

DOCID: 4118479

CATEGORY =

(b) (3) - P.L. M86-36 98

MESSAGE = 08245843

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ENP01FT313126 2 [redacted] /VCK/R144-66 FOLLOW-UP NUMBER ONE TO USA-32 SPOT  
REPORT 2/H3/VCK/R532-66, DTG: 13/0838Z. DRV MIG'S PROBABLY ENGAGE HOSTILE  
AIRCRAFT NEAR HANOI ON 13 DECEMBER.  
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(b) (3) - P.L. 86-3

SIGINT HAS REFLECTED TRACKING OF WHAT WAS PROBABLY AN ENCOUNTER BETWEEN DRV MIG'S AND HOSTILE AIRCRAFT NEAR HANOI AND PHUC YEN DURING THE AFTERNOON OF 13 DECEMBER. IT IS PRESENTLY UNKNOWN HOW MANY MIG'S AND HOSTILE AIRCRAFT WERE INVOLVED, BUT THERE IS TENUOUS SIGINT EVIDENCE THAT THE DRV PILOTS FIRED AIR-TO-AIR MISSILES DURING THIS TIME PERIOD. TWO TRACKS, CONSISTING OF AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF HOSTILE AIRCRAFT, WERE INITIALLY DETECTED IN THE NORTH-WEST AREA OF THE DRV APPROXIMATELY 26 NAUTICAL MILES NORTHWEST OF TUYEN QUANG (21-50N 105-12E) PROCEEDING SOUTHEAST AT 0759. BOTH TRACKS PROCEEDED SOUTHEAST UNTIL DUE EAST OF PHUC YEN AND THEN PASSED BETWEEN HANOI AND PHUC YEN AT APPROXIMATE SEVEN MINUTE INTERVALS. THE LEAD TRACK CONTINUED SOUTHWEST AND WAS LAST NOTED ON THE LAO-TIAN BORDER, WEST-NORTHWEST OF THANH HOA AT 0822. HOWEVER, THE SECOND HOSTILE TRACK, FLYING APPROXIMATELY SEVEN MINUTES BEHIND THE FIRST, WAS LAST NOTED NINE NAUTICAL MILES WEST-SOUTHWEST OF HANOI AT 0827. TWO TRACKS OF DRV AIRCRAFT WERE REPORTED IN THE SAME AREA AS THE HOSTILES FROM 0748 UNTIL 0848. THE AREA OF THE FRIENDLY ACTIVITY WAS CONFINED TO AN AREA EXTENDING APPROXIMATELY 30 NAUTICAL MILES NORTH AND NORTHWEST OF PHUC YEN. AT APPROXIMATELY 0809, ONE OF TRACKS WAS NOTED RE-TURNING TO THE IMMEDIATE VICINITY OF PHUC YEN WHERE IT ORBITED UNTIL 0848, WHEN THE TRACK WAS DROPPED. THE OTHER TRACK WAS REPORTED ACTIVE APPROXIMATELY 30 NAUTICAL MILES NORTHWEST OF PHUC YEN FOR 14 MINUTES DURING THE PERIOD 0807-0821, BUT WAS NOT OBSERVED RETURNING TO THE PHUC YEN AREA. THE FINAL REPORTED POSITION FOR THIS TRACK WAS 21-31N 105-31E, WHILE IT WAS ON A SOUTHEAST HEADING. FRAGMENTARY SIGINT AVAILABLE FROM DRV TACTICAL FIGHTER COMMUNICATIONS INDICATES THAT DRV PILOTS MAY HAVE LAUNCHED AIR TO AIR MISSILES AT HOSTILE AIRCRAFT DURING THIS PERIOD. COMMENTS: THE PATTERN OF THE RADAR TRACKING OF THE HOSTILE AND DRV AIRCRAFT SUGGESTS THAT AN AERIAL ENGAGEMENT OR AT LEAST AN ENCOUNTER OCCURRED IN THE GENERAL HANOI-PHUC YEN AREA. THE POSSIBLE INDICATIONS OF AAM FIRINGS BY DRV PILOTS TENDS TO SUPPORT THIS. COLLATERAL REPORTS STATE THAT U.S. PILOTS SIGHTED A NUMBER OF MIG-17'S AND MIG-21'S IN THE SAME AREA DURING THIS TIME PERIOD. IN ADDITION, ONE F-105 WAS REPORTEDLY LOST AND ANOTHER FLIGHT OF FOUR F-105'S WAS FIRED UPON BY MIG'S USING AAM AND CANNON. XXHH 540 HHHH