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GUERRILLA WARFARE NETS BESIEGE U.S. FORCES

Liberation Radio (Clandestine) in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 1330 GMT
 15 March 1967--S

(Commentary: "The network of the people's guerrilla warfare is besieging and driving the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen into a difficult situation")

(Text) Entering the year 1967, the army and people throughout South Vietnam, in a seething mettle of emulation in seeking out and destroying the Americans and seeking out and hitting the puppets, have been moving forward with boiling enthusiasm, dealing repeated decisive blows at the heads of the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen. Our armed forces and people are extremely enthusiastic over the feats of arms scored in attacking and completely annihilating U.S., puppet, and satellite troops of battle group and battalion size.

An outstanding characteristic is the fact that the network of the people's guerrilla warfare throughout South Vietnam has developed broadly and strongly and actually is stretching enemy troops thin on various battle fields and locking them in various belts. In many areas the guerrilla force has played an active role and annihilated the enemy potential piece by piece, thus contributing in great measure to winning winter-spring victories. The guerrillas have not only countered raids and destroying aircraft and motorized vehicles but have also controlled communication roads and taken the initiative in attacking the rear and supply points of the enemy.

In the first two months of 1967, the U.S. aggressors poured all of their capabilities and concentrated forces into a strategic offensive campaign, and sent to the battlefield brigades and divisions of the U.S. expeditionary troops and satellite and puppet troops to attack the South Vietnamese people in the hope of extricating themselves from their passive position on the battlefield. Their offensive campaign involved large-scale mopup operations such as Prairie, Paul Revere IV, and Fierce Tiger in central Vietnam, Cedar Falls, Deckhouse V, and Junction City in eastern Nam Bo, and so forth.

However, the operations launched by the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen everywhere fell into the circles of fire of the guerrilla forces and were fiercely foiled by those forces. All the largest raids of the U.S. aggressors--whether Cedar Falls in the iron triangle, Tiger of the Pak Chong-hui mercenaries, Deckhouse V in the Mekong delta, or Junction City--were beaten by the guerrillas.

Noteworthy was the most recent raid named Junction City, carried out in Tay Ninh and involving some 45,000 troops, following Operation Cedar Falls launched in northwest Tay Ninh on 1 February. Everywhere they went, the U.S. troops were attacked by the Tay Ninh guerrillas, who struck them when they alighted from helicopters, when they were traveling along the roads, and when their parachutes touched the ground. The guerrillas even used mines or grenades to attack U.S. aggressors sitting in their M-41 armored cars, as in the battles of Lo Go, Dau Tho, Bau Binh Trung, An Sat, Ba Chau, Bay Do, Suoi Ong Hung, and so forth. In these battles, the guerrillas effectively assisted local units in working out plans for operations and combat and neatly annihilated entire U.S. companies.

Besides these big antimopup battles, there were thousands of small mopup operations on their battlefronts where the U.S. and (puppet) troops could not escape the guerrilla fire. In Long An Province, one of the leading provinces in the guerrilla warfare movement in South Vietnam, between 2 and 11 February, the guerrillas in Loc Giang, An Ninh, Hiep Hoa, and Tan My, Duc Hoa district, operated strongly, completely foiling the enemy operation launched in this area, killing 138 enemy soldiers, including 109 U.S. soldiers, destroying or damaging 15 tanks and armored vehicles, and shooting down three aircraft.

In central Trung Bo, in the delta of Nam Bo, and in the mountainous areas in the southernmost part of Trung Bo, the guerrilla forces have made great progress and materially strong enough to repel large-scale enemy mopup operation and to maintain the liberated areas.

The guerrilla movement to detect enemy aircraft and vehicles has developed broadly in localities. In Binh Dinh Province, in two days the guerrillas in Hoai Nhon district shot down or hit several planes and destroyed three M-113 amphibious craft. On 17, 18, and 21 January the guerrillas in Dien Ban district, Quang Da Province, destroyed six armored cars. During a 10-day mopup operation early in February, the guerrillas in Duc Hoa district, Long An Province, destroyed as many as 15 tanks and armored cars.

Moreover, in Operation Junction City in Tay Ninh--as well as in operations in almost every province such as Quang Ngai, Quang Nam, Binh Dinh, Ninh Thuan, Gia Dinh, Long An, Kien Tuong, Kien Phong, Tra Vinh, and so forth--there was not one day that U.S. aircraft and armored vehicles were not hit by the guerrillas' bullets.

