

**DOCUMENT WITHDRAWAL RECORD [NIXON PROJECT]**

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DOCUMENT TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE OR CORRESPONDENTS	DATE	RESTRICTION
1	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01435	2/10/71	B
2	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01454	2/11/71	B
3	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01496	2/11/71	B
4	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01394	2/10/71	B
5	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01381	2/9/71	B

FILE GROUP TITLE

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL FILES ; VIETNAM SUBJECT FILES**

BOX NUMBER

80

FOLDER TITLE

VIETNAM OPERATIONS IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA VOL. I (FOLDER 2 OF 2) ①

RESTRICTION CODES

- A. Release would violate a Federal statute or Agency Policy.
- B. National security classified information.
- C. Pending or approved claim that release would violate an individual's rights.
- D. Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy or a libel of a living person.

- E. Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information.
- F. Release would disclose investigatory information compiled for law enforcement purposes.
- G. Withdrawn and return private and personal material.
- H. Withdrawn and returned non-historical material.

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6	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01347	2/9/71	B
7	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01338	2/8/71	B
8	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01311	2/8/71	B
9	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01302	2/7/71	B
10	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01270	2/7/71	B

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VIETNAM OPERATIONS IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA VOL. I (FOLDER 2 OF 2) <sup>(2)</sup>

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11	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01302	2/7/71	B
12	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01242	2/6/71	B
13	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01227	2/6/71	B
14	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01198	2/5/71	B
15	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01192	2/4/71	B

FILE GROUP TITLE

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FOLDER TITLE

VIETNAM OPERATIONS IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA VOL. I (FOLDER 2 OF 2) <sup>(3)</sup>

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16	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01159	2/4/71	B
17	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01136	2/3/71	B
18	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01523	2/12/71	B

FILE GROUP TITLE

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL FILES : VIETNAM SUBJECT FILES**

BOX NUMBER

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VIETNAM OPERATIONS IN LAOS + CAMBODIA VOL. I (FOLDER 2 of 2) <sup>(4)</sup>

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19	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01533	2/13/71	B
20	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01613	2/14/71	B
21	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01595	2/14/71	B
22	TELEGRAM	DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION MAC 01552	2/13/71	B

FILE GROUP TITLE

**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL FILES : VIETNAM SUBJECT FILES**

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FOLDER TITLE

VIETNAM OPERATIONS IN LAOS AND CAMBODIA VOL. I (FOLDER 2 OF 2) <sup>(5)</sup>

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NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS PROJECT  
DOCUMENT CONTROL RECORD

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# TOP SECRET

THIS IS A COVER SHEET

The information in this document is classified and as such will be treated according to OSD Security Instructions. Writing on this cover sheet is prohibited.

# TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

The following is a public affairs concept for Operation C. Its thrust is to accent to the maximum extent possible that this is a GVN operation. A further objective is to avoid focusing attention on any single specific objective, such as Tchepone.

The foregoing points should be stressed in discussions between U.S. and GVN officials so that everyone remains sync throughout, and that no extravagant claims or statements of objectives are made.

Here are specific suggested actions and words:

Sunday, 8 February Saigon Time

*— It is suggested that President Nixon issue statement 8 AM Saigon time or earlier*

A. On ~~8 February, Saigon time~~, the GVN would hold a ~~unilateral~~ <sup>earlier</sup> briefing with ~~U.S.~~ <sup>GVN</sup> participation. The spokesman would issue a statement <sup>Re: operation</sup>

along the following lines, without elaboration: *Felt necessary*

*Follow Press this announcement*

"Armed forces of the Republic of Vietnam today are conducting interdiction operations against sanctuaries in enemy occupied areas of Southern Laos.

"The purpose of these interdiction operations is to disrupt supply depots, base camps and lines of communications through which enemy materiel and forces have been moving to threaten Military Region I in the RVN.

"Another objective of the operation -- called (insert Vietnamese name to distinguish from joint GVN-US operations to date) is to prevent the establishment of additional sanctuary areas further south.

"Successful interdiction of this supply route will enhance the safety and security of the RVN as the United States prepares to withdraw additional thousands of its personnel as part of the Vietnamization program.

TOP SECRET

"Full details of this operation cannot be made public at this time for security reasons, but it can be reported that more than \_\_\_\_\_,000 ARVN ground forces, supported by VNAF and U.S. air activities, are involved. No U.S. ground forces or advisors are involved.

