

17

INFORMATION

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Saturday, March 23, 1968
9:15 a.m.

Mr. President:

Pres. file

At Khe Sanh:

- 642 enemy rounds;
- 1443 outgoing;
- 299 sorties plus 54 B-52's;
- 227 tons delivered;
- weather holds good.

W. W. Rostow

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WWRostow:rln

Report # 48
DECLASSIFIED
White House Conference, Feb. 26, 1988
By LG, NARA, Date 4-17-92

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3
DA Memo, Jan. 5, 1988
By LG, NARA, Date 4-17-92

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17a

Saturday, March 23, 1968, 8:40 a.m.

TEXT OF CABLE FROM GENERAL WESTMORELAND

This is report number forty-eight on the situation in the Khe Sanh/ DMZ/A Shau Valley area for the 24-hour period of March 22, 1968.

There was an enemy surge in indirect fire at Khe Sanh. During the reporting period, 642 incoming rounds were recorded as compared to the previous four day average of 135 rounds. Approximately half were artillery (300); the other incoming were mortar (250) and rockets (92). Six Marines were killed, twenty-four wounded with nine requiring evacuation. Incoming enemy fire destroyed an ammunition supply point containing an undetermined amount of mixed caliber white phosphorous and illumination ammunition, 155mm high explosives ammunition, and demolition kits. Although B and C batteries, 13th Marines, temporarily ceased fire, due to close proximity of supply point explosions, none of their gun position ammunition was hit. One hundred and one artillery missions were fired in support of the base, expending 1443 rounds, none of which were COFRAM. Thirty-nine fire missions were observer directed.

Visibility remained good during the period allowing 44 resupply sorties to be flown. Eighteen Air Force aircraft and 26 Marine helicopters delivered 227.5 short tons of supply and 91 replacements. Twelve tons of air delivery equipment was back loaded from Khe Sanh for reuse.

Tactical air sorties totaled 299 in the Niagara area. Tactical air bomb damage assessment included seven enemy killed, seven secondary explosions, twelve secondary fires, fourteen weapons positions destroyed, one truck destroyed, six trucks damaged and nine road cuts.

Nine ARC LIGHT strikes, with fifty-four sorties were scheduled in the Niagara area. Three sorties were diverted to a secondary target due to equipment malfunction. Four strikes were 1200 - 1500 meters from friendly forces, one strike was 2800 meters away.

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E.O. 12856, Sec. 3.3
AF Guida, SEA Records, 4/1/93
By LG NARA, Date 4-17-92

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E.O. 12856, Sec. 3.3
DA Memo, Jan 5, 1998
By LG NARA, Date 4-17-92 COPY-1B1 LIBRARY

During the next 24 hours, 295 tactical air sorties and eight ARC LIGHT strikes are planned in support of Khe Sanh. The weather is forecast to remain clear to partly cloudy with good visibility.

Along the DMZ, one ground contact was reported. H Company, 4th Marines was in contact with an unknown number of enemy from mid-morning until 5:00 p. m., southeast of Gio Linh. Six Marines were wounded and evacuated. Enemy losses are unknown. Elsewhere in Quang Tri Province, contacts and casualties were light, with no major ground action. Total casualties in the 3rd Marine Division area for the period were six Marines killed, 33 wounded (18 evacuated) and 12 enemy killed.

Air reconnaissance and photo missions flown in A Shau yesterday detected 13 trucks in turn outs along Route 548. This is the largest concentration of vehicles noted insometime. No strike results available.

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THE JOINT STAFF

THE NATIONAL MILITARY COMMAND CENTER
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

176

23 March 1968
4:30 AM EST

MEMORANDUM FOR THE WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

Subject: Supply Status at Khe Sanh as of 8:00 PM EST
22 March (9:00 AM 23 March, 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 21 Mar EST
ON HAND	(9:00 AM 22 Mar SVN)

CLASS I (Rations)

Meal, Combat, Individual	22	22 days
B Rations	6	7 days

CLASS II (Fuel)

Aviation Gass (AVGAS)	3	3 days
JP-4 Fuel (Jet Fuel)	10.6	10.6 days
Motor Gasoline (MOGAS)	12.2	12.8 days
Diesel	10.6	13.6 days

CLASS V (Ammunition)

a. High Explosive

60-mm mortar	53	55 days
81-mm mortar	29	29 days
90-mm (Tank)	133	133 days
4.2" mortar	31	31 days
105-mm howitzer	22	22 days
155-mm howitzer	27	26 days

b. Antitank

ROUNDS ON HAND

90-mm AP-T	329
90-mm HEAT	1,202
66-mm rocket (LAW)	2,981
Antitank mines (M-15)	291
Antitank mines (M-19)	469
Antitank mines (M-21)	0
106-mm HEAT	1,480
106-mm recoilless rifle (HEP-T)	2,087
3.5" rocket	3,305

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E.O. 13526, Sec. 3.c

DATE: 10/10/2013 BY: 4-17-93

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PREVIOUS STATUS
DAYS SUPPLY 8:00 PM 21 Mar EST
ON HAND (9:00 AM 22 Mar SVN)

c. Antipersonnel

106-mm BHENIVE

ROUNDS ON HAND

1,517

CLASS V (COFRAM)

105-mm howitzer	5	5 days
155-mm howitzer	5	5 days
40-mm grenade launcher	5	5 days
Hand Grenades	10	10 days

2. On 22 March, Khe Sanh was resupplied with 227.5 short tons as follows:

CLASS I	47.5 tons
CLASS II	31.5 tons
CLASS III	13.5 tons
CLASS IV	16 tons
CLASS V	119 tons
MISCELLANEOUS	None

W. E. SHEDD
Brigadier General, USA
Deputy Director for
Operations (NMCC)

Distribution:

SECDEF
DEP SECDEF
CJCS (3)
DJS (3)
J-30
J-31
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