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CENTRAL TRUNG BO PLAF COMMAND COMMUNIQUE

Liberation Radio (Clandestine) in Vietnamese to South Vietnam 1330 GMT 4 Mar 69 S

[Text] On 1 March 1969, the Central Trung Bo PLAF Command issued the following communique on the glorious achievements of the Central Trung Bo armed forces and people from 23 to 28 [February] 1969:

At 0015 on 23 February 1969, the Central Trung Bo armed forces and people began to attack and arise vigorously and simultaneously, dealing the U.S.-puppets deadly blows on all battlefields, repeatedly scoring victories, and making our armed forces and people's position increasingly more firm. From 23 through 28 February 1969, all three regions were resounding with glorious victories; 11 provincial capitals and cities, nearly 30 district capitals and subsectors, 16 airfields, 13 strategic supply depots, and many U.S.-puppet big bases were attacked. Many areas were repeatedly attacked two to eight times.

Da Nang strategic base, although well defended by three defense lines with 330 thousand U.S., puppet, and Pak Chong-hui mercenary troops, still could not avoid our armed forces and people's stormy attacks. Many U.S.-puppet positions on Trung Nu Vuong Street, at Hoa Thuong, Hoa Cuong, and Cho Moi, were attacked. Our valiant fighters occupied Cam Le street and staged counterattacks there for many straight days; (?Sicovina) weaving factory, the 3d Amphibious Command, and the 1st U.S. Marine Division Command also came under attack.

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Enemy airfields, storages, and harbors, although strictly guarded, were repeatedly attacked by our forces and burned violently. The semi-circle direct defense line along (?Phu Cuong) mountain and the Cam Le River was shattered. NFLSV flags fluttered on Ngu Hanh Son mountain. Along with the mass uprising, guerrilla warfare in the city is developing into a permanent threat to the U.S.-puppets. Although well defended like Da Nang, such cities as Hoi An, Tam Ky, Quang Ngai, Qui Nhon, Tuy Hoa, Nha Trang, Kontum, Pleiku, Phu Bon, and Ban Me Thuot, still could not cope with the strong attacks of our forces.

Just as in the cities, mountain and rural areas were resounding with attack gunfire, and repeated news of victories was reported. An Hao, Nui Lo, Tien Phuoc, Chu Lai, Kom Thic, Thuan Ninh, Bau Co, Routes 14 and 19 (?Plei Can), and so forth, were the graveyard of thousands of U.S., puppet, and Pak Chong-hui troops. Over the past 6 days, U.S.-puppet storages have been repeatedly attacked, with hundreds of thousands of tons of bombs, ammunition, and POL burned in Da Nang, (?Deo Sam), Qui Nhon, Pleiku, Kontum, and so forth.

Cam Ranh military base, which the U.S.-puppets considered as their secure rear, blazed under stormy attacks by the Khanh Hoa PLAF.

Not only were enemy losses in material and war means great, but a great number of his commands at battalion, brigade, division, and corps level and armed branches were also strongly attacked. The Americal Division, the U.S. trump card in Central Trung Bo, again suffered heavy losses. All three regiment commands and four battalion commands were attacked in one night. Hundreds of leading officers and technical personnel were killed. A great quantity of machines and signal and command equipment was destroyed. This was a very accurate hit on enemy combat forces. In coordination with the PLAF, hundred of thousands of people arose to exterminate wicked tyrants and destroy strategic hamlets, regain the mastership right, and help our troops wipe out the enemy.

The remaining U.S.-puppet oppressive machinery has been disintegrated by big chunks. Many leading wicked tyrants at Vuon Lai, Phu Cu, Tam Ky, (?Tra Bong), Quang Ngai, (?Tou Morong), Kontum, and so forth, were wiped out. Phoenix spies and assassins were exterminated in their lairs in Hoi An, Quang Ngai, Pleiku, and so forth.

About 100 concentration camps and strategic hamlets were destroyed in the first days of the current offensive. Many civil guard and militia units and members of the village and hamlet puppet administration in Dien Ban, Duy Xuyen, Phu My, An Nhon, and other localities were annihilated. The cruel puppet agents and spies taking refuge in the Tuyen Phuoc and Son Tinh district capitals and in other localities paid for their crimes. People in Da Nang and in the towns of Hoi An, Tam Ky, Quang Ngai, and Qui Nhon guided the liberation troops in attacking targets situated deep in urban areas and in searching for and capturing the tyrants. They also provided supplies for the liberation troops and made cash contributions to the resistance fund.

