

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

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

CATEGORY = 3

M = 201

MESSAGE = 02120861

ZCZCC03 9509AXA814 LOG LN NO. 069

PP [REDACTED] DE

[REDACTED] 0924 2561549

ZNY NHHSH

ZKZK PP HAH DE

P 121230Z SEP 72

FM [REDACTED] DELTA

TO [REDACTED] DELTA

ZEM

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

XXMM

ENP01FPT72256 0448 21 [REDACTED] VCA/R621-72 SPOT REPORT (SONGBIRD) \$AERIAL ENGAGEMENTS
BETWEEN NVAF AND USAF AIRCRAFT RESULTS IN LOSS OF ONE US F4 AND TWO NVN

MIG-21'S.\$

XXCC

BETWEEN 0238Z AND 0324Z 12 SEP 72, TWO AERIAL ENGAGEMENTS BETWEEN NVAF MIG-21'S AND USAF F4'S, WHICH WERE CONDUCTING STRIKES OVER THE DRV, RESULTED IN THE LOSS OF ONE US AIRCRAFT AND TWO NVAF MIGS. IN THE FIRST ENGAGEMENT, TWO MIG-21'S WERE SCRAMBLED FROM KEP AIRFIELD AT 0238Z IN REACTION TO HOSTILE AIRCRAFT INGRESS TOWARD KEP. THE SENIOR GCI CONTROLLER AT HANOI BAC MAI VECTORED THIS FLIGHT TOWARD THE HOSTILE AIRCRAFT UNTIL 0245Z WHEN THE MIG-21 PILOTS MADE VISUAL SIGHTING OF THEIR TARGETS. THE WINGMAN WAS INSTRUCTED TO PAY ATTENTION OF HIS REAR WHILE THE FLIGHT LEADER WAS INSTRUCTED TO ATTACK. AT 0248Z THE FLIGHT LEADER REPORTED SHOOTING DOWN ONE AIRCRAFT IN FLAMES. AT 0249Z BOTH MIGS WERE INSTRUCTED TO RETURN TO PHUC YEN AIRFIELD BUT AT 0250Z THE WING MAN BROKE OFF AND REPORTED RETURNING TO KEP. AT 0251Z THE WING MAN ENCOUNTERED TWO F4'S HEADING FROM KEP TO HANOI GIA LAM AND ALL COMMS BETWEEN THE WING MAN AND THE SENIOR GCI WERE LOST AT 0252Z. AT 0255Z THE FLIGHT LEADER LANDED AT PHUC YEN AND THE KEP CONTROLLER REPORTED SEEING THE WING MAN'S CHUTE DESCENDING NEAR THE AIRFIELD RADIO BEACON. THE SECOND ENGAGEMENT CONSISTED OF TWO MIG-21'S SCRAMBLED FROM HANOI GIA LAM AIRFIELD (0300Z) AND HOSTILE AIRCRAFT INGRESSING TOWARDS YEN BAI. THE SENIOR GCI CONTROLLER ALSO VECTORED THIS FLIGHT TOWARDS THE HOSTILE AIRCRAFT UNTIL 0312Z WHEN VISUAL CONTACT OF THEIR TARGETS WERE MADE ONE THE ORDER TO ATTACK WAS GIVEN. AT 0313Z THE WING MAN WAS TOLD TO MANUEVER BUT ALL COMMS WITH HIM WENT UNANSWERED. AT 0314Z THE FLIGHT LEADER WAS INSTRUCTED TO RETURN TO HANOI GIA LAM AND LANDED AT 0327Z. COMMENTS, A COLLATERAL SOURCE (7AFSSO) ~~(SECRET)~~ CONFIRMED SHOOTDOWN OF ONE US F4 (PALM 04) DURING THIS TIME FRAME. XXHH 456 0924 NHHH

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Approved for release by NSA on 07-09-2014, Transparency Case# 65886

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