DOCUMENT WITHDRAWAL RECORD (NIXON PROJECT)

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DOCUMENT TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE OR CORRESPONDENTS	DATE	RESTRICTION
1	Memo w/attach	Laird to Kissinger MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/10585 SANITIZED ~~DECLASSIFIED~~ per Itr 1/12/2012	18 Mar 1971	B
2	Memo w/attach	Laird to Kissinger MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/10586 SANITIZED ~~DECLASSIFIED~~ per Itr 1/12/2012	15 Mar 1971	B
~~3~~	~~Report~~	~~Order of Battle~~ MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/10587 DECLASSIFIED per Itr 12/13/2011	~~'71 Mar 18~~	~~B~~
4	Memo	Kissinger to the President MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/10588	February 24, 1971	B
5	Memo	Kissinger to the President MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/1974 SANITIZED 33(b)(1); 7/1/2010 SANITIZED per RAC 2006/06/13	February 26, 1971	B
~~6~~	~~Memo~~	~~Kissinger to the President~~ MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/10589 DECLASSIFIED per Itr 12/13/2011	~~February 25, 1971~~	B
~~7~~	~~Telegram~~	~~Gen Abrams to Adm Moorer~~ MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/10590 DECLASSIFIED per Itr 12/13/2011	~~28 Feb 71~~	~~B~~

FILE GROUP TITLE

National Security Council, Vietnam Subject Files

BOX NUMBER

82

FOLDER TITLE

2

VIETNAM Operations in Laos and Cambodia Vol. V (Folder 2 of 3)

1

RESTRICTION CODES

A. Release would violate a Federal statute or Agency Policy.
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E. Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information.
F. Release would disclose investigatory information compiled for law enforcement purposes.
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DOCUMENT WITHDRAWAL RECORD (NIXON PROJECT)

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DOCUMENT TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE OR CORRESPONDENTS	DATE	RESTRICTION
8	Note	Gen Al Haig MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/10591 SANITIZED per ltr 1/12/2012 (b)(3): 10 USC 424; 3.3(b)(1)	4 March	B
9	Report	Laird to Kissinger MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/10592 SANITIZED per ltr 10/27/2011 3.3(b)(1); 5 USC 55(b)(3); 10 USC 424	11 Mar 1971	B
10	Report	Laird to Kissinger MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/10593 SANITIZED per ltr 10/27/201 3.3(b)(1); 5 USC 55(b)(3); 10 USC 424	10 Mar 1971	B
11	Report	Laird to Kissinger MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/10594 SANITIZED per ltr 10/27/2011 3.3(b)(1); 5 USC 55(b)(3); 10 USC 424	9 Mar 1971	B
12	Memo	Laird to Kissinger MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/10595 SANITIZED per ltr 10/27/2011 3.3(b)(1); 5 USC 55(b)(3); 10 USC 424	8 Mar 1971	B
13	Memo	Kissinger to the President MANDATORY REVIEW REQUEST NLN 06-51/10596 SANITIZED per RAC 2008/06/13	February 26, 1971	B

FILE GROUP TITLE

National Security Council, Vietnam Subject Files

BOX NUMBER

82

FOLDER TITLE

[2] VIETNAM Operations in Laos and Cambodia Vol. V (Folder 2 of 3) (2)

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DOCUMENT WITHDRAWAL RECORD (NIXON PROJECT)

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DOCUMENT TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE OR CORRESPONDENTS	DATE	RESTRICTION
1	Memo w/attach	Laird to Kissinger	18 Mar 1971	B
2	Memo w/attach	Laird to Kissinger	15 Mar 1971	B
3	Report	Order of Battle	'71 Mar 18	B
4	Memo	Kissinger to the President	February 24, 1971	B
5	Memo	Kissinger to the President SANITIZED per NLC 2008/06/13	February 26, 1971	B
6	Memo	Kissinger to the President	February 25, 1971	B
7	Telegram	Gen Abrams to Adm Moorer	28 Feb 71	B

FILE GROUP TITLE

National Security Council, Vietnam Subject Files

BOX NUMBER

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FOLDER TITLE

VIETNAM Operations in Laos and Cambodia Vol. V (Folder 2 of 3) (1)

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DOCUMENT WITHDRAWAL RECORD (NIXON PROJECT)

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DOCUMENT TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE OR CORRESPONDENTS	DATE	RESTRICTION
8	Note	Gen Al Haig	4 March	B
9	Report	Laird to Kissinger	11 Mar 1971	B
10	Report	Laird to Kissinger	10 Mar 1971	B
11	Report	Laird to Kissinger	9 Mar 1971	B
12	Memo	Laird to Kissinger	8 Mar 1971	B
13	Memo	Kissinger to the President SANITIZED per NAC 2006/06/13	February 26, 1971	B

FILE GROUP TITLE

National Security Council, Vietnam Subject Files

BOX NUMBER

82

FOLDER TITLE

VIETNAM Operations in Laos and Cambodia Vol. V (Folder 2 of 3) (2)

RESTRICTION CODES

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C. Pending or approved claim that release would violate an individual's rights.
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[82/2/1]

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LATIMER
HAIG
HERVE
KENNEDY
Hirschfeld

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

16 MAR 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

Subject: Status Report on Operations in Laos

1. (C) Reference is made to your memorandum, dated 11 February 1971, subject as above.

2. (C) In accordance with your request, the 1600 hour daily report is attached as Enclosure 1. A weather forecast covering particular areas of interest in Southeast Asia has been added as Enclosure 2.

2 Encls
a/s

'71 MAR 16 PM 4:30
WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Section 3.5
NLN 06-51/10585 per Ltr 1/12/2012; per Sec. 3.3(b)(3)
By NARA, Date 4/27/2012
[1 of 11]

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16 March 1971

Subject: Operation LAMSON 719

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 150800-160800 GMT March (151600-161600 Saigon time, 150300-160300 EST) March 1971.

2. (TS) Summary of Current Situation:

a. Combat activity remained light except for the attacks by fire at Khe Sanh and FSB LOLO. The Khe Sanh Base received approximately 186 rounds of mixed 122-mm rocket and artillery fire causing light casualties and resulting in minor damage to 10 helicopters (all are flyable) and four trucks. FSB LOLO was evacuated at 0900 hours (EST), 15 March, following an attack by fire; the 1st ARVN Infantry Regimental Command Post, and the 3d Battalion, moved southeast 3 1/2 miles to the high ground. Results of the FSB LOLO attack were four 105-mm howitzers and one 155-mm howitzer damaged beyond use by enemy fire and three 155-mm howitzers were destroyed in place by ARVN.

b. There were 20 enemy contacts and attacks by fire during the period, resulting in 204 enemy killed, while friendly forces lost 14 KIA (five US) and 37 WIA (24 US). In a ground action, elements of the 2d Battalion, 2d ARVN Infantry, received 120 rounds of 82-mm mortar fire, and engaged an unknown-size enemy force, killing 15 enemy and capturing five individual weapons. One ARVN was killed.

c. In search operations in three different areas, elements of the 2d Regiment found an enemy complex of 200 bunkers, 38 enemy KBA, 10 tons of (copper/tin) wire, nine switchboards, five crew-served weapon barrels, and two crew-served weapons. Three hundred 55 gallon drums of POL, 230 barracks, and 30 tons of rice were destroyed by airstrikes.

d. Air cavalry elements received automatic weapons fire and engaged the area with gunships and observed 15 large secondary explosions and a large flame which burned for 1 1/2 hours. Tactical air and artillery were employed in the same area and an additional 26 secondary explosions were observed.

e. 2d Battalion, 2d ARVN Infantry Regiment, continues to attack south, lead elements are approximately 3/4 of a mile from Route 914.

f. The 3d ARVN Regimental Command Post, one engineer company, and the 4th Battalion, 3d Regiment, moved from field locations in Laos to Khe Sanh.

DOD 06-51/105855 D20117

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3. (TS) Plans for Future Operations:

a. The 101st Airborne Division: No change in future plans since previous report.

b. RVNAF forces will continue operations in assigned areas in RVN and Laos. Priority effort will be towards search operations.

(1) 1st Infantry Division:

(a) 1st Infantry Regiment: 3/1 and 4/1 Infantry Battalions continue moving from FSB LOLO to secure high ground between LOLO and LZ BROWN. 1/1 and 2/1 Infantry will screen this movement and conduct searches in the vicinity of their night defensive positions.

(b) 2d Infantry Regiment: 2/2 Infantry Battalion will attack into Objective CUA VIET, reinforced by 3/2 and 4/2 Infantry Battalions, if required. 5/2 Infantry Battalion secures LZ BROWN and LZ SOPHIA EAST. 1/2 Infantry Battalion continues security mission in the vicinity of Khe Sanh.

(c) 3d Infantry Regiment: 1/3 Infantry Battalion secures FSB DELTA ONE and will pass to operational control of the 2d Infantry Regiment.

(2) 1st Airborne Division:

(a) 1st Airborne Brigade will continue search operations in the area north and northeast of FSB ALOUI.

(b) 2d Airborne Brigade: 5th Airborne Battalion attacks to the west in an area 1 1/2 nautical miles north of Route 9. The 4th Composite Tank Battalion continues to secure Route 9. The remainder of the Brigade will conduct company-size operations in area and secure FSB BRAVO.

(c) Armored Task Force will conduct search operations west of FSB ALOUI and security of Route 9.

(3) Vietnamese Marine Division:

(a) 147th Marine Brigade: The 4th and 7th VNMC Battalions will continue to attack toward the south and the 2d Battalion will secure FSB DELTA.

(b) 258th Marine Brigade will conduct reconnaissance operations in force in the vicinity of Objective BARVO.

[NWD 00-51/10585 P 30611]

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(c) 369th Marine Brigade will conduct security operations south of Khe Sanh and one company will conduct reconnaissance in the vicinity of LZ VIC.

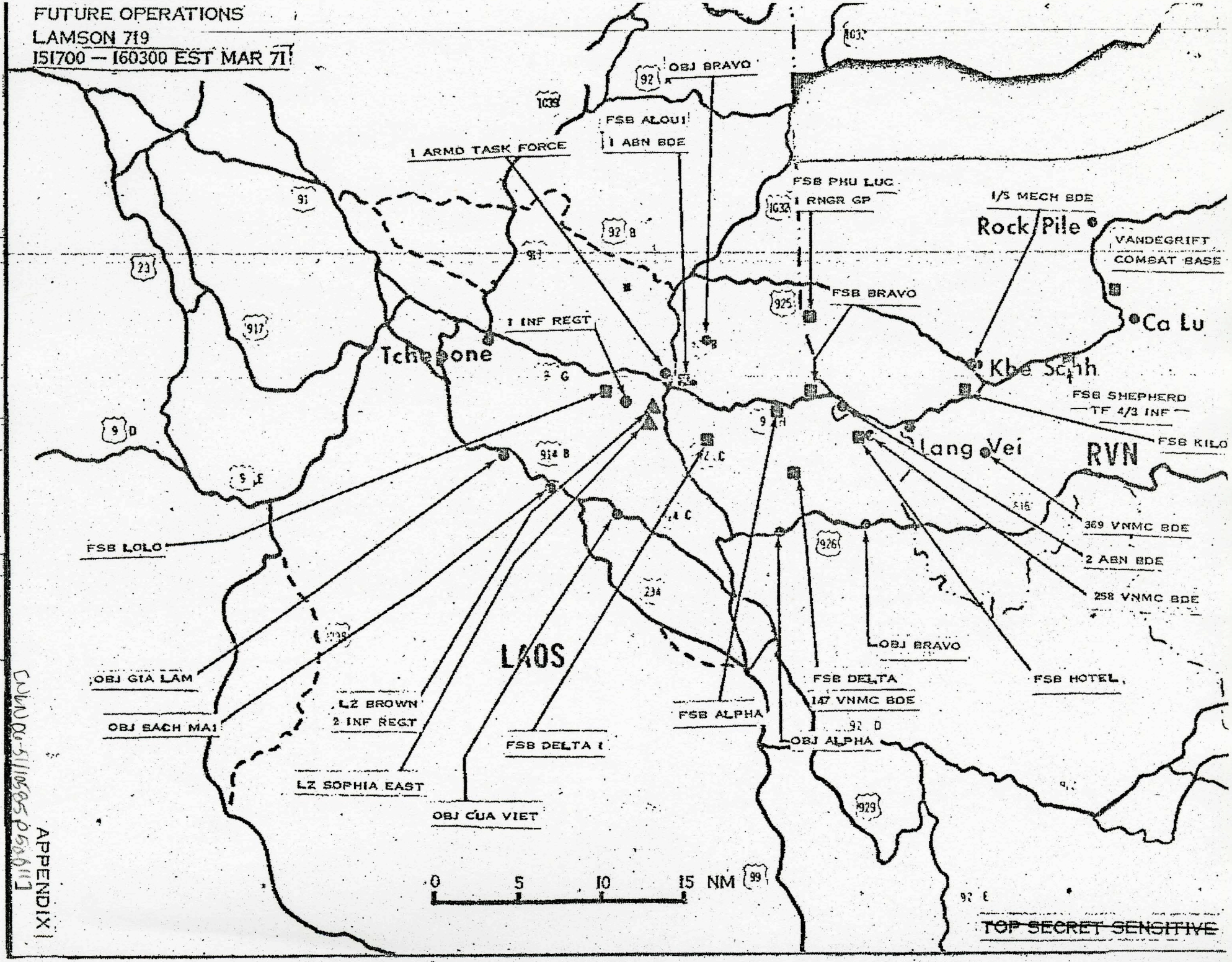
(4) 1st Ranger Group will continue reconnaissance and security operations in vicinity of night defensive positions.

c. Engineer effort: No changes in plans from previous report.

Attachments
1. Map
2. DIA Assessment

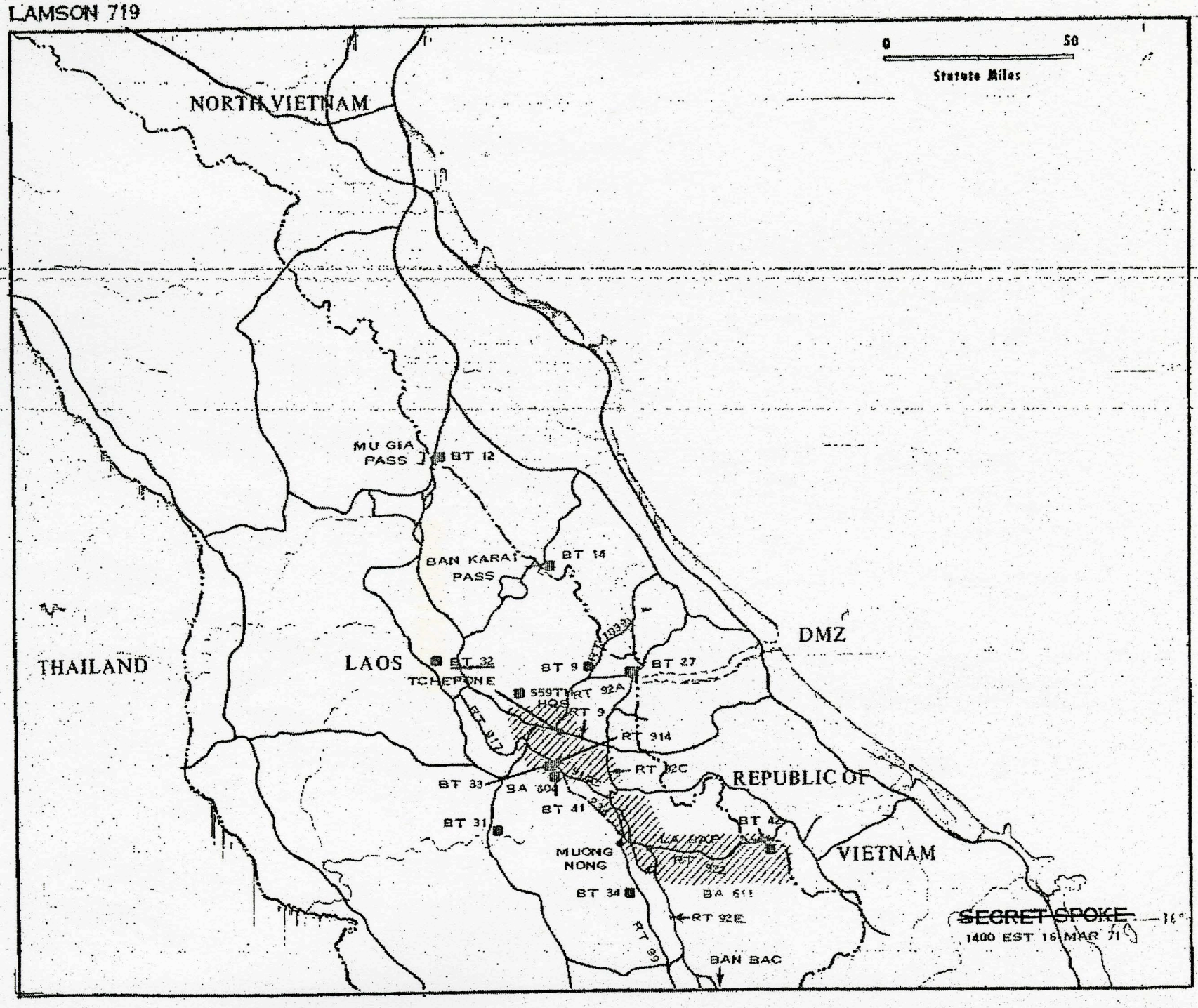
[NCNO 00-51/10585 p 406 11]

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LAMSON 719



DNWOD-51/10585 pg 9/17

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DIA INTELLIGENCE APPRAISAL

Enemy Reactions to Operation LAMSON 719 (U)

1. (S) There have been no major enemy unit relocations and the threat to friendly forces is unchanged.

2. (SS) The enemy continued his attacks on Allied rear area resupply bases on 15 March when 186 rounds of mixed 122-mm rocket and artillery fire were launched into Khe Sanh. Initial reports indicate that casualties and damage were light. Elements of the 84th NVA Artillery Regiment were probably responsible for the attack.

3. (SS) An intercepted message from the 965th Transportation Battalion of BT-33 revealed that B-52 strikes and ARVN artillery were preventing the battalion from accomplishing its mission. In a 13 March message, the battalion reported that its headquarters and parking area, located south of the junction of Route 914C/234, had been hit and it was no longer able to receive cargo due to recurring strikes. Additionally, all food and water reportedly had been consumed. In a related item, sensors failed to detect any truck activity on Route 914C during the night of 15 March, further indicating that interdiction of the route by Allied forces has had disruptive effects.

Approved by:

[redacted]

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per 3.3.(b)(3)

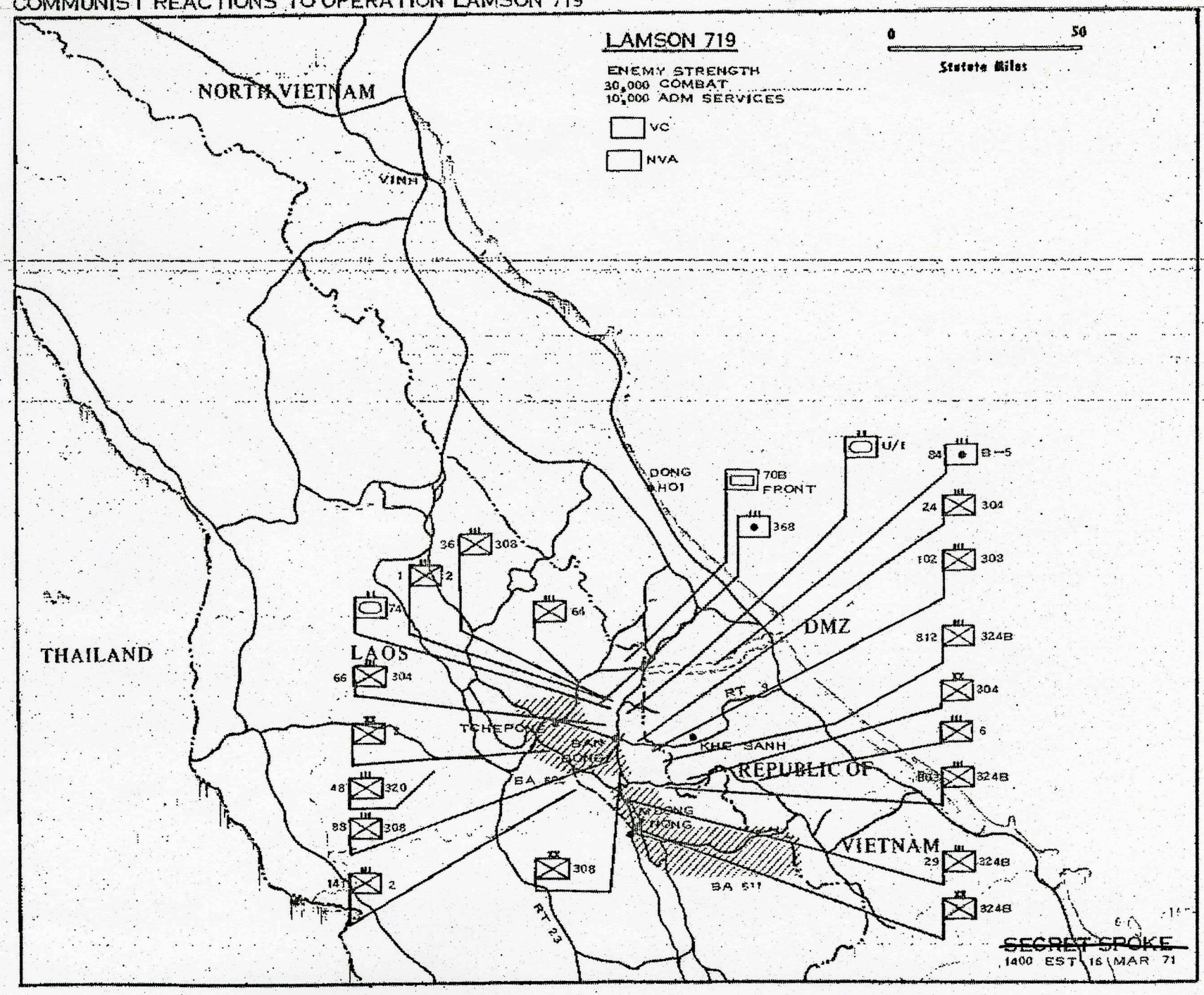
Attachment 2

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[NWD 00-51/10585 p 7 of 11]

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COMMUNIST REACTIONS TO OPERATION LAMSON 719



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NLNW 06-51/10585 p 88 117

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: 170600 - 180600 Saigon time
OUTLOOK: 180600 - 190600 Saigon time

NVN PANHANDLE - AREA 1:

COASTAL - Cloudy occasionally partly cloudy during daylight hours, ceiling 3500 feet patchy unlimited during daylight hours, visibility 4 to 7 miles in fog/haze.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy occasionally partly cloudy during daylight hours, ceiling 3500 to 4000 feet patchy unlimited during daylight hours, visibility 3 to 7 miles in fog/haze.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

NORTHERN SOUTH VIETNAM - AREA 2:

COASTAL - Cloudy occasionally partly cloudy during afternoon hours, ceiling 2000 feet lowering to 1500 feet at night and patchy unlimited during afternoon hours, visibility 5 to 7 miles in haze occasionally 2 miles in fog/haze at night and during morning hours.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy occasionally partly cloudy during afternoon hours, ceiling 3500 feet lowering to 1000 feet AGL, in valleys at night and patchy unlimited during afternoon hours, visibility 4 to 7 miles in haze occasionally 1 to 3 miles in fog/haze at night and during morning hours.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

KHE SANH - AREA 3:

Cloudy, ceiling 1000 to 1500 feet AGL lowering to 200 to 800 feet during night and morning hours, visibility 4 to 7 miles in haze lowering to 1/2 to 4 miles in fog and occasional drizzle during night and morning hours.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

TCHEPONE - AREA 4:

Partly cloudy, ceiling unlimited patchy 4000 feet, visibility 7 miles except occasionally 1/2 to 3 miles in valley fog during morning hours.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

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Enclosure 2

[NLNAV-51/10505 09/11]

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CHUP PLANTATION - AREA 5:

Partly cloudy, ceiling unlimited occasionally 10000 feet, visibility 7 miles except occasionally 3 to 4 miles in patchy fog during morning hours.

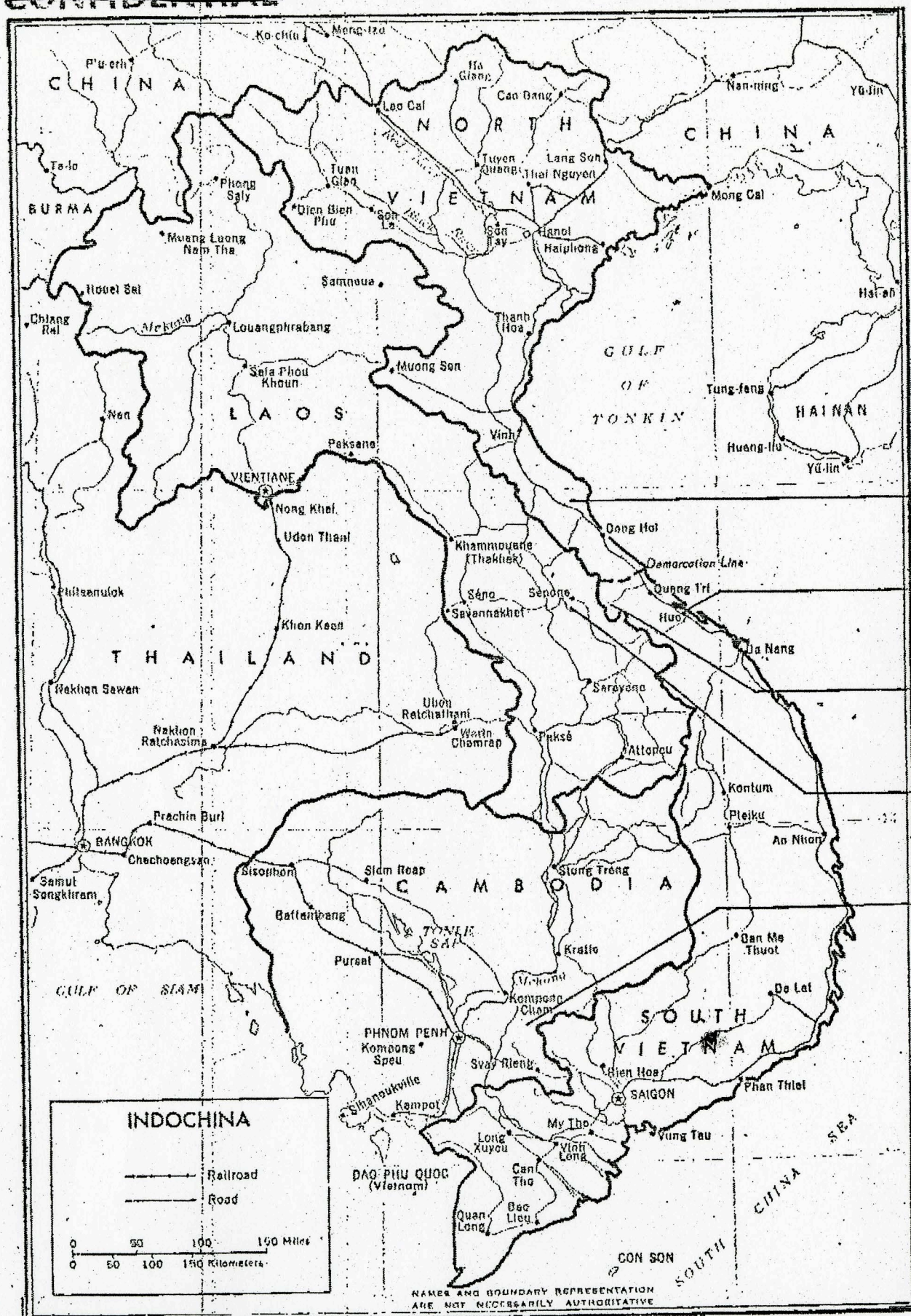
OUTLOOK - Little change

NOTE: All cloud heights are given in feet Above Mean Sea Level, except those indicating AGL (Above Ground Level).

Attachment
Map

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Attachment

ENCLOSURE-51/10585 01106117

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[02/2/2]

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

'71 MAR 15 PM 4:36

15 MAR 1971

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

Subject: Status Report on Operations in Laos

1. (C) Reference is made to your memorandum, dated 11 February 1971, subject as above.

2. (C) In accordance with your request, the 1600 hour daily report is attached as Enclosure 1. A weather forecast covering particular areas of interest in Southeast Asia has been added as Enclosure 2.

2 Encls
a/s

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Section 3.5, 1/12/2012
NLN 06-51/105806 per ltr 12/13
By NLP NARA, Date 4/30/2012
[10/12]
Per Sec. 3.3(b)(1);(b)(3) 10USC 424

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~~SECRET~~ ~~SPOKE~~

DIA INTELLIGENCE APPRAISAL

Enemy Reactions to Operation LAMSON 719 (U)

1. (SS) The deployment of the Headquarters, 304th NVA Division from the Dong Hoi area in North Vietnam to a location approximately 10 miles south of Khe Sanh has been confirmed by Airborne Radio Direction Finding. The arrival of this Division Headquarters in the LAMSON area provides another command element for control of units there.

2. (SS) The Headquarters, 324B NVA Division and its Forward Element are now believed to be collocated in the vicinity of western Base Area 611. This move represents a westerly relocation of 36 miles and places the division headquarters in the vicinity of its major maneuver elements.

3. (SS) Photography of 13 March revealed the presence of ten PT-76 tanks and two probable PT-76's 19 miles north of the central DMZ. The tanks could be part of the additional armor elements the enemy is believed to be sending into the LAMSON 719 area.

4. (SS) The 102d NVA Regiment, 308th NVA Division was located on 14 March just south of Route 9 along the RVN-Lao border. This move places this regiment in close proximity to both the 24B and 812th NVA Regiments. SANITIZED (b)(3):10 USC 424

5. (SS) [redacted] activity involving elements of the 64th NVA Regiment revealed that the regiment continues to be targeted against RVNAF forces in the Ban Dong area. [redacted] the regiment planned to "surround" Ban Dong or pursue and attack friendly forces should they attempt to abandon the area. SANITIZED (b)(3):10 USC 424; 3.3(b)(1)

6. (SS) [redacted] 379 tons of supplies, mostly rice, weapons and gasoline, had been shipped that night.

7. (SS) Vehicle activity in the LAMSON area continues. [redacted] on 10 March, 59 vehicles had arrived and 63 vehicles had left the area. The unit reported that the "enemy" had attacked twice, but an undetermined number of vehicles had entered and left safely. SANITIZED (b)(3):10 USC 424; 3.3(b)(1)

8. (SS) [redacted] weapons and ammunition resupply activity. BT-33 recently revealed that it

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ENCNSC-51/10586 2 of 27

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would continue to send ammunition and explosives to the 29th NVA Regiment, 324B NVA Division. On the 12th and 13th of March, the BT reported shipping about 25,000 rounds (30 tons) of mortar, anti-tank, artillery, and anti-aircraft ammunition to this same unit.

Approved ~~by~~:

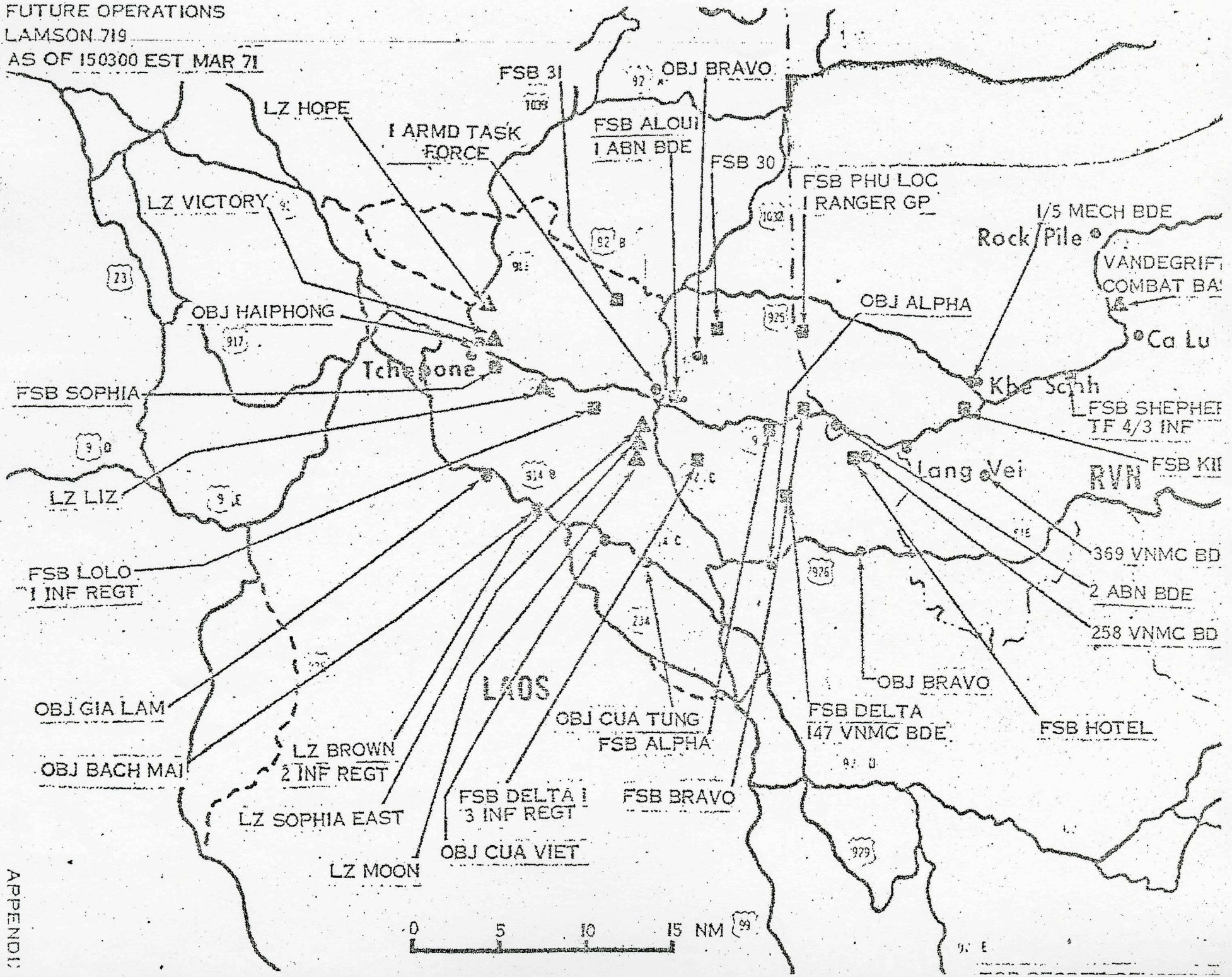
[redacted]

SANITIZED
(b)(3):10 USC 424

Attachment 2

[NLWOU-51/10586 p3of12]

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APPENDI

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15 March 1971

Subject: Operation LAMSON 719

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 140800-150800 GMT March (141600-151600 Saigon time, 140300-150300 EST) March 1971.

2. (TS) Summary of Current Situation:

a. Combat activity remained light to moderate with scattered small contacts and attacks by fire reported throughout the LAMSON area. An ARVN convoy en route from Khe Sanh to Dong Ha was ambushed resulting in four ARVN WIA and four trucks destroyed. Tactical airstrikes and USAF gunships destroyed eight enemy tanks. Khe Sanh, FSB LOLO, and FSB PHU LOC received attacks by fire.

b. Twenty-six ground contacts/or attacks by fire occurred during the period. These contacts resulted in 152 enemy KIA/KBA, while friendly losses were 17 KIA (five US) and 67 WIA (11 US). Twenty-one enemy were killed in a contact by the 3d VNMC Battalion, while in a separate action, the 11th Airborne Battalion killed 18 enemy.

c. Significant material reported destroyed or captured during the period 2,000 Bangalore torpedoes, 6,000 rounds of machinegun ammunition, 417 antitank grenades, 34 individual weapons, 227 82-mm mortar rounds, and one 75-mm recoilless rifle. In addition, air cavalry and aerial rocket artillery elements reported three trucks destroyed, one truck damaged, and 1,500 antitank and mortar rounds destroyed.

d. Heavy rain has slowed repair operations on the east end of the main strip at Khe Sanh.

3. (TS) Plans for Future Operations:

a. The 101st Airborne Division will give priority effort towards elimination of suspected enemy artillery positions north-northwest of Lang Vei, elimination of possible mortar and rocket positions north and east of Khe Sanh, and security of Route 9 and critical installations.

b. RVNAF forces will continue operations in assigned areas in RVN and Laos. Priority effort will be towards search operations in the vicinity of Route 914 in the southern portion of the operational area and saturation search operations by company-sized units north of the Xe Pon River.

[NLN 04-51/10586 p5of12]

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(1) 1st Infantry Division:

(a) 1st Infantry Regiment: 4/1 Infantry Battalion searches vicinity of Objective BACH MAI. 1/1 and 2/1 Infantry Battalions search south and southeast of FSB LOLO, while 3/1 Infantry Battalion secures FSB LOLO.

(b) 2d Infantry Regiment: 2/2, 3/2, and 4/2 Infantry Battalions continued attacks toward Objective CUA VIET. 5/2 Infantry Battalion secures LZ SOPHIA EAST. 1/2 Infantry Battalion secures 1st Infantry Division Headquarters in the vicinity of Khe Sanh.

(c) 3d Infantry Regiment: No change in future plans since previous report.

(2) 1st Airborne Division:

(a) 1st Airborne Brigade: 1st Airborne Battalion, 7th Armored Cavalry Squadron, and portions of the 9th Airborne Battalion will search an area 1 to 2 nautical miles north of FSB ALOUI. The remainder of the 9th Airborne Battalion secures FSB ALOUI. The 2d and 7th Airborne Battalions will search Objective BRAVO northeast of FSB ALOUI.

