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REFERENCE: GUN CAMERA PHOTOGRAPHY

ATTACHMENT TO L-1115  
03 JULY 1966  
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COPY 1

AIR STRIKES  
POL INSTALLATIONS, NORTH VIETNAM

(SEE NPIC BRIEFING BOARDS L-1079, L-1081, AND L-1083 FOR  
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION)

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS COLOR PHOTOGRAPHY TAKEN  
FROM A GUN CAMERA DURING THE AIR STRIKES ON SELECTED  
POL INSTALLATIONS IN NORTH VIETNAM.

2. BACKGROUND AND LOCATION:

HA NOI PETROLEUM PRODUCTS STORAGE THANH AM IS  
LOCATED JUST SOUTHWEST OF THANH AM AND 3.7 NM NORTHEAST  
OF HA NOI. THE STORAGE CAPACITY OF THIS FACILITY IS  
REPORTED TO BE APPROXIMATELY 34,000 METRIC TONS.

HAI PHONG PETROLEUM STORAGE AREA, LOCATED 2.2 NM  
WEST-NORTHWEST OF HAI PHONG, IS REPORTED TO HAVE A  
CAPACITY OF 72,000 METRIC TONS.

DO SON PETROLEUM STORAGE IS LOCATED ON THE GULF OF  
TONKIN, JUST SOUTHWEST OF DO SON AIRFIELD, AND ELEVEN  
NM SOUTHEAST OF HAI PHONG. THE CAPACITY OF THIS FACILITY  
IS REPORTED TO BE APPROXIMATELY 8,000 METRIC TONS.

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification

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3. STRIKE INFORMATION:

COLLATERAL REPORTS THAT SINCE THE BEGINNING OF JUNE 1966 MISSIONS HAVE BEEN DIRECTED AGAINST POL INSTALLATIONS IN NORTH VIETNAM. ON 29 JUNE U.S. AIRCRAFT STRUCK TWO OF NORTH VIETNAM'S MAJOR FUEL INSTALLATIONS AT HAI PHONG AND HA NOI. THE TWO STORAGE AREAS HIT REPORTEDLY ACCOUNT FOR SIXTY PERCENT OF NORTH VIETNAM'S POL RESERVES, AND IT IS ESTIMATED THAT THEIR DESTRUCTION WOULD CUT STORES TO A SIX-WEEK SUPPLY. A THIRD INSTALLATION AT DO SON WAS ALSO STRUCK.

HA NOI POL FACILITIES WERE STRUCK SUCCESSFULLY BY U.S. AIR FORCE AIRCRAFT. PILOT REPORTS INDICATED ALL BOMBS ON TARGET WITH HEAVY SMOKE AND FIRES IN THE TARGET AREA. INTENSE ANTI-AIRCRAFT FIRE WAS ENCOUNTERED. ORDNANCE EXPENDED CONSISTED OF ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-EIGHT 750-POUND GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS.

INITIAL REPORTS INDICATED THAT THE HAI PHONG POL FACILITIES WERE SUCCESSFULLY STRUCK BY SIXTEEN US NAVY AIRCRAFT. ORDNANCE EXPENDED CONSISTED OF THIRTY-THREE 7.25-INCH ROCKETS, TWENTY-FOUR 1000-POUND AND NINETY-NINE 250-POUND GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS. NO SHIPS WERE

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REPORTEDLY IN THE TARGET AREA. EARLY REPORTS STATED THAT THERE WAS NO MIG REACTION TO THE STRIKE AND ALL AIRCRAFT WERE RECOVERED SAFELY.

AIRCRAFT FROM THE CARRIER CONSTELLATION STRUCK THE DO SON FACILITY. THE STRIKE WAS REPORTED AS SUCCESSFUL, WITH ALL BOMBS ON THE TARGET AND OBJECTIVES ESTIMATED DESTROYED. ORDNANCE EXPENDED CONSISTED OF FOUR-HUNDRED LAU-3 2.75-INCH ROCKETS, EIGHT ZUNI ROCKETS, SIX 250-POUND GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS, EIGHTEEN 500-POUND GENERAL PURPOSE BOMBS, AND TWO AMG-45.

4. MISSION READOUT:

GUN CAMERA PHOTOGRAPHY OF 29 JUNE 1966 REVEALS THE FOLLOWING STRIKE DAMAGE TO THREE POL STORAGE AREAS:

HA NOI PETROLEUM PRODUCTS STORAGE THANH AM  
2103N 10553E

[REDACTED]

FLAMES AND SMOKE ENGULF THE ENTIRE TANK STORAGE AREA, PRECLUDING ANY INTERPRETATION OF DAMAGE.

HAI PHONG PETROLEUM STORAGE AREA  
2052N 10639E

[REDACTED]

TWO TANKS HAVE EXPLODED AND ARE BURNING AND

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SEVEN TANKS APPEAR INTACT. THE REMAINDER OF THE AREA  
IS ENGULFED IN FLAMES AND SMOKE.

DO SON PETROLEUM STORAGE  
2042N 10647E

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THERE IS NO APPARENT DAMAGE TO THE POL TANKS.

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