

Declass Review by
NIMA/DOD

WARNING

This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States, within the meaning of Title 18, sections 793 and 794, of the U.S. Code, as amended. Its transmission or revelation of its contents to or receipt by an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2003/06/24 : CIA-RDP02T06408R000100010028-9

CIA/PIR-87/111

CIA IMAGERY ANALYSIS DIVISION

MILITARY ACTIVITY, LAOS PANHANDLE

- 1 -

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2003/06/24 : CIA-RDP02T06408R000100010028-9

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2003/06/24 : CIA-RDP02T06408R000100010028-9

CIA/PIR-67111

CIA IMAGERY ANALYSIS DIVISION

INTRODUCTION

This photographic intelligence report contains information on the military activity, suspect insurgent activity, and transportation routes in a preselected area located in the Laos panhandle along the South Vietnam border and bounded by UTM coordinates XC-800700, XC-800200, YC-600700 and YC-900000. (See Figure Nos. 1, 2 and 3).

High and low-level aerial photography dated [redacted] [redacted] was used throughout the study. Because much of the available photography is degraded due to partial cloud cover and poor film quality, it is believed that numerous areas remain unidentified and/or not observed. Good stereoscopic photography was not available for all of the installations contained in this report.

- 2 -

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2003/06/24 : CIA-RDP02T06408R000100010028-9

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CIA IMAGERY ANALYSIS DIVISION

CIA/PIR-67111

Possible Staging Area

A possible staging area is located 3.7 nm south of the Laos/SVN border at UTM coordinates YC-662070. This area is serviced by a major trail running E/W across the border into South Vietnam. A second trail running north and south forms a junction where extensive ground scarring and several small huts are noted.

The center of activity appears to be taking place in a forested area approximately 200 yards NE of the junction where the two trails intersect. (See Figure No. 4, Photo No. 1).

Probable Supply/Storage Area

A probable supply/storage area is located approximately 4.7 nm south of the Laos/SVN border at UTM coordinates YC-658058. The area is serviced by a network of well defined footpaths and is situated in a densely forested mountainous area. The buildings form a semi-circular pattern and are connected to a N/S trail by an access footpath which appears to be well used.

This area is probably in support of a suspected staging area located approximately 0.8 nm to the northeast. (See Figure No. 5, Photo No. 2).

Military Activity (Strongpoint)

A strongpoint is located approximately 1.7 nm north of the Laos/SVN border at UTM coordinates YC-529295. The area consists of personnel trenches, and two A/W positions which appear to be unoccupied. A footpath providing access to the area appears to terminate near a small stream at UTM coordinate YC-533297. This area is situated in hilly, forested terrain with the heavy foliage and undergrowth providing excellent concealment. (See Figure No. 6, Photo No. 3).

Suspect Insurgent Activity

Suspect insurgent activity is noted approximately 2 nm southeast of the Laos/SVN border near the Tam A Pout River at UTM coordinate YC-478518. Two areas of unidentified activity are located in the low lying hills near the stream bed. Earth scars and footpaths indicate that the two areas are in use but no dwellings or villages were observed within the immediate area. Located between these two areas and situated along the river bed is a large cultivated area which appeared to be well tended and cultivated at the time of photography. (See Figure No. 7, Photo No. 4).

- 3 -

CONFIDENTIAL

CIA IMAGERY ANALYSIS DIVISION

Possible Storage Area

A possible storage area is located approximately 1.5 nm north of the Laos/SVN border on the mountain slope 500 yards southeast of the Dak Tauang River at UTM coordinate YC-465596. This area consists of a series of footpaths, trails, and several well spaced huts. (See Figure No. 8, Photo No. 5).

Suspect Area

Suspect insurgent activity is noted approximately 2.3 nm southwest of the Laos/SVN border at UTM coordinate YC-516154. A well defined trail leads into a heavily forested area from the southwest. Extensive ground scarring can be observed through the tree canopy. No huts or buildings are noted in the area and the access trail does not reappear. This area is situated in the high ground approximately 1,000 yards north of the Dak Poyo River. (See Figure No. 9, Photo No. 6).

Military Activity (Strongpoints)

An area of military activity is located approximately 1.4 nm south of the Laos/SVN border at UTM coordinate YC-452516. This installation is partially cloud covered, however that portion observed appears to be active. This installation is situated in the open hilly terrain approximately 400 yards southeast of the Tam A Pout River. Two strongpoints with personnel trenches, unoccupied A/W positions, two unoccupied possible light artillery positions, and underground bunkers were observed in the cloud free areas. (See Figure No. 10, Photo No. 7).

Air Strip

An air strip is located on a low lying ridge approximately 8 nm northeast of the Laos/SVN border and 1.6 nm east of the Tan Paete River at UTM coordinate YC-675266. The graded earth runway measures approximately 1,500 x 50 feet and is oriented NE/SW. This installation is well protected by perimeter defenses consisting of A/W positions, light AAA positions, bunkers, communication trenches, and personnel trenches.

This air strip is believed to be one of friendly forces and would provide excellent support for helicopters involved in border operations. (See Figure No. 11, Photo No. 8).

Suspect Area

Suspect insurgent activity is located approximately 1.6 nm north of the Laos/SVN border at UTM coordinate YC-528292. The area contains three small huts, footpaths, and extensive ground scarring. This area is situated in rugged hilly terrain approximately 200 yards south of a strongpoint located at UTM coordinate YC-529295. (See Figure No. 12, Photo 9).

