

[MISSION NAME] 540506 EARTHQUAKE

TARGET: DROP AIR CARGO TO CAMP ISABELLE
DEFENSES: 23MM, 37MM, 85MM
BEST BAILOUT: DEPART BATTLE AREA

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: CIVIL AIR TRANSPORT
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER (3) C-119
CALL SIGN: RAMBLER

HEADING/DISTANCE TO TGT: 285/95 NM
ETD: 1500

CONTROLLING AGENCY: RED CROWN

WINDS 3603G05 CU VIS 30 NM

TOP SECRET



HISTORY

On May 6, 1954, James "Earthquake" McGovern and Wallace Buford departed Cat Bi airbase for Dien Bien Phu along with five other CAT C-119s. They carried desperately needed ammunition for paratroopers holding out at an encampment named Isabelle, the last of the five firebases still in French hands. The first aircraft safely dropped its load, but as McGovern approached the drop zone, the port engine sustained damage from a 37-mm. A second hit damaged the horizontal stabilizer, severely impairing their ability to fly.

McGovern and Buford struggled for 40 minutes to keep their aircraft aloft on one engine—long enough to attempt an emergency landing at a remote landing strip 75 miles to the southwest in Laos. Just short of the landing strip, a wing tip clipped a tree. The aircraft cart wheeled and burned. McGovern and Buford died in the crash.

The remaining French forces at Dien Bien Phu surrendered the next day after Viet Minh forces overran the Isabelle base. This led to the end of the First Indochina War and marked the deaths of the first Yankee Air Pirates in the air war.



GAMEPLAY

After take off, fall into trail behind Rambler Lead and Two and proceed to Dien Bien Phu. There are two drops, Gopher Fight is dropping at Dominique to the north of Isabelle. Open your bomb bay, select the cargo and drop to put them all within the wire.

Then go to follow Lead out of the Valley to the west and land at an emergency strip in the jungle marked by smoke.

You might also try to go back to your airbase, if you wish.



It's tough hitting the DZ without being hit.

CAT



SECRET/NOFORN

[MISSION NAME] 620214 BEN CAT

TARGET: CLOSE AIR SUPPORT, BEN CAT
DEFENSES: SMALL ARMS
BEST BAILOUT: DEPART BATTLE AREA

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: 2ND FIGHTER SQUADRON, VNAF
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER (2) T-28D
CALL SIGN: HAMMER

HEADING/DISTANCE TO TGT: 275/15 NM
ETD: 1800

CONTROLLING AGENCY: RED CROWN

WEATHER BRIEF: SCT 4500 FT WINDS 3603G05 CU VIS 30 NM



HISTORY

In January 1962 the Farm Gate detachment began training 25 VNAF pilots to fly T-28's of the newly organized 2d Fighter Squadron. The Americans found that the VNAF airmen were excellent pilots, although few had night flying experience. Because the Viet Cong became active mostly after dark, the Americans emphasized the importance of night operations. Thus, shortly after their arrival in South Vietnam, the Farm Gate crews began experimenting with aerial flares, dropped from an SC-47, to light up a target for night strikes by the Vietnamese Air Force. The technique worked well and was quickly adopted by VNAF airmen, who began flying their own flare missions. The success of the flare-and-strike technique was apparent when the Viet Cong would break off their attacks when the flares ignited.



GAMEPLAY

After take off, proceed to Ben Cat, a village to the west of Bien Hoa airbase that is under attack. Wait for the flare ship and attack the enemy troops closing in on the garrison.

Then proceed to Bien Hoa and taxi to parking.



Like any night mission, you cannot see it but the ground is down there and it's hard.