(b) 2d Airborne Brigade: Elements of the 5th, 6th, and 11th Airborne Battalions will conduct company-size operations in the vicinity of present locations. The 4th Composite Tank Battalion continues security operations on Route 9 from FSB ALPHA to the RVN Border.

(c) Armored Task Force: No change in future plans since the previous report.

(3) Vietnamese Marine Division:

(a) 147th Marine Brigade: 7th VNMC Battalion will relieve the 2d VNMC Battalion and the 4th and 7th VNMC Battalions will continue to attack toward Objective ALPHA.

(b) 258th Marine Brigade: No change in future plans since the previous report.

(c) 369th Marine Brigade: No change in future plans since the previous report.

[NLN 06-51/105806 pg 6 12]

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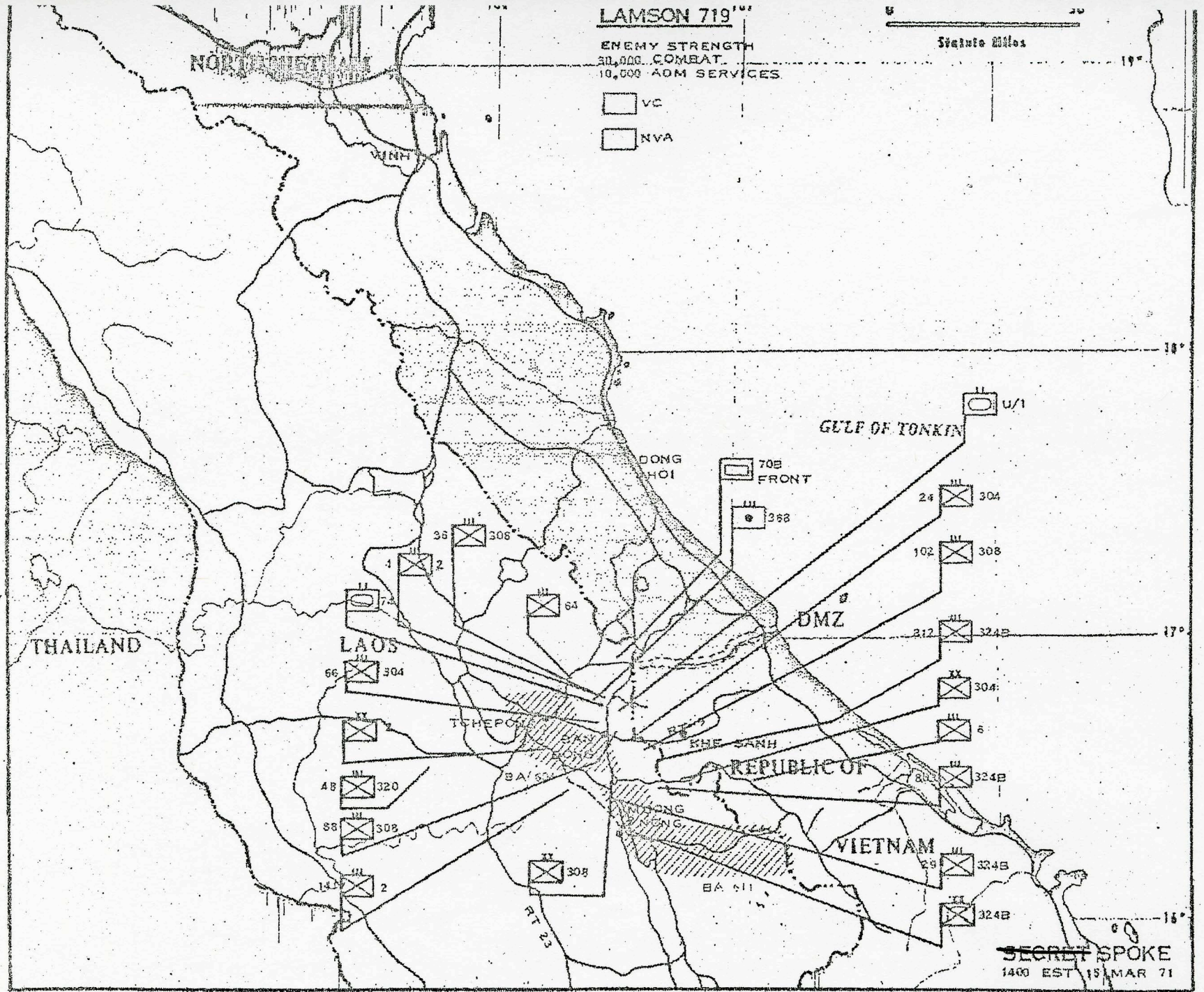
(4) 1st Ranger Group will move its command post and artillery elements to a new fire support base 2 1/2 nautical miles southeast of FSB PHU LOC, dependent on availability of heavy lift helicopters and road trafficability in area.

c. Engineer efforts will continue to be concentrated on repairs to the Khe Sanh airstrip and improvements to Route 9.

Attachments
1. Map
2. DIA Assessment

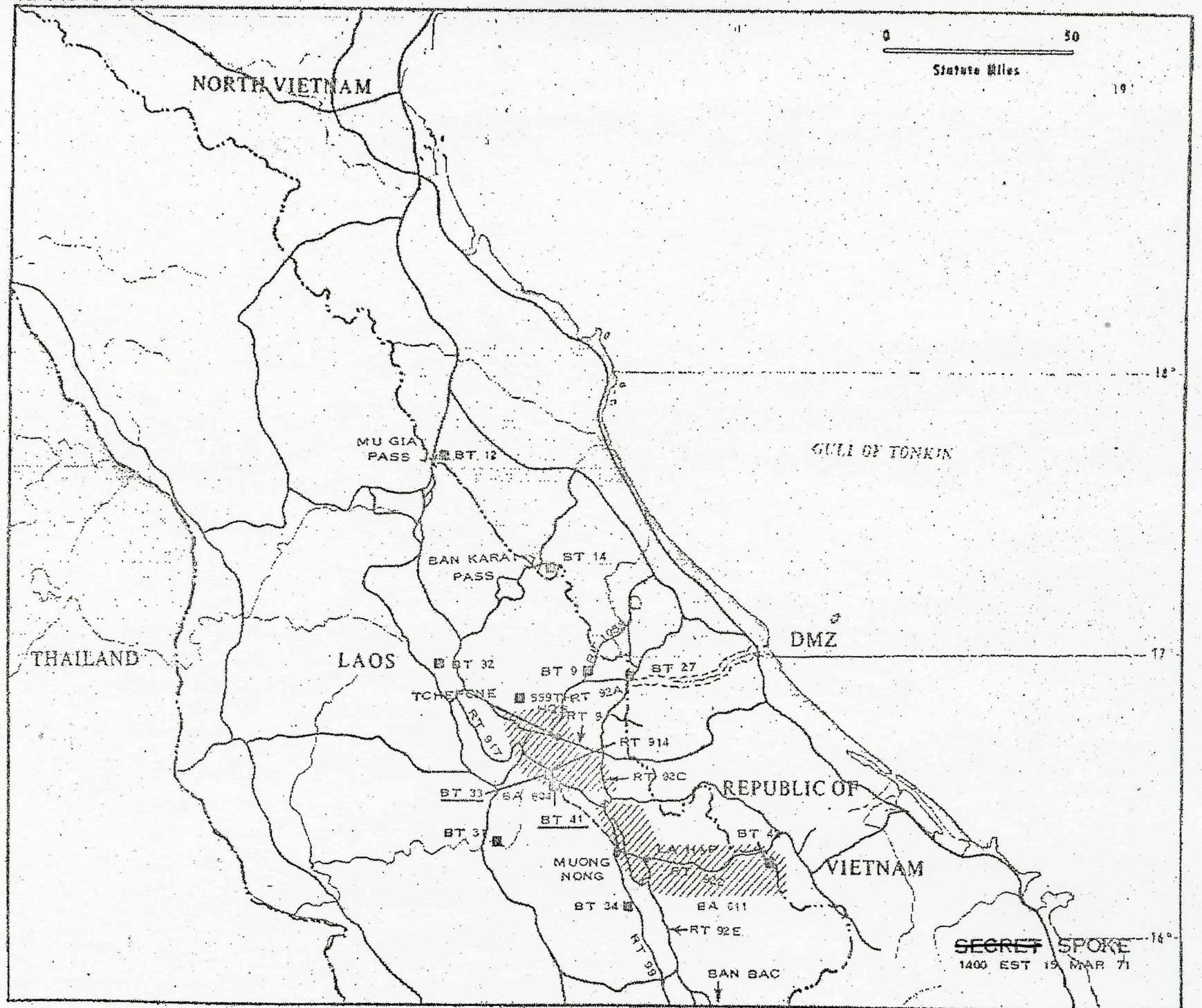
[NLN06-51/10586p7of12]

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NLN 08-51/125 By 09 NARA, Date 12

LAMSON 719



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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: 160600-170600 Saigon time
OUTLOOK: 170600-180600 Saigon time

NVN PANHANDLE - AREA 1:

COASTAL - Cloudy, ceiling 3500 feet occasionally 1000 feet, visibility 1-6 miles in rain/drizzle and fog. Maximum low clouds in southern portion.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy, ceiling 3500 feet except occasionally 1000 feet AGL in valleys, visibility 1/2-4 miles in rain/drizzle and fog.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

NORTHERN SOUTH VIETNAM - AREA 2:

COASTAL - Cloudy, ceiling 3500 feet occasionally 1000 feet, visibility 7 miles occasionally 2 miles in rain.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy, ceiling 1000 feet occasionally 3500 feet, visibility 7 miles occasionally 1 to 3 miles in drizzle/fog and rain-showers.

OUTLOOK - Decreasing clouds along coastal region.

KHE SANH - AREA 3:

Between 160600 and 1200 Saigon time, Cloudy, ceiling 100 to 700 feet, visibility 1/4 to 2 miles in drizzle and fog. Between 161200 and 1800 Saigon time, cloudy, ceiling 1500 feet, visibility 6 miles in haze. Between 161800 and 170600 Saigon time, cloudy, ceiling 100 to 700 feet, visibility 1/4 to 2 miles in drizzle and fog.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

TCHEPONE - AREA 4:

Between 160600 and 1100 Saigon time, in valleys, patchy stratus, 500 broken AGL and fog/haze, visibility 1/2 to 4

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miles. Between 161100 and 170600 Saigon time, partly cloudy occasionally cloudy, ceiling unlimited occasionally 4000 feet, visibility 7 miles.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

CHUP PLANTATION - AREA 5:

Cloudy, ceiling 10000 feet, visibility 7 miles occasionally 4 to 6 miles in rain/showers.

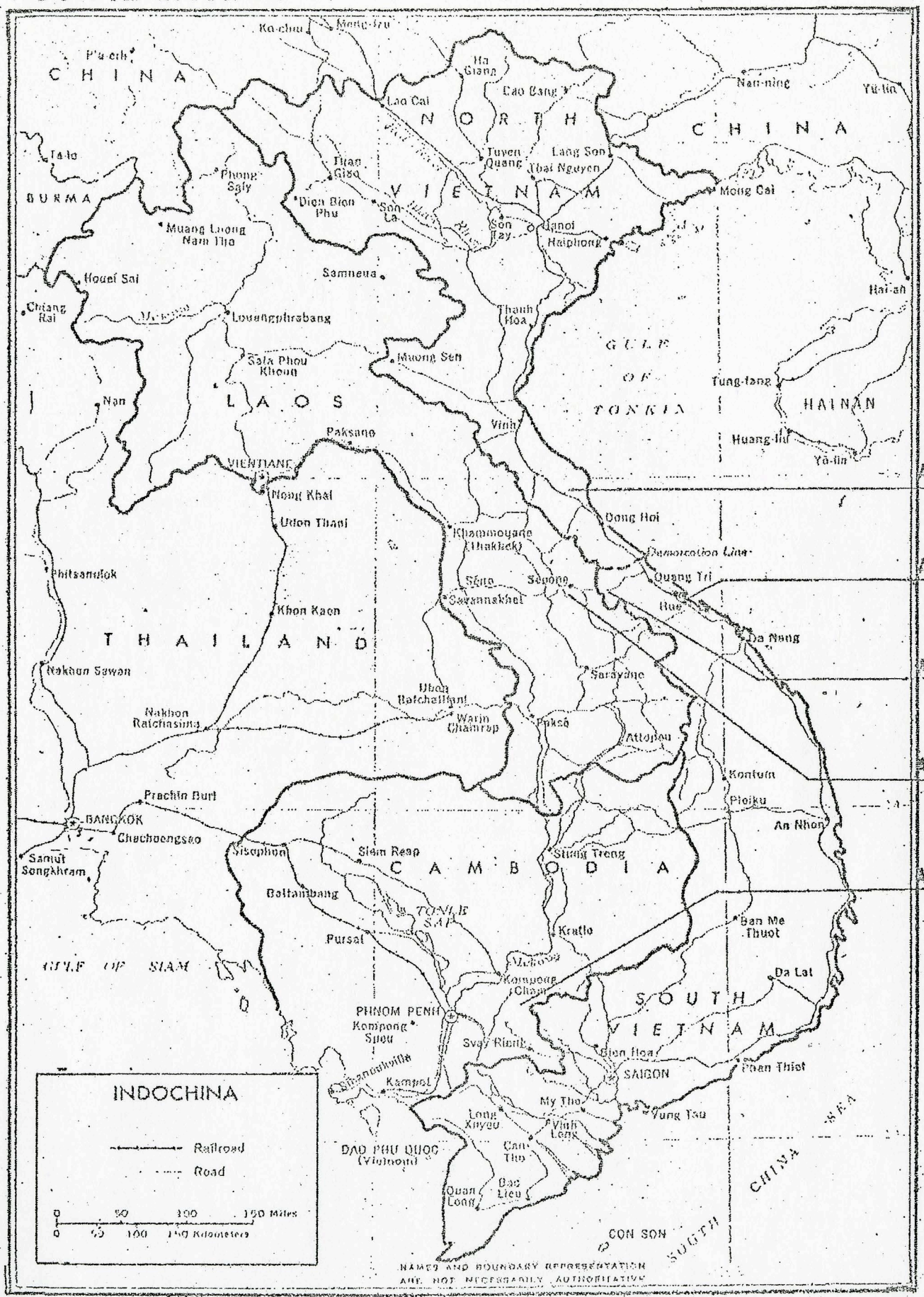
OUTLOOK - Decreasing middle level clouds.

NOTE: All cloud heights are given in feet Above Mean Sea Level, except those indicating AGL (Above Ground Level).

Attachment
Map

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Attachment

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TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

NMCC

THE NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

THE JOINT STAFF

16 March 1971
1600 EST

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Military Situation Report on Operations in Laos

1. Attached are situation reports on operations in Laos and the weather forecast for the area.

2. A telephone check with MACV at 161430 EST revealed the following:

Between 160603 EST and 160621 EST Khe Sanh Base received an attack by fire of 68 rounds of unknown type. Results - 2 US WIA, 2 helicopters damaged (1 major, 1 minor) and one 3/4 ton truck destroyed.

Joseph C McDonough

JOSEPH C. McDONOUGH
Brigadier General, USA
Deputy Director for
Operations (NMCC)

2 Encls
a/s

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71 MAR 15 PM 3:40

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

1

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16 March 1971

Subject: Operation LAMSON 719

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 152200-160800 GMT March (160600-161600 March Saigon time, 151700-160300 EST March) 1971. The information herein is based on available combat reports and will be revised upon receipt of more complete information.

2. (S) Summary of Current Operations:

a. General Situation:

(1) The 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) continued operations in northern Quang Tri Province providing security for Route 9 and critical installations. Enemy activity in Quang Tri Province remained light during the reporting period. Air cavalry elements developed a large contact at an apparent enemy supply depot 3 nautical miles northwest of FSB PHU LOC.

(2) RVNAF units continued search and clear operations in Laos moving toward assigned objectives. Several contacts were made with the enemy and significant air-strike BDA was developed.

(3) There has been no report of activity on Route 914.

b. Significant Combat Actions Reported:

(1) Point 1. Organic air cavalry elements of US 1st Brigade, 5th Mechanized Division, on 16 March, while conducting visual reconnaissance, received heavy 12.7-mm fire. The area was engaged by helicopter gunships which observed 15 large secondary explosions. Elements continued to work the area and observed a large flame which burned for 1 1/2 hours. Tactical air and artillery were employed causing 26 additional secondary explosions.

(2) Point 2. Late on the 15th, the 2d Battalion, 1st ARVN Airborne Brigade, contacted an unknown-size enemy force killing 11 enemy and seizing two individual and two crew-served weapons, 20 satchel charges, and 18 blocks of TNT.

(3) Point 3. On 15 March, an element of the 11th Air Cavalry Squadron received a 100 mixed round attack by fire wounding one ARVN soldier. Early on the 16th in the same vicinity, five ARVN of the 8th Airborne Battalion were wounded when the battalion received an unknown number of mortar rounds.

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(4) Point 4. One company of the 11th Battalion, 2d Airborne Brigade, with a platoon of tanks, reached the crash site of the OH-58A helicopter that crashed on 6 March. No US were found. In the same vicinity on the 15th, the 11th Airborne Battalion engaged an unknown-size enemy force killing 17 and seizing two individual and two crew-served weapons, 20 shaped charges, and 18 blocks of TNT. One enemy soldier was captured. There were no ARVN casualties. Nearby, the bodies of 15 enemy soldiers killed by helicopter gunships were found.

(5) Point 5. On 16 March, the 3d Battalion, 2d Infantry Regiment, found the bodies of six enemy killed in an ARC LIGHT strike.

(6) Point 6. Late on 15 March, the 2d Battalion, 2d Infantry Regiment discovered two enemy base camps which had been bombed in ARC LIGHT strikes. Materials destroyed included:

350 55 gallon drums POL
230 barracks (130 had underground bunkers)
30 tons of rice
18 KBA
4 individual weapons
2 122-mm rocket launchers
1 82-mm mortar and base plate.
miscellaneous documents

(7) Point 7. Late 15 March, the 2d Infantry Regiment reported that gunships had destroyed five enemy trucks and caused one secondary explosion.

(8) Point 8. On 15 March, the 4th Battalion, 147th VNMC Brigade, found the bodies of 16 enemy killed by air. Two thousand 82-mm mortar rounds, four crew-served and two individual weapons, and one radio were seized.

c. Progress of Friendly Forces in Achieving Objectives:

(1) All objectives of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) were accomplished. Resupply of ARVN units in Laos were completed except for Fire Support Base DELTA where 10 of 27 sorties were completed.

(2) ARVN units in Laos achieved all preplanned objectives. Search and clear operations continued as they moved toward assigned objectives. The 3d Regiment Command Post and one Engineer company and the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry Regiment, were airlifted to Khe Sanh from which the units departed by convoy for Fire Support Base SALLY near Hue, RVN.

(3) Logistics: Seventeen C-130 aircraft, including five carrying JP-4 fuel, arrived at Khe Sanh during the reporting period. Three hundred and twenty tons of supplies and [illegible]

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(4) Air Operations: Resupply missions were flown to all requested locations except Fire Support Base DELTA where, due to sporadic incoming fire at the landing zone, only 1/3 of the sorties were completed. One UH-1H helicopter was lost due to hostile fire west of Fire Support Base BROWN during the extraction of the 4th Battalion, 3d Infantry Regiment. The crew was recovered; one was wounded. All aircraft damaged in the attack by fire at Khe Sanh on 15 March are flyable.

(5) Engineer Effort: No change from previous report.

3. (S) Remarks:

a. RVNAF troop strength in Laos for this period is 16,509.

b. RVNAF battalions by type in Laos for this operation are:

(1) Infantry (including airborne)	16
(2) Artillery	4
(3) Armored Cavalry Squadron	4
(4) Engineer	2
(5) VNMC	6
(6) Ranger	0

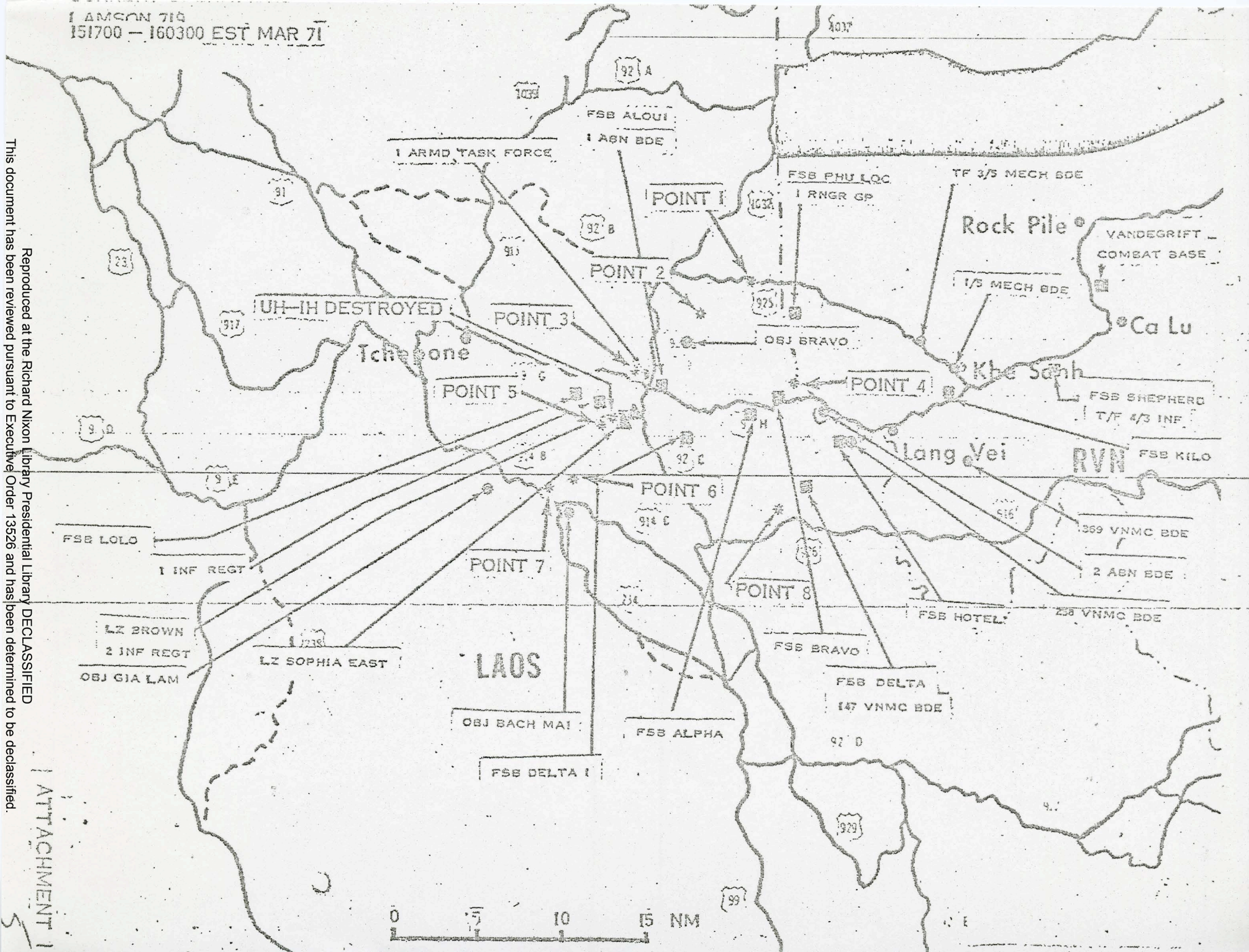
c. Results of B-52 strikes: No secondary explosions were reported for the period. For the previous period, seven additional secondary explosions were reported.

d. Results of tactical airstrikes: Two vehicles were destroyed and one was damaged, 20 meters of road were cut, and 10 barrels of POL were destroyed. Twenty-nine secondary explosions and 16 secondary fires were observed.

4. (U) Statistical data for the operation are shown in the attachments.

Attachments
1. Map
2. Casualties
3. Equipment and Materiel Seized/Destroyed
4. Aircraft Losses/Casualties

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LAMSON 719

CASUALTIES

(PERIOD 151700-160300 EST MAR 71)

	PERIOD			CUMULATIVE		
	KIA	WIA	MIA	KIA	WIA	MIA
FRIENDLY						
US	0	4	0	101*	516*	25
RVNAF	DATA NOT AVAILABLE			755	2,833	167
	KIA$	KBA	DET	KIA$	KBA	DET
ENEMY	92	43	0	8,656	3,240	41

$Includes KBA.
*Adjusted data.

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LAMSON 719

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIEL SEIZED/DESTROYED

(PERIOD 151700-160300 EST MAR 71)

	PERIOD		CUMULATIVE
	SEIZED	DESTROYED	SEIZED/DESTROYED
Individual Weapons	9	4	3,843
Crew-served Weapons	8	3	1,161
Ammunition:			
(1) Small-Arms (Rounds)	0	0	466,136
(2) Miscellaneous (Rounds)	0	2,041	76,786*$
Vehicles	0	5	384*
Tanks	0	0	99
POL (Gallons)	0	19,250	209,710
Rice/Food (Pounds)	0	60,000	3,080,740*
Communication Equipment (Radios)	1	0	83
(Telephones/KM wire)	0/0	0/0	20#/24,000
Medical Supplies (Pounds)	0	0	7,900
Documents (Pounds)	0	0	16
Miscellaneous Equipment/Supplies (Pounds)	0	0	79,800
Structures	0	230	1,087
Bunkers	0	0	979

*Adjusted data
$Factored
#Switchboards

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LAMSON 719

AIRCRAFT COMBAT LOSSES

(PERIOD 151700-160300 EST MAR 71)

TYPE AIRCRAFT	PERIOD (RVN/LAOS)	CUMULATIVE* (RVN/LAOS)
US HELOS		
AH-1G	0/1	1/12**
UH-1	0/1	5/32
OH-6A	0/0	3/6
OH-58A	0/0	1/4
CH-47	0/0	0/2
SUB-TOTAL:	0/2	10/56
US FIXED-WING		
A-1	0/0	0/1
F-4	0/0	1/2
TOTAL US AIRCRAFT LOSSES:	0/2	11/59
VNAF HELOS		
UH-1H	0/0	0/6
CH-34	0/0	0/2
TOTAL: OPREP-5	0/0	0/8

*SOURCE: OPREP-5
**Includes one loss reported as damaged on 5 Mar 71.

US PERSONNEL CASUALTIES ASSOCIATED WITH AIR OPERATIONS

(PERIOD 151700-160300 EST MAR 71)

PERIOD			CUMULATIVE		
KIA	WIA	MIA	KIA	WIA	MIA
0	1	0	37	121	19

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: 170600 - 180600 Saigon time
OUTLOOK: 180600 - 190600 Saigon time

NVN PANHANDLE - AREA 1:

COASTAL - Cloudy occasionally partly cloudy during daylight hours, ceiling 3500 feet patchy unlimited during daylight hours, visibility 4 to 7 miles in fog/haze.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy occasionally partly cloudy during daylight hours, ceiling 3500 to 4000 feet patchy unlimited during daylight hours, visibility 3 to 7 miles in fog/haze.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

NORTHERN SOUTH VIETNAM - AREA 2:

COASTAL - Cloudy occasionally partly cloudy during afternoon hours, ceiling 2000 feet lowering to 1500 feet at night and patchy unlimited during afternoon hours, visibility 5 to 7 miles in haze occasionally 2 miles in fog/haze at night and during morning hours.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy occasionally partly cloudy during afternoon hours, ceiling 3500 feet lowering to 1000 feet AGL, in valleys at night and patchy unlimited during afternoon hours, visibility 4 to 7 miles in haze occasionally 1 to 3 miles in fog/haze at night and during morning hours.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

KHE SANH - AREA 3:

Cloudy, ceiling 1000 to 1500 feet AGL lowering to 200 to 800 feet during night and morning hours, visibility 4 to 7 miles in haze lowering to 1/2 to 4 miles in fog and occasional drizzle during night and morning hours.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

TCHEPONE - AREA 4:

Partly cloudy, ceiling unlimited patchy 4000 feet, visibility 7 miles except occasionally 1/2 to 3 miles in valley fog during morning hours.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

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CHUP PLANTATION - AREA 5:

Partly cloudy, ceiling unlimited occasionally 10000 feet, visibility 7 miles except occasionally 3 to 4 miles in patchy fog during morning hours.

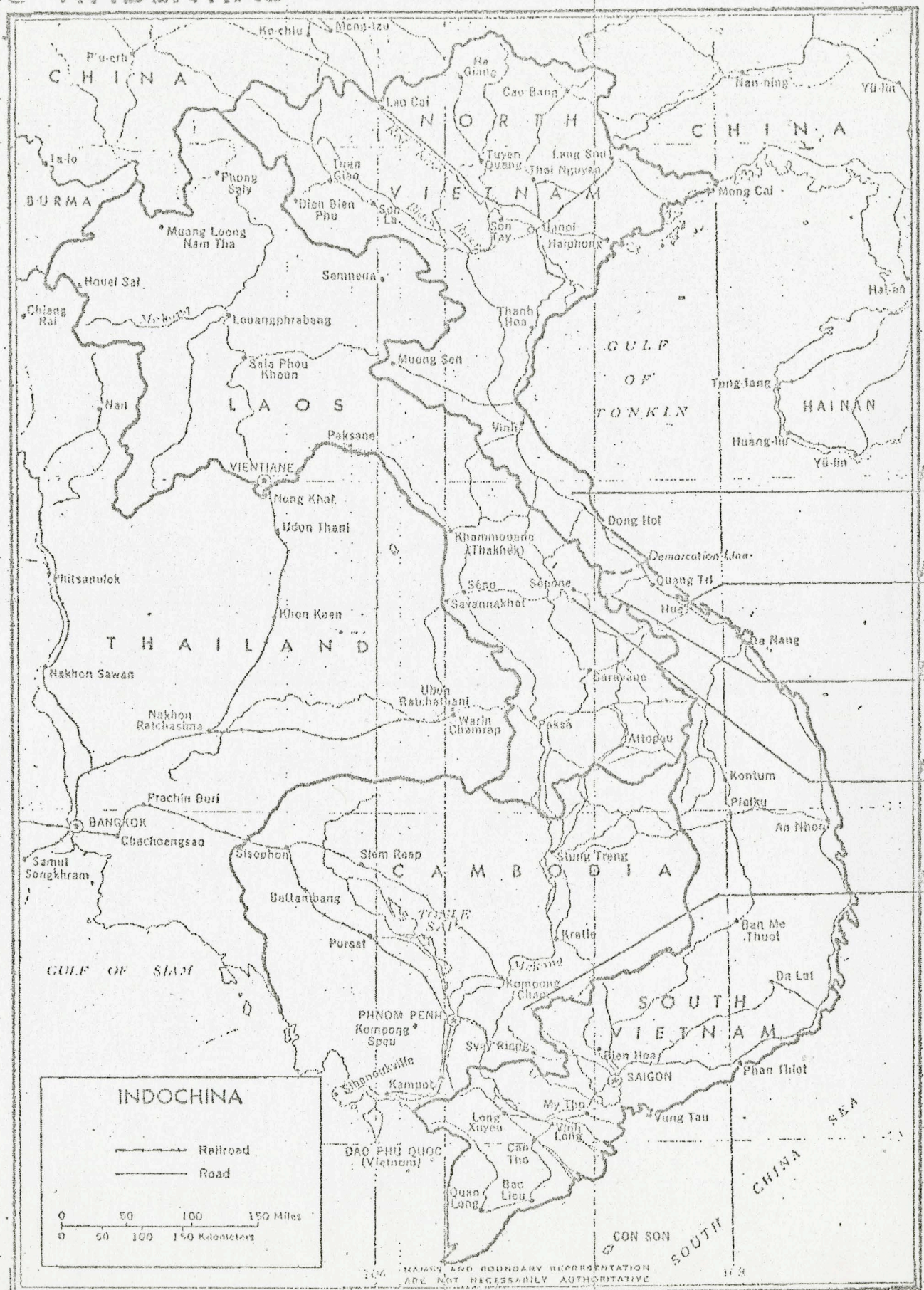
OUTLOOK - Little change

NOTE: All cloud heights are given in feet Above Mean Sea Level, except those indicating AGL (Above Ground Level).

Attachment
Map

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SITUATION ROOM

SECRET

'71 MAR 16 PM 4:39

/S
A
NR
IA
OD-SECDEF
OD-JCS
H Sitroom

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Operations Center

Status Report No. 37 on Operations in Laos and Cambodia as of 1400 hours, EST, March 16, 1971

1. Diplomatic Reactions and Developments

Soviet Union/Viet Cong - According to TASS, Soviet Politburo member Alexander Shelepin today (March 16) received the Viet Cong Ambassador to Moscow--at the latter's request--for "a warm and friendly" talk. The announcement gave no details of the substance of the talks.

North Vietnam - The North Vietnamese Foreign Ministry issued a statement on March 15 condemning the United States "for continuing to attack the Vinh Linh area and Quang Binh Province" with bombs and artillery during the period March 8-13.

Radio Hanoi broadcast on March 16 what it said was an "order of mobilization" of the Laotian People's Liberation Armed Forces. The "order" claimed that South Vietnamese "puppet" troops are in disarray and attempting to "flee," and it instructed Communist forces to prevent their escape.

2. Significant Foreign Public Reactions

South Vietnam - A late February opinion survey in Saigon contained no surprises. Of the small sample surveyed 37 percent professed ignorance of the South Vietnamese Army operation in Laos, while the remainder indicated both pride in the Army's performance and concern over heavy casualties.

North Vietnam - The army newspaper Quan Doi Nhan Dan said in a March 16 editorial that the "victories of the lower Laotian Armed Forces and people" have not only confused the US "military scheme" in Laos, but have also caused the weakening of the Allies' strategic position "on other battlefields in Indochina." While praising the infantry, artillery, anti-aircraft, and armor branches for their "heroism," the editorial gave special recognition to engineer and transportation units for their role in moving supplies to the front line.

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Cuba - A commentator on the Havana Domestic Television Service stated that Secretary Rogers and President Nixon are deceiving the American people by making them believe that the Laotian invasion is not an intensification of effort and does not entail risks. Despite Nixon's claim that the war is ending, the commentator added, it will continue indefinitely until the Indochinese people attain the victory they are determined to gain.

3. Congressional and Domestic Reactions and Developments

Tuesday morning (March 16) papers have no editorials on Laos (Baltimore Sun, New York Times, Washington Post).

4. Internal South Vietnamese, Cambodian, and Laotian Developments

Negative.

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Department of State

TELEGRAM

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1866
BT
S E C R E T VIENTIANE 1697

5 1 7 5 Q

16 MARCH 1971
15 15 Z

NODIS/ASHAU

SUMMARY: KING SUPPORTS LAMSON 719 BUT IS CONCERNED LEST GVN MISUNDERSTAND RLG'S VIEWS ON ITS NEUTRALITY AND OVERREACT TO POSSIBLE FUTURE RLG STATEMENTS RE LAMSON 719 . END SUMMARY.

1. OUTHONG SOUVANNAVONG, PRESIDENT OF KING'S COUNCIL (CLOSEST THING LAOS HAS TO A SENATE) ASKED ME TO CALL YESTERDAY. HE SAID HE WAS TAKING THIS ACTION AT KING'S REQUEST FOR LATTER WAS WORRIED THAT SOUTH VIETNAMESE DID NOT APPRECIATE LAO NEUTRALITY. THEY ACCORDINGLY MIGHT MISINTERPRET ACTION THAT LAOS OCCASIONALLY HAD TO TAKE OUT OF RESPECT FOR THIS POLICY. ACCORDING TO OUTHONG, KING HEARTILY ENDORSES LAMSON 719 AND HAD APPROVED ITS INITIATION. HE ALSO ENDORSES STATEMENT MADE BY PRIME MINISTER ON FEBRUARY 8 AFTER ARVN MOVED INTO SOUTHERN LAOS. HE WISHES LAMSON 719 WELL AND HOPES IT WILL CONTINUE TO CAUSE THE ENEMY DIFFICULTIES ALONG THE TRAIL AREA AS LONG AS MILITARY EXPERTS THINK THIS CAN BE DONE. KING WANTED USG TO KNOW THESE VIEWS AND REQUESTED THAT WE EXPLAIN TO SOUTH VIETNAMESE HIS POSITION. THE IMPLICATION OF HIS VIEWS AS REPORTED BY OUTHONG WAS THAT KING MIGHT HAVE TO TAKE A PUBLIC STAND POSSIBLY AGAINST LAMSON 719 BUT WISHES GOVERNMENT OF SOUTH VIETNAM TO KNOW THAT HE WAS TAKING THIS ACTION MERELY IN VIEW OF LAO NEUTRALITY.

2. I PRESSED OUTHONG AS TO PRECISELY WHAT WAS WORRYING HIS MAJESTY AND COULD GET NO FURTHER INDICATION. I WAS EQUALLY UNSUCCESSFUL IN ENDEAVORING TO ASCERTAIN WHY OUTHONG DID NOT RAISE THIS MATTER WITH SOUTH VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR THUY. ALL THAT OUTHONG WOULD SAY WAS THAT HE WAS CARRYING OUT KING'S PRECISE INSTRUCTIONS.

3. ONE POSSIBLE EXPLANATION IS THE QUASI-UNIVERSAL ADVERSE REACTIONS WE ARE HEARING FROM ALL SIDES IN VIENTIANE TO GENERAL MANH'S "SECRET" MISSION (VIENTIANE 1386). FRENCH AND EVEN GOOD FRIENDS OF

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SECRET

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OURS SUCH AS THE AUSTRALIANS DESCRIBE VISIT AS "CATASTROPHIC". OTHERS MERELY CITE IT AS SOUTH VIETNAMESE INEPTITUDE, WHILE SOME ALLEGE IT WAS AN EFFORT ON THE PART OF THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE TO EMBARRASS SOUVANNA, SUPPORT THE FAR RIGHT AND DESTROY WHAT IS LEFT OF LAO NEUTRALITY. QUTHONG WAS AMONG THE MORE CHARITABLE AND REFERRED TO SOUTH VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR AS "THAT IDIOT."

