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REFERENCE:



ATTACHMENT TO L-1642  
24 AUGUST 1966  
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X1

VEHICULAR CABLE BRIDGES  
ROUTE 19, NORTH VIETNAM


SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS TWO COMPLETED CABLE BRIDGES AND THREE CABLE BRIDGES UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON NORTH VIETNAM ROUTE 19.


BACKGROUND:

ROUTE 19, WHICH SERVES THE MILITARY COMPLEX AT DIEN BIEN PHU, IS THE ONLY ROUTE EXTENDING FROM NORTH VIETNAM INTO THAT PORTION OF LAOS BETWEEN SAMNEUA AND THE CHINA BORDER. IT IS ALSO THE MAIN SUPPLY ROUTE FOR COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN THE PHONG SALY AND LUANG PRABANG PROVINCES OF LAOS.

MISSION READOUT:

 REVEALS THE FOLLOWING CABLE BRIDGE ACTIVITY ON ROUTE 19:

5X1

1. A NEWLY IDENTIFIED CABLE BRIDGE IN AN EARLY STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION IS LOCATED IMMEDIATELY SOUTH OF THE DESTROYED BAN NA NGAM HIGHWAY BRIDGE SW NO 2 OVER THE NAM PHAN (RIVER)  AT 2127N 10304E (UTM UJ000747). A CABLE ANCHORAGE IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION ON BOTH BANKS OF THE RIVER, BUT NO CABLES ARE DISCERNIBLE.

25X1

2. A CABLE BRIDGE IN A LATE STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION CROSSES THE NAM CO (RIVER) AT 2133N 10316E (UTM UJ214843). SIX TAUT CABLES ARE OBSERVED SPANNING THE STREAM, ONE CABLE ANCHORAGE IS PARTIALLY COVERED, AND ONE ANCHORAGE IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION. THE BRIDGE APPROACHES

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification

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ARE NOT COMPLETED AND THERE IS NO EVIDENCE OF BRIDGE DECKING.

3. A CABLE BRIDGE IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT THE SITE OF THE DESTROYED BAN BUNG HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER THE NAM CO (RIVER) [REDACTED]

25X1

[REDACTED] AT 2131N 10320E (UTM UJ278804). SIX TAUT CABLES SPAN THE RIVER. THE CABLE ANCHORAGES ARE COVERED; HOWEVER, THE APPROACHES ARE NOT YET COMPLETE. REMOVABLE BRIDGE DECKING IS LOCATED AT UTM UJ279803.

4. A NEWLY IDENTIFIED COMPLETED CABLE BRIDGE IS LOCATED AT THE SITE OF THE DESTROYED BAN BUNG HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER THE NAM HUA (RIVER)

[REDACTED] AT 2131N 10321E (UTM UJ304804). FOUR CABLES ARE OBSERVED SPANNING THE STREAM; THE CABLE ANCHORAGES ARE COVERED, AND REMOVABLE DECKING IS OBSERVED AT UTM UJ306803. THE VEHICLE FORD AT UTM UJ304802 IS SERVICEABLE.

5. A CABLE BRIDGE IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AT THE SITE OF THE DESTROYED TUAN GIAO HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER THE NAM CHUA [REDACTED]

25X1

AT 2134N 10323E (UTM UJ333861). FOUR CABLES SPAN THE STREAM. THE CABLE ANCHORAGES ON THE EAST BANK ARE NOT COVERED AND THE APPROACHES TO THE BRIDGE ARE NOT COMPLETE. PROBABLE REMOVABLE BRIDGE DECKING IS LOCATED AT UTM UJ332860. THE VEHICLE FORD AT UTM UJ333861 IS SERVICEABLE.

[REDACTED]  
ALL UTM COORDINATES ARE TAKEN FROM AMS SERIES L701, SHEETS 5675 I AND III.