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CIA IMAGERY ANALYSIS DIVISION

Possible Insurgent Activity

An area of possible insurgent activity is located approximately 2.9 nm east of the Laos/SVN border at UTM coordinate YC-581248. A small clearing previously used for row crops is located adjacent to a well defined NW/SE trail and has large poles erected intermittently throughout (anti-helicopter stakes). No buildings or vehicles were observed in this area but the trail appears to be in recent extensive use. (See Figure No. 15, Photo No. 12).

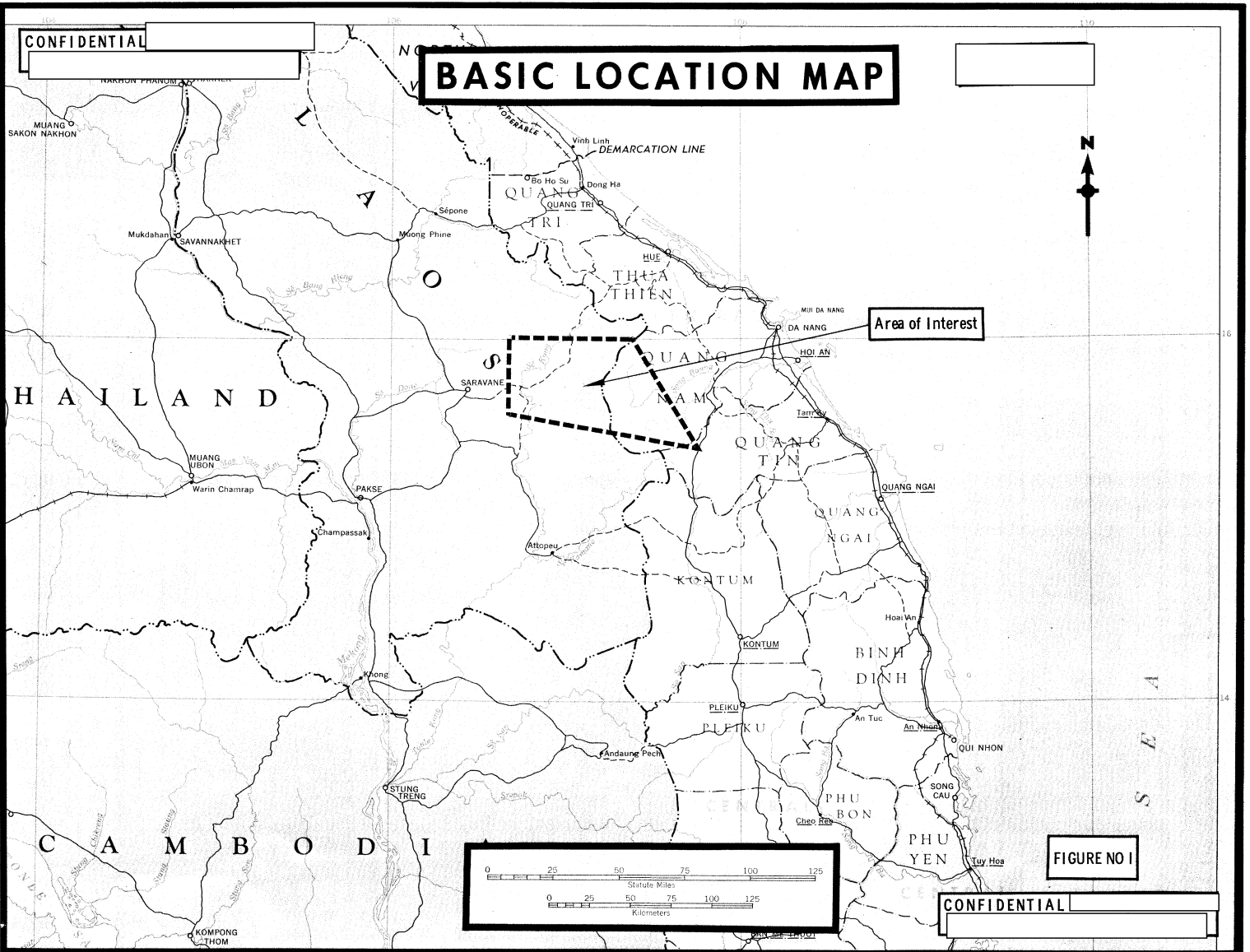
Transportation Routes

Portions of Routes 92 and 923 are located in the northwestern sector of the preselected area and a newly constructed unnumbered road extends southward from Route 923 at UTM coordinate XC-950517 to the vicinity of Chavane at UTM coordinate YB-186986. However, cloud cover and lack of photography precludes further interpretation of this road.

Three segments and photographic examples of this newly constructed unnumbered road are located at UTM coordinates XC-887522, (See Figure No. 13, Photo No. 10); XC-966423, (See Figure No. 16, Photo No. 13); and at XC-991373, (See Figure No. 17, Photo No. 14).

Road improvement was also noted on Route 923 at UTM coordinate XC-941522. A rock ford at this point appears to have been recently improved in an effort to keep this route motorable. (See Figure No. 14, Photo No. 11). The area also consists of a series of well defined trails and footpaths which connect the local villages with their outlying interests.

