

REPORT CLASS

COUNTRY: SOUTH VIETNAM

SUBJECT: SITUATION REPORT IN I CORPS AS OF 2000 HOURS ON
4 FEBRUARY 1968

ACQUIRED: VIETNAM, DANANG (4 FEBRUARY 1968)

SOURCE : THIS IS A SITUATION REPORT ON 4 FEBRUARY PREPARED
BY CAS,

FI

SUMMARY: NO MAJOR ENEMY ACTION WAS INITIATED IN I CORPS ON 4 FEBRUARY AS OF 2000 HOURS. IN QUANG TRI AN UNCONFIRMED REPORT STATES THAT A NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY REGIMENT (NEAR KHE SANH) HAS NOT JOINED IN THE ATTACK ON QUANG TRI, AND INCLUDES OFFICIALS AND NECESSARY ACCOUTREMENTS TO ESTABLISH GOVERNMENT MACHINERY. THE SITUATION CONTINUED TENSE IN HUE, AS FIGHTING CONTINUED AND THE U.S. MARINE CORPS FORCES WERE NEARING THE CORDS OFFICES, MAKING SLOW PROGRESS. THE DITADEL AIRPORT REPORTEDLY WAS IN VIETNAMESE HANDS, BUT NOT YET OPERATIVE. THE PEOPLE IN QUANG NGAI DID NOT APPEAR TO BE TAKING SIDES, ALTHOUGH THERE FEARED THE VIET CONG. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCORDING TO A REPORT

THE 66TH REGIMENT OF THE 304TH NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY (NVA) DIVISION HAS NOT YET JOINED THE ATTACK AGAINST QUANG TRI. ALLEGEDLY, THE REGIMENT TRAVELED WITH OFFICIALS AND THE ACCOUTREMENTS TO ESTABLISH GOVERNMENTAL MACHINERY. UNITS THAT APPROACHED FROM THE NORTH DURING THE ATTACK CARRIED CIVILIAN CLOTHES. (COMMENT:

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IT IS NOT KNOWN IF THIS REPORT WAS BASED ON RUMOR OR INFORMATION FROM AN ESTABLISHED AGENT. THE 2 FEBRUARY III MAF OB LISTING STATES THAT A RALLIER, A MASTER SERGEANT, FROM THE 66TH REGIMENT OF THE 304TH DIVISION SAID THAT THE 304TH LEFT THANH HOA PROVINCE, NVN, IN OCTOBER 1967 AND ARRIVED IN THE KHE SANH AREA IN JANUARY 1968.)

2. ENEMY FIRE CONTINUED IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE, BUT NO MAJOR EFFORT HAD BEEN INITIATED AS OF 2000. THE SECURITY SERVICE ESTIMATED THAT THERE WERE STILL ABOUT 50 VIET CONG (VC) SAPPERS CADRES IN QUANG TRI CITY.

3. ACCORDING TO A CHIEU HOI (OPEN ARMS) ADVISOR A VC/NVA (?) COMMANDER SHOT AND KILLED ONE OF HIS WOUNDED WHO WOULD HAVE TO BE EVACUATED BY STRETCHER, PRESUMABLY BECAUSE HE WAS TOO IMPORTANT TO LEAVE BEHIND AND THE ENEMY DID NOT WANT TO BE SLOWED DOWN. IN ANOTHER INSTANCE IT APPEARED THAT AN ENEMY COMMANDER WAS URGING RELUCTANT TROOPS FORWARD. THE ATTACKERS ATTEMPTED TO ROUND UP AND TAKE THE CHIEU HOIS (RETURNEES) IN QUANG TRI CITY WITH THEM, BUT WHEN THEY CAME UNDER FIRE THE CHIEU HOIS ESCAPED.

4. PROVINCIAL RECONNAISSANCE UNITS (PRU) IN QUANG TRI CITY ACTED SERVED AS REACTION UNITS AND SPED FROM ONE SPOT TO ANOTHER CLEAR^RING OUT ENEMY ACTIVITY.

5. IN A TELEPHONE CONVERSATION FROM THE USMACV COMPOUND IN THE CITADEL, HUE CITY, THUA THIEN PROVINCE, AT 1930 HOURS, A CAS OFFICIAL SAID THAT THE SITUATION REMAINED TENSE WITH

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~~SECRET~~

SMALL ARMS FIRE CONTINUING AROUND THE USMACV COMPOUND. FIGHTING CONTINUED IN THE SOUTHERN HALF OF THE CITY. THE ROAD FROM PHU BAI TO HUE WAS STILL UNDER SNIPER FIRE. THE U.S. MARINE CORPS REACTION FORCE POSSIBLY WAS CLOSE TO THE U.S. CORDS OFFICES BUT WAS MAKING SLOW PROGRESS. CITADEL AIRPORT REPORTEDLY WAS IN ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (ARVN) HANDS, BUT IT WAS NOT OPERATIVE.

