

DECLASSIFIED

- W. CG III MAF 010550Z FEB 70 (TS), *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
FORCE PLANNING (U) - READDRESSAL OF COMUSMACV CITE 1478
- X. ✓ COMUSMACV CITE 1517 DTG 011052Z FEB 70 (TS) EYES ONLY *gp-4*
FROM GEN ABRAMS, TO GEN BROWN, LTG MILDREN, VADM ZUMWALT
LTG NICKERSON, LTG CORCORAN, LTG EWELL, INFO LTG ZAIS, MGEN
MCCOWN
FORCE PLANNING (U) - PLANNING FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE REDEPLOYMENTS
- Y. CG III MAF 021256Z FEB 70 (TS) MCEO, *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR BGEN WILSON FROM BGEN DULACKI
FORCE PLANNING (U) - PROBLEM OF PROGRAM 8 SPACES
- Z. ✓ CG III MAF 020810Z FEB 70 (TS) *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
FORCE PLANNING - READDRESSAL OF COMUSMACV CITE 1517 DTG 011052Z FEB

DECLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

TOP SECRET

III MAR FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

X - ORIGINATOR A - ACTION/COGNIZANCE C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I - INFORMATION S - SIGNATURE			OPERATION CODE		FROM CG III MAF	DATE 02 FEB 70
					SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE 020810Z FEB 70	COPY NO: 1 OF 3 COPIES REC'D
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
			IN	OUT		
	CG					SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR
	DCG					
	C/S			2/3	D	REMARKS: DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Retain for ___ months. <input type="checkbox"/> Destroy after routing.
	DC/S					
	DCS PLANS					Section: _____ Signature: _____
	DEP CORDS					
	DSA ICTZ					REMARKS: This document may not be retained over night except as noted in Force Order P5511.A. The Record of Disclosure must be signed by all persons sighting this document.
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	G-1					<p style="text-align: center; font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">EXCLUSIVE FOR HAS BEEN SENT</p>
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TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

OTTZYUW RHMNAFAD180 0330810-TTTT--RUHFMA
 ZNY TTTT
 O 020810Z FEB 70
 FM CG III MAF
 TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC
 BT

T O P S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR LEGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN
 NICKERSON (DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS) SECTION ONE OF TWO
 FORCE PLANNING

1. THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM COMUS-
 MACV.

QUOTE

(COMUSMACV CITE 1517 DTG 011052Z FEB 70 (TS).

O 011052Z ZYH ZFF-6 ZFF-3

FM GENERAL ABRAMS COMUSMACV SAIGON

TO GENERAL BROWN CMDR 7TH AF TSN

LTG MILDREN DCG USARV LONG BINH

VADM ZUMALI COMNAVFORV SAIGON

LTG NICKERSON CG III MAF DANANG

LTG CORCORAN CG I FFORCEV NHA TRANG

LTG EWELL CG II FFORCEV LONG BINH

INFO LTG ZAIS CG XXIV CORPS PHU BAI

PAGE TWO RHMNAFAD180 **T O P S E C R E T**/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR
 MG MCCO, CG DMAC CAN TNO
 ZEM

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EYES ONLY, MAC 1517 EYES ONLY

SUBJ: FORCE PLANNING (U)

1. (TS) AS THE PRESENT PHASE 3 US TROOP REDEPLOYMENT PROCEEDS,
 PLANNING FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE US REDEPLOYMENTS AFTER 15 APRIL IS
 TO BE CONSIDERED. IT IS TOO SOON TO SAY HOW MANY TROOPS AND
 WHEN, BUT THE FOLLOWING OUTLINE STRATEGY FOR 1970 WHICH HAS BEEN
 PREPARED BY THE MACV STAFF IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.

A. ASSUMPTIONS:

(1) PACIFICATION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT MOMENTUM WILL BE
 MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT 1970, WITH MAJOR PROGRESS MADE IN CONSOLI-
 DATING BINH DUONG, LONG AN, BINH DINH, QUANG TIN AND QUANG NGAI
 PROVINCES.

