

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

JCS REVIEWED 17-Aug-2011: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

~~TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

REFER TO DIA

DIA REVIEWED 18-Aug-2011: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Briefing of Dr. Kissinger by Colonel Carlson
of the Joint Staff

DATE: December 18, 1972

PARTICIPANTS: Dr. Kissinger
Colonel Kennedy
Commander Howe
Colonel Carlson
Colonel Kiems

The following are excerpts from the December 18, 1972 briefing:

Colonel Carlson: The cold front from China has reached northern North Vietnam but its influence will probably be less severe than expected. Some breaks in the clouds are anticipated.

Dr. Kissinger: Will we be able to get strikes in with smart bombs?

Colonel Carlson: Yes.

* * * *

Colonel Carlson: There was high intensity action in MRs 1 and 2 but very little activity in MRs 3 and 4.

Dr. Kissinger: Why in MR 3? Is it because General Minh is not fighting?

Colonel Carlson: There just is no activity. There was no friendly initiated incidents. Nothing is going on.

~~TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE~~

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

2

Dr. Kissinger: Please put up the MR 3 map again.

Colonel Carlson: (Reviewed the disposition of enemy forces in MR 3)

* * * *

Colonel Carlson: (Described ongoing air operations against Hanoi/Haiphong complex.

Dr. Kissinger: They should start screaming soon. Have we seen anything?

Colonel Carlson: They have probably not had time to react yet. Comment indicates that the B 52s were the first planes detected. By that time the F 111s were dropping bombs on the airfields.

Dr. Kissinger: What targets are being hit by the B 52s?

Colonel Carlson: (Reviews them quickly.)

Dr. Kissinger: (To Cdr. Howe) Can we get a list of those targets?

Cdr. Howe: Yes sir. (List attached at Tab A.)

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE/EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

Targets for Strikes on December 18, 1972

The following B-52 targets will be struck during today's raids:

Kinh No Vehicle Repair (8 miles north of Hanoi)

Yen Vien Railroad Yard (5 miles northeast of Hanoi)

Hanoi Railroad Repair Shops

Hanoi Radio Station

Phuc Yen Airfield

Kep Airfield

Hoa Lac Airfield

The following tactical air targets are being struck:

Hoa Lac Airfield Air Control Center

Hanoi International Radio Communications Center

Hanoi Radio Communications Transmitter #2

Hanoi/Bac Mai Airfield (Air Control Center)

Hanoi Transformer Station

Hanoi Port

Bac Giang Thermal Power Plant

Lang Truoc Radio Communications Transmitter

Yen Bai Airfield

Kep Airfield

Haiphong/Kien An Airfield

Haiphong Naval Base (D)

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE/EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

-2-

Haiphong Thermal Power Plant

Uong Bi Thermal Power Plant

Haiphong Shipyard (4C)

Attached at Tab A is the total target list, with the targets for today indicated by blue and red checkmarks.

Initial reports indicate that the F-111's and B-52's have completed their first strikes. One B-52 is exiting over the Gulf, which is the emergency route and may indicate that it has some battle damage or other problem. Four MIG's were airborne during the initial attack.

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE/EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

SGT # NAME

Hanoi (16)

- 1. ✓ Hanoi Radio Sta
- 2. ✓ Hanoi TPP 1/
- 3. ✓ Hanoi Transformer 5/4
- 4. ✓ Hanoi RR Yd/Shops 1/
- 5. ✓ Hanoi/Gia Lam AF 1/
- 6. ✓ Hanoi/Bac Kai AF (H,J,P) 2/
- 7. ✓ Hanoi RR Repair Shops 2/
- 8. ✓ Hanoi Port (A,C,E)
- 9. ✓ Yen Vien RR Yd 2/
- 10. ✓ Kinh No Vehicle Repair 2/
- 11. ✓ Ai No Warehouse E 2/
- 12. ✓ Nguyen Khe Stor 2/
- 13. ✓ Kinh No RR Yd 2/
- 14. ✓ Kinh No RR Spurs 2/
- 15. ✓ Hanoi RR/Hwy Br Red R
- 16. ✓ Hanoi RR/Hwy Br Canal

Haiphong (13)

- 17. ✓ Haiphong TPP W (E) 1/
- 18. ✓ Haiphong Docks (E) 1/
- 19. ✓ Haiphong RR Yd/Shops 1/
- 20. ✓ Haiphong Naval Base (D)
- 21. ✓ Haiphong Shipyard 4 (C)
- 22. ✓ Haiphong Shipyard 3 (B)
- 23. ✓ Haiphong Shipyard 1 (F)
- 24. ✓ Haiphong Shipyard W (H)
- 25. ✓ Haiphong Warehouse Port
- 26. ✓ Loi Dong Transshipment
- 27. ✓ Haiphong Warehouse 4
- 28. ✓ Haiphong Warehouse NE
- 29. ✓ Haiphong/Kien An AF

Electric Power (4)

- 30. ✓ Vong Bi TPP
- 31. ✓ Thai Nguyen TPP (possibly with of Hanoi)
- 32. ✓ Bac Giang TPP
- 33. ✓ Lang Chi HPP 1/

1/ Designated for Guided bombs only

2/ Designated for B-52 target

(14 Targets)

TOP SECRET - SENSITIVE

JCS/BE #

TFT #

NAME

Radcom/Command and Control (6)

- 34. ✓ 616-0163 Hanoi Intl Radcom Xmtr
- 35. ✓ 81 /0016 Hanoi Radcom Xmtr 2
- 36. ✓ 82.24/0545 Lang Truoc Radcom Xmtr
- 37. ✓ 21 /0031 Hanoi Radcom Rcvr
- 38. ✓ 3 /8408 Hanoi Intl Radcom Rcvr
- 39. ✓ 7 /8407 Hanoi Radcom Sta

Air Defense (6)

- 40. ✓ 616-3241 Phuc Yen AF
- 41. ✓ 616-0325 Kep AF
- 42. ✓ 616-0902 Yen Bai AF
- 43. ✓ 616-0322 Hoa Lac AF
- 44. ✓ 616-4557 Quang Te AF
- 45. ✓ 12 //0012 Dong Suong AF
- 13 //0011

Mineable Areas/Transshipment Points (6)

- 46. ✓ 80 /0007 Haiphong Approaches (Mining)
- 47. ✓ 70 /0001 Hon Gai Approaches (Mining)
- 48. ✓ 616-0030 Cam Pha Approaches (Mining)
- 49. ✓ 70 /0004 Bac Giang Transshipment (mines)
- 50. ✓ 70 /0671 Bac Giang Transshipment S
- 51. ✓ 70 /0672 Viet Tri Transshipment

Lang Dang (2)

- 52. ✓ 616-0901 Lang Dang RR Yd/Shops
- 53. ✓ 616-3237 Lang Dang RR Br
- 616-1033
- 616-0776
- 9 /8433

Lang Son (2)

- 54. ✓ 82 /0438 Lang Son RR Yd
- 55. ✓ 82.16/0382 Lang Son RR/Hwy Br
- 82.26/0699
- 82.25/0703

Northeast Rail Line (3)

- 56. ✓ Lang Giai RR Br N1
- 57. ✓ Lang Giai RR Br N6
- 58. ✓ Lang Nac RR Br W

B-52s - 12/16

TACAIR

X 8 days

TOP SECRET - SENSITIVE

Appendix to Enclosure C