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

WARNING

(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424;3.3(h)(2)
GROUND OPERATIONS: 36 bn-size or larger opns in prog: 26 US, 2 FW, 8 ARVN. (c)

1 CTZ: FORTRESS RIDGE, a USMC 1-bn landing team S&D opn 10 nm N of Quang Tri, term 23 Dec after 4 days. Cum losses -- US: 9 KIA, 29 WIA; VC/NVA: 7 KIA, 3 indiv wpns. (c)

On 25 Dec, USMC recce team directed arty on 31-man en force 15 nm SW Hue killing 16. (c)

A USAF 0-2, on posttruce FAC msn, dest by en gnd fire 15 nm N of Quang Tri on 25 Dec. Both crewmembers killed. (c)

A USAF 0-2, on recce msn, dest by en gnd fire 3 nm SSE Chu Lai 25 Dec. Pilot killed. (c)

78 small-unit contacts reported. Losses -- US: 2 KIA, 29 WIA; VC/NVA: 36 KIA, 23 pers det, 14 wpns. (c)

2 CTZ: 17 small-unit contacts reported. Losses -- ARVN: 21 KIA, 22 WIA, 1 MIA, 56 indiv wpns; VC/NVA: 9 KIA, 2 pers det, 4 wpns. (c)

3 CTZ: On 25 Dec, 2 tac air strikes against en sampans 46 nm NW Saigon resulted in 14 en KIA and 8 sampans dest. (c)

ATLANTA, USA 1-bn S&D opn term 23 Dec, 29 nm NW Saigon, after 37 days. Cum losses -- US: 18 KIA, 108 WIA; VC/NVA: 81 KIA, 1 pers det, 114 indiv and 4 crew-served wpns. (c)

23 small-unit contacts reported. Losses -- Friendly: 2 ARVN KIA, 20 WIA (6 US, 14 ARVN); VC/NVA: 14 KIA, 1 pers det, 1 wpn. (c)

4 CTZ: DAN CHI 315D, ARVN 9-bn S&D opn, term 23 Dec, 37 nm SW Can Tho after 4 days. Cum losses -- ARVN: 9 KIA, 24 WIA; VC/NVA: 93 KIA, 46 pers det, 85 indiv wpns, 6 tons assorted small-arms ammo, 5 radios, and quantity of documents and med supplies. (c)

9 small-unit contacts reported. Losses -- ARVN: 6 KIA, 20 WIA, 1 MIA; VC/NVA: 4 KIA, 3 pers det, 1 wpn. (c)

ARC LIGHT OPERATIONS 25 DEC: At 250539 EST, 12 B-52s (ROMEO 12) bombed elms NVA 2d Div, 21 nm S Da Nang. 9 B-52s (ROMEO 92) bombed opnl and log sites 45 nm WNW Hue at 251720 EST. No gnd follow-up sked. (S)

TRUCE VIOLATIONS: Total of 118 violations (40 major -- a friendly cas or incident of significance) reported during 24-hr Christmas truce (240500-250500 EST). Losses -- Friendly: 7 KIA, 45 WIA, 14 MIA; VC/NVA: 33 KIA, 6 det. (c)

Most incidents consisted of small-arms and other fire. Examples of a deliberate breaking of truce included a kidnaping of a hamlet chief in Thua Thien, shooting at acft in 1 CTZ, and an atk against a hamlet in Binh Dinh. There were also several atks on units that may have been planned. Cas in all these actions, however, were lt. Last yr, there were 102 en-initiated incidents during 48-hr Christmas truce, most of them minor. (c)
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