(2) THE ENEMY THREAT WILL NOT INCREASE AND THERE WILL
 BE NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE ENEMY SITUATION FROM THE PRESENT.

(3) VIETNAMIZATION OF THE HIGHLANDS WILL BE SUCCESSFUL.

(4) RVNAF WILL BE ABLE TO COPE WITH ENEMY INITIATIVES
 IN THE HIGHLANDS, IN THE BORDER AREAS OF III CTZ AND IN THE DELTA.

(5) RVNAF WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE QUALITATIVELY. THE

PAGE 1 OF 4 PAGES

III MAF 2100/4

COPY 1 OF 3 COPIES

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

PAGE THREE RHMNAF@188 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C I A L E X C L U S I V E F O R
RVNAF REGULAR FORCE STRUCTURE WILL NOT CHANGE SIGNIFICANTLY WITH
THE EXCEPTION OF UNMC'S THIRD BRIGADE (3 BATTALIONS) WHICH SHOULD
COMPLETE TRAINING BY JUNE 1970.

(6) THE RVN WILL HAVE CONTINUED POLITICAL STABILITY.

B. FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED:

(1) XXIV CORPS WILL ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR US/DV
OPERATIONS IN I CTZ ON 9 MARCH 1970.

(2) HQ III MAF WILL BE REDEPLOYED WITH THE BULK OF THE
MARINES DURING PHASE 4.

(3) RVNAF WILL ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE HIGHLANDS
IN MARCH.

(4) THE 47TH REGIMENT WILL BE MOVED TO THE HIGHLANDS
AND BE PLACED UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE 42D STZ.

(5) THE 4TH US INF DIV (-) WILL DISPLACE EAST TO CAMP
RADCLIFF TURNING OVER CAMP ENARI AND SOME OF THEIR WESTERN FIRE
SUPPORT BASES IN THE 4D STZ TO RVNAF. PART OF CAMP ENARI MAY
HAVE TO BE RAZED.

(6) THE JGS WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE COMBINED EFFORT IN
BINH DINH PROVINCE INVOLVING THE 173D ABN BRIGADE AND ARVN
CONTINUED.

PAGE FOUR RHMNAF@188 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C I A L E X C L U S I V E F O R
C. DISCUSSION:

(1) IF THE ASSUMPTIONS LISTED ABOVE MATERIALIZE, AND BY
CAREFULLY ASSESSING THE SITUATION AS WE GO ALONG, IT MIGHT WELL
BE POSSIBLE TO REDEPLOY 150,000 US TROOPS FROM VIETNAM IN 1970.
THE REDEPLOYMENT OF 100,000 ADDITIONAL TROOPS AFTER 15 APRIL
COULD OCCUR AS OUTLINED IN SUBSEQUENT PARAGRAPHS TOGETHER WITH
CERTAIN READJUSTMENTS THAT MAY HAVE TO TAKE PLACE.

(2) I CTZ:

(A) IN QUANG DA STZ, THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF THE
51ST ARVN REGT, THE 1ST MARINE DIVISION AND THE ROK MARINE EDE,
ALONG WITH PROGRESS IN PACIFICATION WOULD PERMIT CONSIDERING
THE REDEPLOYMENT OF ALL BUT ONE RLT OF III MAF AND THE BULK OF
NSA DANANG BETWEEN APR-AUG 1970.

(B) TO FILL THE GAP IT MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE JGS
TO REINFORCE QUANG DA STZ WITH A BRIGADE FROM THE RVNAF RESERVE.
THE JGS IS CONSIDERING MOVING THE NEW UNMC BRIGADE TO QUANG NAM
WHEN IT COMPLETES TRAINING, ABOUT JUNE 1970. PLACING THE 51ST
REGIMENT, THE MARINE BRIGADE AND POSSIBLY A RANGER GROUP UNDER
THD CONTROL OF THE COMMANDER, QUANG DA STZ IS ALSO BEING CONSIDERED.

