

Job # 69B00404R
Box # 1 Folder 13

BYE 2597-67
Copy 5 of 11

8 September 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Critique for OXCART Mission Number BX6718

1. Subject mission critique was conducted in the OSA Control Center commencing at 1400 hours, 6 September 1967.
2. Mission Data:
 - a. Mission Number: BX6718
 - b. Date Flown: 31 August 1967
 - c. Area of Operation: North Vietnam
 - d. Mission Success: Partially Successful (see Para 3. c. (3) below)
 - e. Pilot's Name: Layton
 - f. Aircraft Number: 127
 - g. Primary or Spare Flown: Primary
 - h. Takeoff Time - Planned: 31/0240Z
Actual: 31/0240Z
 - i. Landing Time - Planned: 31/0750Z
Actual: 31/0752Z
 - j. Time Enroute - Planned: 5+10
Actual: 5+12
 - k. Departure Base: Kadena AB
 - l. Landing Base: Kadena AB
 - m. Equipment:
 - (1) Primary: Type I, BW, Pin Peg, Mad Moth, Blue Dog II, System VI.
 - (2) Spare: Type I, BW, Pin Peg, Mad Moth, Blue Dog II, SIP

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic
downgrading and
declassification

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APPROVED FOR RELEASE
DATE: AUG 2007

3. Operations:

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

(1) Comments: SC & DM data on first pass only. SC & DM reference latitude was set one degree in error (to the North). This did not affect in-flight INS performance.

(2) INS Terminal Error: 17.0 NM

(3) INS Spec Error: 14.8 NM (for 5+44 nav time)

b. Mission Generation & Operational Support: Satisfactory

(1) Comments: INS was satisfactory. Track tolerance on first pass within one mile. SC & DM data not available second and third passes due malfunction.

c. Other Comments:

(1) Lack of SC & DM data is apparently associated with Type I, Serial G, camera malfunction.

(2) ATC agencies indicated that air space block and time required for option climb outs from Steel Bridge refueling area was excessive; did not affect this mission.

(3) Some target coverage was obtained despite camera malfunction and poor weather in target areas.

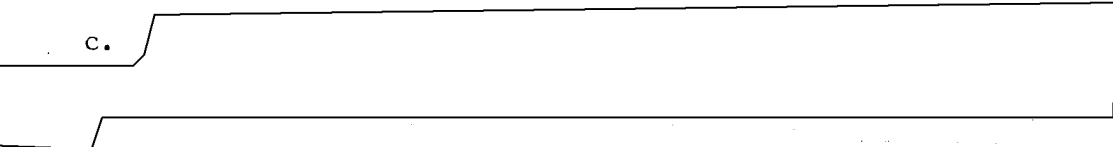
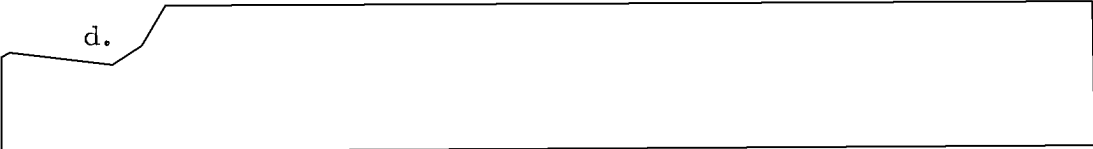
4. Weather:

a. Forecast vs Actual:

(1) Worse than briefed.

(2) Comments: CAT III (1/8 Cu, 1/8 Ac & 2/8-3/8 Cl) Forecast for all flt lines. CAT V (5% cloud free) existed over Pass No. 1; CAT II over Pass No. 2; and CAT I over Pass No. 3. The 417 satellite indicated deterioration over Pass No. 1 which was considered prior to takeoff. Deterioration due tropical storm "Nora."

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- b. Weather Scout Reporting: Satisfactory.
5. Intelligence:
- a. Target Coverage:
- (1) 0 of 22 programmed targets covered.
 - (2) 1 first-priority SSM targets of 9 covered.
 - (3) 3 of 27 first-priority NVN COMOR targets covered.
 - (4) 0 SAM sites, 0 sites occupied, 0 new sites.
 - (5) 1 other priority NVN COMOR target covered.
 - (6) Comments: No evidence of offensive SSM equipment or facilities observed. Photography of land mass is 6/8 cloud covered.
- b. Quality of Take: Satisfactory.
- (1) Resolution: Approximately 1' at NADIR. However, only 55% of format could be considered good.
 - (2) Camera Operation: Package failed twenty-four (24) seconds after second turn-on (after approx 20 minutes and 56 seconds of camera operation). Camera transported 1200' of film, approx 800' of this was during pre-flight. Camera declared non-ready pending flight test.
- c. 
- d. 
- e. EWS Activations: Signals intercepted by System VI were too weak to trigger either BLUE DOG II or MAD MOTH.

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BYE 2597-67
Page 4

f. Take Movement:

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

6. Materiel:

a. Aircraft General: Satisfactory.

(1) Comments: Right engine (221) had tendency for EGT to climb and required repeated de-richment. Aircraft EGT system satisfactory.

b. Aircraft Systems: Unsatisfactory.

(1) Comments: Type I, G - System downgraded to non-ready. Malfunction under investigation; ARC-50 external voice inop beyond 135 miles; TACAN unreliable (air-to-air) beyond 10 miles.

7. Communications: Satisfactory.

a. Message Traffic: Satisfactory.

(1) Comments: Maintenance (rewiring) being performed on facsimile circuit to WECEN. Malfunction did not affect mission generation since HY-2 communications were established with WECEN. *not so!*

b. BIRDWATCHER: Satisfactory.

c. UHF/HF Commo: Satisfactory.

(1) Comments: ARC-50 inop on external ADF

8. Significant Actions Taken: Type I, G camera installed in aircraft 127 for FCF. If successful, camera will be returned to OR status.

9. Outstanding Actions Required:

a. Office of ELINT to establish procedures for obtaining "real time" readouts of EWS Reports (OEL).

b. [redacted] will visit [redacted] to coordinate airspace problems in SEA (OXCART Division, OSA).

[redacted]
for WILLIAM E. SHELTON
Colonel, USAF
Deputy for Operations, OSA

OXC/O/OSA [redacted]

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