Three major trails were noted to span the Laos/SVN border and all appear to be well used. The first of these three trails extends from UTM coordinates YC-378345, to YC-463113, to YC-800400 and across the border at YC-525240. The second trail extends from UTM coordinates YC-540070 to YC-724064 and across the border at YC-712065. The third trail extends from YC-799020 to YC-650150 and appears to cross the border in a zig-zag manner at several points. For approximate alignment of these trails see Figure No. 3.



25X1
25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

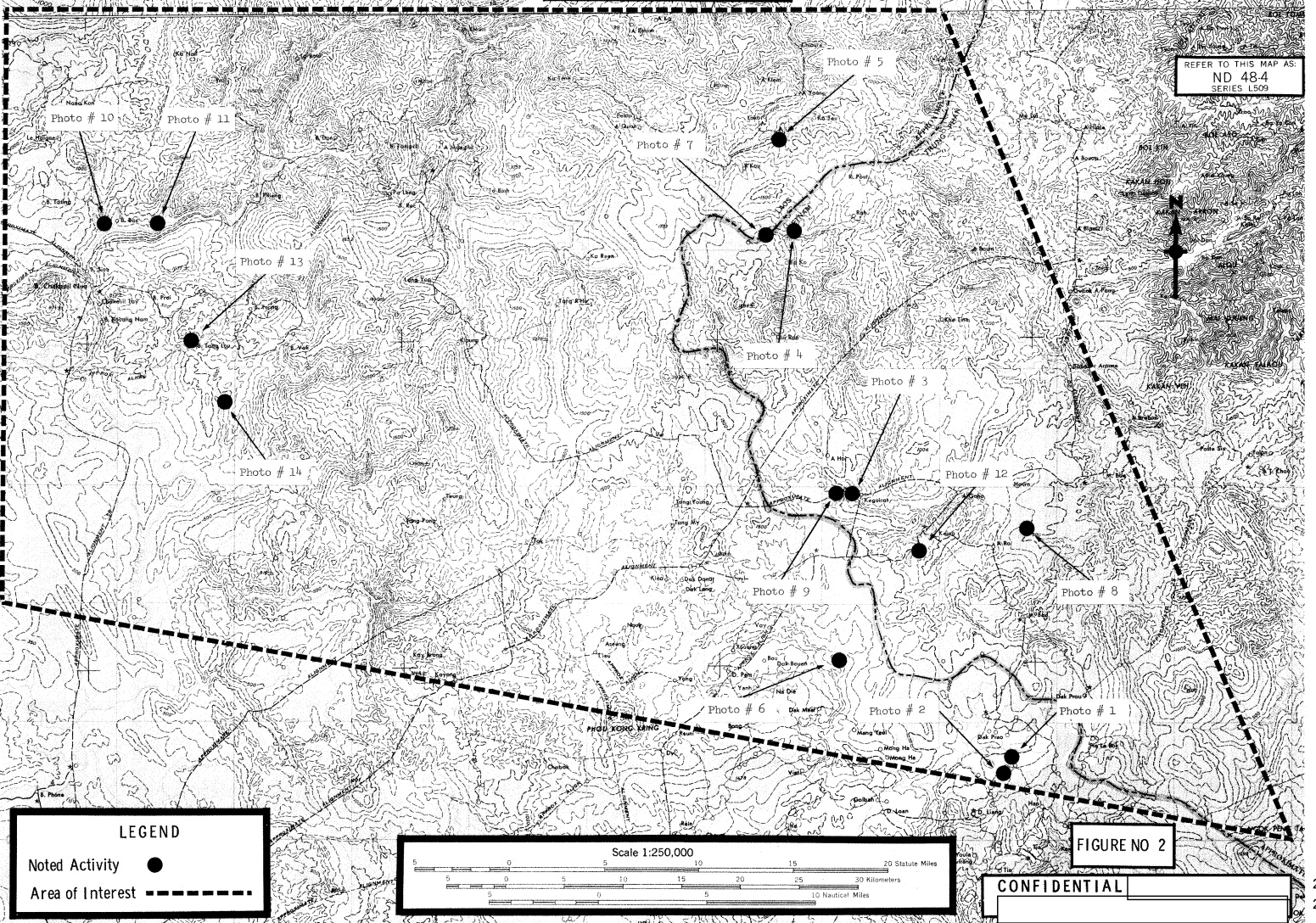
GENERAL LOCATION OF NOTED ACTIVITY

REFER TO THIS MAP AS:
NE 48-16
SERIES L509

25X1

LAOS PANHANDLE

REFER TO THIS MAP AS:
ND 48-4
SERIES L509



LEGEND

Noted Activity ●

Area of Interest - - - - -

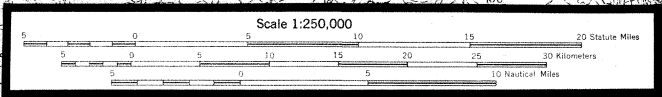


FIGURE NO 2

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1
25X1

25X
25X

CONFIDENTIAL

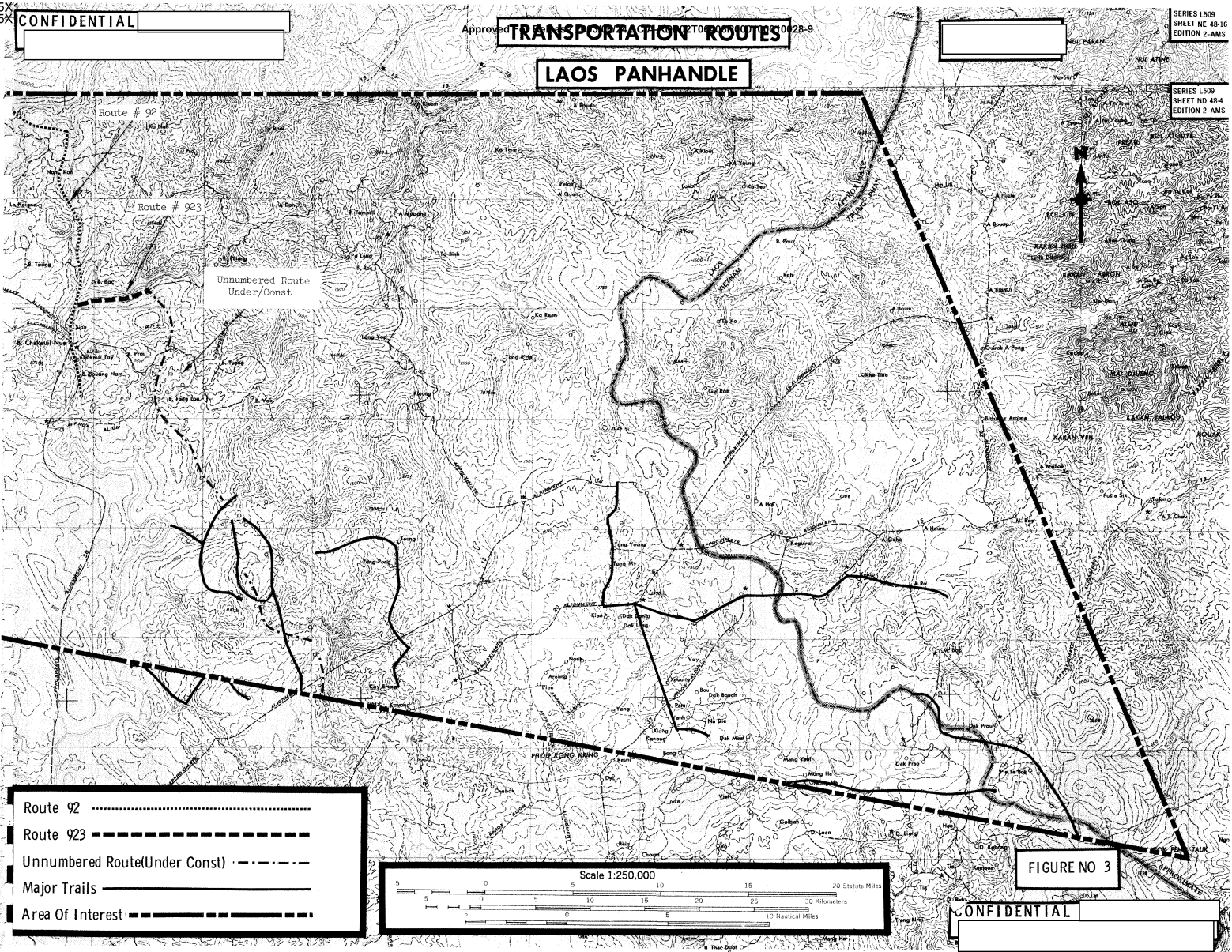
Approved TRANSPORTATION ROUTES 0128-9

SERIES L509
SHEET NO. 48-16
EDITION 2-AMS

25X1

LAOS PANHANDLE

SERIES L509
SHEET NO. 48-4
EDITION 2-AMS



