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MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Plans

SUBJECT: Request for Assistance in Investigation of
Loss of [Redacted] U-2,
8 September 1967

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1. Preliminary conclusions regarding the loss of an IDEALIST/TACKLE U-2 in Che-chiang Province, eastern China Mainland, on 8 September 1967, indicate that the aircraft was most probably brought down by Chicom surface-to-air missile fire. The approximate coordinates where the loss occurred are 30° 38' N, 120° 25' E, and approximately 65 miles southwest of Shanghai.

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CARL E. DUCKETT
Deputy Director
for
Science and Technology

Attachment:
1 (as stated)

NSA, USAF reviews completed

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SIGNATURE RECOMMENDED:

[Redacted Signature]

Director of Special Activities

INTEL/O/OSA [Redacted] nlm (3 Oct 67)(Rev EO/SA 5 Oct 67)

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22 SEP 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Science and Technology

SUBJECT: Analysis of TACKLE Mission C297C *acft 3515*
373

1. This memorandum is for information only.

2. This study results from an exhaustive analysis of all available data which are pertinent to the loss of Article 373 on 8 September 1967, and represents the coordinated views of the Office of Special Activities, Office of Scientific Intelligence and the Office of ELINT.

3. Facts:

a. The mission was flown in response to [Redacted] for [Redacted]

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coverage, on an urgent basis, of seventeen Chinese Communist (ChiCom) airfield targets.

b. The mission aircraft departed [Redacted] on 8 September. The route was designed to cover six of the 17 highest priority targets. The mission aircraft penetrated ChiCom territory at approximately 0302Z at a point on the China coast approximately 45 nautical miles northeast of Shanghai. Attachment 1 depicts the planned route of flight, and the actual route of flight [Redacted]

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c. Within the twenty-four hour period prior to mission launch, and again shortly after loss of the mission aircraft, NPIC completed a detailed SAM search

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of all available photography of the area within fifty nautical miles of the last reported position of the mission aircraft. With the exception of the previously reported SAM sites located at Shanghai, NPIC was unable to detect any new SAM sites. (Attachment 2). On 19 September 1967 the Imagery Analysis Staff of DDI reported discovery of a probable SAM site at Chia Hsing Airfield. Their report was based on an extensive examination of KH-4 photography dated [Redacted] with special emphasis on the Chia Hsing Airfield. A copy of their report is included herein as Attachment 7.

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b. TACKLE overflight operational missions will be suspended until these modifications have been accomplished and satisfactorily flight tested (approximately six weeks for critical items).

c. Upon resumption of TACKLE operational missions, and until the threat is better defined, mission routes will be designed to keep the mission aircraft at least fifteen nautical miles from high priority ChiCom Airfield targets.

d. An examination of present [Redacted] will be conducted to determine if assignments can provide better data for subsequent post-mission analysis.

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e. Efforts will be made to withhold mission information from all except those who have a confirmed need-to-know.

[Redacted]

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PAUL N. BACALIS
Brigadier General, USAF
Director of Special Activities

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Attachments - 7

- 1. Route Map
- 2. NPIC Report of SAM Search
- 3. Resume of [Redacted] Activity
- 4. OSI Assessment of ChiCom SAM Threat
- 5. Proposed Modifications to [Redacted]
- 6. OEL Review of Efforts to Collect [Redacted]
- 7. Top Secret Message - Cite [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

Director of Scientific Intelligence

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Director of ELINT

cc: Deputy Director for Intelligence

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IDEA/OSA/[Redacted]aea (21 Sep 67)

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- 6, 7, 8 D/OEL
- 9 DD/S&T Registry
- 10, 11 D/SA
- 12 IDEA/OSA
- 13 RB/OSA
- 14 DDI

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8 September 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Resume of NPIC Searches for SAM Sites in China in Support of OSA

1. NPIC and OSA have long had formal arrangements for NPIC searches of photography to locate SAM sites in Communist China. On 23 March 1967 a revised Memorandum of Understanding entitled "SAM Search Procedures for IDEALIST/TACKLE Missions" was approved jointly by the Director of Special Activities, DD/S&T and the Director, National Photographic Interpretation Center. This procedure calls for NPIC to be given advanced notice of planned routes for [Redacted] U-2 flights. NPIC uses these canned routes in the conduct of a search of all photography as it is received. The spotting of a SAM site during this search is instantly reported. When OSA specifically takes steps to launch a U-2 mission, the Center is advised. NPIC quickly double checks to make sure that all photography was in fact searched upon its receipt and, an advisory cable is sent from NPIC to OSA before the "go" signal is given. NPIC is normally given word of a pending flight from 30 hours to 12 hours in advance of mission takeoff time. NPIC undertakes to insure that a search of all available photography had been carried out in areas 30 NM on either side of planned route and within a 50 NM radius of the principal targets and suspect SAM areas specified by OSA. NPIC rechecks "suspect" and interest areas indicated by OSA.