(C) TURNOVER OF THE LOGISTICAL FUNCTION IN I CTZ

PAGE 2 OF 4 PAGES

TOP SECRET

PAGE FIVE RHMMAF0180 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C I A L EXCLUSIVE FOR
FROM NSA DANANG TO THE US ARMY IS REQUIRED AT AN EARLY DATE TO
PERMIT NSA DANANG TO DISENGAGE AND REDEPLOY DURING PHASE 4.

(D) AS SECURITY IN SOUTHERN I CORPS IMPROVES, THE
23D US DIV MAY BE CONSIDERED FOR REDEPLOYMENT BETWEEN SEP-DEC
1970. THIS WILL REQUIRE PLANS FOR RAPID REINFORCEMENT OF I CTZ
WITH RVNAF UNITS FROM III CTZ AND MAY REQUIRE A US BRIGADE TO
MOVE SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS.

(E) SUPPORT FOR ROK MARINES WILL HAVE TO BE PROVIDED
BY THE US ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND, DANANG WITH MARINE PECULIAR
ITEMS COMING FROM OKINAWA.

(3) II CTZ:

(A) AS VIETNAMIZATION OF THE HIGHLANDS PROCEEDS
SUCCESSFULLY AND THE SECURITY AND PACIFICATION IN BINH DINH
IMPROVES, CONSIDERATION CAN BE GIVEN TO REDEPLOYING THE REMAINDER
OF THE 4TH US INF DIV BETWEEN AUG-OCT 1970.

(B) THE 42D STZ SHOULD EVENTUALLY BE CONSOLIDATED
WITH THE 22D DTZ AND THE 22D ARVN DIV ORGANIZED AS A FOUR
REGIMENT DIVISION.

(C) PLANS ARE REQUIRED TO CONSOLIDATE US BASES IN
II CTZ AS US FORCES THIN OUT, TO ECONOMIZE ON SECURITY AND

PAGE SIX RHMMAF0180 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C I A L EXCLUSIVE FOR
LOGISTICAL SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS.

(4) III CTZ:

(A) AFTER THE SW MONSOON STARTS, THE SITUATION SHOULD
PERMIT REDEPLOYMENT OF THE 199TH LT INF BDE BETWEEN MAY-AUG 1970.

(B) CONTINUED PROGRESS IN LONG AN PROVINCE MAY PERMIT
REDEPLOYMENT OF THE 3D BDE, 9TH US INF DIV BETWEEN AUG-NOV 1970.

(C) RANGER UNITS FROM THE CAPITAL MILITARY DISTRICT
COULD REINFORCE THE RF/PF IN LONG AN PROVINCE ALONG THE EASTERN
REACHES OF THE PLAIN OF REEDS.

(D) AS THE 199TH BDE AND THE 3D BDE, 9TH INF DIV
ARE REDEPLOYED, THE 11TH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT AND THE 25TH US
INFANTRY DIVISION MAY HAVE TO BE SHIFTED TO COVER THE GAPS.

(E) EFFORTS SHOULD CONTINUE TO MOVE THE 5TH AND 25TH
ARVN DIVISIONS OUT TOWARD THE BORDER.

(5) IV CTZ: NO ADJUSTMENTS ARE RECOMMENDED IN IV CTZ AT
THIS TIME. THE 9TH ARVN DIVISION SHOULD RETAIN ITS MOBILE POSTURE
WITH A CAPABILITY TO REACT TO ENEMY INITIATIVES ANYWHERE IN THE
DELTA. AS THE ENEMY WINTER-SPRING OFFENSIVE DEVELOPS, IV CORPS
MAY REQUIRE REINFORCEMENT WITH RVNAF UNITS FROM III CTZ.

(6) AIR SUPPORT: ATTACK/FIGHTER SQUADRONS WILL BE

BT

0180

PAGE 3 OF 4 PAGES

TOP SECRET

OTTIZYUW RHMMAF0206 0330810-TTIT--RUHHFMA.

