1. SIGNIFICANCE:

THIS BRIEFING BOARD DEPICTS DAYTIME WATER-BORNE TRANSSHIPMENT OF SUPPLIES ON 25 DECEMBER 1967 DURING THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE.

2. LOCATION:

THE TRANSSHIPMENT OPERATION IS LOCATED ON THE WEST BANK OF THE SONG MA (RIVER), 0.2 NM EAST OF VIET YEN, AND 3 NM EAST-SOUTHEAST OF THANH HOA AT 19°47.2'N 105°49.4'E.

3. MISSION READOUT:

reveals six probably motorized sampans, approximately 40' in length, moored on the west bank of the song ma at the viet yen transshipment point. fifteen additional sampans are observed on the song ma in the vicinity of the transshipment point and at least one of these is motorized and underway.

five cargo trucks are observed at or near the transshipment point: three are empty or are being unloaded, one is canvas-covered and parked on the west bank of the song ma, and a fifth is partially loaded and moving toward the transshipment point.

eighteen canvas-covered stacks of materials are observed near the river bank.

NGA review(s) completed.
4. **REMARKS:**

Although numerous sampans were observed on photography and some of these in large concentrations, it is difficult to associate them with any special logistic effort because such concentrations are frequently observed on aerial photography of North Vietnam. However, it should be noted that no large water-borne logistic craft, such as the S.L. 1 Class Cargo vessels observed engaged in transshipment activity at Quang Khe, North Vietnam, during the February 1967 TET truce, were observed during this year’s Christmas truce.

It is estimated that sampans 40' in length have a carrying capacity of approximately ten metric tons.