

DECLASSIFIED

- A-20. ✓ CG III MAF 010330Z FEB 70 (S) EYES ONLY *gp-4*
FROM CG III MAF TO SSO USARV INFO CG XXIV CORPS
FOR LTGEN MILDREN INFO LTGEN ZAIS FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
TRANSFER OF III MAF AUGMENTATION PERSONNEL
- A-21. ✓ CG III MAF 020814Z FEB 70 (S) EYES ONLY *gp-4*
FOR LTGEN ZAIS, MGEN RAMSEY, MGEN WHEELER, BGEN MULLER
VISIT BY COMUSMACV
- A-22. ✓ CG III MAF 030030Z FEB 70 (C) MCEO *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
LVTH-6 PLATOON ON LOAN TO 2D ROKMC BDE (U)
- A-23. ✓ CG III MAF 030407Z FEB 70 (C) *gp-4*
FOR GEN ABRAMS FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
PHOTO MISSION SORTIE ASHAU VALLEY
- A-24. ✓ CG III MAF 040350Z FEB 70 (S) *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
ICTZ TURNOVER BRIEFING - RADDRESSAL OF COMNAVFORV 020933Z FEB70
- A-25. ✓ CG III MAF 050012Z FEB 70 (U) EYES ONLY
FORBGEN SMITH J-1 INFO LTGEN ZAIS FROMBGEN DULACKI
AIDE FOR DEP CORDS

DECLASSIFIED

- B-1. ✓ CG III MAF 070020Z FEB 70 (S) *gp-4*
FOR VADM ZUMWALT INFO RADM ADAMSON FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
ICTZ TURNOVER BRIEFING
- B-2/ ✓ CG III MAF 080910Z FEB 70 (S) *gp-4*
FOR MGEN TOWNSEND FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
DEPCOMUSMACV VISIT ICTZ 3-4FEB 1970
- B-3. ✓ CG III MAF 071116Z FEB 70 (S) (GEN SER) *gp-4*
FROM CG III MAF TO COMUSMACV INFO CG XXIV CORPS
ARVN ARTILLERY IMPROVEMENT AND MODERNIZATION (U)/W *MACEZ-102*
memo, 7 Feb 70 (gp - not shown)
- B-4. ✓ CG III MAF 110522Z FEB 70 (S) *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
READDRESSAL OF CG III MAF 070020Z FEB 70
- ~~5. CG III MAF 110854Z FEB 70 (C)
FOR VADM BRINGLE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
MORNING BRIEFING~~
- B 6. ✓ CG III MAF 130916Z FEB 70 (S) *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
ICTZ SERVICE SUPPORT SHIFT (U) - READDRESSAL OF COMNAVFORV 110853Z
- B- 7. ✓ CG III MAF 141040Z FEB 70 (C) *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
EXCESS IN THE NONTAM GARRISON PROPERTY
- B 8. ✓ CG III MAF 141042Z FEB 70 (S) *gp-4*
FOR VADM ZUMWALT FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
CIVILIAN PERSONNEL REDUCTIONS IN ICTZ (S)
- B- 9. ✓ CG III MAF 150522Z FEB 70 (C) *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
TERMS OF REFERENCE III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE
- B-10. ✓ CG III MAF 150611Z FEB 70 (S) *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN ZAIS FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
READDRESSAL OF COMUSMACV VISIT
- B- 11. ✓ CG III MAF 161334Z FEB 70 (S) *gp-4*
SECRET EYES ONLY FOR GEN AB RAMS FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
VISIT OF AMB BUNKER
- B- 12. ✓ CG III MAF 180258Z FEB 70 (C) *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR BGEN WILSON FROM BGEN DULACKI
VISIT OF REP PAUL N. MCCLOSKEY, JR.
- ~~13. CG III MAF 190945Z FEB 70 (U)
FOR BGEN TOWNSEND FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
R&R TO BANGKOK~~

- B-14. ✓ CG III MAF 190546Z FEB 70 (C) MCEO *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
DISPOSITION PROJECT 972 STOCKS NICTZ (U)
- B-15. ✓ CG III MAF 200131Z FEB 70 (S) *gp-4*
FOR MGEN TOWNSEND FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
COMUSMACV VISIT TO IXTZ 19 FEBRUARY
- B-16. ✓ CG III MAF 200400Z FEB 70 (C) MCEO *gp-4*
FMCG III MAF TO CG FMFPAC INFO CMC
INTENT OF GAO PERSONNEL TO CONDUCT A SURVEY OF U.S.
REDEPLOYMENT FROM VIETNAM
- B-17. ✓ CG III MAF 201250Z FEB 70 (C) *gp-4*
FOR GEN ABRAMS FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
UNDER SECRETARY BEAL VISIT
- B-18. ✓ CG III MAF 210326Z FEB 70 (S) *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR BGEN WILSON FROM BGEN DULACKI
READDRESSAL OF CG 1STMARDIV SERIOUS INCIDENT REPORT
- B-19. ✓ CG III MAF 221230Z FEB 70 (C) *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
AWARD, CASE OF 1STLT C. C. COFFMAN, JR. USMC
- B-20. ✓ CG III MAF 241252Z FEB 70 (C) EYES ONLY *gp-4*
FOR MGEN TOWNSEND FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
CG XXIV CORPS VISIT TO TASK FORCE ALFA
- B-21. ✓ CG III MAF 241445Z FEB 70 (C) *gp-4*
PERSONAL FOR MGEN WHEELER FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
KINGFISHERS
- B-22. ✓ CG III MAF 250820Z FEB 70 (S) *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON INFO
MGEN WHEELER
SIR B/1/7
- B-23. ✓ CG III MAF 270230Z FEB 70 (S) MCEO *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR MGEN WHEELER FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
READDRESSAL OF CMC 261601Z FEB 70 SIR
- B-24. ✓ CG III MAF 271350Z FEB 70 (S) MCEO *gp-4*
EXCLUSIVE FOR GEN CHAPMAN INFO LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN
NICKERSON
INFORMATION PERTAINING TO SIR 1/7
25. ✓ CG III MAF 030912Z MAR 70 (UN)
FOR MGEN JONES, MGEN THRASH, MGEN WHEELER, BGEN PADALINO,
COL METZER, COL HOFF FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
III MAF RESERVE FOR CONTINGENCIES FUND

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X- ORIGINATOR A- ACTION/COGNIZANCE C- COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I- INFORMATION S- SIGNATURE			FROM CG III MAF		DATE 21 FEB 70	
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(A-20)

P 010330Z
 FM CG III MAF
 TO SSO USARV
 INFO CG XXIV CORPS
 ZEM

SECRET/EYES ONLY/SENSITIVE/FOR LTGEN MILDREN INFO LTGEN
 ZAIS FROM LTGEN NICKERSON //NO1300//

TRANSFER OF III MAF AUGMENTATION PERSONNEL

A. IDA P5W0BRAAD3 FOR HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY VIETNAM
 1. CG XXIV CORPS REQUESTS THAT ALL ARMY OFFICERS AND ENLISTED
 PERSONNEL PRESENTLY ASSIGNED TO THIS HEADQUARTERS IN ACCORDANCE
 WITH REFERENCE A, BE TRANSFERRED TO XXIV CORPS EFFECTIVE 9 MARCH
 1970. THESE PERSONNEL OCCUPY MANY KEY POSITIONS ON III MAF STAFF
 AND WILL BE IMPORTANT IN AN ORDERLY TRANSFER OF RESPONSIBILITIES.
 WARM REGARDS.
 GP-4

SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS
 127



THIS MSG REQUIRES ACCOUNTABILITY COPY 4 OF 4 COPIES

SECRET

A-20

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

TOP SECRET

III MAR FORM 5216 (REV 8-67)

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PTTTZYUW RHMMFA0031 0320550-TTTT--RUHFMA.

ZNY TTTT

P 010550Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

T O P S E C R E T / S P E C A T E X C L U S I V E F O R / L T G E N B U S E F R O M L T G E N
NICKERSON (DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS)

FORCE PLANNING (U)

1. THE FOLLOWING IS QUOTED FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

QUOTE

FM GEN ABRAMS COMUSMACV SAIGON

TO LTGEN NICKERSON CG III MAF DANANG

INFO LTG ZAIG CG XXIV CORPS PHU BAI

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE MAC 1478 EYES ONLY

SUBJ: FORCE PLANNING (U)

REFS: A. III MAF 310724Z DEC 69 (TS) (NOTAL)

B. MAC 066/021050Z JAN 70 (TS)

C. III MAF 282350Z JAN 70 (TS)

1. (TS) REFERENCES SUMMARIZED AS FOLLOWS:

A. REF A REQUESTED INFORMATION ON THE STATUS OF CAPS IN
PLANNING FUTURE TROOP REDEPLOYMENTS.

PAGE TWO RHMMFA0031 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C A T E X C L U S I V E F O R /

B. REF B PROVIDED INFORMATION REQUESTED IN REF A AND
REQUESTED CG, III MAF RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING REDEPLOY-
MENT AND RETENTION OF CAPS DURING AND AFTER PHASE 4 REDE-
PLOYMENTS.C. REF C REQUESTED APPROVAL FOR PLANNING OF CONCEPT WHICH
WOULD PHASE OUT 3 CAGS DURING PHASE 4 AND RETAIN ONE AT A
STRENGTH OF ABOUT 600. THIS CAG WOULD BE ATTACHED TO THE
RLT (APPROXIMATE STRENGTH 7,500) WHICH WOULD REMAIN IN THE
RVN UNTIL THE SUPPORT/TRANSITIONAL LEVEL IS REACHED. THE
PERSONNEL STRENGTH OF THE CAG WOULD BE ADDITIVE TO THAT OF
THE RLT.2. (TS) THE MARINE HEAVY PHASE 4 TROOP DEPLOYMENT PACKAGE,
AS OUTLINED IN THE COMMANDER'S WIEU ON 27 DEC 1969 AND IN
REF B, HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE JCS FOR PLANNING PURPOSES.
THIS OPTION RETAINS ONE (1) RLT AT A STRENGTH OF APPROXI-
MATELY 7,500 UNTIL THE SUPPORT/TRANSITIONAL LEVEL IS
REACHED. SUPPORT FOR THIS ONE REMAINING RLT WOULD BE
ENTIRELY BY THE ARMY LOGISTIC SYSTEM.3. (TS) THE AUTHORIZED STRENGTH OF III MAF AFTER 15 APRIL
1970 WILL BE ABOUT 41,700. THE PHASE 4 REDEPLOYMENT PACKAGE**PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES**

TOP SECRET

PAGE THREE RHMMAFA0031 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C I A L EXCLUSIVE FOR /
 OUTLINED AT THE 27 DEC WIEU AND PRESENTED TO THE JCS INCLUDES
 34,200 MARINES. COMPOSITION OF THE PHASE 4 PACKAGE WAS
 PREDICATED ON THE ABILITY TO RETAIN THREE (3) BRIGADES OF
 ELEVEN (11) INFANTRY BATTALIONS FOR A LONGER TIME DURING
 1970 THAN WOULD OTHERWISE BE POSSIBLE. ANY SIGNIFICANT
 INCREASE IN MARINE STRENGTH OVER THE APPROXIMATELY 7,500
 USED FOR PLANNING WOULD HAVE TO BE ARRANGED AS A TRADE-OFF
 WITH NAVFORV ASSETS IN I CTZ WHICH PRINCIPALLY SUPPORT THE
 MARINES, E.G., MOBILE CONSTRUCTION BATTALIONS. THE OTHER
 ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE TO CUT INTO REMAINING U. S. COMBAT
 STRENGTH WHICH WOULD DEFEAT THE PROPOSE OF ADOPTING THE
 MARINE HEAVY OPTION.

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

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

TOP SECRET

III MAR FORM 5216 (REV 8-67)

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**HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE**

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III MAR FORM 5216 (REV 8-67)

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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) 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 ZUMALT 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 RHMMFA0180 T O P S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR
MG MCCO, CG DMAC CAN THO

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

TOP SECRET

PAGE THREE RHMMAFAD180 T O P S E C R E T /SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR 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 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 17SD ABN BRIGADE AND ARVN CONTINUED.

PAGE FOUR RHMMAFAD180 T O P S E C R E T /SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR

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 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

PAGE 2 OF 4 PAGES

TOP SECRET

PAGE FIVE RHMMAFA0180 T O P S E C R E T /SPECAT 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 RHMMAFA0180 T O P S E C R E T /SPECAT 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

OTTZYUW RHMMFA0206 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 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 RHMMFA0206 **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**TOP SECRET**

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 FEB 70	
				SERIAL NO/CONTROL DATE 021256Z FEB 70		COPY NO. 2 OF 3 COPIES REC'D	
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	C/S					REMARKS:	
	DC/S						
	DCS PLANS					DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Retain for ___ months. <input type="checkbox"/> Destroy after routing.	
	DEP CORDS						
	DSA ICTZ					REMARKS: This document may not be retained over night except as noted in Force Order P5511.4. The Record of Disclosure must be signed by all persons sighting this document.	
	S/S						
	G-1					Section _____ Signature _____ ORIG: G-3 OPNS REL: C/S	
	G-2						
	G-3					EXCLUSIVE FOR 9 MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY HAS BEEN SENT Copy #1 Force Planning Folder	
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TOP SECRET

(B-9)

TOP SECRET

PTITZYUW RHMAFA0199 0331256-TTTT--RUHFMA.

ZNY TTTT

P 021256Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

T O P S E C R E T / S P E C A T 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 302121Z JAN 70

B. CG III MAF 310530Z JAN 70 (PASEP)

1. COMMENTS CONTAINED REFERENCE A REGARDING THE PROBLEM OF PROGRAM 8 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 ICTZ 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 REMAINDER 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 ICTZ SECURITY APPEARS TO BE THE BEST SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM. THE ADDITIONAL 35 SPACES ARE TO COME FROM H&S CO III MAF

PAGE TWO RHMAFA0199 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C A T E X C L U S I V E F O R / M C E O
AS YOU SUGGESTED.

3. M/L REDUCTIONS TO ACCOMPANY THE ABOVE (185 GRADES AND SKILLS) WILL BE SUBMITTED SHORTLY. THESE WILL BE COMPRISED OF 129 ICTZ SECURITY, 6 FIRST MARDIV AND 50 H&S CO 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 8 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

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

TOP SECRET

III MAR FORM 5216 (REV 8-67)

OPERATION CODE			FROM		DATE
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			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE		COPY NO. 3 OF 4 COPIES REC'D
			P 0500117 FEB 71		
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(B-10)

P 050011Z ZFF-1 ZFF-4

FM CG III MAF

TO COMUSMACV

ZEM

10/1/70
02/70 | *as*

TOP SECRET/EYES ONLY FOR GEN ABRAMS FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
FORCE PLANNING

A. CG III MAF 270830Z JAN 70

- 1. REF DISCUSSED COMMAND BILLETS IN I CORPS.
- 2. IN VIEW OF PLANS TO ASSIGN THREE STAR AS CG III MAF AND MGEN BOWMAN'S REMAINING, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT BOWMAN BE ASSIGNED AS DEPUTY CG XXIV CORPS. MEL ZAIS CONCURS. BOWMAN'S TOUR ENDS IN JULY 70.
- 3. IF YOU APPROVE, I WILL SO INFORM CMC AND HAVE APPROPRIATE ORDERS ISSUED FOR BOWMAN. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

120

RECEIVED
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 1970

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HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

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			SERIAL NO/CONTROL DATE P 020814Z FEB 70		COPY NO 3 OF 7 COPIES REC'D
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL
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	DEPCORDS				
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SUBJECTS E C R E T

VISIT OF COMUSMACV

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(A-21)

P 020814Z ZFF-4
 FM CG III MAF
 TO CG XXIV CORPS
 CG 1ST MARDIV
 ZEN/DSA
 ZEM

SECRET/EYES ONLY FOR LTGEN ZAIS, MGEN RAMSEY, MGEN
 WHEELER, BGEN MULLER FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
 VISIT BY COMUSMACV

1. WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS COMUSMACV WILL VISIT THIS
 HQS TO DISCUSS STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESSES OF RVNAF COM-
 MANDERS IN THE REGULAR MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT. THE DIS-
 CUSSION IS INTENDED TO BE FRANK AND STRAIGHT FORWARD
 WITH PERSONAL AND PROFESSIONALLY SOUND RECOMMENDATIONS.

2. DESIRE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION BY 5 FEBRUARY:

A. RECOMMENDATIONS AS TO WHO IS CAPABLE OF ASSUMING
 GREATER RESPONSIBILITIES EVEN THOUGH A PLACE OR VACANCY
 MAY NOT EXIST IN YOUR AREA.

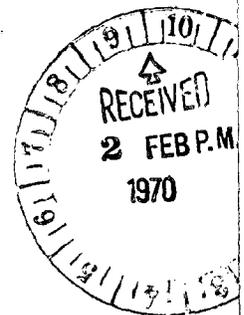
B. WHO SHOULD BE RELIEVED AND WHY.

C. COMMENTS ON ALL GENERAL OFFICERS, ANS SUCH COLONELS
 AND LESSER RANKS AS YOU DESIRE TO COMMENT ON. WARM
 REGARDS.

GP-4

(SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS).

177



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HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

CONFIDENTIAL

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

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			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE 030030Z FEB 70	COPY NO. 1 OF 3 COPIES REC'D.		
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
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	CG			29 FEB 70	N	LVTH-6 PLT ON LOAN TO 2ND ROKMC BDE
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HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

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III MAR FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

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					SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE P 030407Z FEB 70		COPY NO. 2 OF 3 COPIES REC'D	
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P 030407Z ZFF-1 ZFF-4

FM CG III MAF
TO COMUSMACV

ZEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L

FOR GEN ABRAMS FROM LTGEN NICKERSON

ON 25 JANUARY, MY G-2 HAD A PHOTO MISSION SORTIE GO UP THE ASHAU VALLEY IN ORDER TO LOCATE ANY EVIDENCE OF TRUCKS, TRUCK TIRE MARKS, TRACKED VEHICLES OR ANY ENEMY POSITIONS AND ACTIVITIES. THE AIRCRAFT RETURNED AND A DUPLICATE POSITIVE OF THE NEGATIVE WAS MADE FOR MIBARS WHO GAVE A COPY OF THE ENTIRE MISSION TO THE ARVN UPON THEIR REQUEST. SEVERAL OF THE PHOTOS OF THE MISSION READ BY THE ARVN WERE REPORTED TO BE ROCKETS/MISSILES AND LAUNCHING POSITIONS. THESE WERE THE PICTURES WHICH I BELIEVE GEN LAM GAVE TO YOU. HOWEVER, UPON COMPARING THIS 25 JAN MISSION WITH ONE ON 7 DECEMBER, IT WAS FOUND THAT THESE PICTURES WERE NEAR THE ALOUI AIRFIELD IN THE ASHAU. UPON DETAILED ANALYSIS IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE ROCKETS WERE REALLY EXPENDED 155MM CASING AND THE LAUNCHER POSITIONS WERE OLD FOUNDATION HOLES WHERE U.S. FORCES PREVIOUSLY HAD BUILDINGS. IN ADDITION SEVERAL GROUND SCARS ARE THE RESULT OF PREVIOUS U.S. BULLDOZERS AS WELL AS B-52 BOMBINGS. ONE OF MY RECON TEAMS WENT TO THE ALOUI AIRFIELD YESTERDAY AND PICKED UP THE PALLET WITH 155MM CASINGS FROM THE HOLE WHICH IS IN THE PHOTO. I WAS AMAZED AS TO THE JUNK THAT IS STILL LOCATED AT AND NEAR THE ALOUI AIRFIELD. ALL OF THE STUFF ON THE 25 JAN 1970 MISSION WAS ALSO IN THE 7 DECEMBER 1969 MISSION. WARMEST REGARDS.

GP-4

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8 FEBRM

1970

(A-23)

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

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III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

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	DCS PLANS					DISPOSITION
	DEPCORDS					
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A-24

SECRET

PTTSZYUW RHMAFA0380 0350350-SSSS--RUHFMA.

ZNY SSSSS

P 040350Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF
TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

S E C R E T /SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR/LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN
NICKERSON

ICTZ TURNOVER BRIEFING

1. THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS FORWARDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

QUOTE

ZNY SSSSS

P 020933Z FEB 70 ZFF-6

FM COMNAVFORV

TO RHMAFA/CG III MAF

INFO RUMUFGA/COMNAVSUPPACT DANANG

BT

S E C R E T //N04000//

PERSONAL FOR LGEN NECKERSON INFO RADM ADAMSON FROM ZUMWALT

ICTZ TURNOVER BRIEFING

A. CG USARV 010531Z FEB 70 PASEP

PAGE TWO RHMAFA0380 S E C R E T /SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR/

B. COMUSMACV 211140Z JAN 70 PASEP.

C. COMUSMACV 280140Z JAN 70 PASEP

1. (S) CG USARV HOSTED BRIEFING AFTERNOON 1 FEB AT LONG BINH ON
ICTZ TURNOVER CULMINATING MONTHS OF WORK BY IN-COUNTRY COMMANDS. ON
THIS MATTER. PRESENT WERE MAJOR U.S. ARMY SUPPORT COMMANDERS,
RADM ADAMSON, CG III MAF REP, AND MYSELF.2. (S) MEETING ADDRESSED REQUIREMENTS IN TERMS OF PERSONNEL,
FACILITIES, EQUIPMENT, AND FUNDS TO ACCOMPLISH ASSUMPTION OF
VARIOUS GEOGRAPHIC AND FUNCTIONAL AREAS OF COMMON SERVICE SUPPORT
IN ICTZ.3. (S) FIRST PORTION COVERED EVENTS AND SCHEDULE CONTAINED IN
REF A. SECOND PORTION COVERED REMAINDER OF AREAS AND FUNCTIONS
IN WHICH CSS TO BE ASSUMED BY ARMY BY PLANNING DATE 30 JUNE AS
REQUIRED IN REF B MODIFIED BY REF C. A MAJOR ASSUMPTION WAS
FORCE STRUCTURE IN ICTZ REDUCED BY 37,000 IN PHASE IV REDEPLOY-
MENTS.4. (S) DETAILED BRIEFING EVIDENCED THOROUGH PLANNING BEING
ACCOMPLISHED BY ALCON. SPECIFIC INFO WILL BE FORWARDED AS SOON
AS COPIES OF SLIDES OBTAINED AND ANALYZED. SEVERAL MAJOR PROBLEM
AREAS SURFACED AND DISCUSSED AS OUTLINED BELOW.

PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

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SECRET

(A-24)

SECRET

PAGE THREE RHMAFA0380 S E C R E T / SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR/

5. (S) DETAILED PLAN MAY NOT BE READY UNTIL 1 MARCH. I ADVISED THAT EARLY DECISION DESIRED ON UTILIZATION OF PHILCO-FORD SO THAT NOTICE OF TERMINATION OF PART OR ALL OF CONTRACT COULD BE GIVEN CG USARV AGREED THAT THIS INFO COULD BE PROVIDED EARLIER THAN COMPLETE PLAN, HOPEFULLY PRIOR 15 FEB. USARV REQUESTED OUR ASSISTANCE IN PERSUADING PHILCO-FORD TO PERMIT PA&E TO RECRUIT TRAINED PERSONNEL IN-COUNTRY WHO WOULD NOT BE REQUIRED BY P-F AFTER ARMY TURNOVER.
6. (S) USARV EXPRESSED CONCERN ON SITTING DOWN TO NEGOTIATE FY 71 CONTRACTS WITHOUT 71 BUDGET APPROVAL. IT WAS DETERMINED HOWEVER THAT TRANSFER OF FUNDS FROM OTHER FINANCIAL FUNCTIONS COULD PERMIT ARMY NEGOTIATIONS TO MEET THE DESIRED TURNOVER DATE OF 1 JULY 1970.
7. (S) MUSE GENERATORS MAY BE REQUIRED BY THE ARMY DUE TO NONCOMPATIBILITY OF EXISTING ARMY GENERATORS WITH POWER PLANTS AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEMS. USARV IS AT PRESENT DETERMINING REQUIREMENTS FOR GENERATION. IT WAS STATED THAT USARV INTENDS TO ASK THE DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY TO REQUEST THE NAVY TO TRANSFER MUSE UNITS WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT VICE REIMBURSEMENT OR REPLACEMENT IN KIND. WE WILL NOT KNOW THE IMPACT OF THEIR

PAGE FOUR RHMAFA0380 S E C R E T / SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR/ POSITION UNTIL FIRMER REQUIREMENTS ARE KNOWN. A POSSIBILITY IS DISPOSITION OF THE 18,000 KW OF MCON POWER UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN AN ADVANTAGEOUS MANNER TO FULFILL THE ARMY REQUIREMENT, THEREBY RELEASING MUSE, WITH THE ALTERNATIVE OF KEEPING THE MCON GENERATORS YET TO BE SHIPPED AND PERMITTING THE ARMY TO RETAIN MUSE GENERATORS WITHOUT REIMBURSEMENT. IN ANY EVENT, I CONSIDER IT UNLIKELY THAT MACV WILL CONCUR THAT WE BE REIMBURSED FOR MUSE UNITS AND KEEP THE NAVY PURCHASED 2,000 KW GENERATORS OUT OF COUNTRY FOR NAVY USE. I WILL RECOMMEND ACTION WHEN FIRM USARV REQUIREMENTS ARE KNOWN.

8. (S) CAMP TIEN SHA WAS REQUESTED BY USARV TO HOUSE ARMY PERSONNEL TASKED WITH ASSUMPTION OF OPERATIONS AT THE DANANG DEEP WATER PIER AND PORT FACILITIES. THE USARV REQUEST WAS FOR A SPECIFIC SECTION INCLUDING BOQ/BEQ'S FOR 1391 PERSONNEL AND ALL SUPPORT AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES. I STATED THIS SECTIONALIZATION OF CAMP TIEN SHA IS NOT ACCEPTABLE IN VIEW OF OUR PLANS FOR THE VNN ACTOV BASE IN WHICH TIEN SHA HAS ALWAYS BEEN OUR LOW COST WAY TO GO. THE INCREASE IN BASE LOADING AND CRAFT PLANNED FOR DANANG IN ADDITION TO THE ACCOMPANY NG DEPENDENT SHELTERS AND COMMUNITY FACILITIES WILL REQUIRE NAVY

PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

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SECRET
(A-24)

SECRET

PAGE FIVE RHMAFA0380 S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR/
 USE OF ALL CAMP TIEN SHA AND TIEN SHA ANNEX. IT WAS STRESSED
 THAT CONSTRUCTION AT SCRF HAS COMMENCED AND REHABILITATION OF
 EXISTING BARRACKS FOR VNN DEPENDENTS IS PLANNED. THE NAVY
 POLICY FOR COMBINED VNN/USN OCCUPATION TO FACILITATE TURNOVER
 WAS ADDRESSED TO STRESS THAT SCRF WILL BECOME A COMBINED VNN/
 USN BASE WITH USN AND VNN HOUSE AT TIEN SHA BEGINNING IN THE
 VERY NEAR FUTURE. IT IS ALSO ANTICIPATED THAT VNN DEPENDENTS
 WILL OCCUPY DEPENDENT SHELTERS AS SOON AS THEY ARE READY FOR
 OCCUPANCY. THE USARV STAFF APPEARED TO BE PRINCIPALLY
 INTERESTED IN THE RECREATIONAL AND SUPPORT FACILITIES AT CAMP
 TIEN SHA HAUFDOHEIR IMPORTANT MORALE AFFECT. CG USARV AGREED
 THAT THEY WILL STUDY OTHER COMPOUNDS IN THE DANANG EAST COMPLEX
 THAT WILL BECOME AVAILABLE FOR USE. IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT THE
 DANANG HOSPITAL BE CONSIDERED AS A POSSIBILITY. THE NSA DANANG
 AIRBASE CANTONMENT WAS ALSO MENTIONED. THE USARV REQUEST FOR
 TIEN SHA IS NOW IN ABEYANCE UNTIL USARV COMPLETES THIS STUDY.
 9. (S) USARV INDICATED A DESIRE FOR CONTINUED NAVY OPERATION
 OF THE DANANG COMPLEX PHONE EXCHANGE BECAUSE OF PERSONNEL
 SHORTAGES. AFTER DISCUSSIONS CG USARV INDICATED USARV WOULD
 BE THE PREDOMINANT USER AND THEREFORE RESPONSIBLE.

PAGE SIX RHMAFA0380 S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR/
 10. (U) I HOPE AND BELIEVE FOREGOING WILL BE ACCEPTABLE TO YOU.
 WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTS.
 11. (U) WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

UNQUOTE

GP-4

BT

0380

PAGE 3 OF 3 PAGESCOPY 2 OF 3 COPIES**SECRET**
(A-24)

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

UNCLASSIFIED

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE			FROM		DATE	
X - ORIGINATOR A - ACTION/COGNIZANCE C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I - INFORMATION S - SIGNATURE			CG III MAF		05 FEB 70	
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ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
			IN	OUT		
	CG			9200		UNCLAS EFTO/EYES ONLY AIDE FOR DEP CORDS
	DCG			12/7	B	
	C/S	I		2/5	9	REMARKS
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	DCS PLANS					
	DEP CORDS					
	DSA ICTZ					
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SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

UNCLASSIFIED

P 05012Z ZFF-3 ZFF-6

FM CG 111 MAF

TO 890 MACV

INFO CG XXIV CORPS

ZEN

UNCLAS E F T O/EYES ONLY/SENSITIVE/FOU EGM SMITH J-1 INFO LTGEN ZAIS/
FROM EGM DULACKI
C OF 3 III MAF

AIDE FOR DEP CORDS

1. THIS HEADQUARTERS CURRENTLY HAS ASSIGNED A MARINE OFFICER AS AIDE TO THE DEP CORDS. BECAUSE OF PERSONNEL CHANGES HERE WE MUST TERMINATE THIS ARRANGEMENT EFFECTIVE 15 MARCH.

2. IT IS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT MACV PROVIDES AIDES TO DEP CORDS IN OTHER CORPS AREAS. WE REQUEST THAT A LIEUTENANT OR CAPTAIN BE ASSIGNED AS AIDE TO DEP CORDS ICITZ EFFECTIVE ON OR ABOUT 1 MARCH.

830 NOTE: PRECEDENCE FOR TRANSMISSION ONLY-DELIVER DURING DUTY HOURS.
135

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HAC REC

UNCLAS/EFTO

NNNN

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

TOP SECRET

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(B-11)

10 0000Z FEB 73
 TO COMUSMACV
 INFO CG XXIV CORPS
 ZEM

TO P S E C R E T/LINDIS/EYES ONLY/FOR MAJGEN TOWNSEND INFO LTGEN

ZAIS FROM LTGEN WICKERSON

ROK FORCES IN VIETNAM (U)

ZEM

TO P S E C R E T/LINDIS/EYES ONLY/FOR MAJGEN TOWNSEND INFO LTGEN

ZAIS FROM LTGEN WICKERSON

ROK FORCES IN VIETNAM (U)

A. MACV 313718Z FEB 73 (TS/EYES ONLY) NOTAL

1. REF A REQUESTED CG III MAF VIEWS ON THE ROLES FORESEEN FOR ROK FORCES AT VARIOUS STAGES OF THE VIETNAMIZATION PROCESS.

2. 2D BRIGADE, ROK MARINE CORPS OPERATES IN ACCORDANCE WITH MISSION AND CONCEPT OF COMBINED CAMPAIGN PLAN. BRIGADE IS UNDER OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE OF CG III MAF.

3. BRIGADE OPERATES IN AO ASSIGNED BY AGREEMENT OF COMUSMACV AND COMROKRV TO INCLUDE A PORTION OF GOI NOI ISLAND. SINCE OPERATION DEFIANT STAND (12 SEP 69) ROK'S HAVE MAINTAINED AT LEAST ONE COMPANY ON NORTHERN TIP OF BARRIER ISLAND.

4. ROK MARINES ARE TASKED TO LOCATE AND DESTROY ENEMY FORCES, BASES, AND LOGISTIC INSTALLATIONS IN ASSIGNED AREAS. THEY PARTICIPATE IN DEFENSE OF DANANG VITAL AREA BY SURVEILLANCE AND RECONNAISSANCE WITH EMPHASIS ON APPROACHES TO ROCKET BELT AND PROVIDE REACTION FORCE FOR COMBINED ACTION PLATOONS WHEN REQUIRED IN THEIR AO. OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN BOTH UNILATERAL AND COORDINATED WITH U.S. AND ARVN FORCES. ON OCCASIONS U.S. AND ROK FORCES HAVE CONDUCTED COMBINED OPERATIONS WITH DEFIANT STAND BEING THE OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE.

5. DURING 1969 SUPPORT GIVEN TO THE ROK MARINE BRIGADE BY III MAF ELEMENTS AVERAGED:

A. OPERATIONAL:

COMM SUPPORT	1 OFF	46 ENL
30 LVTP-5	2 OFF	92 ENL
6 LVTH-6 (6 105MM HOW)	2 OFF	54 ENL
5 TANKS	2 OFF	25 ENL
LIAISON	3 OFF	3 ENL

4 HELO (1 EACH GUNSHIP, SLICK, C-46 PASS AND CH-53 CARGO)

NOTE: ANGLICO DETACHMENT OF 3 OFF AND 74 ENL SUPPORTS BRIGADE, BUT IS NOW III MAF TRANSITIONAL FORCE UNIT.

B. LOGISTICAL:

CLASS I. MASTER MENU FOR MORNING AND NOON MEAL PROVIDED BY FORCE FOOD SERVICES. ROKMC DRAW THESE RATIONS FROM FORCE LOGISTIC COMMAND. EVENING MEAL IS THE KOREAN COMBAT MEAL.

CLASS V. SUPPLIED TO ROKMC BY FORCE LOGISTIC COMMAND.

ENGINEER SUPPORT. HEAVY EQUIPMENT (FORKLIFTS, CRANES, AND BULLDOZERS) LOANED TO ROKMC FROM FORCE LOGISTIC COMMAND MAINTENANCE FLOAT. OTHER ADDITIONAL DAILY REQUIREMENTS FOR EQUIPMENT ON "AS REQUIRED" BASIS.

MAINTENANCE SUPPORT. THIRD AND FOURTH ECHELON MAINTENANCE PROVIDED BY FORCE LOGISTIC COMMAND.

LITERAGE SUPPORT. YFU/LOU SUPPORT ON AN "AS REQUIRED" BASIS. AVERAGE IS THREE REQUESTS A WEEK.

AS REQUIRED REQUESTS. THIS HEADQUARTERS SUPPLIES CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS, PERSONNEL ASSISTANCE, FACILITIES MAINTENANCE (TO INCLUDE GENERATORS, POWER SUPPLY UNITS, ETC.) UPON EVALUATION OF INDIVIDUAL REQUESTS RECEIVED FROM THE ROKMC BRIGADE.

(B-11) #1

6. NO CHANGE IS FORESEEN IN THE ROLES AND TASKS OF THE ROK MARINE BRIGADE AS VIETNAMIZATION PROCEEDS. HOWEVER, AS REDEPLOYMENTS CONTINUE, ROK OPERATIONS WILL HAVE TO BE ADJUSTED TO COMPENSATE FOR THE OPERATIONAL AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT WHICH WILL NO LONGER BE AVAILABLE FROM MARINE FORCES.

A. ON 9 MARCH, III MAF WILL BECOME A SUBORDINATE HEADQUARTERS OF XXIV CORPS AND CG XXIV CORPS WILL ASSUME THE SENIOR ADVISOR AND I CORPS COORDINATOR ROLES. AT THAT TIME, THE ROK MARINE BRIGADE WILL PASS TO HIS OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE.

B. AS A RESULT OF PHASE III REDEPLOYMENTS, THE LAST MARINE COMPANY AMPHIBIOUS TRACTOR BATTALION WILL LEAVE VIETNAM. IN FACT, ALL EXCEPT ONE COMPANY HAS ALREADY DEPARTED. AT THE PRESENT TIME THE BRIGADE HAS IN SUPPORT TWO OF THE THREE AVAILABLE LVTP-5 PLATOONS BUT THESE MUST BE WITHDRAWN WLT 12 FEBRUARY TO MEET THEIR SAILING DATE OF 27 FEBRUARY. THE ROK WILL MISS THE MOBILITY AND PARTICULARLY THE CARGO CARRYING CAPABILITY OF THESE VEHICLES.

C. I AM ENDEAVORING TO ARRANGE FOR THE 6 ARMORED AMPHIBIANS EACH MOUNTING A 105MM HOWITZER TO REMAIN IN COUNTRY AND IN SUPPORT OF THE ROK'S WITH MAINTENANCE SUPPORT BEING FURNISHED FROM OKINAWA. THE OUTCOME OF THIS PROJECT IS NOT KNOWN AT THIS TIME. ALTHOUGH ALL SECTORS OF THE ROK AG CAN BE SUPPORTED BY MARINE ARTILLERY PRESENTLY POSITIONED OUTSIDE THE AREA, BRIGADE FIRE POWER, ESPECIALLY IN SUPPORT OF THE CAP'S, WILL BE REDUCED ABOUT 10 PER CENT, IF THESE WEAPONS MUST BE WITHDRAWN.

D. BY THE END OF PHASE III, ALL EXCEPT ONE COMPANY OF THE 1CT TANK BATTALION WILL HAVE DEPARTED. WITH ONLY ONE COMPANY AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT THE 1CT MARINE DIVISION, A PLATOON WILL NOT ALWAYS BE AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT THE ROK MARINE BRIGADE ALTHOUGH U.S. ARMY ARMOR MAY BE AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE SUPPORT IF REQUIRED.

E. I DO NOT ENVISION PHASE III REDEPLOYMENTS IMPACTING SERIOUSLY ON THE AIR SUPPORT FURNISHED NOW AND NO CHANGES ARE ANTICIPATED IN ANGLICO.

F. AS INDICATED IN PARA 5.D., III MAF ELEMENTS HAVE PROVIDED CONSIDERABLE LOGISTIC SUPPORT. PHASE III REDEPLOYMENTS WILL OF COURSE REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF THIS SUPPORT AVAILABLE, PARTICULARLY IN THE ENGINEER, MAINTENANCE, LITERAGE AND CONSTRUCTION CATEGORIES, BUT THE ARMY MAY BE ABLE TO TAKE OVER THESE TASKS WITHIN ASSETS. CLASS I AND CLASS V SUPPORT WILL GRADUALLY PASS TO THE ARMY AS THEY ASSUME LOGISTIC RESPONSIBILITY FOR ICTZ. NO PROBLEMS ARE ANTICIPATED.

7. PHASE IV AND SUBSEQUENT REDEPLOYMENTS WILL REMOVE THE LAST VESTIGES OF U.S. MARINE CORPS SUPPORT TO THE BRIGADE. PHASE IV WILL UNDOUBTEDLY REQUIRE WITHDRAWAL OF AIR AND COMM SUPPORT AND SOME LIAISON PERSONNEL. HOW MUCH, IF ANY, OF THIS SUPPORT CAN BE PROVIDED FROM ARMY ASSETS IS UNKNOWN. THE U.S. MARINE FORCE REMAINING AFTER WITHDRAWAL OF THE 1ST MARINE DIVISION WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY MAINTAIN LIAISON IF LOCATED NEARBY TO THE ROK MARINE BRIGADE.

(B-11) #2

1. IN SUMMARY, I FORESEE FEW IF ANY CHANGES IN THE OPERATIONAL AREA OR TASKS OF THE ROK MARINE BRIGADE. THEY PROVIDE THE SECURITY NECESSARY FOR PACIFICATION TO PROCEED IN THEIR AREA, BUT THEIR DIRECT CONTRIBUTION TO ECONOMIC AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT IS AND WILL REMAIN MINIMAL.

THE DRAWDOWN OF U.S. FORCES WILL IMPACT ON THE OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY OF THE BRIGADE, BUT VIETNAMIZATION IN ITSELF SHOULD HAVE LITTLE IMPACT EITHER IN FY 71 OR BEYOND.
HIGH REGARDS.

CP-4.

DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS: DELIVER DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS.

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U.S. MARINE CORPS
VICTOR
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B-11 #3

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

TOP SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-67)

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	CG					FORCE PLANNING REMARKS: DISPOSITION: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Retain for ___ months. <input type="checkbox"/> Destroy after routing. <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Section</th> <th>Signature</th> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </table> REMARKS: This document may not be retained over night except as noted in Force Order P5511.4. The Record of Disclosure must be signed by all persons sighting this document. <i>Copy #1 Force Planning Folder</i> DRAFTED: C/S RELEASE: CG	Section	Signature		
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(B-12)

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PTTTZYUW RHMMFA0612 0370130-TITT--RUHFMA.

ZNY TTTT

P 060130Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

T O P S E C R E T / S P E C A T EXCLUSIVE EYES ONLY FOR LTGEN BUSE.
 FROM LTGEN NICKERSON (DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS)
 FORCE PLANNING

A. COMUSMACV CITE 1707 DIG 051038Z FEB 70 (TS) (NOTAL)

1. BY REF A COMUSMACV HAS APPROVED THE ASSIGNMENT OF
 MGEN BOWMAN AS DEPUTY CG XXIV CORPS. WARM REGARDS.

BT ^{gp-4}

0612

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

TOP SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

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III MAR FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

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B-13

P 051302Z

FM CG III MAF

TO COMUSMACV

ZEM

TOP SECRET SENSITIVE EYES ONLY FOR GEN ABRAMS FROM
LT GEN NICKERSON
FORCE PLANNING

A. COMUSMACV 011052Z FEB 70 (TS/LD/EYES ONLY)

1. REF A REQUESTED VIEWS AND COMMENTS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF REDEPLOYING AN ADDITIONAL 100,000 U.S. TROOPS FROM RVN DURING 1970 SUBSEQUENT TO PHASE III.

2. BASED ON THE ASSUMPTIONS IN REF A, A SIZEABLE REDUCTION OF U.S. FORCES IN I CORPS IS FEASIBLE DURING THE LATTER HALF OF 1970.

3. HOWEVER, THE TIME PHASING POSTULATED (1 APRIL - 15 AUGUST) APPEARS TO BE UNREALISTIC ON THE BASIS OF THE FOLLOWING FACTORS:

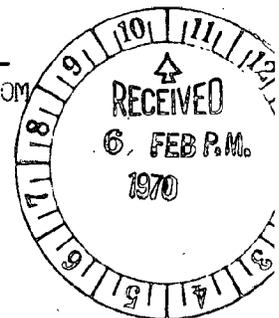
A. SHIPPING AVAILABILITY. PHASE III MOVEMENT OF RLT-26 AND ITS ASSOCIATED AIR AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT IS UTILIZING

ALL (LESS ONE ARG/SLF) AMPHIBIOUS SHIPPING IN WEST PAC PLUS SHIPPING FROM A VARIETY OF SOURCES. THE LAST SHIPS WILL DEPART ABOUT 28 MARCH. TURNAROUND TIME MIGHT PERMIT THEIR RETURN BY ABOUT 1 MAY, BUT THIS ALLOWS FOR NO MAINTENANCE, CASUALTY REPAIR, OR CREW REST. IT IS OVERLY OPTIMISTIC. IN ADDITION, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT SUFFICIENT SHIPPING WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MOVE FORCES OF THE SIZE CONTEMPLATED WITHIN THE FRAME GIVEN.

B. DANANG PORT CAPACITY. DURING PHASE III MANY FUNCTIONS NOW BEING PERFORMED IN I CORPS BY THE NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY IN DANANG WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE ARMY. OVER 1,600 NSA SPACES WILL LEAVE COUNTRY. THE ARMY IS BEING SEVERELY STRETCHED TO ASSUME THOSE FUNCTIONS IN THE ALL OTTED TIME FRAME WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY REDEPLOYING FROM VIETNAM MORE THAN 28,000 OF THEIR OWN PERSONNEL. ALTHOUGH EVERY EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO ACCOMPLISH THE CHANGE AS SMOOTHLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE, SOME PROBLEMS ARE BOUND TO DEVELOP. A SHAKEDOWN PERIOD AFTER 15 APRIL WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR NSA AND THE ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND BEFORE ANOTHER REDEPLOYMENT, THE LARGEST YET IN NUMBERS AND TONNAGE THROUGH THE DANANG PORT FACILITIES COMMENCES.

C. SUPPLY AND EQUIPMENT BACKLOG. PHASE III PERSONNEL WILL HAVE DEPARTED RVN BY 15 APRIL, BUT MUCH EQUIPMENT AND LARGE AMOUNTS OF SUPPLIES WILL NOT. IN OTHER WORDS, THE AMOUNT OF MATERIEL TO BE MOVED EXCEEDS THE CAPACITY OF THE SHIPPING AVAILABLE. THE BACKLOG MUST BE SHIPPED OUT AFTER THE PHASE III TIME FRAME ENDS. PHASE IV REDEPLOYMENTS WILL FURTHER INCREASE THIS BACKLOG. A LOGISTIC ROLL-UP FORCE WILL BE AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY TO REMAIN IN-COUNTRY AFTER DEPARTURE OF THE PHASE IV UNITS. RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE COMPOSITION AND SIZE OF THIS FORCE WILL BE FORWARDED SEPARATELY.

TOP SECRET



(B-13) #1

5. TACTICAL COORDINATIONS. IF PHASE IV BEGINS IN 15 APRIL, THERE WILL BE A PERIOD OF CONSOLIDATION FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF PHASE III REDEPLOYMENTS. IN FACT, IT

WOULD APPEAR THAT IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH PHASE IV REDEPLOYMENTS OF THE MAGNITUDE INDICATED, AN ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD HAVE TO COME IN LATE MARCH WHILE PHASE III IS STILL ONGOING. TACTICAL TURBULENCE IN THE I CORPS TACTICAL ZONE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE. WITHDRAWAL OF THE BULK OF MARINE CORPS FORCES WILL REQUIRE RELOCATION OF ARVN FORCES, REDISPOSITION OF THE REMAINING U.S. FORCES IN I CORPS, REALLOCATION OF FIRE SUPPORT MEANS, AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW LOC'S AND LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS. IT WOULD BE HIGHLY ADVANTAGEOUS, IN OUR OPINION, TO DELAY THE BEGINNING OF PHASE IV.

4. THE ASSIGNMENT OF A BRIGADE OF RVN MARINES TO QUANG NAM PROVINCE, AS SUGGESTED IN PARA 1.C. (2) (B), WILL OFFSET TO SOME DEGREE REDEPLOYMENT OF THE BULK OF THE U.S. MARINES IN I CORPS. HOWEVER, IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT A VMC BRIGADE BE DEPLOYED TO I CORPS IN MARCH CONCURRENT WITH THE REDEPLOYMENT OF THE 26TH MARINES. THE JUNE DATE MENTIONED FOR ARRIVAL OF THIS UNIT DOES NOT FILL I CORPS NEEDS IF PHASE IV REDEPLOYMENTS START IN APRIL OR MAY.

5. A CONTINUING PROBLEM IN REDEPLOYMENT PLANNING HAS BEEN THE INABILITY TO PLAN AND COORDINATE WITH ARVN DUE TO SECURITY RESTRICTIONS. SOME DOWNGRADING OF CLASSIFICATION EARLY IN THE PLANNING CYCLE WOULD GREATLY ASSIST IN MAINTAINING THE DESIRED PACIFICATION AND VIETNAMIZATION MOMENTUM.

6. AS A RELATED FORCE PLANNING MATTER, WE HAVE BEEN EXAMINING THE SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF THE MARINE FORCE TO REMAIN AFTER PHASE IV. A BALANCED FORCE OF COMBINED ARMS (TO INCLUDE AIR) SOMEWHAT IN EXCESS OF THE 7500 TROOPS PLANNED FOR THE RLTI IS DEEMED NECESSARY. RECOMMENDATIONS ON THIS WILL BE FORWARDED SEPARATELY. THE COMBINED ACTION FORCE OF 600 PREVIOUSLY APPROVED FOR PLANNING PURPOSES REMAINS FIRM BASED ON PACIFICATION REQUIREMENTS. WARM REGARDS. LIEUTENANT NICKERSON

GP-4

(SEE NOTE: DELIVER DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS)

250

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3.13 #2

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

TOP SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-67)

X - ORIGINATOR A - ACTION/COGNIZANCE C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I - INFORMATION S - SIGNATURE			OPERATION CODE		FROM CG III MAF	DATE 07 FEB 70
					SERIAL NO/CONTROL DATE 071358Z FEB 70	COPY NO. 2 OF 3 COPIES RECD
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	CG					SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR REMARKS: DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Retain for ___ months. <input type="checkbox"/> Destroy after routing. Section _____ Signature _____ 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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EXCLUSIVE

FOR

MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY

HAS BEEN SENT

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(USE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE)

TOP SECRET

(B-15)

TOP SECRET

PTTTZYUW RHMMFA0838 0381358-TTTT--RUHFMMA.

ZNY TTTT

P 071358Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHFMMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

T O P S E C R E T / S P E C A T EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN
NICKERSON MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY (DELIVER DURING WORKING
HOURS) SECTION ONE OF TWO

FORCE PLANNING

A. CG FMFPAC 040322Z FEB 70

1. FOLLOWING MESSAGES, REFLECTING THE POSITION CONTAINED
IN REF A, HAVE BEEN SENT TO COMUSMACV:

QUOTE

P 061302Z

FM CG III MAF

TO COMUSMACV

BT

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EYES ONLY FOR GEN ABRAMS FROM
LTGEN NICKERSON
FORCE PLANNING

A. COMUSMACV 011052Z FEB 70 (TS/LD/EYES ONLY)

PAGE TWO RHMMFA0838 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C A T EXCLUSIVE FOR MCEO

1. REF A REQUESTED VIEWS AND COMMENTS ON THE POSSIBILI-
TY OF REDEPLOYING AN ADDITIONAL 100,000 U.S. TROOPS FROM
RVN DURING 1970 SUBSEQUENT TO PHASE III.

2. BASED ON THE ASSUMPTIONS IN REF A, A SIZEABLE
REDUCTION OF U.S. FORCES IN I CORPS IS FEASIBLE DURING
THE LATTER HALF OF 1970.

3. HOWEVER, THE TIME PHASING POSTULATED (1 APRIL - 15
AUGUST) APPEARS TO BE UNREALISTIC ON THE BASIS OF THE
FOLLOWING FACTORS:

A. SHIPPING AVAILABILITY. PHASE III MOVEMENT OF RLT-26
AND ITS ASSOCIATED AIR AND LOGISTICAL SUPPORT IS UTILIZING
ALL (LESS ONE ARG/SLF) AMPHIBIOUS SHIPPING IN WESTPAC
PLUS SHIPPING FROM A VARIETY OF SOURCES. THE LAST SHIPS
WILL DEPART ABOUT 28 MARCH. TURNAROUND TIME MIGHT PERMIT
THEIR RETURN BY ABOUT 1 MAY, BUT THIS ALLOWS FOR NO
MAINTENANCE, CASUALTY REPAIR, OR CREW REST. IT IS OVERLY
OPTIMISTIC. IN ADDITION, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT SUFFICIENT
SHIPPING WILL BE AVAILABLE TO MOVE FORCES OF THE SIZE
CONTEMPLATED WITHIN THE FRAME GIVEN.

B. DANANG PORT CAPACITY. DURING PHASE III MANY

PAGE 2 OF 6 PAGES

TOP SECRET

PAGE THREE RHMMFA0838 T O P S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR MCEO FUNCTIONS NOW BEING PERFORMED IN I CORPS BY THE NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY IN DANANG WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO THE ARMY. OVER 1,600 NSA SPACES WILL LEAVE COUNTRY. THE ARMY IS BEING SEVERELY STRETCHED TO ASSUME THOSE FUNCTIONS IN THE ALLOTTED TIME FRAME WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY REDEPLOYING FROM VIETNAM MORE THAN 28,000 OF THEIR OWN PERSONNEL. ALTHOUGH EVERY EFFORT IS BEING MADE TO ACCOMPLISH THE CHANGE AS SMOOTHLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY AS POSSIBLE, SOME PROBLEMS ARE BOUND TO DEVELOP. A SHAKEDOWN PERIOD AFTER 15 APRIL WOULD BE DESIRABLE FOR NSA AND THE ARMY SUPPORT COMMAND BEFORE ANOTHER REDEPLOYMENT. THE LARGEST YET IN NUMBERS AND TONNAGE THROUGH THE DANANG PORT FACILITIES COMMENCES.

C. SUPPLY AND EQUIPMENT BACKLOG. PHASE III PERSONNEL WILL HAVE DEPARTED RVN BY 15 APRIL, BUT MUCH EQUIPMENT AND LARGE AMOUNTS OF SUPPLIES WILL NOT. IN OTHER WORDS, THE AMOUNT OF MATERIEL TO BE MOVED EXCEEDS THE CAPACITY OF THE SHIPPING AVAILABLE. THE BACKLOG MUST BE SHIPPED OUT AFTER THE PHSE III TIME FRAME ENDS. PHASE IV REDEPLOYMENTS WILL FURTHER INCREASE THIS BACKLOG. A LOGISTIC

PAGE FOUR RHMMFA0838 T O P S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR MCEO ROLL-UP FORCE WILL BE AN ABSOLUTE NECESSITY TO REMAIN IN-COUNTRY AFTER DEPARTURE OF THE PHASE IV UNITS. RECOMMENDATIONS ON THE COMPOSITION AND SIZE OF THIS FORCE WILL BE FORWARDED SEPARATELY.

D. TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS. IF PHASE IV BEGINS ON 15 APRIL, THERE WILL BE NO PERIOD OF CONSOLIDATION FOLLOWING THE COMPLETION OF PHASE III REDEPLOYMENTS. IN FACT, IT WOULD APPEAR THAT IN ORDER TO ACCOMPLISH PHASE IV REDEPLOYMENTS OF THE MAGNITUDE INDICATED, AN ANNOUNCEMENT WOULD HAVE TO COME IN LATE MARCH WHILE PHASE III IS STILL ONGOING. TACTICAL TURBULENCE IN THE I CORPS TACTICAL ZONE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE. WITHDRAWAL OF THE BULK OF MARINE CORPS FORCES WILL REQUIRE RELOCATION OF ARVN FORCES, REDISPOSITION OF THE REMAINING U.S. FORCES IN I CORPS, REALLOCATION OF FIRE SUPPORT MEANS, AND ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW LOC'S AND LOGISTICAL ARRANGEMENTS. IT WOULD BE HIGHLY ADVANTAGEOUS, IN OUR OPINION, TO DELAY THE BEGINNING OF PHASE IV.

4. THE ASSIGNMENT OF A BRIGADE OF RVN MARINES TO QUANG NAM PROVINCE, AS SUGGESTED IN PAR. 6. (2) WILL

PAGE 2 OF 6 PAGES

III MAP 2100/4

COPY 2 OF 3 COPIES

TOP SECRET

TOP SECRET

PAGE FIVE RHMMFA0838 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C A T EXCLUSIVE FOR MCEO
SET TO SOME DEGREE REDEPLOYMENT OF THE BULK OF THE U.S.
MARINES IN I CORPS. HOWEVER, IT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED
THAT A VNMC BRIGADE BE DEPLOYED TO I-CORPS IN MARCH CON-
CURRENT WITH THE REDEPLOYMENT OF THE 26TH MARINES. THE
JUNE DATE MENTIONED FOR ARRIVAL OF THIS UNIT DOES NOT FUL-
FILL I CORPS NEEDS IF PHASE IV REDEPLOYMENTS START IN
APRIL OR MAY.

5. A CONTINUING PROBLEM IN REDEPLOYMENT PLANNING HAS
BEEN THE INABILITY TO PLAN AND COORDINATE WITH ARVN DUE
TO SECURITY RESTRICTIONS. SOME DOWNGRADING OF CLASSIFICA-
TION EARLY IN THE PLANNING CYCLE WOULD GREATLY ASSIST IN
MAINTAINING THE DESIRED PACIFICATION AND VIETNAMIZATION
MOMENTUM.

6. AS A RELATED FORCE PLANNING MATTER, WE HAVE BEEN
EXAMINING THE SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF THE MARINE FORCE TO
REMAIN AFTER PHASE IV. A BALANCED FORCE OF COMBINED
ARMS (TO INCLUDE AIR) SOMEWHAT IN EXCESS OF THE 7500
TROOPS PLANNED FOR THE RLT IS DEEMED NECESSARY. RECOM-
MENDATIONS ON THIS WILL BE FORWARDED SEPARATELY. THE
COMBINED ACTION FORCE OF 600 PREVIOUSLY APPROVED FOR

PAGE SIX RHMMFA0838 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C A T EXCLUSIVE FOR MCEO
PLANNING PURPOSES REMAINS FIRM BASED ON PACIFICATION
REQUIREMENTS. WARM REGARDS. LTGEN NICKERSON

GP-4

UNQUOTE

QUOTE

O 070857Z ZYH ZFF-4 ZFF-1

FM CG III MAF

TO COMUSMACV

BT

T O P S E C R E T / S E N S I T I V E / E Y E S O N L Y / F O R G E N A B R A M S F R O M L T G E N
NICKERSON

FORCE PLANNING

A. COMUSMACV 011052Z FEB 70 (TS/EYES ONLY)

B. CG III MAF 061302Z FEB 70 (TS/EYES ONLY)

C. CG III MAF 282350Z JAN 70 (TS/EYES ONLY)

D. COMUSMACV 311026Z JAN 70 (TS/EYES ONLY)

1. REF A REQUESTED VIEWS AND COMMENTS ON THE POSSIBILITY OF
REDEPLOYING AN ADDITIONAL 100,000 U.S. TROOPS FROM RVN DURING 1970
SUBSEQUENT TO PHASE III. REF B RESPONDED BUT DID NOT ADDRESS THE
SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF THE MARINE CORPS FORCE TO REMAIN IN COUNTRY

BT

0838

PAGE 3 OF 6 PAGES

(8-15)

TOP SECRET

PTITZYUW RHMAFA0840 0381358-TTIT--RUHFMA.

ZNY TTTT

P 071358Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

T O P S E C R E T /SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN
NICKERSON MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY (DELIVER DURING WORKING
HOURS) FINAL SECTION OF TWO

AFTER COMPLETION OF PHASE IV. REF C PROPOSED RETAINING IN COUNTRY
AFTER PHASE IV ONE COMBINED ACTION GROUP. REF D APPROVED REF C
FOR PLANNING.

2. THIS MESSAGE SETS FORTH MY VIEWS AND COMMENTS REGARDING THE
COMPOSITION AND SIZE OF MARINE CORPS FORCES TO REMAIN IN RVN DURING
THE PERIOD BETWEEN PHASE III AND ACHIEVEMENT OF TRANSITIONAL FORCE
LEVELS.

3. A MARINE RLT OF APPROXIMATELY 7500, AS APPROVED FOR PLANNING
PURPOSES BY REF D, IS NOT RECOMMENDED AS THE FORCE
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT IN ICTZ FOLLOWING WITHDRAWAL OF THE BULK OF THE
1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING AND THE 1ST MARINE DIVISION.

4. TO INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF AN INDEPENDENTLY OPERATED RLT
AND IMPROVE THE TACTICAL SITUATION WHICH WILL RESULT FROM THE WITH-

PAGE TWO RHMAFA0840 T O P S E C R E T /SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR MCEO
DRAWAL OF THE 1ST MARINE DIVISION AS DISCUSSED IN REF B, IT IS
RECOMMENDED THAT A MARINE AMPHIBIOUS BRIGADE (MAB) OF APPROXIMATELY
10,800 BE SUBSTITUTED FOR THE RLT NOW BEING USED FOR PLANNING PUR-
POSES. THE MAB WOULD BE COMPOSED AS FOLLOWS:

A. COMMAND ELEMENT TO INCLUDE INTERROGATION, TRANSLATOR, AND
COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY PERSONNEL.

B. GROUND ELEMENT TO INCLUDE INFANTRY REGIMENT WITH LIGHT,
MEDIUM AND HEAVY ARTILLERY, RECON, TANK AND MT SUPPORT.

C. AVIATION ELEMENT TO INCLUDE A FIXED WING GROUP (20/A-4 AND
12/A-6) AND A HELICOPTER GROUP (21/C-46, 6/CH-63, 12/UH1E, 18/AH-1
AND 4/OV-10).

D. COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT ELEMENT TO INCLUDE COMMUNICATIONS,
MP, RADIO BATTALION, ENGINEER, AND SERVICE TROOPS.

5. COMPARED WITH AN RLT, THE PROPOSED MAB HAS THE FOLLOWING
ADVANTAGES:

A. THE MAB IS A BALANCED AIR/GROUND FORCE OF COMBINED ARMS
THAT CAN BE EMPLOYED AS A CONTINGENCY FORCE ANYWHERE BY THE ICTZ
COMMANDER OR HIGHER AUTHORITY. MOBILITY AND HEAVY FIRE SUPPORT
(INCLUDING ALL-WEATHER CLOSE AIR) ARE INHERENT IN THE FORCE AND
RELIANCE ON OTHER UNITS FOR COMBAT AND COMBAT SERVICE SUPPORT WOULD

PAGE 4 OF 6 PAGES

TOP SECRET

PAGE THREE RHMMFA0840 T O P S E C R E T /SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR MCEO
BE MINIMAL.

B. TACTICAL FLEXIBILITY IS VASTLY INCREASED. AN RLT WOULD BE RELATIVELY DEPENDENT ON OTHER NEARBY SERVICE SUPPORT WHEREAS THE MAB WILL BE CAPABLE OF CONDUCTING OPERATIONS AT CONSIDERABLE DISTANCE (50-60 MILES) FROM ITS NORMAL "BASE AREA". RAPID RELOCATION OF ITS BASE AREA IS ALSO FEASIBLE. AS A BONUS THE MAB PROVIDES THE BASE TO WHICH THE TWO SPECIAL LANDING FORCES COULD BE ADDED.

C. THE MAB POSSESSES EXCEPTIONAL COMBAT POWER (TO INCLUDE HEAVY ARTILLERY, TANKS, AND ENGINEER AS WELL AS AIR). A BATTALION OF 105MM HOW ARTILLERY REINFORCED WITH A 155MM HOW BATTERY NORMALLY SUPPORTS AN RLT; THERE IS NO HEAVY ARTILLERY CAPABILITY. A MARINE AIRCRAFT GROUP NORMALLY PROVIDES THE TACTICAL AIR SUPPORT FOR AN RLT. THE 7500 RLT DOES NOT PROVIDE FOR EITHER CAPABILITY IN THIS SUPPORT AREA. AS A RESULT AIR SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE PROVIDED BY USAF AND USN AIRCRAFT AT THE EXPENSE OF SUPPORT TO OTHER IN-COUNTRY UNITS AND THE OUT-OF-COUNTRY EFFORT. IT IS NOT CONSIDERED PRUDENT TO DENUDE THE REMAINING FORCES OF THEIR INTEGRAL FIRE SUPPORT CAPABILITY ESPECIALLY AT A TIME WHEN INCREASED RELIANCE WILL BE PLACED ON THEIR EMPLOYMENT.

D. THE MAB IS BETTER ABLE TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE TO THE VIET-

PAGE FOUR RHMMFA0840 T O P S E C R E T /SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR MCEO
NAMESE BECAUSE OF ITS ADDITIONAL FIRE SUPPORT MEANS AND MOBILITY. IN KEEPING WITH VIETNAMIZATION AND THE DEPLOYMENT OF ARVN UNITS DEEPER INTO THE PIEDMONT AND HIGHLANDS, THE MAB HAS A UNIQUE CAPABILITY TO PROVIDE A RESPONSIVE AIR/GROUND REACTION FORCE.

6. APART FROM THE MARINE COMBAT FORCE, A LOGISTIC ROLL-UP FORCE WILL BE REQUIRED TO REMAIN IN-COUNTRY AN ESTIMATED THREE MONTHS AFTER THE COMPLETION OF PHASE IV.

A. ASSUMING THAT SECURITY WILL BE PROVIDED BY OTHER FORCES, THE LOGISTIC ROLL-UP FORCE WILL AGGREGATE APPROXIMATELY 1200 AS FOLLOWS:

	OFF	ENL
HEADQUARTERS	18	77
H&S ELEMENT	13	320
MOTOR TRANSPORT ELEMENT	6	283
SUPPLY ELEMENT	22	495
TOTAL	59	1175

B. THE MAJORITY OF THE PERSONNEL ASSIGNED TO THE FORCE LOGISTIC COMMAND (FLC) WILL DEPART RVN DURING PHASE IV. HOWEVER, AS STATED IN REF B, NOT ALL OF THE SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT AND PROPERTY CURRENTLY ON HAND CAN BE RETURNED TO CONUS IN THE FOUR

PAGE 5 OF 6 PAGES

TOP SECRET

PAGE FIVE RHMMFA0840 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C A T EXCLUSIVE FOR MCEO MONTH TIME FRAME PLANNED FOR PHASE IV. THE AMOUNT OF BACKLOG WILL BE DEPENDENT ON SHIPPING AVAILABILITY AND TIMING OF PHASE IV AS DISCUSSED IN REF B. THE LOGISTIC ROLL-UP FORCE, WHICH INCLUDES EMBARKATION, AMMUNITION/EOD, MATERIEL, SHIPPING AND RECEIVING, SALVAGE, AND STOCK CONTROL ELEMENTS, WILL COMPLETE WORK STARTED BY FLC, PREPARE AND PACKAGE STOCK CONTROL ELEMENTS, WILL COMPLETE WORK STARTED BY FLC, PREPARE EQUIPMENT ORGANIC TO THE FORCE SERVICE REGIMENT FOR REDEPLOYMENT TO CONUS.

7. REF C DISCUSSES THE COMBINED ACTION FORCE AND PROPOSED RETENTION OF A COMBINED ACTION GROUP (CAG) OF 600 TROOPS IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE. REF D APPROVED THE PROPOSAL FOR PLANNING PURPOSES. IT IS EMPHASIZED THAT 600 IS THE BOTTOM LIMIT FOR THE GROUP BEFORE IT BECOMES NON-EFFECTIVE AND BECAUSE OF ITS UNIQUE MISSION IT IS ADDITIVE TO THE MARINE COMBAT FORCE.

8. THE SUPPORT/TRANSITIONAL FORCE LEVEL OF 600 FOR MARINE CORPS AS PREVIOUSLY CONTAINED IN RESIDUAL FORCE PLANNING REMAINS FIRM.

9. IN SUMMARY, THE REQUIREMENT FOR A POST PHASE IV MARINE FORCE IN RVN IS:

- A. MAB 10.8K
- B. SUPPORT/TRANSITION FORCE .6K

PAGE SIX RHMMFA0840 T O P S E C R E T / S P E C A T EXCLUSIVE FOR MCEO

- C. CAG .6K
- D. LOGISTIC ROLL-UP FORCE 1.2K (LIMITED PERIOD AFTER PHASE IV)
- TOTAL 13.2K

10. RECOMMEND APPROVAL FOR PLANNING PURPOSES OF THE 13.2K MARINE FORCE.

WARM REGARDS. LT GEN NICKERSON.

GP-4

UNQUOTE

WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

0840

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(B-15)

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

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SECRET

PTTSZYUW RHMMFA0714 0380020-SSSS--RUMUGKD RUMUFGA.
ZNY SSSSS

P 070020Z FEB 70 ZFF-6

FM CG III MAF

TO RUMUGKD/COMNAVFORV

INFO RUMUFGA/COMNAVSUPPACT

BT

S E C R E T//N04000//

FOR VADM ZUMWALT INFO RADM ADAMSON FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
ICTZ TURNOVER BRIEFING

A. COMNAVFORV 020933Z FEB 70 (SPECAT)

B. COMUSMACV 211140Z JAN 70

1. I APPRECIATE YOUR MESSAGE REGARDING THE TURNOVER
BRIEFING.

2. MY PRINCIPLE CONCERNS ARE TWOFOLD: (1) ARMY CAPABILITY TO TAKE OVER WITHOUT INTERRUPTION OR DEGRADATION OF SUPPORT TO TACTICAL OPERATIONS AND WELFARE OF COMBAT FORCES, AND (2) VALIDITY OF ASSUMPTION THAT 37,000 FORCES WILL BE TAKEN FROM ICTZ DURING PHASE FOUR COUPLED WITH MACV PLANNING GUIDANCE THAT ALL MARINE COMBAT FORCES ARE OUT OF COUNTRY BY 1 JULY 70 OR USARV WILL SUPPORT THOSE REMAINING AFTER THAT TIME.

PAGE TWO RHMMFA0714 S E C R E T/FOR/

3. THE FIRST CONCERN IS GENERATED BY RECOGNITION OF USARV'S EAGERNESS AND DESIRE TO ASSUME ICTZ COMMON SERVICE SUPPORT, BUT CONTINUING INDICATIONS THAT CAPABILITY DOESN'T MATCH WILLINGNESS: E.G... IN ALL USARVPAC THE ARMY IS UNABLE TO LOCATE SIX FIRE TRUCKS AND ONE REFUELING SYSTEM TO SUPPORT AIRFIELDS AT PHU BAI AND QUANG TRI; AND USARV'S SEEKING YOUR HELP TO INDUCE PHILCO FORD WORKERS TO TRANSFER TO PA&E. SITUATIONS OF THIS KIND SUGGEST AGREEMENT AT CONCEPTUAL LEVEL BUT QUESTIONABLE CAPABILITY TO IMPLEMENT.

4. THE SECOND CONCERN IS RELATED TO TIME/SPACE/SHIPPING FACTORS AND PHASE FOUR ASSUMPTIONS. IT APPEARS THAT COMMENCEMENT OF THE NEW FISCAL YEAR, CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS, THE DESIRE TO REALIGN SERVICE FORCE STRUCTURE, AND SIMILAR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS ARE GOVERNING PLANNING. IN REALITY, ENEMY CAPABILITIES, TACTICAL SITUATION, SHIPPING AVAILABILITY, ORDERLY SHIFT ON FORCES AND SIMILAR OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD BE PARAMOUNT. PAST EXPERIENCE HAS INDICATED A SIX WEEK PLANNING CYCLE BETWEEN PHASES (PHASE TWO TERMINATION, 15 DEC 69; PHASE III COMMENCEMENT 1 FEB

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

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PAGE THREE RHMMAFA0714 S E C R E T / F O R /
70). WITH A PHASE FOUR AT LEAST AS BIG AS PHASE THREE, A
SIMILAR CYCLE CAN BE EXPECTED AGAIN. IF THE 37,000 RE-
DUCTION INCLUDES ONLY MARINES AS SUGGESTED IN YOUR MESSAGE,
AND GIVEN A D-DAY APPROXIMATING 1 JUNE, THE BASIC ASSUMP-
TION IS UNREASONABLE. A PHASE FOUR TERMINATION BY 15
AUGUST IS MORE REASONABLE, BUT ONLY IF THE FORCE REDUCTIONS
ARE SCHEDULED JUDICIOUSLY AND NOT CONCENTRATED IN ONE
UNIT AND THROUGH ONE PORT. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

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0714

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGESCOPY 3 OF 6 COPIES

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HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X- ORIGINATOR A- ACTION/COGNIZANCE C- COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I- INFORMATION S- SIGNATURE			FROM CG III MAF		DATE 08 FEB 70	
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P 080910Z ZFF-4

FM CG III MAF

TO COMUSMACV

ZEM

SECRET EYES ONLY SECTION ONE
FOR MGEN TWONSEN FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
DEPCOMUSMACV VISIT ICTZ 3-4 FEB 1970

A. COMUSMACV 301105Z MAY 1969

1. IAW REF A FOLLOWING IS THE SUBSTANCE OF MATTERS DISCUSSED DURING THE SUBJECT VISIT 3-4 FEB 1970.

2. CG III MAF/SA ICTZ, LTGEN NICKERSON, DISCUSSED:

THE CURRENT SITUATION IN I CORPS; III MAF TARGETING IN THE DMZ, WESTERN QUANG TRI AND WESTERN THUA THIEN; THE VARIOUS INTELLIGENCE/RECONNAISSANCE MEANS UTILIZED BY III MAF TO DETECT AND VERIFY ENEMY MOVEMENT AND SUPPLY STORAGE; ENEMY ACTIVITY IN THE WESTERN REGIONS OF I CORPS PARTICULARLY QUANG TRI AND THUA THIEN, AND THE CONTIGUOUS AREAS OF LAOS; ASSETS BEING USED IN A MASSIVE INTERDICTION EFFORT TO DESTROY THE ENEMY AND HIS SUPPLIES AND TO CUT HIS LOC'S, I.E., EXTENSIVE B-52 RAIDS, A-6 WITH FAC RADAR BEACON, TPQ RADAR CONTROL FLIGHTS, STANDARD DAYLIGHT FLIGHTS, AND ARTILLERY RAIDS.

3. CG ICTZ, LTGEN LAM, PROVIDED HIS EVALUATION OF THE CURRENT SITUATION IN ICTZ AND MADE SPECIFIC COMMENTS REGARDING INFILTRATION IN QUANG TRI AND QUANG NGAI PROVINCES. THE PRIMARY FLOW APPEARS TO BE SOUTH THROUGH LAOS AND INTO I CORPS ACROSS THE VN SALIENT; THEN THROUGH BASE AREA 611 INTO AND ACROSS ASHAU VALLEY.

4. FIRST MARINES - MGEN WHEELER, CG 1ST MARDIV AND THE CO, 1ST MARINES, COL WILKINSON, BRIEFED ON SITUATION IN 1ST MARINES AO AND WAS FOLLOWED BY MIKE CO. C.O. WHO HAS THE PILOT CUPP EFFORT. AFTER PRESENTATION, GEN ROSSON INSPECTED RANKS OF CUPP UNIT. IN DISCUSSION WITH GEN ROSSON, TROOPS STATED THAT RF WERE EXPERIENCING SOME SUPPLY SHORTAGES PARTICULARLY PONCHOS AND THAT ONE PF SOLDIER HAD NOT RECEIVED HIS FAMILY ALLOWANCE FOR SEVEN MONTHS. GEN ROSSON DIRECTED THAT THESE ITEMS BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF CORDS RF/PF ADVISOR.

5. 51ST REGT HQ - LTGEN LAM AND COL THUC, REGIMENTAL C.O. LATER COVERED SITUATION IN AO INCLUDING SENSORS, GEN ROSSON INQUIRED ABOUT DESERTION RATE AND SNIPER PROGRAM. COL THUC STATED THAT PART OF HIS DESERTION RATE PROBLEM STEMMED FROM HIS RECEIVING A DISPROPORTIONATELY LARGE SHARE OF CATEGORY B PERSONNEL; HOWEVER, THE RATE HAS DECLINED FROM ITS PEAK IN OCT. COL THUC STATED THAT TO DATE, THE SNIPER PROGRAM WAS ONLY MODERATELY SUCCESSFUL BUT THAT PLANS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR EXPERIENCED 1ST MARDIV PERSONNEL TO PROVIDE PRACTICAL FIELD TRAINING. LTGEN LAM STATED THAT AFTER YET HE WOULD ASSIGN TO 51ST REGT AN AO COALIGNED WITH THAT OF 5TH MARINES. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT HE WOULD DO LIKEWISE WITH THE RANGER GROUP AND 1ST MARINES WHO WILL TAKE OVER THE 26TH MARINES AO. THE GROUPS WOULD OPERATE UNDER COMMAND OF QDSE.

6. GEN ROSSON ARRIVED AT HQ XXIV CORPS AND WAS MET BY LTG ZAIS, XXIV CORPS COMMANDER, GEN ROSSON AND LTG ZAIS CONFERRED IN PRIVATE FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR, THE THRUST OF THE CONVERSATION RELATED TO THE CURRENT ENEMY THREAT AND XXIV CORPS DISPOSITIONS TO MEET THAT THREAT. THE ON GOING ARC LIGHT, TAC AIR AND ARTILLERY PROGRAMS WERE REVIEWED AND GEN ROSSON SEEMED SATISFIED THAT TARGETING WAS ON THE RIGHT TRACK. HE RELAYED GEN ABRAM'S CONCERN ABOUT THE HEAVY TRAFFIC MOVING SOUTH AND THE SIGNS THAT TWO ADDITIONAL DIVISIONS SEEMED TO BE MOVING TOWARD THE DMZ. IN ESSENCE, HE ASSURED HIMSELF THAT THE THINKING HERE AND IN SAIGON WAS IN TUNE. GEN ROSSON THEN DEPARTED FOR THE 1ST ARVN DIV AT HUE. AT HUE HE WAS MET BY MG TRUONG, CG 1ST ARVN DIV AND COL WHEELER, SENIOR ADVISOR TO THE 1ST ARVN DIV. GEN ROSSON, MG TRUONG AND COL WHEELER MET IN PRIVATE FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR. GEN ROSSON WAS THEN ESCORTED TO FSB T-BONE BY MG TRUONG AND COL WHEELER.

7. UPON ARRIVAL AT FSB T-BONE GEN ROSSON RECEIVED A SHORT BRIEFING ON THE FSB. THE BRIEFER STATED THAT ALL OF THE BUNKERS WERE COMPLETE AND THAT THE FSB WAS 50 PERCENT COMPLETE. HE STATED THAT CONSTRUCTION WAS THREE (3) DAYS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE. THE BRIEFER MENTIONED THAT THE ROAD HAD A 50 PERCENT GRADE, WAS 1.2 KM LONG AND WAS 58 PERCENT COMPLETE. HE ALSO STATED THAT THEY HOPE TO HAVE THE ROAD COMPLETE BY THE LAST OF MARCH. GEN ROSSON WAS TOLD BY MG TRUONG THAT THEY PLANNED TO SURFACE THE ROAD WITH GRAVEL. MG TRUONG STATED THAT THE REASON FOR BUILDING A FSB AT THIS LOCATION WAS BECAUSE OF ITS EXCELLENT TACTICAL ADVANTAGE IN OVERLOOKING THE VALLEY BELOW. HE ALSO STATED THAT FSB GERONIMO WOULD BE CLOSED WHEN FSB T-BONE WAS OPENED. GEN ROSSON STATED HE THOUGHT FSB T-BONE WAS PROBABLY THE FINEST FSB IN RVN AND WAS SURE THAT THE ENGINEERS WOULD MAKE IT BETTER THAN CAMP CARROLL. GEN ROSSON WAS ESPECIALLY COMPLIMENTARY OF THE JOB THE BRIEFER DID.

GP-4

(SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS)

870

THIS MESSAGE REQUIRES ACCOUNTABILITY
COPY 2 OF 5

HAS BEEN RECORDED

(B-2) #2

P 080910Z
 FM CG III MAF
 TO COMUSMACV
 ZEM

SECRET EYES ONLY SECTION TWO
 FOR MGEN TOWNSEND FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
 DEPCOMUSMACV VISIT ICTZ 3-4 FEB 1970

A. COMUSMACV 301105Z MAY 1969

8. GEN ROSSON, ACCOMPANIED BY MG TRUONG AND COL WHEELER, TRAVELED TO DONG HA WHERE HE WAS MET BY COL GIAI, CO 1ST ARVN DIV FORWARD CP. GEN ROSSON ASKED IF THE 136TH AND 138TH NVA REGIMENTS AND THE 27TH NVA BATTALION WERE STILL AROUND AND MG TRUONG STATED THAT THEY WERE.

9. PERTINENT INFORMATION ON THE VISIT TO CAMP CARROLL IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. GEN ROSSON WAS MET BY COL CHUNG, CO 2D REGIMENT. THE BRIEFING COVERED THE DISPOSITION OF UNITS AT CAMP CARROLL AND A PERIMETER DEFENSE. ALSO COVERED WAS THE ORGANIZATION AND DISPOSITION OF THE 2D REGIMENT AND A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE 5TH BATTALION'S RECENT CONTACT IN THE VICINITY OF LZ SPARROW. IN RESPONSE TO SEVERAL QUESTIONS ASKED BY GEN ROSSON, COL CHUNG STATED THAT THE ENEMY DID NOT DO MUCH, IF ANY, PATROLLING AROUND CAMP CARROLL AND ROUTE 9. COL CHUNG STATED THAT HE DID NOT INSERT PATROLS IN THE DMZ BUT THAT THE US FORCES DID. HE STATED THAT THERE WERE THREE ARVN TEAMS THAT OPERATED SOUTH OF LZ SARGE. HE ALSO COVERED THE FACT THAT SECURITY OF CAM LO WAS PROVIDED BY RF AND PF.

B. GEN ROSSON COMPLIMENTED COL CHUNG ON THE EXCELLENT EFFECTIVENESS OF THE REGIMENT.

C. WHILE TOURING THE ARTILLERY UNITS; ARVN, US ARMY AND USMC, GEN ROSSON SHOWED PARTICULAR INTEREST IN UNIT STRENGTHS, NUMBER OF ROUNDS PER TUBE EXPENDED PER DAY, TYPES OF MISSIONS FIRED AT NIGHT, AMMUNITION STORAGE FACILITIES, AND LIVING QUARTERS. A LARGE AMOUNT OF .50 CAL AMMUNITION WAS NOTED BEING STORED WITH NO OVERHEAD COVER, AND GEN ROSSON STATED THAT IT SHOULD BE COVERED. GEN ROSSON MADE SPECIAL NOTE OF ENGINEER WORK THAT WAS NEEDED ON THE US PORTION OF THE BASE. THIS WORK IS IN PROGRESS.

D. GEN ROSSON, AGAIN COMPLIMENTED COL CHUNG ON THE JOB HE WAS DOING WITH HIS REGIMENT, AND DEPARTED FOR CAM LO.

10. FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF GEN ROSSON'S VISIT TO CAM LO:

A. GEN ROSSON WAS MET AT CAM LO BY COL KHIEU, QUANG TRI PROVINCE CHIEF.

B. GEN ROSSON RECEIVED A BRIEFING ON CAM LO TO INCLUDE THE BASIC FRIENDLY AND ENEMY SITUATION. ALSO BRIEFED WERE THE DISTRICT PROGRAMS AND THEIR RESULTS. IT WAS STATED THAT TWO (2) RF COMPANIES PATROLLED AROUND THE BRIDGE AND WATER STATION AND TWO (2) PF COMPANIES PATROLLED NORTH AND SOUTH OF ROUTE 9. THE WATER STATION WAS DEEMED AS GOOD DURING THE RAINY SEASON BUT OF TWO (2)

(B-2) #3

SYSTEMS, ONLY THE ONE LOCATED TO THE NORTHEAST WAS SUFFICIENT TO ALLOW IRRIGATION DURING THE DRY SEASON. IT WAS CITED THAT ALL VILLAGES AND HAMLETS HAD ELECTED OFFICIALS AND THAT IN 1970 THREE (3) WOULD HAVE ELECTIONS AGAIN. NOTE WAS MADE THAT 70 PERCENT OF THE PSDF WERE TRAINED AND THAT THEY WERE CONSIDERED TO BE THE BEST IN THE PROVINCE. IT WAS STATED THAT THE ID CARD REGISTRATION PROGRAM WAS 100 PERCENT AT THIS TIME.

C. GEN ROSSON SHOWED SPECIAL INTEREST IN NATIONAL AND SPECIAL BRANCH POLICE, OVERALL AND AT VILLAGE LEVEL, SELF-DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS, AND THE PACIFICATION PROGRAM. GEN ROSSON ASKED SPECIFICALLY ABOUT THE PIGS THAT WERE BEING RAISED AND WAS TOLD THAT THEY ALL DIED BECAUSE OF THE WEATHER AND LACK OF PROPER FOOD.

D. GEN ROSSON CONGRATULATED THE DISTRICT ON THE GREAT PROGRESS THEY HAD MADE IN THE PAST FEW YEARS AND WISHED THEM CONTINUED SUCCESS.

II. FOLLOWING IS A SUMMARY OF GEN ROSSON'S VISIT TO GIO LINH:

A. ON ARRIVAL AT GIO LINH, ACCOMPANIED BY COL KHIEU, GEN ROSSON RECEIVED A SHORT BRIEFING OF THE AREA, WITH THE MAIN EMPHASIS ON THE PACIFICATION PROGRAM. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT MOST OF THE REFUGEES CAME FROM GIAI SON, WHERE THEY HAD GOOD FARM LAND AND THAT THE DISTRICT HAD REQUESTED, FROM THE 1ST BDE, 5TH MECH AND THE 1ST ARVN DIV, THE CLEARING OF 3,600 HECTARES, TO THE WEST. CONNECTED WITH THIS, IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE DISTRICTS BIGGEST PROBLEM WAS LACK OF RICE.

B. THE PIG RAISING PROGRAM IN GIO LINH HAS ALSO BEEN DELETED BECAUSE OF LACK OF PROPER FOOD. THE ID CARD REGISTRATION PROGRAM WAS STATED AS BEING 89 PERCENT COMPLETE. WHEN QUERIED, THE DISTRICT CHIEF STATED THAT NONE OF THE PSDF HAD DEFECTED. IT WAS ALSO MENTIONED THAT THE ENEMY WAS USING AGENTS IN REFUGEE CAMPS AND RECRUITING FROM THE VILLAGES. THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY SIXTY (60) SUSPECTS BUT THE VIS MOBILE TEAM HAS GIVEN THEM CLASSES, IN AN ATTEMPT TO SWAY THEM TO SUPPORT THE GOVERNMENT.

GP-4

(SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS)

843

THIS MESSAGE REQUIRES ACCOUNTABILITY
COPY 2 OF 5

NNNN

P 080910Z ZFF-4

FM CG III MAF

TO COMUSMACV

ZEM

SECRET EYES ONLY FINAL SECTION OF THREE

FOR MSGEN TOWNSEND FROM LTGEN NICKERSON

DEPCOMUSMACV VISIT ICTZ 3-4 FEB 1970

A. COMUSMACV 301105Z MAY 1969

C. GEN ROSSON COMMENTED THAT GIO LINH AND COM LO WERE THE MOST DIFFICULT DISTRICTS BUT THAT THERE HAD BEEN NOTICEABLE PROGRESS AND THAT HE WISHED THEM MUCH MORE.

12. PERTINENT INFORMATION OF THE VISIT TO C-2 AND A-4 IS AS FOLLOWS:

A. GEN ROSSON WAS MET BY BG BURKE, CG 1ST BDE 5TH MECH AND LTC SWAREN, CO 1ST BN 61ST INF.

B. LTC SWAREN GAVE A SHORT, INFORMAL BRIEFING ON THE TACTICAL SITUATION IN THE 1ST BN 61ST INF AREA.

C. BG BURKE DISCUSSED THE PACIFICATION PROGRAM, THE TACTICAL SITUATION, LOGISTICS AND MORALE.

(1) BG BURKE STATED THAT THEIR LOGISTICS PROBLEMS WERE MINOR AND IT WAS NOW A MATTER OF CONSTANT CHECKING, TO SEE THAT REQUISITIONS WERE VALID AND HAD THE RIGHT PRIORITY. THE PRESCRIBED LOAD LISTS WERE CURRENT, ETC.

(2) BG BURKE SAID THAT HE HAD NOT BEEN PLEASED WITH THE PX, BUT THAT THEY KNEW WHAT THE PROBLEMS WERE, AND IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DANANG PX SYSTEM, WERE SOLVING THEM.

(3) BG BURKE PRAISED THE RED CROSS AND USO FOR THEIR FINE PERFORMANCE TO ENHANCE TROOP MORALE.

D. WHILE AT A-4 GEN ROSSON EXPRESSED SPECIAL INTEREST IN THE LONG RANGE RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY RELAY STATION, THE RADAR SITE AND THE NEED FOR ENGINEERING SUPPORT FOR A-4 AFTER THE MONSOONS. PLANS ARE ALREADY UNDERWAY FOR ENGINEER UPGRADING OF A-4.

(1) GEN ROSSON WAS INFORMED OF HOW THE RELAY SITE OPERATED AND WHY IT WAS NEEDED. HE ASKED IF IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THEM TO RELAY ARTILLERY FIRE MISSIONS, SINCE THERE WAS AN ARTILLERY UNIT LOCATED AT A-4. THE TEAM CHIEF ANSWERED THAT AT TIMES IT WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE THE TEAM ON PATROL HAD TO WHISPER.

(2) GEN ROSSON THEN VISITED THE RADAR SITE AND WAS TOLD OF ITS OPERATION AND SOME OF THE MAINTENANCE PROBLEMS.

E. AT LUNCH, GEN ROSSON ASKED LTC HARRIS, CO 5TH BN 4TH ARTY, IF IT WAS NECESSARY FOR THE RANGER TEAMS IN THE DMZ TO RELAY FIRE MISSIONS TO THE ARTILLERY, SINCE BOTH THE RELAY SITE AND ARTILLERY WERE LOCATED AT A-4. LTC HARRIS ANSWERED THAT AT TIMES IT WAS NECESSARY BECAUSE THE RANGER TEAMS HAD TO WHISPER.

(B-2) #5

F. GEN ROSSON COMPLIMENTED BG BURKE, LTC SWAREN AND LTC HARRIS ON THE FINE JOB THEY WERE DOING AND DEPARTED FOR CAMP EAGLE.

13. GEN ROSSON ARRIVED AT CAMP EAGLE AND WAS MET BY MG WRIGHT, CG 101ST ABN DIV (AM). GEN ROSSON AND MG WRIGHT CONFERRED IN PRIVATE, FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE HOUR, AFTER WHICH GEN ROSSON, ACCOMPANIED BY MG WRIGHT, DEPARTED FOR FSB BASTOGNE. FOLLOWING IS A SYNOPSIS OF GEN ROSSON'S VISIT TO FSB BASTOGNE:

A. AT FSB BASTOGNE, GEN ROSSON WAS MET BY COL KAMPE, CO 2D BDE 101ST ABN DIV (AM) AND LTC BRASHERS, CO 2D BN 501ST INF.

B. GEN ROSSON RECEIVED AN INFORMAL BRIEFING ON THE DISPOSITION OF UNITS AT FSB BASTOGNE, ~~THE MISSION OF THE~~ 2D BN 501ST INF AND THEIR RECENT ACTIVITIES. LTC BRASHERS STATED THAT THE ROAD TO FSB BLAZE WAS OPEN TO ALL TRAFFIC.

C. WHILE TOURING THE PERIMETER, THE DEFENSE PROCEDURES WERE EXPLAINED TO GEN ROSSON. LTC BRASHERS ALSO STATED THEY HAD BEEN PROBED ABOUT TWO (2) WEEKS AGO, BUT A SWEEP OF THE AREA FOUND NOTHING.

D. GEN ROSSON AGAIN EXPRESSED INTEREST IN THE NUMBER OF ROUNDS PER DAY EXPENDED BY THE ARTILLERY.

14. GEN ROSSON THANKED MG WRIGHT, COL KAMPE AND LTC BRASHERS AND DEPARTED FOR DANANG AIR BASE, WHERE HE WAS MET BY BG DULACKI, C/S III MAF. GEN ROSSON THEN DEPARTED FOR SAIGON. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

(SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS)

650

THIS MESSAGE REQUIRES ACCOUNTABILITY
COPY 2 OF 5

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#6

(B-2)

SECRET

OTTSZYUW RHMMFA0805 0381116-SSSS--RHMSMVA RUMLBPA.
ZNY SSSSS

O 071116Z FEB 70
FM CG III MAF
TO RHMSMVA/COMUSMACV
INFO RUMLBPA/CG XXIV CORPS
BT

HAS BEEN SENT
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CONC G-3
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CWO

S E C R E T

ARVN ARTILLERY IMPROVEMENT AND MODERNIZATION (U)

A. MACV 010827 FEB 70 CITE 5400 (J3) SUBJECT: ARVN ARTILLERY IMPROVEMENT AND MODERNIZATION (S).

B. III MAF 040941Z DEC 69 SUBJECT: VIETNAMIZATION, RVNAF I AND M PROSPECTS AND RELATED US PLANNING (IS - EYES ONLY).

1. THIS MESSAGE IS IN RESPONSE TO REFERENCE A RELATIVE TO PROPOSED RECOMMENDATIONS OF ARTILLERY AND MORTAR SUB-COMMITTEE AS THEY PERTAIN TO ICTZ. COMMENTS ARE KEYED TO SUBPARAGRAPHS OF PARAGRAPH 3 REFERENCE A.

A. HEAVY ARTILLERY: RECOMMEND TWO COMPOSITE BATTALIONS OF 8 INCH AND 175MM. ONLY ONE BATTALION WAS RECOMMENDED IN REFERENCE B IN BELIEF THAT MAN POWER LIMITATIONS WOULD NOT PERMIT SECOND BATTALION. THE ADDITIONAL BATTALION IS DESIREABLE PROVIDED IT WILL NOT REQUIRE TRADE-OFF FOR OTHER I CORPS UNITS.

PAGE TWO RHMMFA 0805 **S E C R E T**

B. NOT APPLICABLE

C. TARGET ACQUISITIONS: RECOMMEND ONE TARGET ACQUISITION BATTALION FOR ICTZ. TARGET ACQUISITION AND THE REFINEMENT OF GUN DATA WILL BE THE KEYS TO CONTINUED ARVN ARTILLERY SUCCESS WHEN US FORCES RE-DEPLOY. PRESENTLY SOME TARGET ACQUISITION DEVICES AND ALL ELECTRONIC METEOROLOGICAL DATA ARE OBTAINED FROM US SOURCES. PROVIDING ARVN HEAVY ARTILLERY CAPABILITIES WITHOUT PROVIDING ELECTRONIC METRO WILL LIMIT EFFECTIVENESS OF LONG RANGE ARTILLERY FIRES. THE RECOMMENDED TARGET ACQUISITION BATTERY FOR ICTZ DOES NOT POSSESS THE CAPABILITY FOR METRO COVERAGE IN ICTZ (BASED ON A 32 KILOMETER RADIUS OF EACH OF THE 3 RECOMMENDED VISUAL STATIONS). THE TARGET ACQUISITION BATTALION WOULD PROVIDE THE CORPS SURVEY CONTROL NECESSARY FOR ARTILLERY UNITS. THE THREE TARGET ACQUISITION BATTERIES SHOULD BE ORGANIZED WITHOUT SOUND RANGING PLATOON, FLASH RANGING PLATOON AND LESS ONE SURVEY SECTION. WE WOULD ADD AN IOD CAPABILITY TO EACH BATTERY. THE HEADQUARTERS AND HEADQUARTERS BATTERY SHOULD BE AS PROVIDED IN TOE 6-576E.

D. RADAR: CONCUR WITH AN/PPS-5 RADAR SECTION FOR EACH BATTALION

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE THREE RHMMAF0805 S E C R E T
WITH THREE RADARS IN EACH SECTION.

EM SECTOR ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS: DO NOT CONCUR. THE EIGHT MAN ARTILLERY HEADQUARTERS FOR EACH SECTOR IS NOT REQUIRED. CALLS FOR FIRE MAY CONTINUE TO BE PROCESSED THROUGH SECTOR HEADQUARTERS WITHOUT PROVIDING THE TECHNICAL CAPABILITY OF A FIRE DIRECTION CENTER IN EACH SECTOR.

F. 105MM TOWED HOWITZER PLATOON DEDICATED TO TERRITORIAL DEFENSE: THE PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE 105MM FIRE SUPPORT BY ADDING ORGANIC PLATOONS TO TERRITORIAL FORCES IS NOT IN ACCORD WITH THE VIEWS OF CG III MAF/SA ICTZ OR THE I CORPS COMMANDER. WE DO NOT ARGUE WITH THE APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF TUBES RECOMMENDED BY SUB-COMMITTEE TO PROVIDE THE COVERAGE REQUIRED BUT RECOMMEND THIS ADDITIONAL FIRE SUPPORT BE PROVIDED BY TWO STANDARD ARVN 105MM BATTALIONS. CONFIGURING THE PLATOONS INTO TWO BATTALIONS WOULD HAVE THE FOLLOWING ADVANTAGES:

- (1) PROVIDE COMMAND AND CONTROL OF PERSONNEL AND EQUIPMENT RESOURCES AND FIRE SUPPORT THROUGHOUT THE CORPS AREA.
- (2) PROVIDE MAINTENANCE AND LOGISTICS NECESSARY FOR EQUIPMENT REPAIR, PARTS SUPPLY, AMMUNITION RESUPPLY AND POL.
- (3) PERMIT TRAINING AT EXISTING SCHOOLS AS OPPOSED TO ESTABLISHING NEW SCHOOLS OR COURSES FOR TERRITORIAL FORCE PERSONNEL.

PAGE FOUR RHMMAF0805 S E C R E T

(4) PROVIDE CORPS COMMANDER FLEXIBILITY TO EMPLOY ALL AVAILABLE ARTILLERY IN SUPPORT OF MANEUVER UNITS IN EVENT OF MAJOR NVA OFFENSIVE.

(5) IMPROVE GENERAL SUPPORT CAPABILITIES BY PROVIDING THE CONTROL NECESSARY TO ADD ADDITIONAL STRENGTH TO THE MOST VULNERABLE AREAS OF THE TERRITORIAL DEFENSE.

2. IN ADDITION TO THE MILITARY RATIONALE AGAINST ASSIGNING ARTILLERY UNITS DIRECTLY TO TERRITORIAL FORCES, THERE IS ALSO AN IMPORTANT POLITICAL CONSIDERATION. THE ADDITION OF TUBE ARTILLERY TO THE TERRITORIAL FORCE STRUCTURE IS A MAJOR STEP DOWN THE ROAD TOWARD CONVERTING THE TERRITORIAL FORCES INTO A SECOND AND SEPARATE NATIONAL ARMY. THE TERRITORIAL FORCES ALREADY HAVE SUPPORTING WEAPONS UNITS, ARMORED CAR ELEMENTS AND LOGISTICS SUPPORT COMPANIES. THE ADDITION OF ORGANIC ARTILLERY PLATOONS WOULD GIVE THEM FIRE POWER SIMILAR TO CONVENTIONAL ARMY FORCES AND A COMBINED ARMS CAPABILITY WHICH WOULD CALL FOR FURTHER UPGRADING OF THE RANK STRUCTURE AND EXPERIENCE LEVEL OF COMMANDERS AND STAFF NEEDED TO PROPERLY EMPLOY SUCH FORCES. THE TREND TOWARD DEVELOPING TWO SEPARATE ARMIES COULD LEAD IN TIME TO RIVALRIES AND JEALOUSIES WHICH WOULD IMPAIR THE COOPERATION AND COORDINATION ESSENTIAL TO THE ONE-WAR CONCEPT.

GP-4

BT

0805

SECRET

(B-3)

WITHDRAWN MATERIALS
"OUT CARD"

DESCRIPTION of WITHDRAWN MATERIALS:

Collection Title: III MAF Outgoing Msgs 14 Jan-3 Mar 70

PC Number: _____

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Box Number: _____

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Photo Number: _____

Description of Item: Referral 2 Examples of Rivalries
Btwn Competing Armed Forces in Latin America 7 Feb 70

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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 DNG RVN		11 FEB 70					
			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE		COPY NO. 2 OF 3 COPIES REC'D					
			111354Z FEB 70							
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT				
			IN	OUT						
	CG					FORCE PLANNING REMARKS: DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Retain for ___ months. <input type="checkbox"/> Destroy after routing. <table border="1"> <tr> <th>Section</th> <th>Signature</th> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </table> 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. DRAFTED: C/S RELEASE: C/S <h1>EXCLUSIVE</h1> <h1>FOR</h1> <h1>HAS BEEN SENT</h1> <i>Copy #1 Force Planning folder</i> (USE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE)	Section	Signature		
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(B-16)

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PTITZYUW RHMMAFI293 0421354-TTIT--RUHFMA.

ZNY TTIT

P 111354Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

LINDIS

T O P S E C R E T/LINDIS/SPECAT. EXCLUSIVE FOR BGEN WILSON
FROM BGEN DULACKI (DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS)
FORCE PLANNING

1. SOUNDED OUT SAM JASKILKA ON MACV STAFF'S REACTION TO OUR PROPOSED 13.2K POST PHASE IV TROOP LIST. HE PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.
2. COMUSMACV INTENDS NOT TO DISCUSS PHASE IV NUMBERS WITH SECDEF DURING FORTHCOMING TRIP UNLESS FORCED TO DO SO. HE INTENDS TO DISCUSS NUMBERS PRIVATELY WITH CJCS AND WILL PUSH FOR FIGURE NO GREATER THAN 35.9K. THE MACV STAFF HAS NOT YET COME TO GRIPS WITH THE NUMBERS PROBLEM SINCE ALL FORCE COMMANDERS ARE RECOMMENDING MINIMUM REDUCTIONS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE AREAS. IF PHASE IV IS NO GREATER THAN 35.9K, WE SHOULD HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THE 13.2K TROOP LIST. HOWEVER, IF THE FIGURE IS 50K WE WILL HAVE DIFFICULTIES AND MAY HAVE TO COME DOWN TO ABOUT 10K.

PAGE TWO RHMMAFI293 T O P S E C R E T/LINDIS/EXCLUSIVE FOR/
THE MACV STAFF IS NOT OBJECTING TO THE FIXED WING AIR, IN
FACT THEY APPEAR TO LIKE THE IDEA, BUT FORCE LEVELS WILL
BE THE DETERMINING FACTOR.

3. ANOTHER DEVELOPMENT MAY HAVE AN EFFECT ON OUR TROOP LIST. MACV STAFF UNDERSTANDS THAT AIR FORCE AT WASHINGTON LEVEL WANTS TO REDUCE NUMBER OF AIR SORTIES. COMUS INTENDS TO OPPOSE THIS. IF THIS REDUCTION IN AIR FORCE SORTIES IS EFFECTED, MACV WILL BE DESIROUS OF RETAINING THE FIXED WING AIR WITH THE MAB. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

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PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

COPY 2 OF 3 COPIES

III MAF 2100/4

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HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

III MAR FORM 5216 (REV 8-67)

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X - ORIGINATOR A - ACTION/COGNIZANCE C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I - INFORMATION S - SIGNATURE			CG III MAF		12 FEB 70	
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ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
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	DEP CORDS					
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	SGT MAJ					

REMARKS:

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FOR
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LIMDIS
TOP SECRET

(B-17)

TOP SECRET

OITIZYUW RHMAFA1328 0430206-TTIT--RUHFMA.

ZNY TTTTT

O 120206Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

T O P S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN
NICKERSON/LIMDIS/MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY. (DELIVER DURING NORMAL
WORKING HOURS)

FORCE PLANNING (U)

A. CG FMFPAC 040322Z FEB 70 (TS/SPECAT/MCEO)

B. COMUSMACV 011052Z FEB 70 (TS/EYES ONLY) (PASEP)

C. CMC 022218Z FEB 70 (TS/SPECAT/MCEO)

D. CG III MAF 071358Z FEB 70 (TS/EYES ONLY)

E. CG III MAF 211234Z JAN 70 (TS/SPECAT/MCEO)

1. (TS/LD) REF A PROVIDED GUIDANCE FOR CG, III MAF RES-
PONSE TO REQUEST FOR VIEWS AND COMMENTS ON POSSIBLE
ADDITIONAL 100,000 TROOP REDEPLOYMENT AFTER PHASE III AS
CONTAINED REF B. REF A ALSO REQUESTED COMMENTS ON B.9K
MAB ADD ONS SUGGESTED BY REF C.

2. (TS/LD) REF D IS CG, III MAF REPLY TO COMUSMACV AND
INCORPORATES GUIDANCE CONTAINED REF A. REF E CONTAINS CG, III

LIMDIS

PAGE TWO RHMAFA1328 T O P S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR/LIMDIS/
MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY

MAF RECOMMENDED 8.9K MAB.

3. (TS/LD) IN REGARD TO COMPROMISE SUGGESTED BY REF C, ORDER
OF PREFERENCE IS:

A. FULL 8" HOW BATTERY.

B. VMA SQUADRON.

C. 175 GUN BATTERY.

4. (TS/LD) CG, 1ST MAW STATES THAT AS LONG AS BOTH FIXED AND
ROTARY WING ASSETS ARE TO REMAIN IN-COUNTRY FOR INDEFINITE
PERIOD, IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT THEY BE ORGANIZED AS
TWO SEPARATE AIR GROUPS WHICH REQUIRE 392 SPACES IN ADDITION TO
THOSE CONTAINED REF E. REASONS CITED:

A. SINGLE MANAGEMENT OF TACAIR RESOURCES REQUIRES FULL
WORKING FIXED WING STAFF FOR MAXIMUM COORDINATION.

B. REQUIREMENT TO OPERATE FROM TWO AIRFIELDS IN DANANG AREA.

C. SEPARATION AND FRAGMENTATION OF H&MS, MABS PERSONNEL/
EQUIPMENT CREATES SPAN OF CONTROL PROBLEM.

5. (TS/LD) IN VIEW PARA 4, RECOMMEND FOLLOWING CHANGES/
ADD ONS TO 8.9K MAB OUTLINED REF F.

A. COMMAND ELEMENT: NO CHANGE.

B. GROUND ELEMENT:

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGE

TOP SECRET

PAGE THREE RHMAFAI328 T O P S E C R E T /SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR/LIMDIS/
MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY

(1) DELETE: 1ST 8" HOW BTRY (SP) (-), FMF 118
(2) ADD: 1ST 8" HOW BTRY (SP), FMF 226

C. AVIATION ELEMENT:
(1) DELETE: ENTIRE AVIATION ELEMENT.
(2) ADD:

UNIT	VA MAG A/C	PERS
VMA (AW)	12-A6A	372 (INCLUDES IMA)
VMA	20-A4	260 (INCLUDES IMA)
DET VMO	4-OV-10A	53
H&MS	2-C117	318
MABS		287
	TOTAL	1,290
	VH MAG	
HMM	21-CH-46	265 (INCLUDES IMA)
HMI	12-UH-1E, 16-AH-1	326 (INCLUDES IMA)
DET HMM	6-CH-53	88
H&MS		249
MABS		329

"LIMDIS"

PAGE FOUR RHMAFAI328 T O P S E C R E T /SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR/LIMDIS/
MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY

	TOTAL	1,257
	MASS (-)	
DASC (1)		48
ASRT (1)		16
	TOTAL	64
	TOTAL AVIATION ELEMENT	2,611.

- D. SUPPORT ELEMENT: NO CHANGE.
- E. TOTAL ADD ON 900. GRAND TOTAL 9,400.
- 6. THE FOLLOWING ASSUMPTIONS APPLY TO THE AVIATION ELEMENT IN ADDITION TO THOSE PREVIOUSLY CITED:
 - A. NO MARINE CRASH/FIRE FIGHTING REQUIREMENT FOR VA/MAG.
 - B. VH MAG OPERATE AS A TENANT FROM MARBLE MT AF.
 - C. NO REQUIREMENT FOR HELO SATELLITE FIELD OPERATIONS.

WARM REGARDS.

GP-4
BT
1328

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGE

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 DNG RVN		19 FEB 70	
			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE		COPY NO. 2 OF 3 COPIES REC'D	
			190936Z FEB 70			
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
			IN	OUT		
	CG					III MAF/XXIV CORPS COMMAND RELATIOS
	DCG					
	C/S					
	DC/S					
	DCS PLANS					
	DEP CORDS					
	DSA ICTZ					
	S/S					
	G-1					
	G-2					
	G-3					
	G-4					
	G-5					
	G-6					
	ADJ					
	AWARDS					
	CAP					
	CHAP					
	CIB					
	COMP					
	DENT					
	ENGR					
	FOODS					
	FSEO					
	HQ CMDT					
	INSP					
	MTO					
	NJA					
	OPANAL					
	ORD					
	PMO					
	POSTAL					
	PROTO					
	PSYOPS					
	RDT/E					
	REPRO					
	SJA					
	SPL SERV					
	SUPPLY					
	FORMED O					
	SIC					
	TCC					
	SGT MAJ					

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B-18

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PTITZYUW RHMMFA2298 0500936-TTTT--RUHNFMA.

ZNY TTTT

P 190936Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHNFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

T O P S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR LIGEN BUSE FROM
LIGEN NICKERSON/EYES ONLY

III MAF/XXIV CORPS COMMAND RELATIONS

A. CG III MAF MSG 150522Z FEB 70

1. COMUSMACV VISITED III MAF TODAY AND AT HIS REQUEST WAS BRIEFED ON III MAF AND XXIV CORPS COMMAND RELATIONS SUBSEQUENT TO TRANSFER OF AREA RESPONSIBILITIES TO XXIV CORPS ON 9 MARCH. MEL ZAIS ALSO ATTENDED THE BRIEFING.
2. REF A AND A DRAFT MACV DIRECTIVE ON COMMAND RELATIONS WAS USED AS THE BASIS FOR THE BRIEFING. THE LATTER IS REMARKABLY CONSISTENT WITH REF A.
3. MEL ZAIS STATED THAT HE WAS EVIDENTLY MISLED SINCE HE WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT III MAF WOULD BE A SERVICE/ADMINISTRATIVE ORIENTED HEADQUARTERS AND THAT XXIV CORPS WOULD DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THE DIVISION AND WING. IN PARTICULAR ZAIS TOOK EXCEPTION TO THAT PORTION OF MACV

PAGE TWO RHMMFA2298 T O P S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR/EYES ONLY
DRAFT WHICH STATED THAT III MAF WOULD CONDUCT COMBAT OPERATIONS AND THAT PORTION OF THE III MAF TERMS OF REFERENCE WHICH STATE THAT III MAF WOULD OPERATE A COMBAT CENTER, TO HIM THIS INDICATED AN INTERVENING HQS BETWEEN XXIV CORPS AND THE DIVISION AND WING.

4. I EXPLAINED MARINE CORPS DOCTRINE IN REGARD TO THE DIVISION/WING TEAM AND THE REQUIREMENT FOR A CONTROLLING HEADQUARTERS.
5. COMUSMACV STATED THAT THIS WAS WHY HE HAD RECOMMENDED THAT WHEN THE MARINES LEAVE IT BE A CLEAN SWEEP BUT JCS DECIDED OTHERWISE AND THIS IS WHAT WE HAVE TO LIVE WITH. HE SUGGESTED THAT IT BE WORKED OUT SO THAT MOST SENSITIVITIES ARE ACCOMMODATED RECOGNIZING THAT THERE ARE DOCTRINAL MATTERS WHICH CANNOT BE OVERCOME. HE POINTED OUT THAT THE BASIC REASON ZAIS' COMPARISON OF FORTHCOMING ROLE OF III MAF TO USARV COULD NOT BE MADE IS THAT III MAF INCLUDES AN AIRCRAFT WING. HE STATED THAT HIS ONLY INTEREST WAS THAT EVERYONE CONCERNED BE BIG ENOUGH AND SHOW A LARGE ENOUGH MEASURE OF UNDERSTANDING SO THAT THERE WOULD BE NO ADVERSE IMPACT ON COMBAT OPERATIONS. COMUS-

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

III MAF 2100/4

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PAGE THREE RNMMAA2298 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 E Y E S O N L Y
 MACV EMPHASIZED THAT THERE WAS NO POINT IN TRYING TO GET
 SOMETHING LIKE THIS RESOLVED IN WASHINGTON.
 6. COMUSMACV APPEARED TO BE SATISFIED AND DOES NOT APPEAR
 TO HAVE ANY INTENTION OF ROCKING THE BOAT.
 7. ZAIS WAS SOMEWHAT MOLLIFIED WHEN HE WAS SHOWN THAT POR-
 TION OF THE PROPOSED III MAF TERMS OF REFERENCE WHICH STATE
 THAT CG III MAF IS AUTHORIZED TO DELEGATE OPERATIONAL
 CONTROL OF THOSE ELEMENTS OF THE FORCE AS MAY BE MUTUALLY
 AGREED UPON TO THE DESIGNATED OVERALL COMMANDER.
 COMUSMACV LET ZAIS KNOW WHERE HE STANDS ON THIS ISSUE.
 ZAIS WILL NOT ROCK THE BOAT. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

2298

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

III MAF 2100/4

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TOP SECRET

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X- ORIGINATOR A- ACTION / COGNIZANCE C- COMMENT / RECOMMENDATION I- INFORMATION S- SIGNATURE			FROM CG III MAF		DATE FEB 70	
			SERIAL NO/CONTROL DATE 1105222 FEB 70		COPY NO 2 OF 3 COPIES REC'D	
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR
			IN	OUT		
	CG					REMARK DISPOSITON <input type="checkbox"/> RETAIN FOR ___ MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> DESTROY AFTER ROUTING <input type="checkbox"/> RETURN FOR PERMANENT RETENTION SECTION SIGNATURE EXCLUSIVE FOR HAS BEEN SENT <i>Copy #1 ICTZ Turnover Briefing</i> 34 (USE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE)
	DCG					
	C/S					
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	DEP CORDS					
	DSA ICTZ					
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	G-6					
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	AWARDS					
	CAP					
	CHAP					
	CIB					
	COMP					
	DENT					
	ENGR					
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	FSEO					
	HQ CMDT					
	INSP					
	MTO					
	NJA					
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	REPRO					
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	SPL SERV					
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	TCC					
	SGT MAJ					

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

SECRET

(B-4)

SECRET

UNCLASSIFIED

PTTSZYUW RHMAFA1242 0420522-SSSS--RUHFMA.

ZNY SSSSS

P 110522Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN
NICKERSON (DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS).

ICTZ TURNOVER BRIEFING

1. THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS FORWARDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

QUOTE

P 070020Z FEB 70 ZFF-6

FM CG III MAF

TO RUMUGKD/COMNAVFORV

INFO RUMUFGA/COMNAVSUPACT

BT

S E C R E T//N04000//

FOR VADM ZUMWALT INFO RADM ADAMSON FROM LTGEN NICKERSON

ICTZ TURNOVER BRIEFING

A. COMNAVFORV 020933Z FEB 70 (SPECAT)

B. COMUSMACV 211140Z JAN 70

1. I APPRECIATE YOUR MESSAGE REGARDING THE TURNOVER

PAGE TWO RHMAFA1242 S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR
BRIEFING.2. MY PRINCIPLE CONCERNS ARE TWOFOLD: (1) ARMY CAPABILITY
TO TAKE OVER WITHOUT INTERRUPTION OR DEGRADATION OF
SUPPORT TO TACTICAL OPERATIONS AND WELFARE OF COMBAT
FORCES, AND (2) VALIDITY OF ASSUMPTION THAT 37,000 FORCES
WILL BE TAKEN FROM ICTZ DURING PHASE FOUR COUPLED WITH
MACV PLANNING GUIDANCE THAT ALL MARINE COMBAT FORCES ARE
OUT OF COUNTRY BY 1 JULY 70 OR USARV WILL SUPPORT THOSE
REMAINING AFTER THAT TIME.3. THE FIRST CONCERN IS GENERATED BY RECOGNITION OF
USARV'S EAGERNESS AND DESIRE TO ASSUME ICTZ COMMON SERVICE
SUPPORT, BUT CONTINUING INDICATIONS THAT CAPABILITY
DOESN'T MATCH WILLINGNESS: E.G... IN ALL USARVPAC THE ARMY
IS UNABLE TO LOCATE SIX FIRE TRUCKS AND ONE REFUELING SYS-
TEM TO SUPPORT AIRFIELDS AT PHU BAI AND QUANG TRI; AND
USARV'S SEEKING YOUR HELP TO INDUCE PHILCO FORD WORKERS
TO TRANSFER TO PA&E. SITUATIONS OF THIS KIND SUGGEST
AGREEMENT AT CONCEPTUAL LEVEL BUT QUESTIONABLE CAPABILITY
TO IMPLEMENT.

4. THE SECOND CONCERN IS RELATED TO TIME/SPACE/SHIPPING

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

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(24)

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE THREE RHMMAFA1242 S E C R E T / S P E C I A L EXCLUSIVE FOR FACTORS AND PHASE FOUR ASSUMPTIONS. IT APPEARS THAT COMMENCEMENT OF THE NEW FISCAL YEAR, CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS, THE DESIRE TO REALIGN SERVICE FORCE STRUCTURE, AND SIMILAR ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS ARE GOVERNING PLANNING. IN REALITY, ENEMY CAPABILITIES, TACTICAL SITUATION, SHIPPING AVAILABILITY, ORDERLY SHIFT ON FORCES AND SIMILAR OPERATIONAL CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD BE PARAMOUNT. PAST EXPERIENCE HAS INDICATED A SIX WEEK PLANNING CYCLE BETWEEN PHASES (PHASE TWO TERMINATION, 15 DEC 69; PHASE III COMMENCEMENT 1 FEB 70). WITH A PHASE FOUR AT LEAST AS BIG AS PHASE THREE, A SIMILAR CYCLE CAN BE EXPECTED AGAIN. IF THE 37,000 REDUCTION INCLUDES ONLY MARINES AS SUGGESTED IN YOUR MESSAGE, AND GIVEN A D-DAY APPROXIMATING 1 JUNE, THE BASIC ASSUMPTION IS UNREASONABLE. A PHASE FOUR TERMINATION BY 15 AUGUST IS MORE REASONABLE, BUT ONLY IF THE FORCE REDUCTIONS ARE SCHEDULED JUDICIOUSLY AND NOT CONCENTRATED IN ONE UNIT AND THROUGH ONE PORT. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

UNQUOTE

2. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

1242

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGESCOPY 2 OF 3 COPIES

~~SECRET~~
(3-4)

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X- ORIGINATOR A- ACTION/COGNIZANCE C- COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I- INFORMATION S- SIGNATURE			FROM CG III MAF		DATE 13 FEB 70	
			SERIAL NO/CONTROL DATE 130916Z FEB 70		COPY NO 2 OF 3 COPIES REC'D	
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
			IN	OUT		
	CG					SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR
	DCG					
	C/S					
	DC/S					
	DCS PLANS					
	DEP CORDS					
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	OPANAL					
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	POSTAL					
	PROTO					
	PSYOPS					
	RDT & E					
	REPRO					
	SJA					
	SPL SERV					
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	FORMED O					
	S & C					
	TCC					
	SGT MAJ					

REMARK:

DISPOSITION

RETAIN FOR ___ MONTHS

DESTROY AFTER ROUTING

RETURN FOR PERMANENT RETENTION

SECTION	SIGNATURE

EXCLUSIVE FOR

HAS BEEN SENT

Copy #1 ICTZ TURNOVER

6

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

SECRET
B-6

SECRET

PTTSZYUW RHMMAFA1500 0440916-SSSS--RUHMFMA.

ZNY SSSSS

P 130916Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHMFMA/CG FMFRAC

BT

S E C R E T / S P E C A T EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
(DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS)
ICTZ SERVICE SUPPORT SHIFT (U)

1. THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS FORWARDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

QUOTE

R 110853Z FEB 70 ZFF-4

FM COMNAVFORV

TO RHMMAFA/CG III MAF

RUMUFGA/COMNAVSUPPACT DNG

BT

S E C R E T
PERSONAL FOR LGEN NICKERSON AND RADM ADAMSON FROM ZUMWALT
ICTZ SERVICE SUPPORT SHIFT (U)

1. (U) THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL FROM ADM NYLAND (CINCPACFLT
100321Z FEB 70) IS QUOTED FOR YOUR INFO:

PAGE TWO RHMMAFA1500 S E C R E T / S P E C A T EXCLUSIVE FOR

QUOTE

R 100321Z FEB 70

FM CINCPACFLT

TO CGUSARPAC

COMNAVFORV

BT

S E C R E T //NO0000//
PERSONAL FOR GEN HAINES AND VICE ADMIRAL ZUMWALT FROM NYLAND
ICTZ SERVICE SUPPORT SHIFT (U)

A. COMUSMACV 211140Z JAN 70

1. (S) WE HAVE REVIEWED THE MANY RECENT MESSAGES REGARDING THE TURN-OVER OF THE R&U FUNCTIONS IN NICTZ. I THINK THAT MOST OF THE PROBLEMS IDENTIFIED IN-COUNTRY CAN BE SOLVED WITHIN SERVICE CHANNELS AND NEED NOT BE REFERRED THROUGH THE JOINT CHANNEL FOR RESOLUTION

2. (S) IT WOULD SEEM PRUDENT FOR ALL OF US TO MAKE AN EFFORT TO RETAIN THE SERVICE ORIENTED PROBLEMS IN-HOUSE WHILE, OF COURSE, KEEPING OUR UNIFIED COMMANDERS FULLY INFORMED OF OUR PLANS AND ACTIONS. THIS PROCEDURE WOULD ALLOW FULL COORDINATION OF OUR PECULIAR NEEDS AND RESOURCES AND WOULD RESULT IN REFERRAL OF PROBLEMS TO THE JOINT CHANNEL ONLY IF AGREEMENT CAN NOT BE

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

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SECRET
(36)

SECRET

PAGE THREE RHMNAPAI500 S ENC R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR
 REACHED BY THE SERVICES AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL.
 3. (S) REF A WILL PRESENT SOME CHALLENGING COORDINATION,
 ESPECIALLY IN THE BUDGET AREA. I AM CONFIDENT THAT MOST, IF NOT
 ALL OF THE PROBLEMS, CAN BE RESOLVED TO OUR MUTUAL AGREEMENT.
 OUR PLANNERS HAVE BEEN IN CONFERENCE ON THE FUNDING ASPECTS
 ALREADY AND THESE CONTACTS CAN EASILY BE EXPANDED UPON RECEIPT
 OF THE COMUSMACV COORDINATED PLAN IN EARLY MARCH.
 4. (U) BEST REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

UNQUOTE

2. (U) WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

UNQUOTE. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

1500

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

HEADQUARTERS
MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

CONFIDENTIAL

III MAR FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE			FROM		DATE					
X - ORIGINATOR A - ACTION/COGNIZANCE C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I - INFORMATION S - SIGNATURE			CG III MAF DNG RVN		14 FEB 70					
			SERIAL NO/CONTROL DATE		COPY NO. 1 OF 3 COPIES RECD.					
			141040Z FEB 70							
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT				
			IN	OUT						
	CG	I		15 Feb	N	SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR (MCEO)				
	DCG	I		2/15	J					
	C/S	I		2/15	J	REMARKS				
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	DCS PLANS					DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Retain for ____ months. <input type="checkbox"/> Destroy after routing. Return for permanent retention.				
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Section	Signature									
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	REPRO									
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	TCC									
	SGT MAJ									

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B-7

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PTTCZYUW RHMNAFA1663 0451040-CCCC--RUHHFMA.

ZNY CCCCC

P 141040Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L / S P E C A T E X C L U S I V E F O R L T G E N E I N G F R O M L T G E N
NICKERSON MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY - DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS

//NO0000//

A. DEP COMDR, MARCORBASES PAC(FWD) LTR 4:JHRC:WHO OVER 1400 OF
30 JAN 70 (U)

B. MCAS KANEONE 300216Z JAN 70 (U)

C. CG XXIV CORPS PHS 090410Z FEB 70 (C) (PASEP)

D. CG USARV 131202Z FEB 70 (S) (PASEP)

E. CG FMFPAC 032147Z FEB 70 (TS) (SPECAT)

1. (U) IT APPEARS THAT THERE WILL BE CONSIDERABLE EXCESSES IN THE
NONTAM GARRISON PROPERTY IN USE HERE AT CAMP HORN, I.E., EXCESS TO
ROOMS OF III MAF HEADQUARTERS AT NEW LOCATION WITH REDUCED STAFFING.
REF A INCLUDES LARGE DEFICIENCIES OF MANY ITEMS WHICH COULD BE
PARTIALLY FILLED FROM ITEMS EXCESS TO III MAF NEEDS. THERE WILL
BE EXCESS PORTABLE AIR CONDITIONING UNITS AND NONE ARE INCLUDED
ON REFS A OR B.

PAGE TWO RHMNAFA1663 C O N F I D E N T I A L / E X C L U S I V E F O R /

2. (C) XXIV CORPS REPS HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY DO NOT HAVE SUFFI-
CIENT ASSETS AVAILABLE TO OPERATE THIS CAMP. ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE
NOT SET FORTH THEIR REQUIREMENT, THE INFERENCE IN REF A IS THAT
IT WILL BE CONSIDERABLE AND THAT THEY EXPECT TO OBTAIN III MAF
EXCESSES. INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS INDICATE THAT THEIR REQUIREMENT
WILL NOT BE OF THE MAGNITUDE INDICATED IN REF C. TO REDUCE HAND-
LING, XXIV CORPS REPS HAVE PROPOSED THAT SOME ITEMS AVAILABLE FROM
NICTZ BE POSITIONED AT CAMP HASKINS AS LIKE ITEM REPLACEMENT FOR
ITEMS TO BE LEFT CAMP HORN. WILL AGREE TO THIS METHOD ONLY WHERE
THERE IS REASONABLE ASSURANCE OF RECEIVING ACCEPTABLE REPLACEMENT.
OUR OBLIGATION TO ALLEVIATE OUT-OF-COUNTRY MARCOR DEFICIENCIES
IS RECOGNIZED. HOWEVER, I AM ANXIOUS NOT TO GIVE THE IMPRESSION
WE ARE "STRIPPING" THE CAMP SINCE A CLOSE WORKING RELATIONSHIP
MUST CONTINUE.

3. (C) DURING VISIT OF COL A.I. HILL, FMFPAC, THIS DATE, HE INDI-
CATED THAT USARPAC HAD INFORMALLY AGREED TO A PROCEDURE WHEREBY
XXIV CORPS COULD SUBMIT REQNS THROUGH ARMY CHANNELS TO REPLACE
MARCOR ITEMS LEFT AT CAMP HORN WITH DELIVERY ON OKINAWA FROM AVAIL-
ABLE STOCKS AT 2D LOGCMD. THIS WAS DISCUSSED WITH XXIV CORPS REPS
WHO WERE RECEPTIVE TO EXPLORING THE PROCEDURE. SUBSEQUENT TO THIS

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

FMFPAC-GEN 2100/1 (3/69)
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(B-7)

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PAGE THREE RHMMFA1663 C O N F I D E N T I A L/EXCLUSIVE FOR/ DISCUSSION, REF D WAS RECEIVED. DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THE XXIV CORPS ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND FROM III MAF AND RELATED TRANSFER OF FACILITIES CAN, IN ANY WAY, BE CONSTRUED TO BE A PART OF THE COMMON SERVICE SUPPORT FUNCTION TRANSFER FROM NAVY TO ARMY AS INDICATED IN REF D. THEREFORE DO NOT CONCUR THAT GARRISON PROPERTY IDENTIFIED WITH NEW MISSION BEING ASSUMED BY XXIV CORPS MUST BE TRANSFERRED TO ARMY ON NON-REIMBURSEABLE BASIS AS STATED IN REF D.

4. (U) I PLAN TO USE AVAILABLE ASSETS OF GARRISON PROPERTY AS FOLLOWS AND IN THE ORDER LISTED:

- A. III MAF HQ RQMS AT NEW LOCATION
- B. REMOVE OR MAINTAIN CONTROL OF SOPHISTICATED AND EXPENSIVE EQUIP AS DISCUSSED REF E.
- C. OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS FOR OTHER III MAF UNITS CONSIDERED TO BE ESSENTIAL
- D. XXIV CORPS RQMS NOT OTHERWISE AVAILABLE TO THEM ON AN IN-KIND REPLACEMENT, SHORT-TERM TEMPORARY LOAN, OR REIMBURSEABLE BASIS.

E. OTHER WESTPAC/MIDPAC RQMS.

5. (C) PLAN TO COMMENT ON REF D TO USARV ESSENTIALLY AS FOLLOWS:
QUOTE

PAGE FOUR RHMMFA1663 C O N F I D E N T I A L/EXCLUSIVE FOR/

A. DO NOT CONCUR THAT GUIDANCE RELATIVE TO ARMY ASSUMPTION OF ICTZ COMMON SERVICE SUPPORT FROM NAVY IS ALSO APPLICABLE TO XXIV CORPS ASSUMPTION OF COMMAND FROM III MAF AND RELATED TRANSFER OF PCS PROPERTY AT CAMP HORN.

B. CONCUR WITH XXIV CORPS IN NEED TO KEEP MOVEMENT OF PCS PROPERTY TO MINIMUM. THIS MAY BE ACCOMPLISHED, TO SOME EXTENT, BY REPLACEMENT WITH LIKE ITEMS IN ACCEPTABLE CONDITION.

C. ONLY INTEND TO LEAVE ITEMS SUCH AS OFFICE AND QUARTERS FURNITURE/FURNISHINGS AND MESS HALL EQUIP IN EXCESS III MAF RQMT WHICH XXIV CORPS CONSIDERS NECESSARY FOR PROPER FUNCTIONING OF CAMP HORN AND WHICH IS OTHERWISE NOT AVAILABLE TO THEM. SUGGEST THAT REPLACEMENT BE EFFECTED FROM ASSETS THAT MAY BE AVAILABLE ON OKINAWA OR BY REIMBURSEMENT. UNQUOTE.

6. (U) YOUR COMMENTS ON THIS APPROACH WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

1663

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

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CONFIDENTIAL

(B-7)

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X- ORIGINATOR A- ACTION/COGNIZANCE C- COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I- INFORMATION S- SIGNATURE				FROM CG III MAF DNG RVN	DATE 14 FEB 70					
				SERIAL NO/CONTROL DATE 141042Z FEB 70	COPY NO 2 OF 6 COPIES REC'D					
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT				
			IN	OUT						
	CG					CIVILIAN PERSONNEL REDUCTIONS IN ICTZ (S)				
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DRAFTED: AC/S G-1
RELEASE: CG

FOR
HAS BEEN SENT

(USE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

SECRET

(B-8)

SECRET

PTTSZYUW RHMAFA1664 0451042-SSSS--RUMUGKD.

ZNY SSSSS

P 141042Z FEB 70 ZFF-1

FM CG III MAF

TO RUMUGKD/COMNAVFORV

BT

S E C R E T/FOR VADM ZUMWALT FROM LGEN NICKERSON
CIVILIAN PERSONNEL REDUCTIONS IN ICTZ (S)

A. YR 110721Z FEB 70 (S)

1. CONCUR WITH YOUR ESTIMATE OF DELETERIOUS EFFECTS
HEAVY LNC RIF IN ICTZ COULD CAUSE. AGREE COORDINATED
PLANNING AND JUDICIOUS USE OF FURLOUGH WILL PRECLUDE
SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS DURING REDEPLOYMENTS AND TURNOVER
TO XXIV CORPS.2. FOR PURPOSES OF ANY COORDINATED PLANNING EFFORT,
III MAF CONTACTS ARE ASST CHIEF OF STAFF, G-1 (COL R. L.
PARNELL, JR.) OR DEPUTY G-1, (LTCOL C. S. MCNEILL).

3. WARM REGARDS

GP-4

BT

1664

FEB 14 3 01 PM '70

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

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SECRET
(B-8)

HEADQUARTERS
MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

CONFIDENTIAL

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

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			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE 150522Z FEB 70		COPY NO. 1 OF 3 COPIES REC'D					
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**EXCLUSIVE
FOR
MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY
HAS BEEN SENT**

(8-9)

(USE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE THREE RHMMAFAI742 C O N F I D E N T I A L / S P E C A T EXCLUSIVE FOR/MCEO
WILL MONITOR OPERATIONS OF THESE FORCES CONTINUOUSLY WHILE THEY
ARE SO ASSIGNED AND WILL BE KEPT INFORMED OF THEIR STATUS,
REQUIREMENTS, AND THE PLANS FOR THEIR FUTURE EMPLOYMENT.

(2) PROVIDE STRIKE AND RECONNAISSANCE AIRCRAFT AND
CONTROL SYSTEMS TO THE SINGLE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM FOR MISSION
DIRECTION THROUGH THE TACTICAL AIR COMMANDER WHO WILL ACT AS
COORDINATING AUTHORITY FOR ALL MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE AVIATION
MATTERS. PROVIDE OTHER AVIATION SUPPORT AND INSURE THEIR EFFEC-
TIVE UTILIZATION AND INTEGRATION INTO THE TOTAL AIR/GROUND
EFFORT.

(3) ALLOCATE LOGISTIC RESOURCES TO INSURE EFFECTIVE
UTILIZATION OF AVAILABLE SUPPLIES, EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES IN
SUPPORT OF THE FORCE. OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF THE COMBAT SERVICE
SUPPORT ELEMENT (FORCE LOGISTIC COMMAND) WILL NOT BE DELEGATED.

(4) MAINTAIN LIAISON WITH COMUSMACV, COMMANDER 7TH AIR
FORCE, AND SUCH OTHER COMMANDS AS REQUIRED.

(5) MAINTAIN THE CAPABILITY TO OPERATE, AFTER PERSONNEL
AUGMENTATION, A TACTICAL HEADQUARTERS IF DIRECTED.

(6) MAINTAIN AND OPERATE AN AUSTERE COMBAT OPERATIONS
CENTER.

PAGE FOUR RHMMAFAI742 C O N F I D E N T I A L / S P E C A T EXCLUSIVE FOR/MCEO

(7) ESTABLISH, OPERATE, AND MAINTAIN COMMUNICATIONS
FACILITIES AS REQUIRED.

(8) PREPARE AND MAINTAIN PLANS FOR THE EMPLOYMENT OF
THE FORCE IN JOINT AND/OR COMBINED OPERATIONS.

(9) CONDUCT PLANNING FOR REDEPLOYMENT OF MARINE CORPS
FORCES AND PROVIDE INPUT TO COMUSMACV AND HIGHER MARINE CORPS
HEADQUARTERS AS REQUIRED.

5. CONCEPT OF ADMINISTRATION

A. III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE HEADQUARTERS IS CAPABLE OF
SELF-ADMINISTRATION.

B. THE ASSIGNMENT OR REASSIGNMENT OF PERSONNEL, INCLUDING
REPLACEMENTS, IS ACCOMPLISHED BY THE COMMANDING GENERAL, FLEET
MARINE FORCE, PACIFIC.

6. CONCEPT OF PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT. III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE HEADQUARTERS WILL:

A. PROVIDE PERSONNEL INFORMATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE
COMMANDER BY MONITORING ALL MESSAGE TRAFFIC AND REPORTS PERTAIN-
ING TO PERSONNEL MANAGEMENT, INTERNAL ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS
OF THE MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE AND OTHER ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
NOT SPECIFICALLY ASSIGNED TO ANOTHER STAFF SECTION.

PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

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(B9)

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X- ORIGINATOR A- ACTION / COGNIZANCE C- COMMENT / RECOMMENDATION I- INFORMATION S- SIGNATURE				FROM CG III MAF		DATE 15 FEB 70	
				SERIAL NO/CONTROL DATE P 150611Z FEB 70		COPY NO 2 OF 4 COPIES REC'D	
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE IN OUT		INITIAL	SUBJECT VISIT OF COMUSMACV	
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DISPOSITION

RETAIN FOR ___ MONTHS

DESTROY AFTER ROUTING

RETURN FOR PERMANENT RETENTION

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

SECRET

(B-10)

P 150611Z
FM CG III MAF
TO CG XXIV CORPS
ZEM

*104
02/24/70*

SECRET/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN ZAIS FROM LTGEN
NICKERSON
VISIT OF COMUSMACV

1. THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE IS FORWARDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

QUOTE
FM ABRAMS
TO NICKERSON
SECRET MAC 2092 EYES ONLY

I WILL BE UP TO SEE YOU AND MEL ZAIS WEDNESDAY 18
FEBRUARY 70. I WANT TO TALK WITH YOU AND MEL PRIVATELY
ABOUT YOUR PERSONAL EVALUATION OF ARVN COMMANDERS. NEXT
I WOULD LIKE TO BE BRIEFED ON HOW THIS TRANSFER OF RES-
PONSIBILITY FROM III MAF TO XXIV CORPS WILL BE DONE
INCLUDING MOVEMENTS, COMMAND LINES AND THE FUNCTIONS OF
III MAF UNDER THE NEW ARRANGEMENTS.

UNQUOTE. WARM REGARDS

GP-4

(SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS)

149



"SECRET, THIS MESSAGE REQUIRES ACCOUNTABILITY"

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HAS BEEN SENT

SECRET

B-10

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X- ORIGINATOR A- ACTION/COGNIZANCE C- COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I- INFORMATION S- SIGNATURE			FROM CG III MAF		DATE 17 FEB 70
			SERIAL NO/CONTROL DATE 0 161334Z FEB 70		COPY NO 1 OF 5 COPIES REC'D
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SUBJECT VISIT OF AMB BUNKER
SECRET

REMARK:

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

SECRET

(B-11)

TO COMUSMACV
ZEM

SECRET EYES ONLY FOR SEN ADAMS FROM LTGEN WICKERSON
VISIT OF AMB BUNKER

1. VISIT OF AMB BUNKER TO LTGEN LAM'S OFFICE PRODUCED A
DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE PROSECUTION OF THE WAR FROM THE
NVA/VC POINT OF VIEW. LAM GAVE AMB BUNKER A PAPER, IN
ENGLISH, OF MAJOR TOA'S IDEAS ON THIS SUBJECT. MAJOR TOA
IS A CHIEU HOI AND ALLEGED FORMER POLITICAL/PROSELYTING
OFFICER OF QUANG DA. I AM SENDING A COPY OF THIS PAPER
TO YOU WITH A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF MAJOR TOA.

2. OTHER ITEMS COVERED WERE RF/PF AND PSDF PROGRESS;
ABILITY OF ARVN TO HANDLE THE WAR; VILLAGE SELF DEVELOP-
MENT AND FREE ELECTIONS; TRAINING OF VILLAGE AND HAMLET
OFFICIALS; ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THIS REGION, ESPECIALLY
FISHING, FOREST PRODUCTS, AGRICULTURE, AND TOURISM. AFTER
A PLEASANT LUNCH WITH CONSUL MCNAMARA, AMB BUNKER WENT
SAILING WITH MR. FIRFER. OPENING OF CONSULATE FOLLOWED.
WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

(SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS)
133

THIS MESSAGE REQUIRES ACCOUNTABILITY
COPY 1 OF 5



(B-11)

HEADQUARTERS
MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

CONFIDENTIAL

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X - ORIGINATOR A - ACTION/COGNIZANCE C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I - INFORMATION S - SIGNATURE			FROM CG III MAF		DATE 18 FEB 70	
			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE 180258Z FEB 70		COPY NO. 1 OF 3 COPIES REC'D.	
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(USE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE)

B-12

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

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ZNY CCCCC

P 180258Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUMHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L / EXCLUSIVE FOR BGEN WILSON

FROM BGEN DULACKI (BELIEVER DURING WORKING HOURS)

VISIT OF REPRESENTATIVE PAUL N. MCCLOSKEY, JR.

1. REP. PAUL N. MCCLOSKEY, JR. VISITED III MAF FROM 12-14 FEB 1970. ITINERARY, IN ADDITION TO VISIT TO CG AND BRIEFING AT THIS HQ, TOOK HIM TO CAP 2-7-6 WITH CO, CAF AND TO HOI AN, SON LOC VILLAGE, AND XUYEN LONG REFUGEE CAMP WITH DEP CORDS.

2. 13 FEB - VISIT TO 1ST MARDIV MODIFIED DUE TO BAD WEATHER BUT, ACCOMPANIED BY CG OR ADC; VISITED EACH REGIMENTAL CP AND 1ST RECON BN. AT 1ST MARINES; HELD DISCUSSION WITH COL. THUC, CO OF 51ST ARVN REGIMENT AS TO OPERATIONAL COMMITMENTS AND STATE OF TRAINING. DURING VISIT TO 7TH MARINES TALKED WITH QUE SON DISTRICT CHIEF AS TO HIS OPINIONS OF ABILITY OF RF/PF; ESPECIALLY IF MARINES SHOULD LEAVE. DISTRICT CHIEF INDICATED HIS FORCES WERE

PAGE TWO RHMNAFA2079 C O N F I D E N T I A L / EXCLUSIVE FOR IMPROVING, BUT MARINES STILL NEEDED. AT 7TH MARINES BASE CAMP ALSO VISITED 1ST ARMORED BRIGADE COC FOR BRIEFING AND VIEW OF CAPTURED WEAPONS.

3. AT REP MCCLOSKEY'S SPECIFIC REQUEST, ARRANGEMENTS MADE FOR HIM TO RON AT AN HOA COMBAT BASE WITH 5TH MAR. DURING VISIT HE REMINISCED ABOUT HIS OWN MARINE CORPS EXPERIENCES WITH THAT REGIMENT IN KOREA. NEXT MORNING, 14 FEB, WAS PLEASANTLY SURPRISED WHEN PRESENTED WITH SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE DURING VISIT TO 1ST RECON BN.

4. INTEREST SHOWN IN TACTICAL OPERATIONS, CIVIC ACTION AND PSYOPS ACTIVITIES. APPEARED TO BE PLEASED WITH VISIT AND APPRECIATIVE OF MARINE CORPS EFFORTS, BUT IS CONCERNED AS TO CAPABILITY OF ARVN TO CONTINUE RESISTANCE AS U.S. UNITS REDEPLOY. THIS CONCERN CREATED BY OVERALL RVN VISIT AND NOT NECESSARILY BECAUSE OF ICTZ SITUATION. EXPRESSED ADMIRATION FOR INDIVIDUAL MARINES AND APPRECIATION FOR VISIT. HE IS WELL PLEASED WITH PROFESSIONALISM AND DEDICATION OF MARINES VISITED. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

2079

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(B-12)

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

CONFIDENTIAL

III MAR FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

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EXCLUSIVE FOR

MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY

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(USE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE)

B-14

CONFIDENTIAL

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 P 190546Z FEB 70
 FM CG III MAF
 TO RHMMAFA/CG FMFPAC

BT

CONFIDENTIAL L/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM
 LTGEN NICKERSON MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY DELIVER DURING MORNING
 HOURS ONLY //N04525//

DISPOSITION PROJECT 972 STOCKS NICTZ (U)

1. THERE STILL REMAINS AT DONG NA A SIZEABLE STOCK OF CONSTRUCTION
 MATERIALS AND LAND MINES WHICH BECAME EXCESS AS A RESULT OF MODIFYING
 THE DUAL BLADE PROJECT. THE ORIGINAL QUANTITY OF CONSTRUCTION
 MATERIALS HAS BEEN REDUCED SUBSTANTIALLY BY REALLOCATION TO OTHER
 PROJECTS. THE REMAINING ITEMS ARE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING TURNED
 OVER TO THE ARVN IN PLACE. THE MINES AT DONG NA, HOWEVER, ARE NOT
 APPROPRIATE FOR TURNOVER TO THE ARVN AND MUST BE RELOCATED OR
 DESTROYED. IF DISPOSITION INSTRUCTIONS ARE NOT FORTHCOMING BY
 1 MARCH THE MINES WILL BE MOVED TO THE ASP AT CHU LAI. THE MINES
 HAVE BEEN REPACKAGED IN ANTICIPATION OF INSTRUCTIONS TO DISPOSE OF
 THEM BY DUMPING AT SEA. THE MINES MUST BE MOVED PRIOR TO 15 MARCH
 1970 WHILE CUA VIET IS STILL AVAILABLE AS A SHIPPING POINT. THE

PAGE TWO RHMMAFA2261 CONFIDENTIAL L/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR
 MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY

LIFT INVOLVES 292 PALLETS WHICH AMOUNTS TO APPROX FOUR LCU
 LOADS.

2. MACV J-4 HAS ADVISED THAT DISPOSITION INSTRUCTIONS ARE
 ANTICIPATED SOONEST FROM USARPAC AND HAVE PROVIDED IN-
 FORMALLY A USARPAC MESSAGE WHICH IS QUOTED AS FOLLOWS:
 CINCUSARPAC 100337Z FEB 70 TO DA, CINCPAC, COMUSMACV AND
 CG USARV LONG BINH VIETNAM. CONFIDENTIAL GPLD=NO FOR DCSLOG/
 DP-PB: INFO J47, MACJ42-AM, AVHOD-AM. SUBJ: M14 AND M16
 AP MINES (U).

A. DA DCSLOG/DP-PB 072241Z JAN 70

1. (C) REF MSG ADVISES THAT ARMY FIVE-YEAR PLAN CALLS FOR
 2.8 MILLION M14 MINES AND 1.6 MILLION M16 MINES AND REQUESTS
 ASSISTANCE AND RECOMMENDATIONS RELATIVE TO EXCESS AP MINES
 IN PROJECT DUAL BLADE TO DETERMINE IF RENOVATION IS FEASIBLE,
 BOTH FROM A SAFETY AND ECONOMICAL STANDPOINT. AFTER BEING
 EXPOSED IN THE OPEN FOR AN EXTENDED PERIOD OF TIME, FURTHER
 REQUESTED ADVISE ASAP TO ASSIST DA INPUT TO JCS RESOLUTION.
2. (C) ESTIMATED COST OF RENOVATION OF SUBJECT MINES AT AN
 ADEQUATE MAINTENANCE FACILITY WITHIN USARPAC IS AS FOLLOWS:
 (LTR CITING DETAILS BEING FURNISHED UNDER SEPARATE COVER)

PAGE 1 OF 3 PAGES

FMFPAC-GEN 2100/1 (3/69)
 0101-V04-6601

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CONFIDENTIAL

B-14

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

TOP SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

X - ORIGINATOR A - ACTION/COGNIZANCE C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I - INFORMATION S - SIGNATURE			OPERATION CODE		FROM	DATE				
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TOP SECRET

(B-19)

TOP SECRET

PTITZYUW RHMMAFA2297 0500932Z--TTTT--RUHFMA.

ZNY TTTT

P 190932Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

T O P S E C R E T /SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN
NICKERSON (DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS)
FORCE PLANNING (U)

1. THIS MESSAGE IS FORWARDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

QUOTE

P 190140Z ZFF-1 ZFF-4

FM COMNAVFORV

TO CG III MAF

INFO ZEN/COM THREE NCB

ZEN

BT

T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE EYES ONLY //NOOOOO//
PERSONAL FOR LTG NICKERSON INFO RADM DILLON FROM ZUMWALT
FORCE PLANNING (U)

1. (TS) LIAISON WITH MACJ3 STAFF INDICATES PHASE IV
CONSIDERATIONS NOW INCLUDE RETENTION OF ONE MEB

PAGE TWO RHMMAFA2297 T O P S E C R E T /SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR
VICE ONE RLT UPON COMPLETION OF PHASE IV. IN THIS
ALTERNATIVE, TO COMPENSATE FOR RETENTION OF THE
3,000 ADDITIONAL MARINES IN-COUNTRY, ADDITIONAL
SPACES FOR REDEPLOYMENT WOULD BE SPLIT EVENLY
BETWEEN USN AND USAF.

2. (TS) IMPLICATIONS FOR NAVY ARE REDEPLOYMENT
OF THREE NMCB'S VICE ONE PREVIOUSLY SCHED-
ULED FOR PHASE IV. BY THE AUGUST 70 TIME FRAME IT
IS LIKELY THAT MOST OF THE VERTICAL CAPABILITY OF
APPROXIMATELY TWO NMCB'S WOULD BE DEVOTED TO ACTOV
CONSTRUCTION TO KEEP OUR VIETNAMIZATION PROGRAM GOING
AND ON SCHEDULE.

3. (TS) SHOULD COMUS APPROVE THE CONCEPT IN PARA
ONE ABOVE. AS IT STANDS, THERE IS NO ALTERNATIVE
TO REDEPLOYMENT OF THE THREE NMCB'S IN PHASE IV IN
ORDER TO MEET USN QUOTA.

4. (TS) A NAVY-MARINE COMPROMISE WHEREIN MEB
WOULD BE LIMITED TO 9,500 VICE 10,200, WITH ONLY 2
NMCB'S BEING REDEPLOYED UNDER PHASE IV MIGHT BE
ACCEPTABLE TO MACV. REQUEST YOU CONSIDER THIS

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

TOP SECRET

PAGE THREE RHMAFA2297 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
ALTERNATIVE AND PROVIDE COMMENTS. ADVICE FROM
YOU AND RADM DILLON ON THE FUTURE IMPACT
OF THE MEB ON NAVY TROOP CONSTRUCTION WORKLOAD
AND CONSTRUCTION TROOP STRENGTH REQUIRED FOR THE
MEB WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

5. (U) WARM REGARDS.

GP-3

BT

UNQUOTE. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

2297

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGES

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TOP SECRET

(3119)

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

TOP SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-67)

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TOP SECRET

(B-20)

TOP SECRET

OITTYUW RHMMAFA2469 0511352-TTIT--RUHFMA.

ZNY TTIT

O 201352Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

TOP SECRET/MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE/FOR

LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN NICKERSON

(DELIVER DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS)

FORCE PLANNING (U)

A. CG III MAF 211234Z JAN 70 (IS/SPECAT/MCEO)

B. CG III MAF 120206Z FEB 70 (IS/SPECAT/MCEO)

C. CG FMFPAC 312121Z DEC 70 (IS/SPECAT/MCEO)

1. (IS) REF A RECOMMENDED AN 8.9K MAB WITH 51 RAD BN SPACES AND AN SSCT OF 9. REF B CONTAINS PROPOSED ADD-ONS TO THE 8.9K MAB TO REACH 9.4K IN RESPONSE TO CMC GUIDANCE. REF C PROVIDED THE INITIAL GUIDANCE IN DEVELOPING A 10.8K MAB.

2. (IS) THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO THE 8.9K MAB AS OUTLINED REF A, IN ADDITION TO THOSE CONTAINED REF B, ARE REQUESTED:

A. DELETE:

SSCT

S

DET RAD BN 51

B. ADD:

DET RAD BN 85

PAGE TWO RHMMAFA2469 TOP SECRET/EXCLUSIVE FOR/MCEO/

3. (IS) THE ABOVE CHANGE IS REQUIRED TO PROVIDE A MORE VIABLE RADIO BN CAPABILITY WHICH CANNOT BE SUSTAINED WITH THE 51 RAD BN SPACES LISTED REF A AND C. THE 85 SPACES IN THIS DETACHMENT WILL PROVIDE SUFFICIENT PERSONNEL FOR ACCOMPLISHMENT OF ASSIGNED MISSIONS.

WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

2469

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-67)

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	CG	F		9/74	JV	VISIT OF AMBASSADOR KOREN. (U)				
	DCG	I		2/21	13					
	C/S	I		1/21	9	REMARKS: DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Retain for _____ months. <input type="checkbox"/> Destroy after routing.				
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FOR**

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(B-21)

SECRET

PTTSZYUW RHMMAFA2467 05 11310-SSSS--RUHFMA.

ZNY SSSSS

P 201310Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF DNG RVN

TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR/BGEN WILSON FROM EGEN

DULACKI

//N05050//

VISIT OF AMBASSADOR KOREN (U)

A. ADMIN FMFPAC 172315Z FEB 70 (S)

1. (S) AS REQUESTED BY REF (A) THE FOLLOWING IS THE ITINERARY WHICH WE HAVE ARRANGED FOR AMBASSADOR KOREN:

DATE/TIME EVENT

25FEB70

-0900 ARR DNG BASE OPS/MET BY DEPUTY FOR CORDS
 0900-0910 ENR I CORPS(LZ-41)BY HELO(III MAF)
 0910-0930 CALL ON CG I CORPS(CG'S OFFICE)
 0930-1015 ENR QUANG TRI(CITADEL PAD)BY HELO(III MAF)
 1015-1130 DISCUSSIONS WITH PSA & PROVINCE CHIEF(PROVINCE HQ)
 1130-1145 ENR HUE(YD763215)BY HELO(III MAF)
 1145-1315 DISCUSSIONS WITH PSA & PROVINCE CHIEF(PROVINCE HQ)

PAGE TWO RHMMAFA2467 S E C R E T/EXCLUSIVE FOR//N05050//

1315-1400 LUNCH WITH PSA

1400-1430 ENR III MAF(LZ-1)BY HELO(III MAF)

1430-1450 CALL ON CG, III MAF(CG'S OFFICE)

1450-1500 ENR DNG BASE OPS BY HELO(III MAF)

1500- DEPART BY PRE-ARRANGED TRANSPORTATION

2. (U) WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

2467

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGESCOPY 1 OF 3 COPIES**SECRET**

(B-21)

**HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE**

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

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SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

SECRET

(B-15)

P 200131Z ZFF-1 ZFF-4
 FM CG III MAF
 TO COMUSMACV
 ZEM

S E C R E T/EYES ONLY FOR MGEN TOWNSEND FROM LTGEN
 NICKERSON

COMUSMACV VISIT TO ICTZ 19 FEBRUARY

1. THE FOLLOWING REPORT OF SUBJECT VISIT IS SUBMITTED.
2. COMUSMACV ARRIVED IN DANANG AT 1130 IN COMPANY WITH LTGEN ZAIS. TRAVELLED TO CCN BY HELO FOR PRESENTATION OF DSC AND TWO SILVER STARS AND THEN TO 101ST ABND IV CAMP EAGLE FOR PRESENTATION OF ANOTHER DSC.
3. AFTER LUNCH, COMUSMACV WAS BRIEFED AT III MAF ON THE COMMAND RELATIONS FOR III MAF AND XXIV CORPS AFTER TRANSFER OF AREA RESPONSIBILITIES TO XXIV CORPS ON 9 MARCH AND ON MOVEMENT PLANNING. COMMAND RELATIONS BRIEFING WAS BASED ON MACV DRAFT DIRECTIVE AND PROPOSED III MAF TERMS OF REFERENCE.
4. GEN ZAIS TOOK EXCEPTION TO THAT PORTION OF COMMAND RELATIONS WHICH INDICATED THAT III MAF WOULD HAVE OPCON OF CERTAIN FORCES SINCE HE WAS UNDER THE IMPRESSION THAT HE WOULD DEAL DIRECTLY WITH THE DIVISION AND AIRCRAFT WING WITH NO INTERVENING HQS. AND THAT III MAF'S RELATIONSHIP WOULD BE SIMILAR TO THAT WHICH NOW OBTAINS BETWEEN XXIV CORPS AND USARV. GEN NICKERSON EXPLAINED MARINE CORPS DOCTRINE IN REGARD TO THE DIVISION/WING TEAM AND THE REQUIREMENT FOR A CONTROLLING HEADQUARTERS.
5. COMUSMACV SUGGESTED THAT THIS CAN BE WORKED OUT SO THAT MOST SENSITIVITIES ARE ACCOMMODATED RECOGNIZING THAT THERE ARE DOCTRINAL MATTERS WHICH CANNOT BE OVERCOME. HE STATED THE USARV/XXIV CORPS RELATIONSHIP WAS NOT A VALID COMPARISON BECAUSE OF THE MARINE AIRCRAFT WING. HE STATED THAT HIS ONLY INTEREST WAS THAT EVERYONE CONCERNED BE BIG ENOUGH AND SHOW A LARGE ENOUGH MEASURE OF UNDERSTANDING SO THAT THERE WOULD BE NO ADVERSE IMPACT ON COMBAT OPERATIONS. COMUSMACV EMPHASIZED THAT THERE WAS NO POINT IN TRYING TO GET SOMETHING LIKE THIS RESOLVED IN WASHINGTON AND THAT IT COULD BE WORKED OUT LOCALLY.

110116

RE
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(B-15) #1

6. IT WAS POINTED OUT THAT THE III MAF DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE AUTHORIZE CG III MAF TO DELEGATE OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF THOSE ELEMENTS OF THE FORCE, AS MAY BE MUTUALLY AGREED UPON, TO THE DESIGNATED OVERALL COMMANDER.

7. COMUSMACV INQUIRED AS TO THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE ROKMC BDE WITH XXIV CORPS. HE WAS INFORMED THAT CURRENTLY III MAF USES THE TERM QUOTE OPERATIONAL GUIDANCE UNQUOTE AND THAT THIS SAME RELATIONSHIP WOULD EXIST BETWEEN XXIV CORPS AND THE ROKMC BDE. COMUSMACV SUGGESTED THAT THIS RELATIONSHIP BE RESEARCHED IN DOCUMENTS AND THAT IT BE INCLUDED IN THE MACV DIRECTIVE TO XXIV CORPS.

8. COMUSMACV WAS BRIEFED ON THE MOVEMENT PLANS. HE WAS INFORMED THAT APPROXIMATELY 80 MARINES WOULD AUGMENT THE XXIV CORPS STAFF AS REQUESTED BY XXIV CORPS IN ADDITION TO SOME COMMUNICATIONS PERSONNEL AND RADIO BATTALION PERSONNEL. COMUSMACV INQUIRED AS TO THE SIZE OF THE NEW III MAF STAFF AND WAS INFORMED IT WOULD GRADUALLY DRAW DOWN TO LESS THAN 200.

9. COMUSMACV INQUIRED CONCERNING THE DISPOSITION OF III MAF INTELLIGENCE FILES. HE WAS INFORMED THAT ALL DATA IS BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO XXIV CORPS, WHERE NECESSARY DUPLICATE FILES ARE BEING MADE, AND THAT OOB PERSONNEL FROM III MAF ARE INCLUDED IN THE MARINE AUGMENTATION TO XXIV CORPS.

10. COMUSMACV, GENERALS NICKERSON AND ZAIS THEN DISCUSSED ARVN COMMANDER EVALUATIONS.

11. GENERAL ABRAMS DEPARTED DANANG VIA T-39 AT 1542H. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

(SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS)

573

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(B-15) #2

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

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III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

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MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY
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PTTCZYUW RHMMAFA2403 0510400-CCCC--RUHHFMA RUEOFIA.

ZNY CCCC

RUHHFMA -I- CMC

P 200400Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHHFMA/CG FMFPAC

INFO RUEOFIA/CMC

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY //R03741//

FMFPAC FOR: COMPT; CMC FOR CODE AS-3.

A. SECDEF 122109Z FEB 70 (U) (NOTAL)

B. CG III MAF 152312Z FEB 70 (U) (NOTAL)

C. CG FMFPAC 100214Z FEB 70 (C) (M C E O) (NOTAL)

1. (U) REF A ANNOUNCED THE INTENT OF GAO TO CONDUCT A SURVEY OF U.S. REDEPLOYMENT FROM VIETNAM.

2. (U) DURING INITIAL CONTACTS WITH ON SITE GAO PERSONNEL MR TURNBOW WAS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE INFORMAL STATEMENTS OF THE FUNCTIONS HE EXPECTED TO ACCOMPLISH DURING HIS STAY AT III MAF AND THE INFORMATION HE DESIRED. STATEMENTS PROVIDED FOR YOUR INFORMATION:
QUOTE:

A. SUBJECT OF GAO REVIEW: MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AND PROCEDURES RELATING TO EXCESS MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT GENERATED FROM FORCE REDUCTIONS. BASED ON INFORMATION OBTAINED TO DATE, WE HAVE LEARNED THAT III MAF HAS BEEN ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACCOMPLISH-

PAGE TWO RHMMAFA2403 C O N F I D E N T I A L/MCEO
ING AND/OR COORDINATING CERTAIN MATERIEL MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS RELATED TO THE WITHDRAWAL OF MARINE CORPS FORCES. WE BELIEVE THAT III MAF IS IN THE BEST POSITION TO PROVIDE INFORMATION REGARDING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES PERTAINING TO THE SUBJECTS LISTED BELOW, AND TO PROVIDE STATISTICAL DATA REGARDING THESE SUBJECTS:
(1) REDISTRIBUTION OF T/E-T/A AND SPECIAL ALLOWANCE MATERIEL BETWEEN UNITS REDEPLOYING AND UNITS REMAINING IN-COUNTRY.

(2) TECHNICAL AND QUANTITATIVE INSPECTIONS TO ASSURE THAT UNITS REDEPLOY WITH ONLY AUTHORIZED, USEABLE EQUIPMENT.

(3) ADJUSTMENTS OF EQUIPMENT ALLOWANCES.

(4) TURN-IN, CUSTODY AND DISPOSITION OF GARRISON PROPERTY.
(5) MARINE CORPS PARTICIPATION IN THE U.S. PROGRAM FOR IMPROVEMENT AND MODERNIZATION OF THE VIETNAM ARMED FORCES.

(6) CANCELLATION AND/OR FRUSTRATION OF REDEPLOYING UNIT REQUISITIONS (OTHER THAN FLC AND 3D FSR BACKORDER CANCELLATIONS).

(7) REDISTRIBUTION OF DEACTIVATING UNIT MATERIEL WITHIN RVN AND WESTPAC.

WE WOULD LIKE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING THE ABOVE SUBJECTS FOR BOTH KEYSTONE CARDINAL AND KEYSTONE BLUEJAY. WE

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGES

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B-16

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PAGE THREE RHMMAFA2403 C O N F I D E N T I A L/MCEO
 WOULD ALSO LIKE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION REGARDING PROBLEMS EXPERIENCED IN KEYSTONE CARDINAL AND ACTIONS TAKEN TO PREVENT OR MINIMIZE RECURRENCE DURING KEYSTONE BLUEJAY.

B. REQUEST THAT INFORMATION LISTED BELOW BE PROVIDED FOR CONSIDERATION AND USE IN THE SUBJECT REVIEW. IN THE EVENT THAT III MAF CANNOT PROVIDE THIS INFORMATION, I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF THIS REQUEST IS EXPEDITIOUSLY FORWARDED TO THE COMMANDING GENERAL, FLEET MARINE FORCE, PACIFIC.

(1) INFORMATION REGARDING MARINE CORPS UNIT REDEPLOYMENT IN PHASE I, II, AND III OF THE FORCE REDUCTION, TO INCLUDE UNIT DESIGNATIONS, PERSONNEL STRENGTH, REDEPLOYMENT LOCATION, MODE OF TRANSPORTATION, AND IDENTIFICATION OF THOSE UNITS TO BE DEACTIVATED.

(2) UNIT DESIGNATIONS AND PERSONNEL STRENGTHS OF MARINE CORPS UNITS REMAINING IN VIETNAM SUBSEQUENT TO THE COMPLETION OF PHASE III FORCE REDUCTION. UNQUOTE.

3. (C) AS STATED REF B, NONE OF INFORMATION REQUESTED PARA 2B ABOVE PROVIDED THUS FAR. IN THIS REGARD, REF A STIPULATES THAT STATIONING PLANS FOR BLUEJAY AND INFORMATION ON FUTURE INCREMENTAL WITHDRAWALS WILL NOT BE DISCLOSED. REF C IS MORE RE-

PAGE FOUR RHMMAFA2403 C O N F I D E N T I A L/MCEO
 STRICTIVE AND RESTRICTS RELEASE OF PERSONNEL FIGURES RELATED TO EAGLE AND CARDINAL UNLESS APPROVED BY CMC.

4. (U) AS INDICATED PARA 2B ABOVE GAO AUDITORS DESIRE RELEASE OF INFO PROSCRIBED BY REF A FOR BLUEJAY AND REF C FOR EAGLE AND CARDINAL. HAVE INFORMED AUDITORS THAT RELEASE NOT AUTHORIZED THIS HQ AND ADVISED REQUEST WOULD BE FORWARDED TO CG, FMFPAC IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARA 2B (1).

5. (U) REQUEST ADVISE WHICH, IF ANY, INFO REQUESTED BY GAO IS AUTHORIZED FOR RELEASE TO AUDITORS.

GP-4

BT

2403

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGESCOPY 1 OF 3 COPIES**CONFIDENTIAL**

(B-16)

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

CONFIDENTIAL

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X - ORIGINATOR A - ACTION/COGNIZANCE C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I - INFORMATION S - SIGNATURE			FROM CG III MAF		DATE 29 FEB 70	
			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE P 201250Z		COPY NO. 2 OF 4 COPIES RECD.	
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
			IN	OUT		
	CG					CONFIDENTIAL EYES ONLY UNDER SECRETARY SEAL VISIT
	DCG	I		2/21	B	
	C/S	I		2/21	J	
	DC/S	I		2/21	MMO	
	DCS PLANS					REMARKS DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Retain for ___ months. <input type="checkbox"/> Destroy after routing. Return for permanent retention.
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B-17

CONFIDENTIAL

P 20125 0Z

FM CG III MAF
TO COMUSMACV
ZEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L EYES ONLY FOR GEN ABRAMS FROM LTGEN
NICKERSON

UNDER SECRETARY BEAL VISIT

1. AS YOU KNOW UNDER SECRETARY OF THE ARMY BEAL VISITED
I CORPS TODAY. RATHER THAN FORMALIZED BRIEFINGS, WE HAD
A ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION WITH SELECTED MEMBERS OF THE
III MAF, DSA, AND DEPCORDS STAFFS. I THOUGHT YOU WOULD
BE INTERESTED IN SUBJECTS RAISED BY MR. BEAL.

2. QUESTIONS WERE ASKED CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING:

A. THE STATUS OF ENEMY LOC'S IN LAOS; CURRENT LEVEL
OF USE BY THE NVA; THE EMPLOYMENT OF SENSORS IN THE
LAOTIAN PANHANDLE AND IN ICTZ.

B. WHETHER OR NOT ARVN USED SENSORS.

C. THE CURRENT LEVEL OF CROP DESTRUCTION AND USE OF
DEFOLIANTS IN ICTZ.

D. THE QUALITY OF NVA LEADERSHIP AND THE PERCENTAGE
OF NVA'S IN LEADERSHIP POSITIONS IN VC UNITS.

E. THE ORGANIZATION OF CAP'S AND AN EVALUATION OF
THE SUCCESS OF THE CAP PROGRAM. WHETHER OR NOT THERE
ARE ANY CONFLICTS BETWEEN THE CAP PROGRAM, THE CUPP
PROGRAM, AND THE MATS.

F. WHETHER THE ARVN EMPLOY APD, SLR, AND IR.
ANSWER WAS NEGATIVE; THIS SUPPORT IS FURNISHED BY US
FORCES AND WILL PROBABLY BE CONTINUED TO BE PROVIDED BY
THE TRANSITIONAL FORCES.

G. WHETHER III MAF IS EXPERIENCING ANY PROBLEMS WITH
THE ARMY IN REGARD TO THE TRANSFER OF AREA RESPONSIBILI-
TIES TO XXIV CORPS. ANSWER WAS NO PROBLEMS

H. WHETHER OR NOT THE ARVN 1ST AND 2D DIVISIONS
WERE REALLY THE BEST DIVISIONS IN RVN.

3. QUESTIONS WERE RAISED CONCERNING THE QUALITY OF
ADVISORS BOTH MILITARY AND CORDS. CURRENT PROGRAM OF
USARV TO IMPROVE RANK AND EXPERIENCE OF ADVISORS BY
TRANSFERRING PERSONNEL DIRECT FROM COMBAT UNITS TO
ADVISORY ROLES WAS DISCUSSED. MR. BEAL APPEARED TO BE
CONCERNED ABOUT NOT GETTING THE BEST PEOPLE IN THE
ADVISORY PROGRAM SO LONG AS COMMAND JOBS ARE THE MOST
IMPORTANT FACTOR IN SELECTION FOR PROMOTION. IT APPEARS
THAT HE WISHES TO SOMEHOW ATTACH AS MUCH IMPORTANCE TO
ADVISORY JOBS FOR SELECTION PURPOSES AS COMMAND JOBS IN
ORDER TO GET THE BEST PEOPLE TO VOLUNTEER FOR ADVISORY
PROGRAMS.

4. MR. BEAL APPEARED TO BE PLEASED WITH THE INFORMAL
DISCUSSIONS RATHER THAN BRIEFINGS. AFTER A COURTESY
CALL ON GENERAL LAM, MR. BEAL DEPARTED FOR VISIT WITH
AMERICAL DIVISION. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

(SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS)

400

(B-17)

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X - ORIGINATOR A - ACTION / COGNIZANCE C - COMMENT / RECOMMENDATION I - INFORMATION S - SIGNATURE			FROM CG III MAF		DATE 21 FEB 70	
			SERIAL NO/CONTROL DATE 210326Z FEB 70		COPY NO 2 OF 3 COPIES REC'D	
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
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	CG					SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR
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EYES ONLY
HAS BEEN SENT**

DISPOSITION	
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SECTION	SIGNATURE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERVSE

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(3-18)

SECRET

PTTSZYUW RHMMFA2125 0520326-SSSS--RUHFMA.
 ZNY SSSSS
 P 210326Z FEB 70
 FM CG III MAF
 TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

SECRET/SPECAT/EXCLUSIVE EYES ONLY FOR BGEN WILSON FROM
 BGEN DULACKI (DELIVER IMMEDIATELY)
 SERIOUS INCIDENT REPORT

1. THE FOLLOWING EYES ONLY MESSAGE HAS BEEN RECEIVED
 FROM MAJGEN WHEELER. QUOTE
 FM CG FIRST MARDIV
 TO CG III MAF

S E C R E T EYES ONLY FOR LTGEN NICKERSON FROM MAJGEN
 WHEELER

1. THIS IS AN INITIAL REPORT OF POSSIBLE SERIOUS INCIDENT
 INVOLVING ELEMENTS OF B/177 AND VIETNAMESE CIVILIANS OF
 THANG TAY (1) HAMLET, QUE SON DISTRICT, QUANG NAM PROVINCE,
 LOCATED APPROXIMATELY TWO MILES SOUTHWEST OF FSB ROSS.
 CIVILIANS ALLEGE U.S. MARINE UNIT ENTERED HAMLET ON 19
 FEB 1970 AND KILLED WOMEN AND CHILDREN. PATROL SENT TO
 CHECK ALLEGATION FOUND THE BODIES OF APPROXIMATELY SIX-

PAGE TWO RHMMFA2125 SECRET / SPECAT / EXCLUSIVE EYES ONLY
 TEEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN RECENTLY SLAIN BY SMALL ARMS FIRE
 M-16 AND .45 CAL CARTRIDGE CASES WERE NOTED IN THE
 IMMEDIATE AREA. EARLIER A PATROL FROM B/177 HAD REPORTED
 A CONTACT AT 2000, 19 FEB IN THE SAME AREA WITH AN
 ESTIMATED 25 VC RESULTING IN 6 ENEMY KILLS. THERE ARE
 SOME INDICATIONS THAT THIS REPORT IS INACCURATE. FULL
 SCALE INQUIRY COMMENCING IMMEDIATELY. FURTHER DETAILS
 AS AVAILABLE. UNQUOTE WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

2125

PAGE 2 OF 3 PAGES

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SECRET

B-18

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

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			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE 221230Z FEB 70		COPY NO. 1 OF 3 COPIES RECD.					
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT				
			IN	OUT						
	CG					AWARD, CASE OF 1STLT C. G. COFFMAN, JR. US MARCOR				
	DCG									
	C/S	I	2/23		2	REMARKS				
	DC/S									
	DCS PLANS					DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Retain for _____ months. <input type="checkbox"/> Destroy after routing. Return for permanent retention.				
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RELEASE: CG

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(B-19)

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PAGE THREE RHMMAFA2703 C O N F I D E N T I A L / EXCLUSIVE FOR/
 BUNKER AND RETURNED TO THE AREA WHERE MORE WOUNDED MEN
 WERE LOCATED. THROUGHOUT THE ROCKED ATTACK, DURING
 WHICH 11 ROCKETS (ALL 122MM) IMPACTED DIRECTLY INSIDE
 THE COMPANY LIVING AREA, LT COFFMAN DEMONSTRATED THE TYPE
 OF COURAGE EXPECTED OF A MARINE LEADER. AFTER THE ROCKETS
 CEASED FALLING, HE REMAINED IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ACTION,
 HELPING TO CONTROL FIRES AND EXPLODING SMALL ARMS AMMU-
 NITION OF ALL TYPES THAT WERE GOING OFF. WHEN THINGS
 RETURNED TO A MORE NORMAL STATE, HE SAT DOWN AND BEGAN
 TO RESHUFFLE UNINJURED PERSONNEL FROM TEAM TO TEAM TO
 ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE PLANNED MORNING SCHEDULE. ONLY
 AFTER THIS WAS COMPLETED DID HE PERMIT ANYONE TO DRESS HIS
 WOUNDS. THE WOUNDS INCLUDED FRAGMENTS IN THE LEG, SEVERAL
 CUTS FROM FRAGMENTS ALONG THE SIDE, THREE OR FOUR FRAGMENTS
 IN THE ARM, AND A FRAGMENT IMBEDDED IN HIS HEAD. LT
 COFFMAN'S ACTIONS UNDER THE PRESSURE OF EXTREME DANGER WERE
 OF THE HIGHEST ORDER, AND SERVED AS AN INSPIRATION TO ALL
 WHO OBSERVED HIM. (NOTE: ACTION TOOK PLACE IN DARKNESS
 AFTER A ROCKET KNOCKED OUT THE ELECTRIC POWER. ONLY
 SOURCES OF ILLUMINATION WERE FLASHLIGHTS AND BURNING

PAGE FOUR RHMMAFA2703 C O N F I D E N T I A L / EXCLUSIVE FOR/
 BUILDINGS). UNQUOTE. WARM REGARDS

GP-4

BT

2703

PAGE 2 OF 2 PAGESCOPY 1 OF 3 COPIES**CONFIDENTIAL**

(B-19)

Memorandum

From: Commanding General

To: US

Personal for to the Base &
 I was, ^{at the time} aware of the action
 described below by Major Lee ~~and~~
 Coffman had done a very
 fine job. His conduct since
 then has been most welcomed
 making numerous insertions in
 the Achan. On one occasion

B-19

EYEWITNESS STATEMENT

STATEMENT OF MAJOR ALEX LEE 070686/0302 USMC
COMMANDING OFFICER, THIRD FORCE RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY

On the night of 31 August 1969, First Lieutenant C. C. Coffman, Jr., and I were sitting in our hut discussing the next days operations. At approximately 2230, a 122MM rocket impacted at the end of the company street and numerous voices were heard calling for corpsman. We both immediately departed from the hut, Lieutenant Coffman from his end and me from the other. As he ran out the door at the end of his hut, another rocket impacted directly on top of the hut across the street. Lieutenant Coffman was thrown violently to the ground by the concussion and wounded by fragmentation. Reacting immediately, he was on his feet again and was running toward the wounded men. On arriving he found that HM3 Redondo was seriously wounded having a considerable portion of his arm torn away and being paralyzed from the waist down. Lieutenant Coffman placed a tourniquet on the shattered arm and hoisted the corpsman to his shoulders. Carrying the wounded man he began to run toward the shelter of a bunker, when another 122MM rocket hit very nearby and knocked him down and wounded him for the second time. This happened twice more as he moved toward the bunker. Once he had the corpsman in a place of relative safety, Lieutenant Coffman immediately left the bunker and returned to the area where more wounded men were located. Throughout the rocket attack, during which 11 rockets (all 122MM) impacted directly inside the company living area, Lieutenant

B-19

Coffman demonstrated the type of courage expected of a Marine Leader. After the rockets ceased falling, he remained in the middle of the action, helping to control fires and exploding small arms ammunition of all types that were going off. When things returned to a more normal state, he sat down and began to reshuffle uninjured personnel from team to team to ensure compliance with the planned morning schedule. Only after this was completed did he permit anyone to dress his wounds. The wounds included fragments in the leg, several cuts from fragments along the side, three or four fragments in the arm, and a fragment imbedded in his head. Lieutenant Coffman's actions under the pressure of extreme danger were of the highest order, and served as an inspiration to all who observed him.

(Note: Action took place in darkness after a rocket knocked out the electric power. Only sources of illumination were flashlights and burning buildings.)


ALEX LEE

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	DATE 23 FEB 70
SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE 230656Z FEB 70					COPY NO: 3 OF 3 COPIES DEST.	
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
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REMARKS:

DISPOSITION:

Retain for ___ months.

Destroy after routing.

Section	Signature

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The Record of Disclosure must be signed by all persons sighting this document.

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B-22

TOP SECRET

OITIZYUW RHMAFA2791 0540656-TTTT--RUHFMA.

ZNY TTTT

O 230656Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC

BT

TOP SECRET/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE FROM LTGEN
NICKERSON MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY

(DELIVER DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS)

FORCE PLANNING (U)

A. CG FMFPAC 212106Z FEB 70 (TS/SPECAT/MCEO)

B. CG III MAF 211234Z JAN 70 (TS/SPECAT/MCEO)

1. (TS) AS REQUESTED REF A, TRADE OFF FOR INCREASE IN RAD BN
STRENGTH IS IDENTIFIED AS A REDUCTION IN THE D/S ARTY BN
(REIN), REF B. CHANGE ARTY BN (REIN) FROM 742 TO 717.

WARM REGARDS. LTGEN NICKERSON.

GP-4

BT

2791

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

C 240000Z ZNY 275-A
FM CG III MAF
TO COMNAVEFORV
INFO 704/COM 70000 NOR
ZNY



TOP SECRET SENSITIVE EYES ONLY PERSONAL FOR WADM ZUNIALT
INFO RADM DILLON FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
(DELIVER DURING NORMAL WORKING HOURS)
FORCE PLANNING (U)

A. COMNAVEFORV 190140Z FEB 70 (TS/EYES ONLY)
1. (TS) PROPOSAL FOR 6.5K MAB CONTAINED REF A HAS BEEN CON-
SIDERED AND DISCUSSED WITH RADM DILLON. BELIEVE FOLLOWING
COMMENTS PERTINENT:
A. THE MAB PACKAGE SUBMITTED TO WADM TOTALLED 10,800.
THIS IS CONSIDERED THE SMALLEST FORCE POSSESSING THE CAPABILITIES
REQUIRED TO ACCOMPLISH THE EXPECTED MAB MISSION.
B. IN OUR DISCUSSIONS HERE ON 18 JAN, IT WAS AGREED THAT
ONE MCB WOULD DEPART IN AUGUST AND ONE MCB IN SEPTEMBER. IN
VIEW OF RECENT AND ANTICIPATED CANCELLATIONS OF WOPN, DILLON
CONSIDERS THAT THE EQUIVALENT OF TWO AND ONE-THIRD MCBs COULD
REDEPLOY IN AUGUST AND TWO-THIRDS OF A BATTALION COULD REDEPLOY
IN SEPTEMBER. HOPEFULLY THIS COULD BE CREDITED TO REDEPLOYMENT
QUOTAS. DILLON ASSURES ME THAT HE CAN MEET YOUR ACTON REQUIRE-
MENTS AND SUPPORT THE MAB WITH A TWO BATTALION FORCE.
WARM REGARDS.
GP-4
JBT

NNNN

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TOP SECRET

(B-23)

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

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III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

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			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE P 241252Z FEB 70		COPY NO. 2 OF 4 COPIES REC'D.	
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
			IN	OUT		
	CG					CONFIDENTIAL
	DCG	I		2/20	JS	CG XXIV CORPS VISIT TO TASK FORCE
	C/S	I		25	S	ALPHA
	DC/S					REMARKS
	DCS PLANS					DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Retain for _____ months. <input type="checkbox"/> Destroy after routing. Return for permanent retention.
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P 241252Z ZFF-3 ZFF-6
FM CG III MAF
TO COMUSMACV
INFO CG XXIV CORPS
ZEM

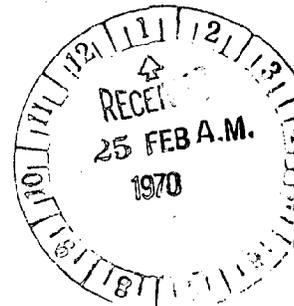
C O N F I D E N T I A L/EYES ONLY FOR MGEN TOWNSEND FROM LTGEN
NICKERSON INFO LTGEN ZAIS

CG XXIV CORPS VISIT TO TASK FORCE ALFA

1. I HAVE APPROVED LTGEN ZAIS REQUEST FOR TRIP TO TASK
FORCE ALPHA, NAKHOM PHANOM, ON 28 FEB, DEPARTING DANANG
0800 AND RETURNING 1530. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS
105



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HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

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			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE 241445Z FEB 70		COPY NO. 2 OF 3 COPIES RECD.	
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT CONFIDENTIAL
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	CG	I		25 Feb	N	KINGFISHERS
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	C/S	I		2/25	2	REMARKS
	DC/S					
	DCS PLANS					DISPOSITION: <input type="checkbox"/> Retain for _____ months. <input type="checkbox"/> Destroy after routing. Return for permanent retention.
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P 241445Z ZFF-I ZFF-A
FM CG III MAF
TO CG FIRST MARDIV
ZEM

6/2/70 | *as*

C O N F I D E N T I A L / P E R S O N A L F O R M G E N W H E E L E R , F R O M L T G E N
N I C K E R S O N
K I N G F I S H E R S

1. ED, IF IT DOESN'T HURT YOU PLEASE CONTINUE
KINGISHERS IN AREAS YOU ELECT AND NOT AS A TECHNIQUE
APPLIED ACROSS THE BOARD. NEITHER LTGEN BUSE NOR I
WOULD CRUSH AN INNOVATION OR NEW TECHNIQUE. I HAVE
SERIOUS RESERVATIONS ONLY SO FAR AS THE COMPETITIVE
REQUIREMENTS FOR HELICOPTERS AND ASSOCIATED AIR SUPPORT
IS MULTIPLIED BY THREE. PLEASE CONTINUE BUT UNDER
YOUR GUIDANCE. SORRY I CAUSED YOU ANGUISH.
WARM REGARDS. LTGEN NICKERSON

GR-4

SSO NOTE: DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS
130

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NNNN

B-21

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X- ORIGINATOR A- ACTION/COGNIZANCE C- COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I- INFORMATION S- SIGNATURE			FROM CG III MAF DNG RVN		DATE 25 FEB 70	
			SERIAL NO/CONTROL DATE 250820Z FEB 70		COPY NO 1 OF 3 COPIES REC'D	
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
			IN	OUT		
	CG	I		2/26	N	SIR
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	DC/S	I		2/26	N	
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	SGT MAJ					

DRAFTED: G/S
RELEASE: G/G

**EXCLUSIVE
FOR
HAS BEEN SENT**

(USE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

SECRET

B-22

SECRET

PTTSZYUW RHMAFA3002 0560820-SSSS--RUHHFMA.

ZNY SSSSS

P 250820Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUHHFMA/CG FMFPAC

INFO RUMLLUA/CG FIRST MARDIV

BT

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

A. CG III MAF 210326Z FEB 70 (SPECAT)

B. CG III MAF 230734Z FEB 70

C. CG III MAF 250550Z FEB 70

1. REFERENCES REPORTED SERIOUS INCIDENT INVOLVING PATROL
 FROM B/1/7 ON 19 FEB 70 IN WHICH SIXTEEN WOMEN AND
 CHILDREN WERE KILLED.

2. THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS PROVIDED.

3. MEMBERS OF THE PATROL, ALL VOLUNTEERS, HAD LIMITED
 EXPERIENCE IN NIGHT PATROL ACTIVITIES. LCPL HERROD, PATROL
 LEADER, WAS AWAITING ACTION ON COURT-MARTIAL FOR UA; HE
 HAD NOT PREVIOUSLY ACTED AS PATROL LEADER IN VIEW OF HIS
 PENDING REDUCTION IN RANK. HE WAS DESIGNATED PATROL
 LEADER ON THIS OCCASION BECAUSE OF HIS ABILITIES IN NIGHT

PAGE TWO RHMAFA3002 S E C R E T / S P E C A T / E X C L U S I V E F O R /
 N A V I G A T I O N A N D H I S E X T E N S I V E E X P E R I E N C E I N T H E B U S H. T H I S
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 R E S U L T I N G F R O M M A N Y D A Y S O F S U S T A I N E D E N E M Y C O N T A C T.

4. REQUEST THIS HQS BE NOTIFIED AS SOON AS PARENTS OF THE
 FIVE ACCUSED HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED. NAMES WILL NOT BE
 RELEASED TO THE PRESS UNTIL THAT TIME. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

3002

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGESCOPY 1 OF 3 COPIES**SECRET**

(B-22)

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X- ORIGINATOR A- ACTION / COGNIZANCE C- COMMENT / RECOMMENDATION I- INFORMATION S- SIGNATURE			FROM CG III MAF DNG RVN		DATE 27 FEB 70					
			SERIAL NO / CONTROL DATE 270230Z FEB 70		COPY NO 1 OF 3 COPIES REC'D					
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	DCS PLANS					<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>DISPOSITION</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RETAIN FOR ___ MONTHS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DESTROY AFTER ROUTING</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RETURN FOR PERMANENT RETENTION</p> </div> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <th>SECTION</th> <th>SIGNATURE</th> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </table>	SECTION	SIGNATURE		
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**EXCLUSIVE
FOR
MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY
HAS BEEN SENT**

S/S Give me copy for retention.

DRAFTED: C/S
RELEASE: C/S

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

SECRET

B-23

SECRET

OTTZYUW RHMMFA3187 0580230-SSSS--RUMLLUA.

ZNY SSSSS

O 270230Z FEB 70

FM CG III MAF

TO RUMLLUA/CG FIRST MARDIV

BT

S E C R E T/SPECAT/EXCLUSIVE FOR/MGEN WHEELER FROM LTGEN
NICKERSON/MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY/ (DELIVER IMMEDIATELY)
SIR1. THE FOLLOWING CMC MESSAGE IS FORWARDED FOR YOUR
INFORMATION AND ACTION.

QUOTE...

P 261601Z FEB 70

FM CMC

TO RUMHMA/CG FMFPAC

INFO RHMMFA/CG III MAF

BT

S E C R E T SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR LTGEN BUSE AND LTGEN
NICKERSON FROM GENERAL CHAPMAN.

A. CG III MAF 210326Z FEB 70 (SPECAT) (NOTAL)

B. CG III MAF 230734Z FEB 70

C. CG III MAF 260550Z FEB 70

PAGE TWO RHMMFA3187 S E C R E T/SPECAT/EXCLUSIVE FOR/MCEO/

D. CG III MAF 260820Z FEB 70

1. (S) THE THANG TAY INCIDENT REPORTED IN THE REFERENCES
HAS HIGH LEVEL INTEREST. OF PARTICULAR CONCERN AT THIS
TIME ARE THE ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS.A. WHAT INSTRUCTIONS OR RULES OF ENGAGEMENT ARE
GIVEN TO ALL INDIVIDUALS AND TROOP UNITS PRIOR TO
COMMITMENT?B. WAS SUCH INSTRUCTION GIVEN TO LCPL HERROD AND
MEMBERS OF THE PATROL PRIOR TO THIS ACTION?

2. (U) AN EARLY REPLY WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

3. (U) IN ADDITION I WOULD APPRECIATE A DAILY REPORT ON
THE PROGRESS OF THE INVESTIGATION WITH AS MANY DETAILS
AS IT IS APPROPRIATE TO FORWARD. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

UNQUOTE...

2. IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE RESPONSES TO THE TWO QUESTIONS
ABOVE BE PROVIDED THIS HQS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AND ON AN
EXPEDITED BASIS VIA MCEO CHANNELS.

3. IT IS FURTHER REQUESTED THAT THE DAILY REPORTS BE

PAGE 1 OF 2 PAGESCOPY 1 OF 3 COPIES**SECRET**

B-23

HEADQUARTERS
III MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE

SECRET

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X- ORIGINATOR A- ACTION / COGNIZANCE C- COMMENT / RECOMMENDATION I- INFORMATION S- SIGNATURE			FROM CG III MAF		DATE 27 FEB 70					
			SERIAL NO/CONTROL DATE 271350Z. FEB 70		COPY NO 1 OF 3 COPIES REC'D					
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT				
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	DC/S	I	2/28	11/28						
	DCS PLANS					<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>DISPOSITION</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RETAIN FOR ___ MONTHS</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> DESTROY AFTER ROUTING</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> RETURN FOR PERMANENT RETENTION</p> </div> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; margin-top: 5px;"> <tr> <th>SECTION</th> <th>SIGNATURE</th> </tr> <tr> <td> </td> <td> </td> </tr> </table>	SECTION	SIGNATURE		
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**EXCLUSIVE
FOR**

MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY
HAS BEEN SENT.

cc/ to c/s

(USE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE)

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

SECRET

B-24

SECRET

PTTSZYUW RHMMAFA3268 0581350-SSSS--RUEOFIA RUHFMA.
 ZNY SSSSS
 RUHFMA -I- CMC
 P 271350Z FEB 70
 FM CG III MAF
 TO RUEOFIA/CMC
 INFO RUHFMA/CG FMFPAC
 BT

S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR GEN CHAPMAN INFO LTGEN BUSE
 FROM LTGEN NICKERSON MARINE CORPS EYES ONLY (DELIVER
 DURING WORKING HOURS)

INFORMATION PERTAINING TO SIR 1/7
 A. CMC MSG 261601Z FEB 70 (S) (SPECAT)
 B. MCO 1510.12

1. THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS PROVIDED IN RESPONSE TO
 REF A:

A. ALL NEW ENL PERS REPT 1/7 ARE GIVEN FIVE DAY BN
 ORIENTATION TO INCLUDE RULES OF ENGAGEMENT. INST BASED
 ON STANDARD DIVO STRESSES USE OF ALL REASONABLE MEANS TO
 PROTECT INNOCENT CIVILIANS APPROPRIATE TO TACTICAL SITU-
 ATION AND IS IN ACCORD WITH DIR HIGHER AUTH.

B. LCPL HERROD SRB INDICATES HE RECD PREDEPLOYMENT
 TRNG IAW REF B PRIOR REPT 3DMARDIV JUN 1969. UPON REPT

PAGE TWO RHMMAFA3268 S E C R E T/SPECAT EXCLUSIVE FOR/MCO
 1/7 SEP 1969 HERROD RECD TWO DAY COMPANY ORIENTATION WHICH
 INCLUDED RULES OF ENGAGEMENT. DID NOT REC STANDARD FIVE
 DAY BN ORIENTATION BECAUSE OF 3DMARDIV SERVICE.

C. OFFICIAL RULES FOLLOWED IN AREA OF PATROL: AFTER
 DARK ALL PERS OUTSIDE HUTS WERE CONSIDERED VC; NO CHALLENGE
 REQ UNLESS CARRYING LIGHT. DISTRICT CHIEF CONCURRED AND
 HAD TRIED NUMEROUS OCCASIONS TO MOVE ALL PERS FROM THIS
 AREA. VCI FREQUENTLY HELD MEETINGS IN HAMLETS SO PATROLS
 REGULARLY CHECKED HUTS. NOT AUTH TO MOLEST CIVILIANS
 EXCEPT TO CHECK FOR VC AND TO APPREHEND IF FOUND.

D. PRIOR TO PATROL CO, B/1/7, 1STLT L. R. AMBORT
 0106723, BRIEFED MEMBERS. TOLD PATROL IT WAS ROVING
 AMBUSH, TO REMEMBER CASUALTIES RECENTLY RECD, AND TO
 SHOOT FIRST AND ASK QUESTIONS LATER. PLT SGT HOWEVER
 SPECIFICALLY REMINDED PATROL THAT THESE INST MEANT TO
 SHOOT AT VALID TARGET ONLY AND THAT MEMBERS MUST USE THEIR
 HEADS DURING PATROL.

E. BELIEVE ATTEMPT TO CONCEAL FACTS BY PATROL STRONG
 PRIMA FACIE EVID OF KNOWLEDGE RULES OF ENGAGEMENT.

2. WARM REGARDS.

GP-4

BT

3268

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGE

COPY 1 OF 3 COPIE

SECRET

UNCLAS EFTO III HEADQUARTERS MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE
UNCLASSIFIED

III MAF FORM 5216 (REV. 8-69)

OPERATION CODE X - ORIGINATOR A - ACTION/COGNIZANCE C - COMMENT/RECOMMENDATION I - INFORMATION S - SIGNATURE			FROM CG III MAF		DATE 03 MAR 70	
			SERIAL NO./CONTROL DATE 030912Z MAR 70		COPY NO. 2 OF 8 COPIES RECD.	
ROUTE	SECTION	CODE	DATE		INITIAL	SUBJECT
			IN	OUT		
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(USE REVERSE FOR ADDITIONAL SPACE)

UNCLAS EFTO
 B-25

SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON REVERSE

UNCLASSIFIED

NO BUACAAJ/CG THIRD MARDIV
 RUMMHA/CG FIRST MAF
 RUMLLUA/CG FIRST MARDIV
 RUMHNP/CG FORLOGCOMD
 ZEN/HANDS CO III MAF
 ZEN/CAF

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

FOR MGEN JONES, MGEN THRASH, MGEN WHEELER,
 BGEN PADALINO, COL METZGER, COL HOFF FROM LTGEN NICKERSON
 III MAF RESERVE FOR CONTINGENCIES FUND

1. SINCE ITS INCEPTION IN JAN 1966, THE III MAF COMPOSITE RECREATION FUND HAS RECEIVED NEARLY 13 MILLION DOLLARS, NINETY FIVE PERCENT OF THIS INCOME CAME FROM THE ARMY/AIR FORCE EXCHANGE SYSTEM WELFARE FUND. THE REMAINDER WAS REALIZED FROM BOWLING ALLEY AND TAPE RESALE ACTIVITIES AND INTEREST.
2. IN JULY 1969, I APPROVED A RECOMMENDATION OF THE AREA RECREATION COUNCIL ESTABLISHING A RESERVE FOR CONTINGENCIES FUND

PAGE TWO RHMMAFA0252 UNCLAS E F T O

ASSESSING EACH COUNCIL MEMBER \$.50/MAN/MONTH.

3. PURPOSE OF THE "FUND" IS TO PROVIDE FOR LARGE SCALE EXPENDITURES BEYOND INDIVIDUAL COMMAND CAPABILITY AND FOR GENERAL BENEFIT OF ALL MARINES REPRESENTED BY THE COUNCIL.

4. THE "FUND" HAS GROWN TO A FACE VALUE OF \$307,150. BUT I KNOW OF NO CONTINGENCY NOR DO I FORSEE A NEED IN RVN FOR UTILIZATION OF THE "FUND". (RECREATION FUND MONIES TRANSFERRED TO COUNCIL MEMBER COMMANDS SINCE THE III MAF REC FUND WAS ESTABLISHED IN JAN 1966 TOTAL \$10,674,312 OF \$12,989,871 RECEIVED THROUGH 31 JAN 70.)

5. I HAVE CONSIDERED DISPOSITION ALTERNATIVES. AN APPORTIONMENT OF THE "FUND" AMONG THE GENERATIVE UNITS DOWN TO REGIMENT/AIRCRAFT GROUP LEVEL WOULD RESULT IN AT LEAST A 15 WAY SPLIT WITH THE SINGLE RESULT THAT PURCHASING AND EARNING POWER OF THE "FUND" WOULD BE DRASTICALLY REDUCED AND DILUTED.

6. I AM CONVINCED THAT THE MOST EQUITABLE AND EFFECTIVE UTILIZATION OF THE "FUND" FOR THE MAXIMUM NUMBER OF MARINES WILL RESULT IF IT IS FORWARDED TO THE CENTRAL MARINE CORPS RECREATION FUND, HQMC. THE PROSPECT OF LEAN

PAGE THREE RHMMAFA0252 UNCLAS E F T O

YEARS AHEAD AND THE INCREASING NEED FOR IMPROVED AND NEW RECREATION FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT AT OUR PERMANENT BASES, WORLD WIDE, ARE COMPELLING REASONS FOR THIS DECISION.

7. YOUR COOPERATION IN THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE "FUND" IS NOTED WITH APPRECIATION. THE "FUND" WILL CONTINUE AS CONSTITUTED AND DETAILS OF ALL TRANSACTIONS WILL BE THOROUGHLY DISSEMINATED TO COUNCIL MEMBERS.

WARM REGARDS.

BT

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B-25