4. COMMENT: WHILE WE FIND IT DIFFICULT TO DEFEND THE WAY THE SOUTH VIETNAMESE HANDLED MANH'S VISIT, I CANNOT HELP BUT RECALL THAT THE MILITARY GET TOGETHER WAS SOUGHT BY THE LAO NOTWITHSTANDING OUR DOUBTS AS TO ITS WISDOM.

5. I HOPE AMEMBASSY SAIGON MIGHT BE ABLE TO DISCUSS WITH APPROPRIATE SOUTH VIETNAMESE THE KING'S VIEWS. RECOMMEND THAT IF THE KING OR, WHAT IS MORE PROBABLE, THE RLG FEELS OBLIGED TO CRITICIZE LAMSON 719 THAT THE GVN NOT REPEAT NOT OVER REACT AND REALIZE THAT SUCH ACTION IS MERELY PART OF THE LAO NEUTRALISTIC BALANCING ACT.
GP-1. GODLEY
BT

NODIS NODIS NODIS

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[82/2/3] Samson

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

'71 MAR 18 PM 12:39

LAMSON 719 ORDER OF BATTLE

Base Areas 604 and 611

October 1970

Base Area 604 and Vicinity: 4,000 - 5,000

141st NVA Inf Regt	(3 Bns)
48th NVA Inf Regt	(3 Bns)

Dual Capability: 5,000 - 6,000

12th NVA Inf Regt	(3 Bns)
9th NVA Inf Regt	(2 Bns)
675B NVA Arty Regt	(2 Bns)
5th NVA Inf Bn	(1 Bn)

Base Area 611 and Vicinity: 6,000 - 7,000

324B Div Hq	(0 Bns)
803d NVA Inf Regt	(3 Bns)
29th NVA Inf Regt	(3 Bns)
4th NVA Inf Regt	(2 Bns)
6th NVA Inf Regt	(4 Bns)
35th NVA Arty Bn	(1 Bn)
11th NVA Recon Bn	(1 Bn)

TOTALS:

Combat	(28 Bns)	15,000 -18,000

In addition, the HQ, 2d NVA Division and its subordinate 1st Regiment was believed to be in the Tchepone area.

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

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E.O. 13526, Section 3.5
NLWOU-51/10587 per ltr 12/13/2011
By ZMLP NARA, Date 4/30/2012

[1 of 7]

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~~SECRET~~ ~~SPOKE~~

18 March 1971

Immediate LAMSON 719 Operational Area

UNIT	BATTALIONS	CURRENT STR
70B NVA Headquarters	0	Unknown
HQ, 2d NVA Div*	2	800
HQ, 308th NVA Div*	3	2,900
HQ, 324B NVA Div*	0	250
HQ, 304th NVA Div*	3	2,000
1st Regt/2d Div	3	1,400
24th Regt/304th Div	3	2,000
29th Regt/324B Div	3	1,200
36th Regt/308th Div	3	1,800
64th Regt	3	1,700
66th Regt/304th Div	3	2,000
88th Regt/308th Div	3	1,900
102d Regt/308th Div	3	1,500
141st Regt/2d Div	3	1,800
368th Arty Regt(AKA 675B Arty Regt)	2	1,400
803d Regt/324B Div	3	1,400
812th Regt/324B Div	3	1,250
74th Tank Bn	1	150
u/i Tank Bn	1	150
	45	25,600
48th Regt/320th Div (Southeast BA 604)	3	2,500
Eastern Base Area 619		
6th Regt/MRTTH	4	1,500
11th Recon Bn	1	200
35th Arty Bn	1	200
	6	1,900
Total threat to LAMSON 719	54 Bns	30,000

NOTE:

* Division Headquarters contain some Command and Support personnel who are not considered to be a combat threat. However, the 2d Division has two combat battalions while the 308th and 304th Divisions have three each that are charged with security, but can be utilized in an offensive role.

~~SECRET~~ ~~SPOKE~~

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NLN-00-51/10587 p20871

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

January 1971

Base Area 604 and Vicinity

		5,000 - 6,000
141st NVA Inf Regt	(3 Bns)	
48th NVA Inf Regt	(3 Bns)	
1 Bn/24th NVA Inf Regt	(1 Bn)	

Dual Capability

		2,000 - 3,000
675B NVA Arty Regt	(2 Bns)	
5th NVA Inf Bn	(1 Bn)	
1 Bn, 9th NVA Inf Regt	(1 Bn)	

Base Area 611 and Vicinity

		4,000 - 5,000
324B Div Hq	(- Bn)	
803d NVA Inf Regt	(3 Bns)	
29th NVA Inf Regt	(3 Bns)	
812th NVA Inf Regt	(3 Bns)	
35th NVA Arty Bn	(1 Bn)	
11th NVA Recon Bn	(1 Bn)	

TOTALS:

Combat	(22 Bns)	11,000-14,000

Between October 1970 and January 1971, the following units either deployed in or out of the area:

Deployed to the area:

One battalion of the 24th NVA Regt/304th Division. The Regiment passed through the Tchepone area on its return from the Republic to NVN. This battalion and the Regiment's Forward Element were identified as remaining in the Tchepone area.

Deployed out of the area:

4th Regiment/MRTTH to RVN
6th Regiment/MRTTH to RVN
9th Regiment/968 Front to Southern Laos

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

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NLRN 06-51/10587 p 3 of 7

Since the operation started the enemy has deployed the following units to the LAMSON area from North Vietnam: the HQ, 308th Division and its three subordinate regiments, (36th, 88th and 102d), the HQ, 304th Division and two of its subordinate Regiments (24th and 66th) and the 64th Regiment of the 320th Division. Additionally, the enemy deployed at least two tank battalions from the North to the area. The 6th Independent NVA Regiment has relocated from the Republic of Vietnam's Military Region 1 to the vicinity of Base Area 611. The 2d NVA Division and its subordinate 1st VC Regiment were identified in the LAMSON area after 7 February. These units were probably already in Laos, but their precise location was not clear. Also, a major North Vietnamese headquarters (70B Front) has now been identified in the LAMSON area. It apparently exercises tactical control over the entire area and communicates with at least three division headquarters (304th, 308th, and 320th).

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d. Capacity of Route 1016 (NVN)

Answer: Data are currently not available.

g. Rate of enemy consumption (classes of supplies) for LAMSON 719

Answer: Data are currently not available.

h. The miles of road associated with Ho Chi Minh Trail network:

Answer:

	Miles of motorable road
Jun 1970	1,710
Dec 1970	2,100
Current	2,200

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Second Increment of Logistics Questions from White House Situation Room
17 March 1971

1. What is the load factor for destroyed trucks?

Answer: 3 tons or 75% of estimated truck load.

2. What is the estimated input to replace the NVA loss of Sihanoukville?

Answer: Over an approximately three year period, 23,760 short tons of supplies entered Cambodia via that port. Almost all of this was ammunition. The supplies noted moving down the trails in Laos are believed to be about 20% ammunition. The remainder of the supplies are food, POL, medical supplies, etc. A significant amount is consumed in transit; therefore, the amount needed to replace the Sihanoukville loss would not be in the order of a ton-for-ton replacement.

3. a. What level of supplies is needed to support NVA/VC forces engaged in opposing LAMSON 719?

b. What level of input is needed to support the operational BT's (i.e., total Lao Panhandle)?

Answer (a): Although it will increase the consumption rates in (b) below, we do not have a factor.

Answer (b): Daily Requirement - Total Laos Panhandle

Class I	60-90 short tons
Class II & IV	8-12 short tons
Class III*	25-40 short tons
Class V*	10-20 short tons
	103-162 short tons

* Only very rough estimates of these classes (POL and ammunition) can be made. For example, antiaircraft munitions expenditures (firings at Allied strike aircraft) cannot be estimated except in very gross terms, i.e., pilot sightings of rounds fired by enemy AA personnel.

7. What is the NVA/VC supply loss to capture/destruction as a result of LAMSON 719?

Answer: Totals as of 16 Mar 71 as reported by MACV

Weapons	48.2 short tons
Equipment	44.9 short tons
Food	1,540.4 short tons
Ammunition	484.7 short tons
	2,118.2 short tons

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[NND #806-51/10587 p6of87]
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8. What was the composition of supplies noted from COMINT in the Laos Panhandle during 1969-70, and during 1970-71?

Answer:

1970-71*	
Food	60%
Ammo and Weapons	20%
POL	15%
Miscellaneous	5%

* Early in the dry season the major bulk of supplies have been food and POL. The latter half of season movement has tended toward weapons, ammunition and miscellaneous equipment. The composition of the 1969-70 season was essentially similar.

4. What level of supply input is needed to support the NVA in protracted war in SVN at 1969-1970 dry season level?

5. What level of supplies would be required to support a major offensive in a) One MR, b) two MRs, c) Tet Type (countrywide, SVN)?

6. What level of supplies is needed to support NVA/VC forces in Cambodia under current conditions?

Answer: With respect to questions 4, 5, and 6 above, there are too many variables in the equations to provide usable data. We have recently calculated that approximately 200 tons of ammunition would support a low level of enemy activity in southern SVN and Cambodia for two months.

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THE JOINT STAFF

NMCC

THE NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

LA TIMES
HAIG
HOWE
KENNEDY
HOLDRIDGE
ANDERSON

19 March 1971
0600 EST

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Military Situation Report on Operations in Laos and Cambodia

Attached are situation reports on operations in Laos and Cambodia and the weather forecast for the areas.

E O Martin

E. O. MARTIN
Brigadier General, USAF
Deputy Director for
Operations, NMCC

3 Encls
a/s

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(1)

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19 March 1971

Subject: Operation LAMSON 719

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 180800-182200 GMT March (181600-190600 March Saigon time, 180300-181700 EST March) 1971. The information herein is based on available combat reports and will be revised upon receipt of more complete information.

2. (S) Summary of Current Operations:

a. General Situation:

(1) The 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) conducted local security operations in its assigned area of operations. Units reported three minor actions and four attacks by fire (one on Quang Tri Base).

(2) RVNAF forces continued operations in Laos and RVN. The 1st Infantry Regiment closed into La Vang, 2 miles southeast of Quang Tri. Upon extraction, the 4th Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment had an effective strength of 82 men. The 2d, 3d, and 4th Battalion, 2d Infantry Regiment remained in the vicinity of LZs BROWN and SOPHIA EAST.

b. Significant Combat Actions Reported:

(1) At Point 1, Quang Tri Base received four rounds of 122-mm rocket fire damaging five trucks.

(2) At Point 2, the 1st Ranger Group was struck by a combined mortar and ground attack on the night of 17 March Saigon time. Two ARVN were killed and seven wounded. Twenty enemy soldiers were killed and seven individual weapons were seized.

(3) At Point 3, updated results for the 1st VNMC Battalion reported in NMCC MFR, same subject, dated 181600 EST March 1971 reflect 21 enemy KIA (vice nine), 100 82-mm mortar rounds (vice none), 15 handgrenades (vice none) and six individual weapons seized (vice none). Friendly casualties are unchanged.

(4) At Point 4, an attack by fire on US artillery elements resulted in 16 US soldiers wounded and one 175-mm gun damaged.

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(5) At Point 5, a VNMC reconnaissance element discovered the bodies of 16 enemy soldiers who had been killed by a B-52 strike. Three individual and one crew-served weapon were also destroyed by the strike.

(6) At Point 6, updated results of the 7th VNMC Battalion contact reported in NMCC MFR, same subject, dated 181600 EST March 1971, reflects 42 enemy KIA (vice 10) and seven individual weapons seized (vice none). Marine casualties were three KIA (vice one) and 10 WIA (vice three).

c. Progress of Friendly Forces in Achieving Objectives:

(1) All preplanned objectives for the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) were achieved.

(2) RVNAF forces achieved all preplanned objectives for the period. The 1st Infantry Regiment closed at its new location near Quang Tri at 181715 March Saigon time.

(3) Logistics: Thirty-six C-130 sorties arrived at Khe Sanh, including 16 sorties delivering JP-4 fuel. Four hundred and forty tons of supplies were delivered by truck.

(4) Air Operations: Eight hundred and twenty-three aircraft landed in Laos on 18 March. Seventeen US personnel debarked and were extracted. Twenty-one aircraft were hit by hostile fire on 18 March, four of which were destroyed (two AH-1 and one CH-47 previously reported, one UH-1). Six other aircraft were declared non-flyable. Details on the destroyed UH-1 were not available at the time of the report.

(5) Engineer Effort: The subgrade at the east end of the Khe Sanh main strip was compacted and laying of matting has begun. The subgrade on the west end of the assault strip was compacted and matting was relaid by midnight 18 March Saigon time.

3. (S) Remarks:

a. RVNAF troop strength in Laos for this period is 14,519.

b. RVNAF battalions by type in Laos for this operation are:

(1) Infantry (including airborne)	11
(2) Artillery	4
(3) Armored Cavalry Squadron	4
(4) Engineer	2
(5) VNMC	6
(6) Ranger	0

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c. Results of B-52 strikes: Five secondary explosions were reported for this period. An additional 71 secondary explosions were reported for the previous period.

d. Results of tactical airstrikes:

DESTROYED	DAMAGED	OTHER
28 vehicles	8 vehicles	626 secondary explosions
8 gunsites		65 secondary fires
7 bunkers		
1 watercraft		

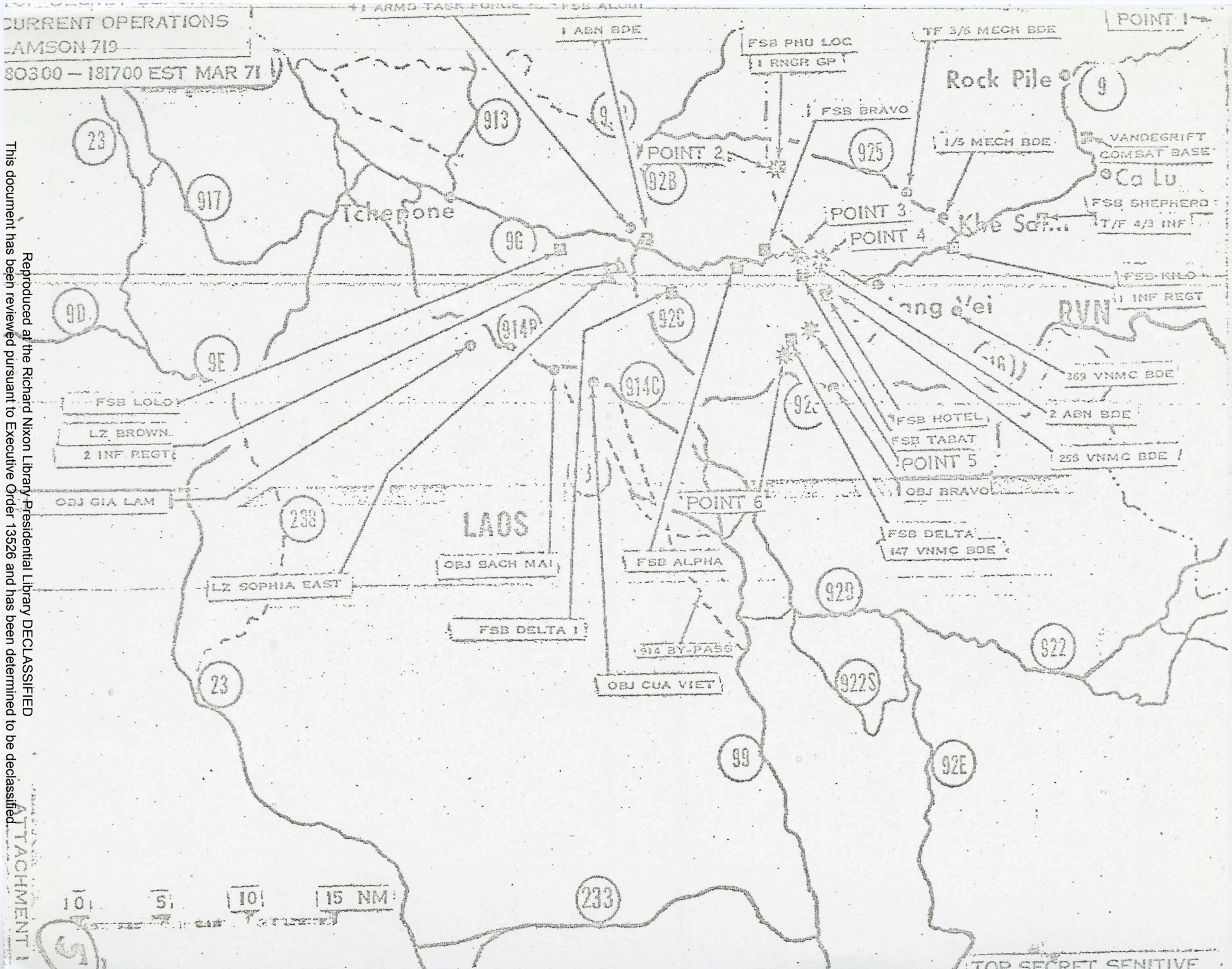
Updated BDA for 17 March 1971:

DESTROYED	DAMAGED	OTHER
41 trucks	34 bunkers	669 secondary explosions
36 bunkers	11 trucks	136 KBA
9 structures		69 secondary fires
5 AAA weapons		
2 machineguns		
1 supply area		

4. (U) Statistical data for the operation are shown in the attachments.

Attachments:
1. Map
2. Casualties
3. Equipment and Materiel Seized/Destroyed
4. Air Support
5. Aircraft Losses/Casualties

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LAMSON 719

CASUALTIES

(PERIOD 180300-181700 EST MAR 71)

	PERIOD			CUMULATIVE		
	KIA	WIA	MIA	KIA	WIA	MIA
FRIENDLY						
US	1	18	0	101	554	30
RVNAF	58	118	0	891	3,229	167
	KIA$	KBA	DET	KIA$	KBA	DET
ENEMY	106	16	2	10,786*	3,606	46

$The KIA figure includes the KBA figure.
*Adjusted data.

(6)

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LAMSON 719

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIEL SEIZED/DESTROYED

(PERIOD 180300-181700 EST MAR 71)

	PERIOD		CUMULATIVE
	SEIZED	DESTROYED	SEIZED/DESTROYED
Individual Weapons	22	3	4,420*
Crew-served Weapons	2	1	1,320*
Ammunition:			
(1) Small-Arms (Rounds)	0	0	470,196*
(2) Miscellaneous (Rounds)	205	0	77,376$*
Vehicles	0	0	281*
Tanks	0	0	108*
POL (Gallons)	0	0	209,710
Rice/Food (Pounds)	0	8,000	3,160,000*
Communication Equipment (Radios)	0	0	91
(Telephones/KM wire)	0/0	0/0	11/353
(Telephone Switchboards)	0	0	9
Medical Supplies (Pounds)	0	0	7,900
Documents (Pounds)	0	0	17
Miscellaneous Equipment/Supplies (Pounds)	0	0	79,800
Structures	0	0	1,097
Bunkers	0	0	1,069

*Adjusted Data
$Factored

(7)

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LAMSON 719

AIR SUPPORT

US COMBAT SUPPORT SORTIES

(PERIOD 171700-181700 EST MAR 71)

TYPE AIRCRAFT	PERIOD	CUMULATIVE
RVN		
A-4 (USMC)	2	162
A-6 (USMC)	1	27
A-7 (USN)	0	34
B-52	0	59
F-4 (USAF-USMC)	3	303
F-100	6	64
AC-119 Gunships	0	0
AC-130 Gunships	0	0
Helo Gunships	390	10,278
Air Cavalry	86	7,045
Helo Troop Lift	756	23,597
Helo Med Evac	90	952
C-130 Logistics	43	1,692
Helo Logistics	586	33,820
LAOS		
A-1 (USAF)	0	15
A-4 (USMC-USN)	80	1,133
A-6 (USMC)	4	153
A-7 (USN)	0	1,052
B-52	31	1,104
B-57 (USAF)	0	14
F-4 (USAF-USMC)	129	3,264
F-100	22	278
AC-119 Gunships	4	62
AC-130 Gunships	1	123
Helo Gunships	846	13,992
Air Cavalry	100	6,288
Helo Troop Lift	576	11,315
Helo Med Evac	48	766
C-130 Logistics	0	0
Helo Logistics	199	6,623

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LAMSON 719

AIR SUPPORT
(Continued)

VNAF/RAAF COMBAT SUPPORT SORTIES

(PERIOD 171700-181700 EST MAR 71)

TYPE AIRCRAFT	PERIOD	CUMULATIVE
RVN		
A-37	6	81
B-57 (RAAF)	0	213
Helo Gunships	6	31
Helo Troop Lift	18	296
Helo Med Evac	0	0
Helo Logistics	10	166
LAOS		
A-37	10	73
B-57 (RAAF)	0	0
Helo Gunships	0	220
Helo Troop Lift	0	637
Helo Med Evac	0	4
Helo Logistics	0	396

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LAMSON 719

AIRCRAFT COMBAT LOSSES

(PERIOD 180300-181700 EST MAR 71)

TYPE AIRCRAFT	PERIOD (RVN/LAOS)	CUMULATIVE* (RVN/LAOS)
US HELOS		
AH-1G	0/0	1/14 **
UH-1	0/1	5/34 **
OH-6A	0/0	3/6
OH-58A	0/0	1/4
CH-47	0/0	0/3 **
SUB-TOTAL:	0/1	10/61
US FIXED WING		
A-1	0/0	0/1
O-2	0/0	0/1
F-4	0/0	1/2
TOTAL US AIRCRAFT LOSSES:	0/1	11/65
VNAF HELOS		
UH-1H	0/0	0/6
CH-34	0/0	0/2
TOTAL:	0/0	0/8

*SOURCE: OPREP-5
**Includes losses not reported in MACV LAMSON reports.

US PERSONNEL CASUALTIES ASSOCIATED WITH AIR OPERATIONS

(PERIOD 180300-181700 EST MAR 71)

PERIOD			CUMULATIVE		
KIA	WIA	MIA	KIA	WIA	MIA
0	0	0	37	122	24

Appendix - Helo Combat Losses in SEASIA.

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HELICOPTER COMBAT LOSSES IN SEASIA

Total Helo losses - Combat in LAMSON 719 (1 Feb-18Mar) - 71

Total Helo losses - Combat in SEASIA (1 Feb-18Mar) - 97

Comparisons - 46 Days		
1 Feb - 18 Mar 70	SEASIA (1 Year Ago) -	59
1 May - 15 Jun 70	SEASIA (Cambodian Opn) -	102
1 Feb - 18 Mar 69	SEASIA (2 Years Ago) -	77
1 Feb - 17 Mar 68	SEASIA (TET) -	104

SOURCE: OPREP-5 and OASD TABLE 350

(11)

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19 March 1971

Subject: Operation TOAN THANG 01/71 NB

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 172200-182200 GMT March (180600-190600 March Saigon time, 171700-181700 EST March) 1971. The information here is based on available combat reports and will be revised upon receipt of more complete information.

2. (S) Summary of Current Operations:

a. General Situation: ARVN task force locations are shown on attachment 1. No major enemy contact was reported in the area of operations.

b. Significant Combat Actions Reported:

(1) At Point 1, corrected results of the action involving the combat assault of TF 9 elements reported in NMCC MFR, same subject, dated 180600 EST March 1971 reflect one US KIA (vice three), four US WIA (vice two) and four US MIA (vice two). RVNAF casualties were two ARVN KIA and 19 ARVN and 4 VNAF WIA (vice none). Nine US UH-1H helicopters received moderate to heavy damage. Helicopter losses previously reported remain unchanged.

(2) At Point 2, TF 3 elements searching the eastern portion of the Chup Plantation discovered 20 enemy bodies (NFI).

c. Progress of Friendly Forces in Achieving Objectives:

All preplanned objectives for the reporting period were accomplished.

3. (S) Remarks:

a. RVNAF troop strength in Cambodia for this operation is 16,569.

b. RVNAF battalions by type in Cambodia for this operation are:

(1) Infantry - 18

(2) Armored Cavalry Squadron - 5

(3) Ranger - 7

Enclosure 2

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c. Results of B-52 and tactical airstrikes:

(1) B-52 - None for this period; however, seven secondary explosions were reported for the previous period ending 171700 EST.

(2) Tactical air:

DESTROYED	DAMAGED	OTHER
31 bunkers	20 structures	15 secondary fires
26 foxholes	2 bunkers	1 secondary explosion
18 structures	2 storage areas	
3 supply storage areas	1 vehicle	
2 gunsites		
1 watercraft		
1 trench (50 meters)		

Updated BDA for 17 March 1971:

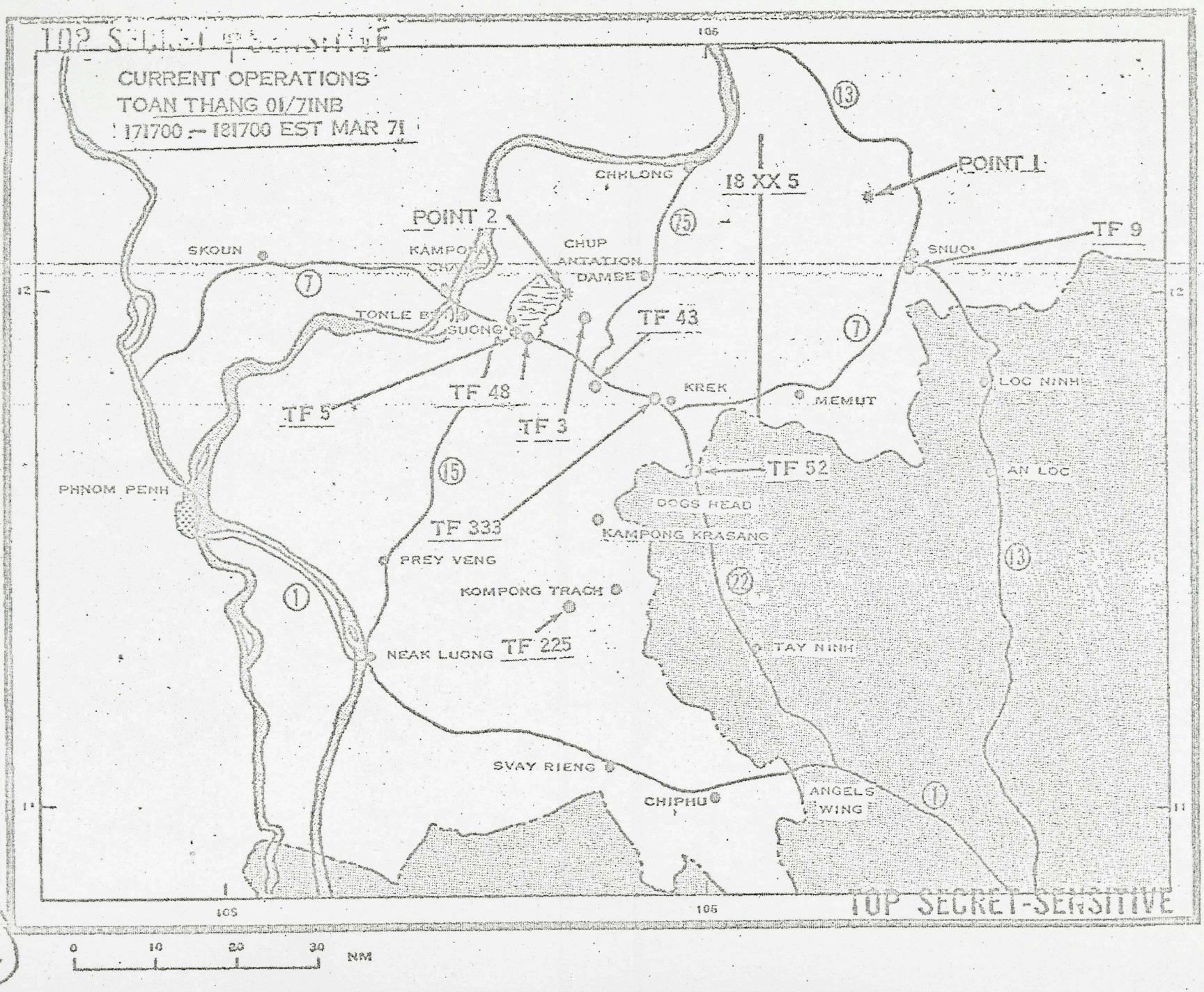
DESTROYED	OTHER
40 structures	84 KBA
20 foxholes	3 secondary fires
5 bunkers	1 secondary explosion
1 trench	

4. (U) Statistical data for the operation are shown in the attachments.

Attachments:
1. Map
2. Casualties
3. Equipment and Materiel Seized/Destroyed
4. Air Support
5. Aircraft Losses

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TOAN THANG 01/71 NB

CASUALTIES

(PERIOD 171700-181700 EST MAR 71)

	PERIOD			CUMULATIVE		
	KIA	WIA	MIA	KIA	WIA	MIA
FRIENDLY						
US	0	0	0	8*	16*	7*
RVNAF	5	19	14	387*	1,953*	136
	KIA$	KBA	DET	KIA$	KBA	DET
ENEMY	69	69	0	4,150	1,022	90

$Includes KBA.
*Adjusted data.

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TOAN THANG 01/71 NB

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIEL SEIZED/DESTROYED

(PERIOD 171700-181700 EST MAR 71)

	PERIOD		CUMULATIVE	
	SEIZED	DESTROYED	SEIZED	DESTROYED
Individual Weapons	0	1	456	71
Crew-served Weapons	0	0	122	2
Ammunition;				
(1) Small-arms Rounds	0	0	4,800	4,000
(2) B-40 Rounds	0	0	291	8
(3) B-41 Rounds	0	0	1	0
(4) 75-mm Rounds	0	0	25	0
(5) 60-mm Rounds	0	0	31	0
(6) 81-mm Rounds	0	0	53	0
(7) Mines	0	0	16	0
Vehicles	0	0	1	1
POL (Gallons)	0	0	1,585	0
Rice/Food (Pounds)	0	0	124,400	65,600
Communications Equipment (Radios)	0	0	3	0
Medical Supplies (Pounds)	0	0	0	0
Documents (Pounds)	0	0	3.6	0
Miscellaneous Equipment (Pounds)	0	0	0	2,600
Structures	0	0	0	185*
Bunkers	0	0	0	132*
Base Camps	0	0	0	2
Pipelines	0	0	0	0

*Adjusted figure.

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TOAN THANG 01/71 NB

AIR SUPPORT

(PERIOD 171700-181700 EST MAR 71)

TYPE AIRCRAFT	PERIOD	CUMULATIVE
US COMBAT SUPPORT SORTIES		
A-37	16	542
B-52	0	62
F-4	0	2
F-100	16	435
AC-119 Gunships	1	41
Helo Gunships	0	254
Air Cavalry	289	9,749
Helo Troop Lift	0	212*
Helo Med Evac	0	68
C-130 Logistics	0	0
Helo Logistics	0	145
VNAF COMBAT SUPPORT SORTIES		
A-1	35	1,087
A-37	0	21
F-5	9	544
O-1	0	34
AC-47 Gunships	2	71
Helo Gunships	2	255*
Helo Troop Lift	11	528
Helo Med Evac	2	222*
Helo Logistics	17	465

*Adjusted figure.

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TOAN THANG 01/71 NB

AIRCRAFT LOSSES

(PERIOD 171700-181700 EST MAR 71)

TYPE AIRCRAFT	PERIOD	CUMULATIVE*
US		
AH-1G	0	2*
UH-1H	0	3*
OH-6A	0	4*
VNAF		
UH-1H	0	1

*SOURCE: OPREP-5

U.S. PERSONNEL CASUALTIES ASSOCIATED WITH AIR OPERATIONS

(PERIOD 171700-181700 EST MAR 71)

	PERIOD			CUMULATIVE		
US	KIA	WIA	MIA	KIA	WIA	MIA
	0	0	0	8**	16**	7**

**Adjusted figure.

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: 192000-202000 Saigon time
OUTLOOK: 202000-212000 Saigon time

NVN PANHANDLE - AREA 1:

COASTAL - Cloudy, ceiling 4000 feet; visibility 7 miles - occasionally 3 miles in fog.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy, ceiling 4000 feet lowering to 500 feet AGL in valleys during morning hours; visibility 3 to 7 miles in fog - occasionally 1 to 3 miles in fog during morning hours.

OUTLOOK - Slight decrease in cloudiness.

NORTHERN SOUTH VIETNAM - AREA 2:

COASTAL - Cloudy, ceiling 4000 feet - occasionally lowering to 1000 feet during morning hours; visibility 5 to 7 miles in haze - occasionally 1 to 3 miles in fog and drizzle during morning hours.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy, ceiling 200 to 1000 feet AGL; visibility 1 to 5 miles in fog improving to 5 to 7 miles in haze during afternoon hours.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

KHE SANH - AREA 3:

- Cloudy, ceiling 200 to 500 feet AGL - lifting to 1000 feet AGL during afternoon hours; visibility 1 to 5 miles in fog improving to 5 to 7 miles in haze during afternoon hours.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

(19)

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Enclosure 3

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TCHEPONE - AREA 4:

- Cloudy, ceiling 1400 feet - occasionally 4000 feet; visibility 7 miles. In valleys, morning broken low clouds 500 feet AGL; visibility 1/2 to 3 miles in fog and haze.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

CHUP PLANTATION - AREA 5:

- Partly cloudy, ceiling unlimited - occasionally 3000 feet; visibility 3 to 7 miles in haze - occasionally 2 to 4 miles in fog during morning hours. Few nighttime showers/thunderstorms.

OUTLOOK - Decreasing shower/thunderstorm activity.

NOTE: All cloud heights are given in feet Above Mean Sea Level, except those indicating AGL (Above Ground Level).

Attachment
Map

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Attachment

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NMCC

THE JOINT STAFF

THE NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

19 March 1971
1600 EST

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: Military Situation Report on Operations in Laos

1. Attached are situation reports on operations in Laos and the weather forecast for the area.

2. A telephone check with MACV at 191405 EST revealed that 17 ACS and 7 ACS previously reported 4 km from FSB ALPHA, have arrived at FSB ALPHA.

J. S. Christiansen
J. S. CHRISTIANSEN
Rear Admiral, USN
Deputy Director for
Operations (NMCC)

2 Encls
a/s

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'71 MAR 19 PM 3:30
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19 March 1971

Subject: Operation LAMSON 719

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 182200-190800 GMT March (190600-191600 March Saigon time, 181700-190300 EST March) 1971. The information herein is based on available combat reports and will be revised upon receipt of more complete information.

2. (S) Summary of Current Operations:

a. General Situation:

(1) The 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) conducted local security operations in its assigned area of operations. Units reported one minor action and two attacks by fire, one on Khe Sanh Base.

(2) RVNAF forces continued operations in Laos and RVN. The 2d, 3d, and 4th Battalion, 2d Infantry Regiment remained in the vicinity of LZs BROWN and SOPHIA EAST. All battalions of the 2d Regiment have been in contact with enemy forces as they continue to move toward suitable pickup zones. The move of airborne and armored elements from FSB ALOUI east to FSB ALPHA is progressing as planned.

(3) There were a total of four minor combat activities reported during the period resulting in six (five ARVN, one US) killed, six (four ARVN, two US) wounded and four vehicles damaged.

b. Significant Combat Actions Reported:

(1) At Point 1, FSB ALPHA received an attack by fire resulting in six ARVN soldiers wounded. The number and type rounds were not reported.

(2) At Point 2, the 2d Airborne Infantry Battalion was to be extracted from field location for movement to the east. Three unsuccessful attempts were made when the effort was discontinued due to heavy ground fire and because the unit was in contact with an enemy force. Tactical airstrikes, helicopter gunships and artillery supported. No results of the contact have been reported. At the close of the reporting period, the 2d Battalion was moving to new pickup zone locations for extraction on 20 March, Saigon time.

(2)

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(3) At Point 3, Khe Sanh Base received 21 rounds of unknown-type indirect fire, both inside and outside the perimeter. Initial reports list one US soldier wounded and three fuel bladders damaged by shrapnel (repaired).

(4) At Point 4, as airborne and armored elements moved eastward toward FSB ALPHA from FSB ALOUI, forward air controllers reported four enemy tanks (NFI) moving south. The tanks were stopped by artillery and destroyed by tactical airstrikes.

(5) At Point 5, elements of the 5th Airborne Infantry Battalion found and destroyed 10,000 rounds of 7.62-mm ammunition. There was no contact with the enemy.

(6) At Point 6, the 3/2 Infantry Battalion engaged an enemy force and received an indirect attack by fire. Two ARVN soldiers were killed, seven were wounded and four are missing. Enemy losses are not known.

(7) At Point 7, the 4/2 Infantry Battalion engaged an enemy force which employed indirect fire against the ARVN force. Thirty-three ARVN soldiers were wounded and five are missing. Enemy losses are unknown.

(8) At Point 8, the 2/2 Infantry Battalion engaged an enemy force and received an indirect attack by fire. Two ARVN soldiers were killed, 23 wounded, and three are missing. Enemy losses were not reported.

(9) At Point 9, the 8/369 VNMC battalion engaged an enemy force killing six enemy soldiers and seizing 4,000 rounds of 7.62-mm ammunition and two individual weapons. There were no Marine casualties.

(10) At Point 10, the 1/258 VNMC Battalion engaged an enemy force resulting in one Marine killed and 12 wounded. Enemy losses were 14 killed and 220 pounds of rice, 15 huts, five AK-47 rifles and two antitank grenades destroyed.

(11) At Point 11, the 1/258 VNMC Battalion killed 20 enemy soldiers and destroyed 50 huts, nine shovels, nine packs, five AK-47 rifles and two antitank grenades. There were no friendly casualties.

c. Progress of Friendly Forces in Achieving Objectives:

(1) All preplanned objectives for the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) were achieved. Scheduled resupply mission of RVNAF units in Laos were completed with the exception of FSB DELTA where one of the 26 requested sorties was delivered. Scheduled extraction of the 2d

3

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Airborne Infantry Battalion was terminated due to intense fire in the landing zone area.

(2) RVNAF forces achieved all preplanned objectives for the period with the exception of the extraction of the 2d Airborne Infantry Battalion. The airborne and armored elements from FSB ALOUI began the move by road to FSB ALPHA without incident. In a late update from MACV, it is reported that the 7th and 17th Armored Cavalry Squadrons closed FSB ALPHA.