\*

"The GVN intends to provide additional information about RVNAF actions and to provide access for members of the press as the security situation permits."

*W/ Release the following statement to*  
B. As soon as <sup>The</sup> ~~the~~ statement is issued, MACV will be queried and <sup>By P-1 of GVN Spokesman</sup> ~~should advise U.S. newsmen, that it will have a statement in one or two hours.~~

*20 min after*  
The initial MACV statement, which <sup>should come within 20 min</sup> ~~would come one or two hours~~ after initial wire service and radio reports of the GVN announcement, <sup>should be</sup> ~~would be along these lines and there should be no elaboration:~~

"The Republic of Vietnam has announced earlier today that its ground and air forces are involved in interdiction operations against enemy occupied sanctuary areas in Southern Laos.

"No U.S. ground combat forces are or will be involved, and no U.S. advisors are or will be with ARVN ground combat units.

*whatever* "The U.S. will, of course, provide <sup>air combat and</sup> ~~certain supplementary~~ <sup>requirements</sup> ~~air combat, and~~ air logistics support <sup>and MODVAC</sup> to augment the capabilities of the RVNAF.

*Including Fixed wing and helicopters*  
\*THIEU STATEMENT MIGHT WELL BE ISSUED SIMULTANEOUSLY

TOP SECRET

~~By any suggestion or comment on the content~~  
3 ~~ASAP~~

"U.S. ground force units in Military Region I of South Vietnam continue in a high state of alert in defensive and blocking positions within the Republic of Vietnam.

"We anticipate that most of the news concerning operations against sanctuary areas in enemy held territory in Southern Laos will come from the GVN.

"Details will be provided by MACV concerning the U.S. supplementary air support which has the objectives of helping to protect the lives of U.S. military personnel in South Vietnam, enhancing Vietnamization, and facilitating an environment in which thousands of additional Americans can be returned home from Vietnam.

"At this time, MACV ~~has no~~ <sup>will provide</sup> additional details ~~which can be provided.~~

*when available and consistent with security.*

Sunday Night, D.C. Time

DAN HEUKIN

A. ~~The Secretary of Defense~~ issues the following prepared statement.

All other U.S. officials remain silent. The proposed statement follows:

"United States air power is being used to supplement the Air Force of the Republic of Vietnam in providing support to South Vietnamese ground forces now operating against enemy occupied sanctuaries in Southern Laos.

"Secretary of State Rogers and ~~#~~ <sup>sect. JAIRD</sup> have stated that the United States would provide air support when it would contribute to the security and safety of American military men in South Vietnam as we continue to withdraw thousands of additional Americans from Vietnam.

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

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"I want to emphasize that no U.S. ground combat personnel <sup>OR Advisors</sup> ~~present~~ will be involved. Ground operations are being conducted exclusively by forces of the Republic of Vietnam.

*sect. 7A11d*

<sup>HWA</sup> authorized the use of U.S. air support to the Vietnamese forces because <sup>HWA</sup> deemed ~~it~~ essential to help protect our men in South Vietnam and to prevent the continued buildup of enemy sanctuaries from which our men could be threatened in the weeks and months ahead. <sup>we</sup> want to inform the American public on three crucial points:

"(1) The U.S. will not become bogged down in another land war in Southeast Asia.

"(2) U.S. withdrawals will continue.

"(3) Some 50,000 Americans, some of them now deployed in Military Region I in the Northern part of South Vietnam, will be coming home before May 1.

*Hold for later use*

"The fact that the forces of the Republic of Vietnam are able to launch this operation at the same time that they are conducting other operations against other enemy sanctuaries elsewhere shows that Vietnamization is working and that it will be possible for the United States to disengage expeditiously and completely from ground combat responsibility inside South Vietnam."

Monday Afternoon, Saigon Time

A. GVN briefer adds whatever details he can at regular 4:30 daily news session. U.S. briefer comes in behind with supplementary details, presented in as low key a manner as possible -- the object being to underscore the fact that this is a GVN operation.

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

5

Monday Morning, Washington Time

A. Secretary Laird meets briefly in Executive Session with the Senate Armed Services Committee. Following this, he comes out into the hall and meets with newsmen and gives to them a three or four sentence summary statement presented to the Committee in its session. The Secretary declines to answer questions, except to repeat and repeat the fact that this is an ARVN operation and that some of the questions obviously need to be referred to Minister Vy.