THE IRON TRIANGLE

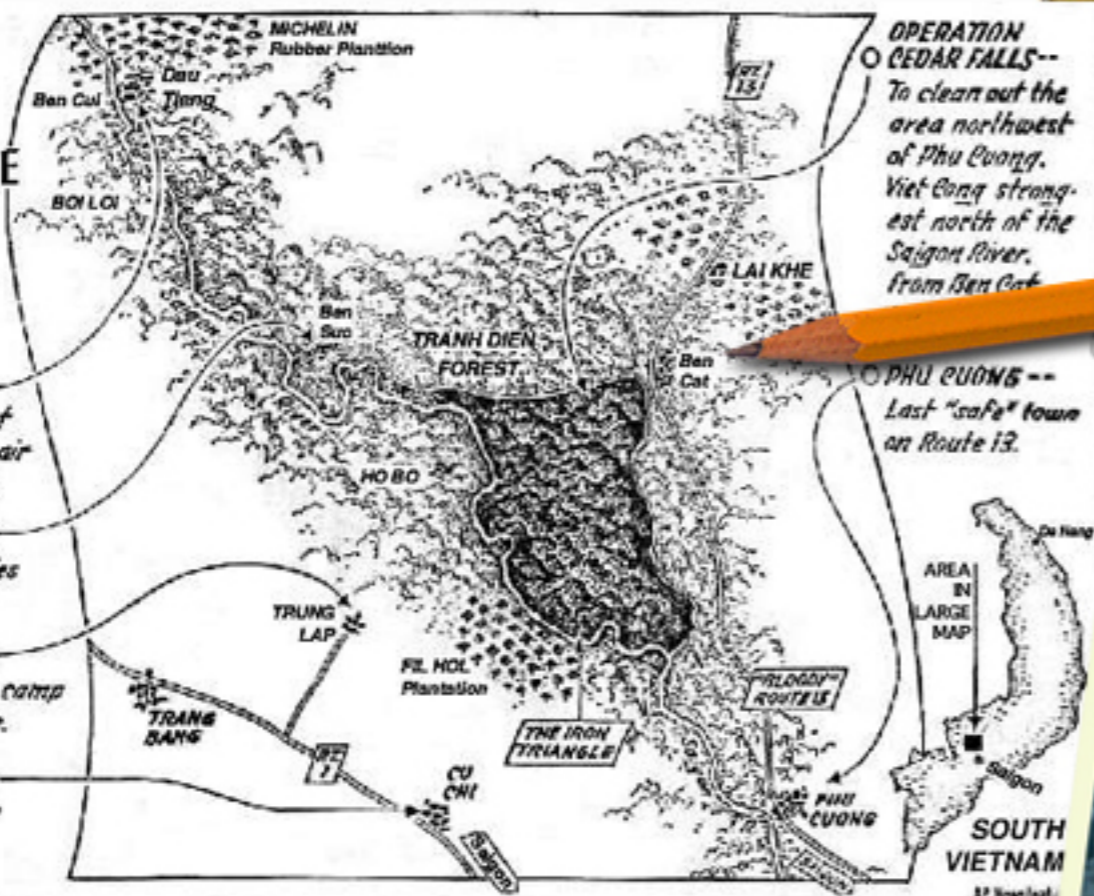
Rooting Out Viet Cong

DAU TIENG--
Held by allies but supplied only by air or river convoys.

BEN SUC--
Flattened by allies to foil VC.

TRUNG LAP--
Vietnamese army camp and Ranger base.

CU CHI--
Last "safe" town on Route 1.



OPERATION CEDAR FALLS--
To clean out the area northwest of Phu Cuong. Viet Cong strongest north of the Saigon River. From Ben Cat.

PHU CUONG--
Last "safe" town on Route 13.

SOUTH VIETNAM



620322 FARMGATE

TARGET: GUERILLA POSITIONS, SVN
DEFENSES: AAA, SMALL ARMS
BEST BAILOUT: OUT OF COMBAT AREA

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: 4400 OCTS, BIEN HOA AB, RVN
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER (2) B-26C
ORD LOADOUT: (4) BLU-27, (6) MK82, (4) LAU3, 50CAL
CALL SIGN: COWBOY


HEADING/DISTANCE TO TGT: 300 / 18 NM
ETD: 1830 TIME OVER TARGET: 1100
WEATHER BRIEF: BKN 1800 FT WINDS 3606G10 VIS 20 NM

HISTORY

It's not often that we have the actual orders to explain the mission. Your specific area of interest is in paragraph 4. Jungle Jim became Operation Farmgate in Vietnam. You were supposedly training the South Vietnamese but, in fact, were engaged in combat almost immediately.

GAMEPLAY

Taxi out behind Lead to depart. Join and follow him to the target area. Stay in loose formation until he drops first. Then hit the targets. Take your time then go back to Bien Hoa and land. Taxi out of the way. This is a Top Secret mission.

 You are a volunteer with 5000 hours.
Fly smart and get home.

October 13, 1961

TOP SECRET

NATIONAL SECURITY ACTION MEMORANDUM NO. 104

TO: THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Southeast Asia

The President on October 11, 1961, directed that the following actions be taken:

1. Make preparations for the publication of the white paper on North Vietnamese aggression against South Viet Nam which is now being drafted in the Department of State.
2. Develop plans for possible action in the Viet Nam ICC based upon the white paper, preliminary to possible action under paragraph 3 below.
3. Develop plans for presentation of the Viet Nam case in the United Nations.
4. Subject to agreement with the Government of Viet Nam which is now being sought, introduce the Air Force "Jungle Jim" Squadron into Viet Nam for the initial purpose of training Vietnamese forces.
5. Initiate guerrilla ground action, including use of U. S. advisers if necessary, against Communist aerial resupply missions in the Tchepone area.
6. General Taylor should undertake a mission to Saigon to explore ways in which assistance of all types might be more effective.

DECLASSIFIED
E. O. 11652, SEC. 3.3(e), 5.1(a), 5.2(a) AND 11
Committee Print of Pentagon Papers
BY H22 NARS DATE 7/15/77

TOP SECRET



621105 AIR COMMANDO

TARGET: GUERILLA POSITIONS, MEKONG DELTA, SVN
DEFENSES: AAA, SMALL ARMS
BEST BAILOUT: OUT OF COMBAT AREA

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: 1ST AIR COMMANDO SOC TRANG AB, RVN
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER (1) B-26C
ORD LOADOUT: (4) BLU-27, (6) MK82, (4) LAU3, 50CAL
CALL SIGN: COWBOY

HEADING/DISTANCE TO TGT: 260 / 14 NM
ETD: 1730 TIME OVER TARGET: 1745
WEATHER BRIEF: BKN 1800 FT WINDS 3606G10 VIS 20 NM



HISTORY

The B-26's were deployed from Bien Hoa to Pleiku in the central Highlands and Soc Trang in the Mekong Delta. These areas were hot from then until the end of the war.