(3) Logistics: Nineteen C-130 sorties arrived at Khe Sanh, including eight sorties delivering JP-4 fuel. During the period, 275 tons of supplies were delivered to Khe Sanh by truck.

(4) Air Operations: During the period, 10 aircraft were hit by hostile fire, seven of which were reported downed (five UH-1H, one AH-1G, one UH-1C). The status of the downed aircraft was not known at the end of the reporting period. Two US crewmembers were wounded. The crew of the UH-1C above, which was downed in the pickup zone of the 2d Airborne Infantry Battalion, is being reported as missing. All other crewmembers were extracted. Air cavalry elements report killing 25 enemy soldiers during the period.

(5) Engineer Effort: The repair and curing of the epoxy cement on the assault strip at Khe Sanh has been completed and C-130s were landing on that strip on 20 March, Saigon time.

3. (S) Remarks:

a. RVNAF troop strength in Laos for this period is 14,519.

b. RVNAF battalions by type in Laos for this operation are:

(1) Infantry (including airborne)	11
(2) Artillery	4
(3) Armored Cavalry Squadron	4
(4) Engineer	2
(5) VNMC	6
(6) Ranger	0

c. Results of B-52 strikes: None were reported for this period. An additional 12 secondary explosions were reported for the previous period.

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d. Results of tactical airstrikes:

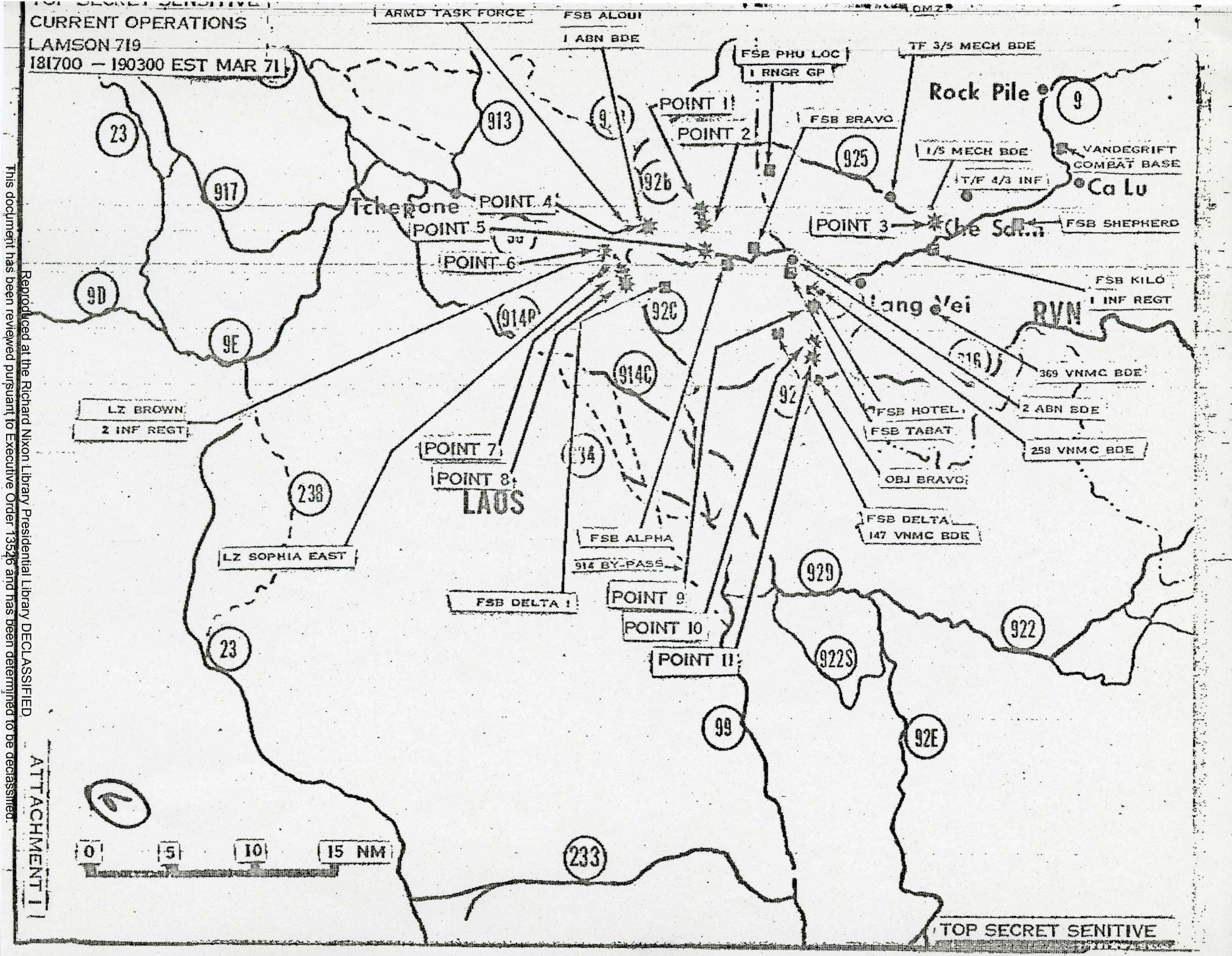
DESTROYED	DAMAGED	OTHER
25 crates supplies	4 gun sites	45 meters road cut
7 mortar positions	2 tanks	16 secondary fires
5 automatic weapons sites		5 secondary explosions
3 tanks		1 ford cut
2 gun sites		
1 ammo cache		

4. (U) Statistical data for the operation are shown in the attachments.

Attachments:
1. Map
2. Casualties
3. Equipment and Materiel Seized/Destroyed
4. Aircraft Losses/Casualties

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LAMSON 719

CASUALTIES

(PERIOD 181700-190300 EST MAR 71)

	PERIOD			CUMULATIVE		
	KIA	WIA	MIA	KIA	WIA	MIA
FRIENDLY						
US	1	7	4	102	561	34
RVNAF	Not Available			891	3,229	167
	KIA$	KBA	DET	KIA$	KBA	DET
ENEMY	73	32	0	10,859	3,638	46

$Includes KBA.

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LAMSON 719

EQUIPMENT AND MATERIEL SEIZED/DESTROYED

(PERIOD 181700-190300 EST MAR 71)

	PERIOD		CUMULATIVE
	SEIZED	DESTROYED	SEIZED/DESTROYED
Individual Weapons	12	1	4,433
Crew-served Weapons	4	0	1,324
Ammunition:			
(1) Small-Arms (Rounds)	4,000	10,000	484,196
(2) Miscellaneous (Rounds)	0	7	77,383$*
Vehicles	0	0	281
Tanks	0	0	112
POL (Gallons)	0	0	209,710
Rice/Food (Pounds)	200	8,000	3,160,200
Communication Equipment (Radios)	0	0	91
(Telephones/KM wire)	0/0	0/0	11/353
(Telephone Switchboards)	0	0	9
Medical Supplies (Pounds)	0	0	7,900
Documents (Pounds)	0	0	17
Miscellaneous Equipment/Supplies (Pounds)	0	0	79,800
Structures	67	0	1,164
Bunkers	29	0	1,098

*Adjusted Data
$Factored

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LAMSON 719

AIRCRAFT COMBAT LOSSES

(PERIOD 181700-190300 EST MAR 71)

TYPE AIRCRAFT	PERIOD (RVN/LAOS)	CUMULATIVE* (RVN/LAOS)
US HELOS		
AH-1G	0/0	1/14
UH-1	0/0	5/34
OH-6A	0/0	3/6
OH-58A	0/0	1/4
CH-47	0/0	0/3
SUB-TOTAL:	0/0	10/61
US FIXED WING		
A-1	0/0	0/1
O-2	0/0	0/1
F-4	0/0	0/1
TOTAL US AIRCRAFT LOSSES:	0/0	11/65
VNAF HELOS		
UH-1H	0/0	0/6
CH-34	0/0	0/2
TOTAL:	0/0	0/8

SOURCE: OPREP-5

US PERSONNEL CASUALTIES ASSOCIATED WITH AIR OPERATIONS

(PERIOD 181700-190300 EST MAR 71)

PERIOD			CUMULATIVE		
KIA	WIA	MIA	KIA	WIA	MIA
0	2	4	37	124	28

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: 200600-210600 Saigon time
OUTLOOK: 210600-220600 Saigon time

NVN PANHANDLE - AREA 1:

COASTAL - Cloudy, ceiling 4,000 feet; visibility 7 miles - occasionally 3 miles in fog.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy, ceiling 4,000 feet lowering to 500 feet AGL in valleys during morning hours; visibility 3 to 7 miles in fog - occasionally 1 to 3 miles in fog during morning hours.

OUTLOOK - Slight decrease in cloudiness.

NORTHERN SOUTH VIETNAM - AREA 2:

COASTAL - Cloudy, ceiling 4,000 feet - occasionally lowering to 1,000 feet during morning hours; visibility 5 to 7 miles in haze - occasionally 1 to 3 miles in fog and drizzle during morning hours.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy, ceiling 200 to 1,000 feet AGL; visibility 3 to 7 miles in fog/haze.

OUTLOOK - Slight decrease in clouds.

KHE SANH - AREA 3:

- Cloudy, ceiling 100 to 300 feet AGL - lifting to 800 to 1,400 feet AGL during afternoon hours; visibility 1/8 to 2 miles in fog - improving to 5 to 6 miles in haze during afternoon hours.

OUTLOOK - Slight decrease in clouds.

TCHEPONE - AREA 4:

- Cloudy, ceiling 14,000 feet - occasionally 4,000 feet; visibility 7 miles. In valleys, morning broken low clouds 500 feet AGL; visibility 1/2 to 3 miles in fog and haze.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

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CHUP PLANTATION - AREA 5:

- Partly cloudy, ceiling unlimited - occasionally 3,000 feet; visibility 3 to 7 miles in haze - occasionally 2 to 4 miles in fog during morning hours. Few nightime showers/thunderstorms.

OUTLOOK - Decreasing shower/thunderstorm activity.

NOTE: All cloud heights are given in feet Above Mean Sea Level, except those indicating AGL (Above Ground Level).

Attachment
Map

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THE NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

HAK'D
WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM
71 MAR 22 AM 3:20

22 March 1971
0255 EST

THE JOINT STAFF

HAIG
HAIG
KENNEDY

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: FRACTURE CROSS ALPHA

1. This is report #4 on air strikes in NVN on 21 March.

2. Scheduled H-Hour was 0500Z 21 March 1971 (2400 EST 20 March).

a. The first reported time over the target (TOT) was 0502Z (0002 EST).

b. The last TOT for strike aircraft was 1310Z (0810 EST).

c. Final egress from enemy territory was 1320Z (0820 EST).

3. Sorties Scheduled (OPREP-1): 315.

	7AF	TF-77
Strike	110	142
*Support	26	37
Total:	136	179

*Support = FAC, Photo, Escort, IRON HAND, Combat Air Patrol, ECM, AEW, AAR.

4. Sorties Flown: 296**

a. 7AF (OPREP-5):

STRIKE	SUPPORT	TOTAL
98	24	122

b. TF-77:

STRIKE	SUPPORT	TOTAL
110**	64**	174**

**Latest update.

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5. TF-77 Pilot Reported BDA:

	DESTROYED/DAMAGED
Trucks	13/6**
SAMs	5/0**
Buildings	16/5**
Bridges	2/2**
Storage Area	0/1**
Depot Area	0/1
AAA Sites	1/0**
POL Barrels	50/0**
Boxes of Supplies	20/0**
Causeway Cut	1**
Road Cuts	16
Track Cuts	1**
RR Line Cuts	2**
Explosions	149**
Fires	39**
RR Tunnel and Train therein	0/1

**Latest update.

6. 7AF Reported BDA:

	a. PILOT REPORTS: DESTROYED/DAMAGED	b. PHOTO CONFIRMED: DESTROYED/DAMAGED
Trucks	18/5**	1/3**
Structures	13/0**	40/2**
SAM	1/0	1/1
SAM Launcher	1/0	2/2
Bridge	0/1	
Secondary Explosions	116**	
Large Explosions	3	
Medium Explosions	6	
Sustained Fires	85**	
Medium Fires	3	
Small Fires	35**	
KBA	100	
Roads/Trails Hit	2	2**
Stacks of Supplies		1/15**
FAWSONG Radar		0/1
Support Vans		0/4**
Control Vans		0/2**
POL Barrels Burned		6

**Latest update.

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7. Friendly Losses: None.

8. This information is based on the final OPREP-5 for 21 March 1971 FRACTURE CROSS ALPHA air operations.

W. P. ANDERSON
Brigadier General, USAF
Deputy Director for
Operations (NMCC)

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21 March 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: FRACTURE CROSS ALPHA (U)

1. This is the initial report of air strikes in NVN.

2. Timing: Scheduled H-Hour was 0500Z, 21 March 1971. The first reported time over the target (TOT) was 0502Z.

3. Sorties Scheduled (OPREP-1) - 315.

	7AF	TF-77
Strike	110	142
*Support	26	37
	136	179

* Support = FAC, Photo, Escort, IRON HAND, Combat Air Patrol.

4. Sorties Flown:

a. 7AF (OPREP-5):

STR	ARREC	SUPPORT	TOTAL
68	32	24	124

b. TF-77*:

STR	SUPPORT	TOTAL
36	14	50

*Based on preliminary reports. OPREP-5 not yet available.

5. Preliminary BDA:

a. AF strike on missile site off Route 101, 13 NM north of DMZ resulted in at least one missile and one launcher destroyed with one large and 50 small to medium secondary explosions and numerous large fires.

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71 MAR 21 AM 8:26

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b. Navy strike on missile site on Route 101, 13 NM from Mu Gia Pass resulted in 20 large, 10 medium, and 20 small secondary explosions; 6 large secondary fires with dense red smoke. One large fire with smoke to 14,000 feet also reported. Target estimated 50% destroyed.

c. Navy also reported 17 trucks destroyed, 9 trucks damaged, one rail line cut, and 9 buildings destroyed/damaged, in Route 15 area.

6. Complete results will be provided upon receipt of summary OPREP-5.

J. S. CHRISTIANSEN
Rear Admiral, USN
Deputy Director for
Operations (NMCC)

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N M C C

THE NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

THE JOINT STAFF

21 March 1971
1520 EST

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: FRACTURE CROSS ALPHA

1. This is report #3 on air strikes in NVN.

2. Scheduled H-Hour was 0500Z 21 March 1971 (2400 EST 20 March).

a. The first reported time over the target (TOT) was 0502Z (0002 EST).

b. The last TOT for strike aircraft was 1310Z (0810 EST).

c. Final egress from enemy territory was 1320Z (0820 EST).

3. Sorties Scheduled (OPREP-1): 315.

	7AF	TF-77
Strike	110	142
*Support	26	37
Total:	136	179

*Support = FAC, Photo, Escort, IRON HAND, Combat Air Patrol

4. Sorties Flown: 281

a. 7AF (OPREP-5):

STRIKE	SUPPORT	TOTAL
98**	24	122**

b. TF-77:

STRIKE	SUPPORT	TOTAL
111	48	159

** Latest update

'71 MAR 21 PM 4:01

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5. Total Pilot Reported BDA from TF-77:

4 SA-2 missiles on transporters destroyed
34 large explosions (10 of which were SAM associated)
76 other explosions
1 RR tunnel and train therein damaged by multiple, violent explosions
1 RR depot damaged
3 bridges dropped
22 trucks destroyed
29 trucks damaged
14 sustained, large fires
2 large buildings burning
9 buildings destroyed/damaged in supply/storage area
7 structures destroyed/damaged
1 railroad cut
16 road cuts

6. 7AF reported BDA:

	a. Pilot Reports: Destroy/Damage	b. Photo Confirmed BDA:
Trucks	13/0	16 stock supp dam.
Roads/Trails Hit	2	3 sust fires
KBA	100	25 structures dest.
Secondary Explosions	115	1 structure burning
Small Fires	10	2 SAM launchers dest.
Sustained Fires	35	2 SAM launchers dam.
Bridge	0/1	1 SAM dest.
Medium Fires	3	1 SAM dam.
Large Explosions	3	1 FANSONG dam.
Medium Explosions	6	6 support vans dam.
Missile	1/0	3 trucks dam.
SAM Launcher	1/0	5 structures dest.
		6 POL barrels burning

7. At the Hung Trung SAM Support Facility, pilots reported four SA-2 missiles burning and snaking along the ground. Only one SAM was observed launched against the strike force near SAM Site VN 409 on Route 15.

8. A total of 12 SHRIKE and 1 STANDARD ARM were fired against SAM, AAA and GCI radars. Results were not observed. However, pilots report probable hits on 1 FANSONG and 1 GCI radar.

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9. Strike effort was concentrated in three general areas:

a. SAM Site VN 409 near Route 15, 20 NM north of Mu Gia Pass.

b. Hung Trung SAM Support Facility on Route 101, 11 NM east of Mu Gia Pass.

c. SAM Site VN 412, near the junction of Routes 101 and 103, 13 NM north of the DMZ.

10. Friendly Losses: None.

11. Following is a comparison of sorties flown on protective reaction strikes in NVN since November 1968:

DATE	STRIKE SORTIES	SUPPORT SORTIES	TOTAL
27-28 Mar 1970	139	89	228
19 Apr 1970	40	54	94
1-4 May 1970	483	225	708
21 Nov 1970	228	109	337
20-21 Feb 1971	52	-	52
28 Feb 1971	15	-	15

12. Complete results will be provided upon receipt of final OPREP-5.

J. S. CHRISTIANSEN
Rear Admiral, USN
Deputy Director for
Operations (NMCC)

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WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

THE JOINT STAFF

21 March 1971
1225 EST

'71 MAR 21 PM 12:47

WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: FRACTURE CROSS ALPHA

1. This is report #2 on airstrikes in NVN.

2. Scheduled H-Hour was 0500Z 21 March 1971 (2400 EST 20 March).

a. The first reported time over the target (TOT) was 0502Z (0002 EST).

b. The last TOT for strike aircraft was 1310Z (0810 EST).

c. Final egress from enemy territory was 1320Z (0820 EST).

3. Sorties Scheduled (OPREP-1): 315.

	7AF	TF-77
Strike	110	142
*Support	26	37
Total:	136	179

*Support = FAC, Photo, Escort, IRON HAND, Combat Air Patrol.

4. Sorties Flown:

a. 7AF (OPREP-5):

STRIKE	SUPPORT	TOTAL
100	24	124

b. TF-77:

STRIKE	SUPPORT	TOTAL
111	48	159

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5. Significant Preliminary BDA:

a. AF strike on missile site off Route 101, 13 nautical miles north of DMZ resulted in at least one missile and one launcher destroyed with one large and 50 small-to-medium secondary explosions and numerous large fires (see attached map, Point 1).

b. Navy strike on missile site on Route 101, 13 nautical miles from Mu Gia Pass resulted in 20 large, 10 medium, and 20 small secondary explosions; six large secondary fires with dense red smoke. One large fire with smoke to 14,000 feet also was reported. Target estimated 50 percent destroyed (see attached map, Point 2).

6. Total Pilot Reported BDA from TF-77:

4 SA-2 missiles on transporters destroyed
34 large explosions (10 of which were SAM associated)
76 other explosions
1 RR tunnel and train therein damaged by multiple, violent explosions
1 RR depot damaged
3 bridges dropped
22 trucks destroyed
29 trucks damaged
14 sustained, large fires
2 large buildings burning
9 buildings destroyed/damaged in supply/storage area
7 structures destroyed/damaged
1 railroad cut
16 road cuts

7. Friendly Losses: None.

8. Initial reports indicate at least three SHRIKEs were fired, two at a GCI radar (see attached map, Point 3) and another at a SAM radar (see attached map, Point 4), several AAA Fire Control Radars were also reported active against strike aircraft. One SAM was launched against Navy aircraft attacking at Point 2 on the attached map and detonated 1,000 feet above the strike aircraft.

9. Complete results will be provided upon receipt of final OPREP-5.

J. S. CHRISTIANSEN
Rear Admiral, USN
Deputy Director for
Operations (NMCC)

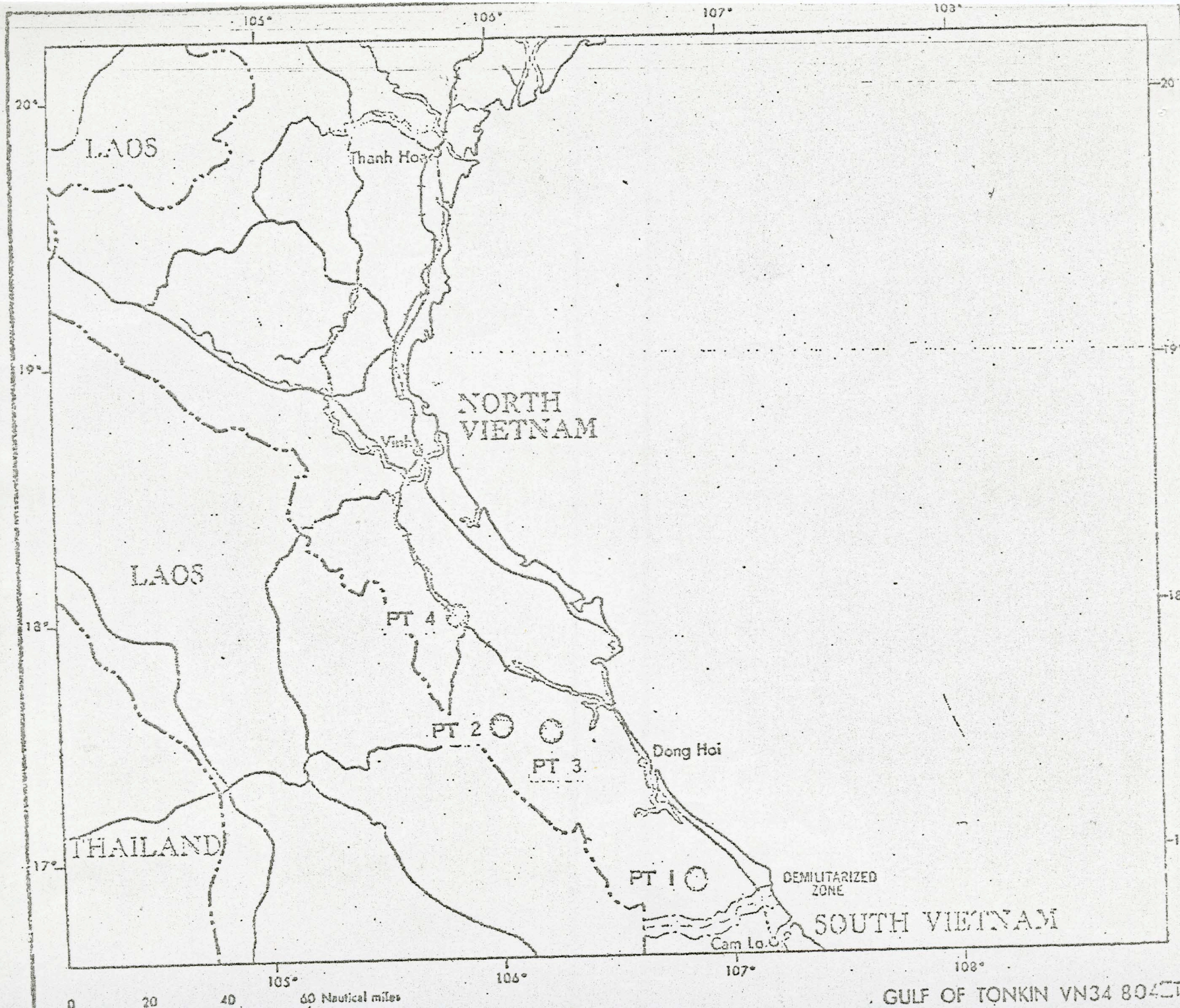
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TCHEPONE - AREA 4:

Cloudy, ceiling 8000 feet occasionally 4000 feet, visibility 6 miles in haze. Between 0500 and 1000 Saigon time, in valleys, patchy broken stratus, 500 feet AGL and fog/haze, visibility 1/2-3 miles. Isolated late afternoon/evening showers/thunderstorms.

OUTLOOK - Decreasing shower/thunderstorm activity, otherwise little change.

CHUP PLANTATION - AREA 5:

Cloudy, 10000 feet occasionally 3000 feet, visibility 5 to 7 miles in haze. Few afternoon/night showers/thunderstorms. Between 0500 and 1100 Saigon time, patchy broken stratus, 1000 feet AGL and fog/haze, visibility 1/2-3 miles.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

NOTE: All cloud heights are given in feet Above Mean Sea Level, except those indicating AGL (Above Ground Level).

Attachment
Map

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NMCC

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THE NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

THE JOINT STAFF

22 March 1971
0620 EST

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Subject: FRACTURE CROSS ALPHA (U)

1. This is report # 1 on air strikes in NVN on 22 March 1971.

2. Scheduled H-Hour was 0500Z, 21 March 1971 (2400 EST 20 March). The first time over target on 22 March was 0440Z (2340 EST 21 March).

3. General. Rapidly deteriorating weather seriously interfered with air operations.

4. Sorties Scheduled (OPREP-1) - Total 307.

	7AF	TF-77
Strike	96	140
Support*	34	37
	130	177

*Support = FAC, Photo, Escort, IRON HAND, Combat Air Patrol, ECM, AEW

5. Sorties Flown (OPREP-5) in NVN - Total 72.

	7AF*	TF-77**
Strike	56	0
Support	16	0
	72	0

\# 24 strike aircraft initially diverted to Laos.
** All aircraft diverted to Laos.

6. BDA* (7AF OPREP-5):

1 SA-2 missile destroyed
41 explosions
6 trucks destroyed (includes 5 burning)
2 trucks damaged
54 fires (includes 2 POL/2 ammo fires)

* Results of 24 PAVE PHANTOM strikes not included (not observed).

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7. Friendly Losses: One 7AF F4D was struck and downed by one of four SAMs fired at his flight. Two good parachutes were observed and SAR in progress. The aircraft was downed 10.5 NM southwest of Dong Hoi and 28 NM from southern limit of DMZ.

8. 24 aircraft used LORAN all-weather (PAVE PHANTOM) delivery tactics against Xuan Son Transshipment Point. Results were not observed. This was the first strike of the type in NVN.

9. Complete results of the 22 March operations will be provided upon receipt of summary OPREP-5.

W. P. ANDERSON
Brigadier General, USAF
Deputy Director for
Operations (NMCC)

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THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

Telephone Run 014

CM-648-71

26 FEB 1971

TOP SECRET

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Subj: Operation LAMSON 719 (U)

1. (U) Reference is made to your request for my comments on MACV 251200Z February 1971.

2. (TS) In my view, the ARVN plan to reinforce LAMSON 719 forces in MRI and in Laos is militarily sound and offers the following advantages:

a. A stronger force is employed in the critical area North of Route 9 in that the two VNMC brigades are considered to have greater staying power and are fresher than the airborne elements in that sector.

b. The airborne brigades from their screening positions South of Route 9 will be ideally located to provide a quick reaction force to exploit local successes, to reinforce as necessary, and to screen the withdrawal through Base Area 611.

c. The most seasoned units, the 1st and 3rd ARVN Regiments, in concert with the Armored Brigade, are now assigned the assault mission along the high ground South of Route 92 and astride Route 914.

d. A strong reserve consisting of the VNMC Brigade from MR-4 and the five battalions of the 2d Regiment, 1st ARVN Division is available to reinforce the assault or exploit as the situation develops.

3. (TS) Although this latest plan, which is strongly supported by GEN Abrams, alters to some degree the original scheme of maneuver, it only reflects the ARVN's adaptation to the developing battlefield situation. The changes noted therein, I feel, will permit the ARVN to more satisfactorily accomplish their mission in LAMSON 719. The move of the VNMC brigade from MR-4 merely represents the commitment of

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the RVNAF strategic reserve to MR-1 and LAMSON 719. This, in turn, permits the employment of the Airborne Division to capitalize on its rapid assault capability for either exploitation or reinforcement. I believe these changes will enhance the ability of the RVNAF force in accomplishing its mission. Further, failure to make these modifications to the force and scheme of maneuver could result in a stalemate situation with attendant increased casualties and only a partial attainment of the objective.

4. (TS) The plan outlined in the referenced message will have no adverse effect on Vietnamization. While withdrawal of helicopter assets from PRAIRIE FIRE will cause a temporary disruption in intelligence producing capability, LAMSON 719 itself and concurrent SGU activity offsets to a great degree the need for such operations during this time frame. The reallocation of 16 CH-47 helicopters from MR-2 represents only 15% of MR-2 CHINOOK assets. The 29 Cobras from MR-3 and MR-4 equate to approximately 12% of the combined gunship capability in those Regions. With the current low activity levels being experienced throughout SVN and the availability of US assets to rapidly reinforce if necessary, the impact of these moves relative to the enemy threat in these areas is minimal.

5. (TS) The enemy threat within MR-2 has remained fairly constant throughout 1970 with the heaviest concentration in the less populated central highlands. In MR-3 there has been a declining threat since the start of Allied cross-border operations into Cambodia from approximately 35,000 enemy combat troops to about 26,000, of which an estimated 45 percent are operating in Cambodia. Enemy combat strength in MR-4 has also decreased from a level of about 21,000 to 17,000 for the same period. ARVN forces currently operating in MR-4 and in Cambodia are fully capable of handling this threat without the VNMC brigade which has been in strategic reserve status.

6. (TS) I am particularly gratified and impressed by the flexibility and ability of the RVN forces to adapt to a changing military situation. The modified plan exploits the enemy's decision to engage in large unit actions which makes him more vulnerable to both air and ground attacks. It also provides an opportunity for additional ARVN forces to gain valuable battlefield experience, particularly in the area of unit leadership. I feel confident that this change will help us realize more fully our primary objective of buying time for our allies with which both the FANK and the RVNAF can become self-sufficient.

T. H. Moorer

T. H. MOORER
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 26, 1971

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE
CONTAINS CODEWORD

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT: Southeast Asian Operational Status

Laos

Operation LAM SON 719:

The enemy continued to maintain pressure through ground and fire attacks.

-- North of Route 9, enemy forces supported by a number of tanks penetrated a Fire Support Base manned by ARVN airborne troops during the evening of February 25-26 (see map).

-- ARVN elements remain in the area, however, and reinforcements are moving to the scene. Casualty reports are not available, although eight enemy tanks were reported destroyed in the area.

-- A few miles to the east, a second ARVN fire support base came under heavy enemy fire on February 26 and also reported a number of enemy tanks in the vicinity (see map). Tactical aircraft are on station in support of the ARVN position.

-- South of Route 9 elements of the ARVN 3rd Regiment repulsed an enemy ground attack on February 25, killing 45 without sustaining any losses (see map). An additional ARVN battalion has now reinforced this position.

ARMY Review Completed

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-- The North Vietnamese not only have moved substantial forces into the area, but they also seem to have selved the cautious, economical style of fighting that has been the hallmark of Communist forces for most of the past two years.

-- Recent enemy frontal attacks leave little doubt that Hanoi is willing to commit large numbers of regular forces to battle even though the Communists realize the costs will be high.

-- Cumulative enemy KIA's are 2,561; ARVN KIA 278 and U.S. KIA 67.

Cambodia

Operation Toan Thang 01/71:

ARVN forces engaged the enemy in one sharp clash while carrying out scheduled sweep operations.

-- ARVN Rangers killed 87 enemy east of the Chup plantation without sustaining any losses.

-- Two other minor clashes resulted in six ARVN and 10 enemy KIA. Cumulative KIA total 204 ARVN and 1,814 enemy.

-- Some 17,900 ARVN troops are now participating in the Cambodian operation.

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[82/2/6] Ed

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 25, 1971

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CONTAINS CODEWORD

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER HK

SUBJECT: Southeast Asian Operational Status

Laos

Operation LAM SON 719:

-- There has been a sharp increase in enemy ground activity during the reporting period.

-- An ARVN airborne unit north of Route 9 was reported to be under an enemy tank/infantry attack. According to unconfirmed reports, several enemy tanks have been destroyed.

-- ARVN infantry elements have made contact with enemy forces along Route 92 and south of Route 9. Tactical air supported ARVN resulted in 17 enemy KIA.

-- Repositioning of ARVN units in preparation for future operations continues.

-- Significant enemy losses from B-52 strikes are being reported. Ninety-two enemy dead were found at the scene of one B-52 strike.

-- Several recent intercepted messages indicate supply activity in the Panhandle is continuing although being hampered by Allied positions.

-- KIA during the period were 101 enemy, no U.S. and no ARVN (ARVN casualties for the second half of the period are not available.) Cumulative enemy KIA are now 2,328; ARVN KIA 283; and U.S. KIA 65.

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Cambodia

Operation Toan Thang:

-- ARVN search and security operations continued according to plan with only a small number of enemy contacts reported.

-- In an apparent effort to delay and impede the advance of ARVN Task Forces in the vicinity of Route 75, there has been a noticeable increase in the enemy's employment of mines.

-- KIA during the period were 23 enemy and no ARVN. Cumulative enemy KIA are 1,709 and ARVN KIA 196.

Diplomatic

-- The Soviet Union has issued an official government statement on Laos, which is noteworthy not so much for what it says as for the fact that is has formally been issued.

-- At today's Paris meeting, Xuan Thuy repeated his assertion of last week that the extension of the ground war in Southeast Asia "is a threat to China and other Asian countries."

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SECRET/SENSITIVE

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT: Significant Enemy Losses in Laotian and Chup Operations as of February

Laos (LAMSON 719)	Cumulative	24-hour change
Individual weapons	1,332	+17
Crew-served weapons	249	+7
Small arms ammunition (rounds)	144,340	+340
Other assorted ammunition (pounds)	246,200	+22,000
Food (pounds)	784,400	+87,000
Vehicles	120	+1
Petroleum (gallons)	134,360	--
Structures destroyed	693	--
Bunkers destroyed	372	+125
Enemy KIA	2,328	+41
U.S. KIA	65	--
ARVN KIA	283	+13
Miscellaneous		
Equipment & supplies (pounds)	74,760	--
Medical supplies	7,400	--
Cambodia (Toan Thang 1/71)		
Individual weapons	402	+10
Crew-served weapons	85	+2
Small arms ammunition	8,800	+4,000
Small rocket & mortar ammunition (rounds)	341	--
Food (pounds)	83,600	--
Structures destroyed	10	--
Bunkers destroyed	32	--
Enemy KIA	1,709	+33
ARVN KIA	196	+2

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LTG ZAIS, DJ-3		X
VADM WEINEL, DJ-5		
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IMMEDIATE

28 FEB 71

O 28C410Z ZYH ZFF-4 ZFF-1

FM GEN ABRAMS COMUSMACV

TO ADM MOORER CJCS

ADM MCCAIN CINCPAC

CEM

~~S E C R E T SPOKS~~ MAC 02109 EYES ONLY

SUBJECT: DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION (U)

1. THIS SUMMARY UPDATES DEVELOPMENTS IN THE ENEMY SITUATION IN LAOS, SOUTHERN NVN AND NORTHERN MILITARY REGION 1.

A. COMMUNICATIONS INTELLIGENCE:

(1) AN INTERCEPTED MESSAGE FROM THE 64TH NVA REGIMENT, THE UNIT RESPONSIBLE FOR THE ATTACK ON FIRE SUPPORT BASE 31, STATED "A NUMBER OF PERSONNEL ARE STILL IN THE TUNNEL. WE WILL FINISH CAPTURING THEM".

(2) IN OTHER COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE 64TH NVA REGIMENT, A COORDINATED ATTACK AGAINST BAN DONG (XD 51 39) WAS FORECAST, USING AT LEAST ONE INFANTRY BATTALION AND ONE T-54 TANK COMPANY. THE HOI CHANH FROM THE 24TH NVA REGIMENT, WHO RALLIED ON 18 FEBRUARY, HAD INDICATED THAT THE TANK ELEMENT OF THE 70B CORPS INCLUDED T-54 TANKS.

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[1 of 3]

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BINH TRAM 33 PROVIDED FURTHER EVIDENCE OF THIS ATTACK IN COMMUNICATIONS ON 27 FEBRUARY, WHEN THEY INDICATED THAT NVA ELEMENTS WERE IN THE PROCESS OF ENCIRCLING BAN DONG (XD 51 39).

(S) IN A 27 FEBRUARY MESSAGE BETWEEN BINH TRAM 33 AND ITS SUBORDINATE 1ST INFANTRY BATTALION, ATTACK PLANS WERE REVEALED. THE BINH TRAM DIRECTED THE 1ST BATTALION TO BE PREPARED TO ATTACK AT 0600 HRS ON 28 FEBRUARY AGAINST HIGHPOINTS 660 (XD 495 362), AND 651 (XD 495 367). THE ATTACK WAS TO BE WITH 122MM ROCKETS. THE BATTALION HAS EARLIER REQUESTED CLARIFICATION OF FIRING INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE BINH TRAM, AND WAS APPARENTLY EXPERIENCING DIFFICULTIES WITH THE FIRING POSITION. PREVIOUS COMMUNICATIONS OF 23 AND 24 FEBRUARY HAD REVEALED THAT THE 1ST BATTALION WAS TARGETTING FRIENDLY FORCES AT THESE LOCATIONS.

D. THE UNIDENTIFIED MAJOR NVA HEADQUARTERS (B 77 28)

A CORRELATION OF SIGINT AND COLLATERAL INFORMATION HAS FURTHER IDENTIFIED THE UNIDENTIFIED MAJOR NVA HEADQUARTERS (B 77 28) AS THE PROBABLE HEADQUARTERS, 70TH NVA FRONT. ACCORDING TO A HOI CHANH WHO RALLIED ON 18 FEBRUARY FROM THE 24B NVA REGIMENT, 304TH NVA DIVISION, 3 ARMY CORPS WERE ORGANIZED IN NVN IN OCTOBER 1970 AND DESIGNATED AS 6CD, 70A AND 70B. THERE HAVE BEEN NO REFERENCES IN SIGINT TO A MILITARY CORPS AUTHORITY IN THE VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST COMMAND STRUCTURE, AND A TACTICAL UNIT ECHELON OF THIS LEVEL IS NOT KNOWN TO EXIST IN THE NVA. THE TIMING OF THE REPORTED ORGANIZATION OF THESE UNITS DOES COINCIDE; HOWEVER, WITH THE EMERGENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS OF THE UNIDENTIFIED MAJOR NVA HEADQUARTERS (B 77 28) IN THE DONG HOI AREA.

