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Wednesday
April 10, 1968, 8:25 a.m.

TEXT OF CABLE FROM GENERAL WESTMORELAND

This is report number sixty-six on the situation in the Khe Sanh/DMZ/A Shau Valley for the 24-hour period of April 9, 1968.

Weather was clear at Khe Sanh with cloud ceilings above 5,000 feet throughout the reporting period.

Artillery fire support consisted of 182 missions expending 2,708 rounds. Forty missions were observed. No COFRAM ammunition was fired. For the first time since January 20, 1968, Khe Sanh received no incoming enemy fire.

In Operation Pegasus, the 26th Marine Regiment has initiated attacks to the northwest to clear the enemy from that area. In a brief contact to the southwest of Khe Sanh, the 8th ARVN Airborne Battalion killed eight enemy. South and southwest of Khe Sanh Combat Base, 1st Air Cavalry Division units located two weapons/ammunition caches and two mass graves containing a total of 85 enemy bodies. The weapons/ammunition caches contained: 58 individual weapons, 15 crew-served weapons, 1,084 rounds of 82mm mortar ammunition, 665 rounds of 60mm mortar ammunition, 153 B-40 rocket rounds, 2,000 grenades (Chicom), 50,000 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, 500 pounds of TNT, and 25 pounds of medical supplies.

The slide area blocking Route 9 has been bypassed. Twelve bridges and five culverts have been repaired and leading engineer elements are now moving west. It is estimated that Route 9 will be open for logistic traffic on April 12.

Elsewhere in Quang Tri Province, contact was light. Enemy attacks by fire increased during the period, wounding 21 (all evacuated).

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DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3
AF Guide, SEA Records, 4/1/88
By 18 NARA, Date 5-18-92

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E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3
DA Memo, Jan. 5, 1988
By kg NARA, Date 5-18-92

A total of 105 tactical air sorties were flown in support of Operation Pegasus. Three secondary fires and damage to one trench was observed. No ARC LIGHT missions were flown in the Khe Sanh area.

The Khe Sanh Combat Base Airfield is open to all aircraft. Supplies remain at a satisfactory level with 29 days of rations on hand. Ammunition is being issued to the 1st Air Cavalry Division to draw stocks down to five days on hand and ten additional days in ammunition supply points.

For the next 24 hours, 74 tactical air sorties are scheduled to support Operation Pegasus with an additional 116 on call. One ARC LIGHT mission is scheduled into the Khe Sanh area today.

Continued partly cloudy skies with good visibility is predicted for the next 24 hours.

Two photo missions and two radar missions were flown over A Shau Valley yesterday. Bomb damage assessment from 18 tactical air sorties in the target area included 17 road cuts and one secondary explosion. Two ground reconnaissance teams inserted into A Shau during 7 to 9 April reported contact with enemy armed with automatic weapons in both missions. A third team remaining on road and river watch reports no contact.