As Jungle Jim became Farm Gate, the 4400 Combat Crew Training Squadron became the 1st Air Commandos and the plausible deniability began to melt away. These were American aircrews in combat against South Vietnamese rebels.



GAMEPLAY

Taxi ahead to the PSP runway and depart to the north. Follow your navigator down to the coast and look for campfires in the trees. Take your time and destroy all the targets.

Then return to Soc Trang. Use your landing lights to pick up the runway at landing. It's next to the village.



It's dark out there.
Just do your job and
return to land.



[MISSION NAME] 640216 Bloody Sunday over LAOS

TARGET: C-123 Provider
DEFENSES: none

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: Khe Phat Airfield
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER: (1) T-28D (VPAF)
ORD LOADOUT: 50 Cal.

CALLSIGN: Van Bay
HEADING/DISTANCE TO TGT: 0 / 27 NM
ETD: 09.57 TIME OVER TARGET: 10.10

WEATHER BRIEF: SCT 3000 FT WINDS 2702G03 VIS 25 NM

TOP SECRET



HISTORY

In 1960 a former RTAF (Royal Thai Air Force) T-28 pilots. Lieutenant Chert Saibory, defected in Laos.

Described by the US instructors as the "most aggressive" of all, he offered his services to commander Kong Le, but he was turned down. Remaining in Vientianne, Saibory joined the RLAF (Royal Lao Air Force).

Once General Phoumi returned to power he flew many combat sorties but was never promoted in rank. For unclear reasons, in September 1963 he decided to defect once more and during an airshow that was to be staged over Savannakhet he flew his T-28 away from the rest of formation, heading to North Vietnam.

Instead of commissioning him in their air force the North Vietnamese imprisoned Saibory. Several months later his T-28 was refurbished and serialled "963", in commemoration of the date when it was acquired.

The plane became the first operative fighter aircraft of the VPAF (Vietnam People's Air Force) and despite it was basically a trainer, it was used for different purposes, even as a night fighter.

On February 16 1964, while patrolling the border between Vietnam and Laos, pilots Nguyen Van Bay and Le Tien Phuoc shot down an US C-123 Provider, which is considered to be the very first American plane downed during the Vietnam War.

All but one crewman died in the impact and the circumstances and the exact location of the downing are still uncertain.



GAMEPLAY

Take off from Khe Phat airfield and follow all the waypoints, as you were performing a routine patrol flight. Once flying over the border between North Vietnam and Laos, in an area called Ban Raving, you will encounter a lonely C-123 Provider heading West. Take it down with your 50 Cal.



640519 PLAINE DE JARRES

TARGET: GUERRILLA POSITIONS, MEKONG DELTA, SVN
DEFENSES: AAA, SMALL ARMS
BEST BAILOUT: OUT OF COMBAT AREA

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: 15th TRS TAN SON NHUT AB, RVN
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER (1) RF-101C

CALL SIGN: DAGGER

HEADING/DISTANCE TO TGT: 345 / 330 NM
ETD: 0900 TIME OVER TARGET: 1000
WEATHER BRIEF: SCT 9000 FT WINDS 3606G10 VIS 20 NM



HISTORY

A right-wing coup overthrew the government of Laos in 1964. This provided the Communist Pathet Lao back into combat in the Plaine de Jarres of Northern Laos. The US responded by backing the government against them. The US needed to know the full extent of Soviet support and sent reconnaissance aircraft to the area. The flight was long and the target areas were poorly demarcated but the pilots were trained in finding objects on the ground. One of the first losses was an RF-101C from Tan Son Nhut Airbase at Saigon.



GAMEPLAY

You are Dagger Lead departing Saigon. Follow the navigation set in and rendezvous with Zebra tanker on the way to the area to be scouted.

Descend to 8000 ft for your first target at WP4, the Ben Ken Bridge, then on to Sam Neua at WP5 and finally to Ban Ban at WP6, before the long haul back to Saigon.

Look for signs of activity in the jungle. If the game alerts you to nearby enemies, that's the area. Go look.



It's long and...it's dangerous.



[MISSION NAME] 640802 Tonkin Gulf Incident (YAP version)

TARGET: P-4 PT Boats attacking USS Maddox

DEFENSES: 14.5 MM KPV
BEST BAILOUT: FEET WET

TOP SECRET

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: VF-53 CVA-14 Ticonderoga
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER: (2) F-8E Crusaders
ORD LOADOUT: (4) LAU-33A, 20MM

CALLSIGN: COWBOY
HEADING/DISTANCE TO TGT: 330 / 57 NM
ETD: 18.35 TIME OVER TARGET: 14.42

CONTROLLING AGENCY: RED CROWN
WEATHER BRIEF: SCT 4000 FT WINDS 3603G08 VIS 40 NM



HISTORY

In August 1964, intelligence reports indicated that the North Vietnamese were becoming increasingly nervous about the DeSoto (DeHaven Special Operations off Tsigta0) Patrols performed along their coasts, to probe defences and targets.

The American destroyer USS Maddox DD-731 was steaming off the coast on the morning of August 2 when its radars picked distant contacts. By mid-afternoon three Soviet made P-4 PT boats materialised in column. Maddox opened fire as the enemy boats closed in and the Communist PTs answered back. The 20-minute fight ended with all the P-4s damaged, while USS Maddox was hit by a single 14.5 mm round.

