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INFORMATION

~~SECRET~~

Monday, February 19, 1968
10:10 a.m.

Mr. President:

Pres. file

In I Corps (attached):

- shelling and light ground contact;
- 160 tons delivered by air drop despite continued bad weather.

W. W. Rostow

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wwrostow:rln

DECLASSIFIED

Authority 0581c-1018-78

By wpk, NARA, Date 2/20/92

Monday, February 19, 1968, 10:00 AM

TEXT OF CABLE FROM GENERAL WESTMORELAND

This report is number fifteen on the situation in the Khe Sanh area and covers the 24-hour period of February 18, 1968.

Activity in the northern First Corps continued to focus on enemy shelling, as 175 rounds of mixed mortar and artillery rounds were distributed among friendly elements bordering the DMZ. Forty rounds of mortar and 35 rounds of artillery impacted at Khe Sanh Combat Base in positions occupied by the 26th Marines, which resulted in one Marine wounded.

Marines positioned at Camp Carroll, received a mid-day barrage of 42 rounds of mortar with two intermediate rounds of artillery. Friendly casualties were: one killed, nine wounded (four evacuated).

Three small craters were caused at C-2 outside Con Thien, as three rounds of mortar were aimed at friendly elements. Marine elements at Con Thien and Gio Linh received 33 and 8 rounds respectively, none of which inflicted casualties nor caused significant damage.

Ground contacts in northern Quang Tri were limited to two light skirmishes, both inflicting moderate enemy losses while causing only minor injuries to friendly elements. Five North Vietnamese Army were killed at the hands of a 37th ARVN Ranger Patrol east of Khe Sanh, in an early morning contact which inflicted no friendly casualties.

There were a total of 358 tactical air sorties flown in the Khe Sanh area during the period. Marine tactical air flew 78 sorties, reporting four secondary explosions and one secondary fire. The Air Force flew 215 sorties, and the Navy flew 65. The weather was workable only for combat sky spot strikes, with a few isolated attempts to put in visual strikes. Bomb Damage Assessment was correspondingly bad. There were 12 ARC LIGHT strikes (35 sorties) flown in the Niagara area. For the next period, 19 - 20 February, 354 tactical air sorties will be flown in the Khe Sanh and surrounding areas. The Marines will fly 44, the Air Force 210, and the Navy 150. There will be 15 ARC LIGHT strikes (45 sorties) flown in the Niagara area.

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Authority 050 Dec 113/79

By copy, NARA, D

Air resupply for the reporting period amounted to 160 short tons of which 133 short tons was ammunition.

No COFRAM type ordnance was used during the period.

Weather at Khe Sanh during the period was bad. Low clouds and dense fog reduced the ceiling and visibility to less than 500 feet and one mile throughout the period. Most of the time the ceiling and visibility were near zero. Little change is expected on 19 - 20 February. The sky will be obscured by low stratus clouds and fog. Ceilings and visibilities will be near zero except for a slight improvement to a ceiling of 400 feet and visibility of 1/2 mile from 2 PM to 6 PM on 20 February.



THE NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

19 February 1968
7:00 AM EST

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THE JOINT STAFF

MEMORANDUM FOR THE WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

Subject: Supply Status at Khe Sanh as of 8:00 PM EST,
18 February (9:00 AM 19 February, SVN time)

1. The Khe Sanh Dump and Ammunition Supply Point (ASP) status as of the above time is as follows:

| | PREVIOUS STATUS | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|----------|
| DAYS SUPPLY | 8:00 PM 17 FEB EST | |
| ON HAND | (9:00 AM 18 FEB SVN) | |
| Class I (Rations) | | |
| Meal, Combat | 2 | 2 days |
| Individual | 8 | 8 days |
| B Rations | | |
| Class III (Fuel) | | |
| Aviation Gas (AVGAS) | 9 | 9 days |
| JP-4 (Jet Fuel) | 2.5 | 7.5 days |
| Motor Gasoline (MOGAS) | 2 | 4 days |
| Diesel | 2.5 | 2.5 days |
| Class V (Ammunition) | | |
| a. High explosive: | | |
| 60-mm mortar | Not reported | 25 days |
| 81-mm mortar | Not reported | 18 days |
| 90-mm (Tank) | 87 | 87 days |
| 4.2" mortar | 30 | 31 days |
| 105-mm howitzer | 20 | 18 days |
| 155-mm howitzer | 17 | 21 days |

2. On 18 February Khe Sanh was resupplied with 160 tons as follows:

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| Class I | 12 tons |
| Class III | 15 tons |
| Class V | 133 tons |

DISTRIBUTION:

| | | |
|----------------|----------|-----------------|
| SECDEF | CT FORCE | J-30 |
| DEPSECDEF | AWR | J-31 |
| CJCS (3) | MCC | J-32 |
| DJS (3) | DDO | J-33 |
| J-4 PAC DIV | ADDO | CCOC Pac Div |

(Signature)
MARSİİLL B. GARTH
Brigadier General, USA
Deputy Director for
Operations (NMCC)

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E.O. 12356, Sec 3.3.

DA Memo. Jan. 5, 1988

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By *[Signature]* NAFIA Date