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INFORMATION

~~TOP SECRET~~

Friday, March 1, 1968 - 10:15am

Mr. President:

Herewith Gen. Wheeler requests that we let Gen. Westmoreland report by telephone once a week, unless the "situation heats up."

The substantive news indicates progress on Route 1 and (attachment) that artillery fire out of Khe Sanh is having some considerable attritional effect on the enemy.

Gen Wheeler's recommendation okay____
No____
See me____

W. W. Rostow

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CM-3066-68
1 March 1968

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

CM-3066-68
1 March 1968

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

By Capling, NARA, Date 3-3-93

SUBJ: Telephone Conversation with General Westmoreland

1. You have already received General Westmoreland's 26th report on the Khe Sanh/DMZ area. Also I call your attention to the Presidential operational/intelligence brief of this date which contains the latest information received from Headquarters MACV.

2. I talked to General Westmoreland on the secure telephone at 0810 hours this morning. He had only two items of significance beyond the reports contained in the operational/intelligence brief. These were:

a. Yesterday two truck convoys made the journey from Da Nang to Phu Bai; one convoy returned to Da Nang. Also, Highway 1 is open for traffic from Phu Bai to Dong Ha. In other words, Highway 1 is now open all the way from Da Nang to Dong Ha. Pertinent to trafficability is the fact that truck traffic across the Perfume River at Hue passes over a one-way flooring on the railroad bridge.

b. Among the crew of two junks loaded with ammunition which were captured on the Cua Viet River were six North Vietnamese. These men stated under questioning that they had been pressed into service in order to move ammunition to the DMZ area.

3. A review of telephone conversations with General Westmoreland and the reports now being received by the NMCC lead me to the belief that the telephone conversations are redundant at this time. Therefore, I recommend that these daily contacts with General Westmoreland be suspended for the time being. Of course, if the situation heats up again I will resume at once these daily telephone contacts. I request your approval of the foregoing recommendation.

Earle G. Wheeler

EARLE G. WHEELER

Chairman

Joint Chiefs of Staff

P.S. See attached

enclosure for late item on Khe Sanh

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