Fulbright Appearance

A. A decision needs to be made as to the timing of a closed session appearance before Fulbright by Secretary Rogers and/or Secretary Laird.

Subsequent to this appearance, Secretary Rogers could go on the "Today Show" or the CBS news morning show (thought should be given to either the Secretary of State or the Secretary of Defense appearing on one of the Sunday shows.)

NOTE: This rough plan obviously will need refinement and as always there will be a need for flexibility -- for instance, the expression by Mr. Ziegler at the appropriate time of Presidential approval of the actions underway.

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NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS PROJECT  
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*OIA*

*Special file @ close hold*

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T O P S E C R E T

CJCS

ADV DISTR CJCS NMCC FILE(1)

( )

DE RUMUHTA #9257 0421300

ZNY AAAAA

Z 111220Z FEB 71 ZFF3

FM COMUSMACV

TO RUEKJCS/JCS

RUHHHQA/CINCPAC

RUHHBRA/CINCPACFLT

RUHGAAA/COMSEVENTHFLT

RUMUGKA/COMNAVFORV

RUMFRBA/CTF 77

RUHGOSA/CTG 77,0

RUMMRSA/COMMANDER SEVENTH AF

BT

T O P S E C R E T SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR ADM MOORER, ADM MCCAIN, ADM CLAREY, VADM WEISNERN VADM KING, VADM BARDSHARN RADM COOPER, GEN CLAY FROM GEN ABRAMS, DELIVER IMMEDIATELY;

SOG 0507/JPCCO/JOPREP JIFFY/MACSOG/OPREP-5/001/SPRUCE GUM/NEWPORT CASINO/MISSION STAT SUM/11 FEB 71,

A, COMUSMACV 080130Z

M NARRATIVE: PTF5 DEPARTED DANANG AT 101000Z AND PROCEEDED

ALONG TRACK, AT 101800Z PTF5 PASSED NORTH OF HON GIO ISLAND AND

CSA	
CSAF	
CNO	
CMC	
DJS	
J-3	<i>Act</i>
J-5	
J-2	
SecDef	
DepSec	
ISA	
WH	
State	
CIA	
01	OIC
02	OLD
01A	OIE
01B	OLF

TURNED SOUTH TO KOMMENCE AREA PATROL, AT 101830Z RADAR CON-

PAGE 2 RUMUHTA9257 T O P S E C R E T SPECAT EXCLUSIVE  
TACT WAS ESTABLISHED WITH ONE TARGET, TWO PTF'S VECTORED IN ON  
ONE TARGET, WHEN VISUAL CONTACT ESTABLISHED AT 101850Z  
VIC 17-51 N 106-30 E TWO JUNKS WERE SIGHTED, PTF'S SPLIT TO ENGAGE  
JUNKS. FIRST JUNK, CARGO JUNK, ENGAGED 101905Z, PTF FIRED SHOT  
ACROSS BOW AND JUNK INCREASED SPEED AND ATTEMPTED TO EVADE,  
PTF TOOK JUNK UNDER FIRE, SECONDARY EXPLOSION AND FIRE  
OBSERVED AS JUNK PROCEEDED TO BEACH, SHALLOW WATER AND NEW  
CONTACT, TL-15 COASTAL CRAFT OUT OF HAIPHONG PORT, CAUSED  
PTF TO BREAK CONTACT, SECOND JUNK, CARGO JUNK, ENGAGED  
101908Z, WARNING SHOT FIRED AND JUNK ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE,  
JUNK WAS ENGAGED AND CEASED EVASION EFFORTS, PTF  
MANEUVERED ALONG SIDE AND BOARDED VESSEL. JUNKS SEARCHED  
AT 101925Z, AND SIX PRISONERS AND ONE KILO DOCUMENTS WERE  
SEIZED, DEMOLITION CHARGE WAS PLACED, AND DETONATED AT  
101957Z, JUNK HAD ONE MOTOR AND 2 SAILS WITH IDENTIFICATION  
NUMBER T010, RADAR CONTACT ESTABLISHED WITH NEW TARGET AT  
101940Z VIC 17-50 N 106-30 E, ONE PTF ENGAGED A STEEL HULL  
MOTORIZED CRAFT, TL-15 COASTAL CRAFT, AND FIRED SHOT ACROSS  
BOW, THE CRAFT ATTEMPTED TO EVADE AND WAS TAKEN UNDER FIRE,  
THREE LARGE SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS WERE OBSERVED WITH RESULTANT