USS Ticonderoga F-8s answered the call for air support from the destroyer. VF-51 Cdr James Bond Stockdale and his wingman Lt(jg) Dick Hastings and Cdr Robair F Mohrhardt with number 2 Lt Cdr C Everett Southwick from VF-53 attacked the P-4s.

Stockdale and Hastings arrived first on the scene and fired Zuni rockets but both missed. When VF-53 Crusaders joined in Mohrhardt and Southwick strafed the PTs with 20mm cannons, leaving one boat smoking and eventually dead in the water.



GAMEPLAY

Take off from the Ticonderoga and head to the USS Maddox position to perform an anti-shipping attack against enemy PT Boats. Direct your wingman effectively. Engage and sink any enemy ship treating friendly forces, then return to the Tico to trap. Look for the Ball.

Formation flight. Flight discipline in picking targets the others don't hit. Getting back aboard ship.

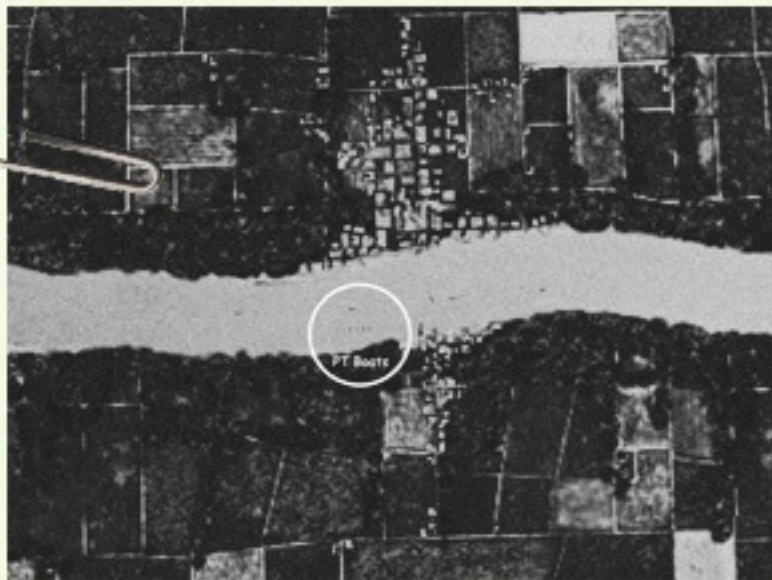


TOP SECRET

640803 QUANG KHE FERRY

TARGET: PT BOATS, BASE, PETROL STORAGE, QUANG KHE FERRY, NVH

TARGET PHOTO: 640803 RF-8C 5000 FT



DEFENSES: AAA UNKNOWN
BEST BAILOUT: EAST TO GULF

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: VA-55 USS TICONDEROGA/ YANKEE STATION
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER (4) A-4C
ORD LOADOUT: (2) LAU-61, (700 RDS) 20MM
CALL SIGN: MEMPHIS

HEADING/DISTANCE TO TGT: 227/32 NM
ETD: 0610
TANKER RENDEZVOUS: NA
TIME OVER TARGET: 0630

CONTROLLING AGENCY: RED CROWN
WEATHER BRIEF: BKN 6000 FT WINDS 36002G02 VIS 30 NM



HISTORY

In "retaliation" for an attack on US destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin, Johnson ordered a raid on all PT Boats and fuel supplies in an operation called Pierce Arrow. Crews hit Hong Gai near the Chinese border and that is where Alvarez was shot down. They hit the fuel depot at Vinh, the PT boats at Loc Chau and Ben Thuy near Vinh. The closest target to Yankee Station was Quang Khe. So it was hit first.



GAMEPLAY

Carrier launch at dawn. Climb on course and follow Lead. Watch for coastline on your radar. Boats should give off a nice radar return. Your target is the PT Boats moored across the river from the docks. They have guns. Take your time with your rockets. Don't get too low or they will get you. One pass, haul ass. They are serving steak on the carrier. Be sure you get home for it.

Carrier landing. Now don't you wish you had practiced?

You are a rookie, not a combat veteran. You have never killed anyone or had anyone try to kill you. Plus you and your Scooter live on a boat where you have to land. And for all that, it's just a one star mission.



