

Wednesday, November 1, 1967  
9:15 a. m.

MR. PRESIDENT:

*Pres file*

Herewith the information you requested on South Vietnamese casualties, broken down by:

- regular forces (ARVN);
- regional forces;
- popular forces.

Broadly speaking, in the past, regular forces operated throughout one of the four corps areas; regional forces operated throughout a province; popular forces were tied to the defense of a hamlet or village, dealing with attacks by local guerrillas.

As you know, a considerable proportion of the regular forces have been assigned to regular security duty in connection with pacification. Regular forces also include air force and navy units, plus forces assigned to certain static defense tasks with respect to security of major urban areas.

As the summary sheet reveals, the casualties taken by regular forces, in relation to their numbers, are not much out of proportion: 46% to 54%. The popular forces do take casualties disproportionate to their numbers: 35% to 23%. This is because VC tactics consist often in concentrating in secret a sizable force and then jumping a village or hamlet under circumstances where the VC have initial tactical superiority. The popular forces then call in aircraft and other support, but bear the brunt of the initial engagement.

W. W. R.

Attachments

8/9/68

South Vietnamese Military Order of Battle as of September 1967

	(in thousands)	Percent of Total
Regular	332.5	54
Regional	144.3	23
Popular	141.4	23

Killed in first half of 1967 in:

	<u>Rate per 1,000 OB</u>	<u>Percent of Total</u>
Regular	7.8	46
Regional	7.4	19
Popular	13.6	35

Table 4E  
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**VNAF CASUALTIES**  
(Regular, Popular and Regional Forces -  
By RVN Corps Areas)

COUNTRYWIDE REGULAR FORCES	1965				1966				1967														
	3rd Qtr	4th Qtr	1st Qtr	2nd Qtr	Jan	Aug	Sep	3rd Qtr	Oct	Nov	Dec	4th Qtr	Jan	Feb	Mar	1st Qtr	Apr	May	Jun	2nd Qtr	1st Half	Jul	Aug
KIA	1247	1541	1107	884	346	257	270	873	331	322	326	979	338	347	482	1167	577	530	269	1376	2543	340	383
WIA	2747	3764	3151	2693	811	736	768	2315	1118	994	905	3017	933	1172	1526	3631	1670	1862	976	4508	8139	1206	1322
MIA/CAPT	242	555	225	103	39	20	56	115	38	26	227	291	19	34	144	197	21	35	4	64	261	52	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4236</b>	<b>5860</b>	<b>4483</b>	<b>3680</b>	<b>1196</b>	<b>1013</b>	<b>1094</b>	<b>3303</b>	<b>1487</b>	<b>1342</b>	<b>1458</b>	<b>4287</b>	<b>1290</b>	<b>1553</b>	<b>2152</b>	<b>4995</b>	<b>2268</b>	<b>2831</b>	<b>1249</b>	<b>5948</b>	<b>10943</b>	<b>1600</b>	<b>1720</b>
REGIONAL FORCES																							
KIA	585	755	786	452	212	181	96	489	188	164	202	554	222	191	213	626	122	133	166	421	1047	146	205
WIA	1196	1255	1103	879	393	274	248	915	335	363	422	1120	436	488	570	1494	347	398	421	1166	2660	369	465
MIA/CAPT	205	313	329	170	52	126	4	182	58	44	45	147	49	37	126	212	50	59	29	138	350	42	42
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1986</b>	<b>2383</b>	<b>2218</b>	<b>1501</b>	<b>657</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>348</b>	<b>1586</b>	<b>581</b>	<b>571</b>	<b>669</b>	<b>1821</b>	<b>707</b>	<b>716</b>	<b>909</b>	<b>2332</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>1725</b>	<b>4057</b>	<b>553</b>	<b>712</b>
POPULAR FORCES																							
KIA	789	938	809	759	303	291	195	789	392	320	286	998	326	239	427	992	236	365	336	937	1929	1779	265
WIA	1517	1714	1262	1206	435	482	483	1400	626	576	524	1726	667	464	690	1821	474	568	725	1767	3588	355	493
MIA/CAPT	754	803	635	237	151	62	117	320	126	131	66	323	97	85	197	379	64	50	106	220	599	34	75
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3060</b>	<b>3455</b>	<b>2706</b>	<b>2202</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>835</b>	<b>795</b>	<b>2519</b>	<b>1144</b>	<b>1027</b>	<b>876</b>	<b>3047</b>	<b>1090</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>1314</b>	<b>3192</b>	<b>774</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>1167</b>	<b>2924</b>	<b>6116</b>	<b>568</b>	<b>633</b>
<b>TOTALS</b>																							
KIA	2621	3234	2702	2095	861	729	561	2151	911	806	814	2531	886	777	1122	2785	935	1028	771	2734	5519	665	853
WIA	5460	6733	5516	4778	1639	1492	1499	4630	2072	1933	1851	5856	2036	2124	2786	6946	2491	2828	2122	7441	14387	1932	2260
MIA/CAPT	1201	1671	1189	510	242	208	177	627	222	201	338	761	165	156	467	788	135	148	139	422	1210	124	132
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>9282</b>	<b>11638</b>	<b>9407</b>	<b>7383</b>	<b>2742</b>	<b>2429</b>	<b>2237</b>	<b>7408</b>	<b>3215</b>	<b>2940</b>	<b>3003</b>	<b>9148</b>	<b>3087</b>	<b>3057</b>	<b>4375</b>	<b>10519</b>	<b>3561</b>	<b>4008</b>	<b>3032</b>	<b>10597</b>	<b>21116</b>	<b>2721</b>	<b>3265</b>

<sup>a/</sup> Data are from DIA worksheets based on USMACV Military Report for period July 1 - September 25 and on USMACV Weekly Summary and OPREP-5 for period September 25 to present.