- Route 92 (dotted line)
- Route 923 - - - - - (dashed line)
- Unnumbered Route(Under Const) - . - . - . (dash-dot line)
- Major Trails ——— (solid line)
- Area of Interest - - - - - (thick dashed line)

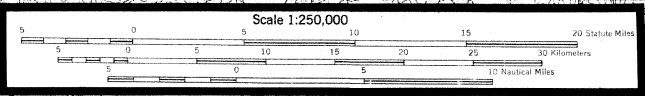


FIGURE NO 3

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1
25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2003/06/24 : CIA-RDP80-016458R000100020001-9

Unidentified Activity

Huts

YC-658058

PROBABLE SUPPLY/STORAGE AREA

FIGURE NO 2

Photo # 2 5 X

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2003/06/24 : CIA-RDP80-016458R000100020001-9

CONFIDENTIAL

Personnel Trenches
A/W Positions

YC- 529295

Trail

25X1 photo # 3

5 X

FIGURE NO 2

25X1

MILITARY ACTIVITY- Strong Point

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2003/06/24 : CIA-RDP80-01060A000600010028-5



Unidentified Area

YC 47018

Tam A Pout River

Cultivated Area



SUSPECT AREA

FIGURE NO 2

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2003/06/24 : CIA-RDP80-01060A000600010028-5

Photo # 4

5 X

CONFIDENTIAL

202T064085 18-9

Dak Tauang River

YC- 465596

Huts

[Redacted]