SECRET/NOFORN

[MISSION NAME] 640805 HONG GAI RAID

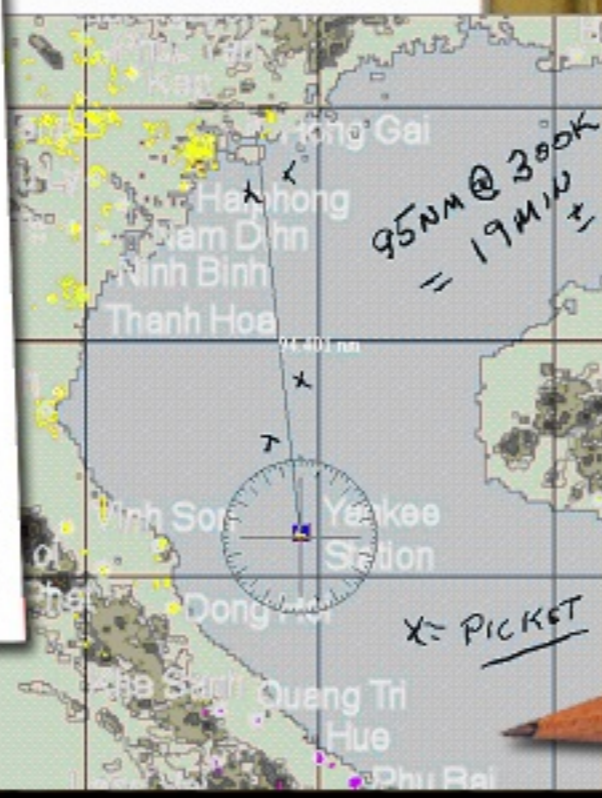
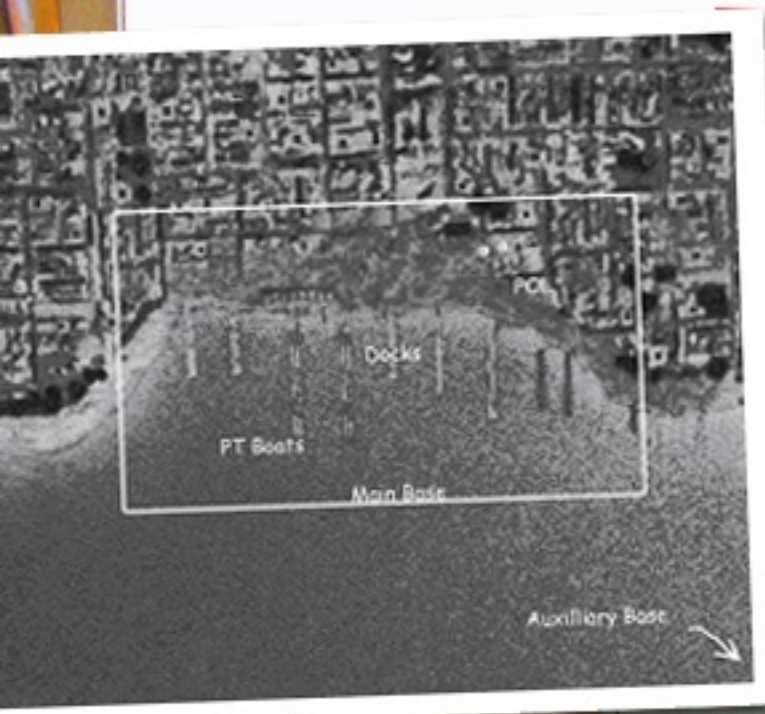
TARGET: PATROL BOAT MOORAGE AND DOCKS, HONG GAI, NVN
DEFENSES: 23MM, 57MM, 85MM
BEST BAILOUT: SOUTH FEET WET

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: VA-144, USS CONSTELLATION YANKEE STATION
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER (4) A-4C
ORD LOADOUT: (1) LAU-61B, 600 RND 20MM
CALL SIGN: KINGFISH

HEADING/DISTANCE TO TGT: 355/95 NM
ETD: 0730
TANKER RENDEZVOUS: NA
TIME OVER TARGET: 0800

CONTROLLING AGENCY: RED CROWN

WEATHER BRIEF: BKN 4500 FT WINDS 3603G05 CU VIS 30 NM
TARGET PHOTO: 640729 RF-8G 4000 FT



HISTORY

Every pilot that flew in combat in Vietnam knew the name Everett Alvarez. He was shot down and captured on the Hong Gai Raid, as part of Op Pierce Arrow on the first air strikes of the war. He was held prisoner from this day until the end of the war. He said that on the long flight he was shocked to realize he was actually going into battle. He survived to be the man who dedicated the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington DC in 1984.

They were briefed to avoid hitting Chinese territory which was adjacent to the base. When they arrived, the PT Boats were not in port but scattered around the Bay. Their searching for targets alerted gunners and the element of surprise evaporated. Nonetheless, they destroyed the boats and the petroleum supplies before returning to the ship.

Remember: Fighter pilots make movies; attack pilots make history. This is the first day of the longest war in American history.



GAMEPLAY

After launch and join up your flight will come starboard to a heading of 355 and climb above the clouds. At 300 knots it will take about 19 minutes to arrive over target. Use your radar to find the bay and the PT Boats. When you get there, the PT Boats aren't where you were told they would be. They are at the Alternate base to the ESE.

How do you get home?...the reciprocal heading is 175/95. The Constellation will show on your radar as will the picket ships. Keep it moving and you should survive if you have practiced your carrier landings.

This is a relatively simple mission if you can navigate and bomb from altitude. If you get low, you will not get home for dinner for the next 9 years.



[MISSION NAME] 640805 PIERCE ARROW

TARGET: BEN THUY/LOC CHAU PT BASES

DEFENSES: HEAVY AAA DEFENSE,
BEST BAILOUT: FEET WET TO EAST

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: VA-145
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER (4) A-1H SKYRAIDERS
CALL SIGN: LION

HEADING/DISTANCE BEN THUY: 275/ 49 NM
ETD: 0730
TIME OVER TARGET: 0800

CONTROLLING AGENCY: RED CROWN
WEATHER BRIEF: BKN 6000 FT WINDS 2702 VIS 30 NM

TARGET PHOTO: RF-8G 640726 0730 5000
TARGET PHOTO: USS PERCH (SS-313)

CONFIDENTIAL



HISTORY

You have flown both Quang Khe Ferry and Hong Gai Raid. These are the remaining targets hit on the first day of the war in Operation Pierce Arrow in retaliation for an attack on the destroyers Maddox and Turner Joy in the Tonkin Gulf. This is a full-on Alpha Strike and there is plenty to see.