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WHILE THE UNIDENTIFIED MAJOR HEADQUARTERS REMAINED IN THE DONG HOI AREA, THE COMMUNICATIONS OF UNITS LOCATED NEARBY (QUANG BINH PROV UNIT AND ELEMENTS OF THE 320TH NVA DIVISION) REFERRED TO "HEADQUARTERS 70", "B70" AND "GROUP 70." LATER, WHEN THE UNIDENTIFIED MAJOR NVA HEADQUARTERS RELOCATED TO WEST OF THE DMZ, A BATTALION OF THE 679B ARTILLERY REGIMENT IN EASTERN SAVANNAKHET PROVINCE MENTIONED "HEADQUARTERS 70" IN A MESSAGE STATING THAT "HEADQUARTERS 70" HAD ISSUED ORDERS TO FIRE ON ENEMY FORCES. COLLATERAL INFORMATION HAS IDENTIFIED THE AREA OF OPERATION OF THE "70B CORPS" AS EXTENDING FROM KHE SANH INTO SOUTHERN LAOS AND INDICATED THAT THE CORPS ORGANIZATION INCLUDES THE 320TH, 304TH AND 308TH NVA DIVISIONS. THE UNIDENTIFIED MAJOR NVA HEADQUARTERS IS SERVED BY A COMMUNICATIONS STRUCTURE CLOSELY PARALLELING THAT OF THE REPORTED "70B CORPS", BOTH IN TERMS OF MAJOR SUBORDINATE UNITS AND ITS REPORTED AREA OF OPERATION. ALTHOUGH THE TERM "FRONT" HAS NOT BEEN SEEN IN COMMUNICATIONS RELATIVE TO THIS HEADQUARTERS, THE ASSIGNMENT OF THIS DESIGNATER IS BASED ON ITS FORCE STRUCTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS BEHAVIOR.

THE PROBABLE HEADQUARTERS, 70TH NVA FRONT WAS LAST FIXED ON 26 FEBRUARY (XD 611 604) APPROXIMATELY 4 NAUTICAL MILES SOUTHWEST OF THE WESTERN DMZ.

C. ENEMY DISPOSITION:

THE DISPOSITION OF MAJOR ENEMY ELEMENTS IN THE AREA OF SOUTHERN NVN, LAOS AND NORTHERN MILITARY REGION 1 REFLECTS NO CHANGE FROM PREVIOUSLY REPORTED DEVELOPMENTS.

D. WE WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR AND KEEP YOU INFORMED.

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[82/2/8]

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HOWE

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

4 March -

Memo For Gen Al Haig

Here is the best info we have at this time.

We have again strongly recommended against any specific and think we should stick to:

- Disruption of logistic flow.
- Effect will be evident in months ahead
- Too early to describe specific results - but we do know from intelligence reports that operation is disrupting his plans.

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NLNOU-51/10591 ; per ltr 12/12/2012
By NARA. Date 4/30/2012

[p 1 of 2]

Per Sec. (b)(3):10 USC 424; 3.3(b)(1)

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DIA INTELLIGENCE APPRAISAL

Southbound Traffic Along Ho Chi Minh Trail Since Initiation of LAMSON 719

1. (S) Commencing 10 February, a sharp increase in southbound truck movement was noted along the major routes leading south from the Tchepone area as the NVA attempted to move supplies southward prior to ARVN's disruption of its lines of communications. During the period 10-16 February, southbound truck movement increased fifty-eight percent (58%) over the previous seven day period.

2. (S) The following week, 17-23 February, southbound traffic continued to rise as the enemy's crash logistic program got into full swing. During this week, southward movement increased seven percent (7%) over the 10-16 February period.

3. (S) During the next seven days, 24 February-2 March, however, a sharp drop in southbound traffic occurred. Southbound truck movement during this period decreased fifty-four percent (54%) from the week of 17-23 February.

4. (SS) The sharp decline in southbound traffic during the last week in February can be attributed in part to a combination of the following factors:

a. During the last few days in February, [redacted] this phase of the crash logistic program had been completed.

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(b)(3):10 USC 424;
3.3(b)(1)

b. ARVN was successful in stopping traffic on routes 9G and 92G.

c. Concentrated B-52 and Tac Air strikes in support of ARVN affected traffic flow.

d. Interdiction of the POL pipeline is beginning to be reflected in POL shortages further south in the panhandle.

Approved by:

[redacted]

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U.S. HELICOPTER LOSSES DUE TO COMBAT

1. In the first 24 days of the operations in northern South Vietnam and Laos (Lan Som 719) there have been 24 combat losses of U.S. helicopters.

-- These losses are less than half the helicopter losses in Southeast Asia during the comparable period while the Cambodian operations were in progress last May (24 versus 52).

-- These losses are slightly less than losses throughout Southeast Asia during the comparable period in 1970 and 1969 (24 versus 25 and 29) and about half the losses during an equivalent period in February 1968 (24 versus 45).

2. There have been 31 U.S. helicopter losses due to combat throughout Southeast Asia during this month.

-- These losses are only slightly greater than losses in the comparable period in 1970 and 1969 and are much less than losses in the first 24 days of February 1968 (31 versus 25, 29 and 45).

-- These losses are 40% lower than losses throughout Southeast Asia during a comparable period while the Cambodian operations were in progress (31 versus 52).

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REPORT #7 SECRET 25 FEB 71

HELICOPTER LOSSES (COMBAT-AIRBORNE) IN SEASIA

TOTAL HELO LOSSES - COMBAT IN LAMSON 719 (24 FEB)	24
TOTAL HELO LOSSES - COMBAT IN SEASIA (24 FEB) (INCLUDES LAMSON)	31
TOTAL HELO LOSSES FEB 70 - SEASIA	29
TOTAL HELO LOSSES MAY 70 - SEASIA (HELOS LOST IN CAMBODIA - 18)	67
TOTAL HELO LOSSES MAY 69 (A SHAU CAMPAIGN)	55
TOTAL HELO LOSSES IN FEB 68 (TET) - SEASIA	54

COMPARISONS - 24 DAYS

FEB 71	LAMSON 719 / DEWEY CANYON	24
FEB 70	SEASIA (1 YEAR AGO)	25
MAY 70	SEASIA (CAMBODIA OPN)	52
FEB 69	SEASIA (2 YEARS AGO)	29
FEB 68	SEASIA (TET)	45

Combat related losses

NOTE: ALL FIGURES IN THIS REPORT EXCLUDE GROUND AND OPERATIONAL LOSSES. IN ADDITION TO THE 20 LAMSON AIR LOSSES, THERE ARE 2 GROUND AND 5 OPERATIONAL LOSSES. THUS, TOTAL U. S. LAMSON HELO LOSSES ARE 27.

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SUBJ: LON NOL CONVALESCENCE

REF: (A) CINCPAC 020320Z MAR 71: (B) PHNOM PENH 975 DTG 011030Z MAR 71 (PASEP): (C) CINCPAC 262229Z FEB 71.

1. WE ARE IN FULL AGREEMENT WITH ANALYSIS REF (B) OF THE VARIOUS POSSIBILITIES FOR LON NOL CONVALESCENCE.

2. FOR CINCPAC: SUGGEST YOU DISCOURAGE ANY SUGGESTION FOR CONVALESCENCE IN CONUS. POLITICAL CLIMATE WOULD BE POOR AT THIS TIME IN VIEW OF ACTIVE OPERATIONS IN PROGRESS IN BOTH CAMBODIA AND LAOS, AND WE WOULD BE CONCERNED OVER STRAIN OF ADDITIONAL TRAVEL, LACK OF CONTINUITY IN MEDICAL ATTENTION, ETC. WE SHARE PHNOM PENH'S VIEW THAT CONVALESCENCE IN HONOLULU WOULD BE PREFERABLE. SHOULD LON NOL MAKE A DIRECT REQUEST, PLEASE TELL HIM ONLY THAT YOU WILL REFER MATTER TO WASHINGTON.

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EXDIS EXDIS EXDIS EXDIS

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 034658

EM FOR PHNOM PENH: PLEASE FOLLOW A SIMILAR LINE WHENEVER QUESTION ARISES IN YOUR CONTACTS WITH GKR. ROGERS

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

SECRET/SENSITIVE

February 25, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER

SUBJECT: Significant Enemy Losses in Laotian and Chup Operations as of February 24, 1971

Laos (LAMSON 719)	Cumulative	24-hour change
Individual weapons	*1315	+8
Crew-served weapons	*242	+5
Small arms ammunition (rounds)	144,000	--
Other assorted ammunition (pounds)	*224,200	+168,760
Food (pounds)	*697,400	+27,400
Vehicles	*119	+1
Petroleum (gallons)	134,360	--
Structures destroyed	693	--
Bunkers destroyed	247	+7
Enemy KIA	2,287	+96
U.S. KIA	65	+11
ARVN KIA	283	+7
Miscellaneous		
Equipment & supplies (pounds)	74,760	--
Medical supplies	7,400	--
Cambodia (Toan Thang 1/71)		
Individual weapons	392	+18
Crew-served weapons	83	+5
Small arms ammunition	4,800	--
Small rocket & mortar ammunition (rounds)	341	--
Food (pounds)	83,600	--
Structures destroyed	10	--
Bunkers destroyed	32	--
Enemy KIA	1,676	+53
ARVN KIA	194	+10

SECRET/SENSITIVE

* Represents Adjustments Based on Updated Information

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~~TOP SECRET~~/SENSITIVE/~~SPOKE~~

[82/2/9]

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

11 MAR 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

Subject: Status Report on Operations in Laos and Cambodia

1. (C) Reference is made to your memorandum, dated 11 February 1971, subject as above.

2. (C) In accordance with your request, the 1600 hour daily reports are attached as Enclosures 1 and 2. A weather forecast covering particular areas of interest in Southeast Asia has been added as Enclosure 3.

3 Encls
a/s

Upon removal of attachments
this document becomes
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DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Section 3.5
NLN 060-51/10592; Per ltr 10/27/2011
By MCP NARA, Date 4/30/2011
[p 1 of 16]
Per Sec. 3.3(b)(1); (b)(3):10 USC 424

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Sec Def Cont Nr. X-1232

~~TOP SECRET~~/SENSITIVE/~~SPOKE~~

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11 March 1971

Subject: Operation LAMSON 719

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 100800-110800 GMT March (101600-111600 Saigon time, 100300-110300 EST) March 1971.

2. (TS) Summary of Current Situation:

a. Reported combat activity remained light to moderate during the period with ARVN units continuing search operations as they moved toward assigned objectives. The period was highlighted by the BDA of previous B-52 strikes which revealed significant enemy losses. Of further interest was the reported ground interdiction of Route 914 approximately 10 miles southeast of Tchepone.

b. Twelve ground contacts and/or attacks by fire occurred during the period. These resulted in enemy losses of 124 KIA, while friendly forces lost 13 KIA and 52 WIA. This includes US casualties of three KIA and 14 WIA. Additionally, four US UH-1H helicopters were destroyed. The enemy/friendly kill ratio for the operation remains a favorable 10 to one. Some of the above listed casualties have not as yet been picked up in the attached statistical tables.

c. The most significant event of the period was the BDA of an ARC LIGHT strike approximately 8 miles southeast of Tchepone. In addition to finding 391 enemy dead, ARVN units reported that eight trucks, eight tracked vehicles, 644 AK-47s, thirty 82-mm mortars, 64 CHICOM radios, and 8 tons of mixed ammo and other equipment had been destroyed by the strike. Five enemy soldiers were also captured in the area. Other BDA reports for the period accounted for some 316 enemy KBA, while a Vietnamese Marine battalion killed 72 enemy in a contact south of FSB HOTEL.

d. The 2d Regiment of the 1st ARVN Division has begun moving by air to the southeast with lead elements having landed at LZ BROWN. The 4th composite tank battalion, consisting of two tank troops and a squadron headquarters (34-M-41 tanks), moved from Dong Ha to Khe Sanh without incident during the period.

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3. (TS) Plans for Future Operations:

a. The 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) will continue operations in assigned area with the emphasis on location of possible enemy mortar and rocket positions north and east of Khe Sanh. The reconnaissance effort will continue in the area south of Lang Vei.

b. RVNAF units will continue operations in RVN and Laos with emphasis directed toward search operations.

(1) 1st Infantry Division:

(a) 1st Infantry Regiment will conduct security operations vicinity FSB LOLO continuing to expand the secure zone around the base. Two battalions will continue to attack to the west and southwest to cut Route 914 (OBJ GIA LAM and OBJ BACH MAI).

(b) 2nd Infantry Regiment. 3/2 Infantry battalion continues to secure LZ LIZ and 4/2 Infantry battalion continues to secure FSB SOPHIA and prepares to move to LZ LIZ.

(c) 3d Infantry Regiment continues to secure FSB DELTA ONE and LZ BROWN and conduct search operations in the area between.

(2) 1st Airborne Division:

(a) 1st Airborne Brigade will continue searches in present location and continue to attack to the northwest with one battalion.

(b) 2d Airborne Brigade will continue to secure Route 9 in zone, secure land clearing operations along Route 9, and conduct company-size operations in vicinity of present location.

(c) 4th Composite Tank Battalion (4th ACS Hq with 1/3 and 1/8 tank troops attached) are preparing to move from Khe Sanh to FSB ALPHA on 12 March.

(3) Armored Task Force:

(a) The 11th Armored Cavalry Squadron and the 8th Airborne Battalion (-) will continue to attack to the west.

(b) The 17th Armored Cavalry Squadron reinforced with one infantry company and one reconnaissance company will continue to secure Route 9 from FSB ALOUI to FSB ALPHA.

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(4) Vietnamese Marine Division:

(a) 147th Brigade will secure FSB DELTA with one battalion and continue to attack to the south with two battalions.

(b) 258th Brigade will continue to attack to the south with two battalions, conduct reconnaissance in force, and secure FSB HOTEL and conduct searches in that vicinity.

(c) 369th Brigade will continue security operations south of Khe Sanh with two battalions.

(5) The 1st Ranger Group will continue operations in the vicinity of FSB PHU LOC. The 21st Ranger Battalion (-) and the 64th Artillery Battalion Headquarters will move to a position 2 miles southeast of FSB PHU LOC when weather permits. The Group Headquarters and one 155-mm artillery battery will be prepared to move to FSB PHU LOC on 12 March.

(6) Engineer priority effort will be on the repair of the Khe Sanh assault strip. Completion of work on the sub-base of the main strip will be delayed until the weather becomes favorable. Work continues on the upgrading of the sub-base at the end of the main strip with the estimated completion date of 11 March. The penepriming of the Lang Vei rearm/refuel pad continues.

Attachment

1. Map
2. DIA Assessment

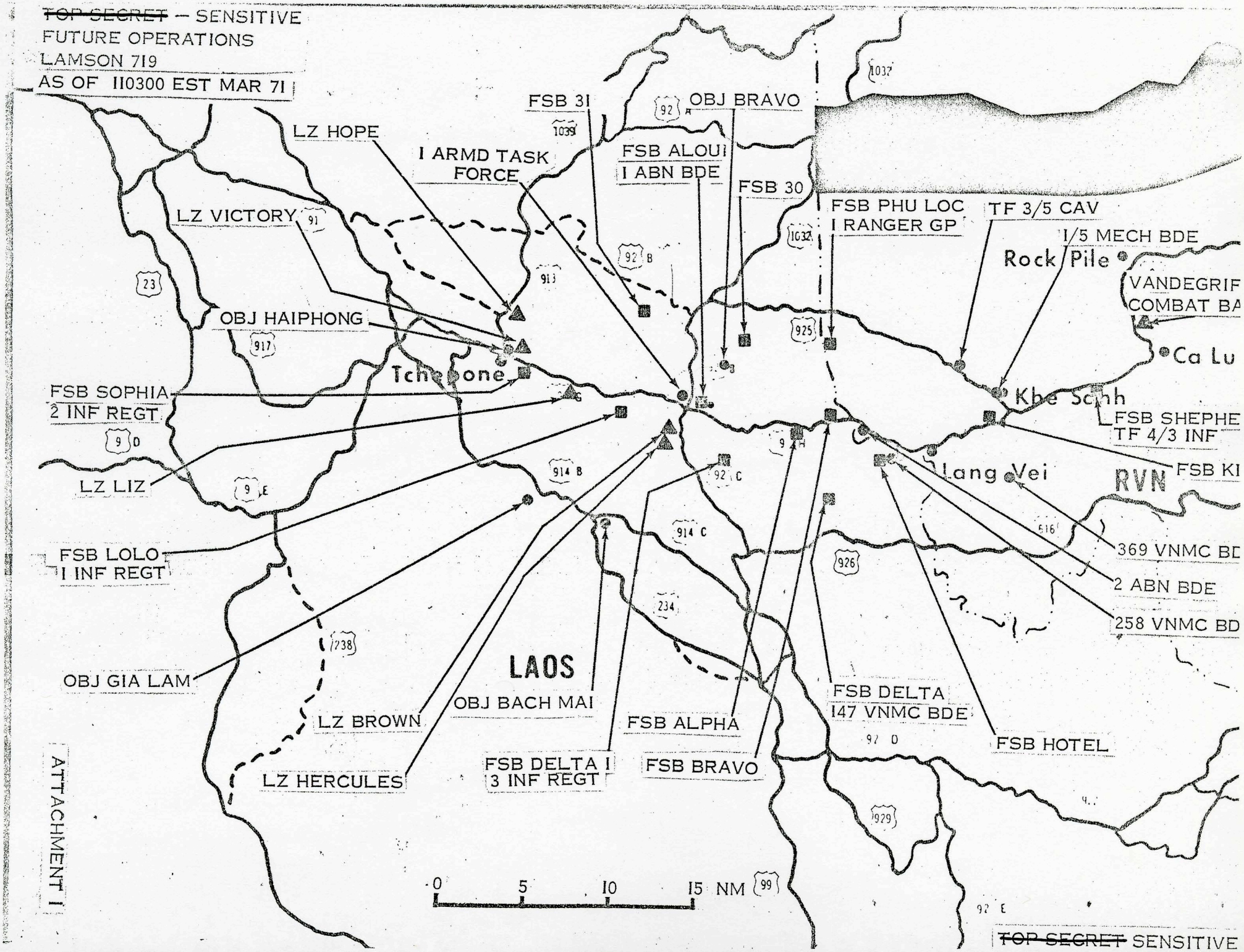
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~~TOP SECRET~~ – SENSITIVE

FUTURE OPERATIONS

LAMSON 719

AS OF 110300 EST MAR 71



ATTACHMENT I

~~TOP SECRET~~ SENSITIVE

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DIA INTELLIGENCE APPRAISAL

Enemy Reactions to Operation LAMSON 719 (U)

1. (SS) The Headquarters, 64th NVA Regiment, was located seven miles northeast of Tchepone on 10 March, a move of ten miles from its 4 March position.

2. (SS) There are tenuous indications that the 270th NVA Regiment may be moving to western Quang Tri Province from its former positions north of the eastern DMZ. Since 1 March, MRDF fixes have reflected the possible presence of this unit in the south central DMZ.

3. (SS) [redacted] the 803d NVA Regiment, 324B NVA Division, is preparing to relocate, possibly to the vicinity of western Base Area 611 where the 29th and 812th Regiments of that Division are currently located.

SANITIZED
(b)(3):10 USC 424; 3.3(b)(1)

4. (C) The enemy launched another attack against Vandegrift Combat Base on 10 March, again emphasizing the enemy's intentions to target supply installations supporting LAMSON 719.

5. (SS) In logistic activity, [redacted] local supply shortages in the LAMSON 719 area. According to one report, units subordinate to BT-33 "do not have meat, sugar, milk and eggs. ...All the foodstuffs are finished." [redacted] the 64th NVA Regiment reported that all "the 12.7-mm machine-gun ammunition was expended in two attacks...and if we are attacked again, we will not be able to utilize the 12.7-mm machinegun."

SANITIZED
(b)(3):10 USC 424; 3.3(b)(1)

6. (SS) [redacted] units of BT 41 will soon be subordinated to BT 33. [redacted] stated "all the forces of BT 41 remaining to the east (were) to be controlled by BT 33, including the road and the engineers from the 3-way intersection at La Hap." Three weeks ago the Headquarters, BT 41 relocated west to the vicinity of BT 33 as a probable reaction to the LAMSON operation.

SANITIZED
(b)(3):10 USC 424; 3.3(b)(1)

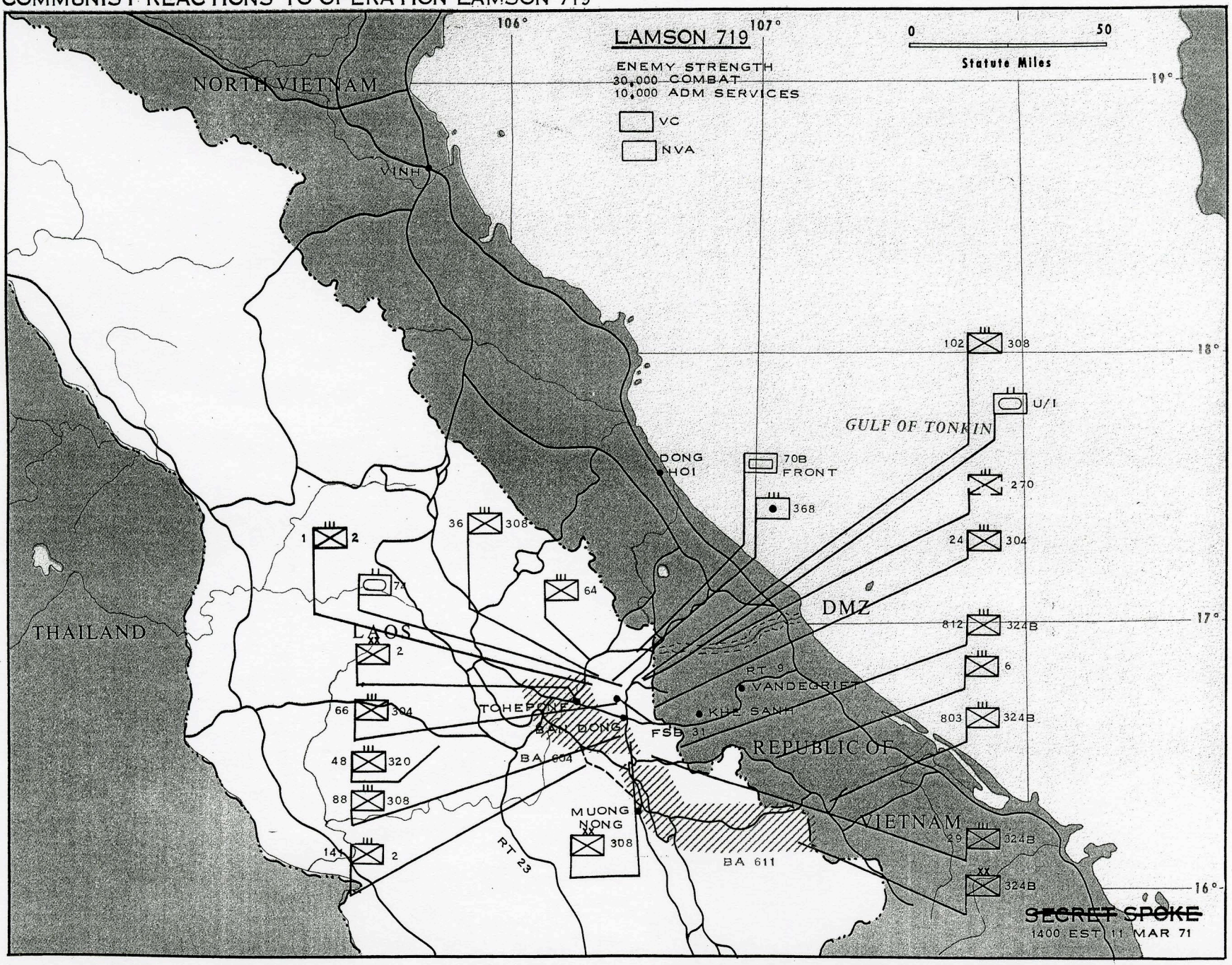
Approved by: [redacted]

SANITIZED
(b)(3).00 USC 424

Attachment 2

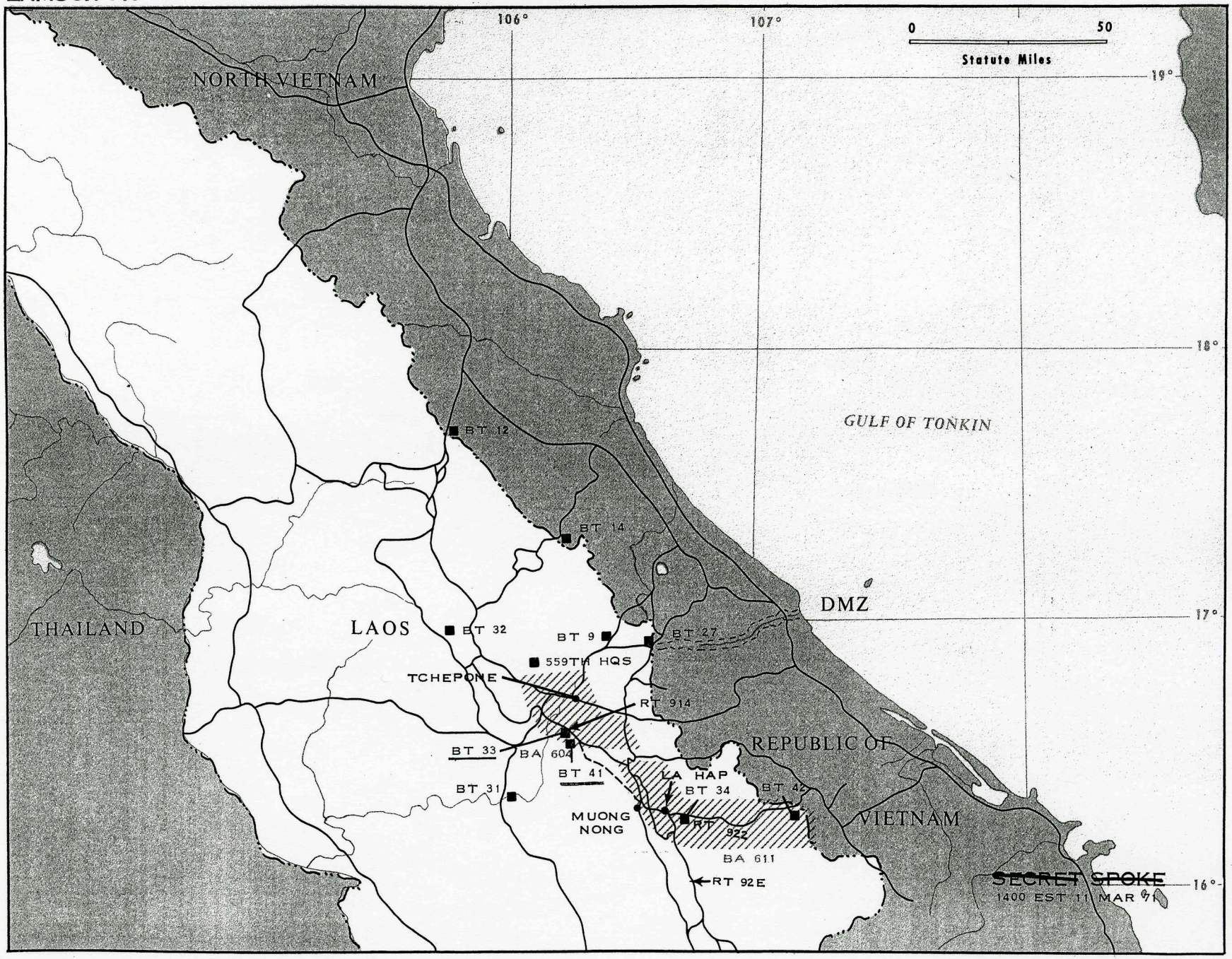
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COMMUNIST REACTIONS TO OPERATION LAMSON 719



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LAMSON 719



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11 March 1971

Subject: Operation TOAN THANG 01/71 NB

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 100800-110800 GMT March (101600-111600 Saigon time, 100300-110300 EST) March 1971.

2. (TS) Summary of Situation:

a. The level of activity in the TOAN THANG area of operations continued to be very light during the reporting period with only one incident reported. Ten miles north of Snoul a US Cobra gunship received eight hits of .51 caliber fire. The aircraft made a precautionary landing but was later flown to its home station.

b. Task Force 3 continues moving north and northwest searching an area southwest of Dambe. Task Force 43 and Task Force 48 conducted limited reconnaissance and local security operations north of Highway 7. Task Force 225 continues to search the area southwest of Kompong Trach while Task Force 9 conducts operations in the vicinity of the Snoul Rubber Plantation. Highway 7 is being secured from Krek to the vicinity of Ton Le Bet by Task Forces 5 and 333. Task Force 52 secures Highway 78 from Krek to the RVN border.

c. Eleven FANK battalions are now assisting in securing the major LOCs and conducting pacification operations in support of the ARVN forces; seven FANK battalions being employed along Route 7 between Krek and the Mekong River and 4 along Route 1 between the RVN border and Kompong Trabek.

d. One NVA Division Headquarters and a subordinate regiment are reported to have moved from the vicinity of Dambe to Base Area 711, northwest of Mimot. The moves were probably for the purpose of resupplying, refitting and avoiding ARVN operations.

3. (TS) Plans for Future Operations:

a. 18th Infantry Division:

(1) TF 3 will continue attack to the north toward Dambe.

(2) TF 43 and 48 will continue local security operations and be prepared to move on order.

(3) TF 5, 52, and 333 will continue route security along Route 7 and Route 78.

b. 5th Infantry Division: TF 9 will continue operations west, northwest, and south of the Snoul Rubber Plantation.

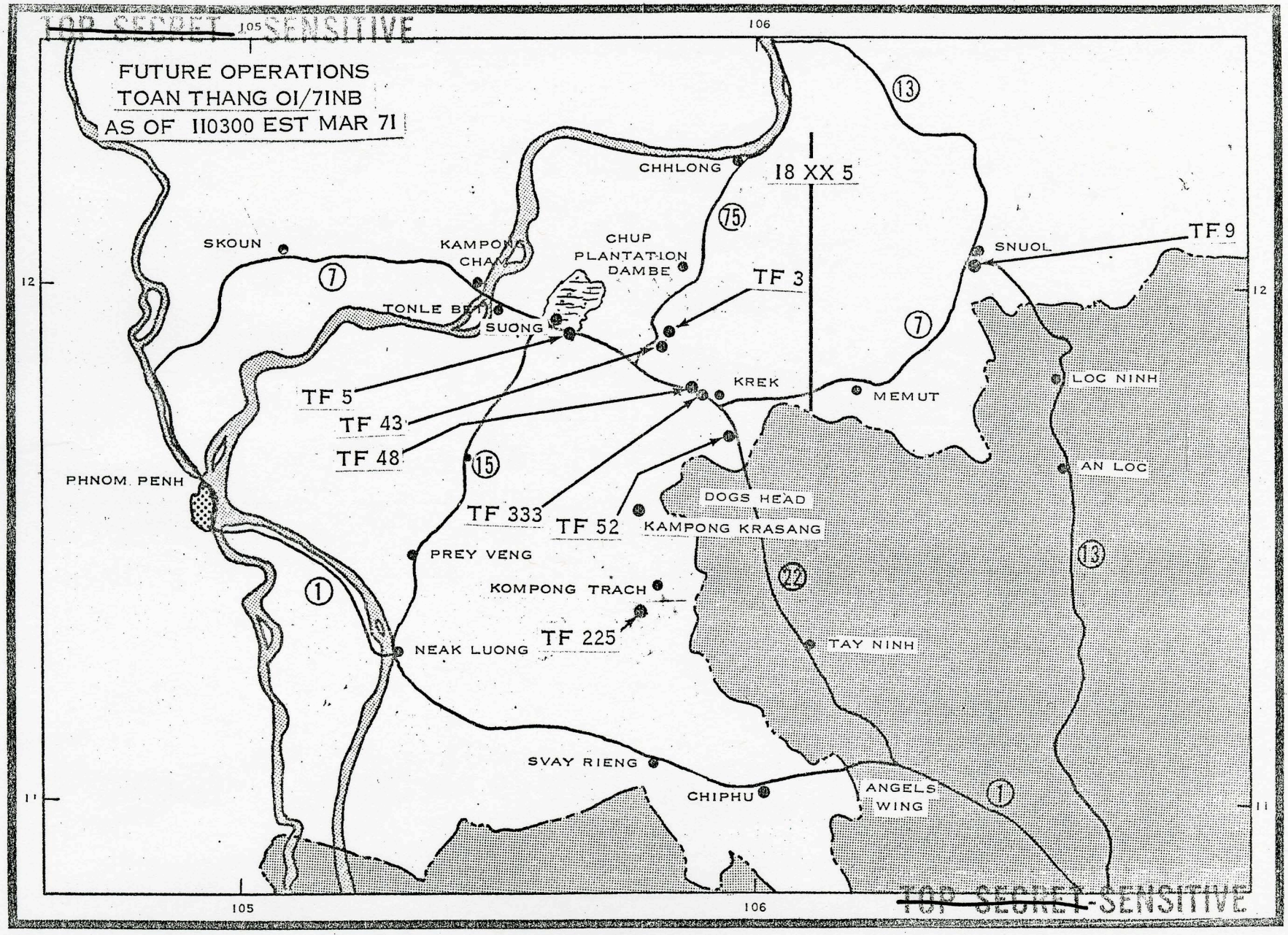
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NLN-NPMS-84-110-23 #9 of 107

c. 25th Infantry Division: TF 225 will continue combined arms reconnaissance in force operations west and southwest of Kompong Trach and conduct route security.

Attachments:
1. Map
2. DIA Assessment

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ATTACHMENT

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DIA INTELLIGENCE APPRAISAL

Enemy Reactions to Operation TOAN THANG 01/71 (U)

1. (SS) On 9 March, the Headquarters, 7th NVA Division, and its subordinate, the Headquarters, 209th NVA Regiment, were located 22 miles east of their last fixed positions near Route 75. The moves place both headquarters in Base Area 711. These relocations were probably made to avoid ARVN operations along Route 75, and for the purpose of resupplying and refitting.

2. (SS) On 10 March, the Headquarters, 174th NVA Regiment, 5th VC Division, was immediately north of the Chup Plantation, 17 miles southwest of its 8 March location. This deployment may have been in response to ARVN operations in the Chup Plantation, which the enemy believes are about to take place.

3. (SS) These enemy moves, if valid, indicate the enemy has broken up the concentration of his forces in the Dambe/Route 75 area. Six days ago, there were six regiments and two division headquarters in that area. Currently, the communists have four regiments in the vicinity of Chup, two in the Dambe/Route 75 area and three in the vicinity of Snuol and the Fishhook.

Approved by:

[redacted]

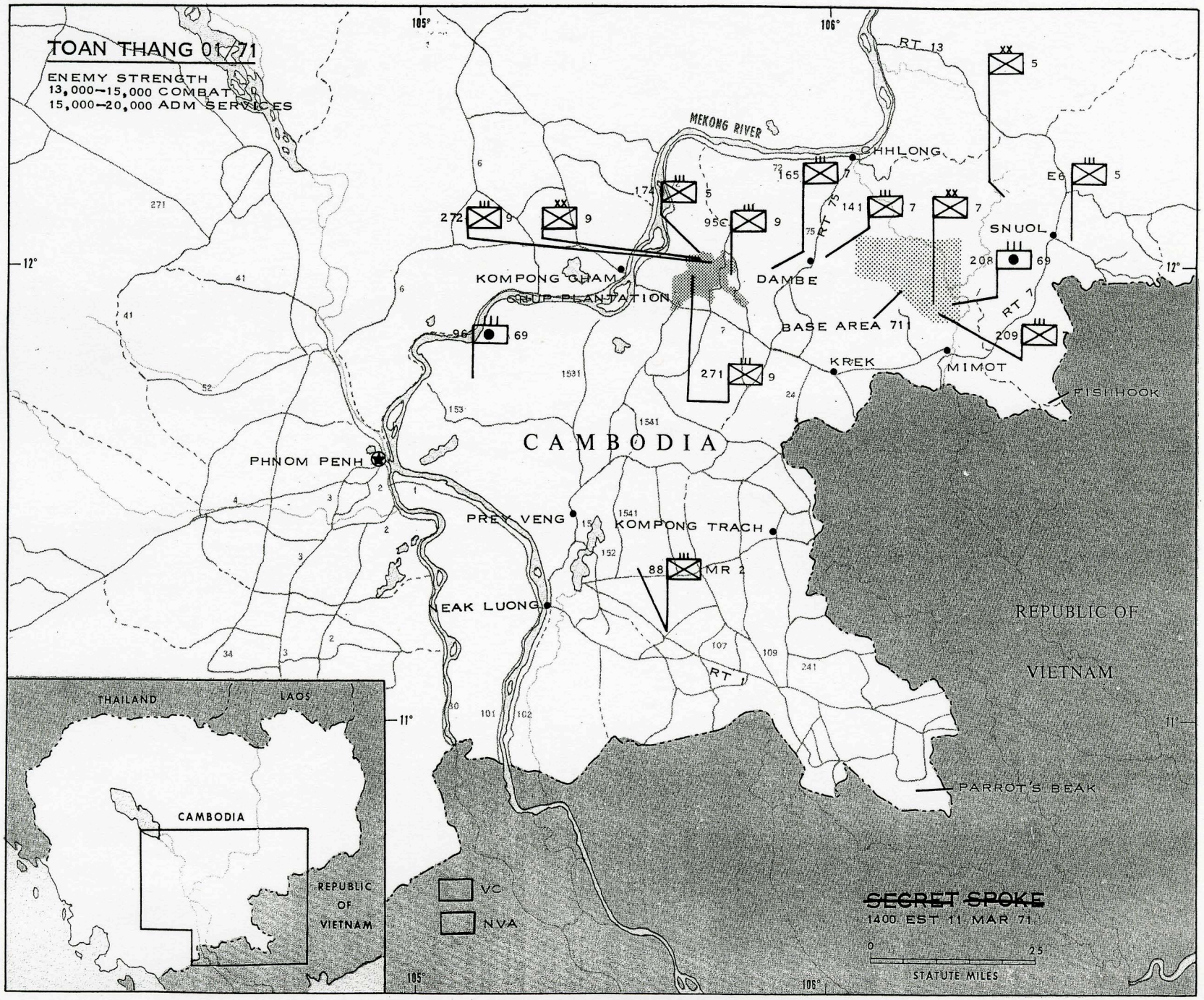
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(b)(3):10 USC 424

Attachment 2

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: 120600-130600 Saigon time
OUTLOOK: 130600-140600 Saigon time

NVN PANHANDLE - AREA 1:

COASTAL - Overcast, ceiling 3500 feet patchy 1000 feet, visibility 7 miles occasionally 3 miles in rain/drizzle. Between 0600-1100 and 1700-0600 Saigon time, ceiling 1000 feet, visibility 1 to 3 miles in rain/drizzle and fog.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy, ceiling 3500 feet patchy 1000 feet, visibility 6 miles occasionally 1 mile in rain/drizzle and fog. Between 0600-1100 and 1700-0600 Saigon time, ceiling 1000 feet AGL, visibility 1 to 3 miles in rain/drizzle and fog.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

NORTHERN SOUTH VIETNAM - AREA 2:

COASTAL - Cloudy, ceiling 3000 feet occasionally 1000 feet, visibility 6 miles occasionally 1 mile in Rain/drizzle and fog.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy occasionally overcast, ceiling 1000 feet AGL patchy 4000 feet, visibility 6 miles ocasionally 3/4 mile in drizzle and fog. Between 0600-1100 and 1800-0600 Saigon time, visibility 1/2 to 3 miles in rain/drizzle and fog; patchy stratus, ceiling surface to 300 feet AGL and visibility 1/8 mile in drizzle and fog.

