

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

CATEGORY = 2

M = 1425

MESSAGE = 00556360

MMSSGMSG0010138ZCDB329DRM177 *****:.....

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ENP01FT317068 2 [REDACTED] VCA/R252-68 (AVC/AVIA-A,DAMC/I) ((ALL TIMES ZULU)) FOLLOW-UP
 NUMBER TWO AND FINAL TO USA-32 SPOT REPORT 24H3/VCA/R196-68, DTG: 152352Z JUNE.
 MIGS ACTIVE IN SOUTHERN NVN ON 16 JUNE REPORT SHOOTDOWN OF U.S. AIRCRAFT.
 XXCC

ONCE AGAIN BAI THUONG AIRFIELD WAS UTILIZED AS A STAGING AREA FOR NVN MIGS, ON 16 JUNE, RESULTING IN THE INTERCEPT AND SHOOTDOWN OF A U.S. F-4 AIRCRAFT. AT 0751, TWO MIG-21'S, BOTH PROBABLE FISHBED "F", DEPARTED PHUC YEN AND AFTER ORBITTING IN THE PHUC YEN AREA IN ORDER TO CONSUME EXCESS FUEL, FLEW SOUTH OF BAI THUONG AIRFIELD WHERE BOTH LANDED BY 0818. SHORTLY THEREAFTER, THESE MIG-21'S WERE FOLLOWED BY TWO MIG-17'S WHICH DEPARTED HANOI GIA LAM AT 0830 AND FLEW STRAIGHT TO BAI THUONG. BOTH MIG-17'S LANDED BY 0846. AT 0900, THE SAME TWO MIG-21'S WHICH HAD EARLIER DEPLOYED TO BAI THUONG DEPARTED THE AIRFIELD AND, UNDER THE COMBINED DIRECTION OF THE BAI THUONG AND VINH CONTROLLERS FLEW GENERALLY SOUTH TOWARD INGRESSING U.S. STRIKE AIRCRAFT. AT 0913, THE BAI THUONG CONTROLLER INFORMED THE MIG PILOTS THAT THERE WERE FOUR HOSTILE AIRCRAFT 90 DEGREES TO THE LEFT 21.6 NAUTICAL MILES AWAY AND AT AN ALTITUDE OF 8,200 FEET. ONE MINUTE LATER, AN UNIDENTIFIED CONTROLLER REPORTED THAT THERE WERE TWO F-4'S "CIRCLING OVER THERE." LATER DURING THE MINUTE, WHEN AT A POSITION APPROXIMATELY 20 NM NORTHWEST OF VINH, THE LEAD MIG PILOT REPORTED VISUAL CONTACT WITH ONE HOSTILE. THE BAI THUONG CONTROLLER REPORTED THAT THE HOSTILES WERE HEADING TOWARD THE MIGS. THE MAIN CONTROLLER AT BAI THUONG AIRFIELD THEN ORDERED THE MIG PILOTS TO OPEN BOOSTERS, GAIN ALTITUDE AND ATTACK. THE CONTROLLER FURTHER ORDERED THE MIG PILOTS NOT TO GO OVER THE COAST. AT 0916, BOTH PILOTS REPORTED THAT ONE HOSTILE AIRCRAFT WAS BURNING. BOTH MIGS THEN BROKE OFF THE ATTACK AND PROCEEDED ON AFTERBURNERS GENERALLY NORTH IN TRAIL FORMATION TOWARD BAI THUONG. THE PILOTS WERE WARNED OF HOSTILES TO THE REAR AND DID NOT TURN OFF THEIR AFTER-BURNERS UNTIL 0920. AT 0925, THE WINGMAN WHEN ASKED BY THE CONTROLLER IF HE HAD FIRED MISSILE(S), REPLIED AFFIRMATIVELY. B LANDED AT BAI THUONG BY 0927. AT 0918, A SHORT TIME AFTER THE ENGAGEMENT, THE TWO MIG-17'S WHICH HAD EARLIER DEPLOYED TO BAI THUONG DEPARTED THE AIRFIELD AND FLEW COVER IN THE BAI THUONG AREA AT AN ALTITUDE OF 1,640 FEET FOR THE MIG-21'S RETURNING FROM THE AREA OF THE ENGAGEMENT. BY 0955 BOTH MIG-17'S HAD LANDED AT BAI THUONG. AT 1017, THE TWO MIG-21'S AGAIN DEPARTED BAI THUONG AND PROCEEDED SOUTH TO THE VINH AREA IN AN ATTEMPT TO ENGAGE HOSTILE AIRCRAFT OPERATING IN THE AREA. THE MIGS REPORTEDLY APPROACHED TO WITHIN 8.1 NAUTICAL MILES OF THE HOSTILES; HOWEVER, NO ENGAGEMENT ENSUED. AT 1030, WHEN AT A POSITION OF 21 NM WEST NORTHWEST OF VINH THE MIGS REVERSED COURSE AND FLEW DIRECTLY TO PHUC YEN AIRFIELD WHERE THEY LANDED AT APPROXIMATELY 1049. AT 1036, THE TWO MIG-17'S DEPARTED BAI THUONG AND FLEW DIRECTLY TO HANOI GIA LAM WHERE THEY LANDED AT 1051. COMMENTS: OPERATIONAL DATA REVEALS THAT ONE NAVY F-4 (MILKLINE) WAS

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DOWNED BY AN AIR-TO-AIR MISSILE IN THE VICINITY OF 18-43N 105-18E BETWEEN 0916
AND 0918. XXHH 622 HHHH

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