While the A-4 Skyhawk was the Navy's new attack aircraft, the AD or A-1H Skyraider was its old one. Reliable and slow, it could carry a large bomb load over a long distance, take brutal punishment and get home to fight again.



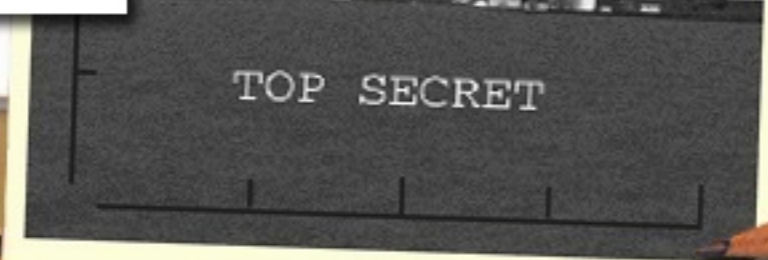
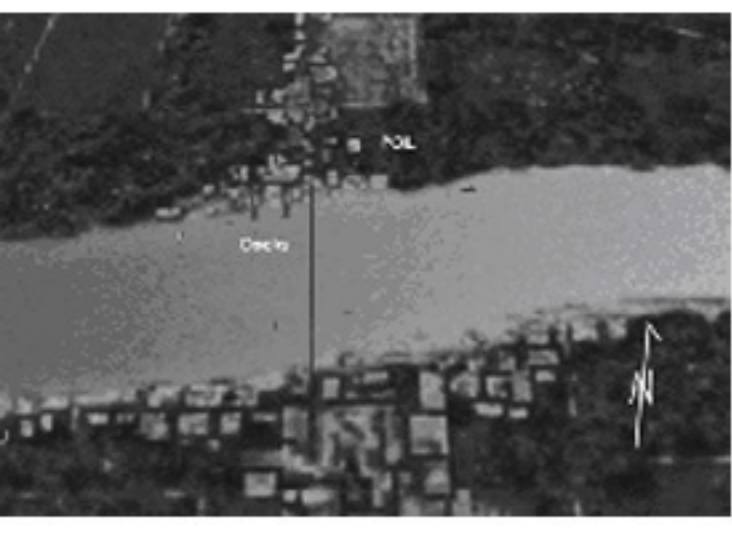
GAMEPLAY

You are Lion 4, the last flight over target at the Ben Thuy and Loc Chau PT bases and the Vinh Bridge. Upon the opening of the mission, you might pause the game to locate your flight.

Fall into position and proceed to the target and take it out. If it has been hit, pick something else. Keep your speed up and enjoy the fight.

You know it isn't fast but take it back to the carrier and land it. Imagine getting back aboard after your first combat mission, wishing for a jet but grateful for a Spad.

Simple but don't be careless in the target area.



[MISSION NAME] 640805 PIERCE ARROW BDA

CONFIDENTIAL

OBJECTIVE: PHOTO REC BEN THUY/LOC CHAU PT BASES

TARGET PHOTO: RF-8G 640726 0730 5000

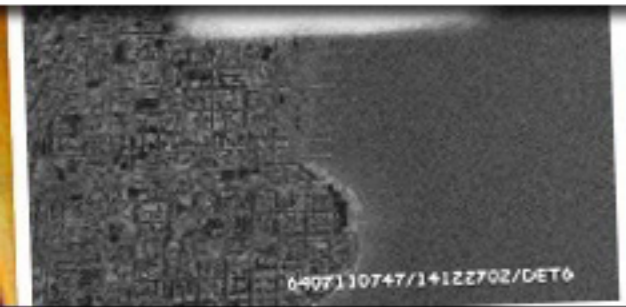
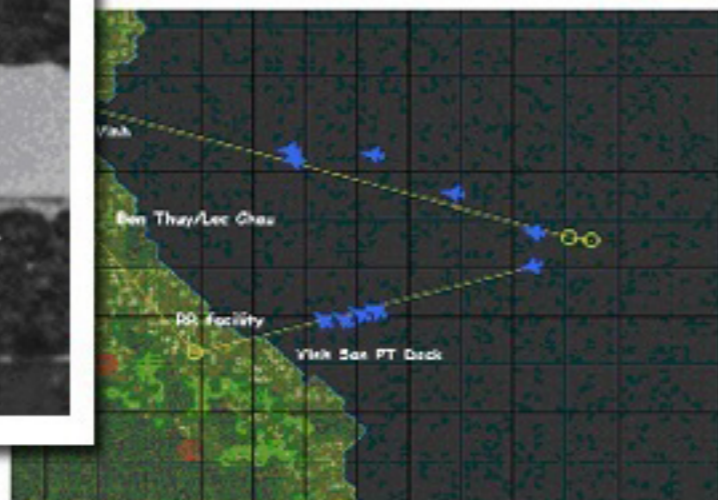
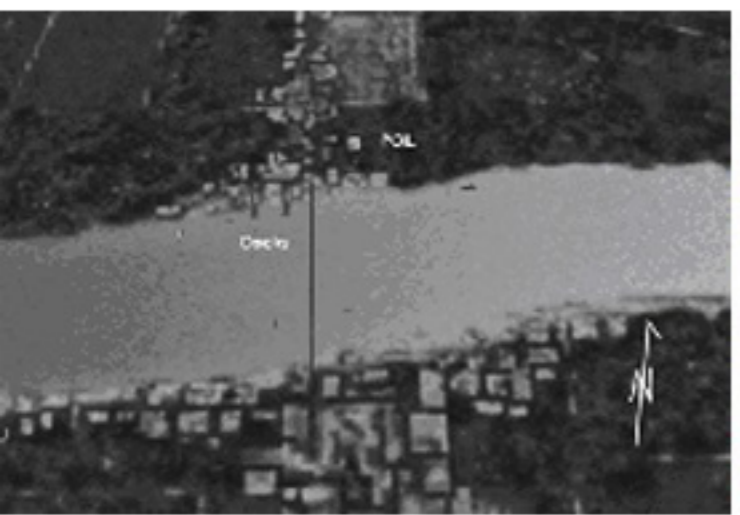
DEFENSES: HEAVY AAA DEFENSE,
BEST BAILOUT: FEET WET TO EAST