Apart from their skill in opposing mopup operations, the guerrillas have moved forward to actively launch vigorous attacks on the enemy and maintain control over communication lines and waterways. The guerrillas are present in many sections of routes 1, 4, 13, 18, and 21 extending through central Vietnam, Saigon, and the eastern, central, and western parts of South Vietnam. Many other sections of roads have been cut off.

Many large rivers, such as the Long Tau River, the Vam Co Dong River, the Vam Co Tay River, the Tien Giang River, and the Hau Giang River in the Mekong delta, are controlled by the guerrillas day and night. Enemy ships and boats have been destroyed and sunk on these waterways. The interruption of these lines of communication poses a major threat to the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys in conducting military and transport operation aimed at attacking our people.

Another outstanding feature of the guerrillas' activities at the beginning of 1967 is that they have directed the spearhead of their attacks at the enemy's rear base, penetrated the strategic hamlets to support the compatriots who have risen up to break enemy bonds and annihilate the wicked agents, and completely destroyed remaining strategic hamlets in Thu Thua in Long An Province, Chanh Hoi village in Vinh Long, Bau Bang and Suoi Ba Tri in Tay Ninh, and Binh Minh in Soc Trang at the end of January and the beginning of February 1967. The guerrillas have also attacked many of the enemy's rear bases and storage facilities, inflicting considerable losses and causing difficulties.

The guerrilla warfare network has spread from the mountainous region through the delta to the cities of the south. The guerrillas constitute a local force which operates in the localities where the members live and fight. The southern people's guerrilla warfare movement has (?grown) comprehensively in the mountainous region, in the countryside, and in the cities. Realities emerging during the past two months show that the guerrillas have fought effectively in these three regions. In all areas where the American, puppet, and satellite troops set foot, including Saigon, they cannot escape the guerrillas' punishment. The harmonious development of the guerrillas has resulted in a situation in which the rear units of the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys are battered when they concentrate their units in forward positions and in which the U.S. aggressors and their lackeys are mauled when they disperse thinly. The enemy has constantly been passive, confused, and on his guard.

On the battlefields in the western highlands, the Gia Lai-Fleiku-An Khe belt tightly besieges units of the U.S. First Air Cavalry Division. Thousands of American troops have been annihilated within this belt. In the central part of Trung Bo there is the well-known American-annihilating belt in Chu Lai and Da Nang. In the southernmost part of Trung Bo, there is an American-annihilating belt in Ninh Thuan and Quang Duc.

In the daytime, the compatriots of various nationalities cultivate crops or go into the forest. When the aggressors come, they stretch their bows and lay traps to kill them. In eastern Nam Bo, the guerrillas in Binh Duong, Tay Ninh, and so forth have broken up Operation Cedar Falls and Operation Junction City. The guerrillas have also been very active on the Delta battlefield. They have countered the enemy's mopup operations, attacked his lines of communications, destroyed strategic hamlets, and foiled the scheme of the Americans and puppets to herd the people and pacify the rural areas.

Tightly besieged by the An Khe belt, a number of U.S. aggressors fled to the Quang Nam Delta. Yet, when they came to Chu Lai, units of the First U.S. Air Cavalry Division became more miserable within the siege laid by the guerrillas (words indistinct).

At present, in addition to encircling and annihilating the puppet troops and opposing mopup operations, the guerrillas are enthusiastically emulating in annihilating the Americans.

The U.S. aggressors plotted to occupy the Mekong delta, yet, in moving into the delta, they actually stepped into the fatal quagmire of the guerrilla-warfare net spread by the guerrillas, who have scored many achievements in annihilating the enemy since the day of general uprising and who are very valiant, daring combatants well versed in special tactics that are suitable to the delta. Therefore, when the Americans moved into Rach Kien and Ben Luc in Long An, and when they were stationed at Binh Duc in My Tho, the guerrillas turned these areas into a belt pinning down the U.S. aggressors day and night. To date, more than 600 U.S. aggressors have been punished and nearly 150 have been annihilated by the guerrillas at Binh Duc.

In addition to the American-annihilating belts in Long An and in a number of other areas, the guerrillas have also established many puppet-annihilating belts, and have continuously attacked the enemy along the communication lines. Hundreds of young guerrillas are directly fighting the U.S. aggressors along these belts. They take turns in searching for the Americans and puppets in order to annihilate them. In many localities, especially in Long An and central Nam Bo, the guerrillas and youths have enthusiastically participated in the movement to surge forward to the belts and to the battlefields to fight the aggressors.

