

A-7E 156860 VA-94, USN, USS *Coral Sea*
Cdr David L Moss (survived)

One of the first strikes of the new campaign almost resulted in the loss of yet another Navy A-7 squadron commander. Cdr Moss

was leading an Alpha Strike on a target in Haiphong and was approaching the city from the sea when a volley of SAMs was launched at the aircraft. All the aircraft started to take evasive action and Cdr Moss saw one missile streak overhead and another go underneath his aircraft, which was then rocked by an explosion. Due to the amount of large calibre AAA in the sky at the time, Cdr Moss was not sure if his aircraft had been hit by a missile or by flak. Whatever the cause the result was a loss of hydraulic pressure and a number of warning lights in the cockpit. Cdr Moss made for the open sea and managed to get close to a destroyer that had come to within 20 miles of the North Vietnamese coast on SAR duty. Although injured on ejection, he was picked up safely by the destroyer.