OUTLOOK - Increasing clouds and precipitation north of 15° N.

KHE SANH - AREA 3:

Cloudy, ceiling 1000 to 1200 feet, visibility 5 to 6 miles in haze. between 0600-1100 and 1800-0600 Saigon time, ceiling 300 to 400 feet, visibility 1 to 2 miles in fog and occasional drizzle. (All cloud heights are AGL).

OUTLOOK - Increasing clouds and precipitation.

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Enclosure 3

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TCHEPONE - AREA 4:

Partly cloudy patchy cloudy, ceiling unlimited patchy 4000 feet, visibility 7 miles. Between 0600-1100 and 0500-0600 Saigon time, in valleys, patchy broken stratus, 500 feet AGL and fog/haze, visibility 1/2 to 4 miles.

OUTLOOK - Increasing low clouds.

CHUP PLANTATION - AREA 5:

Cloudy, ceiling 10000 feet, visibility 7 miles. Between 0600 and 1000 Saigon time, patchy broken stratus, 1000 feet AGL and fog/haze, visibility 1/2 to 3 miles.

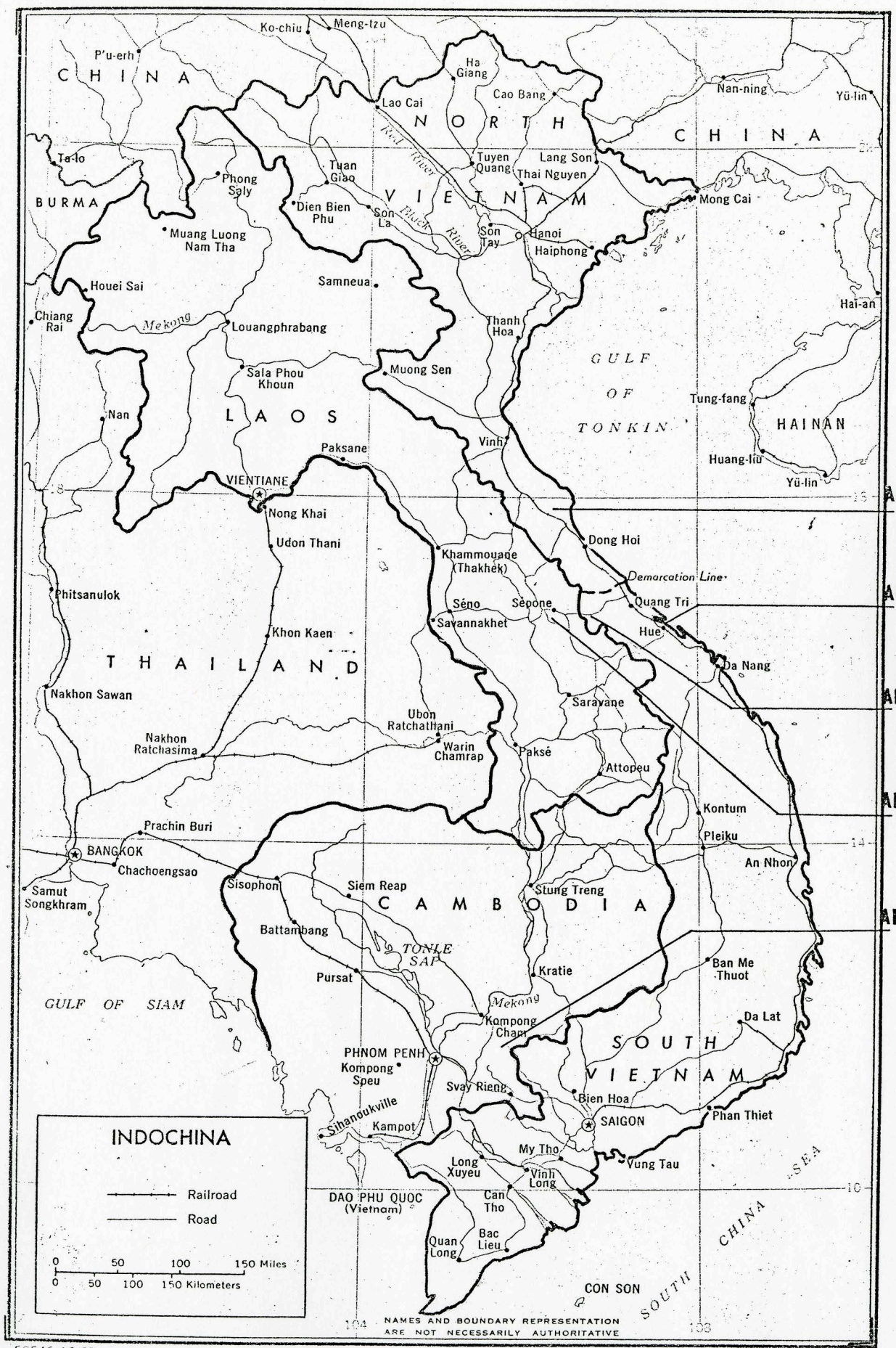
OUTLOOK - Little change.

NOTE: All cloud heights are given in feet Above Mean Sea Level, except those indicating AGL (Above Ground Level).

Attachment
Map

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~~TOP SECRET~~/SENSITIVE/~~SPOKE~~ [82/2/10]

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

10 MAR 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

Subject: Status Report on Operations in Laos and Cambodia

1. (C) Reference is made to your memorandum, dated 11 February 1971, subject as above.

2. (C) In accordance with your request, the 1600 hour daily reports are attached as Enclosures 1 and 2. A weather forecast covering particular areas of interest in Southeast Asia has been added as Enclosure 3.

3 Encls
a/s

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NLN 06-51/10593; per ltr 10/27/2011
By RDLP NARA, Date 4/30/2012

[1 of 15]
Per Sec. (b)(3): 10 USC 424; 3.3(b)(1)

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10 March 1971

Subject: Operation LAMSON 719

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 090800-100800 GMT March (091600-101600 Saigon time, 090300-100300 EST) March 1971.

2. (TS) Summary of Current Situation:

a. Contact with the enemy was moderate during the period. ARVN units continued search operations as they moved toward assigned objectives. Intensity of contacts was light to moderate. Enemy bodies, equipment, and material resulting from B-52 and tactical air strikes continue to be discovered. A significant B-52 air strike discovery was made in the vicinity of LZ HOTEL ONE, approximately 4 miles south of Route 9. There were 144 enemy bodies, four trucks, one hundred 122-mm rocket rounds, one tank, and two 37-mm guns found.

b. There were 17 minor ground contacts and attacks by fire during the period. As a consequence, there were 34 enemy losses compared to six friendly forces killed and 37 wounded. Six 105-mm howitzers were damaged and 13 ARVN wounded as a result of an enemy attack by fire on FSB SOPHIA. One hundred and twenty rounds of 82-mm and 122-mm mortar were received. The friendly/enemy kill ratio for the operation todate is 10 to one.

c. The most significant contact during the period occurred in the vicinity of FSB HOTEL. A Vietnamese Marine battalion was attacked by an unknown-size enemy force which resulted in 15 enemy losses and three Vietnamese Marines killed and six wounded.

d. Enemy tanks, believed to be T-34s were observed approximately 6 miles east of Tchepone along Route 9 by ARVN ground forces. Artillery was employed which destroyed three enemy tanks and damaged two. All five were seen to be burning. Another five tanks and several trucks were observed moving south in the vicinity of LZ LIZ and engaged by tactical air. The results were not reported.

e. At Khe Sanh, C-130 aircraft will utilize the 3,200 feet of the main aircraft runway that is operational, weather permitting. Two alternatives are being considered with regard to repairing the assault runway damaged by a C-130 on 9 March: repair of moderately damaged panels and supplement with replacement panels; or disassemble the assault runway and reconstruct. Adverse weather conditions, primarily fog at Khe Sanh, precluded scheduled helicopter operations.

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3. (TS) Plans for Future Operations:

a. (TS) The 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) will continue operations in assigned area with the priority of effort toward an enemy bunker complex approximately 5 miles west of Vandegrift and suspected enemy rocket firing positions. The 1st Brigade, 5th Division (Mechanized), will continue a major reconnaissance effort in the area south of Lang Vei.

b. (TS) RVNAF units will continue operations in RVN and Laos with emphasis directed toward search operations.

(1) 1st Infantry Division:

(a) 1st Infantry Regiment will conduct security operations vicinity FSB LOLO continuing to expand the secure zone around the base. Two battalions will attack to the west and southwest to cut Route 914 (OBJ GIA LAM and OBJ BACH MAI).

(b) 2d Infantry Regiment will secure FSB SOPHIA and conduct search operations to the west of the FSB. Two battalions will search the area south and southwest of the Xe Pon River.

(c) 3d Infantry Regiment will secure FSB DELTA ONE and conduct search operations west of the FSB and in the vicinity of LZ BROWN.

(2) 1st Airborne Division:

(a) 1st Airborne Brigade will continue searches in present location and continue to attack to the northwest with one battalion.

(b) 2d Airborne Brigade will continue to secure Route 9 in zone, secure land clearing operations along Route 9, and conduct company-size operations in vicinity of present location.

(3) Armored Task Force:

(a) The 11th Armored Cavalry Squadron and the 8th Airborne Battalion (-) will continue to attack to the west.

(b) The 17th Armored Cavalry Squadron reinforced with one infantry company and one reconnaissance company will continue to secure Route 9 from FSB ALOUI to FSB ALPHA.

(4) Vietnamese Marine Division:

(a) 147th Brigade will secure FSB DELTA with one battalion and continue to attack to the south with two battalions.

(b) 258th Brigade will continue to attack to the south with two battalions, conduct reconnaissance in force, and secure FSB HOTEL.

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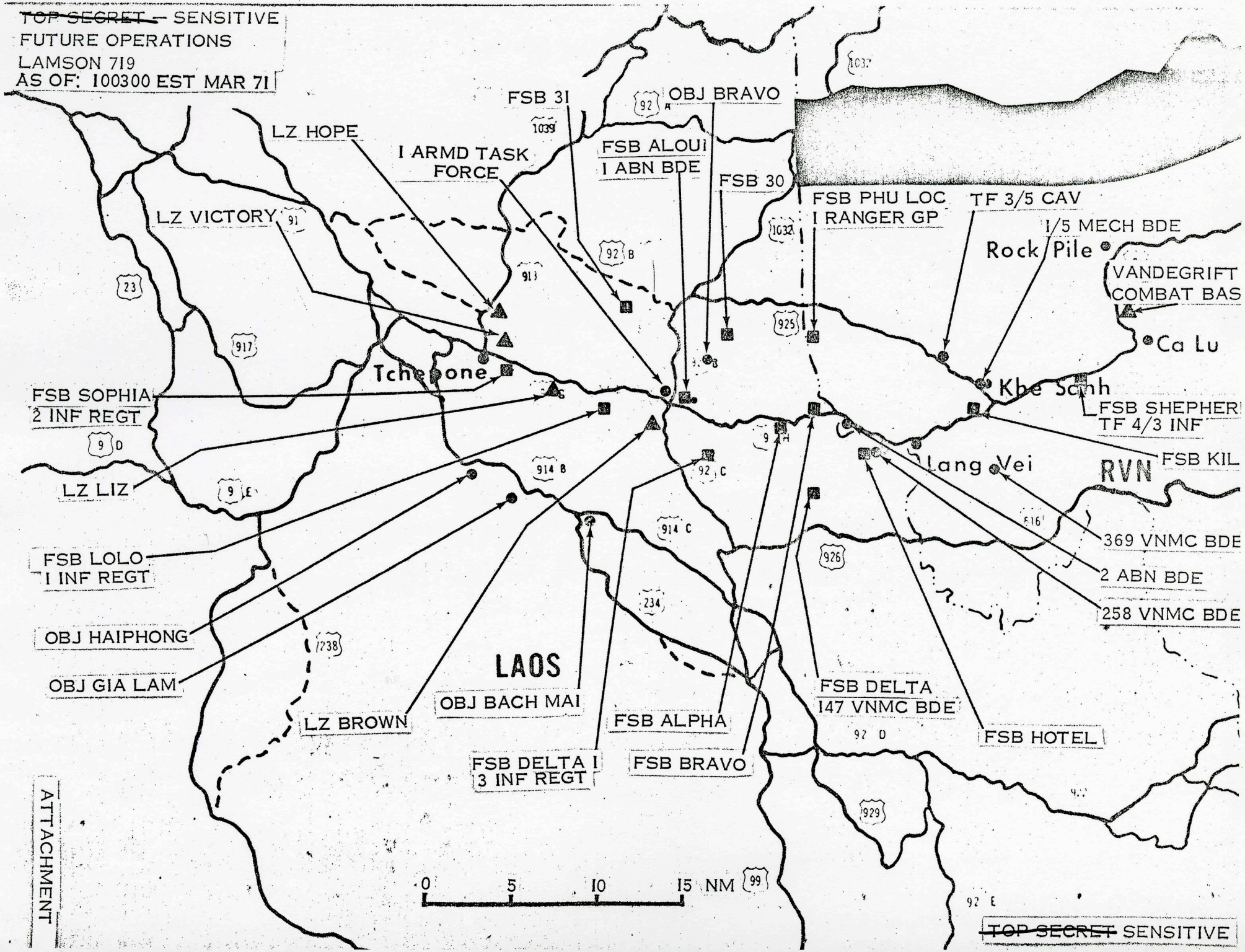
(c) 369th Brigade will continue security operations south of Khe Sanh with two battalions.

(5) The 1st Ranger Group will continue operations in the vicinity of FSB PHU LOC. The 21st Ranger Battalion (-) and the 64th Artillery Battalion Headquarters will move to a position 2 miles southeast of FSB PHU LOC (Point 1, Appendix).

(6) Engineer priority effort will be on the repair of the Khe Sanh assault strip. Completion of work on the sub-base of the main strip will be delayed until the weather becomes favorable. Work continues on the upgrading of the sub-base at the end of the main strip with the estimated completion date of 11 March. The penepriming of the Lang Vei rearm/refuel pad continues. If USAF C-130 aircraft use a portion of the main strip, work on the main strip will be suspended during daylight hours.

Attachment
Map

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DIA INTELLIGENCE APPRAISAL

Enemy Reactions to Operation LAMSON 719 (U)

1. (SS) The Headquarters, 308th NVA Division while in communications with the Headquarters, 70B Front on 9 March, was located 5 miles southeast of Ban Dong, 11 miles southwest of its 8 March location. This move, if valid, would indicate that this division may be shifting its attention to the defense of the Route 9 corridor.

2. (SS) The Forward Element, 324B NVA Division and two battalions from its 812th NVA Regiment, have relocated from southwest of Lang Vei to a position near the western part of Base Area 611. These moves indicate that the 324B NVA Division is repositioning to defend against possible ARVN incursions into this base area.

3. (SS) Preliminary information indicates that the Headquarters, 304th NVA Division may have deployed from south of Dong Hoi to the LAMSON operational area. Additionally, tenuous evidence indicates that the 9th NVA Regiment of that same division is also en route or already in the LAMSON area.

ANITIZED (3):10USC 424; 3.3(b)(1)

4. (SS) [redacted] the 64th NVA Regiment is no longer subordinate to the Headquarters, 320th NVA Division. The 64th NVA Regiment will be carried as an independent regiment.

5. (SS) Enemy units in the LAMSON 719 area may be receiving replacements. [redacted] the 64th NVA Regiment was directed to send cadre to a location 8 miles north of Ban Dong to pick up 70 recruits for the regiment. [redacted] Binh Tram-33 had "20 comrades as replacements" for a subordinate company, and that they were at an unlocated commo-liaison station.

ANITIZED (3):10USC 424

6. (SS) Reflections of ammunition shipments within the Binh Tram-33 area [redacted] unidentified amounts of anti-tank rockets, 60-mm and 82-mm mortar ammunition, 122-mm rockets and small arms ammunition were being shipped to the 1st Battalion of Binh Tram-33. This probably reflects resupply for this unit which has reported supply shortages in the past.

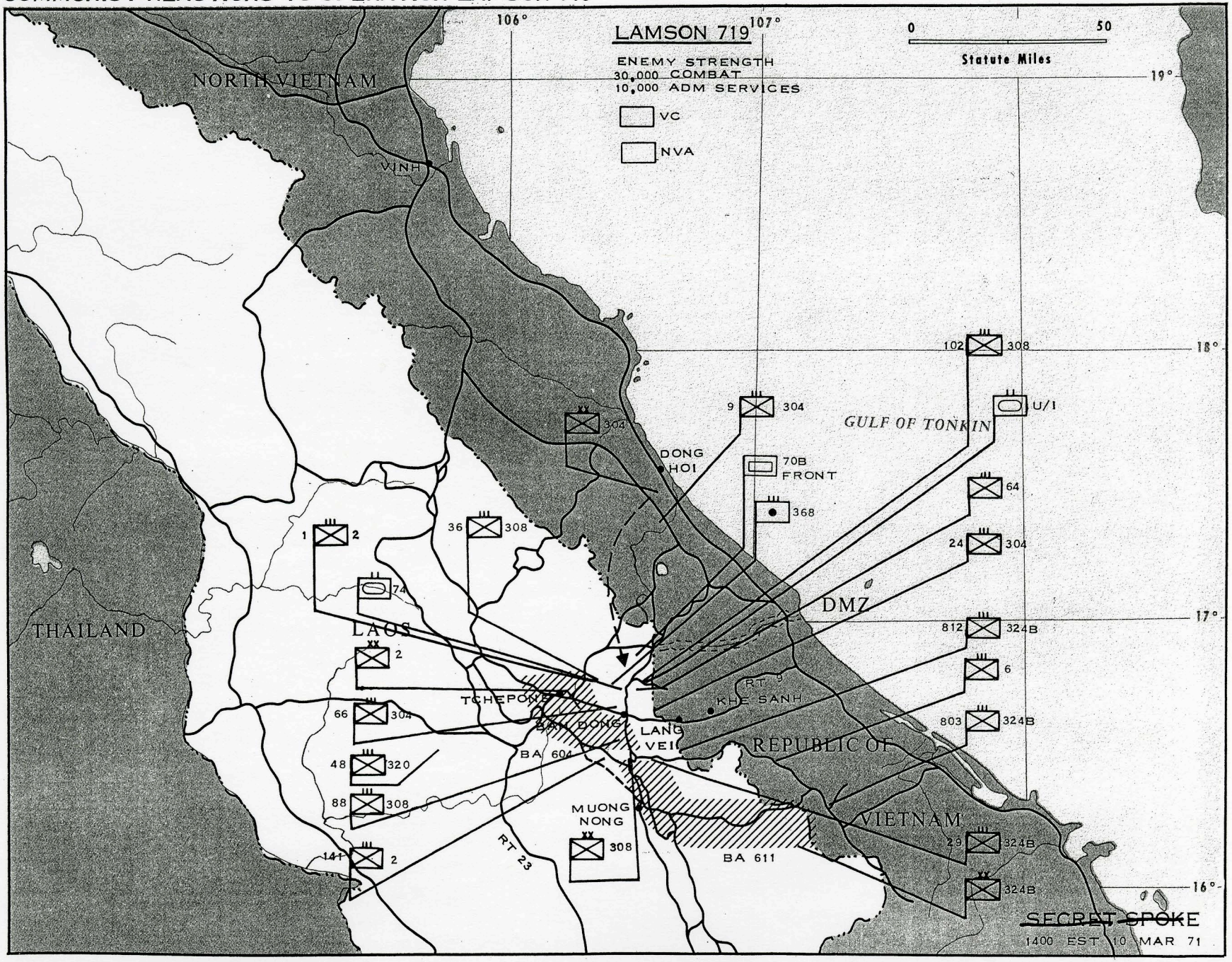
ANITIZED (3):10USC 424

[redacted]

SANITIZED (b)(3):10 USC 424

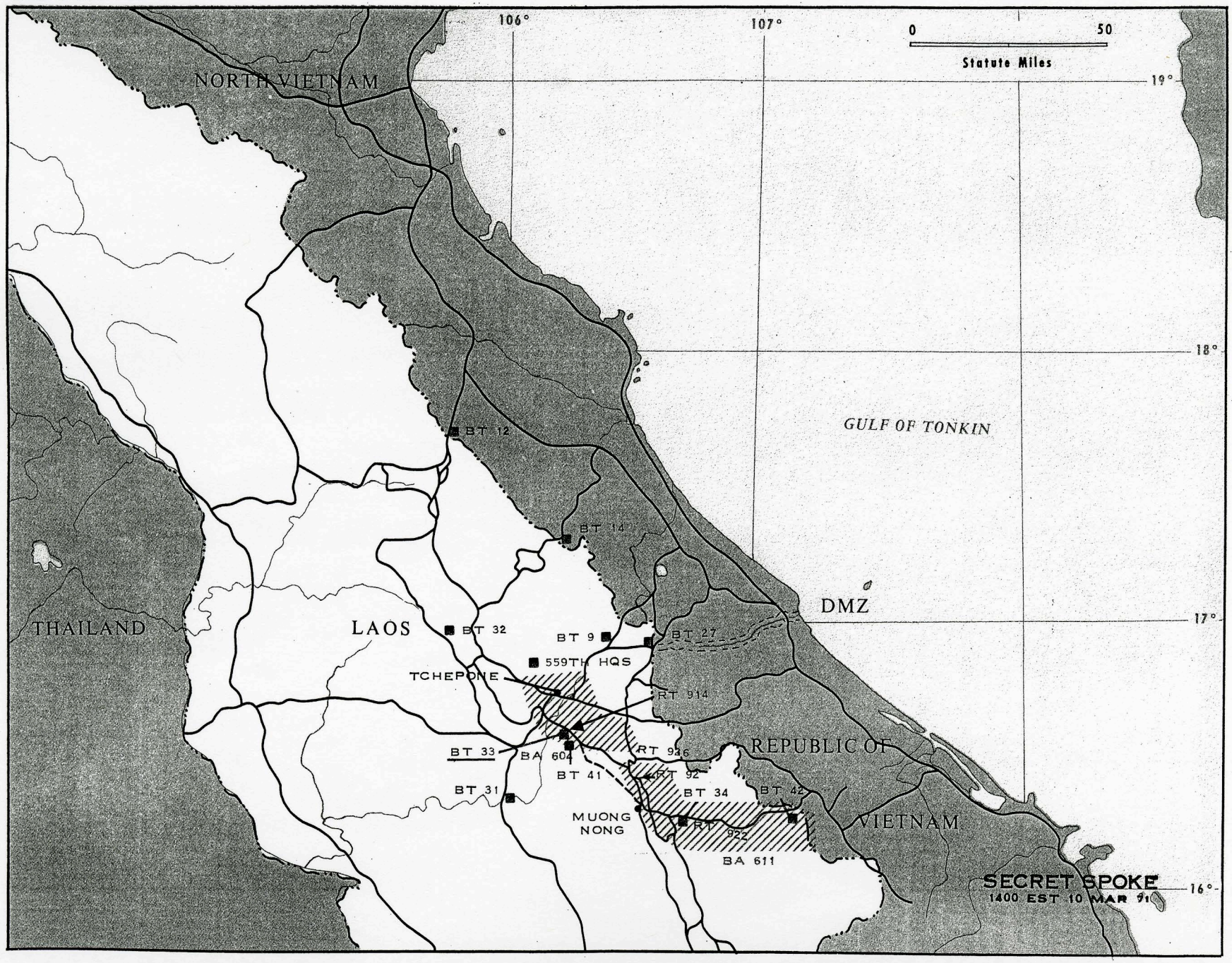
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COMMUNIST REACTIONS TO OPERATION LAMSON 719



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LAMSON 719



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NLN-RNL-2009-093 pg 66 of 157

10 March 1971

Subject: Operation TOAN THANG 01/71 NB

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 090800-100800 GMT March (091600-101600 Saigon time, 090300-100300 EST) March 1971.

2. (TS) Summary of Situation:

a. The level of activity in Operation TOAN THANG 01/71 remained light during the reporting period. Air strikes about 10 nautical miles north-northwest of Snuol killed eight enemy and destroyed 15 bunkers, three huts and a bridge. Pilots also reported that 300-400 mortar rounds and 50 truck tires were sighted in the area. Later, a US OH-6A helicopter was downed in the same area killing three US aircrew members. No contacts were reported by Task Force 9 elements which were conducting search and route security operations. Task Force 225, operating north of the Parrot's Beak, reported two contacts. A convoy on Highway 243 detonated three mines, killing one ARVN soldier, wounding five, destroying one 2 1/2-ton truck and damaging two others. In another engagement 10 miles southwest of Kampong Trach, 10 ARVN soldiers were WIA while nine enemy were KIA, and two rocket launchers, one AK-47 and one mine, were captured. Another element of Task Force 225 found 11 tons of rice in good condition 4 miles southwest of Kampong Trach.

b. After B-52 and tactical air strikes, Task Force 3, followed by TF 43, attacked to the north. Advance elements of the task force have reached the area of one of the B-52 strikes. However, no results of the strike and no contacts have been reported.

3. (S) Plans for Future Operations:

a. 18th Infantry Division:

(1) TF 3 will continue attack to the north toward Dambe.

(2) TF 43 and TF 48 will follow and support TF 3.

(3) TF 5, 52, and 333 will continue route security along main supply routes.

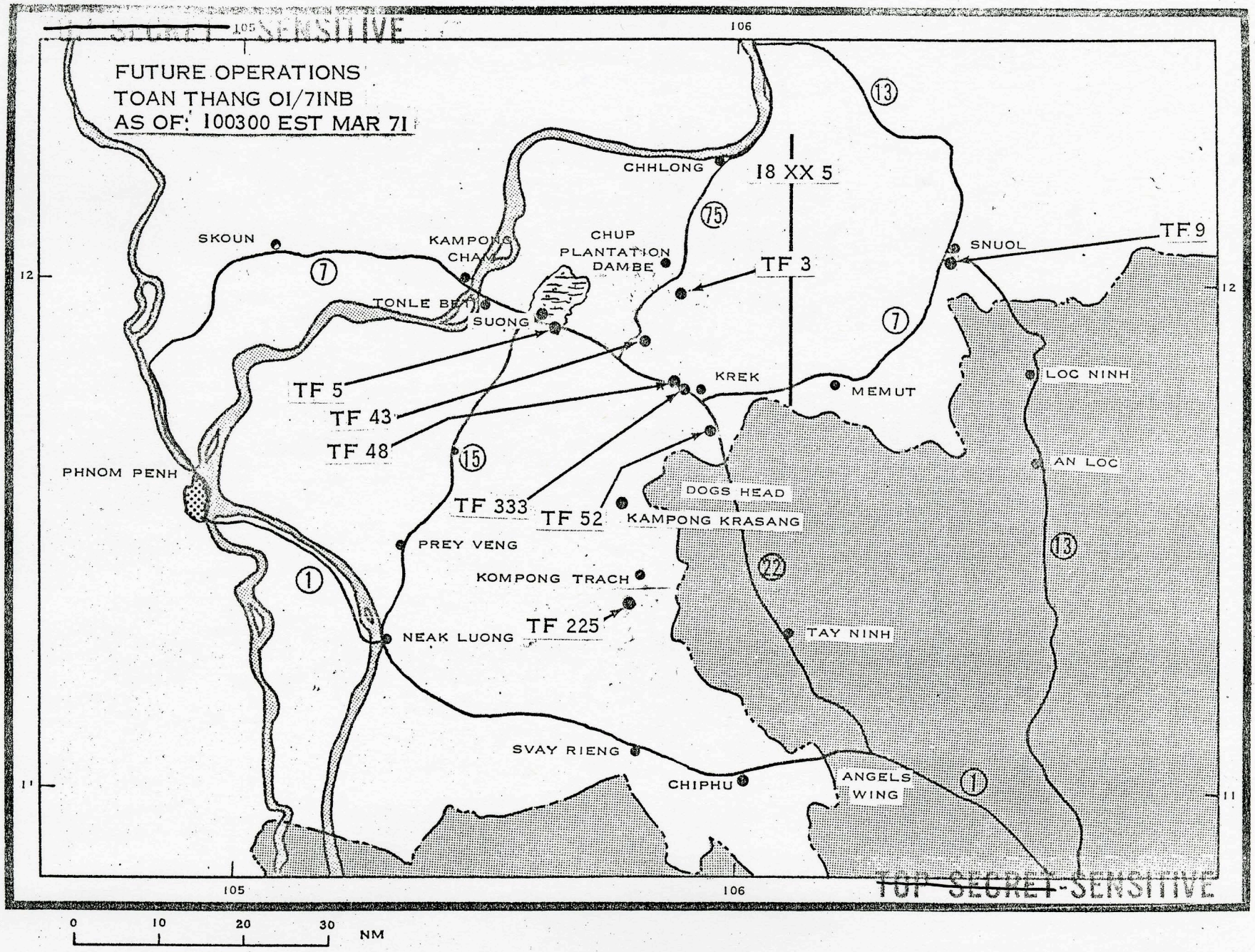
b. 5th Infantry Division: TF 9 will continue operations west, northwest, and south of the Snuol Rubber Plantation.

c. 25th Infantry Division: TF 225 will continue combined arms reconnaissance in force operations in the vicinity of Kompong Trach and conduct route security in assigned areas.

Attachment
Map

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DIA INTELLIGENCE APPRAISAL

Enemy Reactions to Operation TOAN THANG 01/71 (U)

1. (SS) There were no significant enemy relocations during the past 24 hours. The 9th VC Division remains concentrated in the Chup Plantation area; the 7th NVA Division in the Dambe area; and the 5th VC Division's two regiments disposed in the Snuol area and southwest of Chhlong respectively. The enemy disposition has remained generally static since the southward movement of the three ARVN Task Forces to the Route 7 area on 4 March. The enemy probably anticipates the renewal of ARVN operations in the Chup-Dambe areas.

SANITIZED (b)(3):10USC 424

2. (S/NFD) It is probable that the enemy will continue to resist ARVN operations in the TOAN THANG area. According to [redacted] five prisoners from the 9th VC Division, captured near Suong on 8 March, COSVN has directed main forces to keep the resupply corridor open through the TOAN THANG area of operations.

SANITIZED (b)(3):10 USC 424

3. (SS) A COSVN message, [redacted] on 8 March, discussed ARVN plans for forthcoming TOAN THANG operations. The message reported that TF's 3, 5, and 333 were completing the repositioning of their forces and that TF 43 is planning to "sally forth" to the Chup.

Approved by:

[redacted]

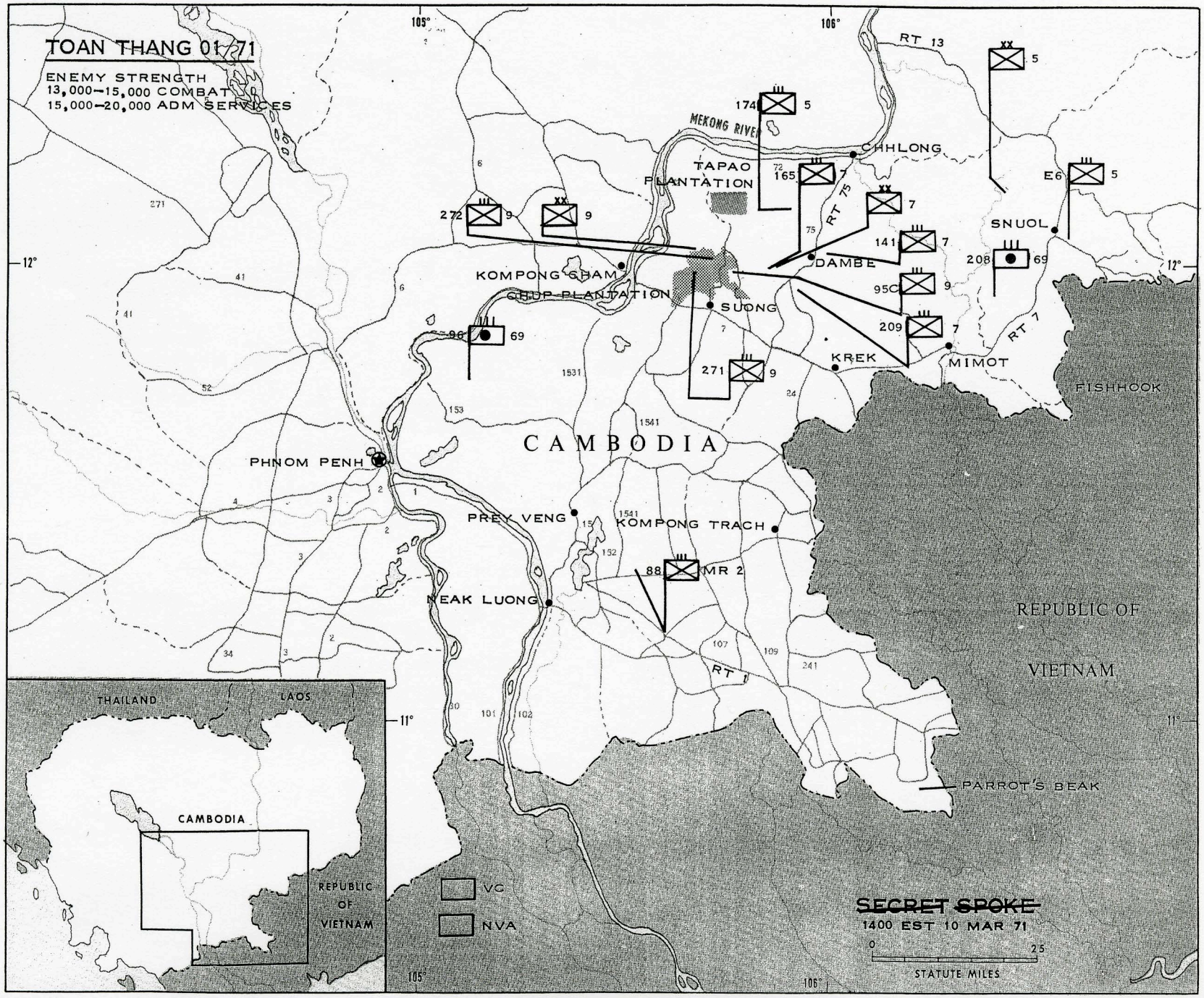
SANITIZED (b)(3):10USC 424

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: 11/0600-12/0600 Saigon time
OUTLOOK: 12/0600-13/0600 Saigon time

NVN PANHANDLE - AREA 1:

COASTAL - Overcast, ceiling 1,000 feet patchy 3,500 feet, visibility 7 miles occasionally 3 miles in rain/drizzle. Between 0600-1100 and 0200-0600 Saigon time, rain/fog, visibility 1 to 3 miles.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy, ceiling 3,500 feet patchy 500 feet AGL in valleys, visibility 1 to 7 miles in rain/drizzle/fog.

OUTLOOK - Decreasing stratus.

NORTHERN SOUTH VIETNAM - AREA 2:

COASTAL - Cloudy, ceiling 1,000 feet, visibility 7 miles occasionally 2 miles in rain/drizzle.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy occasionally overcast, ceiling 500 feet AGL patchy 4,000 feet, visibility 3/4 to 7 miles in rain/drizzle/fog. Between 0600-1000 and 2100-0600 Saigon time, patchy stratus, ceiling surface to 500 feet AGL, and drizzle/fog, visibility 1/8 mile.

OUTLOOK - Decreasing cloudiness.

KHE SANH - AREA 3:

Overcast, ceiling 500 feet AGL, visibility 2 miles in fog. Between 2000-1200 Saigon time, ceiling 100 to 200 feet AGL, and fog/drizzle, visibility 1/8 mile.

OUTLOOK - Decreasing cloudiness.

TCHEPONE - AREA 4:

Partly cloudy, ceiling unlimited patchy 4,000 feet, visibility 7 miles. Between 0600-1100 and 0500-0600 Saigon time, in valleys, patchy stratus, ceiling 500 feet AGL, and fog/haze, visibility 1/2 to 4 miles.

OUTLOOK - Decreasing cloudiness.

