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25X

# FORD UNDER CONSTRUCTION, ROUTE 9 TCHEPONE AREA, LAOS

16-42N 106-13E



NPIC J-7458 (2/65)

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[REDACTED]CSD/NPIC 63/65  
10 FEBRUARY 1965  
PAGE 1  
COPY 2

[Handwritten initials and marks: "WB 25/65" and "AL AD"]

FORD UNDER CONSTRUCTION, ROUTE 9  
TCHEPONE AREA, LAOS  
1642N 10613E

(SEE NPIC BRIEFING BOARD J-7406 FOR COMPARISON)

1. [REDACTED] FIRST REVEALED DAMAGE TO THE EASTERNMOST SPAN OF THE FOUR-SPAN, HALF-THROUGH, STEEL-TRUSS ROUTE 9 HIGHWAY BRIDGE OVER THE SE BANG HIENG (RIVER) 1.4 NM NORTHWEST OF TCHEPONE, RENDERING IT IMPASSABLE TO VEHICLES. 25X1
2. [REDACTED] REPORTED THE SPAN TO BE PARTIALLY COLLAPSED. FLOODING ACTION WAS APPARENT ON BOTH BANKS OF THE RIVER, AND THERE WAS NO INDICATION OF ATTEMPTS TO FORD THE RIVER. 25X1
3. [REDACTED] REVEALED A NEW ROAD BY-PASS APPROXIMATELY 0.2 NM EAST OF THE BRIDGE, WHICH CONNECTED ROUTE 9 WITH THE PARTIALLY-COLLAPSED SPAN. THE BRIDGE APPEARED TO BE SERVICE-ABLE FOR VEHICULAR TRAFFIC. 25X1
4. [REDACTED] REVEALED A NEWLY-IDENTIFIED STAIRWAY CONNECTING THE COLLAPSED SPAN WITH ROUTE 9. NO BOMB DAMAGE WAS OBSERVED. 25X1
5. [REDACTED] REVEALED THE SPAN ADJACENT TO THE PREVIOUSLY DAMAGED SPAN TO HAVE COLLAPSED INTO THE SE BANG HIENG (RIVER) AS A RESULT OF BOMB DAMAGE, RENDERING THE BRIDGE UNSERVICEABLE. THE STAIRWAY WAS ALSO DESTROYED. SIX BOMB CRATERS WERE OBSERVED IN THE AREA. 25X1

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**GROUP 1**  
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downgrading and  
declassification

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6. THIS MISSION, [REDACTED] REVEALS A NEW FORD BEING CONSTRUCTED 0.1 NM NORTH OF THE DESTROYED BRIDGE. THE FORD, PROBABLY CONSTRUCTED OF PLANKS OR LOGS, APPEARS 30 PERCENT COMPLETED. APPROACH ROADS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE RIVER CONNECT THE FORD WITH ROUTE 9. NO APPARENT CHANGE IS OBSERVED AT THE PREVIOUSLY DESTROYED BARRACKS AREA LOCATED 0.2 NM WEST OF THE BRIDGE.

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7. AREA HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY COVERED BY NUMEROUS [REDACTED], LUCKY DRAGON, TROJAN HORSE, [REDACTED] [REDACTED] MISSIONS.

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PREPARED BY: CSD/NPIC

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