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2. INDOCHINA: Revers' views on military situation--General Revers, French Chief of Staff, has expressed to US Ambassador Bruce in Paris his confidence that current French defensive measures on the Tonkin border in Indochina will enable the French to repel any attack except by a "massed and disciplined army operating as a unit." Although Revers expects guerrilla warfare to last at least "a couple of years," he believes French and native troops can cope with it. Revers also expressed the belief that the situation in Indochina has improved considerably in recent months and that Bao Dai's government has a good chance of succeeding if its development is not interrupted by the Chinese Gommunists. Bruce was disturbed, however, by Revers' view that the French military should have a predominant voice in Indochinese affairs.

(CIA Comment: CIA believes that General Revers' fairly optimistic views may encourage the French Government to implement liberally the 8 March agreements with Bao Dai. Consequently, Revers' desire for a return to predominance of the military will not be realized.)

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