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Attachment 2
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SUBJECT: Resume of NPIC Searches for SAM Sites in China in Support of OSA

2. Chronology - C297C

- a. Canned route 1058 received 31 August 1967
- b. 1600, 5 September 1967 - Mission alerted following weather briefing.
- c. 1620, 5 September 1967 - NPIC alerted to conduct SAM search of canned route 1058 (C297C).
- d. 2111, 5 September 1967 - Formal cable request for SAM search received by NPIC from OSA.
- e. 1224, 6 September 1967 - Results of search sent by cable to OSA. Copy attached as Tab 1.
- f. 1600, 6 September 1967 - Go-No-Go briefing attended by NPIC. Overlay of coverage searched was provided OSA.
- g. 0215, 7 September 1967 - Mission alerted and delayed 24 hours. No further search was required.
- h. 1400, 7 September 1967 - Second Go-No-Go briefing attended by NPIC.
- i. 0300, 8 September 1967 - NPIC advised by phone call from [Redacted] (OSA) of shoot down and requesting that NPIC call in personnel to check area of shoot down for SAM site.
- j. 0420, 8 September 1967 - Search started by PAC personnel and completed by about noon.

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SUBJECT: Resume of NPIC Searches for SAM Sites in China in Support of OSA

3. Shortly after receipt of news of the 8 September shutdown, OSA asked NPIC to undertake a new search of areas believed to be related to the incident. NPIC has completed this renewed search and remains unable to identify a SAM site in the specified areas.

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4. The photography used for this search was from a KH-4 mission and is dated [Redacted]. The scale and resolution may prevent the Center's identification of a SAM. This would be particularly true if deceptive measures such as camouflage were employed to conceal or otherwise disrupt a visible pattern. It is, of course, possible that a SAM position was deployed some time after [Redacted] the date of latest coverage.

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5. One point should be made clear. The Chinese Communist SAM site is unlike the Soviet or Cuban. It lacks fixed signature. Meager SAM resources are deployed with great mobility. Identification of a ChiCom SAM site in photography, particularly at KH-4 type of resolution is difficult. Mobility means that a SAM site, spotted as such and seen to be operational one day, may be vacant the next.

6. The attached chart portrays areas researched by NPIC following the 8 September shutdown. Areas within the rectangles were rescanned in detail. Both of the large, circled areas have been thoroughly searched by two separate teams, each team having searched the entire area. The smaller circled area has been thoroughly searched four times, each time by a different analyst. The results were, as stated, negative.

[Redacted]

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E. H. Knoche
Executive Director
National Photographic Interpretation Center

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Attachment:
Tab 1 - Cable [Redacted]
Overlay Route 1058

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Attachment 4

OSI ASSESSMENT OF CURRENT SAM THREAT

1. We believe that the Chinese have fielded at least one, possibly two modified versions of the SA-2 system, although the available [Redacted] evidence suggests that as many as three separate ChiCom versions may exist. All versions appear to employ substantially the same missile -- the Guideline Mod I and a Chinese production copy of it. All the ChiCom modifications have been observed in the [Redacted]

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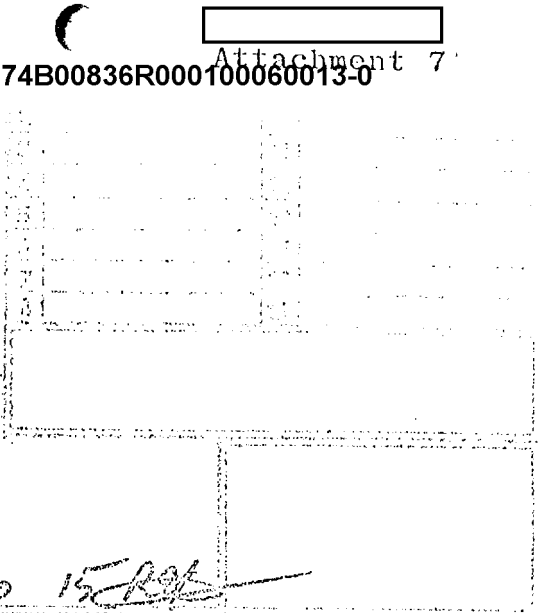
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PRIORITY OPEN (MULTI ADDRESSEE)

