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**PRIORITY**

1970 APR 17 01 05Z

OUT  
69710

P 170031Z APR 70  
FM NPIC WASHDC  
TO AIG 7840  
RUECSDO/NFOIO  
RUHJSPA/COMSEVENTHFLT  
RUHJRLA/CTF76  
RUHJPHA/CTF77  
RUADJKA/5AF FUCHU AS  
BT

SECRET

CITE NPIC 8348  
REFERENCE: NPIC CITE 8304, DTG 092129Z APRIL 70  
REFERENCE B: [REDACTED]

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A CONTINUING ANALYSIS IS BEING MADE BY NPIC RELATIVE TO THE VARIOUS TYPES OF SA-2 MISSILE CANISTERS OBSERVED ON PHOTOGRAPHY OVER NORTH VIETNAM. IT IS APPARENT THAT AT LEAST TWO DISTINCT TYPES OF CANISTERS ARE BEING UTILIZED, BOTH OF WHICH HAVE BEEN OBSERVED AT THE PHUC CAT SAM SUPPORT FACILITY [REDACTED] (REF. A). ONE OF THESE CANISTERS IS THE CONVENTIONAL MOD I/II CANISTER WITH THE DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF FIVE SUPPORT RIBS AND WITH THE CANISTER COVER DIASSEMBLY MIDWAY ON THE FLANGED COLLAR NEAR THE REAR OF THE CANISTER. THE SECOND CANISTER TYPE OBSERVED AT PHUC CAT DIFFERS FROM THE CONVENTIONAL I/II PRIMARILY IN THE ABSENCE OF THE FORWARD-MOST SUPPORT RIB. THE ABSENCE OF THIS RIB GIVES THIS CANISTER THE GENERAL APPEARANCE OF THE MOD III SA-2 CANISTER. HOWEVER, THE OTHER DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE MOD III ARE NOT DISCERNIBLE, I.E., THE CANISTER COVER DIASSEMBLY AT THE REAR OF THE FLANGED COLLAR, THE FOUR LINEAR CHANNELS ALONG THE MID-PORTION OF THE CANISTER BODY AND A SLIGHTLY INCREASED DIAMETER ALONG THE FORWARD [REDACTED]

A REVIEW OF SA-2 CANISTERS PREVIOUSLY STORED AT THE GIA THUONG BARRACKS NEAR HANOI WAS MADE FROM GOOD INTERPRETABLE PHOTOGRAPHY [REDACTED] (REF B). THESE CANISTERS APPEAR TO BE IDENTICAL TO THE CONVENTIONAL MOD I/II CANISTER WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE ABSENCE OF THE FORWARD-MOST RIB. THIS IS THE SAME MOST DISTINGUISHING FEATURE OBSERVED ON THE PROBABLE MOD III CANISTERS IN QUESTION AT PHUC CAT. ALL OTHER FEATURES OF THESE CANISTERS AT GIA THUONG ARE IDENTICAL TO THE CONVENTIONAL MOD I/II.

IT IS THEREFORE POSSIBLE THAT MOD I/II SA-2 MISSILES HAVE BEEN SHIPPED TO NORTH VIETNAM IN BOTH TYPES OF CANISTERS SINCE AT LEAST [REDACTED] FURTHER ANALYSIS WILL CONTINUE WHEN GOOD INTERPRETABLE PHOTOGRAPHY BECOMES AVAILABLE OF THE PROBABLE MOD III CANISTERS AT PHUC CAT AND MAY REVEAL THESE CANISTERS TO BE NOTHING

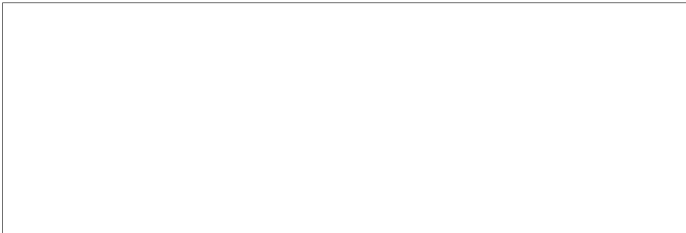
THAT MODIFIED MOD I/II CANISTERS. THIS WILL THEN CONFIRM THE EXISTENCE OF TWO DIFFERENT TYPES OF SA-2 MOD I/II MISSILE CANISTERS.  
EOM

--END OF MESSAGE--

GROUP ONE

FILE	OFFICE PL
2	CABLE SEC.
	PP&B/RD
	SECUR.
	ISSG
	PSG/OC
	RRD
	REPRO 25X1
	AID
	IEG
	IEG/O 25X15
	SCIEN
	WEST
	EAST
	M&S
	IEG/PHD
	IAS 5
	DIA-XX4
	SPAD
	DIA-AI 25X1
	CMX 25X1

ADVANCE C  
SANITIZED  
WITH TEXT



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