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[NLNIX-2010-3/Item 93 p13 of 15]

CHUP PLANTATION - AREA 5:

Partly cloudy, ceiling unlimited, visibility 7 miles. Between 0600-1000 Saigon time, patchy stratus, ceiling 1,000 feet AGL, and fog/haze, visibility 1/2 to 3 miles.

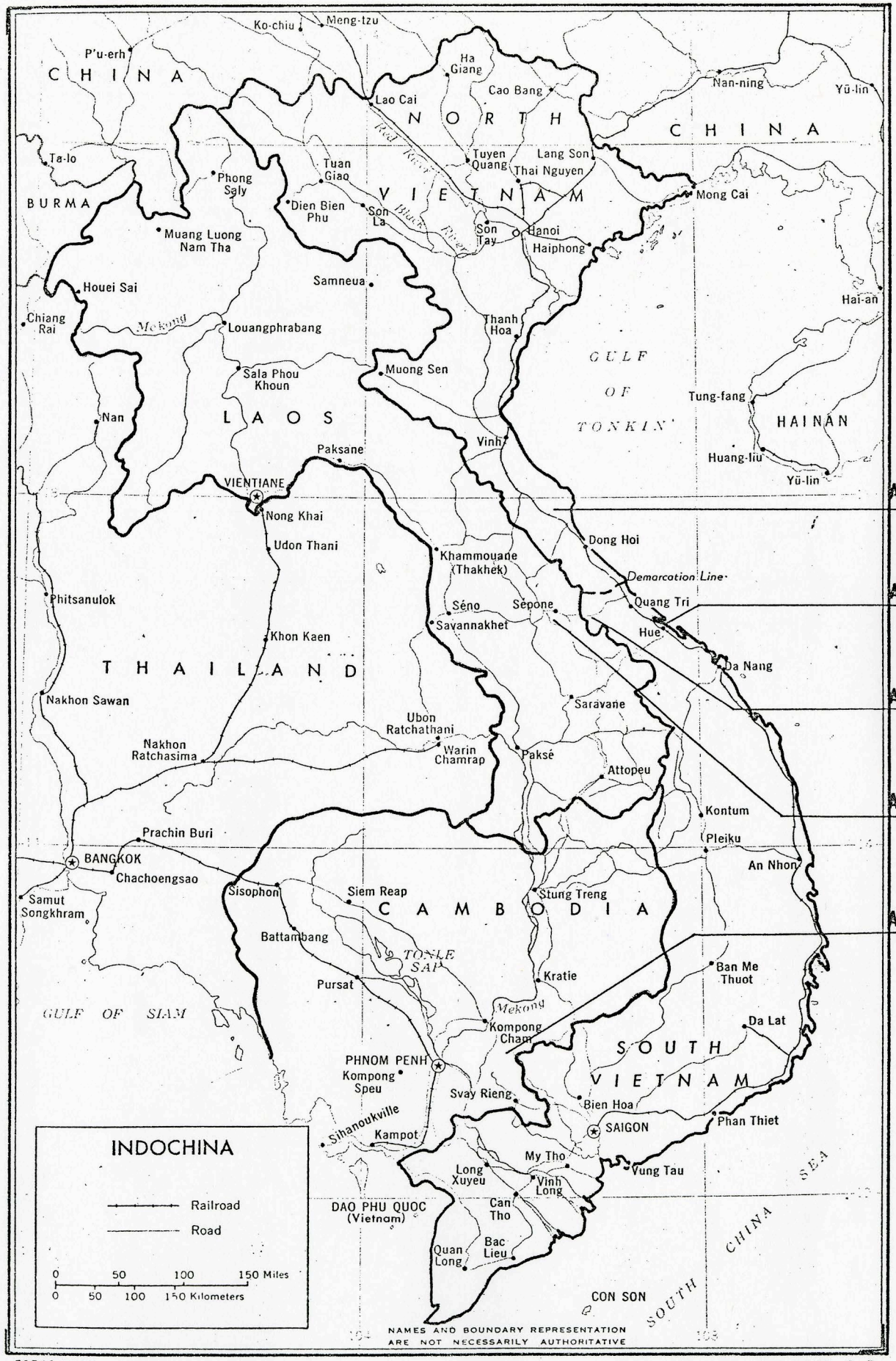
OUTLOOK - Little change.

NOTE: All cloud heights are given in feet Above Mean Seal Level, except those indicating AGL (Above Ground Level).

ATTACHMENT
Map

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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

9 MAR 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

Subject: Status Report on Operations in Laos and Cambodia

1. (C) Reference is made to your memorandum, dated 11 February 1971, subject as above.

2. (C) In accordance with your request, the 1600 hour daily reports are attached as Enclosures 1 and 2. A weather forecast covering particular areas of interest in Southeast Asia has been added as Enclosure 3.

3 Encls
a/s

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 13526, Section 3.5
NLN ae-51/10594; per ltr 10/27/2011, per sec. (b)(3): 10 USC 424; 3.3(b)(1)
By ____ NARA, Date 5/1/2012
[1 of 16]

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Subject: Operation LAMSON 719

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 080800-090800 GMT (081600-091600 Saigon time, 080300-090300 EST) March 1971.

2. (TS) Summary of Situation:

a. With the successful combat assault on 6 March into the Tchepone area by two battalions of the 2d Regiment, 1st ARVN Division, all initial objectives of LAMSON 719 were secured. Extensive patrolling by company-sized units to locate and destroy principal supply depots as well as the destruction of enemy land lines of communication remain to be accomplished. These operations are being conducted under an umbrella of established ARVN fire support bases, reinforced by US heavy artillery from positions within SVN. Massive tactical air support is overhead day and night, providing ARVN forces immediate and effective fire support. The logistical posture of ARVN forces is excellent.

b. The level of activity in Laos is moderate; however, the intensity of individual contacts generally continues to be light with an occasional moderate to heavy contact or indirect fire attack. A contact which resulted in 19 enemy losses and no friendly casualties to a battalion of the 3d Infantry Regiment occurred on 8 March in the vicinity LZ BROWN. A relatively significant engagement was fought by an ARVN airborne battalion south of FSB-30 just north of Route 9. The battalion was supported by tactical aircraft which accounted for 55 of the 78 enemy losses. A 75-mm recoilless rifle was destroyed and 5,000 rounds of machinegun ammunition seized along with other arms and ammunition. The ARVN airborne battalion experienced 12 wounded. In the Vietnamese Marine Division area of operations in Laos, 23 enemy were killed and 4,000 rounds of mixed mortar and rocket ammunition destroyed in two separate contacts; there were no friendly casualties reported in these actions.

c. There were 18 minor contacts and attacks by fire in RVN and Laos which resulted in 32 enemy killed and two observed to have been wounded. Friendly casualties were three killed and 10 wounded. Three caches containing rockets, mortars and food were found.

d. Friendly air strikes continue to account for enemy casualties and the loss of vehicles and equipment. Fifty-nine enemy bodies, two tanks, two trucks, 1,000-55 gallon fuel drums, 200 60-mm mortar rounds, and additional small quantities of arms and ammunition were discovered by ARVN ground forces during search operations.

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e. In an update of the Vietnamese Marine Battalion contact near FSB DELTA, referred to in yesterday's Status Report, enemy losses were 250 vice the 100 reported. Vietnamese Marine losses remain 17 killed and 50 wounded.

f. Adverse weather conditions precluded all scheduled heavy lift resupply and most of the tactical air missions. Limited helicopter resupply was accomplished. In addition, at 0900 hours (Saigon time) on 9 March, an axle on a landing C-130 failed causing a tear of varying severity that extended intermittently some 2,700 feet down the center of the runway at Ham Nghi. A total of 395 MX19 matting panels were damaged, 225 severely. It is estimated that the airstrip will be inoperative for from 3-10 days for repairs. However, 3,200 feet of main strip is usable. Air Force representatives are considering the possibility of using the operational portion of the main strip for C-130 operations.

3. (S) Plans for Future Operations:

a. The 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) will continue operations in assigned area with the priority of effort toward an enemy bunker complex approximately 5 miles west of Vandegrift and suspected enemy rocket firing positions.

b. The 1st Brigade, 5th Division (Mechanized), will continue a major reconnaissance effort in the area south of Lang Vei.

c. RVNAF units will continue operations in RVN and Laos with emphasis remaining on conduct of planned search operations.

(1) 1st Infantry Division:

(a) 1st Infantry Regiment will conduct security operations vicinity FSB LOLO expanding the secure zone around the base. Two battalions will attack to the west and southwest to cut Route 914 (OBJ GIA LAM and OBJ BACH MAI).

(b) 2d Infantry Regiment will secure FSB SOPHIA and conduct search operations vicinity of Tchepone and south of the river.

(c) 3d Infantry Regiment will secure FSB DELTA ONE and conduct search operations west of the FSB and in the vicinity of LZ BROWN.

(2) 1st Airborne Division:

(a) 1st Airborne Brigade will continue searches in present location and continue to attack to the northwest with one battalion.

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(b) 2d Airborne Brigade will continue to secure Route 9 in zone, secure land clearing operations along Route 9, and conduct company-size operations in vicinity of present location.

(3) Armored Task Force:

(a) The 11th Armored Cavalry Squadron and the 8th Airborne Battalion (-) will continue to attack to the west toward an objective 3 miles west of FSB ALOUI.

(b) The 17th Armored Cavalry Squadron reinforced with one infantry company and one reconnaissance company will continue to secure Route 9 from FSB ALOUI to FSB ALPHA.

(4) Vietnamese Marine Division:

(a) 147th Brigade will secure FSB DELTA with one battalion and continue to attack to the south with two battalions.

(b) 258th Brigade will continue to attack to the south, conduct reconnaissance in force, and secure FSB HOTEL.

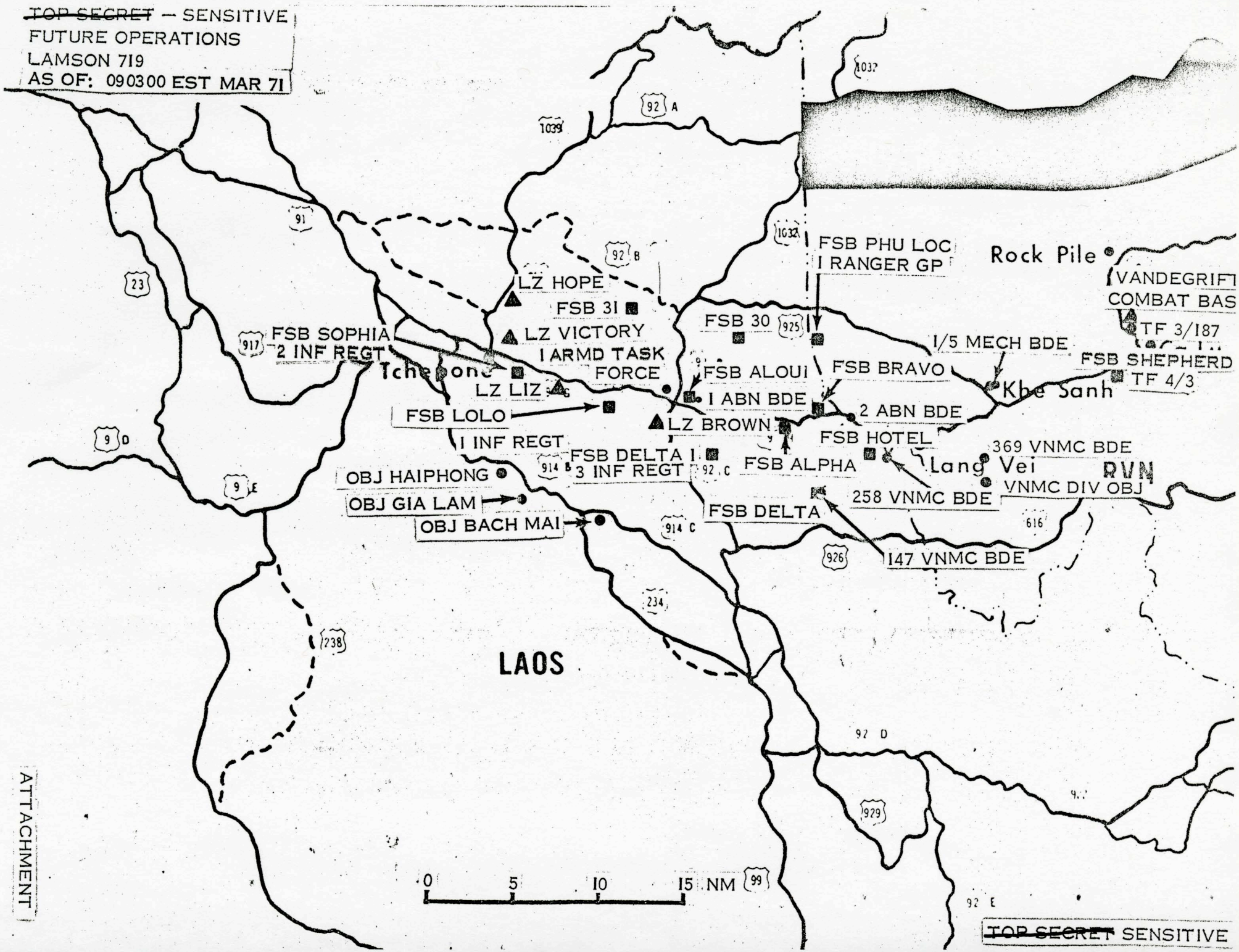
(c) 369th Brigade will continue security operations south of Khe Sanh with two battalions.

(5) The 1st Ranger Group will continue operations in the vicinity of FSB PHU LOC.

(6) Engineer priority effort will be on the repair of the Khe Sanh assault strip. Completion of work on the sub-base of the main strip will be delayed until the weather becomes favorable. The penepriming of the 2/17 Air Cavalry Squadron helicopter parking area is expected to be completed on 10 March. The penepriming of the Lang Vei rearm/refuel pad continues with an estimated completion date of 12 March.

Attachment
Map

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[NLJ 04-51/10594 p408167]



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DIA INTELLIGENCE APPRAISAL

Enemy Reactions to Operation LAMSON 719 (U)

1. (SS) The Headquarters, 141st NVA Regiment, 2d NVA Division was located on 7 March ten miles southwest of Ban Dong. This places the headquarters seven miles northwest of its 23 February location and tends to negate the 4 March fix that positioned it just south of Route 9 along the Lao-RVN border.

2. (SS) The Headquarters, 29th NVA Regiment, 324B NVA Division moved nine miles northwest to a position just north of Muong Nong on 8 March. This relocation was probably in response to a recent BT-33 message which directed the unit to protect the Muong Nong area.

3. (SS) In logistic activity, the North Vietnamese continue to move substantial quantities of supplies into Laos. In the Mu Gia Pass area, [redacted] 65 vehicles transporting about 260 tons of supplies had arrived. These supplies will probably be shipped south as part of the current transportation "general offensive." On 4 March, the 282d AAA Regiment revealed the movement of 66 vehicles probably along routes west of the DMZ in Laos.

SANITIZED
(b)(3):10 USC 424; 33(b)(1)

4. (SS) On 2 and 3 March, the Headquarters, BT-33 reported it had been under ground attack and as a result had planned to relocate. Current direction finding, however, indicates this relocation has not yet been accomplished.

Approved by:

[redacted]

SANITIZED
(b)(3): 10 USC 424

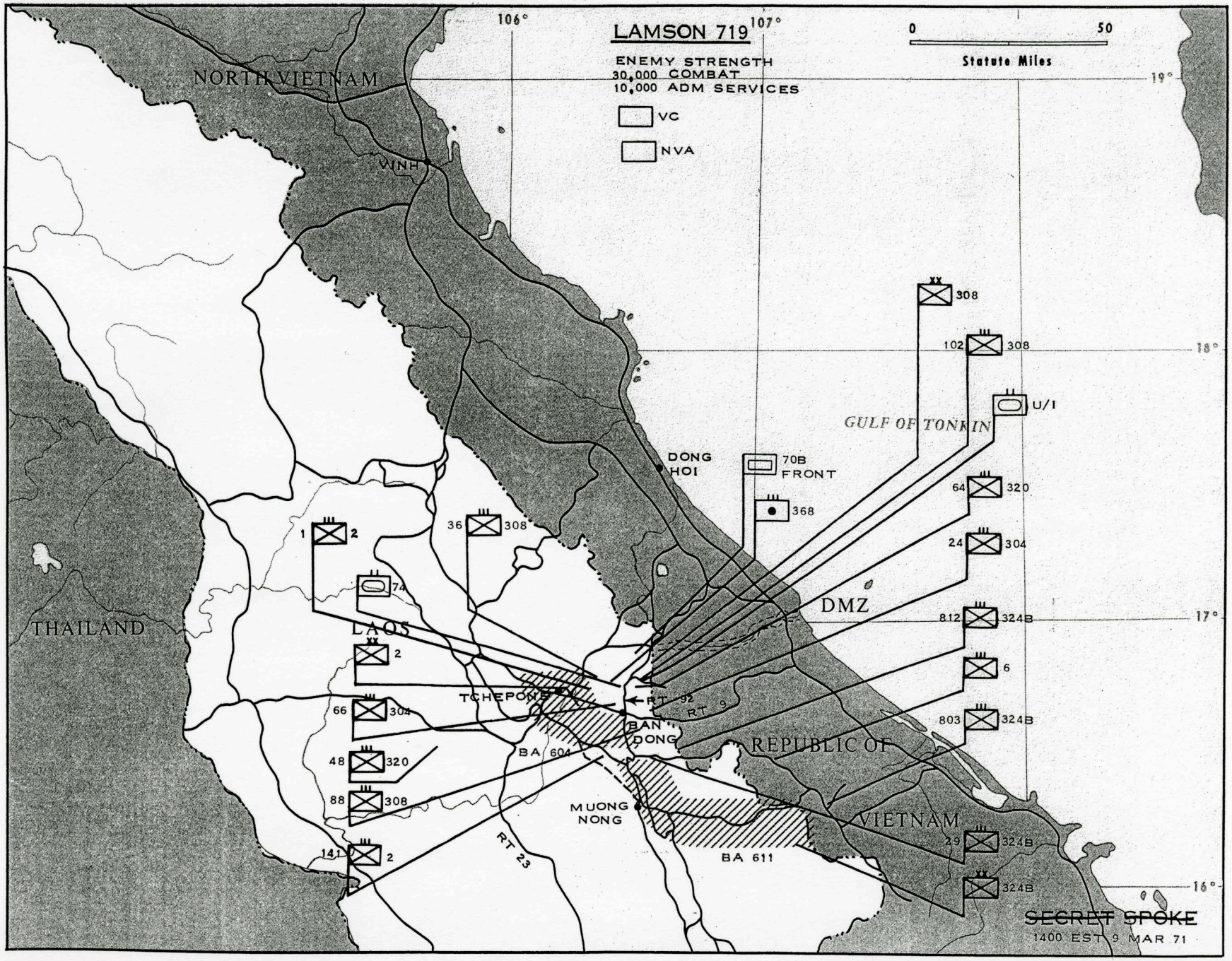
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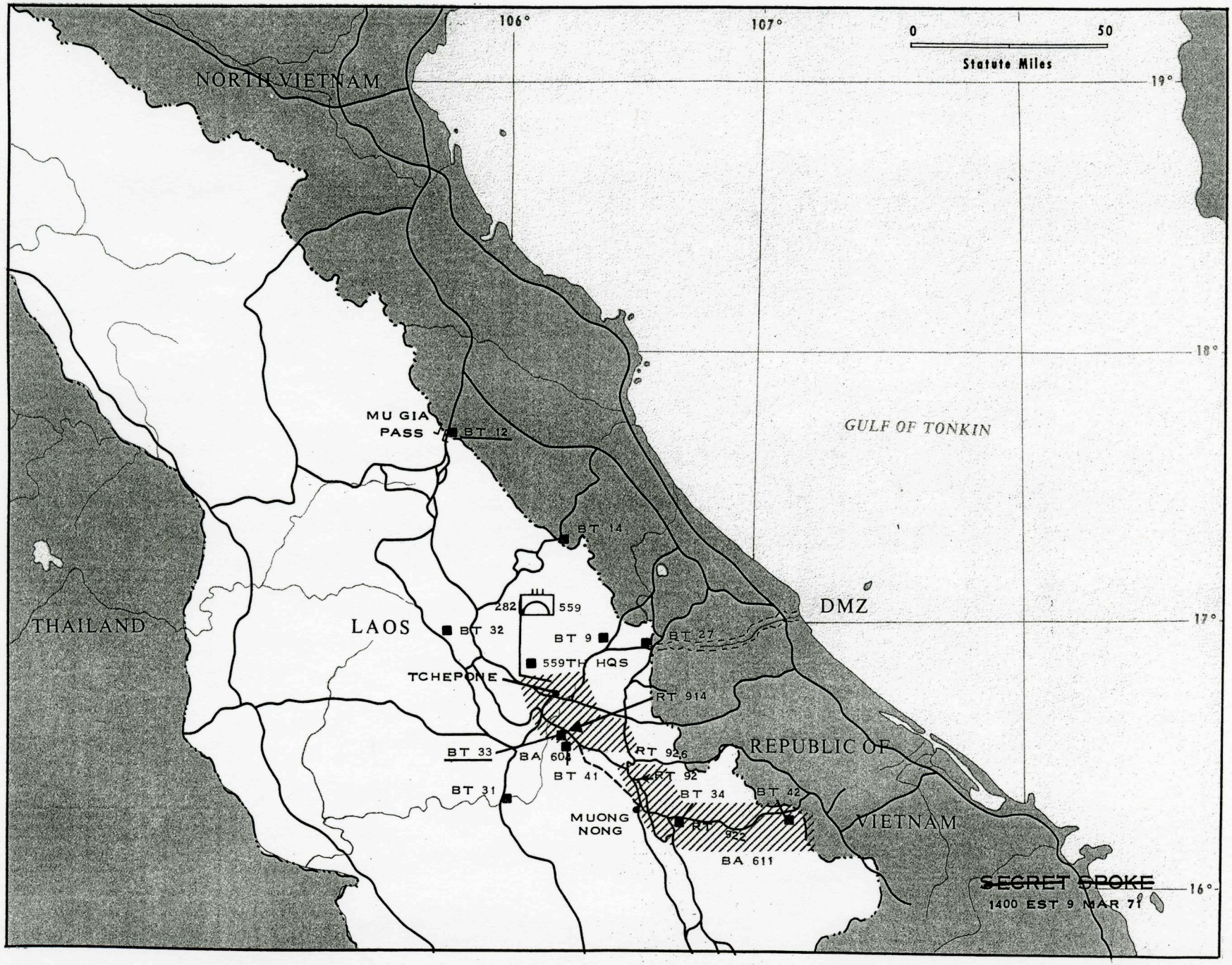
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COMMUNIST REACTIONS TO OPERATION LAMSON 719



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LAMSON 719



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Subject: Operation TOAN THANG 01/71 NB

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 080800-090800 GMT (081600-091600 Saigon time, 080300-090300 EST) March 1971.

2. (TS) Summary of Situation:

a. The level of activity in the TOAN THANG Operation continued to be light during the reporting period with one attack by fire and destruction of the center span of a bridge reported. The supply area of Task Force 9, in the vicinity of Snuol, was struck with sixty 82-mm mortar rounds killing one ARVN soldier and wounding three and damaging one 1/4-ton truck. In addition, 165,000 rounds of small arms ammunition, 1,580 rounds of mortar munitions, and 2,160 grenades were destroyed. An enemy force of unknown size destroyed the center span of the bridge on Route 7 near Tonle Bet. A usable bypass has been established northeast of the bridge.

b. Task Forces 5 and 333 began route security operations along Route 7. Task Force 9 continued search operations west and south of the Snuol Rubber Plantation. Task Forces 43 and 48 continued with preparation for offensive operations. Task Force 225 continued search operations south and west of Kompong Trach. Task Force 52 continued security operations along the main supply route.

3. (S) Plans for Future Operations:

a. 18th Infantry Division:

(1) TF 3 will spearhead the 18th Infantry Division's drive into the Dambe area on 10 March. TF 3 will exploit tactical air strikes and two B-52 strikes north of Route 7 astride Route 75. First phase of the attack will be to seize objectives southwest of Dambe and then proceed north. The second phase will be to turn west into the Chup Rubber Plantation.

(2) TF 43 and 48 will follow and support TF 3. TF 43 and TF 48 will be committed when TF 3 makes contact with the enemy. TF 48 will be prepared to attack into the Chup Rubber Plantation.

(3) TF 5, TF 52, and TF 333 will continue route security along main supply routes.

b. 5th Infantry Division: TF 9 will conduct operations west and south of the Snuol Rubber Plantation.

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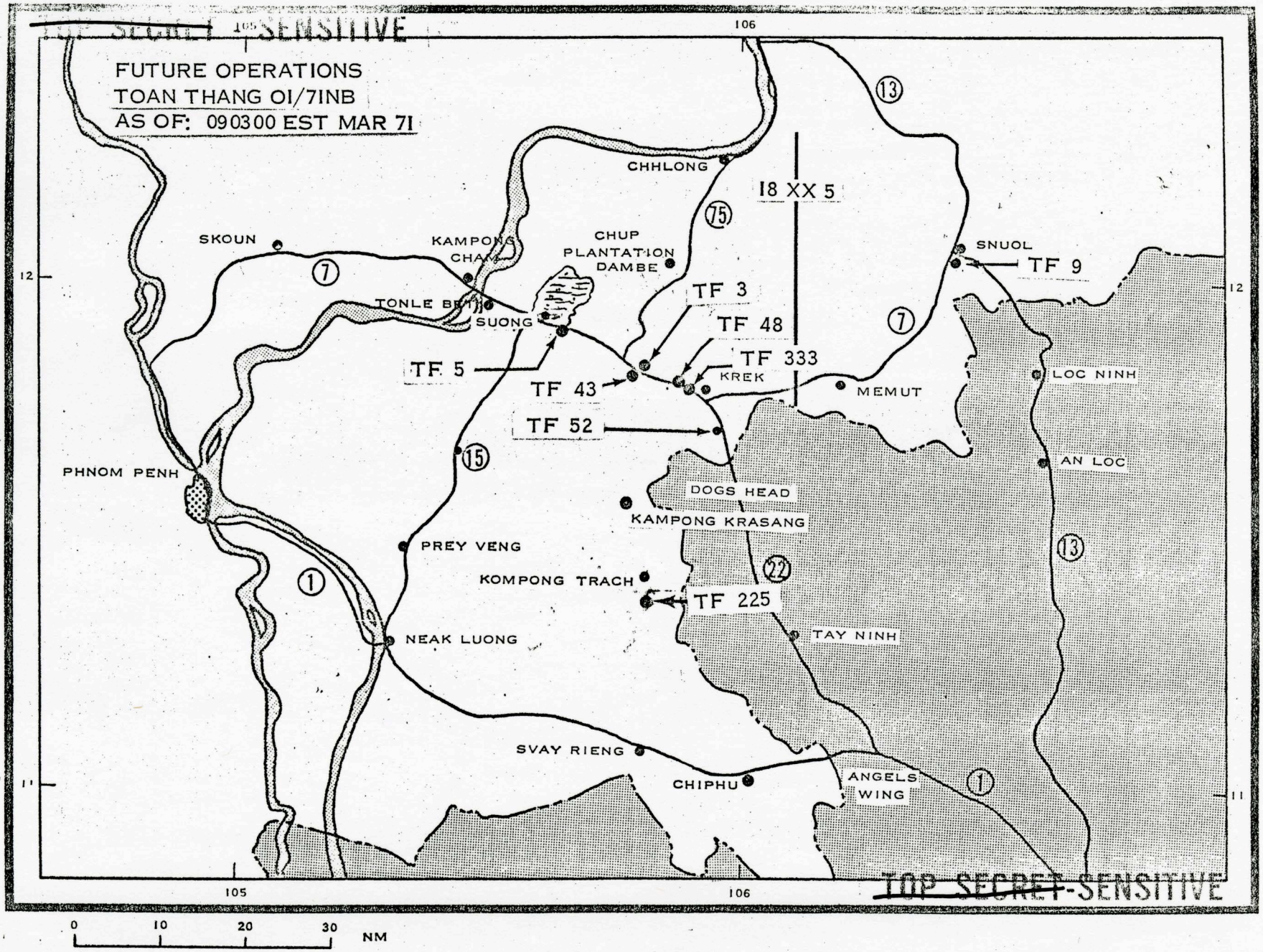
c. 25th Infantry Division: TF 225 will continue combined arms reconnaissance in force operations in the vicinity of Kompong Trach and to the southwest.

Attachment
Map

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DIA INTELLIGENCE APPRAISAL

Enemy Reactions to Operation TOAN THANG 01/71 (U)

1. (SS) On 8 March, the Headquarters, 9th VC Division was located on the northern edge of the Chup Plantation, four miles southwest of its 7 March position.

SANITIZED
(b)(3):10 USC 424
3.3(b)(1)

2. (SS) [redacted] the 96th NVA Artillery Regiment, 69th Artillery Group, have [redacted] provide its 33rd Battalion (located in the Chup Plantation area) with a 120-mm mortar capability. On 7 March, the 33rd Battalion discussed the formation of an element to be equipped with three such mortars and more than 100 rounds of ammunition. The 96th Regiment, which is known to have 60-mm and 82-mm mortars, and 107-mm and 122-mm rockets, has not been previously credited with having this weapon. If valid, this would increase the indirect fire support capability of the 33rd, particularly in close combat situations. This battalion is presently supporting the 9th VC Division.

3. (SS) The enemy continues his efforts to reduce the effectiveness of ARVN operations in Cambodia through the employment of attacks by fire. One such attack in the vicinity of Snuol resulted in the loss of substantial quantities of ARVN ammunition.

Approved by:

[redacted]

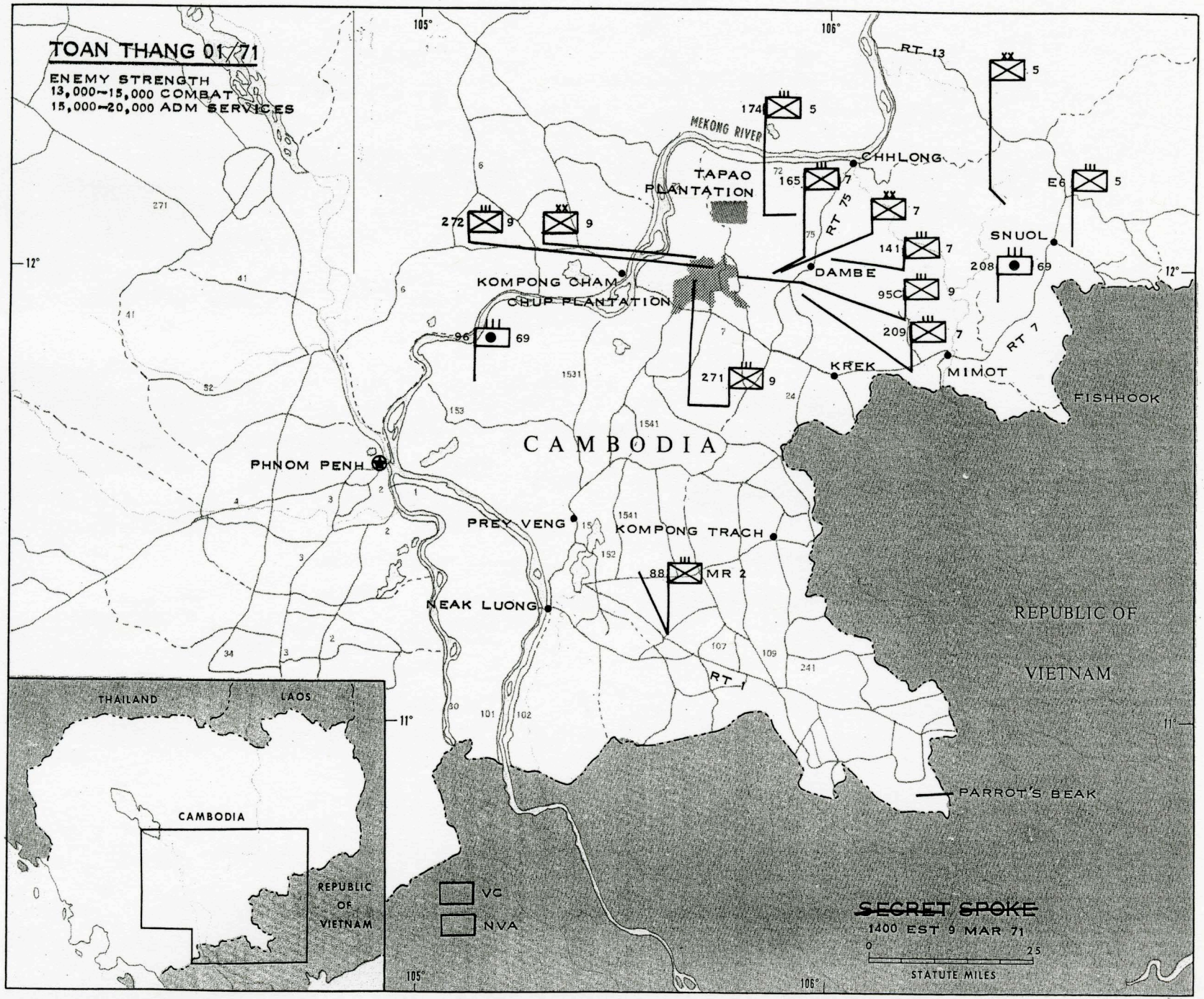
SANITIZED
(b)(3):10 USC 424
3.3(b)(1)

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: 10/0600-11/0600 Saigon time
OUTLOOK: 11/0600-12/0600 Saigon time

NVN PANHANDLE - AREA 1:

COASTAL - Overcast, ceiling 1,000 feet patchy, 3,000 feet, visibility 2 to 5 miles in rain/drizzle and fog. Minimum stratus in northern portion.

MOUNTAINS - Overcast, ceiling 500 feet AGL patchy 3,500 feet, visibility 1 to 5 miles in rain/drizzle and fog.

OUTLOOK - Slight decrease in stratus along coast.

NORTHERN SOUTH VIETNAM - AREA 2:

COASTAL - Cloudy, ceiling 1,000 feet, visibility 7 miles occasionally 2 miles in rain/drizzle.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy, ceiling surface to 500 feet AGL patchy 3,500 feet, visibility 1/8 to 5 miles in rain/drizzle/fog.

OUTLOOK - Slight decrease in stratus late in period.

KHE SANH - AREA 3:

Overcast, ceiling 400 to 800 feet, visibility 1 to 3 miles in occasional rain/drizzle and fog during daylight hours. Between 1800 and 1000 Saigon time, ceiling surface to 400 feet, visibility 1/8 mile in drizzle and fog.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

TCHEPONE - AREA 4:

Cloudy occasionally partly cloudy, ceiling 4,000 feet patchy unlimited, visibility 7 miles. Between 0500 and 1100 Saigon time, patchy broken stratus, 500 feet AGL and fog/haze, visibility 1/2 to 4 miles.

OUTLOOK - Slight decrease in clouds.

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Enclosure 3

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CHUP PLANTATION - AREA 5:
Partly cloudy, ceiling 10,000 feet, visibility 4 to 7 miles in haze. Between 0600 and 1000 Saigon time, patchy broken status, 1,000 feet AGL and fog/haze, visibility 1/2 to 3 miles.

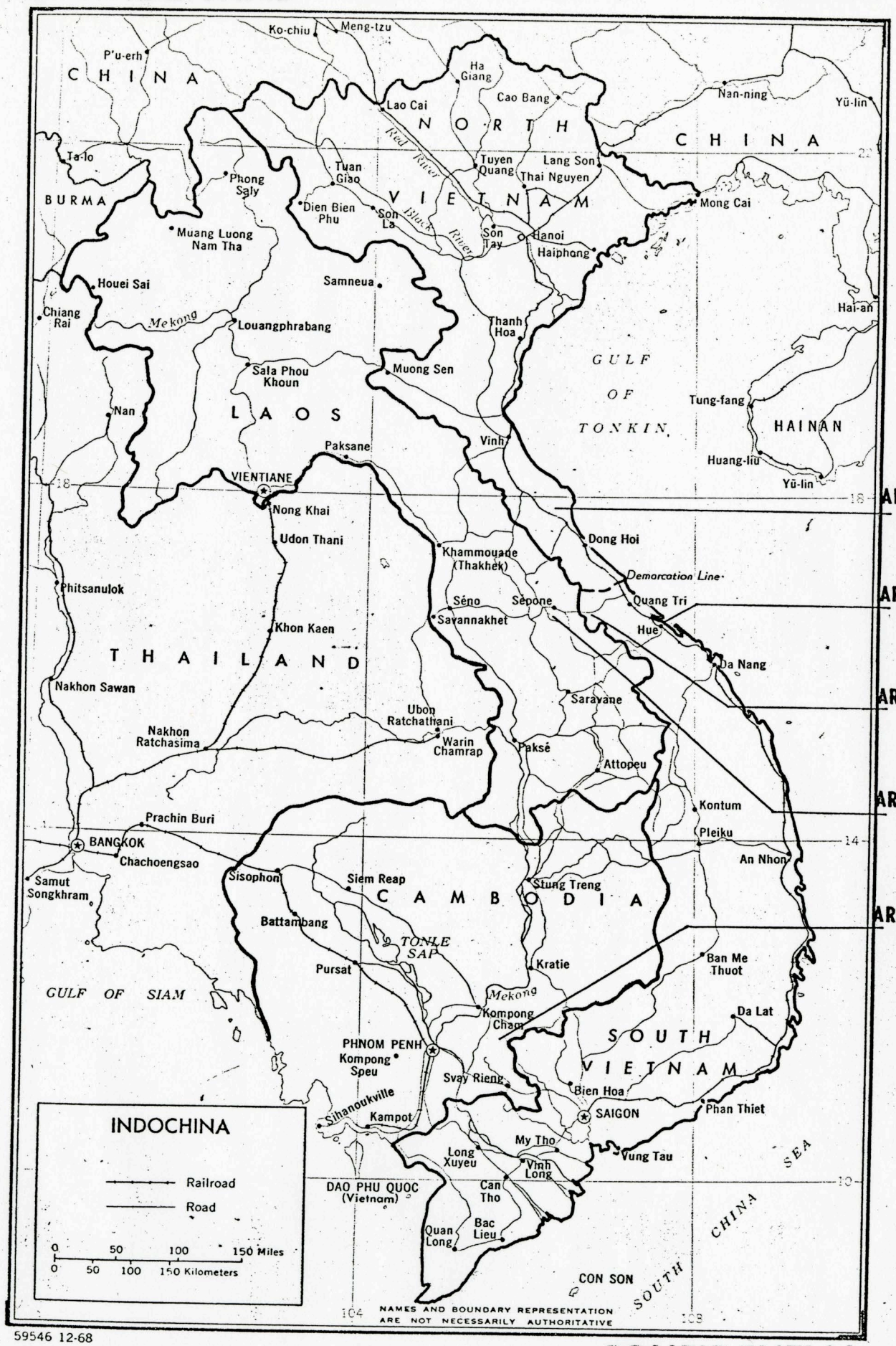
OUTLOOK - Little change.

