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Copy of MAC 01049 from General Westmoreland Jan. 22, 1963

Document # 2

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1. The following is my assessment of the situation as it has developed over the past 48 hours.

2. The initial attacks of the expected enemy offensive in northern I Corps began on 20-21 January with assaults on 26th Marine positions north of Khe Sanh and on the Huong Hoa subsector. These were repulsed by the Marines and the Regional and Popular Forces in the area. Attacks by fire destroyed some ammunition and fuel and cratered the runway on the airfield. (3,000 feet of runway is still usable, however.) There was also a heavy attack by fire on Camp Carroll, with no significant damage or casualties resulting. The enemy broke contact around Khe Sanh at about noon the 21st and his activity subsided.

3. These actions were probably preliminary to a full-scale attack on Khe Sanh

4. The [redacted] will probably conduct supporting attacks against friendly installations along Highway 9, particularly Camp Carroll.

[redacted] indicate that an attack on Camp Carroll may occur within 24 hours.

5. [redacted]

6. The two-week general lull in country-wide activity that was interrupted on the 20th indicates preparations for a widespread effort. The presence of high echelon representatives near tactical units in all corps areas strengthens the probability. I believe that the enemy will attempt a country-wide show of strength just prior to Tet, with Khe Sanh being the main event. In II Corps, he will probably attack around Pleiku and Kontum cities, and I expect attacks on the Special Forces camps at Dak Seang, Duc Co, and Dak To. In III and IV Corps, province towns are likely targets for renewed attacks by fire. Terrorism will probably increase in and around Saigon.

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