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Monday, April 8, 1968 - 9:45 am

Mr. President:

Khe Sanh-DMZ-A Shau:

- 3 enemy rounds incoming;
- 1,934 friendly rounds;
- 242 tactical sorties, plus
12 B-52's;
- 142.5 tons resupply;
- weather operable.

W. W. Rostow

WWRostow:rlh

DECLASSIFIED
E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.3
DA Memo. Jan. 5, 1988
By 12, NARA, Date 4-29-92

DECLASSIFIED
White House Guidelines, Feb. 24, 1983
By 28, NARA, Date 4-29-92

Pres file

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Monday, April 8, 1968, 9:15 a.m.

TEXT OF CABLE FROM MACV

This is report number sixty-four on the situation in the Khe Sanh/DMZ/A Shau Valley for the 24-hour period of April 7, 1968.

Clear to partly cloudy skies with visibility of 5 miles or more prevailed throughout the reporting period.

Artillery fire support for Khe Sanh consisted of 167 missions expending 1,934 rounds. Fifty-five missions were observed. In one mission using COFRAM ammunition, seven rounds were fired from 155mm howitzers at a large group of North Vietnamese Army in the open five kilometers south of Lang Vei. Good target coverage killed eleven enemy. During the period, Khe Sanh received three incoming artillery rounds. One Marine received minor wounds.

The 1st Air Cavalry Division had numerous small unit contacts in the vicinity of Khe Sanh Combat Base as Operation Pegasus continues. Troops continue to find enemy mass graves. Thirty bodies were found in one site and 24 in another during the period. Artillery air observers were particularly successful in placing fire on hostile elements, killing 46 enemy. Yesterday afternoon, an ARVN Airborne Task Force Air assaulted into landing zone snake, 2 kilometers southeast of Khe Sanh Combat Base. Shortly after arrival, the TF received a heavy rocket and mortar attack from which 18 ARVN soldiers received minor wounds. One enemy was captured. At 3:50 a.m. this morning, the North Vietnamese Army launched ground attacks against the ARVN Task Force. That attack was quickly repelled and the enemy broke contact by 4:10. Seventy enemy were killed and 31 individual weapons captured. Three ARVN were killed and 23 wounded.

By 10:15 this morning, Companies C and D, 2/7th Cavalry and Elements of the 3rd Brigade, 1st Air Cavalry Division had closed at Khe Sanh Combat Base.

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 18 NARA, Date 5-18-92

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A total of 242 tactical air sorties were flown in support of Operation Pegasus. Of these, 151 were in the immediate vicinity of Khe Sanh. Four secondary explosions, destruction on one automatic weapons position, 24 bunkers, and one structure and damage to three bunkers and five trenches were observed. Two ARC LIGHT missions (12 aircraft) were flown in support of Khe Sanh. One strike observed a secondary explosion.

During the period 142.5 short tons of supplies and 36 passenger replacements were delivered to Khe Sanh. Eight C-130 and four C-123 aircraft conducted airdrops. A total of 19 Marine helicopters delivered passengers and cargo. In the past two days, 21 tons of air delivery equipment has been backloaded from Khe Sanh.

For the next 24 hours, 87 tactical air sorties are scheduled to support Operation Pegasus with an additional 116 on call. No ARC LIGHT missions are scheduled.

Continued clear to partly cloudy skies are predicted for the next 24 hours.

There were two radar missions and one photo reconnaissance mission flown in A Shau Valley. Results revealed five moving target indicators, two camouflaged vehicles and occupied anti-aircraft defensive positions. Six tactical air strike sorties and twenty-four ARC LIGHT sorties hit targets in A Shau during the period.

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