

SECRET



J-5982



CSD/NPIC 372/64
4 December 1964
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OPS 25X1
25X1
WS
RS

HIGHWAY BRIDGE, ROUTE 9
TCHEPONE AREA, LAOS
1642N 10613E

(SEE NPIC BRIEFING BOARD J-4494 FOR COMPARISON)

1. [REDACTED] FIRST REVEALED DAMAGE TO THE EASTERN SPAN OF THE FOUR-SPAN, STEEL-TRUSS ROUTE 9 HIGHWAY BRIDGE NEAR TCHEPONE. [REDACTED] REVEALED THAT THE EASTERN SPAN OF THE BRIDGE WAS PARTIALLY COLLAPSED, CUTTING OFF DIRECT ACCESS TO ROUTE 9. FLOODING ACTION WAS APPARENT ON BOTH BANKS OF THE SE BAN HIENG (RIVER). THERE WAS NO INDICATION OF ATTEMPTS TO FORD THE AREA.

25X1
25X1

2. [REDACTED] REVEALS ROUTE 9 HIGHWAY BRIDGE LOCATED 1.2 NM NORTHWEST OF TCHEPONE. A NEW ROAD BY-PASS APPROXIMATELY 0.2 NM EAST OF THE BRIDGE CONNECTS ROUTE 9 WITH THE PARTIALLY COLLAPSED EASTERN SPAN OF THE BRIDGE. THE BRIDGE APPEARS TO BE SERVICEABLE FOR VEHICULAR TRAFFIC.

25X1

3. A MILITARY AREA 0.2 NM WEST OF THE BRIDGE CONTAINS SIX BARRACKS-TYPE BUILDINGS, ONE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, EIGHT SMALL SUPPORT BUILDINGS, TWO GUARD POSTS, AND A L-SHAPED VEHICLE STORAGE/MAINTENANCE BUILDING. MILITARY AREA EAST OF BRIDGE CONSISTS OF ONE PROBABLE BARRACKS, ONE ADMINISTRATION BUILDING, AND ONE SUPPORT BUILDING.

4. AREA HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY COVERED BY NUMEROUS COLD TALE, LUCKY DRAGON, AND [REDACTED] MISSIONS.

25X1

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

SECRET



25X1