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PRESS RELEASE

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EXTERMINATE ALL DOGS

All dogs within the area of the Ben Tre Provincial Military Command (VC) have been under sentence of death since September 10.

Barking dogs, according to a captured copy of an order by the District Military Command, have betrayed the presence of reconnoitering Viet Cong and foiled their surprise attacks on Free World troops concentrated in certain villages. This has resulted in VC casualties and the miscarriage of military plans.

On the nights of September 3 and 4, the order says, "when we secretly brought in our forces to attack the enemy who had concentrated his troops in several places in Phu Tuc Village...our presence was betrayed by the dogs, the enemy was able to open fire on us first while we were unable to close in on the enemy troops to destroy them.... Many cases like this had happened to us which caused no few casualties to our men and restricted our success."

Accordingly, the Military Command for the area has ordered:

- (1) "That all localities in the three areas should thoroughly exterminate dogs and in no circumstance go back to raising dogs.
- (2) "The liberated areas and contested areas should eliminate all dogs not later than September 25, 1968.
- (3) "Warnings are to be issued to all disobedient elements that keeping dogs is acting against this military order, that once blood is shed due to this act, the perpetrators are liable to answer to the masses and bear all the consequences."

The order sacrificing the dogs in the "interest of the Revolution and that of the majority of the masses" was dated September 10, and was captured by elements of the Ninth U.S. Infantry Division.

LIBERATION ARMY OF SOUTH VIET-NAM

**Ben Tre Provincial Military Command
Chau Thanh District Military Command
No. 184/QS-88**

Military Order

With a view to gain the initiative in attacking the enemy on any battlefield and at any moment, and at the same time, to avoid regrettable sacrifice / in human lives / of our cadres, combatants and the masses which occurs in the following circumstances:

- Our cadres and combatants while reconnoitering the front in order to guide our armed forces toward the enemy are being detected by dogs that give the alarm with their bark, resulting in the enemy's ability to ambush our men, foil our military plans and cause losses to our cadres and combatants. This happened on the nights of September 3 and 4, 1968 when we secretly brought our forces to attack the enemy who had concentrated his troops in several areas in Phu Tuc Village, because our presence was betrayed by the dogs, the enemy was able to open fire on us first while we were unable to close in on the enemy troops to destroy them. Moreover, we suffered casualties, our surprise attack being foiled. Many cases like this had happened to us which caused no few casualties to our men and restricted our success.

- Considering the common interest of the Revolution and that of the majority of the masses, with a view to assure our victory over the enemy in all circumstances and protect our forces,

The Military Committee hereby orders:

Article I: That all localities in the three areas should thoroughly exterminate dogs and in no circumstance go back to raising dogs.

Article II: The liberated areas and contested areas should eliminate all dogs not later than September 25, 1968; all localities should thoroughly carry out this order upon reception.

Article III: Warnings are to be issued to all disobedient elements that keeping dogs is acting against this military order, that once blood is shed due to this act, the perpetrator /s/ are liable to answer to the masses and bear all the consequences.

Article IV: All localities in the three areas, all operating forces will carry out this order in accordance with their respective responsibilities.

September 10, 1968

For the District Military Command
District Military Chief

/S/ NGUYEN BAO