

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3

DA Memo, Jan. 5, 1988

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SEN T

10:05 A.M.

By 179 NARA Date 3/27/92

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1968 MAR 18 15 05

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DE WTE 1100

FROM WALT ROSTOW
TO THE PRESIDENT
CITE CAP80703

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88
MAR 18 15 05
MONDAY

HEREWITH WESTY'S KHE SANH REPORT.

-- WEATHER AND FORECAST REMAIN GOOD;

-- 580 INCOMING;

-- PROBING ATTACK REPULSED; NO FRIENDLY CASUALTIES;

-- 310 FRIENDLY SORTIES PLUS 42 B-52'S;

-- 265 TONS DELIVERED.

SUBJ: (UD) THIS IS REPORT NUMBER FORTY-THREE ON THE SITUATION
IN THE KHE SANH/DMZ AREA FOR THE 24 HOUR PERIOD 18 MARCH.

YESTERDAY AND LAST NIGHT THE ENEMY INTENSIFIED HIS EFFORTS
AGAINST THE KHE SANH BASE WITH INCREASED INCOMING FIRE AND A
PRE-DAWN GROUND ATTACK. THE INCOMING FIRE FOR THE PERIOD
TOTALED 580 ROUNDS AS COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS DAYS TOTAL OF
135. NINETEEN MEN WERE WOUNDED AS A RESULT OF THE INCOMING,
FOUR REQUIRING MEDICAL EVACUATION.

THE GROUND ATTACK BY AN ESTIMATED ENEMY BATTALION OCCURRED AT
3:45PM ON 18 MARCH, AGAINST THE 37TH ARVN RANGER POSITION AT THE
EASTERN PERIMETER. THE ARVN FOUGHT DETERMINEDLY AND THE ATTACK
WAS REPELLED AT 5:00 PM. THE WIRE WAS NOT PENETRATED. THERE
WERE NO FRIENDLY CASUALTIES; 2 ENEMY WERE REPORTED KILLED.

AS FORCAST, THE WEATHER REMAINED FAVORABLE THROUGH MUCH OF THE DAY, ALLOWING UNRESTRICTED AIR ACTIVITY. THREE HUNDRED TEN TACTICAL AIR SORTIES WERE FLOWN. ALTHOUGH THIS IS A DECREASE FROM THE PREVIOUS PERIOD, BOMB DAMAGE ASSESSMENT DISCLOSED OVER 43 SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS, 28 SECONDARY FIRES AND NUMEROUS STRUCTURES AND WEAPONS POSITIONS DESTROYED. SEVEN ARC LIGHT MISSIONS (42 SORTIES) STRUCK THE NIAGARA AREA. SEVEN AIRCRAFT WERE DIVERTED DUE TO EQUIPMENT MALFUNCTION. THREE OF THE STRIKES REPORTED A TOTAL OF 12 SECONDARY EXPLOSIONS. SEVEN ARC LIGHT STRIKES AND 316 TACTICAL AIR SORTIES ARE SCHEDULED FOR THE NEXT 24 HOURS. THERE IS NO CHANGE IN THE NUMBER OF ALERT SORTIES OR AIRCRAFT ON CALL.

4. IN OTHER AIR ACTIVITY, 45 RESUPPLY SORTIES, LIFTED 266.5 SHORT TONS OF SUPPLIES AND MAIL INTO KHE SANH. NINTY-FIVE REPLACEMENTS WERE LANDED AT THE FIELD.

5. ACTIVITY IN THE REST OF QUANG TRI PROVINCE WAS VERY LIGHT COMPARED TO THE PREVIOUS PERIOD. A TOTAL OF 35 ROUNDS OF MIXED INCOMING WAS RECEIVED COMPARED TO 658 ROUNDS YESTERDAY. TOTAL U.S. CASUALTIES IN THE 3D MARINE DIVISION AREA WERE ONE KILLED, 20 WOUNDED (FOUR EVACUATED). ENEMY, SEVEN KILLED.

6. THE WEATHER FORECAST IS FOR FAVORABLE WEATHER TO CONTINUE DURING THE DAYLIGHT HOURS, WITH SOMEWHAT REDUCED VISIBILITY AND CEILINGS IN THE EARLY MORNING.

1. THE KHE SANH DUMP AND AMMUNITION SUPPLY POINT (ASP) STATUS AS OF 8:00 PM MARCH 17 IS AS FOLLOWS:

	DAYS SUPPLY ON HAND	PREVIOUS STATUS 8:00 PM 16 MAR EST (9:00 AM 17 MAR SVN)
CLASS I (RATIONS)		
MEAL, COMBAT, INDIVIDUAL	21	20 DAYS
B RATIONS	8	8 DAYS
CLASS III (FUEL)		
AVIATION GAS (AVGAS)	3	3 DAYS
JP-4 FUEL (JET FUEL)	10.6	10.6 DAYS
MOTOR GASOLINE (MOGAS)	11.6	10.5 DAYS
DIESEL	4.4	4.4 DAYS

CLASS V (AMMUNITION)**A. HIGH EXPLOSIVE**

60-MM MORTAR	54	55 DAYS
81-MM MORTAR	39	23 DAYS
90-MM (TANK)	131	104 DAYS
4.2" MORTAR	31	31 DAYS
105-MM HOWITZER	20	20 DAYS
155-MM HOWITZER	18	20 DAYS

B. ANTITANK

	ROUNDS ON HAND
90-MM AP-T	329
90-MM HEAT	1,202
66-MM ROCKET (CLAW)	3,475
ANTITANK MINES (M-15)	336
ANTITANK MINES (M-19)	469
ANTITANK MINES (M-21)	0
105-MM HEAT	1,123
105-MM RECOILLESS RIFLE (HEP-T)	2,168
3.5" ROCKET	2,222

C. ANTI PERSONNEL

105-MM BEEHIVE	1,517
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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 17 MARCH, KHE SANH WAS RESUPPLIED WITH 266.5 TONS AS
FOLLOWS:

CLASS I	37 TONS
CLASS III	41 TONS
CLASS IV	18.5 TONS
CLASS V	159 TONS
MISCELLANEOUS	11 TONS

DIG: 181347Z MAR 58

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