ZNY TTTT

O 020810Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

T O P S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON (DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS) FINAL SECTION OF TWO LOST WHEN THE BULK OF III MAF REDEPLOYS. MOST OF THE MARINE AIR SORTIES WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING THE PRESENT LAOTIAN DRY SEASON WITH REDEPLOYMENT OF THE MAJOR PORTION OF MARINE AIR DELAYED UNTIL THE WET SEASON WHEN REQUIREMENTS ARE EXPECTED TO DROP SOMEWHAT. BEYOND 15 APRIL, NO FURTHER REDEPLOYMENT OF AIR FORCE COMBAT STRENGTH IS PLANNED IN 1970.

D. CONCLUSIONS:

(1) BY TAKING FULL ADVANTAGE OF MAXIMUM COMBAT POWER WHILE IT IS AVAILABLE DURING THE WINTER, SPRING, AND EARLY SUMMER, REDEPLOYMENT OF US FORCES MAY BE CONTINUED DURING 1970 AND STILL MEET THE ANTICIPATED ENEMY INITIATIVES BY MAINTAINING FLEXIBILITY AND THE ABILITY TO SHIFT FORCDS AS REQUIRED.

PAGE TWO RHMMAF0206 T O P S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR

(2) PLANS MUST BE PREPARED FOR THE READJUSTMENT OF RVNAF AND US FORCES AS REDEPLOYMENTS CONTINUE BEYOND 15 APRIL 1970. THE LONG LEAD TIME REQUIRED FOR TURN-OVER OF CERTAIN FACILITIES AND THE MOVEMENT OF HEADQUARTERS REQUIRES PLANS TO BE APPROVED AND EXECUTED EARLY SO THAT PACIFICATION AND VIET-NAMIZATION MOMENTUM CAN BE MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT 1970.

2. (U) YOUR VIEWS AND COMMENTS ON THE FOREGOING ARE REQUESTED BY 7 FEBRUARY 1970.

GP-4

UNQUOTE

2. REQUEST ANY COMMENTS OR RECOMMENDATIONS YOU MAY HAVE IN REGARD TO THE ABOVE FOR INCLUSION IN OUR MESSAGE TO COMUSMACV DUE ON 7 FEBRUARY.

3. IT APPEARS THAT THE TIME FRAME 15 APRIL - 15 AUGUST FOR PHASE IV IS BECOMING FIRMER AS TIME GOES ON AND THAT THERE MIGHT EVEN BE AN EFFORT TO COMPRESS THE TIME. I SUGGEST IT WOULD BE PRUDENT TO BEGIN EXAMINING SHIPPING AVAILABILITY NOW IN VIEW OF THE IMPACT ON OUR FORCES.

WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

0206

PAGE 4 OF 4 PAGES

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

TOP SECRET

III MAR FORM 5216 (REV 8-67)

OPERATION CODE			FROM		DATE	
X - ORIGINATOR A - ACTION/COGNIZANCE C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I - INFORMATION S - SIGNATURE			CG III MAF		02 FEB 70	
			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE		COPY NO. 1 OF 3 COPIES REC'D	
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ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
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	DEP CORDS					
	DSA ICTZ					Section
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	G-6					
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	AWARDS					
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TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

PTTZYUW RHMMAFA0199 5361298-TTIT--RHHFMA.

ZNY TTTT

P 021256Z FEB 79

FM CG III MAF

TO RHHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

T O P S E C R E T / S P E C I A L E X C L U S I V E F O R B G E N W I L S O N F R O M
 B G E N D U L A C K I M A R I N E C O R P S E Y E S O N L Y
 F O R C E P L A N N I N G (U)

A. CG FMFPAC 502121Z JAN 79

B. CG III MAF 310530Z JAN 79 (PASEP):

1. COMMENTS CONTAINED REFERENCE A REGARDING THE PROBLEM OF PROGRAM 3 SPACES AND M/L REDUCTIONS ASSOCIATED WITH PHASE III REDEPLOYMENTS AND THE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS THEREFORE HAVE BEEN REVIEWED.
2. SINCE COMUSMACV HAS APPROVED TURNOVER OF IOTZ SECURITY FUNCTIONS, ACTION HAS BEEN INITIATED BY REF B TO TRANSFER TO THE ARMY BY 1 MARCH 1970 RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SECURITY OF THOSE AREAS LOCATED IN THE XXIV CORPS AND AMERICAL AO'S. THE REMINDER OF THE SECURITY RESPONSIBILITY IN HOI AN AND DANANG IS BEING WORKED OUT BETWEEN III MAF AND DSA I CORPS. THUS, AT THIS TIME DELETION FROM THE FORCE STRUCTURE OF 129 SPACES FOR IOTZ SECURITY APPEARS TO BE THE BEST SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. THE ADDITIONAL 35 SPACES ARE TO COME FROM H&S CG III MAF

