

K-7439

[Redacted]

NPIC/CSD-122/66

01 MARCH 1966

25X1

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NHA TRANG AIRFIELD  
SOUTH VIETNAM  
1213N 10911E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS THE POOR IMAGE RESOLUTION OF COLOR PHOTOGRAPHY AS COMPARED TO BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHY OBTAINED FROM

[Redacted]

IT ALSO ILLUSTRATES

25X1

THE INEFFECTIVENESS OF COLOR PHOTOGRAPHY AS COMPARED TO BLACK AND WHITE WHEN FLOWN AGAINST CERTAIN CAMOUFLAGED OBJECTS ON THE GROUND.

2. MISSION DATA:

[Redacted] FLOWN OVER PORTIONS OF CAMBODIA, LAOS, AND SOUTH VIETNAM, UTILIZED THE 112B CAMERA SYSTEM, WITH SO-121 COLOR FILM IN THE FORWARD CAMERA AND 8430 BLACK AND WHITE FILM IN THE AFT CAMERA.

25X1

3. TARGET DESCRIPTION:

NHA TRANG AIRFIELD HAS TWO ASPHALT RUNWAYS -- ONE [Redacted] NW/SE AND ONE [Redacted] NE/SW.

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25X1

4. EVALUATION:

A COMPARISON OF COLOR AND BLACK AND WHITE IMAGERY FROM THIS MISSION OVER NHA TRANG AIRFIELD REVEALS THAT THE GREATEST DIFFERENCE IN INTERPRETATION CONCERNS THE IDENTIFICATION OF AIRCRAFT TYPE, WHILE THE TOTAL COUNT REMAINED GENERALLY THE SAME (132 AIRCRAFT OBSERVED ON COLOR, 148

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GROUP 1  
Excluded from automatic  
downgrading and  
declassification

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ON BLACK AND WHITE). AIRCRAFT TYPES AT THE FIELD INCLUDE C-130, C-123, C-47, CARIBOU, T-28, AT-11, LIAISON-TYPE, AND HELICOPTER. CAMOUFLAGED AIRCRAFT, WHEN PARKED ON DISCOLORED CONCRETE OR ON A DARK BACKGROUND, TENDED TO BLEND INTO THE BACKGROUND ON COLOR FILM. THE CAMOUFLAGED AIRCRAFT WERE EVEN HARDER TO DETECT ON THE COLOR-DERIVED BLACK AND WHITE IMAGERY. HELICOPTER COUNTS WERE LOWER ON COLOR FILM DUE TO THE OLIVE DRAB COLOR AND SMALL LINEAR SHAPE.

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