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Acc# 38111

SHOOTDOWN OF U.S. AIRCRAFT OVER HAINAN ISLAND

Analysis of available SIGINT data confirms the shootdown of one U.S. aircraft which intruded Communist China's Hainan Island and Linchou Peninsula air spaces beginning at 0331Z on 20 September.

It appears that possible as many as ten CHICOM fighters [redacted] reacted to the hostile aircraft over Hainan Island. [redacted] this reaction to have been an aggressive one clearly intent upon downing the hostile intruder.

This shootdown of a U.S. aircraft intruding over Hainan Island represents a sharp departure of policy on the part of the CHICOMs from that demonstrated during a similar intrusion of 9 April 1965. [redacted] On this occasion the CHICOMs appeared to be exerting considerable effort to avoid an engagement, although presented with apparently favorable circumstances for an attack on the intruding hostile aircraft.

SIGINT reflections of the 20 September were released to the intelligence consumers via message format, at FLASH precedence, just as fast as the information was available. DIRNSA DTGs 200705Z, 201110Z, 201656Z and 201854Z refer. This information was then formalized in a SIGINT product report (2/0/[redacted]/R13-65) released last evening. The final summary report will be released this week-end [redacted]

(b)(1)
(b)(3)-50 USC 403
(b)(3)-18 USC 798
(b)(3)-P.L. 86-36

REFNO'S

Approved for release by NSA on 05-08-2014, Transparency Case# 65886

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