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File 7

3.3(h)(2);(b)(3) 10.U.S.C 424

6 March 1968

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LAST

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6 Mar 68
Summary

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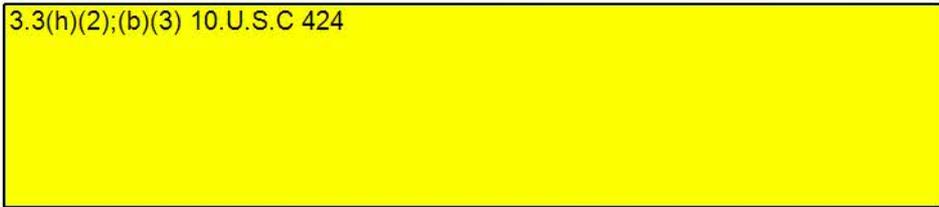
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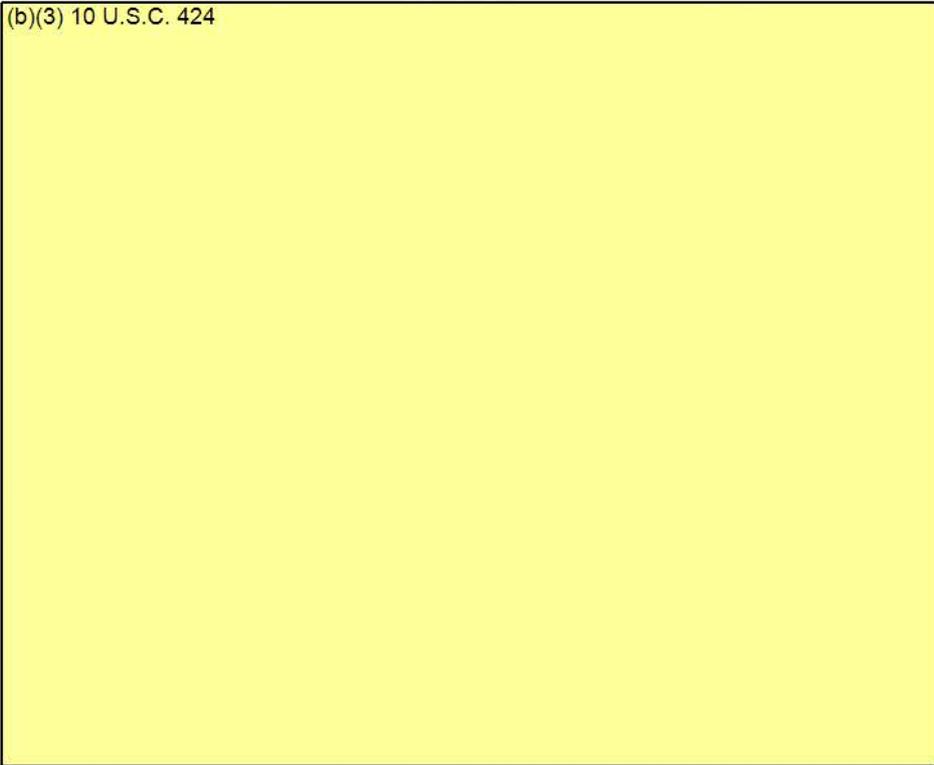
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MILITARY CASUALTIES IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

6 March 1968

	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
	24 Hrs	Current Week	Cumula-	Cumula-	Cumula-
	Ending	11 AM EST	tive	tive	tive
	11 AM EST	2 Mar 68	From	From	From
	5 Mar 68	11 AM EST	1 Jan 68	1 Jan 67	1 Jan 61
		4 Mar 68			
UNITED STATES ^a					
Killed	45	146	3,375	12,540	19,397
Wounded Not Hosp	154	104	8,401	38,055	55,176
Wounded Hosp	166	112	9,387	41,758	62,375
Captured	0	3	12	147	243
Missing	0	26	276	547	871
SOUTH VIETNAM					
Killed	38	120	3,404	14,284	56,574
Wounded	170	378	10,333	39,781	125,123
Missing/Captured	5	60	1,243	3,583	28,587
OTHER ALLIED					
Killed	0	9	254	1,359	1,957
Wounded	2	21	261	2,879	4,609
Missing/Captured	0	0	2	5	22
VIET CONG/NVA					
Killed	944	3,426	54,000	142,081	313,561
Wounded (estimate ^b)	1,416	5,140	80,953	213,075	451,804

a. U.S. Casualties include Laos and Vietnam.

b. Estimate based on a 1.5 to 1 Wounded to Killed ratio.

c. The figures shown in column (1) are preliminary, unrefined battlefield reported casualties received from COMUSMACV daily.

d. The figures in columns (2) through (5) are verified figures representing casualties reported during the period indicated.