NOTE: All cloud heights are given in feet Above Mean Sea Level, except those indicating AGL (Above Ground Level).

Attachment
Map

[NLN-104-61/10594 P15 of 10]
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Attachment 1

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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

8 MAR 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR DR. KISSINGER

Subject: Status Report on Operations in Laos and Cambodia

1. (C) Reference is made to your memorandum, dated 11 February 1971, subject as above.

2. (C) In accordance with your request, the 1600 hour daily reports are attached as Enclosures 1 and 2. A weather forecast covering particular areas of interest in Southeast Asia has been added as Enclosure 3.

3 Encls
a/s

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E.O. 13526, Section 3.5
NLNOU-51/10595; per ltr 10/27/2011
By NARA, Date 5/1/2012
[p 1 of 16]
Per Lic. 3.3(b)(1); (b)(3):10 USC 424

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Page 1 of 1 Pages

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Subject: Operation LAMSON 719

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 070800-080800 GMT (071600-081600 Saigon time, 070300-080300 EST) March 1971.

2. (TS) Summary of Current Situation:

a. During the period an increase in enemy indirect fire attacks (rocket, artillery, mortar) against military bases and population centers was noted as well as attacks against lines of communication. Friendly losses, as a result of these attacks, in personnel, materiel, and equipment were light, except for a sapper attack at a forward support area (Vandegrift). In the early morning hours (Saigon time) of 8 March, sappers succeeded in igniting 40,000 gallons of jet engine fuel.

b. The period also was characterized by a series of contacts in northern Military Region 1 in RVN and in the LAMSON area in Laos. Generally, the contacts were of short duration with both friendly and enemy casualties reported as light. However, a Vietnamese Marine battalion engaged an estimated two enemy companies in the vicinity of FSB DELTA. The result of this protracted contact was 100 enemy killed at a cost of 17 Vietnamese Marines killed and 50 wounded.

c. US artillery reported the destruction of one enemy tank and two enemy trucks. Helicopter gunships accounted for the destruction of one enemy tank and four enemy trucks. In both instances, locations were indefinite. Total enemy tanks destroyed now number 93.

d. ARVN units operating in Laos continued to find evidence of substantial enemy equipment and personnel losses resulting from tactical air and B-52 strikes. In the past 24 hours, 207 enemy bodies, 15 destroyed tunnels, and assorted arms and ammunition have been discovered. A battalion of the 2d Regiment, operating in the vicinity of Tchepone, observed over 500 secondary explosions on 7 March, following a B-52 strike, and on 8 March forward air controllers observed 1,600 secondary explosions in the same area as a result of tactical air strikes. The exact location of these strikes was undetermined. Also on 7 March, approximately 1 mile northeast of Tchepone, 2,000 122-mm rockets destroyed by a B-52 strike were found.

e. The 2d ARVN Regiment reported that an enemy convoy was observed under attack approximately 3 1/2 miles southwest of LZ SOPHIA. The coordinates given for the location of the convoy place it on Route 914. It was not clear from the report whether the enemy convoy was being engaged by friendly air or ground units, nor was the size or composition of the enemy convoy indicated. However, one enemy truck was reported burning and 11

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others damaged.

f. The 2d Battalion, 2d Infantry Regiment, reported that its command post was in the town of Tchepone. The time given was 1653 hours (EST), 7 March.

3. (S) Plans for Future Operations:

a. The 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) will continue operations in assigned area with priority of effort toward an enemy bunker complex approximately 5 miles west of Vandergrift and suspected enemy rocket firing positions.

b. The 1st Brigade, 5th Division (Mech), will continue a major reconnaissance effort in the area south of Lang Vei.

c. RVNAF units will emphasize saturation search operations by company-size patrols to locate and destroy enemy supply caches and to cut lines of communication.

(1) 1st Infantry Division:

(a) 1st Regiment will conduct search operations toward Objective Bach Mai, secure FSB LOLO, and secure LZ LIZ.

(b) 2d Regiment will conduct search operations in the vicinity of Tchepone, secure FSB SOPHIA and search in that vicinity.

(c) 3d Regiment will secure FSB DELTA ONE and conduct search operations in that vicinity and around LZ BROWN.

(2) 1st Airborne Division:

(a) 1st Brigade will conduct saturation searches in current locations and attack in a northwesterly direction with elements of one battalion.

(b) 2d Brigade will continue to search in present location and secure Route 9 from the Laotian border to FSB BRAVO.

(3) Armored Task Force:

(a) The 11th Armored Cavalry Squadron and the 8th Airborne Battalion (-) will attack to the west toward an objective 3 miles west of FSB ALOUI.

(b) The 17th Armored Cavalry Squadron reinforced with one airborne infantry company and one airborne reconnaissance company will secure Route 9 from FSB ALOUI to FSB ALPHA.

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[NLN-RS-05-95 p 36 #10]

(4) Vietnamese Marine Division:

(a) 147th Brigade will secure FSB DELTA with one battalion and continue its attack in present area with two battalion.

(b) 258th Brigade will continue its attack to the south and will continue to secure FSB HOTEL.

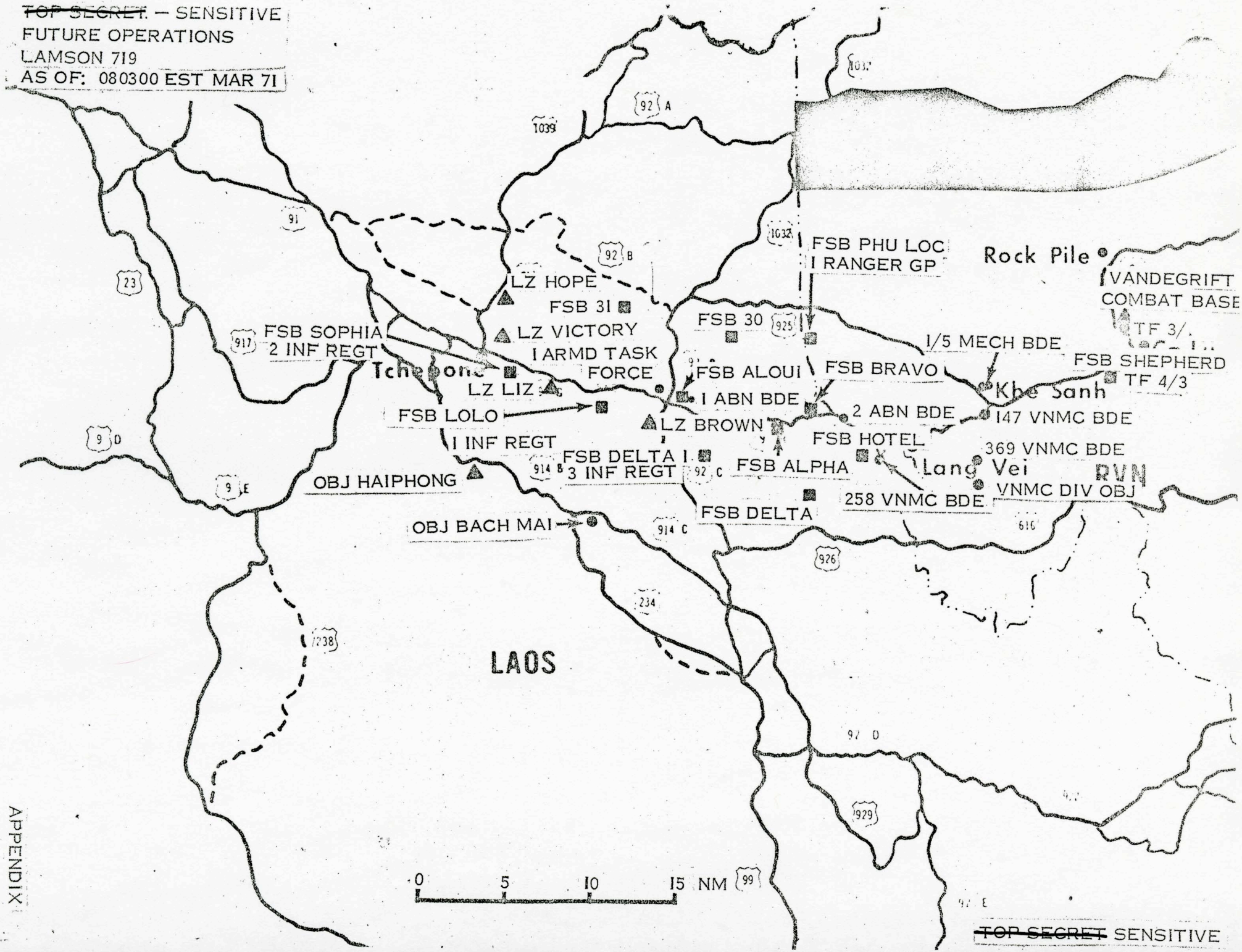
(c) 369th Brigade will continue security operations south of Khe Sanh with two battalions.

(5) The 1st Ranger Group will continue operations in the vicinity of FSB PHU LOC.

(6) Engineer effort will continue on Route 9 and Red Devil Road from the Rockpile to Khe Sanh. The matting work on the airfield at Khe Sanh is expected to be completed on 8 March.

Attachment
Map

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NLN10-51/10695 By dh, NARA Date 3



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DIA INTELLIGENCE APPRAISAL

Enemy Reactions to Operation LAMSON 719 (U)

1. (S) There have been no major enemy unit relocations and the threat to Allied forces is unchanged.

SANITIZED
(b)(3):10USC 424
3.3(b)(1)

2. (SS) [redacted] the enemy is determined to protect the Muong Nong area. The 29th NVA Regiment, 324B NVA Division was to provide one infantry battalion for that purpose and it was to be supported by two antiaircraft battalions and one engineer battalion. These units were instructed to coordinate to "defeat and destroy the enemy probes or landings, shoot down many helicopters, and destroy many armored vehicles".

SANITIZED
(b)(3):10USC 424
3.3(b)(1)

3. (SS) [redacted] the movement of supplies in the vicinity of Operation LAMSON. On 5 March, Binh Tram 32 reported 23 vehicles, possibly carrying 92 tons of supplies, at a storage facility located along Route 914. Personnel reportedly were unloading new cargo.

Approved by:

[redacted]

SANITIZED
(b)(3):10USC 424

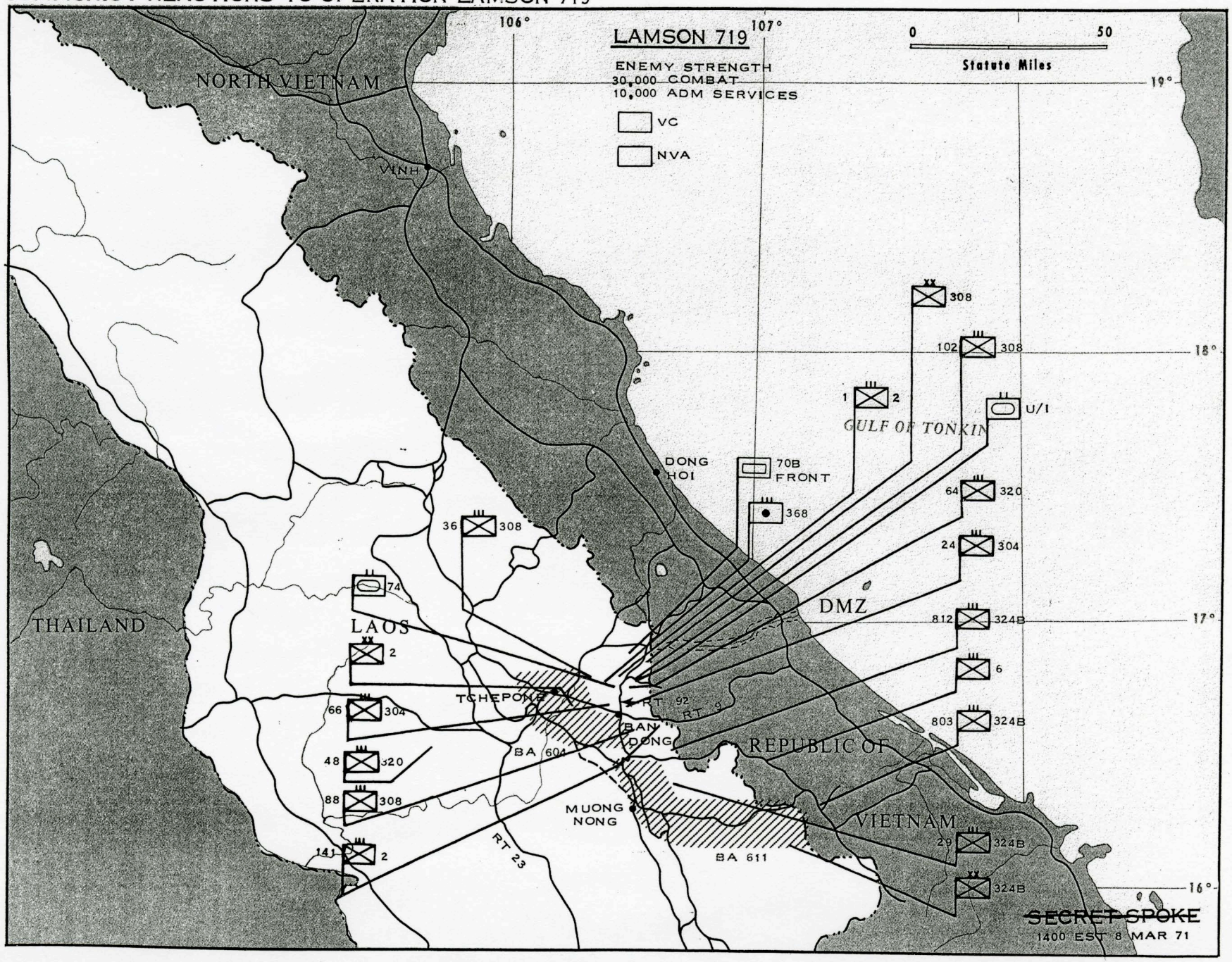
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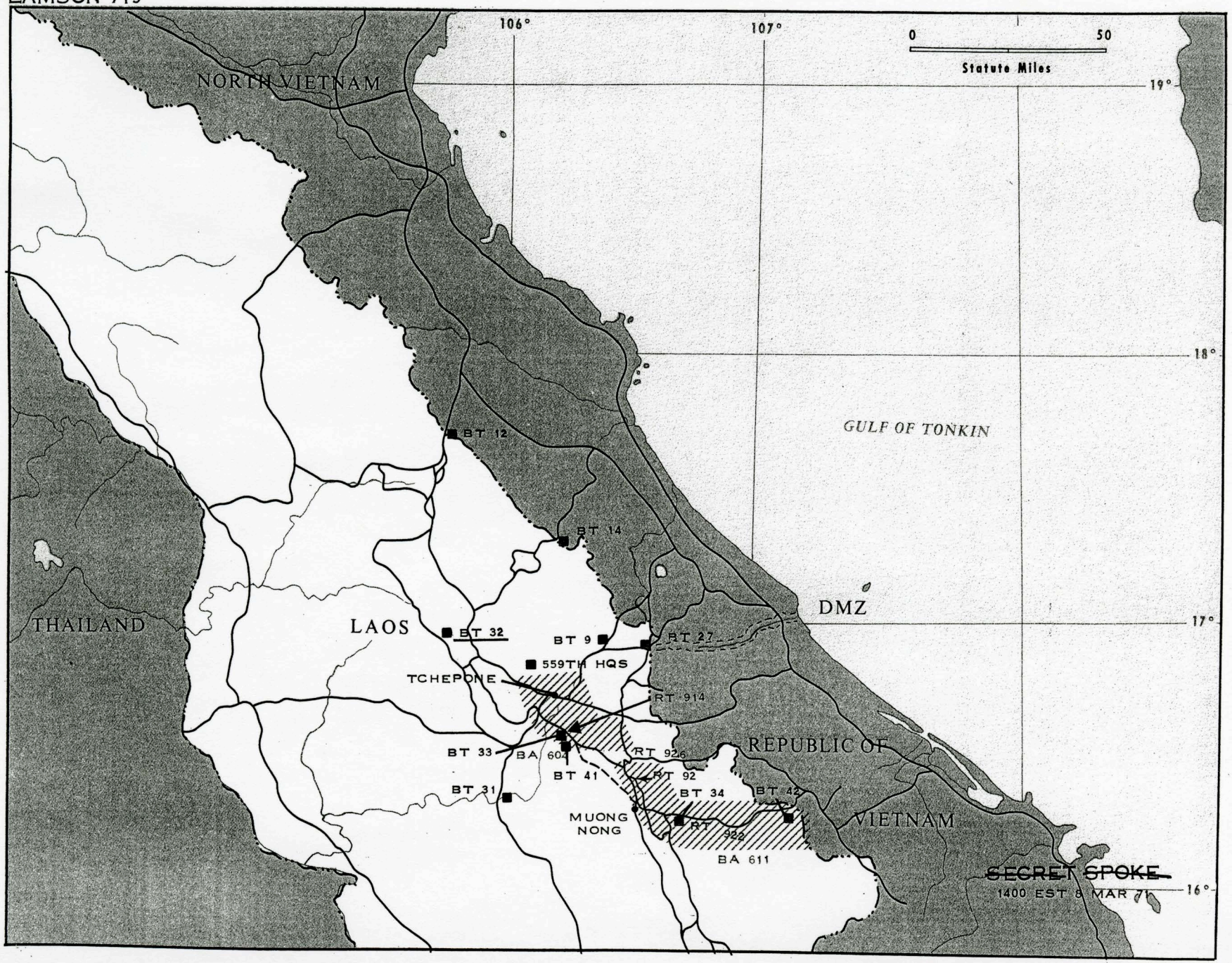
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COMMUNIST REACTIONS TO OPERATION LAMSON 719



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NLN 95-110 #95 p 76 [07]

LAMSON 719



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Subject: Operation TOAN THANG 01/71 NB

1. (U) General: This report covers the period 070800-080800 GMT (071600-081600 Saigon time, 070300-080300 EST) March 1971.

2. (TS) Summary of Situation:

a. The level of activity in the TOAN THANG Operation was low during the early part of this reporting period. An OH-6A helicopter was hit by AA fire and made a forced landing just north of Snoul. The crew was extracted and the aircraft was destroyed in place. Activity increased during the latter part of the period with three coordinated attacks by fire against ARVN units along Highway 7. One attack by fire was followed by a ground attack which resulted in three ARVN KIA, 32 ARVN WIA, 80 enemy KIA and five enemy detained. Three automatic rifles, four rocket launchers and 14 AK-47s were captured.

b. Operational control of all ARVN forces engaged in TOAN THANG 01/71 was passed to the 5th, 18th and 25th ARVN Divisions at 1700 EST on the 7th.

c. The 3d, 43d, and 48th Task Forces continued preparations for operations in the areas of the Chup Plantation, Dambe and Krek. The 52d and 333d Task Forces continued route security operations and other force elements continued operations in their assigned areas. TF-5's assumption of route security operations was delayed by fighting along Route 2.

d. During this period, there were 92 enemy and eight RVNAF personnel killed in this operation.

3. (S) Plans for Future Operations:

a. The 18th Infantry Division will conduct operations in the Dambe/Chup/Krek area with the following task forces: 3, 5, 43, 48, 52, and 333. Task Forces 5 and 333 will, on order, revert to III Corps control and constitute the Corps reserve.

(1) Task Forces 5 and 333 will continue to position units along Route 7 to assume the route security operations.

(2) Task Forces 3, 43, and 48 will continue to prepare for future operations.

(3) Task Force 52 will continue route security from Krek to the RVN border.

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b. The 5th Infantry Division assumed operational control of Task Force 9 which will continue operations in the vicinity of Snuol.

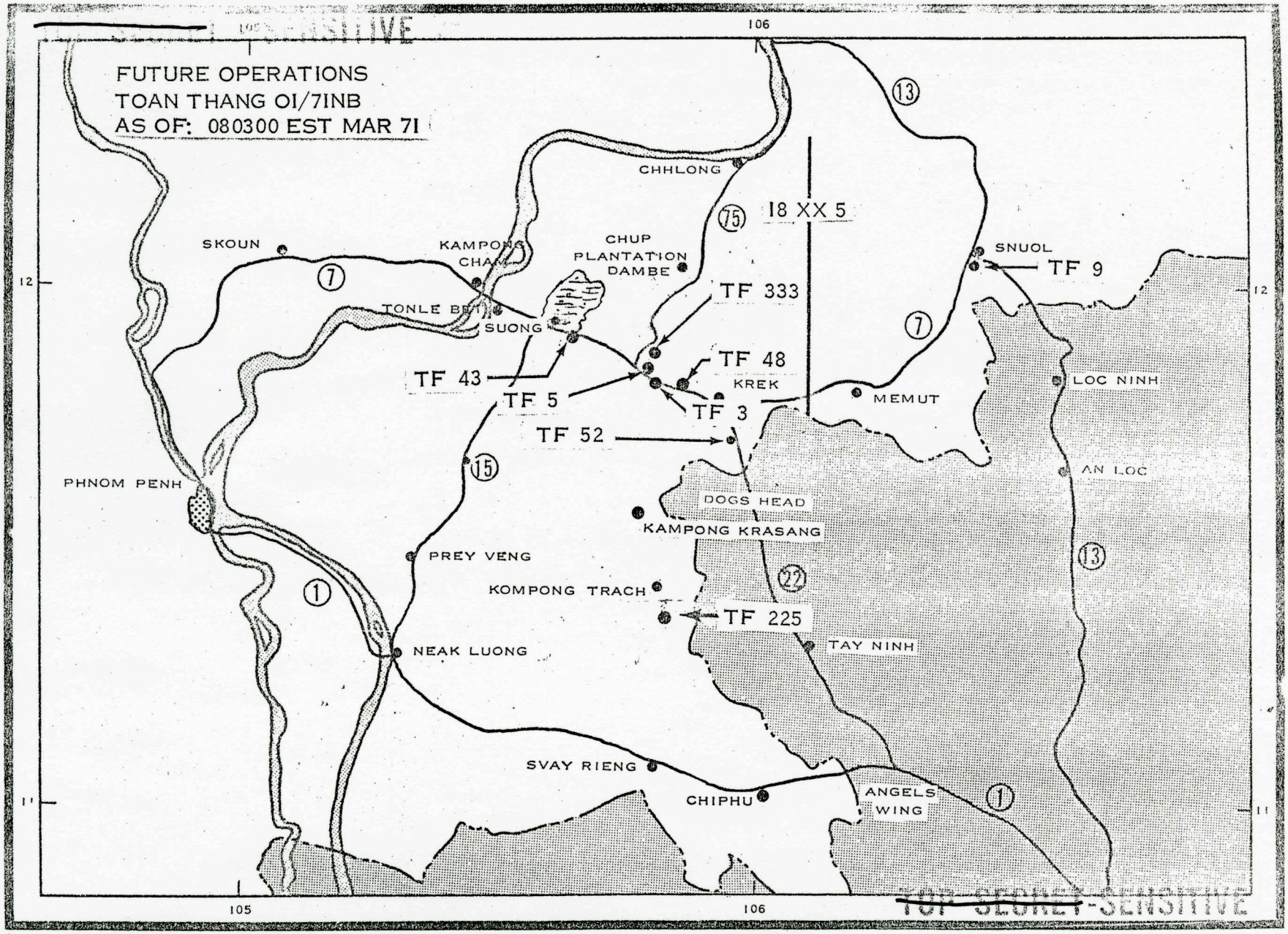
c. The 25th Infantry Division assumed operational control of Task Force 225 which will continue operations in the vicinity of Kompong Trach.

Attachment
Map

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[NLNSC-5/10595/10061]

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APPENDIX



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DIA INTELLIGENCE APPRAISAL

Enemy Reactions to Operation TOAN THANG 01/71 (U)

1. (SS) On 7 March, the Headquarters, 9th VC Division was detected north of the Chup Plantation, some seven miles northeast of its 5 March location on the western side of the plantation. On the same day, the Headquarters, 174th NVA Regiment, 5th VC Division was located ten miles southwest of Chhlong -- about ten miles north of its 4 March position west of Dambe. These deployments do not appear to have any significant tactical importance but could be related to resupply and refitting activities.

Approved by:

[redacted]

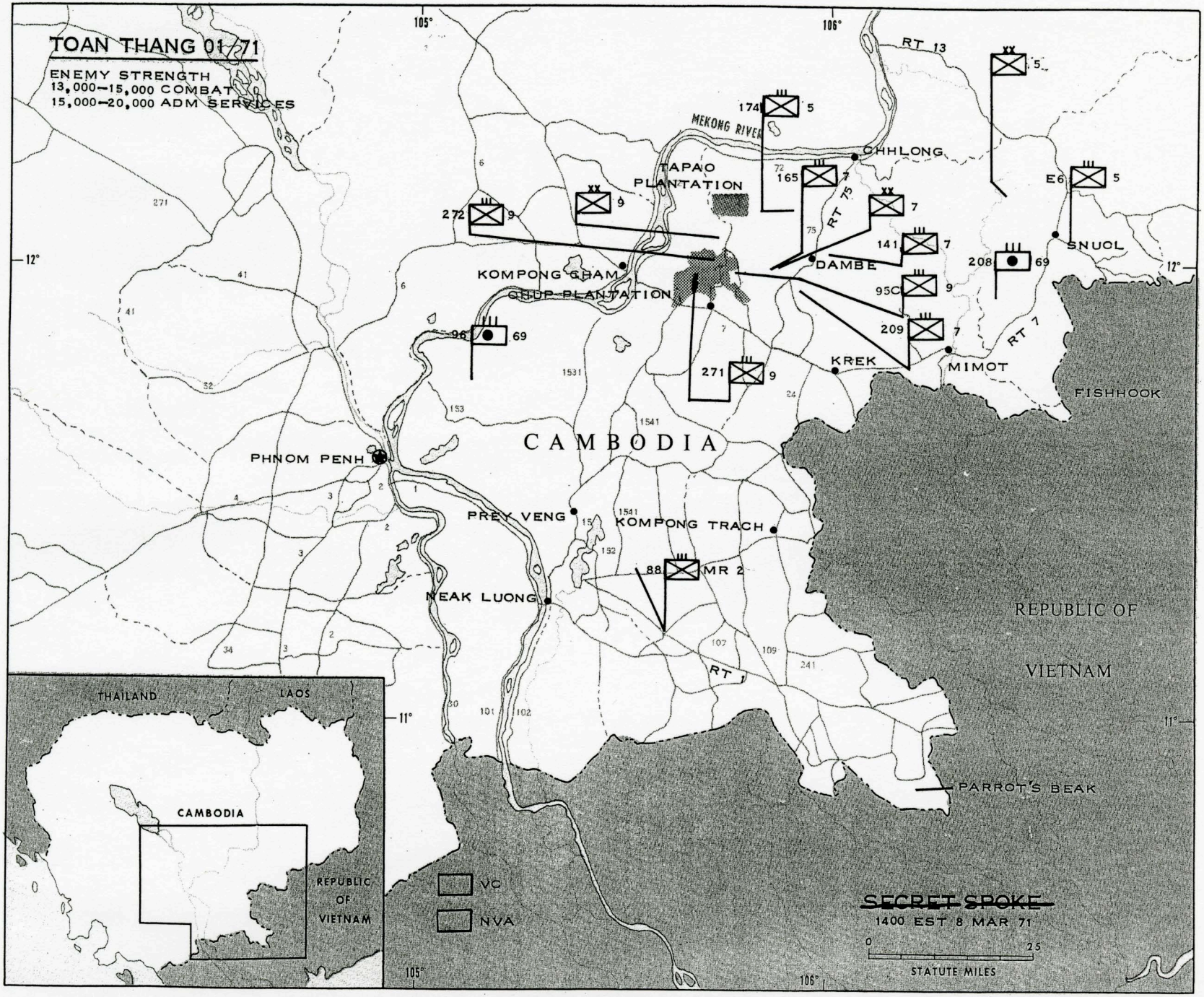
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NLN 10595 P 13 #9 [10]

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: 09/0600-10/0600 Saigon time
OUTLOOK: 10/0600-11/0600 Saigon time

NVN PANHANDLE - AREA 1

COASTAL - Cloudy patchy partly cloudy, ceiling 1,000 feet patchy 3,000 feet, visibility 2 to 5 miles in haze/rain/drizzle. Minimum clouds between 1200 and 1700 Saigon time. Maximum rain/drizzle north of 17.5N.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy, ceiling 3,500 feet, visibility 2 to 5 miles in haze and occasional rain/drizzle/fog. Patchy broken stratus, 1,000 feet AGL in valleys.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

NORTHERN SOUTH VIETNAM - AREA 2

COASTAL - Cloudy occasionally partly cloudy, ceiling 2,500 feet occasionally unlimited, visibility 4 to 7 miles in haze. Between 0001 and 1000 Saigon time, patchy broken stratus, 1,000 feet ANG fog, visibility 3 miles.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy patchy partly cloudy, ceiling 3,500 feet patchy unlimited. Visibility 4 to 7 miles in haze. Between 1800 and 1200 Saigon time, patchy broken stratus 400 feet AGL and fog/haze, occasional drizzle, visibility 1/4 to 3 miles.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

KHE SANH - AREA 3

Cloudy, ceiling 1,400 to 2,000 feet AGL, visibility 6 to 7 miles in light haze. Between 2000 and 1000 Saigon time, ceiling 400 to 1,200 feet AGL, visibility 2 to 6 miles in fog/haze.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

TCHEPONE - AREA 4

Partly cloudy patchy cloudy, ceiling unlimited patchy 4,000 feet, visibility 3 to 7 miles in haze. Top of haze layer 12,000 feet. Between 0500 and 1100 Saigon time, in valleys, patchy broken stratus, 500 feet AGL and fog/haze, visibility 1/2 to 4 miles.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

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Enclosure 3

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NLN-NSC-E/10595 D140h107

CHUP PLANTATION - AREA 5

Partly cloudy, ceiling unlimited occasionally 10,000 feet, visibility 4 to 7 miles in haze. Between 0600 and 1000 Saigon time, broken stratus 1,000 feet AGL and fog/haze, visibility 1/2 to 3 miles.

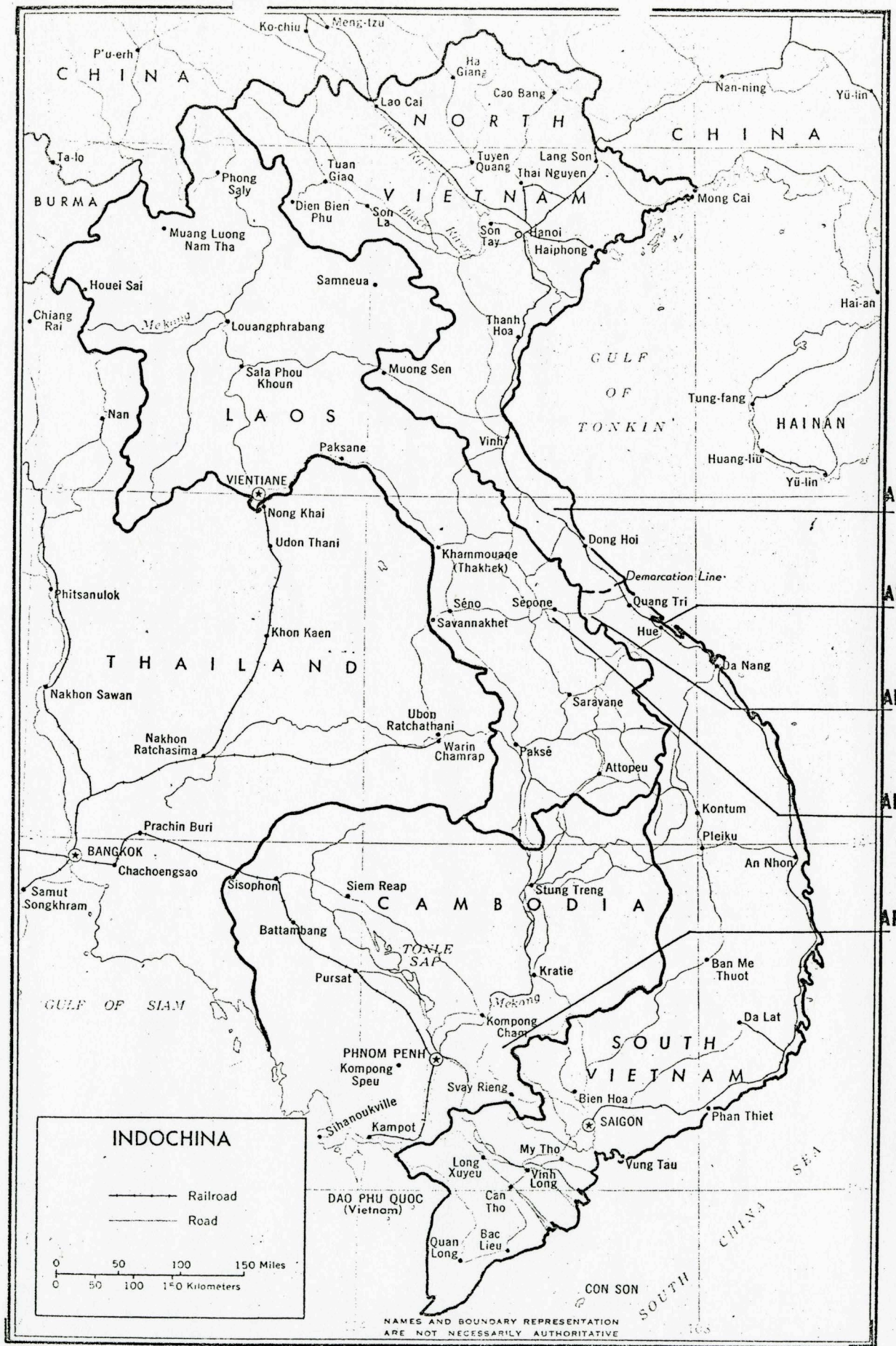
OUTLOOK - Little change.

NOTE: All cloud heights are given in feet Above Mean Sea Level, except those indicating AGL (Above Ground Level).

Attachment
Map

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Attachment 1

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WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: 27/0600-28/0600 Saigon time
OUTLOOK: 28/0600-29/0600 Saigon time

NVN PANHANDLE - AREA 1:

COASTAL - Overcast, ceiling 4500 feet occasionally 1000 feet, visibility 7 miles except occasionally 5 miles in rain/drizzle. Minimum low clouds between 1300 and 1700 Saigon time. Between 1700 and 2000 Saigon time, isolated showers/thundershowers.

MOUNTAINS - Overcast, ceiling 4000 feet, visibility 7 miles except occasionally 3 to 4 miles in rain/drizzle. Scattered afternoon/night showers/thunderstorms. Between 2300 and 1100 Saigon time, in valleys, broken stratus, 500 feet AGL and fog, visibility 1/2-2 miles.

OUTLOOK - Decreasing middle level clouds, otherwise little change.

NORTHERN SOUTH VIETNAM - AREA 2:

COASTAL - Cloudy, ceiling 8000 feet occasionally 2500 feet, visibility 7 miles. Between 2100 and 1100 Saigon time, patchy scattered stratus, 500 feet and fog, visibility 1/4-3 miles. Isolated late afternoon/evening showers/thundershowers.

MOUNTAINS - Cloudy, ceiling 500 feet AGL, visibility 1/4 to 3 miles in fog/haze. Between 1200 and 2000 Saigon time, ceiling 8000 feet occasionally 4500 feet, visibility 7 miles, occasional rain. Isolated late afternoon/evening showers/thunderstorms.

OUTLOOK - Decreasing middle level clouds, otherwise little change.

KHE SANH - AREA 3:

Cloudy, ceiling 6000 feet AGL, visibility 6 miles in haze. Between 2100 and 1100 Saigon time, stratus, ceiling 200 to 500 feet AGL and fog, visibility 1/4 to 3 miles. Isolated afternoon/evening showers, ceiling 1000 feet AGL in vicinity of showers.

OUTLOOK - Little change.

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Ed

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ARMY Review Completed

SECRET/SENSITIVE

February 26, 1971

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER HK

SUBJECT: Significant Enemy Losses in Laotian and Chup Operations as of February 26, 1971

Laos (LAMSON 719)	Cumulative	24-hour change
Individual weapons	1,356	+24
Crew-served weapons	276	+27
Small arms ammunition (rounds)	144,340	--
Other assorted ammunition (pounds)	254,240	+8,040
Food (pounds)	703,200	-81,200*
Vehicles	127	+7
Petroleum (gallons)	134,360	--
Structures destroyed	694	+1
Bunkers destroyed	337	-35*
Enemy KIA	2,561	+233
U.S. KIA	67	+2
ARVN KIA	278	-5*
Miscellaneous		
Equipment & supplies (pounds)	75,760	+1,000
Medical supplies	7,400	--
Cambodia (Toan Thang 1/71)		
Individual weapons	405	+3
Crew-served weapons	86	+1
Small arms ammunition	8,800	--
Small rocket & mortar ammunition (rounds)	342	+1
Food (pounds)	83,600	--
Structures destroyed	10	--
Bunkers destroyed	32	--
Enemy KIA	1,814	+105
ARVN KIA	204	+8

* Adjusted figure based on updated information

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