

W
FILE / SUBJ.
DATE / SUB-CAT.
3/69

COMMENTARY SAYS U.S. 'VASSAL' TROOPS HARD HIT

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 0549 GMT 8 Mar 69 B

[Text] Hanoi VNA March 8--The Hanoi daily QUAN DOI NHAN DAN--PEOPLE'S ARMY--in its commentary today highly praised the PLAF for the severe punishment they had just meted out to Thailand mercenary troops in South Vietnam.

The punishment came with three attacks on February 23, 25 and 28 during which the PLAF in Bien Hao Province wiped out over 900 Thai troops, the bloodiest of the three being launched in Bau Coi area on the night of February 28 with a whole Thai battalion wiped out. This is the second Thai battalion meeting such a fate in the eastern part of Nam Bo so far.

The commentary said that following the deadly assaults on Pak Chong-hui troops in Quang Nam, Quang Ngai and Binh Dinh provinces, on Australian troops in Ba Ria Province, and on Filipino and New Zealand troops in Tay Ninh, the recent blows on Thai mercenaries hit the U.S. very hard in its policy to use troops of its vassals on the South Vietnam battlefield.

It pointed out that the PLAF had beaten satellite troops at any time and any place during the latter's joint operations with U.S. troops, in their actions in support of puppet troops engaged in pacification raids, on U.S. defense lines, or right in their bases.

The paper said: The attacks in Bien Hoa should serve as another severe warning to the reactionary ruling circles in Thailand who are lending a hand to the U.S. in its aggression in South Vietnam. The Thanom-Praphat clique is swapping the youths of its country for dollars. They have allowed the setting up of U.S. military bases in Thailand, and, on U.S. order, have even sent the Black Tiger Division to South Vietnam for massacring the civilian population.

The commentary concluded by stressing that more punishing blows and heavier defeats will be inflicted on the Thai mercenaries in South Vietnam if they continue their criminal acts against the Vietnamese people.