2ND CORPS

50 A US Army company while searching a village nine miles east-southeast of Pleiku on Monday encountered 40 to 50 of the enemy. In a three-hour battle which was supported by helicopter gunships and tactical air, 30 of the enemy were killed. US casualties were light with only five wounded.

The recent rash of small-scale attacks throughout 2nd Corps demonstrate the enemy's emphasis on populated areas with supporting harassment of friendly airfields and installations. These attacks are expected to continue, with perhaps greater emphasis, in the western highlands area, being placed on the Kontum City area, to include attacks on hamlets in the environs. At least two NVA regiments are located close to the city. 82

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3.3(h)(2);(b)(3) the enemy believes the attacks in the western highlands are succeeding in drawing away part of the allied mobile forces. The message also says that Military Region 5 is issuing orders to all units to intensify attacks against weak areas and lines of communication and to threaten the allied rear. 71

A North Vietnamese Army rallier says that the 32nd Regiment near Darlac is to form the nucleus of a new division. The 32nd is the NVA 1st Division's most experienced and best trained regiment. 42

Enemy losses during the 3-5 March attacks in Binh Dinh, Phu Yen, and Darlac Provinces have been reported as substantial. 25

3RD CORPS

80 A US Army company engaged an estimated company of enemy troops near the airfield at Song Be. A short time later another US company closing the area encountered an additional enemy battalion closer to the village. Helicopter light fire teams and artillery supported the friendly forces and the enemy was driven off leaving 56 dead. Friendly casualties were five US killed and 26 wounded. In addition, three helicopters received light damage.

40 On 4 March the Phu Loi Airfield, 14 miles north of Saigon, received an estimated 100 rounds of 122-mm rocket and 82-mm mortar fire. One US was wounded and 25 aircraft were damaged as a result of the shelling. Just prior to this attack an

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65 ARVN battalion located in the vicinity of the airfield was attacked by an estimated enemy battalion employing small-arms, automatic weapons, and mortars. After a four-hour contact, the enemy withdrew leaving 23 dead. Friendly casualties were nine killed (one US and eight ARVN) and 12 wounded (one US and 11 ARVN). The airfield remains fully operational.

There were eight other attacks by fire on friendly installations Monday, including the Long Binh Ammunition Depot, Xuan Loc, and several fire support bases. These attacks are consistent with an apparent enemy trend toward general widespread harassment in the 3rd Corps area; they may also be intended to mask movements of supplies and to take pressure off Viet Cong units in the Saigon area. 7E

3.3(h)(2);(b)(3) 10.U.S.C 424 an impending "N-Night" attack by elements of the NVA 7th Division on the Lai Khe Base Camp, where elements of the US 1st Infantry Division are located. 3E

4TH CORPS

Yesterday, ARVN and Regional Force units initiated a counter-offensive and succeeded in driving out an estimated enemy company that had infiltrated the previous day into the town of Ca Mau, 74 miles southwest of Can Tho. In the heavy fighting 275 enemy were killed. Only 10 ARVN were killed, and four US and 41 ARVN wounded.

120 After two days of operations, an ARVN 3-battalion search-and-destroy operation, 12 miles north of Can Tho, was terminated with only seven ARVN personnel wounded. Enemy casualties were 45 killed; in addition, 13 individual weapons, 500 rounds of small-arms ammunition, and 50 grenades were captured by the ARVN forces.

70 ARC LIGHT OPERATIONS: Continuing their support of US forces at Khe Sanh, 41 B-52s struck enemy troop concentrations, artillery positions, fortifications, tracked vehicles, and supplies within an 8-mile radius of base camp. Nineteen additional B-52s hit vehicle parks, artillery positions, fortifications, and troop concentrations near Hue, Pleiku, and Saigon.

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NORTH VIETNAM

78
ROLLING THUNDER OPERATIONS: Weather continued to hamper operations in NVN and all ALFA strikes were cancelled except one. Four F-4Ds struck Phuc Yen Airfield, 13.5 miles northwest of Hanoi, at 6:12 PM EST yesterday (7:12 AM Saigon time, 6 March). Damage was not assessed due to the poor weather. An additional 128 sorties were flown on armed reconnaissance missions in NVN.

LAOS

42
BARREL ROLL AND STEEL TIGER OPERATIONS: There were 248 sorties flown in Laos yesterday with 126 sorties conducted in Sector FOXTROT adjacent to Khe Sanh. In all sectors a total of 42 trucks were reported destroyed.

