 KILOMETERS (KMS)/173 DEGREES (DEGS) E. TARGET ALTITUDE  
 AT DETECTION, 3 KMS F. TARGET RANGE AT INITIAL FAN SONG EMISSION AND RANGE AT  
 LOCK ON, 28 KMS/26 KMS G. FAR AND NEAR LIMIT OF THEORETICAL DESTRUCTION, 23  
 KMS/8 KMS H. TARGET PARAMETER (OFFSET DISTANCE) AND ALTITUDE, 3/3 KMS I. TARGET  
 SPEED AND ESTIMATED STAY IN LAUNCH ZONE, 120 METERS PER SECOND (233 KNOTS)/60  
 SECONDS J. TARGET AZIMUTH AT MISSILE LAUNCH, 122 DEGS K. TARGET ALTITUDE AT  
 MISSILE LAUNCH, 3 KMS L. FAN SONG JAMMING AT TIME OF LAUNCH, NONE M. RANGE OF  
 MISSILE AT DETONATION, 20 KMS N. AZIMUTH OF MISSILE AT DETONATION, 126 DEGS O.  
 MISSILE ALTITUDE AT DETONATION, 3 KMS P. TIME FROM LAUNCH TO FINAL X-3 ARMING  
 COMMANDC 33 SECONDS ADDITIONALLY, REFERENCES WERE MADE DURING PASSAGE OF THIS  
 PLR TO THE LAUNCH BEING MADE AT THE \$SECOND AIRCRAFT\$ AND THE \$LAST AIRCRAFT\$ IN  
 THE FORMATION. \$ COMMENT, THE PLR GIVES THE TARGET AZIMUTH AT LAUNCH AS 122  
 DEGREES AND MISSILE AZIMUTH AT DETONATION AS 126 DEGREES. THIS WOULD PLACE THE  
 FINAL POSITION OF THE TARGET IN THE VICINITY OF 17-00N 106-56E. HOWEVER, REAL  
 TIME REPORTING OF THE TARGET'S TRACK PROVIDED AZIMUTHS OF 132 AND 135 DEGREES  
 JUST PRIOR TO LAUNCH. THIS SUGGESTS THAT THE ACTUAL VALUES FOR \$J\$ AND \$N\$  
 ABOVE SHOULD BE 132 AND 136 DEGREES. THIS WOULD PLACE THE FINAL POSITION OF THE  
 TARGET IN THE VICINITY OF 16-58N 106-54E, APPROXIMATELY TWO NAUTICAL MILES  
 INSIDE NORTH VIETNAM AND 11 NM SOUTHEAST OF VN-411. WHILE THERE IS NO ABSOLUTE

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

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

POSSIBLY THE SHOOTDOWN ALREADY  
 NOTED IN DATA BASE FOR 4 MAR 71.  
 THIS RPT HAS MORE INFO THAN THE  
 COMPUTER ENTRY. SEE CONTINUATION  
 ON NEXT PAGE (BELOW).

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

(b) (1)  
(b) (3)-50 USC 403  
(b) (3)-18 USC 798  
(b) (3)-P.L. 86-36

CORRELATION BETWEEN THIS COMINT AND AVAILABLE COLLATERAL, THE ONLY U.S. AIRCRAFT LOSS IN OPERATIONAL REPORTING DURING THIS TIME FRAME WAS A 138TH AVIATION COMPANY JU21A. THIS ARDF/COMINT COLLECTION PLATFORM WAS REPORTED MISSING AT APPROXIMATELY 0100 WHILE ON A RECON MISSION IN THE QUANG TRI AREA OF SVN. A UPI RELEASE, DATE- LINED TOKYO, REPORTED THAT THE NVN NEWS AGENCY SAID THE NVN ARMED FORCES SHOT DOWN A U.S. PLANE OVER QUANG BINH PROVINCE (NVN) ON THURSDAY (4 MARCH) KILLING MANY OF THE MEN ON BOARD. \$ 785 #0683 VZCC ~~SECRET~~  
~~7 MORAY XXMMENP01ETB05031 2X/00 /R8-71 - - - - - DETACH LINE SECRET~~  
~~F F 0/04034-711 /INPO.LBR/. 05 MAR 71~~

Non - Responsive

~~SECRET SPOKE~~