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: VFP-63 DET G
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER (1) RF-8G
CALL SIGN: VIPER

HEADING/DISTANCE BEN THUY: 275/ 49 NM
ETD: 0730
TIME OVER TARGET: 0800

HEADING/DISTANCE TO VINH: 280/53 NM
TIME OVER TARGET: 0815

CONTROLLING AGENCY: RED CROWN
WEATHER BRIEF: BKN 6000 FT WINDS 2702 VIS 30 NM



HISTORY

You have flown both Quang Khe Ferry and Hong Gai Raid. These are the remaining targets hit on the first day of the war in Operation Pierce Arrow in retaliation for an attack on the destroyers Maddox and Turner Joy in the Tonkin Gulf. This is a full-on Alpha Strike and there is plenty to see



GAMEPLAY

Recon pilots were not just flying photographers hitting spots on the maps. They were trained in visual aerial reconnaissance. Every flight always involved "taking a look" at something for Intel. Your mission is to look at the Vinh Son PT Base as well as a rail-road facility prior to post strike photos.

You're flying tail end to an Alpha Strike and there are two main targets you need to capture on film. The first is a bridge at Ben Thuy which is marked as your initial point. When you get there that bridge should be down. Get the shots, then head for your objective point, which is the Vinh Son PT base. Hopefully you can get some dramatic shots of the damage we expect to have inflicted, before high-tailing it back to the carrier with your precious film. Who knows, when this is all over, you may get a job photographing Audrey Hepburn in Hollywood.

Remember, they know you are coming. That's the part recon pilots hated and loved about their job.

This mission is relatively easy to fly but hard to complete. To enjoy it, you must try to do what the pilot did that day. You must look, think and take photos to be analyzed later, once you get back with the film. You have to put yourself at risk to gather vital information. Speed and skill is your defense. It has surprises. And more than any other mission, a successful landing is mandatory.



[MISSION NAME] 640908 Daggers in the night

TARGET: trucks along Ho Chi Minh Trail
DEFENSES: 51mm, small arms
BEST BAILOUT: South, out of combat area

TOP SECRET

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: 509th FIS Da Nang
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER: (2) F-102A Delta Dagger
ORD LOADOUT: (24) FFAR rockets, (6) AIM-4

CALLSIGN: DAGGER
HEADING/DISTANCE TO TGT: 180 / 80 NM
ETD: 20.00 TIME OVER TARGET: 20.15

CONTROLLING AGENCY: RED CROWN
WEATHER BRIEF: CLEAR 4000 FT WINDS 2702G03 VIS 30 NM



HISTORY

Universally known as the "Deuce", the F-102 Delta Dagger served in Vietnam flying mostly as a patrol fighter and bomber escort.

Initially, F-102 detachments began to be sent to Southeast Asia in 1962, after radar contacts detected by ground radars were thought to be North Vietnamese Il-28 "Beagle" bombers, considered to be a credible threat in that period.

Later on, the B-52 Stratofortress strike missions codenamed "Arc Light" were escorted by F-102s and it was during one of these missions that one of them was shot down by a North Vietnamese MiG-21, in 1968.

The Deuce was also employed in the air-to-ground role with limited success, although neither the aircraft nor its pilots were designed for that specific task.

The 509th Fighter Interceptor Squadron arrived at Da Nang Air Base the 4th of August 1964 from Clark Air Base, Philippines. The planes were equipped with 24 2.75 inches FFAR rockets in the fuselage bay doors, which could be used against various types of North Vietnamese targets in daylight.

At night it proved less dangerous to use heat-seeking Falcon missiles in conjunction with the F-102's nose-mounted IRST (Infrared Search & Track) on high risk raids along the Ho Chi Minh trail.

Delta Daggers armed with unguided rockets made several attacks on various Viet Cong encampments, and the heat-seeking air-to-air missiles were even used to lock onto enemy campfires. The plane demonstrated to be surprisingly effective and pilots often reported many secondary explosions coming from their targets



GAMEPLAY

Take off from Da Nang airbase and head North West following your waypoints. It will be extremely dark, so keep your lights flashing. You will then see some campfires and the lights of the trucks along the trail. They are your targets, try to eliminate as many as you can, then head home and land.