Photo # 5 5 X

FIGURE NO 8

POSSIBLE STORAGE AREA

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

X1

Border Approx 2.5 NM

YC- 516154

Unidentified Activity

Trail

Dak Poyo River

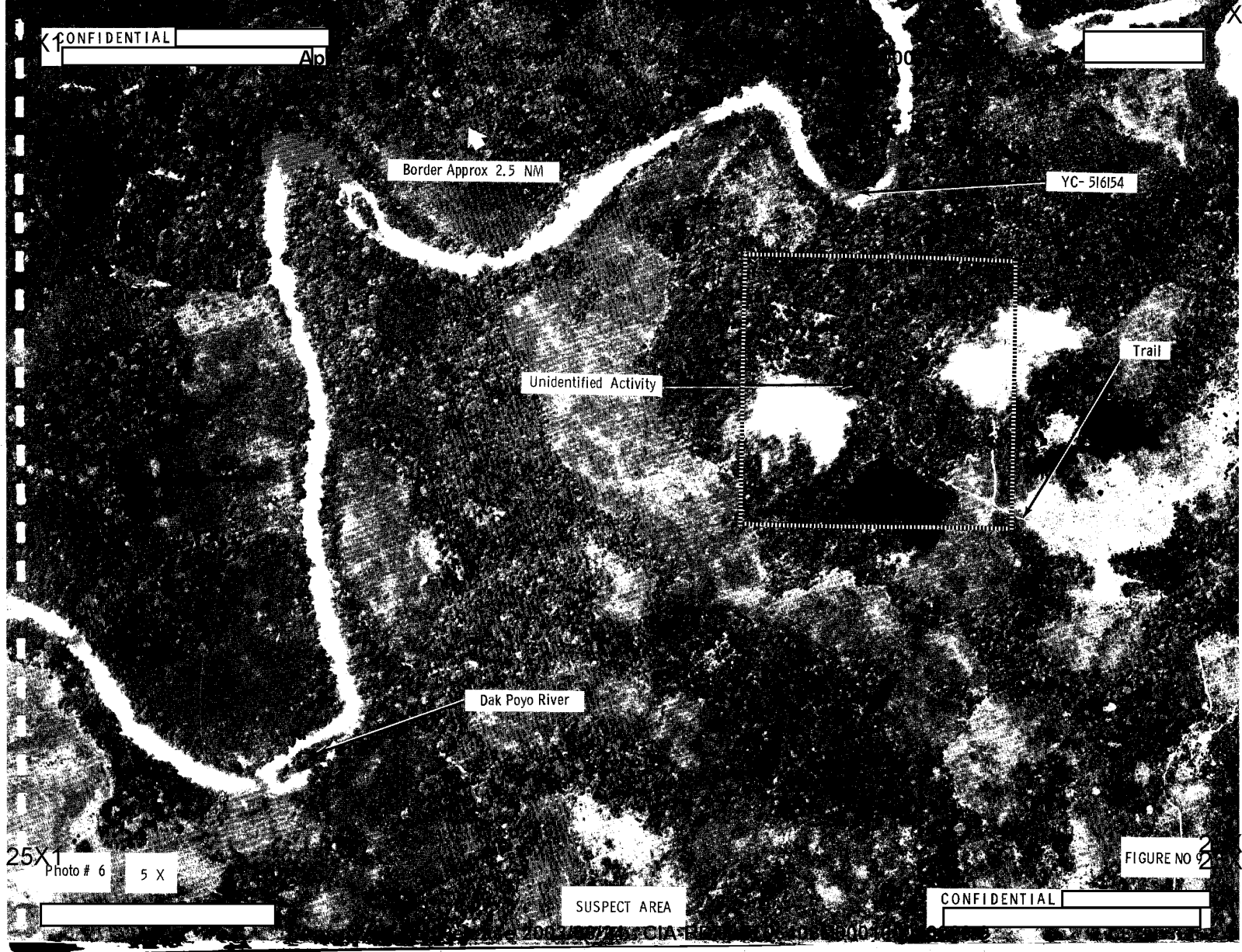
SUSPECT AREA

FIGURE NO 2

CONFIDENTIAL

Photo # 6 5 X

25X1



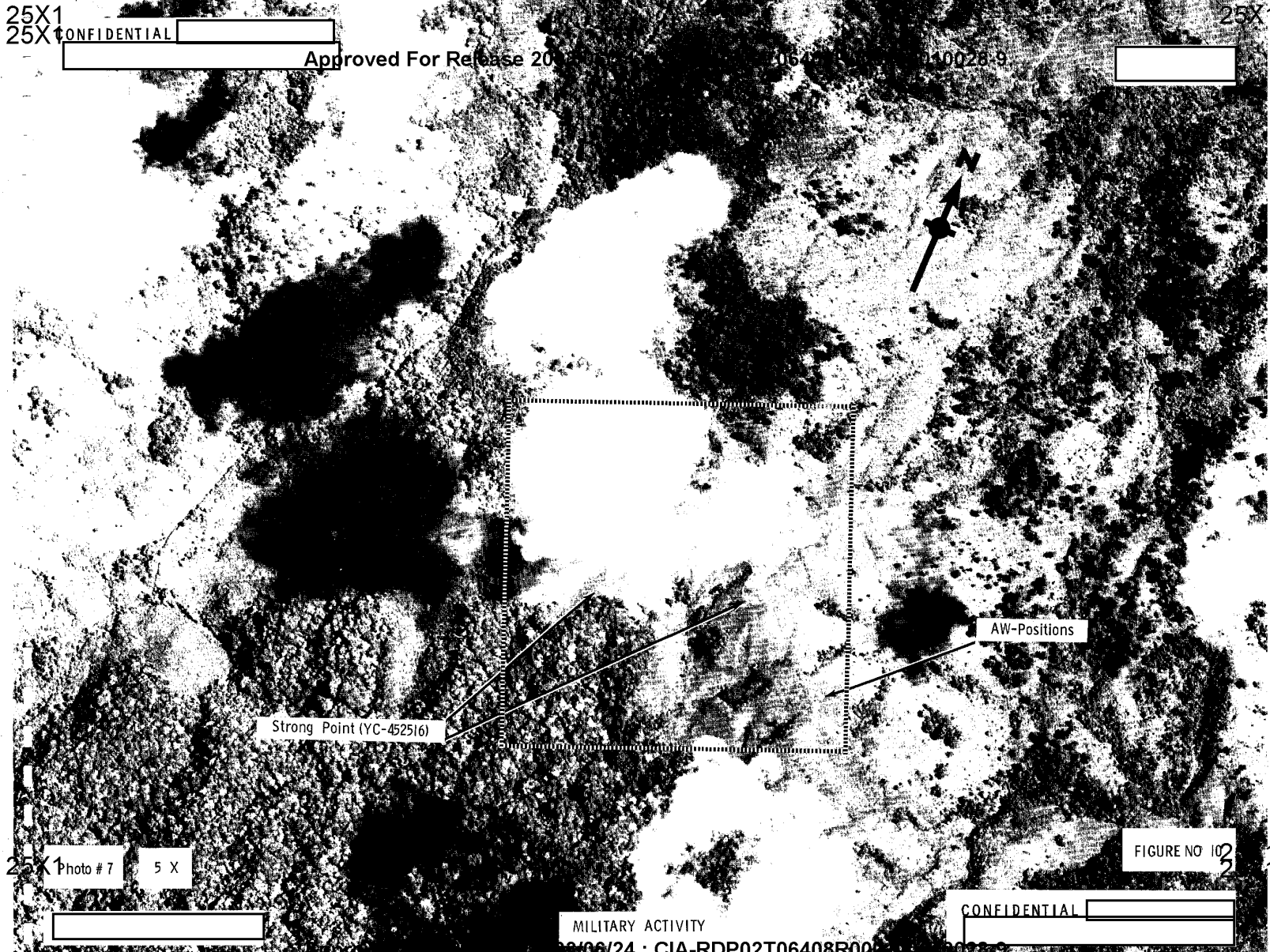
25X1
25X1

25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2001/06/24 : CIA-RDP02T06408R00020022-9

1640028-9



Strong Point (YC-452516)

