

(c) NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT TO L-3023  
20 APRIL 1967  
PAGE 1

BTR-50P AMPHIBIOUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS  
THUAN LUONG, NORTH VIETNAM  
20 51 25N 105 38 21E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS IS THE FIRST TIME ANY BTR-50P SERIES VEHICLES HAVE BEEN SEEN IN NORTH VIETNAM.

2. LOCATION:

THESE VEHICLES ARE LOCATED 1.1 NM SOUTH-SOUTHWEST OF THUAN LUONG AT UTM WJ665062.

3. COLLATERAL:

THE TRACKED AMPHIBIOUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIER BTR-50P, INITIALLY SIGHTED IN 1955, IS THE ONLY TRACKED APC CURRENTLY EMPLOYED BY THE SOVIET BLOC. THE SOVIETS PRODUCE IT IN SEVERAL VERSIONS, THE BTR-50P OPEN TOP MODEL, THE BTR-50PK WITH OVERHEAD ARMOR COVER, THE BTR-50PU ARMORED COMMAND VEHICLE, AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK-PRODUCED OT-62 WITH OVERHEAD ARMOR COVER. THE VEHICLES USE THE BASIC CHASSIS OF THE AMPHIBIOUS PT-76 LIGHT TANK.

THROUGH THE USE OF TWO HYDROJETS THIS SERIES OF VEHICLES ARE CAPABLE OF WATER SPEEDS OF FROM 5 TO 7 MPH. EACH HYDROJET TUBE IS FITTED WITH A TURBINE DRIVEN FROM THE VEHICLE ENGINE SO THAT WATER IS EXPELLED THROUGH THE HULL-PLATE OPENINGS IN THE REAR. STEERING IN THE WATER IS ACCOMPLISHED BY THE USE OF VENTS, ONE ON EACH SIDE OF THE HULL SIDEWALL, NEAR THE REAR.

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing board(s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue. For information concerning these notes contact Chief, Collateral Support Division, NPIC.

NGA review(s) completed.

GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and declassification

(c) NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

ATTACHMENT TO L-3023  
20 APRIL 1967  
PAGE 2

THE BTR-50P HAS A LAND SPEED OF APPROXIMATELY 27 MPH AND A CRUISING RANGE OF ABOUT 160 MILES. IT CARRIES A CREW OF TWO, AND UP TO TWELVE FULLY EQUIPPED PASSENGERS, ALTHOUGH IT IS CHIEFLY USED BY ENGINEER UNITS AND AS A SPECIAL AMPHIBIOUS CARRIER. ITS NORMAL ARMAMENT IS A 7.62 MM MACHINEGUN, BUT IT IS FREQUENTLY UNARMED.

THE BTR-50PK AMPHIBIOUS APC IS A SLIGHTLY MODIFIED VERSION OF THE BASIC BTR-50P WITH OVERHEAD ARMOR COVER. ANOTHER CHANGE IS AN IMPROVEMENT IN THE VISION DEVICE MOUNTED ON THE RIGHT FRONT OF THE FRONTAL ARMOR, WHICH ALLOWS IT TO ROTATE. SOME VEHICLES HAVE AN INFRARED SEARCHLIGHT AS WELL AS INFRARED DRIVING LIGHTS.

4. MISSION READOUT:

[REDACTED] REVEALS THREE AMPHIBIOUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS OF THE BTR-50P FAMILY. TWO ARE LOCATED ON THE BANK OF AN UNNAMED STREAM AND THE THIRD IS 150 METERS WEST-NORTHWEST OF THE FIRST TWO. NUMEROUS TRACKED VEHICLE TRACKS ARE OBSERVED THROUGHOUT THE AREA.

[REDACTED]  
UTM COORDINATE TAKEN FROM AMS SERIES L701, SHEET 6150 IV

COLLATERAL SOURCES:

FOREIGN MATERIAL CATALOGUE (FOMCAT), TB 381-5-1, JANUARY 1965 (CONFIDENTIAL).

IDENTIFICATION HANDBOOK, USAREUR PAM NO. 30-60-1 (UNCLASSIFIED).

These notes have been prepared for briefing purposes only and should not be used for detailed analytical work. Their use should be restricted to the particular briefing board(s) they were prepared for and must be considered valid only for the reporting period as indicated by the date of issue. For information concerning these notes contact Chief, Collateral Support Division, NPIC.

[REDACTED]

CONFIDENTIAL

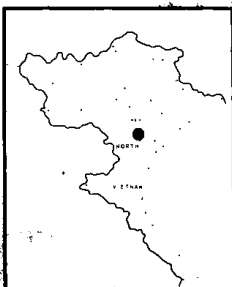
Approved For Release 2006/03/16 : CIA-RDP79-00849A000800020001-3

NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION CENTER

# BTR-50P AMPHIBIOUS ARMORED PERSONNEL CARRIERS

## THUAN LUONG, NORTH VIETNAM

20-51-25N 105-38-21E



TRACKED VEHICLE TRAINING AREA

BTR-50p



BTR-50pk

THUAN LUONG 1.1 NM

15X ENLARGEMENT

Approved For Release 2006/03/16 : CIA-RDP79-00849A000800020001-3

CONFIDENTIAL

25X1

25X1  
25X1