

TS- HK 755A-1

Chron

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

INFORMATION
19 August 1971

~~TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY~~

MEMORANDUM FOR: GENERAL HAIG

FROM: ADMIRAL WELANDER

SUBJECT: DMZ Protective Reaction
Strikes

You already have one half of the pre-planning package that you requested.

Attached, for your info, is how the other half would look if directed.

REFER TO OSD

JCS REVIEWED 29 Nov 2010: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

OSD REVIEWED 28 Nov 2011: NO OBJECTION TO DECLASSIFICATION

~~TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE/EYES ONLY~~

[TS - HK 7558]

TOP SECRET

AAA

TOP SECRET

M

FLASH

JCS

CINCPAC

INFO COMUSMACV

DISTR CJCS DJS JB

TOP SECRET SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOR ADM MCCAIN INFO GEN ABRAMS FROM ADM MOORER

CJCS SENDS

DELIVER UPON RECEIPT

SUBJ: PROTECTIVE REACTION STRIKES IN THE DMZ (S)

REFS: A. CINCPAC 122208Z AUG 71. B. COMUSMACV 111020Z JUL 71.

1. (TS) REF A RECOMMENDED AUTHORITY BE GRANTED TO CONDUCT TACAIR/ARTILLERY ATTACKS AGAINST ENEMY ARTILLERY LOCATED NORTH OF THE DMZ.

REF B IS A COORDINATED PLAN FOR AIR ATTACKS AGAINST TARGETS IN NVN.

2. (U) THIS IS AN EXECUTE MESSAGE.

3. (TS) THE DECISION HAS BEEN MADE TO EXECUTE PROTECTIVE REACTION AIR AND ARTILLERY STRIKES AGAINST ALL MILITARY AND LOGISTIC TARGETS THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE AREA OF THE DMZ NORTH AND SOUTH OF THE PMDL. ATTACKS ARE TO BE DIRECTED AGAINST ALL FIXED AND FLEETING TARGETS WHICH BY THEIR PRESENCE POSE A THREAT TO ALLIED FORCES IN RVN. IN ADDITION, ALL LOC NETWORKS AND ASSOCIATED ROAD BUILDING AND MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT LOCATED WITHIN THE DMZ WILL BE INTERDICTED TO IMPEDE ENEMY EFFORTS TO REINFORCE AND RESUPPLY THROUGH THIS AREA. LOGISTIC STOCKPILES, ARTILLERY POSITIONS, AAA SITES, BIVOUAC AREAS, TRUCK PARKS AND STORAGE AREAS WILL BE FULLY EXPLOITED TO PROVIDE

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SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN THE IMMEDIATE NVA THREAT TO QUANG TRI PROVINCE.

3 4. (TS) DURATION OF STRIKE WILL BE FOR A 24 HOUR PERIOD COMMENCING AT H-HOUR AT ANY TIME AFTER 2200Z ON 16 AUGUST 1971. H-HOUR WILL BE AT THE DISCRETION OF THE FIELD COMMANDER DEPENDING ON WEATHER, INTELLIGENCE AND OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS. FOLLOWING THE FIRST DAY'S EFFORT, SECOND AND THIRD CONSECUTIVE 24-HOUR STRIKE PERIODS ARE AUTHORIZED PROVIDING STRIKE REPORTS AND POST-STRIKE RECONNAISSANCE INDICATE LUCRATIVE TARGETS REMAIN IN THE AUTHORIZED STRIKE AREA.

3 5. (TS) FORCES. MAXIMUM EFFORT WILL BE APPLIED IN SUPPORT OF THIS OPERATION USING 7AF RESOURCES FROM RVN AND THAILAND AND TF-77 ASSETS FROM CVA(S) AVAILABLE ON YANKEE STATION.

3 6. (TS) NAVAL GUNFIRE SUPPORT MAY BE EMPLOYED ON AN OPTIONAL BASIS.

3 7. (TS) ARC LIGHT OPERATIONS ARE NOT AUTHORIZED NORTH OF THE PMDL.

3 8. (TS) ROE CONTAINED IN REF B APPLY EXCEPT THAT EMPLOYMENT OF SURFACE-TO-AIR MISSILES IS AUTHORIZED AGAINST HOSTILE MIG AIRCRAFT ANYWHERE OVER NVN AND/OR THE GULF OF TONKIN ONLY UP TO 19 DEGREES NORTH LATITUDE.

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J 9. (TS) NO STRIKES WILL BE CONDUCTED NORTH OF THE DMZ. HOWEVER ANY SAM, AAA, OR ARTILLERY SITE NORTH OF THE DMZ WHICH BECOMES ACTIVE AGAINST FRIENDLY FORCES OR POSITIONS WHILE THE STRIKE IS IN PROGRESS IS AUTHORIZED FOR IMMEDIATE RETALIATION DURING THE AUTHORIZED STRIKE PERIOD.

J 10. (TS) PUBLIC AFFAIRS: NOTHING REPEAT NOTHING WILL BE SAID PUBLICLY ABOUT THESE PROTECTIVE REACTION STRIKES WITHOUT PRIOR APPROVAL FROM WASHINGTON. FOLLOWING INITIAL LAUNCH OF STRIKE AIRCRAFT, OASD(PA) WILL BE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE FOR PRESS RELEASES. NO PUBLIC STATEMENTS, ANSWERS TO QUERIES, COMMENTS OR DISCLOSURES OF ANY KIND WILL BE MADE WITHOUT PRIOR OASD(PA) COORDINATION AND APPROVAL. THAT OFFICE WILL SEEK TO EXPEDITE THE FLOW OF INFORMATION, CONSISTENT AT ALL TIMES WITH NATIONAL SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.

J 11. (U) REPORTING INSTRUCTIONS: OPERATIONAL REPORTING WILL BE AS DESCRIBED IN REF B.

WARM REGARDS

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