AW-Positions

25X1 Photo # 7

5 X

FIGURE NO 103

MILITARY ACTIVITY

CONFIDENTIAL

2001/06/24 : CIA-RDP02T06408R00020022-9

CONFIDENTIAL

YC-675266

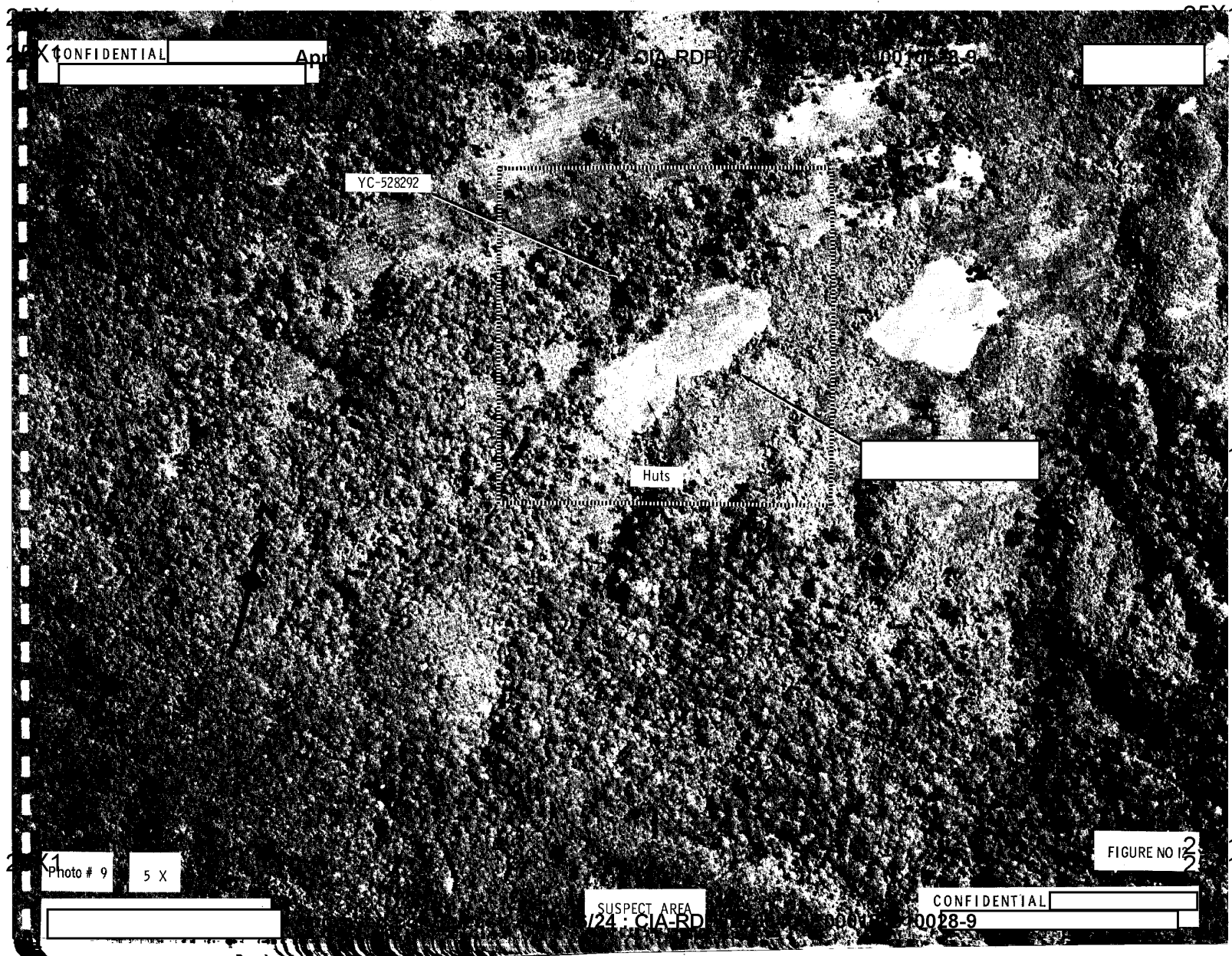
X1
Photo # 8

5 X

FIGURE NO II

AIR STRIP (South Vietnam)

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL [redacted] Apr 1967

CIA-RDP [redacted] 001 0028-9

YC-528292

Huts

[redacted]

Photo # 9 5 X

FIGURE NO 2

SUSPECT AREA
124 CIA-RD

CONFIDENTIAL [redacted]
001 0028-9 [redacted]

1 CONFIDENTIAL

For Release 2003/06/24

[Redacted]



XC-887522

