

Date: Thu, 14 Apr 1994 08:09:41 PDT  
From: Larry Engelmann  
Reply to: Southeast Asia Discussion List

To: Multiple recipients of list SEASIA-L

Newsgroups: bit.listserv.seasia-1  
Subject: Re: habib and unconventional warfare

FILE	SUBJ.
DATE	SUBCAT
APR 1994	1MRS.

First, note that the entire body of the Habib article was in his own words. I am not sure how that results in a Whitewash by the individual simply asking the questions and requesting elaboration. The words were not mine. Second, please provide the source or sources for the offering of two nuclear weapons to the French. This absurdity may have been mentioned by some French politico and then retracted or clarified later, but during the past 20 years this has been totally rejected by all but the sloppiest of historians. A Pentagon study group merely concluded that three tactical atomic weapons would successfully smash Vietnam forces around Dienbienphu. But even the very notion of this unsettled State and Executive. It was in fact Georges Bidault who said that Dulles had offered atomic weapons to the French. Dulles denied this account and the French then confirmed the denial stating that Bidault had been on the verge of a nervous breakdown. Bidault repeated the assertion in his memoirs. Strange that in this monumental offer there is but one source, discredited even by his peers.