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

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~~SECRET SPOKE~~

CATEGORY = 1 M = 34

MESSAGE = ØØ465153

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XXMM
ENPØ1FTØ1Ø38 2/[redacted]/VCK/R65-68 SUPPLEMENT ONE AVC,KUS/AVIA-A, OPER-H/. ((ALL TIMES ZULU)) DRV SAM COMMUNICATIONS REFLECT AIRCRAFT SHOOTDOWN ON 24 FEB.
XXCC

RECAPITULATION OF DATA AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION JUST RECEIVED HAS REVEALED A MORE ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF CIRCUMSTANCES ASSOCIATED WITH THE LOSS OF AN A6 AIRCRAFT TO DRV SAMS IN THE VICINITY OF HOA LOC AIRFIELD DURING THE 12ØØHOUR OF 24 FEB. INITIAL REFLECTION OF THE TARGET WAS NOTED AT 12Ø8 WHEN A SPEAKER AT THE SOUTHWEST HANOI REGIMENT SUBORDIN- ATED BATTALION PROBABLY LOCATED AT VNØ19 (2Ø56N-1Ø542E) INDICATED A TARGET HAD BEEN ACQUIRED AT 2Ø18N-1Ø5ØØE AND WAS ENTERING. SUBSEQUENT REFLECTIONS AT 1212 REVEALED THE TARGET CONSISTED OF TWO AIRCRAFT AT AN ALTITUDE OF 9,843 FEET AND THAT IT PROCEEDED IN A NORTHEASTERLY DIRECTION TO THE VICINITY OF 2Ø54N-1Ø52ØE AT 1218. AT 1217, THE SPEAKER INDICATED THE TARGET HAD DECENDED TO 8,2Ø2 FEET AND THAT DIFFICULTY IN MAINTAINING TRACK ONTINUEITY WAS BEING EXPERIENCED. HOWEVER, TRACKING WAS CONTINUED AND REVEALED THE TARGET HAD TURNED TO A EASTERLY DIRECTION AND WAS REFLECTED AT A LAST NOTED POSITION OF 2Ø55N-1536E. SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION REVEALED THAT ANOTHER, UNLOCATED BATTALION, ALSO SUBORDINATE TO THE SOUTHWEST CONTROLLER, HAD LAUNCHED 1, POSSIBLY 2 MISSILES AND ONE AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN DESTROYED, PROBABLY AT THE LAST NOTED POSITION OF 2Ø55N-1Ø536E. AT 1219 THE SPEAKER STATED QUOTE IT FELL AND BURNED ALREADY UNQUOTE. THE SPEAKER THEN STATED THAT PERSONNEL STANDING OTSIDE HAD HEARD THE EXPLOSION OF THE MISSILES/TARGET AND FURTHER STATED THAT ALTHOUGH THE LAUNCHING BATTALION HAD INDICATED THAT THE TARGET CONSISTED OF TWO AIRCRAFT, HIS UNIT COULD ONLY ACCOUNT FOR ONE. ALTHOUGH THERE WAS SOME DIFFERENCE OF OPINION AMONG THE SAM SPEAKERS CONCERNING THE NUMBER OF AIRCRAFT IN THE TARGET, THERE WAS NOT ANY DOUBT EXPRESSED BY ANY OF THE SPEAKERS THAT ONE AIRCRAFT HAD BEEN DESTROYED AND THAT I HAD PROBABLY GO DOWN IN THE VICINITY OF 2Ø55N-1Ø536E. NO REFERENCES WERE NOTED EITHER TO JAMMING OR STATUS OF THE DOWNED AIRCRAFT. COMMENTS: OPEATIONAL REPORTS INDICATE THE LOSS OF AN A6 AIRCRAFT IN THE VICINITY OF HOA LOC AIRFIELD AT APPROXIMATELY 1218. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH INCLUDES DATA CONCERNING THE SUBSEQUENT CAPTURE OF THE DOWNED PILOT IS CONTAINED IN MY 262226Z FEB, 2/[redacted]/VCK/ R64-68. 626 NNNN

Approved for release by NSA on 06-05-2014, Transparency Case# 65886

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