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LZ BAYONET (BT549013), RVN
211400H MAR 1970
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OPLAN 3-70 (Noncombatant Emergency Relocation and Evacuation) (U)

Reference: Americal Division OPLAN 8-69

Task Organization: Current Task Organization

1. (C-NOFORN) SITUATION

a. Enemy forces: Current DTSUM.

b. Friendly forces:

- (1) Americal Division conducts evacuation of noncombatant US and Third Country Nationals (TCN) from Division TAOR.
- (2) 11th Infantry Brigade continues current operations, on order evacuates noncombatants.
- (3) 196th Infantry Brigade continues current operations, on order evacuates noncombatants.
- (4) 16th CAG continues current operations, on order provides aircraft to evacuate noncombatants from brigade TAOR to Chu Lai relocation/evacuation center.
- (5) DISCOM:
 - (a) Americal Division Combat Center designated major assembly area for noncombatant evacuees.
 - (b) Provides mess, medical support and austere billeting for noncombatant evacuees.

2. (C-NOFORN) MISSION

193th Infantry Brigade evacuates US and TCN noncombatants to Chu Lai, on order.

3. (C-NOFORN) EXECUTION

a. Concept of Operations: Annex A (Concept of Operations).

b. 1-6 Infantry, 1-52 Infantry, and 5-46 Infantry:

- (1) Continue current operations.
- (2) Identify and maintain the location of US and TCN non-combatants in TAOR.
- (3) On order, evacuate designated noncombatants to the Chu Lai area.

c. H/17 Cavalry: Be prepared to assist in evacuation of designated noncombatants, on order.

d. Coordinating instructions:

- (1) The Brigade S1 will maintain the list of personnel, locations, and categories of US and designated FW noncombatants, provided by Americal Division ACoS, G1.
- (2) Direct coordination between all concerned is authorized.

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Annex A (Concept of Operations) to the 198th Infantry Brigade OPLAN 3-70
(Noncombatant Emergency Relocation and Evacuation) (U)

1. (C-NOFORN) SITUATION

- a. This plan is based upon and supports IOC/SAIC OPLAN 60-69, and Americal Division OPLAN 8-69.
- b. At such time as the political and/or military situation in South Vietnam poses a significant threat to the security of US and designated FW noncombatant personnel, their evacuation or relocation either within or outside ICTZ may be directed.
- c. As of April 1969, there were approximately 1500 noncombatants in the Americal Division TAOI eligible for evacuation. A decision to reduce or terminate programs using noncombatants will be concurrent with or will recede a decision to evacuate these personnel because of critical conditions.
- d. Those noncombatants who are performing militarily essential services such as communications, maintenance, transportation, and stevedoring services must be identified and retained as long as possible. This points out the need to be prepared for a phased evacuation of these specialists, as well as for a general evacuation.
- e. Assumptions:
 - (1) That air transportation to Chu Lai area will be provided by 16th CAG.
 - (2) That noncombatants will be located at US installations or at district headquarters.
 - (3) That if ground forces are committed to protect non-combatants at district headquarters, it will be done IAW 198th Infantry Brigade OPLAN 2-70 (Defense of Major Cities) (U).

2. (C-NOFORN) MISSION

On order, 198th Infantry Brigade evacuates noncombatants to the Chu Lai area.

3. (C-NOFORN) EXECUTION

- a. In extreme emergency condition, and upon request by the Chief of the US Diplomatic Mission, COMUSMACV will exercise control over the evacuation operations.
- b. Instructions to evacuate will be passed to noncombatants via AFRTV, paralleled by instructions via Deputy CORDS and Americal Division/SICTZ Sub-zone Coordinator through advisory and Brigade communications facilities. From the Chu Lai assembly area, noncombatants will be airlifted either to

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Saigon to relocation areas, or directly to the primary safe haven in the Philippines or the secondary safe haven in Bangkok. The alternate method of transport is by sealift.

