

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

CATEGORY = I

M = 67

MESSAGE = #1845535

ZCZCC#3 61#EXD#91 LOG LN NO. #69

OO [REDACTED] DE

#259 #471647

ZNY MMNSH

ZKZK OO ZLZ SSD DE

O 1616#3Z FEB 72 ZYH

FM DIRNSA

TO NSA/UNIFORM WHISKEY CAS VIENTIANE

ZEM

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XXMM

ENP#1F0016#22 2/00/LSVCK/R15-72 SPOT REPORT SONGBIRD AVN, ALA/AVIA, OPER-V/I,  
 HOSTILE AIR ACTIVITY OVER SOUTHERN NVN AND AIRCRAFT SHOOTDOWN BY NVN 274TH SAM  
 REGIMENT  
 XXCC

ON 16 FEBRUARY BETWEEN #458Z AND #932Z IN TWO DISTINCT PERIODS OF ACTIVITY, THE 298TH RECONNAISSANCE REGIMENT AT BA DON REFLECTED AN UNUSUALLY LARGE AMOUNT OF HOSTILE AIR ACTIVITY OVER NORTH VIETNAM IN THE LOWER QUANG BINH PROVINCE AREA AND THE DMZ. DURING THIS TIME FRAME, ELEMENTS OF THE 274TH SAM REGIMENT WERE ENGAGED IN ACTIVE AIR DEFENSE ACTIVITY WHICH RESULTED IN THE REPORTED SHOOTDOWN OF AT LEAST ONE AIRCRAFT. DETAILS AT #458Z THE BA DON SOUTHERN SECTOR HEADQUARTERS BEGAN REFLECTING HOSTILE RAIDS OVER LAOS HEADING IN THE DIRECTION OF THE LOWER QUANG BINH PROVINCE. BETWEEN THIS TIME AND #614Z, THIS HEADQUARTERS REFLECTED A TOTAL OF 11 HOSTILE RAIDS, AMPLIFIED AS BETWEEN #43 AND 55 AIRCRAFT, INCLUDING EIGHT F-4'S, ACTIVE IN THE LOWER QUANG BINH PROVINCE AREA, AND IN THE DMZ. ALL OF THESE RAIDS, EXCEPT ONE, ENTERED NORTH VIETNAM FROM LAOS. IN REACTION TO THIS HEAVY HOSTILE ACTIVITY, AT #505Z, BATTALIONS 86, 88 AND 89 OF THE 274TH SAM REGIMENT (CURRENTLY IN LOWER BINH PROVINCE BETWEEN DONG HOI AND THE DMZ) ENTERED CONDITION ONE COMBAT STATUS. AT #514Z, BATTALION 89 REPORTED LAUNCHING TWO MISSILES AT AN UNIDENTIFIED TARGET. AT #529Z, BATTALION 89 WAS AGAIN NOTED LAUNCHING TWO MISSILES, AND AT #541Z, VISUAL OBSERVERS AT THAT BATTALION REPORTED SEEING AN F4 BURST INTO FLAMES AT BAI HA (17-#BN 1#6-35E). AND FUTHER STATED THAT THEIR BATTALION HAD PROBABLY DOWNED THE AIRCRAFT. IN THE SECOND PERIOD OF ACTIVITY, BETWEEN #700Z AND #932Z, THE BA DON SOUTHERN SECTOR HEADQUARTERS REFLECTED A TOTAL OF 17 HOSTILE RAIDS, REPRESENTING AS MANY AS 79 UNIDENTIFIED TYPE AIRCRAFT, ACTIVE OVER LAOS, THE GULF OF TONKIN, AND OVER NORTH VIETNAM IN THE LOWER QUANG BINH PROVINCE AND DMZ AREAS. AT #736Z AN UNIDENTIFIED ELEMENT OF THE 274TH SAM REGIMENT ENTERED CONDITION ONE AND WAS ORDERED TO ENGAGE AND DESTROY THE TARGET. AT #743Z COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN ELEMENTS OF THE 274TH INDICATED THAT POSSIBLY BATTALION 87 HAD SHOT DOWN AN AIRCRAFT AND CAPTURED BOTH CREWMEMBERS. BETWEEN #739Z AND #759Z, THE AA WEAPONS CONTROLLER OF THE 274TH SAM REGIMENT WAS NOTED IN COMMUNICATIONS WITH BATTALIONS 86, 87 AND 89 DISCUSSING THE SHOOTDOWN OF AN UNIDENTIFIED TYPE AIRCRAFT AND THE CAPTURE OF TWO PILOTS. THE WEAPONS CONTROLLER ALSO INSTRUCTED BATTALIONS 86 AND 87 TO STRIKE ALL ACQUIRED TARGETS AND TO BE ESPECIALLY ALERT FOR SLOW MOVING RESCUE TYPE AIRCRAFT AND TO SHOOT THEM DOWN. AT #838Z AN UNIDENTIFIED ELEMENT OF THE 274TH AGAIN ENTERED CONDITION ONE, AND ORDERS WERE GIVEN TO ENGAGE AND DESTROY THE TARGET, IDENTIFIED AS AN OV-10. THEN AT #849Z BATTALION 86 WAS GIVEN INSTRUCTIONS TO ENGAGE AND DESTROY A TARGET IDENTIFIED AS FOUR SMALL TYPE AIRCRAFT. NO

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1796

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REFLECTIONS OF MISSILE LAUNCHES WERE OBSERVED DURING THOSE LAST TWO TIME OF  
ACTIVITY. COMMENTS ACCORDING TO OPERATIONAL SOURCES, AT 0515Z ON 16 FEBRUARY, A  
PROTECTIVE REACTION AIR STRIKE WAS REPORTED AGAINST AIR DEFENSE TARGETS IN  
SOUTHERN NORTH VIETNAM. OPERATIONAL DATA ALSO REVEALS THAT AT 0738Z, A  
UBON-BASED USAF F-4 (MUSKET #1) WAS DOWNED BY SA-2 MISSILE FIRE OVER THE DMZ  
NORTH VIETNAM. XXHH 700 08259 NNNNZ

PROB. #1796 F-4D  
GALATI RR  
SCHWERTFEGER RR

"MUSKET #1"

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