PAGE 3 RUMUHTA9257 T O P S E C R E T SPECAT EXCLUSIVE  
FIRE, THE FIRE SUBSIDED AND VESSEL WAS BOARDED AT 102000Z, NO  
LIVING CREW MEMBERS WERE OBSERVED, HOWEVER, SEVERAL CHARRED  
BODIES WERE SEEN, KARGO BOXES WERE STACKED ON DECK AND COVERED

WITH TARPS, DEMOLITION CHARGE WAS PLANTED AND DETONATED  
AT 102007Z, TWO INJURED CREW MEMBERS WERE RECOVERED FROM  
WATER ALONG WITH 2 RING TYPE PRESERVERS IDENTIFYING CRAFT  
AS "AIPHONG TL-15", CRAFT WAS OBSERVED SINKING BY STERN, PTF  
OBSERVED GUN FLASHES FROM THE VIC XE570/576 AT 102010Z, EVALUATED  
AS PROBABLE AAA SITE, NO BURSTS WERE OBSERVED BY PTFs,  
AT 102100Z A LARGE VESSEL, SLAR TYPE TRAWLER SHOWING LIGHTS WAS  
OBSERVED IC 17-48 N 106-29E, THREE PTFs ENGAGED TARGET AND  
IDENTIFIED IT AS SL-4 TYPE TRAWLER WITH CHINESE CHARACTERS AND A  
NVN FLAG PAINTED ON STACK, COERED GUN COUNTS WERE OBSERVED  
ON SECOND PASS AND WARNING SHOTS WERE FIRED ACROSS THE BOW,  
TRAWLER ATTEMPTED TO EVADE AND WAS TAKEN UNDER FIRE, CREW  
MEMBERS WERE OBSERVED ON DECK IN DARK UNIFORMS, GR BLACK  
PAJAMAS, TRAWLER RETURNED FIRE AND LIGHT SIGNALS WERE  
OBSERVED BETWEEN TRAWLER AND BEACH AT APPROX XE583/584,  
TRAWLER ENTERED SHALLOW WATER AND ONE PTF CONTINUED ENGAGEMENT,  
HITS WERE OBSERVED ON SUPERSTRUCTURE AND HULL, PTF CONTINUED

PAGE 4 RUMUHTA9257 T O P S E C R E T SPECAT EXCLUSIVE  
TO CIRCULARAWLER UNTIL DECREASING WATER DEPTH FORCED  
PTF WITHDRAWAL, TRAWLER ENTERED CUA GIANG RIER AND ESCAPED  
AT 102110Z, GUN FLASHES FROM SHORE WERE STILL OBSERVED SO PTFs  
DEPARTED AREA NO FURTHER TARGETS WERE OBSERVED AND PTFs  
SECURED PATROL AT 102300Z AND PROCEEDED TO RETURN TO DANANG  
ARRIVING AT 110245M PRISONERS WERE ISOLATED AND REMAIN UNDER  
N CONTROL,  
N, STATISTICAL DATA  
N1, COMBAT

NO/TYPE BOAT

TYPE MISSION

3 PTFs

COASTAL INTERDICTION

N1(A) TDA (TARGET DAMAGE ASSESSMENT) RESULTS

DESCRIPTION	DESTROY	DAMAGE	CAPTURED
KUNKS	1	1	0
COASTAL SHIPPING	1	1	0
SECONDARY FIRES/EPLOSIONS		4	
PRISONERS			

KE WOUNDED)

N2, BOAT LOSS/DAMAGE: NONE

N3, PERSONNEL CASUALTIES: NONE FRIENDLY

Z, REMARKS

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Z1, DUE TO THE EXPENDITURE OF AMMUNITION IN THE EXECUTION OF OPERATION NEWPORT CASINO INSUFFICIENT AMMUNITION REMAINED FOR THE CONDUCT OF OPERATION SPRUCE G,

Z2, UPON COMPLETION OF DETAILED DEBRIEFING PRISONER INTERROGATION AND DOCUMENT EVALUATION, ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE FORWARDED AS AVAILABLE,

GP-1

BT

#9257

ANNOTES

REQ DISTR INSTRUCTIONS

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