FM CIA.
TO WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM
SSO ACSI DA
SSO ARLINGTON HALL STATION
AFSSO USAF
CNO
DIA/ISIC
JCS
NIC
DIRNSA COMMAND CENTER
STATE (RCI)
CIA-OCI
ZEM
S F G R F T

COUNTRY
SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI
SITUATION
ROOMS

REQUEST

17 FEBRUARY 1968

SUbject
SITUATION REPORT AS OF 1300 HOURS
LOCAL TIME 17 FEBRUARY 1968

ACQ
VIETNAM SAIGON (17 FEBRUARY 1968)

SOURCE
THIS IS A VIETNAM SITUATION REPORT PREPARED
AT 1300 HOURS LOCAL TIME ON 17 FEBRUARY 1968.

1. NUMEROUS UNCONFIRMED REPORTS OF VARYING RELIABILITY SUGGEST
THAT A RENEWED ATTACK ON SAIGON IS IMMINENT. SOME REPORTS POINT
TO THE 15TH FEBRUARY AS THE DATE, OTHER REPORTS HAD INDICATED
THE 11TH, 12TH, 13TH AND 15TH. FIRM INDICATIONS FROM ALL SOURCES,
HOWEVER, DO NOT AT THIS TIME SUGGEST THE IMMINENCE OF AN ATTACK
UPON SAIGON. (SOURCE: COMPETENT AMERICAN OBSERVERS)

2. A REFLECTION OF THE FOREGOING IS THE STATEMENT
IN PRECINCTS ONE THROUGH FIVE MAY BE MODIFIED SOMETIME NEXT
WEEK TO ALLOW MOVEMENT BY THE POPULACE
UNTIL 2100 HOURS. (SOURCE: AMERICAN OBSERVER.

3. WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE WINTER–SPRING CAMPAIGN FURTHER
SIGNIFICANT VIET CONG / NORTH VIETNAMESE ARMY ACTIVITY
CAN BE EXPECTED. MOREOVER, STRATEGIC AND TACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS
WEIGH HEAVILY IN FAVOR OF A QUICK FOLLOW-UP TO THE TET OFFENSIVE.
IN THIS REGARD, HOWEVER, THE ENEMY MUST REALIZE THAT THE LONGER
HE WAITS, THE MORE DIFFICULT MILITARY TASK HE WILL HAVE. THE
FIRST ATTACK, THE TET OFFENSIVE, WAS LAUNCHED UNDER THE COVER
OF THE TET HOLIDAY, A KNOWN PERIOD OF SECURITY RELAXATION AND
COUNTRYWIDE CONCERN ONLY WITH CELEBRATION. WHILE THE GENERAL
OUTLINES OF THE TET OFFENSIVE WERE DESCRIBED TO ENEMY CADRES
IN SOME CASES LONG BEFORE THE ATTACK WAS LAUNCHED, THE SPECIFIC
DETAILS OF TIME AND
PLACE WERE NOT PASSED OUT UNTIL THE FINAL MOMENT. WITHIN THE
GENERAL PLAN, IT NOW APPEARS FROM PRISONER INTERROGATIONS THAT A
SECOND ATTACK WAS ENVISIONED. WHETHER THE PLAN NOW REMAINS IN
EFFECT, FOLLOWING THE MILITARY FAILURE OF THE FIRST STAGE, IS
NOT KNOWN. (SOURCE: AMERICAN OBSERVER)

4. FIELD DISSENI: STATE USMACV 7TH AIR FORCE CINCPAC PACFLT
ARPAC PACAF

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