From Ambassador Taylor in Saigon to the State Dept 7 October 1964

In view of stand down on ground cross border operations and good possibility that ARVN will be unable afford detachment any significant ground combat capability for corridor in foreseeable future, air strikes are sole remaining dependable alternative.

Fixed targets will soon be destroyed if the RLAF performs as advertised and authorization received for Yankee Team strikes.

Saigon and Vientiane will further examine their assets and possibilities in this regard. Bangkok will explore availability and possibility of extending use of Thai assets in this connection.

There was also unanimous agreement that US participation in air operations in corridor is essential if such operations are to have desired military and psychological impact, particularly since initiative for operations came from us.

Although Vientiane believes Lao prepared to go ahead with strikes against first twelve targets authorized DEPTTEL 765 to Saigon, their initial enthusiasm may not survive loss of a few aircraft.

If so, if Lao do not hit those four targets for which US strikes are forbidden and are discouraged from strikes on Mu Gia Pass, many other targets in the corridor will go unscathed. These omissions will grossly diminish the military benefits of these bombings. The group thus hoped that Washington would reconsider present ban on RLAF attack on Mu Gia Pass and approve soonest Yankee Team strike on other targets.

Vientiane anticipates RLAF would initiate operations October 14. Affirmative decision re CAP prior to that date would be most helpful.

Vientiane does not expect RLG will initiate any publicity on strikes but will probably acknowledge RLAF operations in response to queries. Saigon and Bangkok will privately inform Khanh and Thanom prior to initiation operations. Vientiane will undertake keep Souvanna currently informed.



HISTORY

At left, the cable that started the bombing of the Ho Chi Minh Trail in neutral Laos. And, good to their work, the Laos struck on 14 OCTOBER 1964. The strike was near Mu Gia Pass at the town of Ban Phanop which became the most bombed area in the world.



GAMEPLAY

Depart Savanaket and join on Lead. Proceed to Mu Gia Pass and interdict the supply line at that point by attacking trucks or foot traffic.

Return to Savanaket.



★
Easy.
After this one, not so much.



[MISSION NAME] 641014 POST STRIKE

TOP SECRET

TARGET: BDA BAN PHANOP, LAOS



DEFENSES: UNKNOWN
BEST BAILOUT: WEST OF PASS, AWAY FROM TRAILS

CALL SIGN: COWBOY
TANKER RENDEZVOUS: POST STRIKE CALL SIGN: ZEBRA
CONTROLLING AGENCY: RED CROWN
WEATHER BRIEF: SCT WINDS 27001G03 VIS 30 NM



HISTORY

The first attack on the Communist supply lines into South Vietnam has just occurred. The resistance was insignificant but from that point on became increasingly lethal. And no prisoners were taken in Laos either.

After every strike, someone went to look. It was known a recon plane would be coming and the reception was always hot.



GAMEPLAY

Take off and head for the Mu Gia Pass flying North in an RF-101C of the 45th TRS from Tan Son Nhut airbase in Saigon.

At WP4 punch off your tanks, and turn to the target area.

Enter the pass from the North Vietnam side and fly down the trail to Ban Phanop and photograph the results of the strike.

Use the VertScope and fly straight and level to WP5. The straight down shots are what they want. Zebra tanker is in the area if your fuel is running down.

Upon landing, taxi to the man by the jeep and open your film bay. Well done.



A lot to do right, not much time to do it and no second chances.



[MISSION NAME] 641230 TCHEPONE BARRACKS

TOP SECRET

TARGET: MILITARY BARRACKS VCNTY TCHEPONE BRIDGE

DEFENSES: SMALL ARMS, 51 CAL
BEST BAILOUT: HIGH GROUND TO WEST

SQUADRON ASSIGNMENT: VA-145 CVA-64 YANKEE STATION
AIRCRAFT AND NUMBER (4) A-1H SKYRAIDERS
ORD LOADOUT: (12) MK82, (600 RND) 20MM

CALL SIGN: DAGGER
HEADING/DISTANCE TO TGT: 240/46 NM
ETD: 1500 TIME OVER TARGET: 1520
CONTROLLING AGENCY: RED CROWN
WEATHER BRIEF: BKN 12000 FT WINDS 3603G08 VIS 40 NM

TARGET PHOTO: RF-8G 641220



GAMEPLAY

Launch as Dagger off the Constellation in the early days of the war. Join up and fly across Vietnam to neutral Laos. Once on target and under the clouds, destroy the barracks. If you have the ordnance remaining, attack the supply convoy that is arriving, both trucks and bicycles.

You will have surprise on your side at first. As time passes, more shooters will get their guns. Keep your energy up and do not let the gunners track for long.

Then return with your flight to the carrier and land it.



HISTORY

The Joint Chiefs of Staff had a list of targets they wanted bombed right away. One of these was the North Vietnamese barracks in neutral Laos at a place named Tchepone. Everyone that flew in Vietnam has heard of the place where AAA was as deadly as that in Pack 6 and where the gunners were not just numerous but very accurate and very brave. This mission occurred before it was famous.

The bridge and airfield were already destroyed by the time of this attack.

Sometimes, Tchepone was the worst place to fight in the air.

Formation flight. Flight discipline in picking targets the others don't hit. Getting back aboard ship.

