3/O/VHN/RØ4-64 ST 22Ø
SPOT REPORT
6 AUGUST 1964
DIST: OSCAR/VICTOR XRAY

GULF OF TONKIN SITUATION REPORT NO. 2

DRV Naval Communications continue to be sparse following the U.S. carrier-based attack on their PT boat bases on 5 August. There are indications that traffic volumes are on the rise as a result of DRV naval authorities requesting damage reports. Nevertheless, communications available since the attack have been concerned primarily with assessing the damage incurred by their vessels and countermeasures against future air attacks. Thus far nine craft have been reported as either damaged or lost during the attack. This is far below current estimates.

DRV naval authorities apparently fear another attack. While claiming to have shot down a total of six aircraft they exhorted their personnel to be ready in case of another attack. Naval headquarters at Haiphong ordered units to disperse and camouflage their vessels. Apparently, in response, vessels were being dispersed around the islands and channels near Hon Gay.

Extent of damages incurred by DRV naval vessels during the 5 August air attack as reflected in their communications since that date:

One unidentified vessel in the Ben Thuy area reported ØØØØZ, 5 August as probably lost,

One unidentified, unlocated vessel reported Ø823Z, 5 August as probably damaged,

T336 in Hon Ne area reported Ø845Z, 5 August as disabled (this craft was damaged during the first attack on the USS Maddox on 2 August).

T125, Swatow Class PGM, unlocated, reported 121ØZ, 5 August as damaged,

Five unidentified vessels subordenate to a probable Flotilla 27 reported 121ØZ 5 August as damaged.

Vinh oil storage facilities reported bombed but extent of damages not reported.

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