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COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI
SUBJECT II CORPS SITUATION REPORT AS OF 1800 HOURS
2 FEBRUARY 1968.

ACQ
SOURCE

1. BAN ME THUOT, DARLAC PROVINCE.

A. AS OF 1430 HOURS, 2 FEBRUARY, THE SITUATION IN BAN ME THUOT WAS QUITE CONFUSED WITH THE ENEMY FORCE INCREASING ITS PRESSURE ON THE CITY. TWO NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY (NVA) REGIMENTS, RUMORED TO BE THE 33RD AND POSSIBLY THE 17B WERE SITUATED NORTH AND SOUTH OF TOWN, WITH ELEMENTS OF THESE UNITS IN THE CITY ITSELF MINGLING WITH THE LOCAL POPULACE. PROVINCE HEADQUARTERS HAS BEEN COMPLETELY DESTROYED, AND MOST OF THE TOWN HAS BEEN BADLY DAMAGED. THE MACV COMPOUND HAS BEEN MORTARED, BUT HAS NOT SUSTAINED SERIOUS DAMAMGE. FIVE ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (ARVN) TANKS OF A TANK FORCE NUMBERING FIFTEEN HAVE BEEN DESTROYED OR PUT OUT OF ACTION. THE ENEMY IS EXPECTED TO HIT THE 155 HELICOPTER BATTALION DURING THE NIGHT OF 2 FEBRUARY. FRIENDLY FORCES CONSISTING OF TWO (ARVN) BATTALIONS HAVE BEEN SUPPLEMENTED BY 3 COMPANIES OF THE U.S. 173RD AIRBORNE BRIGADE. AIR STRIKES BY SKYRAIDERS HAVE BEEN CALLED IN ON THE CITY AND MANY CIVILIANS HAVE BEEN WOUNDED FROM THESE ATTACKS BECAUSE THE NVA ARE MINGLING WITH THE CIVILIANS.

REPORTED OVER 300 CIVILIANS WOUNDED WITH APPROXIMATELY 60 HOSPITALIZED. HOW MANY OF THESE WERE INJURED BY THE AIR STRIKES IS NOT KNOWN. THE ENEMY ATTACKS HAVE CAUSED CONSIDERABLE FEAR AMONG THE LOCAL POPULACE, BUT THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THE PEOPLE ARE GOING TO THE VC/NVA CAUSE. ENEMY TROOPS APPEAR TO BE HOLDING THE CIVILIAN POPULATION WITHIN THE CONFINES OF THE CITY. AMERICAN CORDS ADVISOR FOR MONTAGNARD AFFAIRS, ACCORDING TO LOCAL VIETNAMESE WITNESSES, WAS CAPTURED BY THE ENEMY. HE IS PRESENTLY REPORTED MISSING BY

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2. KONTUM, KONTUM PROVINCE. [REDACTED]

AT 1630 HOURS 2 FEBRUARY THE MILITARY SITUATION IN KONTUM CITY, KONTUM PROVINCE, WAS STILL FLUID AND COULD GO EITHER WAY. A VIET CONG (VC) UNIT IN REGIMENTAL STRENGTH WAS NORTH OF THE CITY. THE SIZE OF THE UNITS OPERATING IN THE CITY WAS UNKNOWN, BUT FIGHTING WAS HEAVY. THE PROVINCE INTERROGATION CENTER AND THE CHIEU HOI CENTER NEAR THE MACV COMPOUND WERE BEING LEVELED BY FRIENDLY AIR STRIKES, AND MACV RECEIVED SNIPER AND MORTAR FIRE. THE ENEMY WAS HOLED UP IN A BUILDING (UNSPECIFIED) WITHIN THE CITY. TUNNELS OF LONG STANDING HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED NEAR THE MACV COMPOUND. CASUALTY STATISTICS WERE NOT KNOWN. THERE WAS NO INFORMATION CONCERNING POSSIBLE ENEMY ACTIVITY OUTSIDE KONTUM OR IN DAK TO DISTRICT.

3. KHANH HOA PROVINCE. [REDACTED]

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A. AS OF 1800 HOURS 2 FEBRUARY THERE WAS NO CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY ANYWHERE IN KHANH HOA PROVINCE. AN NVA PRISONER, [REDACTED]

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THAT A SECOND ATTACK ON NHA TRANG WILL TAKE PLACE WITHIN THE NEXT THREE DAYS ACCORDING TO THE PRISONER. ALL UNITS OF THE 18/B REGIMENT WILL PARTICIPATE, WITH THE SUPPORT OF LOCAL UNITS AND ELEMENTS OF THE NVA 95TH REGIMENT. ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] THIS REGIMENT HAS BEEN BASED IN PHU YEN PROVINCE AND ITS PRESENCE IN KHANH HOA HAS NOT YET BEEN CONFIRMED. THE 95TH INCLUDES AN ARTILLERY BATTALION EQUIPPED WITH 122 MM ROCKETS. [REDACTED]

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D. OVER 40 CONFIRMED VC AND NVA PRISONERS, INCLUDING SIX OFFICERS, WERE UNDER INTERROGATION AT THE KHANH HOA PIC, BUT THE PIC HAS NOT OBTAINED ANY INFORMATION CONCERNING A PLANNED SECOND-PHASE ATTACK. THE PIC IS NOW FUNCTIONING AS A TACTICAL INTERROGATION CENTER FOR PROCESSING ALL BUT ROKA PRISONERS, WITH 15 INTERROGATORS ASSEMBLED FROM THE POLICE, ARVN S-2, SPECIAL FORCES, THE 55TH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DETACHMENT (MID), AND THE 4TH MID.

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C. [REDACTED]

D. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] AS OF 1720 HOURS 2 FEBRUARY THE ENEMY WAS EXPECTED TO LAUNCH A 120 MM MORTAR ATTACK ON THE AIR BASE IN NHA TRANG DURING THE NIGHT OF 2 FEBRUARY. IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THE MORTAR ATTACK WILL BE FOLLOWED BY AN ATTACK BY ELEMENTS OF THE 8TH AND 9TH BN OF THE 18/B REGIMENT. REMNANTS OF THE 7TH AND 8TH BNS ARE STILL SCATTERED THROUGHOUT NHA TRANG.

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4. [REDACTED] DISSEM: STATE USMACV CORDS 7TH AF USARV COMNAVFORV USAID DIR/JUSPAO (MR. ZORTHIAN ONLY) CINCPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF

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