

INFORMATION

9

~~TOP SECRET~~

Wednesday, February 21, 1968
10:55 a. m.

Mr. President:

Herewith Bus Wheeler's report on
today's call to Westy.

Pres file

Main item: firepower now allocated
to try to clean up Hue by the end of this
week.

Gen. Johnson will report the daily
phone call in Bus' absence.

W. W. Rostow

~~TOP SECRET~~

WWRostow:rin

DECLASSIFIED

Authority JCS box 10-2-78

By gph, NARA, Date 2-20-92



~~TOP SECRET~~

material

9a

THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

DECLASSIFIED

CM-3032-68
21 Feb 1968

Authority JCS/SLA 10-5-78
By ipkg, NARA, Date 2-25-92

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: TELEPHONE CONVERSATION WITH GENERAL WESTMORELAND

1. You will have already received General Westmoreland's 17th report on the situation in the Khe Sanh/DMZ area. Additionally, I am attaching hereto a copy of the Presidential operations/intelligence brief of salient activities over the past twenty-four hours, together with a sheet of recent items which you will find of interest.

2. General Westmoreland reported that the situation was generally quiet and that he had little of significance to add to what is in the operational/intelligence brief. He made really only two points:

a. General Abrams, located at Headquarters MACV Forward in the Hue/Phu Bai area, conferred today with General Cushman, over-all Marine Commander; General Lam, the Vietnamese I Corps Tactical Zone Commander; and General Tolson, Commander of the U.S. First Cavalry Division. The subject of their conference was the situation in Hue and how best to deal with it. General Westmoreland has agreed to send one troop of U.S. armored cavalry (units such as this are equipped with medium tanks) to Hue tomorrow to provide additional armored firepower to friendly forces operating against a heavily dug-in enemy. Moreover, he is providing an additional ten 106 mm recoilless rifles to the Vietnamese Marine Corps battalions which are fighting in the Citadel in order to give them more mobile destructive power against enemy bunkers. He thinks that with the added firepower Hue can be cleaned out by the end of this week.

b. Another new weapon, a 107 mm rocket made by the CHICOMS has been picked up in-country. He describes the projectile as being about 42 inches long and weighing 40-odd pounds; no launcher has yet been captured. The technical intelligence people estimate that this weapon would have a range of between 8,000 to 9,000 meters. Samples of this weapon will be provided to technical intelligence agencies in the United States for further evaluation.

3. General Westmoreland has arranged for me to see President Thieu, Vice President Ky, and General Vien during my stay in Vietnam. Ambassador Bunker has also made arrangements for me to confer with him and key members of the mission

~~TOP SECRET~~

5 copies

~~TOP SECRET~~

staff.

4. During my absence General Johnson, Chief of Staff, U.S. Army, will talk by telephone to General Westmoreland each morning to provide you with the updates of the situation. I shall, of course, communicate with you and the Secretary of Defense promptly any significant items which cannot await my return next week.

Earle G. Wheeler
EARLE. G. WHEELER
Chairman
Joint Chiefs of Staff

~~TOP SECRET~~