Construction Spoil

Photo # 10 5 X

FIGURE NO 13

ROAD CONSTRUCTION (Unnumbered Road)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Rock Ford, XC-941522

Rock Source

Route 923



Photo # 11 5 X

FIGURE NO 14

ROAD IMPROVEMENT (Route 923)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Ap

11/20/2002

Trail

YC-581248

Anti-Helicopter Stakes

Photo # 12

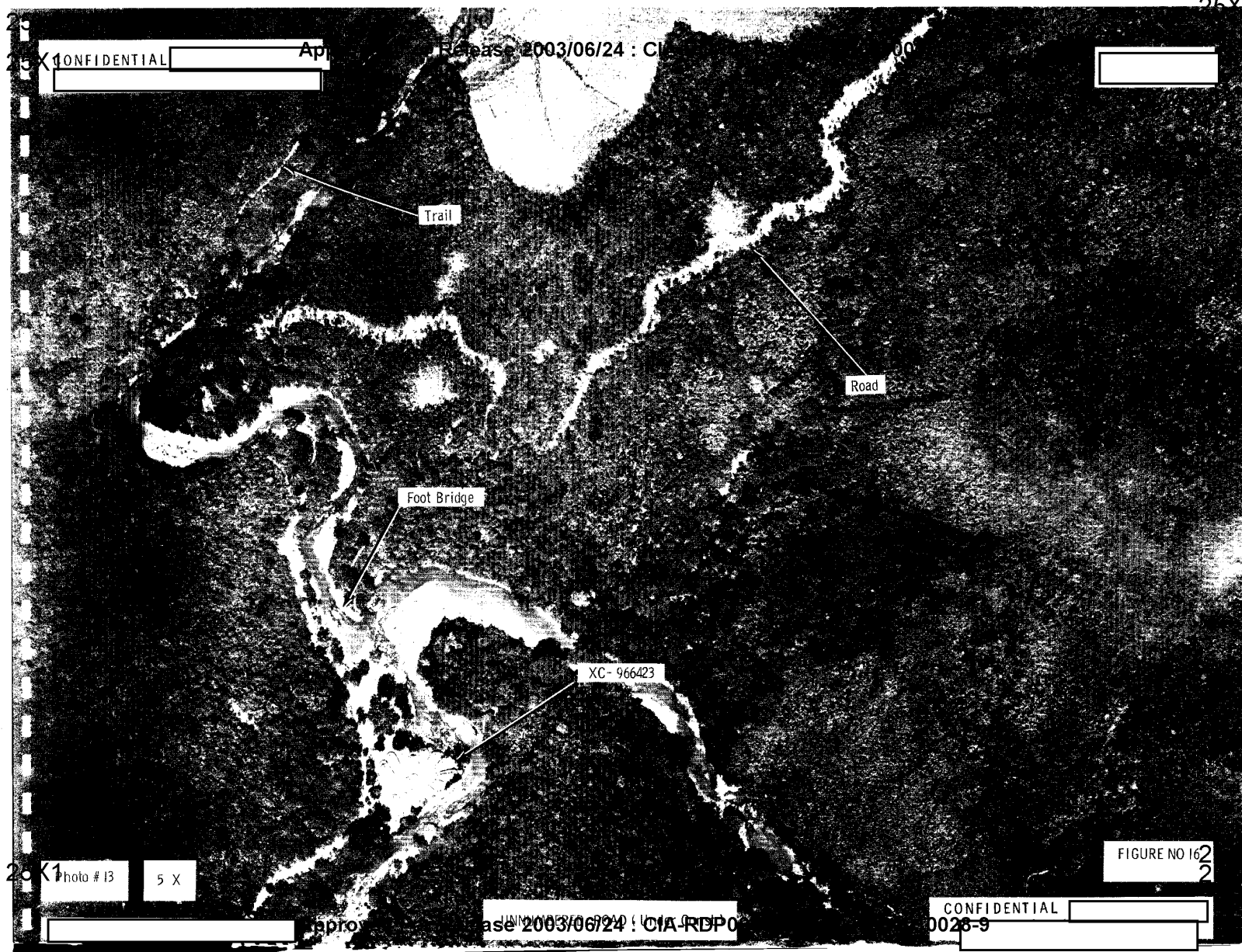
5 X

FIGURE NO 15

POSSIBLE INSURGENT ACTIVITY

CONFIDENTIAL

000001-01A-000001



Trail

Road

Foot Bridge

XC-966423

CONFIDENTIAL [redacted] Apr [redacted]

