

25a

1.5(c)
3.4(b)

STATE (RCL)

CIA-OCI

ZEM

SECRET

REPORT CLASS: SECRET SOUTH VIETNAM

COUNTRY:

DOI:

SUBJECT:

SITUATION REPORT AS OF 1900 HOURS
LOCAL TIME, 22 MARCH 1968

LIBRARY

(Mandatory Review)

Case # NLJ 96271

Document # 25a

ACQ:

VIETNAM, SAIGON (22 MARCH 1968) FIELD NO.

SOURCE:

THIS IS A VIETNAM SITUATION REPORT PREPARED
AT 1900 HOURS LOCAL TIME ON 22 MARCH

1. THERE ARE INDICATIONS THAT THE VIET CONG (VC) MAY BE PREPARING FOR ACTIVITY IN THE SAIGON AREA IN THE NEAR FUTURE. ENEMY TROOP DISPOSITION TEND TO INDICATE IMPENDING VC ACTION IN OR NEAR THE CAPITAL.

1.5(c)
3.4(b)(1)

2. [REDACTED] THIS PREDICTION IS BASED ON ANALYSIS OF INTELLIGENCE GAINED FROM ALLIED CONTACTS WITH ENEMY TROOPS NEAR SAIGON, VC RESUPPLY ACTIVITY AND THE LOSS OF FACE THEY INCURRED IN THE FIRST ATTACK ON SAIGON.

3. ON 19 MARCH A LARGE CACHE OF ENEMY AMMUNITION WAS DISCOVERED IN GIA DINH PROVINCE AND INCLUDED 31 ROUNDS OF 122 MM ROCKET, 1 200 ROUNDS OF MORTAR, 30 ROUNDS OF 75MM RECOILESS RIFLE AND 138 ROUNDS OF B-40 AMMUNITION. THE DISCOVERY OF THIS CACHE, AND OTHER SMALLER CACHES IN THE PAST FEW DAYS, INDICATES THE ENEMY IS TRYING TO INCREASE HIS STOCKPILE OF MUNITIONS IN THE IMMEDIATE CAPITAL AREA AND THAT HE IS HAVING SOME SUCCESS IN MOVING THE MATERIEL CLOSE TO SAIGON.

4. PRISONER REPORTS ALSO BEAR OUT THE FACT THAT ENEMY FORCES ARE MAKING A GREAT EFFORT TO MOVE SUPPLIES AND MEN INTO POSITION FOR A POSSIBLE SECOND ATTACK ON SAIGON. A PRISONER, STATING THAT HE WAS AN IMPRESSED AMMUNITION BEARER, REPORTED THAT LARGE AMOUNTS OF AMMUNITION WERE BEING MOVED EASTWARD THROUGH HAU NGHIA PROVINCE; A RALLIER FROM THE 506TH LOCAL FORCE BATTALION STATES THAT HIS UNIT WAS INFILTRATING INTO THE CITY IN SMALL GROUPS ON 16 MARCH; AND ANOTHER REPORT MENTIONS THAT PEOPLE IN HOC MON DISTRICT WERE FORCED TO MOVE AMMUNITION INTO GIA DINH PROVINCE TO TWO CACHES.

5. ANOTHER INDICATION IS THAT THE DISPOSITION OF ENEMY TROOPS IS NOW APPROXIMATELY WHAT IT WAS JUST PRIOR TO THE TET OFFENSIVE. MANY OF THE ENEMY UNITS HAVE WITHDRAWN FROM THE CLOSE PROXIMITY OF SAIGON THAT THEY MAINTAINED A WEEK OR TWO AGO. THIS TACTIC IS USED BY THE VC TO DRAW ALLIED FORCES OUT FROM AROUND SAIGON AND SPREAD THEM OUT RELATIVELY THINLY, THUS MAKING IT EASIER TO FILTER SMALL UNITS THROUGH ALLIED LINES AND INTO THE CITY.

6. THE CAPITAL MILITARY DISTRICT (CMD) PASSED THE COMBINED SECURITY COMMITTEE AT 1740 HOURS ON 22 MARCH A REPORT EVALUATED "B1" BY THE CMD ALLEGING THAT THE VC ARE MOVING LARGE QUANTITIES OF ARMS TO THE VICINITY OF XT 795050 AND XT 830265, NORTH OF TAN SON NHUT AIR FIELD, AND ARE INFILTRATING TROOPS TO THE SOUTH OF SAIGON IN AN EFFORT TO ATTACK THE SAIGON-GIA DINH AREA BETWEEN 21 AND 23 MARCH.

7. FIELD DISSEM: STATE USMACV 7TH AIR FORCE CINCPAC PACFLT ARPAC PACAF GP-1

APPROVED FOR RELEASE
AUG 07 1997