6. DANANG CITY HAS REMAINED QUIET DURING 4 FEBRUARY. DANANG POLICE WERE DIGGING EMBLEMMENTS AND SEEKING MACHINE GUN POSITIONS IN THE CITY, WHICH THEY SAID WAS A ROUTINE ACTION TO IMPROVE SECURITY. THEY HAD RECEIVED NO REPORTS OF AN IMPENDING ATTACK.

7. HOI AN, QUANG NAM PROVINCE, ALSO WAS QUIET ON 4 FEBRUARY WITH THE PROGRESSION OF A FAIRLY NORMAL DAY. MORE AND MORE PEOPLE WERE ON THE STREETS, WEELDRESSED, AND MOVING ABOUT. SHOPS WERE MORE AND MORE OPEN. ONE ACT OF TERRORISM OCCURRED WHEN TWO VC DRESSED IN POPULAR FORCE (PF) UNIFORMS RIDING A HONDA SHOT A PF SOLDIER WOLKING IN HOI AN. EXTENT OF INJURY IS NOT KNOWN. THERE WERE NO SIGNS OF PANIC OR RESENTMENT AGAINST THE AMERICANS OR THE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM (GVN). NOR WERE THERE SIGNS OF ATTEMPTS AT POLITICAL DEMONSTRATIONS ON THE PART OF BUDDHISTS OR THE VIETNAM NATIONALIST PARTY (VNQDD). THE MANY REFUGEES IN THE CITY WERE GATHERED AT SCHOOLS AND CHURCHES AND BEING CARED FOR BY SOCIAL AND WELFARE ORGANIZATIONS.

THE CURFEW CONTINUED ~~FROM~~ EN FORCE FOR FROM 1900 TO 0700 HOURS.

8. THE SITUATION CONTINUED QUIET IN TAM KY CITY. QUANG TIN PROVINCE, ON 4 FEBRUARY.

9. THE SITUATION ALSO REMAINED GENERALLY QUIET IN THE AREA OF QUANG NGAI CITY ON 4 FEBRUARY. ACCORDING TO INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE ADVISOR TO THE REVOLUTIONARY DEVELOPMENT CADRE PROGRAM IN QUANG NGAI:

A. VC TACTICAL BATTALIONS THAT REMAINED AROUND QUANG NGAI CITY INCLUDED THE 48TH AND 81ST LOCAL FORCES, THE 406TH MAIN FORCE, AND AN UNIDENTIFIED LOCAL FORCE FROM DUC PHO DISTRICT.

B. VC LOSSES ON 4 FEBRUARY WERE ESTIMATED AT MORE THAN 1,000 INCLUDING LOSSES FROM ACTION IN SOUTHERN QUANG TIN.

C. THERE ARE RUMORS, OR SPECULATION, AMONG THE PEOPLE THAT THE AMERICANS WILL NOT HELP QUANG NGAI. (COMMENT: HOW THESE RUMORS CAN BE CREDITED BY THE PEOPLE CANNOT BE UNDERSTOOD SINCE AMERICANS CERTAINLY ASSISTED IN OUSTING THE VC AFTER THEIR INFILTRATION OF THE CITY.) THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THE PEOPLE ARE AFRAID OF THE VC, BUT THEY ARE NOT TAKING SIDES.

D. THE VC GENERALLY BYPASSED THE RD TEAMS. SOME TEAMS HAVE MOVED IN CLOSE TO DISTRICT COMPOUNDS TO SUPPORT LOCAL GVN FORCES.

E. THE PRUS HAVE BEEN SHOWING A GOOD ACCOUNT, KEEPING



CASUALTIES LOW (TWO WOUNDED IN ACTION) AND DISRUPTING THE ENEMY.
ALL DISTRICT ARE HAPPY WITH THE PRU EFFORT.

F. HOW THE VC GOT IN AND OUT OF QUANG NGAI CITY IS STILL
UNKNOWN.

10. FIELD DISSEM: STATE USMACV CORDS III MAF 7TH AF USARV
COMNAVFORV USAID DIR/JUSPAO (MR. ZORTHIAN ONLY) CINCPAC ARPAC
PACAF (ALSO SENT SAIGON)

REPORT CALSS

[REDACTED] GROUP I

END OF MESSAGE