Release 2003/06/24 : CIA-RDP0

[redacted]

Photo # 13 5 X

FIGURE NO 162

[redacted] [redacted]

Release 2003/06/24 : CIA-RDP0

CONFIDENTIAL [redacted] 0026-9 [redacted]

CONFIDENTIAL

App

XC- 991373

Xphoto # 14

5 X

FIGURE NO 17

25X1
23X1

UNNUMBERED ROAD (Under Const)

CONFIDENTIAL

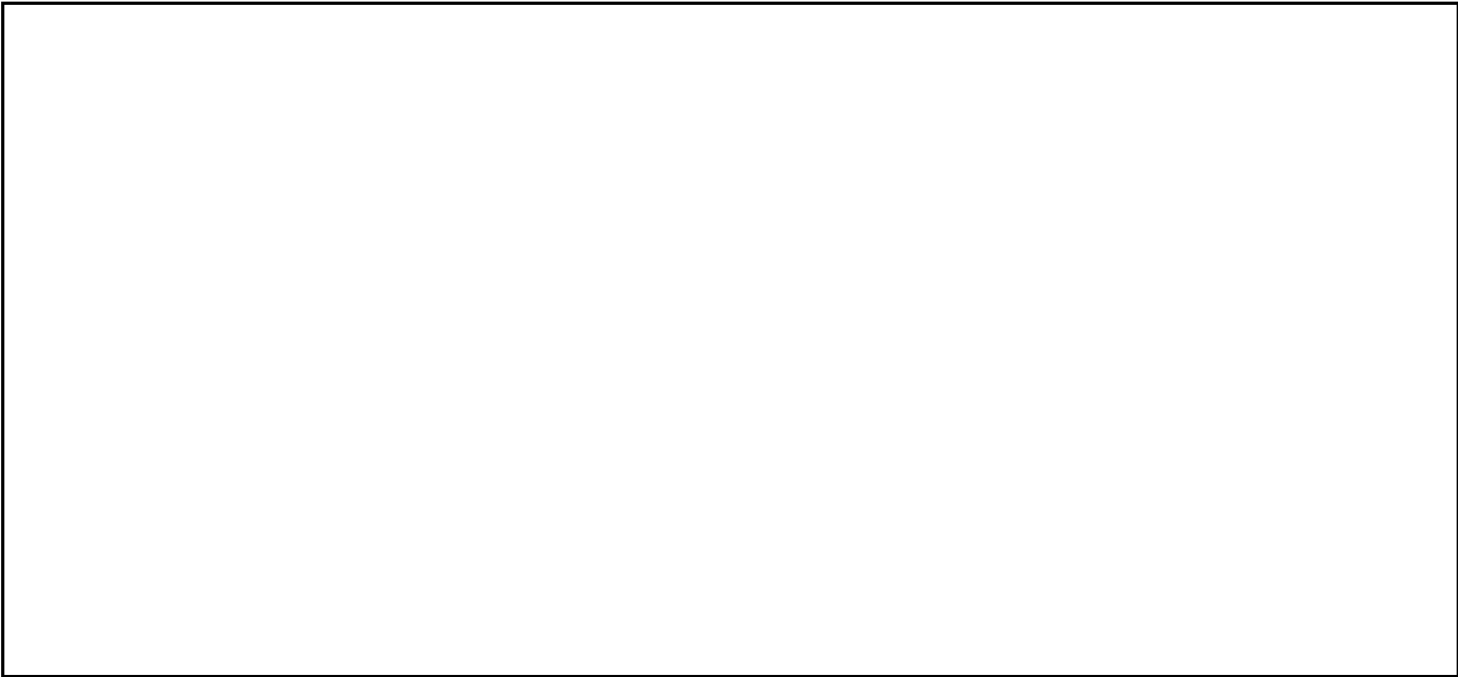
25X1

Approved For Release 2003/06/24 : CIA-RDP02T06408R000100010028-9

Approved For Release 2003/06/24 : CIA-RDP02T06408R000100010028-9



CIA IMAGERY ANALYSIS DIVISION

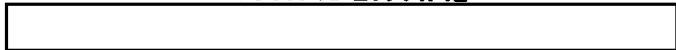


MAPS OR CHARTS

Series L-509, 1:250,000 (UNCLASSIFIED)
AMS - Edition 2, Compiled - 1954
Sheets, ND 48-4, NE 48-16

Series L-701, 1:50,000 (UNCLASSIFIED)
AMS - Edition 1, Compiled - 1964
Sheets, 6457-1, 6458-1

Series L-7012, 1:50,000 (UNCLASSIFIED)
AMS - Edition 1, Compiled - 1963
Sheets, 6358-1, 6358-11, 6457-11



25X1
25X1

25X1