The guerrillas are active not only in the mountainous and delta regions, but also in the cities, in enemy-controlled areas, and right in Saigon itself--the central headquarters of the Americans and their lackeys. The guerrillas' attacks aimed at annihilating the enemy in the cities, the uprisings aimed at killing wicked enemy agents and breaking enemy bonds, and armed propaganda sessions have occurred extensively in Saigon, in towns such as Long An, My Tho, Ben Tre, Ca Mau, and Tra Vinh, and in the large cities in Trung Bo, such as Da Nang, Cam Ranh, Vung Tau, Da Lat, and so forth, where military bases were established long ago.

In addition to their independent and regular activities, the guerrillas have also coordinated with liberation troops in staging fierce and continuing raids and shellings in Da Nang, Saigon, Can Tho, Ben Tre, and so forth, at the end of February and at the beginning of March this year, inflicting serious losses on the enemy. Through combat, the southern people's guerrilla warfare network has developed increasingly. At present, the number of guerrillas in various localities has increased steadily, their weapons are relatively powerful, and their combat experience has become richer and richer. The use of primitive weapons in coordination with (words indistinct) has been adopted more and more effectively.

Owing to the above progress achieved following the all-southern guerrilla warfare congress, the guerrillas' overall combat qualities have developed increasingly. In addition to opposing enemy mopup operations and firmly protecting the liberated areas, the guerrillas have also taken the initiative in directing the spearhead of their attacks deep into the enemy's rear bases, attacking and destroying his storage facilities, establishing control over communication lines, and forming American-annihilating belts.

The guerrilla forces, which have developed steadily in the mountainous, delta, and urban regions, are actually capable of spreading out the enemy in order to strike him continuously, make him miserable, achieve many great successes, and positively contribute to scoring glorious feats of arms in the current winter-spring period.

Developing their strength and enthusiastically fighting the enemy in order to protect the compatriots, the southern guerrillas will burn up more U.S. aggressors and will coordinate with the Liberation Armed Forces to attack the enemy, to win great successes, and, in the immediate future, to defeat the U.S. aggressors' second dry-season counteroffensive scheme.

U.S. FORCES DECIMATED IN LATEST OPERATION

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1535 GMT 20 March 1967--B

(Text) Hanoi, 20 March--The Liberation Armed Forces and people in northern Tay Ninh Province in the 23 days ended 16 March wiped out 4,516 G.I.'s and 62 Pak Chong-hui troops involved in Operation Junction City, according to the latest reports from LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY. The American casualties represent one tenth of the U.S. force thrown into the operation.

The LAF also destroyed 406 military vehicles, including M-41 and M-48 tanks and M-113 and M-118 armored cars, shot down 85 helicopters, among them six Flying Cranes, and destroyed 55 guns of the 105-mm., 155-mm., 175-mm., and 203-mm. calibers and 106.7-mm. mortars. The LAF completely wiped out a U.S. armored battalion comprising 500 M-41 and M-48 tanks and M-113 armored cars, and inflicted heavy losses on several others.

In two surprise attacks on 28 February, the LAF completely wiped out an entire unit of the U.S. 11th Armored Regiment, killing or wounding 200 American troops and destroying 29 M-41 tanks and M-113 armored cars. On the same night, a U.S. company was put out of action in Giang Thi area.

In three big gun attacks on U.S. encampments on 5, 9, and 10 March, the LAF put out of action over 1,700 G.I.'s and mercenaries, destroyed 22 cannon and more than 240 military vehicles. In coordination with the LAF, the regional forces and guerrillas stepped up attacks on the enemy.

(words indistinct) in Ta Not area on 4 and 5 March destroyed with mines and grenade launchers 10 tanks and armored cars, brought down 4 choppers, and wiped out over 100 Yanks.

A guerrilla in Ben Ra area with a single mine killed or wounded 40 U.S. aggressors. Another with three grenades destroyed one M-113 armored car. A guerrilla woman killed five Yanks with sniper fire. Guerrillas in Ca Tum area in coordination with the liberation army attacked the U.S. 173d Airborne Brigade, wiping out 380 G.I.'s, including a whole company which was mowed down to the last man immediately after it was helilifted to the area. In this engagement the United States also lost eight helicopters.