Despite having been subjected to enemy bondage for years, people in the towns of Ba Ngoi and Khanh Hoa wholeheartedly helped the liberation troops in attacking the Cam Ranh base. With the liberation troops' assistance, tens of thousands of compatriots of various highland nationalities who had been herded into strategic hamlets by the enemy, destroyed enemy bondage, returned to their native hamlets, and joined the people in fighting the enemy. The compatriots of various nationalities along Routes 14 and 19 joined the liberation troops in erecting a kilometer-long barrier, interrupting enemy movement of supplies.

According to still incomplete statistics, in only 6 days, the Central Trung Bo armed forces and people killed, wounded, or captured more than 7,500 enemy, including some 3,000 U.S. aggressors and Pak Chong-hui mercenaries; destroyed or seriously damaged four brigade and divisional command posts, five enemy infantry and artillery battalions, six battalion command posts, and 13 U.S.-puppet companies; downed and destroyed 55 aircraft, excluding the number of aircraft destroyed in the PLAF attacks on the Da Nang, Nuoc Man, Chu Lai, Trung An, Nha Trang, and Cam Ranh airfields; set afire and destroyed 150 military vehicles, including 84 tanks and armored cars; destroyed or damaged 40 artillery guns of various calibers; sank or damaged six warships; and set afire 13 storage facilities, burning more than 15 million liters of gasoline and destroying hundreds of thousands of tons of bombs and ammunition.

With their great achievements in the early spring 1969 offensive, the Central Trung Bo armed forces and people, together with the armed forces and people throughout the south, contributed toward creating new favorable conditions to move toward winning even more glorious victories. These great achievements prove that despite the enemy's intensified defense efforts and constant alert, he could not check our combatants' vigorous, flexible, and skillful offensive thrust.

Through their rapid growth and outstanding efforts, many units and localities scored outstanding achievements. In only one night, the Northern Quang Nam armed forces and people annihilated two battalion-size U.S. artillery units at Mount Lo and in Phuoc Tuong, and the southern Quang Nam armed forces and people destroyed two U.S. expeditionary brigade command posts at Mount Que and in Hoa Vang.

Meanwhile, the highland armed forces and people severed and paralyzed routes 14 and 19 and wiped out many columns of enemy armored vehicles and infantry troops engaged in road-clearing operations.

Crack PLAF units, with a high level of technical knowledge and a courageous, skillful, and daring spirit, launched deep penetration attacks against the enemy, acquiring increasingly high combat efficiency. Insuring a close, harmonious coordination among various battlefields in the same province, among various provinces, and among the three troop categories, PLAF units provided effective mutual support in scoring outstanding exploits.

While the enemy in Da Nang was preoccupied with resisting the vigorous attacks of our troops inside the city, along the outer defense lines, and in the airfield and logistics complex area, the armed forces and people throughout northern Quang Nam thunderously arose, launching repeated attacks on Hoi An, Vinh Dien, An Hoa, and many other district capitals. In Southern Quang Nam, while units of the U.S. Americal Division and the puppet 2nd Division were severely beaten, our armed forces and people arose, encircling and attacking almost all district capitals and cutting strategic Route 1 in many places. While the highland armed forces and people were besieging the enemy in (Flei Can) and Duc Co, severing routes 14 and 19, and seriously threatening him in Kontum, Pleiku, and Ban Me Thuot, the Binh Dinh and Khanh Hoa armed forces and people launched vigorous attacks on enemy logistics installations, ports, and airfields, depriving the enemy of supply sources.

In coordination with the PLAF main force units' activities, the regional troops and guerrillas, together with the local people, attacked or besieged enemy military posts. Platoon-size civil guard, militia, commando units and pacification teams were annihilated by our regional troops and guerrillas in various districts of Quang Nam, Quang Ngai, and Binh Dinh.

The emergence of numerous aircraft- and armored car-hunting teams extensively increased the combat effectiveness of regional troops and guerrillas.

The maturity of artillery units--with their marksmanship, their cleverness in fighting alone or in cooperation with other units--has greatly increased our fighting power and constantly and strongly threatened the enemy. The evolution and achievements of battlefields during the past 6 days again demonstrates the potential and invincible power of our armed forces and people; the capacity of our PLAF to become increasingly stronger and win increasingly greater victories through fighting. Our military and political forces have developed increasingly stronger.

The rapid growth of our PLAF and political forces, the firm determination and wonderful courage of our troops and people, the correct leadership and military line and the clever military art of the NFLSV and PLAF Command have been the main factors which have driven the U.S. imperialists and their Thieu-Ky-Huong clique into a passive, unexpected, defensive, and confused situation, although they have taken precautionary measures. During the past few months, the U.S.-puppets deployed their troops in mopping-up operations, hoping to stop our troops from afar, but their efforts were in vain. Thus they withdrew their troops and set up defensive positions around cities. Yet they were unable to ward off our attacks.