PAGE TWO RHMMAFA0199 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C I A L E X C L U S I V E F O R / W C E O
 A S Y O U S U G G E S T E D .

3. M/L REDUCTIONS TO ACCOMPANY THE ABOVE (185 GRADES AND SKILLS) WILL BE SUBMITTED SHORTLY. THESE WILL BE COMPRISED OF 129 IOTZ SECURITY, 6 FIRST MARDIV AND 50 H&S CG III MAF. AT THIS POINT IN PLANNING IT DOES NOT APPEAR PRUDENT TO IDENTIFY ALL 185 M/L REDUCTIONS FROM THIS HEADQUARTERS.

4. A PROGRAM 3 CHANGE TO ACCOMPLISH THE ABOVE IS BEING PREPARED AT THIS TIME FOR SUBMISSION TO YOUR HEADQUARTERS FOR APPROVAL.
 WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

0199

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

TOP SECRET
TOP SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

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ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
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	CG	I		2 Feb 70	V	TOP SECRET SENSITIVE EYES ONLY MAC 1517 EO FORCE PLANNING (U)
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TOP SECRET
TOP SECRET

GEN. ABRAMS COMUSMACV

DTG

081105Z

2 4

FORCE PLANNING

17 Feb 76 Dennis D. Halley

TAD SECRET

TO GENERAL BRIGADIER GENERAL SAIGON
 TO GENERAL BRIGADIER GENERAL 7TH AF TSB
 LTG WILDREN DCG USARV LONG BINH
 VADM ZUMALT COMNAVFORV SAIGON
 LTG NICKERSON CG III MAF DANANG
 LTG CORCORAN CG I FFORCEV NHA TRANG
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 MG MCOO, :& DMAC CAN THO

TOP SECRET



ZEM

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE EYES ONLY MAC 1517 EYES ONLY

SUBJ: FORCE PLANNING (U)

1. (TS) AS THE PRESENT PHASE 3 US TROOP REDEPLOYMENT PROCEEDS, PLANNING FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE US REDEPLOYMENTS AFTER 15 APRIL IS TO BE CONSIDERED. IT IS TOO SOON TO SAY HOW MANY TROOPS AND WHEN, BUT THE FOLLOWING OUTLINE STRATEGY FOR 1970 WHICH HAS BEEN PREPARED BY THE MACV STAFF IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION

A. ASSUMPTIONS:

(1) PACIFICATION AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT MOMENTUM WILL BE MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT 1970, WITH MAJOR PROGRESS MADE IN CONSOLIDATING BINH DUONG, LONG AN, BINH DINH QUANG TIN AND QUANG NGAI PROVINCES.

(2) THE ENEMY THREAT WILL NOT INCREASE AND THERE WILL BE NO SIGNIFICANT CHANGE IN THE ENEMY SITUATION FROM THE PRESENT.

(3) VIETNAMIZATION OF THE HIGHLANDS WILL BE SUCCESSFUL.

(4) RVNAF WILL BE ABLE TO COPE WITH ENEMY INITIATIVES IN THE HIGHLANDS, IN THE BORDER AREAS OF III CT Z AND IN THE DELTA.

(5) RVNAF WILL CONTINUE TO IMPROVE QUALITATIVELY. THE RVNAF REGULAR FORCE STRUCTURE WILL NOT CHANGE SIGNIFICANTLY WITH THE EXCEPTION OF VNMC'S THIRD BRIGADE (3 BATTALIONS) WHICH SHOULD COMPLETE TRAINING BY JUNE 1970.

