

NYT: It's Not New, It's a Long Term Trend

Description

I don't turn the TV on much, but last night late, I clicked on over to the Military Channel and they had a show on the Coast Guard in Combat in Vietnam. Good story, describing the development of their deployments and duties, early in the Me Cong Delta area, then later in the Rung Sat Special Zone.

How timely a bit of knowledge, given the [NYT feels compelled to disclose another National Security program](#) that is being used to keep their city from being attacked again. I maybe watch 20 minutes of TV a week, and there this story was when I fired up the tube....

One side light was about a [LORAN-C Navigation System](#) being put in place well from shore. The Chief Petty Officer who set it up was told it was to help with search and rescue efforts. The reality the Air Force had it put in so the bombers could more accurately bomb (stated as 50 YD error system). The project was named "[Operation Tight Reign](#)".

In 1965, a New York Times reporter visited the site, and later published an article saying the base was put in with the navigational system to support strategic bombing. The Chief's boss called to chew him out, but the Chief never had a clue that's what it was used for. It turns out someone in the Air Force, I believe at the Pentagon, leaked the information.

I think it's time for a new marketing slogan for the NYT:

The New York Times: Contributing to the loss of America lives for over 40 years!

Interesting side note from the Tight Reign history document (link above): The C-123 began it's life as a heavy assault glider. The engines were added later, but the design had no room for fuel tanks in the wings. All fuel was carried in external drop tanks...talk about re-use of engineering work!

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