PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION MEMORANDUM

CHICOM SHIPYARD PRODUCTION SUPPORTS NORTH VIETNAM

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CHICOM SHIPYARD PRODUCTION SUPPORTS NORTH VIETNAM

Wuchou Shipyard Kuei River (Figure 1) has been in operation since 25X1D Two vessel types which appeared in North Vietnam in early 25X1D have been observed in production exclusively at this yard. Since 25X1D neither vessel is commonly seen in China, it is reasonable to conclude 25X1D that this yard was initially constructed to support and produce vessels 25X1D for North Vietnam.

Wuchou is located at the confluence of the Hsi and Kuei Rivers in a 25X1D mountainous area of southern China. The shipyard is 1.7 nautical miles 25X1D north of Wuchou and 175 nm (via the Hsi River) from the coast.

The yard did not exist in 25X1D and there was no evidence of 25X1D construction at the site; however, by 25X1D the yard was nearly 25X1D complete, but there was no discernible vessel production.

25X1D At least two probable SL-1 small logistics vessels 25X1D (Figure 2) were fitting out and at least two more were on the ways. The 25X1D last coverage of SL-1 production was in 25X1D and the SL-1 program was 25X1D probably terminated shortly thereafter.

The first observation of SL-1 units in North Vietnam was during the 25X1D Tet truce in early 25X1D.

From the available coverage, it is estimated that a total of 25 (+ 6) 25X1D SL-1 units were produced. The first units probably took about four months 25X1D from keel-laying to launch; the later units appear to have required only 25X1D three months. Although the fitting out period is impossible to determine, 25X1D it is estimated at two months.

There was no interpretable coverage of the Wuchou area between 25X1D Determination of activity on the ways was precluded 25X1D on the coverage, but eight probable Type-40 POL barges (Figure 3) 25X1D were fitting out. Barges of this type appeared in Haiphong as early as
FIGURE 2. SL-1 IN TONKIN CULP

FIGURE 3. TYPE-40 POL BARGES IN HAIPHONG

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