

NSC BRIEFING

14 January 1954

INDOCHINA

- I. A cable of 12 January from our Paris embassy raises some disturbing questions.

A.

25X1X6

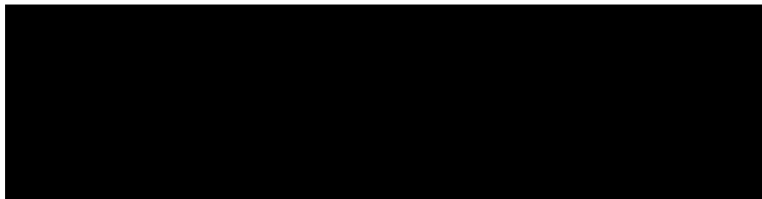
[REDACTED]

quoted an estimate made by Navarre in November that in two years the military situation in Indochina could be favorable for negotiations with the Communists.

1. This first time Navarre known to have talked of negotiations; he has always told US officials he planned a military victory.

25X1X6

II.



A. Navarre said Chinese aid to Viet Minh now considerably increased, particularly in trucks, etc., heavy artillery and antiaircraft weapons, including 37mm.

1. OCI Comment: Reports from Indochina do not bear out this contention.

B. Threat to Dien Bien Phu by Viet Minh heavy artillery and anti-aircraft might be decisive in any battle here.

C. Navarre pled for more men,
equipment and services. 25X1X6RD

1. [REDACTED] did not say
whether Navarre would
get his additional men.
2. He said US would be
asked for more B-26's
and USAF mechanics.