



Smithsonian  
*National Air and Space Museum*

George Allison Linebacker II Photograph Collection

2001

National Air and Space Museum Archives  
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## Collection Overview

<b>Repository:</b>	National Air and Space Museum Archives
<b>Title:</b>	George Allison Linebacker II Photograph Collection
<b>Identifier:</b>	NASM.XXXX.0568
<b>Date:</b>	1972-1973 (bulk December 1972)
<b>Extent:</b>	0.25 Cubic Feet ((8 folders))
<b>Creator:</b>	Allison, George B., Lt. Col.
<b>Language:</b>	English

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## Administrative Information

### Acquisition Information

George Allison, XXXX-0568

### Restrictions

No restrictions on access

### Conditions Governing Use

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## Biographical / Historical

Operation Linebacker II, the first strategic bombing attack by the U.S. after World War II, was the heaviest bombing campaign in history. Also known as the "Eleven-Day War," the attack set forth a continuous barrage of air raids that targeted various strategic points around Hanoi and Haiphong between December 18 and 29, 1972. Sites bombed included power plants, warehouses, and rail and ship yards. Surrounded by a defense of SAM-2 missile sites, the Hanoi and Haiphong areas were among the most heavily defended regions in the entire world at that time. The U.S. aircraft bomber employed during this attack was the Boeing B-52 Stratofortress, a long-range heavy bomber. Departing from both Andersen Air Force Base in Guam and U-Tapao Air Base in Thailand, the bombers succeeded in destroying eighty percent of North Vietnam's electrical power production. Following the attacks, reconnaissance aircraft were dispatched to gather information on damage that had resulted from the mission. Lt. Col. George B. Allison is a master navigator with more than 4,200 hours flying time, some 2,100 of which were in the B-52. He has nine years crew experience in bombardment aircraft and seven years staff experience in planning and instructing SAC bombing and navigation operations. He flew 76 B-52D combat missions in Southeast Asia from both U-Tapao Royal Thai Navy Airfield, Thailand, and Andersen Air Force Base, Guam. More

than one-half of these were as a crew radar navigator during the last three months of 1972. They included 20 missions against targets in North Vietnam, two of which were LINEBACKER II missions from Guam against Hanoi.

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## Scope and Contents

This collection contains 183 photographs gathered by Lt. Col. George B. Allison for his book *Linebacker II: A View from the Rock*. These photos (8x10," B&W) document the arrival, preparation (maintenance, refueling, bomb loading), takeoff and landing of Boeing B-52 Stratofortress aircraft at Andersen AFB. A small number of photographs also show the U-Tapao AB in Thailand. Other aircraft pictured in the collection are: the McDonnell Douglas F4 and Phantom II, the Boeing KC-135A Stratotanker, and the Republic F-105. Also included are photos of ground, maintenance, and flight crew members. Aerial photographs in the collection give views of the area around Hanoi, before and after bombing (including the "Hanoi Hilton" prison). In addition, there are photographs of maps of S.E. Asia showing targeted areas, South Vietnamese propaganda leaflets, and two "gag" photos of B-52s. Finally, there are seven photographs taken through an aircraft radarscope of an attack on a pair of B-52 bombers by a SAM.

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## General

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## Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

- Aeronautics
- Aeronautics, Military
- Boeing B-52 Stratofortress Family (Model 464)
- Boeing KC-135A Stratotanker
- McDonnell F-4 (F4H) Phantom II Family
- Republic F-105 Thunderchief Family
- Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975
- Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 -- Aerial operations
- Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 -- Aerial operations, American
- Vietnamese Conflict, 1961-1975 -- Operation Linebacker II

Types of Materials:

- Photographs

Names:

- Allison, George B., Lt. Col.

Preferred Titles:

- Linebacker II: A View from the Rock*