GROUND ACTIVITY: **3.3(h)(2);(b)(3) 10.U.S.C 42** raise the possibility that the enemy may be preparing for offensive operations in the Muong Soui area, southeast of Luang Prabang. *3E*

LATE ITEM1ST CORPS

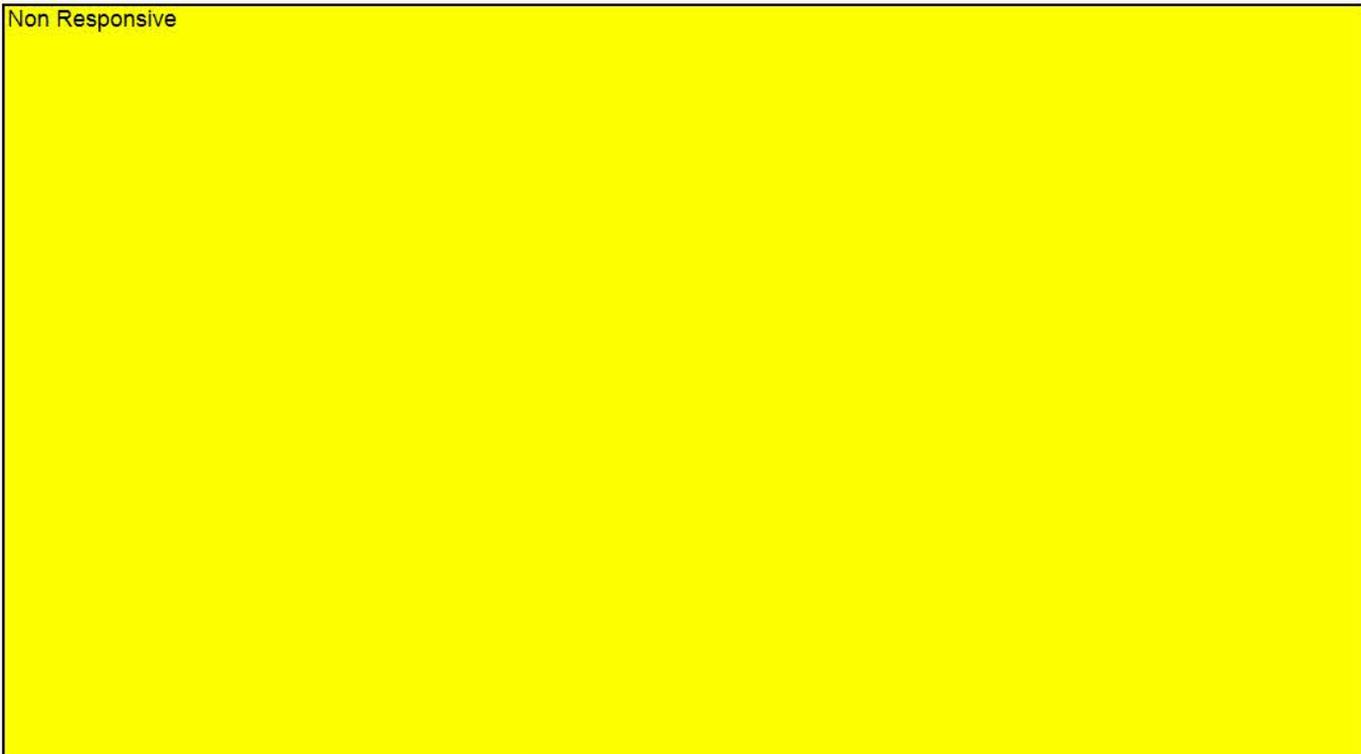
180
 Yesterday, enemy initiated activity at the Khe Sanh Combat Base was confined to firing artillery, rocket, and mortar rounds. A total of 105 rounds was received resulting in 12 US wounded. With weather conditions eased somewhat, controlled tactical fixed-wing strikes were effective in destroying two enemy weapons positions and causing several secondary explosions and fires. In addition, supporting arms elements expended 2,146 mixed rounds of artillery and mortar on enemy positions with excellent target coverage. Tactical air missions flown in support of Khe Sanh totaled 312 sorties. Visual bomb damage included 11 secondary explosions, 13 secondary fires, 2 trucks destroyed, 5 weapons positions destroyed, 8 roadcuts and 6 enemy killed.

BORDERING
 At installations bordering the DMZ, the major enemy activity consisted of scattered probes and the firing of artillery and mortar rounds. A total of 82 mixed rounds impacted near friendly forces resulting in minor wounds to two US Marines.

*86 O lines
 only 54 I lines - the usual case no length.*
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