

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY Intelligence Information Cable

● PRIORITY
IN 43350

EO 13526
3.3(h)(2)
EO 13526
3.5(c)

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17091-10.5-4

GROUP 1
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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

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DIST 3 FEBRUARY 1968

COUNTRY SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI 31 JANUARY - 2 FEBRUARY 1968

SUBJECT VIET CONG PLAN TO SEIZE SAIGON IN SECOND PHASE OF ATTACK

ACQ VIETNAM, SAIGON (3 FEBRUARY 1968)

FIELD NO.

SOURCE

[Redacted Source Information]

3.3(h)(2)

REF.

[Redacted Reference]

THE FOLLOWING IS AN ELABORATION ON THE

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE REFERENCE.

3.5(c)

1. FIGURE OF 23 TO 30 BATTALIONS IS BASED ON BATTALION STRENGTH COUNT OF 350 PERSONNEL AND MAY NOT BE EXCESSIVE.

[Redacted]

AVERAGE BATTALION

3.3(h)(2)

FIGURE SINCE ACCORDING TO THEM LARGE BATTALIONS HAVE STRENGTH OF APPROX 400 AND SMALLER BATTALIONS HAVE STRENGTH OF APPROX

350.

[Redacted]

LOCAL VC "BATTALIONS"

3.3(h)(2)

MAY HAVE TOTAL STRENGTH OF ONLY 50 TO 120 PERSONNEL.

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EDITIONS

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[Redacted]

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(dissem controls)

2. [Redacted] STRENGTH 3.3(h)(2)

OF VC IN MR-4 AREA AS 5500 TO 6000. IF THIS FORCE HAS BEEN AUGMENTED, FIGURE OF 25 TO 30 BATTALIONS EACH OF 350 PERSONNEL MAY BE QUITE CLOSE TO TRUE FIGURE.

3. NOT ABLE AT THIS TIME GET TESTIMONY OR DOCUMENTS WHICH MENTION SECOND STAGE OF ATTACK. INFORMATION CAME FROM TWO POWS, CA VAN TY AKA TU TY WHO WAS COMPANY COMMANDER THIRD COMPANY, SIXTH BN, 165A REGIMENT AND WHO MADE DEATHBED STATEMENT. OTHER POW WAS LE VAN DE AKA BAY KIET WHO WAS POLITICAL CADRE OFFICER SAME ORGANIZATION.

[Redacted]

THESE 3.3(h)(2)

POWS INDIVIDUALLY STATED THAT THE ATTACKING VC UNITS WERE TO HOLD THEIR POSITIONS IN PRECINCTS 5, 6, 7 AND 8 UNTIL THE "SECOND STAGE OF ATTACK". THE SECOND STAGE WOULD CONSIST OF TWO VC RESERVE DIVISIONS MOVING DOWN INTO THE CITY FROM THE NORTH FROM THE DIRECTION OF CACH MANG. IN ADDITION, THE VC CAPTURE OF CHI HOA PRISON WOULD HAVE RELEASED AN ADDITIONAL THREE THOUSAND VC TO TAKE PART IN THE "SECOND PHASE".

4. THESE PRISONERS AND FIVE OTHERS [Redacted] 3.3(h)(2)

CLAIMED THAT THERE WERE "MORE THAN THIRTY BATTALIONS" IN THE AREA REFERRED TO IN PARA 1 ABOVE.

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5. [Redacted]

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WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE OBTAIN ANY HARD INFORMATION FROM OTHER SOURCES THAT WOULD HELP IDENTIFY OR CLARIFY "SECOND PHASE OF ATTACK". IT QUITE POSSIBLE THAT THIS WAS VC PROPAGANDA INTENDED TO MAINTAIN THE MORALE OF THEIR OWN TROOPS.

[Redacted]

3.5(c)

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