

~~TOP SECRET UMBRA~~

CATEGORY = 4

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MESSAGE = 01798343

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

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~~TOP SECRET UMBRA~~ FINAL SECTION OF SIX XXMMENP06F0019121 ISHTAR (IN PARAS
MARKED) 3/004 PR303-71 NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY SOUTHEAST ASIA SIGINT SUMMARY
XXCC A. GROUND FORCES MILITARY REGION 4 ON 13 DECEMBER AN UNIDENTIFIED
TRANSPORTATION BATTALION LOCATED IN NGHE AN PROVINCE REVEALED THAT BEGINNING ON
THE 25TH OF DECEMBER THE BATTALION WOULD WORK FOR THE 222D AAA REGIMENT AND
WOULD REQUIRE AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF VEHICLES TO TRANSPORT ARTILLERY. AS
PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THE 222D AAA REGIMENT HAS RECENTLY BEEN ENGAGED IN A
NORTHWARD DEPLOYMENT FROM SOUTHERN QUANG BINH PROVINCE. ~~(SECRET SPOKE ISHTAR)~~
B. AIR/AIR DEFENSE FORCES AERIAL ENGAGEMENTS OVER NORTH VIETNAM PRELIMINARY
ANALYSIS OF AVAILABLE INFORMATION REVEALS THAT DURING THE 0600Z HOUR OF 18
DECEMBER, TWO NVAF 921ST REGIMENT MIG-21'S ENGAGED AND SHOT DOWN AN F4
APPROXIMATELY 45 NM NORTHWEST OF BAI THUONG. AT LEAST EIGHT ADDITIONAL
MIGS--FOUR MIG-19'S FROM YEN BAI AND TWO MIG-21'S EACH FROM BAI THUONG AND PHUC
YEN--CONDUCTED DEFENSIVE PATROLS DURING THE SAME GENERAL TIME FRAME. DURING THE
0800Z HOUR ANOTHER ENGAGEMENT WAS NOTED. TWO PHUC YEN-BASED MIG-21'S ENGAGED
U.S. AIRCRAFT IDENTIFIED AS F4'S AND FOUR YEN BAI-BASED, 925TH REGIMENT
MIG-19'S ATTEMPTED TO ENGAGE HOSTILE AIRCRAFT OVER NORTH VIETNAM. THERE WAS NO
CONFIRMATION, HOWEVER, THAT THE MIG-21'S EXPENDED ANY ORDNANCE IN THIS
ENCOUNTER. (2/R0/VCA/R940-71 180646Z) ~~(SECRET SPOKE)~~ C. MARITIME ACTIVITY NORTH
VIETNAMESE MERCHANTS ACTIVE IN THE VINH/BEN THUY AREA BETWEEN 12 AND 16
DECEMBER, THE THONG NHAT (NV, 617GT, CG), CUU LONG (NV, 1778GT, TKR) AND VIET
TRUNG (NV, POSSIBLY 606GT, TKR) WERE ACTIVE IN VOYAGES TO THE VINH/BEN THUY (WF
7461, 18-38N 105-42E) AREA. AFTER DEPARTING FROM HAIPHONG AND ARRIVING AT BEN
THUY UNOBSERVED, THE THONG NHAT WAS ACTIVE IN THE AREA BETWEEN 13 AND 16
DECEMBER. NO INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE CONCERNING THE SHIP'S CARGO FROM
HAIPHONG; HOWEVER, WHILE AT BEN THUY, THE THONG NHAT WAS TO LOAD POSSIBLY 530
TONS OF RICE. THE THONG NHAT WAS LAST ACTIVE IN THE BEN THUY AREA ON 8 AND 9
DECEMBER. THE TANKER CUU LONG, ACTIVE AT HON NGU (WF 8279, 18-48N 105-47E)
BETWEEN 6 AND PROBABLY 9 DECEMBER, RETURNED TO HON NGU ON 12 DECEMBER WITH AT
LEAST 680 TONS OF POL AND REMAINED IN THE AREA THROUGH AT LEAST 15 DECEMBER. ON
11 DECEMBER, THE TANKER VIET TRUNG RETURNED TO HAIPHONG FROM BEN THUY AND WAS
TO LOAD 331 TONS OF DIESEL OIL. AT 0800(G) ON 12 DECEMBER, THE VIET TRUNG
DEPARTED FOR HON NGU AND PROBABLY REMAINED IN THE VINH/BEN THUY AREA UNTIL AT
LEAST 15 DECEMBER. ON THAT DAY, THE SHIP WAS TO RETURN TO HAIPHONG TO LOAD 330

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(b) (1)
(b) (3) - 50 USC 403
DOCID: 4129455
(b) (3) - 18 USC 793
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TONS OF DIESEL FUEL FROM THE SOVIET TANKER KOMSOMOLETS PRIMOR'YA (RU, 3310GT, TKR) FOR PROBABLE TRANSFER TO SCUA NAM TRIEU\$ IN HAIPHONG. LATER, THE VIET TRUNG WAS TO PROCEED TO HAIPHONG TO LOAD WATER, RECEIVE ORDERS, AND THEN PROCEED TO THE SOVIET TANKER PETR SHIRSHOV (RU, 8229GT, TKR) TO LOAD 330 TONS OF DIESEL FUEL FOR BEN THUY ON 16 DECEMBER. THE VIET TRUNG LAST CALLED AETWEEN 7 AND AT LEAST 10 DECEMBER. (3/004 [] R299-71; 2/K0/VCI/R346-71, 130145Z; R347-71, 140217Z, R348-71, 150231Z; R349-71, 160259Z; R350-71, 170241Z).
~~(SECRET SPOKE)~~ XXHH 900 #3232 NHNN

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