[Redacted]

THE FOLLOWING IS FROM THE CIA/IMAGERY ANALYSIS SERVICE:

1. A NEWLY IDENTIFIED PROBABLE SA-2 SITE IS LOCATED AT CHIA HSING AIRFIELD, CHINA, AT 30-42-45N 120-41-35E, APPROXIMATELY 4.5 NAUTICAL MILES (NM) SOUTHWEST OF CHIA HSING, AND APPROXIMATELY 52 NM SOUTHWEST OF SHANGHAI, CHINA.

2. THE SITE IS LOCATED AT THE NORTHEAST END OF THE AIRFIELD, IN AND AROUND EXISTING AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS. TWO LAUNCH POSITIONS HAVE APPARENTLY BEEN INTERSPERSED AMONG THE AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS. UNIDENTIFIED EQUIPMENT IS VISIBLE IN THESE TWO POSITIONS. SIX NEARBY AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS, IN WHICH UNIDENTIFIED EQUIPMENT IS VISIBLE, MAY ALSO REPRESENT LAUNCH POSITIONS AND/OR STORAGE POINTS FOR ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT.

3. ON THE HARD SURFACED RUNWAY SERVING THE AIRCRAFT REVETMENTS, AND CENTRALLY-LOCATED WITH RESPECT TO THEM, THERE IS UNIDENTIFIED EQUIPMENT ARRANGED IN THE L-SHAPED PATTERN TYPICAL OF THE GUIDANCE

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IN-52472 [REDACTED] T O P S E C R E T [REDACTED] PAGE 2 25X1

AREA AT CHINESE SAM SITES. A POSSIBLE VEHICLE PARK WHICH MAY ALSO BE ASSOCIATED IS ADJACENT TO THE TAXIWAY.

4. THIS ACTIVITY CAN BE OBSERVED FOR THE FIRST TIME ON [REDACTED] 25X1

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[REDACTED] AND CAN BE NEGATED [REDACTED]

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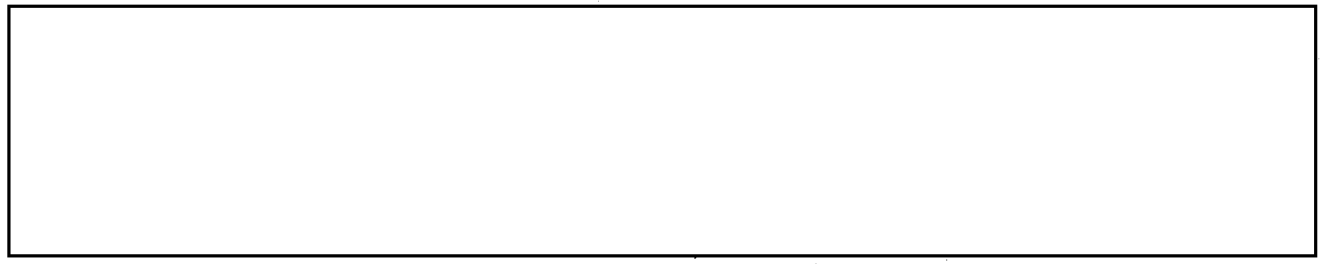
[REDACTED] IT WAS LAST OBSERVED [REDACTED] 25X1

5. TO DATE, THE COVERAGE OF THIS SITE IS LIMITED TO SMALL-SCALE KH-4 PHOTOGRAPHY OF FAIR QUALITY. THE SITE CONFIGURATION CANNOT DEFINITELY BE DETERMINED AT THIS TIME. IT DOES NOT CONFORM TO USUAL SA-2 PATTERNS, BUT BEARS SOME SIMILARITY TO KUANG-CHOU SA-2 SAM SITE B27-2, AS OBSERVED [REDACTED]. 25X1

6. THIS IDENTIFICATION IS CONCURRED IN BY NPIC.

PHOTOGRAPHY:

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