

Monday, September 18, 1967

*Pres file*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

I asked the Situation Room to check out the North Vietnamese claim that they downed two aircraft yesterday. Information available in Washington is as follows:

One aircraft was downed on Sunday by a SAM in the vicinity of Haiphong. It was on a strike mission against the rail yard at Haiphong. The pilot was able to bail out over the sea and was rescued.

On Saturday, two reconnaissance aircraft were lost. One is listed as overdue and we have no information on why it went down. A second was downed by a SAM approximately 20 miles southwest of Hanoi. It was on a routine photography reconnaissance mission. No information is available on the crew.

W. W. Rostow