(6) THE RVN WILL HAVE CONTINUED POLITICAL STABILITY.

B. FACTORS TO BE CONSIDERED:

(1) XXIV CORPS WILL ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY FOR US/FW OPERATIONS IN I CT Z ON 9 MARCH 1970.

(2) HQ III MAF WILL BE REDEPLOYED WITH THE BULK OF THE MARINES DURING PHASE 4.

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(5) THE 4TH US INF DIV (-) WILL DISPLACE EAST TO CAMP RADCLIFF TURNING OVER CAMP ENARI AND SOME OF THEIR WESTERN FIRE SUPPORT BASES IN THE 4D STZ TO RVNAF. PART OF CAMP ENARI MAY HAVE TO BE RAZED.

(6) THE JCS WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE COMBINED EFFORT IN THE DELTA INVOLVING THE 173D AIR BRIGADE AND 42D STZ

X-#1

C. DISCUSSION:

(1) IF THE ASSUMPTIONS LISTED ABOVE MATERIALIZE, AND BY CAREFULLY ASSESSING THE SITUATION AS WE GO A LONG, IT MIGHT WELL BE POSSIBLE TO REDEPLOY 150,000 US TROOPS FROM VIETNAM IN 1970. THE REDEPLOYMENT OF 100,000 ADDITIONAL TROOPS AFTER 15 APRIL COULD OCCUR AS OUTLINED IN SUBSEQUENT PARAGRAPHS TOGETHER WITH CERTAIN READJUSTMENTS THAT MAY HAVE TO TAKE PLACE.

(2) I CTZ:

(A) IN QUANG DA STZ, THE COMBINED EFFORTS OF THE 51ST ARVN REGT, THE 1ST MARINE DIVISION AND THE ROK MARINE BDE ALONG WITH PROGRESS IN PACIFICATION WOULD PERMIT CONSIDERING THE REDEPLOYMENT OF ALL BUT ONE RLT OF III MAF AND THE BULK OF NSA DANANG BETWEEN APR-AUG 1970.

(B) TO FILL THE GAP IT MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE JGS TO REINFORCE QUANG DA STZ WITH A BRIGADE FROM THE RVNAF RESERVE. THE JGS IS CONSIDERING MOVING THE NEW VNMC BRIGADE TO QUANG NAM WHEN IT COMPLETES TRAINING, ABOUT JUNE 1970 PLACING THE 51ST REGIMENT, THE MARINE BRIGADE AND POSSIBLY A RANGER GROUP UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE COMMANDER, QUANG DA STZ IS ALSO BEING CONSIDERED.

(C) TURNOVER OF THE LOGISTICAL FUNCTION IN I CTZ FROM NSA DANANG TO THE US ARMY IS REQUIRED AT AN EARLY DATE TO PERMIT NSA DANANG TO DISENGAGE AND REDEPLOY DURING PHASE 4.

(D) AS SECURITY IN SOUTHERN I CORPS IMPROVES, THE 23D US DIV MAY BE CONSIDERED FOR REDEPLOYMENT BETWEEN SEP-DEC 1970. THIS WILL REQUIRE PLANS FOR RAPID REINFORCEMENT OF I CTZ WITH RVNAF UNITS FROM III CTZ AND MAY REQUIRE A US BRIGADE TO MOVE SOUTH OF THE HAI VAN PASS.

(E) SUPPORT FOR ROK MARINES WILL HAVE TO BE PROVIDED BY THE US ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND, DANANG WITH MARINE PECULIAR ITEMS COMING FROM OKINAWA.

(3) II CTZ:

(A) AS VIETNAMIZATION OF THE HIGHLANDS PROCEEDS SUCCESSFULLY AND THE SECURITY AND PACIFICATION IN BINH DINH IMPROVES, CONSIDERATION CAN BE GIVEN TO REDEPLOYING THE REMAINDER OF THE 4TH US INF DIV BETWEEN AUG-OCT 1970.

(B) THE 42D STZ SHOULD EVENTUALLY BE CONSOLIDATED 85 5 3 22D DTZ AND THE 22D ARVN DIV ORGANIZED AS A FOUR REGIMENT DIVISION.