In trying to reduce U.S. casualties, the Americal Division and the 1st U.S. Marine Division were hit by staggering blows. In trying to prop up the puppet army, the 2d Division and 1st and 2d Ranger Groups were repeatedly hit. Their command headquarters were destroyed or heavily damaged, thus completely upsetting their command system. By being encircled, attacked, or isolated on battlefields, almost 100 U.S., puppet, and Pak Chong-hui regular battalions were constantly confused and on the defensive. U.S. troops were unable to go to the rescue of puppet troops. The latter were unable to help their U.S. bosses ward off blows. Each unit concentrated its troops to defend itself.

Their military setbacks have also disintegrated the so-called accelerated pacification program which the U.S. imperialists and the Thieu-Ky-Huong clique have abundantly extolled in recent months. At a time when the U.S. imperialists' aggressive spirit has been shaken, their recent heavy defeats in Central Trung Bo as well as throughout the south have made their situation more tragic, their internal contradictions more bitter, and their troops' fighting spirit flabbier. Clearly, with their successive setbacks in early spring 1969, the U.S.-puppet political situation has gone from bad to worse. The early spring offensive of our armed forces and people is unfolding at an urgent pace and becoming more violent.

In their first step, our armed forces and people have won great military, political, and spiritual victories of strategic importance, creating new conditions, new capacities, and new advantages for us to advance toward even greater victories. Although still extremely stubborn and crafty, the U.S. imperialists and their lackeys can by no means withstand the stronger and stronger offensive and uprising-impetus of our armed forces and people no matter how frenziedly they writhe.

However, the more the enemy approaches failure, the more cunning and wicked he will become.

Let the Central Trung Bo PLAF constantly sharpen their vigilance, constantly and firmly maintain their fighting determination, closely unite with various strata of the people, strenuously and highly develop revolutionary heroism, take advantage of victories to surge forward and launch vigorous, resolute lightning attacks, annihilate most extensively U.S.-puppet strength and war equipment, defeat every U.S.-puppet counterattack,

attack and destroy storage facilities, airfields, and ports, sever every communication line, besiege, raze, or force the enemy to evacuate numerous positions and military posts, annihilate the cruel puppet agents and spies, crush the accelerated pacification plan, enlarge the liberated areas, and firmly maintain the revolutionary administration.

The fatherland is waving to us. Our responsibility to the people and to history is pressing us. Let the Central Trung Bo armed forces and people take advantage of their victories to surge forward and, together with the armed forces and people throughout the south, achieve a spring of great, glorious victories.

Central Trung Bo PLAF Command; 1 March 1969.

PLAF MILITARY ACTION IN S. VIETNAM REPORTED

Kontum Province

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East
1625 GMT 12 Mar 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam March 12 GPA--The patriotic forces in Kontum Province have repeatedly attacked elements of the six battalions of the U.S. 4th Infantry Division which had just been moved to the western mountain region of the province.

On March 2, the P.L.A.F. intercepted a band of U.S. intelligence agents at Chu Ro Ban, 43 kilometres west of Kontum Province capital, wiping out 30 of them.

On the night of March 3, the P.L.A.F. fiercely pounded with big gun shells Ko Leng post, 22 kilometers west of Kontum, and attacked an enemy encampment northwest of the post, wiping out many G.I.'s, blowing up five blockhouses, and burning down one ammunition dump and many barracks.

At 8 a.m. the following day, the P.L.A.F. assaulted a U.S. company immediately after its landing on an area 2 kilometers southeast of Chu Ro Ban. They put out of action this company and captured 21 guns and a large number of other military equipment. Seventy dead GI's were left on the battlefield.

On March 5, the P.L.A.F. repeatedly engaged the enemy at Chu Mo Nu and Chu Mo Rim, near Chu Ro Ban, wiping out two platoons, causing heavy losses to two companies of U.S. troops and shooting down five helicopters. That night they made a surprise attack on a U.S. company at Chu Do, 33 kilometers west of Kontum, killing or wounding nearly 100 enemy troops.

Also in the period between March 3 and 7, the P.L.A.F. in Kontum repeatedly bombarded enemy positions at Chu Tan Kra, Chu Hinh, Chu Do, Ko Leng, airports, and artillery grounds, causing heavy losses to the enemy.

According to incomplete figures, within the 6 days ending March 7, the P.L.A.F. in Kontum wiped out more than 400 GI's, captured a number of U.S. prisoners, shot down or destroyed on the ground 21 aircraft, including four "Flying Cranes," wrecked seven tanks and seven heavy cannon and mortars, burnt down two fuel and ammunition dumps, and captured 10 wireless sets and a lot of other military equipment.

The enemy losses included four companies and four platoons wiped out or decimated, and the 3rd Battalion of the 1st Brigade, U.S. 4th Division, badly mauled.