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25X1

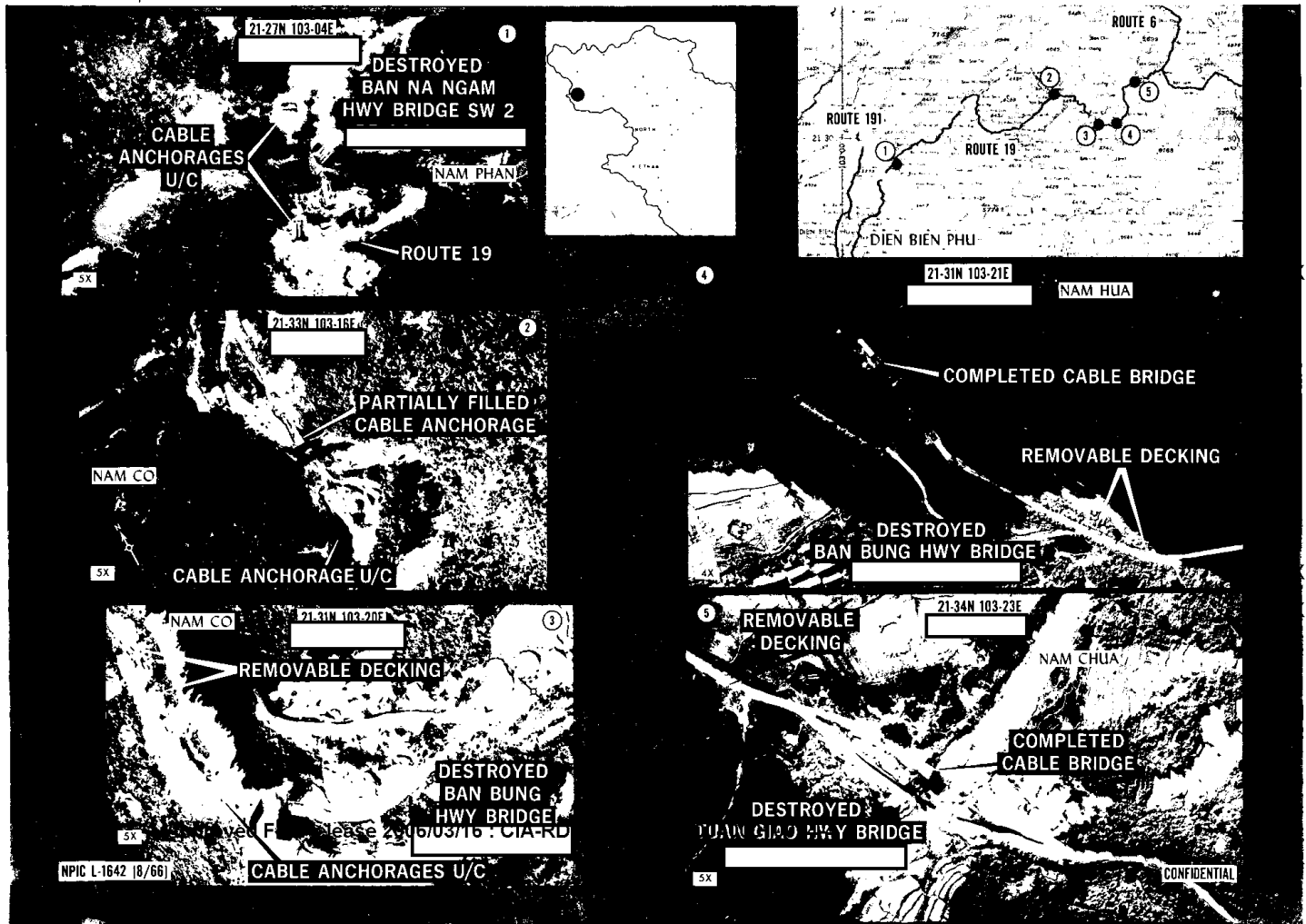
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C7-B-1141