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X-#2

(B) AFTER THE RV MONSOON STARTS, THE DEPLOYMENT SHOULD
 REDEPLOYMENT OF THE 199TH LI INF BDE BETWEEN MAY- AND 1970.
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(5) IV CTZ: NO ADJUSTMENTS ARE RECOMMENDED IN IV CTZ AT
 THIS TIME. THE 9TH ARVN DIVISION SHOULD RETAIN ITS MOBILE POSTURE
 WITH A CAPABILITY TO REACT TO ENEMY INITIATIVES ANYWHERE IN THE
 DELTA. AS THE ENEMY WINTER-SPRING OFFENSIVE DEVELOPS, IV CORPS
 MAY REQUIRE REINFORCEMENT WITH RVNAF UNITS FROM III CTZ.

(5) AIR SUPPORT: ATTACK/ FIGHTER SQUADRONS WILL BE
 LOST WHEN THE BULK OF III MAF REDEPLOYS. MOST OF THE MARINE
 AIR SORTIES WILL BE AVAILABLE DURING THE PRESENT LAOTIAN DRY
 SEASON WITH REDEPLOYMENT OF THE MAJOR PORTION OF MARINE AIR
 DELAYED UNTIL THE WET SEASON WHEN REQUIREMENTS ARE EXPECTED
 TO DROP SOMEWHAT. BEYOND 15 APRIL, NO FURTHER REDEPLOYMENT
 OF AIR FORCE COMBAT STRENGTH IS PLANNED IN 1970.

D. CONCLUSIONS:

(1) BY TAKING FULL ADVANTAGE OF MAXIMUM COMBAT POWER
 WHILE IT IS AVAILABLE DURING THE WINTER, SPRING, AND EARLY
 SUMMER, REDEPLOYMENT OF US FORCES MAY BE CONTINUED DURING 1970
 AND STILL MEET THE ANTICIPATED ENEMY INITIATIVES BY MAINTAINING
 FLEXIBILITY AND THE ABILITY TO SHIFT FORCS AS REQUIRED.

(2) PLANS MUST BE PREPARED FOR THE READJUSTMENT OF
 RVNAF AND US FORCES AS REDEPLOYMENTS CONTINUE BEYOND 15 APRIL
 1970. THE LONG LEAD TIME REQUIRED FOR TURN-OVER OF CERTAIN
 FACILITIES AND THE MOVEMENT OF HEADQUARTERS REQUIRES PLANS TO
 BE APPROVED AND EXECUTED EARLY SO THAT PACIFICATION AND VIET-
 NAMIZATION MOMENTUM CAN BE MAINTAINED THROUGHOUT 1970.

2. (UL YOUR VIEWS AND COMMENTS ON THE FOREGOING ARE REQUESTED
 BY 7 FEBRUARY 1970.

GP-4

SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING DUTY HOURS

900

X-#3

HEADQUARTERS III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

TOP SECRET

III MAR FORM 5216 (REV 8-67)

X - ORIGINATOR A - ACTION/COGNIZANCE C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I - INFORMATION S - SIGNATURE			OPERATION CODE		FROM CG III MAF DNG RVN		DATE 01 FEB 70			
			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE 010550Z FEB 70		COPY NO. 1 OF 3 COPIES REC'D					
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Section	Signature									
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TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

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 M A R I N E H E A V Y O P T I O N .

4. (TS) IN VIEW OF THE FOREGOING, THE RECOMMENDATIONS CON-
 TAINED IN PARAGRAPHS 2A, B, AND C OF REF C ARE APPROVED FOR
 PLANNING PURPOSES. HOWEVER, THE STRENGTH OF THE 2D CAG MAY
 HAVE TO BE ADJUSTED IN LIGHT OF THE CONDITIONS ENCOUNTERED
 IN I CTZ AT THE TIME PHASE 4 IS EXECUTED AS WELL AS THE SIZE AND
 THE TIMING OF THE PHASE 4 TROOP REDEPLOYMENTS.

UNQUOTE

2. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

0031

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES