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NAVMC HQ 335H-CMC (REV. 11-57)

4003 A21363

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G-3 DIVISION

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3		8/1			Deputy ACofS, G-3
		8/1			Asst G-3
2	F	8/1		WMS	Admin & Fisco. Br
					Plans Branch
					PolDoct&Prod Sect
					Strat Plans Sect
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1	X	8/1		WMS	Opns Branch Branch
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OF

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

FOR : Chief of Staff

DATE:

AO3H10-dnw
003A21363

AUG 1 1963

FROM : Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3

SUBJECT: Security Platoon; Operation SHUFLY

Ref: (a) Discussion between BGen MCCUTCHEON and LtCol VALE,
G-3 Division at HQMC on 31 July 63
(b) Telecon between LtCol SHIELDS, G-3 Section, Hq,
FMFPAC and LtCol VALE, G-3 Division of 31 July 63

1. Purpose. To reply to the Chief of Staff's query, TAB A, re proposal in TAB B to withdraw the security platoon currently deployed with Operation SHUFLY.

2. Background.

a. TAB C is a message from CG FMFPAC which informed CMC of the decision to deploy the platoon composed of 3d MarDiv personnel to Vietnam on 1 April 1963 in support of Operation SHUFLY. The purpose of the deployment is to provide increased local security and assist in rescue operations. As a bonus effect the 3d MarDiv personnel involved benefit from the area indoctrination received.

b. The withdrawal plan in TAB B was prepared in response to a JCS directive to submit plans for withdrawing 1000 personnel from Vietnam. The units selected are as CINCPAC indicates, "those that can be earmarked for withdrawal at this juncture without accepting an unjustifiable degradation of operational capabilities".

c. References (a) and (b) provided the following information:

(1) CG FMFPAC was not consulted in the preparation of TAB B and does not hold a copy of it, however, Marines on CINCPAC's staff assisted in its preparation (references (a) and (b)).

(2) One objective in selecting the proposed list of units was to make an across the board reduction affecting all the services. Based upon the numbers of personnel in Vietnam the reductions are about equal percentage-wise (reference (a)).

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003A21363

Subj: Security Platoon; Operation SHUFLY

(3) If Marine Corps personnel must be reduced in that area then the security platoon is the most logical unit to withdraw first. The other Marines there are more actively participating in counter guerrilla operations (reference (b)).

3. Discussion.

a. The withdrawal of the platoon will undoubtedly leave a void in security of SHUFLY operations which will have to be filled by either South Vietnamese Army or SHUFLY personnel. In the latter case helicopter operations will be degraded accordingly. However, although not by Marine Corps choice, operations were conducted in DANANG for over 6 months without the security platoon. This required squadron and MABS personnel to provide their own security.

b. The plan in TAB B is now being written up in a paper by the Joint Staff for early consideration by the JCS. Marine Corps non-concurrence in the paper should be based upon strong reasons. Such reasons are not readily apparent at this time since the method of operation used at SOC TRANG was successful, gives combat experience to the unit and maintains a Marine position of high repute in the area.

4. Recommendation. It is recommended that the Marine Corps concur in the proposed withdrawal of the security platoon.

R. E. Cushman, Jr.
R. E. CUSHMAN, JR.

8 AUG 1963

APPROVED *W* WALLACE M. GREENE, JR.
Chief of Staff

DISAPPROVED _____

*C/S discussed
this proposal
with R. E. Cushman
me Cushman
C. M. Cushman
prior to action
approved above* 2 *W*

SECRET

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF

26

From: Chief of Staff

To: 6-3

note proposed
 security platoon
 withdrawal. In
 this a good idea -
 w/o withdrawing helio
 squadron. Coord with
 time. Coord with
 Dep C/S (air) & Dep (P&P)
 Dep C/S & C/S
 or make rec to stop - or -
 re action to stop - or -
 concurrence & why.

②

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF

21

From: Chief of Staff

To: DGS

show c/s

✓
CINCPAC to DCS

212210

P

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NAVAL MESSAGE

SECRET

NAVY DEPARTMENT

PRECEDENCE PRIORITY	(ACTION)	RELEASED BY	DRAFTED BY	EXT. NO.
ROUTINE	(INFO)			

7P R 212210Z
FM CINCPAC CP HM SMITH HAW
TO RUECW/JCS

INFO RUMSMA/COMUSMACV
RUHAFS/CINCUSARPAC
RUHPB/CINCPACFLT
RUHLKM/PACAF

-S E C R E T

WITHDRAWAL 1000 U.S. MILITARY FROM VIETNAM
A. JCS 9820 DTG 091805Z MAY (NOTAL)
B. JCS 1114 DTG 051714Z JUN (NOTAL)
C. MY DTG 260440Z MAY

1. PLAN FOR WITHDRAWAL OF 1000 MILITARY PERSONNEL FROM VEITNAM IS SUBMITTED HERewith IN ACCORDANCE WITH REFS A AND B.

2. PLANNING BASIS:

A. WITHDRAWAL WILL BE ORDERED IF PROGRESS IN THE COUNTER-INSURGENCY CAMPAIGN WARRANTS SUCH ACTION, PART IV REF A PERTAINS.

B. OBJECTIVE IS TO WITHDRAW UNITS RATHER THAN INDIVIDUALS TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE TO GAIN MAXIMUM PSYCHOLOGICAL IMPACT RATHER THAN REACH A PREDETERMINED IN-COUNTRY STRENGTH BY END CY 63.

C. WITHDRAWAL, IF DECREED, SHOULD TAKE PLACE WITH MINIMUM IMPACT ON THE COMBINED US-RVN CAPABILITIES TO BRING COUNTER-INSURGENCY CAMPAIGN TO SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION IN SHORTEST POSSIBLE TIME.

D. DECISION TO WITHDRAW WILL BE MADE NOT EARLIER THAN 1 OCT NOR LATER THAN 31 OCT BY REASON OF SEVERAL CONFLICTING FACTORS:

(1) THE HIGHLY VOLATILE SITUATION IN LAOS MAKES IT PRUDENT

-ACT...JCS/J3-6

CJCS-2 DJS-3 SJCS-3 J1-2 J4-2 J5-1 SACSA-1 DIA/CIIC-3 NMCC-2
JSSC-1 RRA-1 SAMAA-1 File-2(30)wd

- CNO CSA CSAF CMC

FM: CINCPAC
TO: JCS

60(2)...COG

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NAVAL MESSAGE

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NAVY DEPARTMENT

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THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN 1000 AND TOTAL UNIT STRENGTHY BE ABSORBED IN UNITS FOR PURPOSES OF WITHDRAWAL. FURTHER STUDY MAKES EVIDENT THAT THIS COURSE OF ACTION WOULD BE UNDESIRABLE. AN ALERT PRESS WOULD READILY ASCERTAIN THE FACTS WITH RESULTANT UNFAVORABLE PUBLICITY AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, THE WITHDRAWAL OF INDIVIDUAL ADVISORS IS AS NEWS-WORTHY AS UNITS SINCE THE REASON FOR TERMINATION OF ASSIGNMENT IS THAT THEIR COUNTERPART HAS BEEN BROUGHT TO A LEVEL OF PROFESSIONAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY (THE CONCEPT OF WORKING ONESELF OUT OF A JOB). THE SHORT ALL OF 474 (1000 LESS 526) IS ALLOCATED AMONG THE MAAG, U.S. ARMY SUPPORT GROUP, 2D AIR DIV, MACV AND HSAS IN EQUITABLE PROPORTION.

4. PHASING OF WITHDRAWAL.

A. THE WITHDRAWAL SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN SEVERAL INCREMENTY, EACH LARGE ENOUGH AND SUFFICIENTLY SPACED FOR NEWS PROMINENCE AND COVER. THIS POINTS TOH3 OR 4 INCREMENTS.

B. FIRST INCREMENT, CLEARLY THE MOST IMPORTANT, SHOULD THEREFORE, CONTAIN COLORFUL ELEMENTS, WIDE SPECTRUM OF SKILLS AND REPRESENTATION OF ALL SERVICES AND COMPOSED EXCLUSIVELY OF PERSONNEL BOQND FOR CONUS.

C. FOLLOWING IS TENTATIVE COMPOSITPON OF FIRST INCREMENT. READ IN TWO COLUMNS: ELEMENT/STRENGTH

ELEMENT	STRENGTH
ARMY UNITS	
MED CA	30
ENGR CONTGOL/ADV	36
1 PLAT HELO CO.	66
ADVISORS	25
AIR FORCE UNITS	
DET, 1964 COMM GP	56
ADVISORS	12
MARINE CORPS UNITS	
SECURITY PLATOON	47
NAVY UNITS	
ADVISORS	4
	276

5. I WILL SUBMIT THZ PUBLIC AFFAIRS PLAN AFTER DISCUSSIONS NEXT WEEK IN WASHINGTON. GP FOUR

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NNNNZCZCECB025ZCZCHPB059GB020

MM RUECM

DE RUNPG 761

M 260234Z *man*

FM CG FMFPAC

TO CMC

BT

SECRET

COG: A03
INFO: A02, A04,
D, AD

THIRD MARDIV ASSISTANCE TO SHUFLY

1. CG FIRST MAW REQUESTED CG THIRD MARDIV CONDUCT A STUDY TO DETERMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING AUGMENTATION PERSONNEL TO SHUFLY AT DANANG, RVN IN ORDER TO INCREASE LOCAL SECURITY AND ASSIST IN RESCUE OPERATIONS.

2. THE STUDY WHEN COMPLETED RECOMMENDED A PLATOON (REIN) SIZED UNIT OF 1 OFF AND 46 ENL. THE RECOMMENDED ORGANIZATION CONSISTED OF A PLT HQ, 3 RIFLE SQDS AND A PIONEER SECTION.

SHUFLY
1/2000
1/2000

FM: CG FMFPAC
To: CMC

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(When filled in)

NAVMC HQ 348-ADM (CONT'D) (1-63)

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PAGE TWO RUHPC 761

3. THE SECURITY ELEMENT IS TO BE COMPOSED OF MARINES FROM SOURCES OTHER THAN TRANSPLACEMENT BNS, AND IT WILL COMPLETE A 30 DAY TRAINING COURSE, (INCLUDING COMPLETION OF COUNTER GUERRILLA WARFARE SCHOOL) PRIOR TO DUTY WITH SHUFly.

4. THE TOUR OF DUTY WILL BE 6 MONTHS EXCEPT THAT PERSONNEL INITIALLY ASSIGNED WOULD, IN ORDER TO PROVIDE A GRADUATED TURN-OVER, BE DIVIDED INTO 3 SQDS HAVING TOURS OF 2, 4 AND 6 MONTHS EACH.

5. IN ADDITION TO THE BENEFITS ACCRUING TO SHUFly FROM THE PRESENCE OF THIS SECURITY ELEMENT IT PROVIDES AN EXCELLENT VEHICLE FOR AREA INDOCTRINATION FOR THIRD MARDIV PERSONNEL.

6. THE STUDY FURTHER REQUESTED AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE THE SECURITY ELEMENT DESCRIBED ABOVE.

7. THIS HQ HAD NO OBJECTIONS TO THE PROPOSAL AND 1 OFF AND 46 ENL WILL DEPART FROM OKI TO DANANG ON 1APR1963.

CP-4

BT

26/0226Z

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(REV. 7-62)

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00 - ACTION
0 - INFO

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260234Z MAR 63

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