

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: AUG 2007

BYE 2752-67
Copy 5 of 11

21 December 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Critique for OXCART Mission Number BX6739

1. Mission critique was conducted in the OSA Control Center at 1400 hours, 20 December 1967.

2. Mission Data:

- a. Mission Number: BX6739
- b. Date Flown: 15 December 1967
- c. Area of Operation: North Vietnam
- d. Mission Success: Successful
- e. Pilot's Name: Vojvodich
- f. Aircraft Number: 127
- g. Primary or Spare Flown: Primary
- h. Takeoff Time - Planned: 0230Z
Actual: 0232Z
- i. Landing Time - Planned: 0636Z
Actual: 0641Z
- j. Time Enroute - Planned: 4+06
Actual: 4+09
- k. Departure Base: Kadena AB
- l. Landing Base: Kadena AB
- m. Equipment:

Job# 69 B00404R
Box#1 Folder#30

(1) Primary: Type I, BW, PIN PEG, MAD MOTH, BLUE DOG II, SYSTEM VI.

(2) Spare: Same as primary.

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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3. Operations:

a. Route (INS Plot vs. Planned): Satisfactory.

- (1) INS Terminal Error: 1.9 NM
- (2) INS Spec Error: 11.0 NM

b. Mission Generation & Operational Support: Satisfactory

4. Weather:

a. Forecast vs. Actual:

(1) As briefed.

(2) Comments: Both primary target areas were Cat I. Overall cloud cover from camera on to off points was 15 percent.

b. Weather Scout Reporting: Satisfactory.

5. Intelligence:

a. Target Coverage:

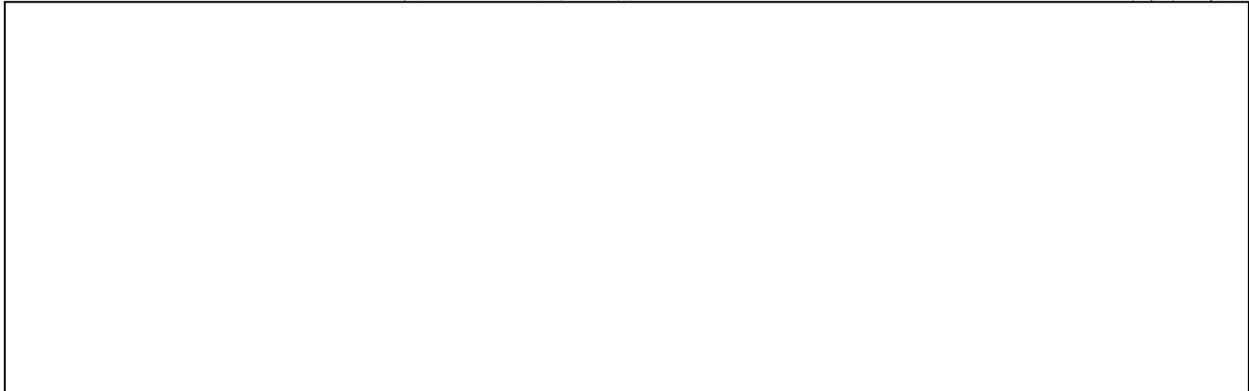
- (1) 29 of 29 programmed targets covered.
- (2) 9 first priority SSM targets of 9 covered.
- (3) 24 of 27 first priority NVN COMOR targets covered.
- (4) 156 SAM sites, 17 sites occupied, 6 new sites
- (5) 15 other priority NVN COMOR targets covered.
- (6) Comments: Excellent, virtually clear coverage obtained on all highest interest areas of North Vietnam. Nearly all of high priority SSM search areas were covered with negative results. Valuable new info was secured on a wide variety of targets such as SAM sites, airfields, bridges and communications centers.

b. Quality of Take: Satisfactory.

(1) Resolution: 16-18" ground resolution; generally good both passes.

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(2) Camera Operation: Satisfactory. Possibility of 3-minute delay in changing to new exposure possibly caused by missed programmer contact in tape occurred in bonus area before mission target coverage.



e. EWS Activations: Negative.

f. Take Movement:

- (1) Photography: Satisfactory.
- (2) ELINT: Satisfactory.

6. Materiel:

a. Aircraft General: Satisfactory.

(1) Comments: Left CIT gage inop after 2+30. Gage found defective, replaced and checked ok.

b. Aircraft Systems: Satisfactory.

(1) INS/SC&DM Data error. Error induced on ground but not zeroed prior to takeoff. Known error adjusted to give satisfactory track.

(2) Two MAD MOTH flickers noticed but not sufficient duration to allow BIRDWATCHER transmit.

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(3) SYSTEM VI tape had spurious aircraft interference from 0432Z to 0507Z.

7. Communications:

- a. Message Traffic: Satisfactory
- b. BIRDWATCHER: Satisfactory
- c. UHF/HF COMMO: Satisfactory

8. Significant Actions Taken:

An airborne spare with a 20-minute second window timing was used on this mission. Timing and refueling tactics have been approved by SAC and BLACK SHIELD OPLAN changed accordingly.

9. Outstanding Actions Required:

a. Deputy for Operations asked that [redacted] be congratulated on productivity of BX6739 and BX 6740. (Intelligence Division, OSA).

b. Investigate source of aircraft-generated interference noted on SYSTEM VI tape from 0432Z to 0507Z (Office of ELINT; D/M/Avionics).

[redacted]

for WILLIAM E. SHELTON
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Operations, OSA

OXC/O/OSA [redacted]

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