- c. To implement a phased evacuation or relocation, all non-combatants have been categorized in accordance with their usefulness to US Programs. Categories are as follows:
- CATEGORY I: Those ~~not~~ essential to the continuation of vital US programs.
- CATEGORY II: Those employed in US Government Programs which can be terminated without jeopardizing US/PWAF military posture in SVN.
- CATEGORY III: Those employed in military essential tasks, whose absence would affect seriously the continued conduct of military operations.
- d. These broad categories provide planning information for determining the numbers of noncombatants who would have to be moved under the varying degrees of threat. The situation existing at the time will determine the order of evacuation within each category. Within Category III, it is assumed that those noncombatants such as communications and aircraft technician personnel who work at secure military sites alongside military personnel will be among the last to be evacuated and will probably remain as long as the US military performs the function which these personnel support. Policy and guidance with respect to retention of key civilians by the military in emergencies is as follows:
- (1) The State-Defense Joint Statement establishes responsibilities and procedures which will permit evacuation of noncombatants in an emergency. It does not state that civilians of interest to the military must be evacuated.
 - (2) As a matter of policy, so far as noncombatant evacuation is concerned, key US civilians of interest to the military may be detained in RVN in an emergency if they so elect. If they elect evacuation, however, they must be given priorities comparable to other US noncombatants.

4. (C-NOFORN) LIMITING FACTORS

It is possible, in the event of an emergency, that the need for execution could develop without warning. Under this circumstance, execution of offensive operations takes priority over evacuations. Evacuation operations will be initiated at the earliest opportunity.

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5. (C-NOFORN) IDENTIFICATION OF PERSONNEL

Noncombatants are to have in their possession a "Noncombatants Card" or their passport. The passport, noncombatants card, or any other identification showing their US sponsorship (designated aliens) will suffice to make them eligible for evacuation. If identification cannot be produced and if in doubt, favor should be given to the individual.

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Appendix:

1 - Priorities for Evacuation

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Appendix 1 (Priorities for Evacuation) to Annex A (Concept of Operations) to 193th Infantry Brigade OPLAN 3-70 (Noncombatant Emergency Relocation and Evacuation) (U)

1. (C-NOFORN) GENERAL: The priority system described below will govern if it becomes necessary to invoke the use of priorities. Priorities based on documentation are listed in major classes. A priority designator will include a combination of a Roman numeral and a capital letter indicating major and minor priority classes assigned to each individual. Aliens for whom the US has accepted responsibility in accordance with existing US agreements will be afforded the same major and minor category consideration as US evacuees. Personnel of relatively high priority may elect evacuation in a lower priority to avoid separating members of the same family group. Deviations from the priority system established are authorized as circumstances require. Medical evacuees will be assigned priority on the advice of the senior Medical Officer present.

2. (C-NOFORN) CATEGORIES:

- a. Major categories:
 - I American citizens with valid documentation.
 - II American citizens with expired documentation.
 - III American citizens with old or temporary documentation.
 - IV Alien members of American families.
 - V Official Aliens holding diplomatic or official passports.
 - VI Other Aliens.
- b. Minor Categories:
 - A. Pregnant women, with highest priority accorded those in most advanced state of pregnancy.
 - B. Women with children and designated female sponsors of unaccompanied children under 18 years of age. Within this group, first priority will be given to mothers with the youngest children and second priority to those with the most children.
 - C. Aged and infirm. Persons over 65 may be considered as aged.
 - D. Unaccompanied women over 18 years of age.
 - E. Able bodied men.

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Distribution: Annex B.

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Annex B (Distribution to 198th Infantry Brigade O-LAN 3-70 (Non-combatant Emergency Relocation and Evacuation) (U)

COPY NUMBER

1	Record File
2	Reference File
3	CO, 198th Inf Bde
4	S1
5	S2
6-9	S3
10	S5
11-12	CO, 1-6 Infantry
13-14	CO, 1-52 Infantry
15-16	CO, 5-46 Infantry
17	CO, H/17 Cavalry
18	CO, 1-14 Artillery
19	SA, Quang Ngai Province
20	SA, Quang Tin Province
21-22	CG, Americal Division

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