

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Intelligence Information Cable

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GROUP 1
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CITE

[Redacted]

3.5(c)

DIST 9 MARCH 1968

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI 8-9 MARCH 1968

SUBJECT II CORPS SITUATION REPORT AS OF 1300 HOURS 9 MARCH 1968

ACQ VIETNAM, NHA TRANG (9 MARCH 1968) [Redacted] 3.5(c)

SOURCE THIS IS A SITUATION REPORT [Redacted] 3.3(h)(2)

[Redacted]

1. THE SITUATION IN THE II CORPS AREA REMAINS GENERALLY QUIET. IN TUYEN DCU PROVINCE GOVERNMENT OF VIETNAM (GVN) FORCES ARE CONDUCTING AN OPERATION AGAINST AN ESTIMATED TWO COMPANIES OF VIET CONG IN THE VICINITY OF DUC TRONG DISTRICT CAPITAL. THE CITY OF DALAT APPEARS TO BE RETURNING TO NORMAL, THE MARKET IS OPEN AND PRICES ARE ONLY SLIGHTLY HIGHER THAN BEFORE THE TET OFFENSIVE.

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Anti-American

2. THE ATTITUDE OF THE PEOPLE THROUGHOUT THE CORPS APPEARS TO VARY BETWEEN SOME BITTERNESS TOWARDS THE U.S. IN AREAS WHERE AIRSTRIKES WERE USED, CAUSING DAMAGE TO PROPERTY, AND A QUESTIONING AS TO WHY THE AMERICANS DID NOT DO MORE TO STOP THE VC OFFENSIVE. THE ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (ARVN) SECTOR S-2 IN KHANH HOA PROVINCE HAS BEEN NOTICEABLY UNCOOPERATIVE WITH AMERICAN OFFICIALS SINCE TET. SOME INSIGHT REGARDING HIS ATTITUDE WAS GIVEN WHEN, IN A RECENT CONVERSATION WITH THE DEPUTY PROVINCE SENIOR ADVISOR, HE ASKED: 1) WHY WERE NOT MORE AMERICANS INVOLVED IN THE DEFENSE OF NHA TRANG; 2) DID THE AMERICANS HELP THE VC IN THE ATTACK? AND 3) ARE THE AMERICANS REALLY IN FAVOR OF A COALITION GOVERNMENT?

3. SEVERAL PROVINCES IN II CORPS, NOTABLY DARLAC, KONTUM, PLEIKU, PHU YEN, AND BINH DINH, CONTINUE TO RECEIVE DAILY REPORTS OF IMPENDING VC ATTACKS. MOST OF THE REPORTS ARE FROM LOW LEVEL SOURCES, AND VERY FEW OF THEM PROVE TO BE

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ACCURATE. THE NET EFFECT OF THESE REPORTS, HOWEVER, HAS BEEN TO KEEP ON EDGE GVN AND AMERICAN OFFICIALS AS WELL AS THE LOCAL POPULATION, WHICH IS ALSO SUBJECTED TO CONSTANT RUMORS OF FURTHER VC ATTACKS. IN VIRTUALLY EVERY PROVINCIAL CAPITAL, CONSIDERABLE EFFORT IS STILL BEING DEVOTED TO CONSTRUCTING BUNKERS AND DEFENSIVE POSITIONS.

4. DISSEM: IFFV CORDS II CORPS SAIGON DISSEM:

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MACV CINCPAC ARPAC PACAF PACFLT 7TH AF

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