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FILE

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

17 February 1968

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

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
OPS - INT
SUMMARY



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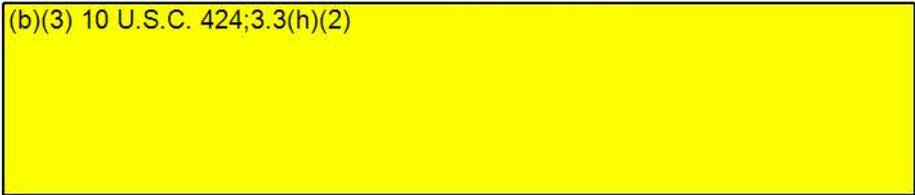
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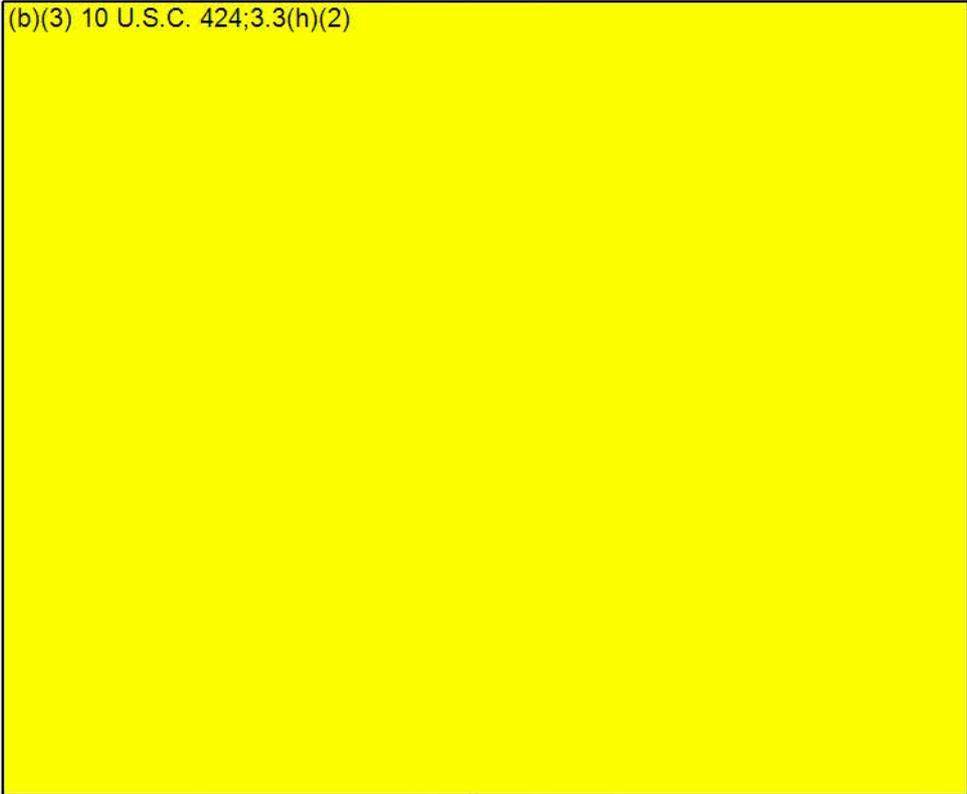
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WARNING

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OPERATIONAL/INTELLIGENCE BRIEFS



SOUTH VIETNAM

GROUND OPERATIONS: There are 52 (24 US, 26 ARVN, 2 FW) bn-size or larger opns in prog. ~~(S)~~

1 CTZ: Commo between 2 unidentified elms believed serving an arty function indicated that Khe Sanh Afld "must be dominated" continuously. Requests for exact loc where allied acft land and take-off were noted. This may portend concerted effort by en in near future to interdict air resupply of US forces at Khe Sanh.

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In Opn KENTUCKY, 3 contacts reported. In first, on 15 Feb, air observer loc 3 en tanks in DMZ. En tanks engaged by arty and long-range fire by USMC tanks. En tanks did not return fire and immediately disappeared. Second contact occurred on 15 Feb, 15 nm NNW Quang Tri, when elms USMC bn made contact with en force. Tac air and arty sptd in the 7-hr contact. Friendly losses were 4 KIA and 8 WIA; en losses unk. Third contact occurred 13 Feb, 12 nm NNW Quang Tri when USMC patrol engaged 20 en in ambush site. Contact lasted for 15 mins when en broke contact. Losses -- US: 1 KIA; VC/NVA: 7 KIA, 1 per det, 2 indiv wpns. ~~(S)~~

Opn OSCEOLA, 2-bn USMC opn, term 16 Feb, 2 nm W of Quang Tri after 18 days. 11 tac air strikes sptd. Losses -- US: 2 KIA, 74 WIA; VC/NVA: 21 KIA, 19 pers det, 7 indiv and 1 crew-served wpn. ~~(S)~~

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NVA units are preparing for large-scale atks on Quang Tri City. Elms of NVA 812 and 803 Regts continue to reconnoiter E of city. ~~(S)~~

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On 16 Feb, in Opn JEB STUART, elms USA bn engaged en force in bunker complex. Tac air strikes and arty sptd. Losses -- Friendly: 4 KIA, 7 WIA; VC/NVA: 15 KIA. ~~(S)~~

During 16 Feb, there has been little change in acty in Hue. En controls 1/2 of W wall and all of S wall to include a line of psns around palace gnds. En psns extend out approx 200 meters from wall. At 160530 EST, a VNese Marine unit reported receiving 8 en mortar delivered cannisters of tear gas. No cas reported. At 162030 EST, elms USMC bn sustained mortar and rkt atk resulting in 2 US KIA and 4 WIA; 2 en KIA. ~~(S)~~

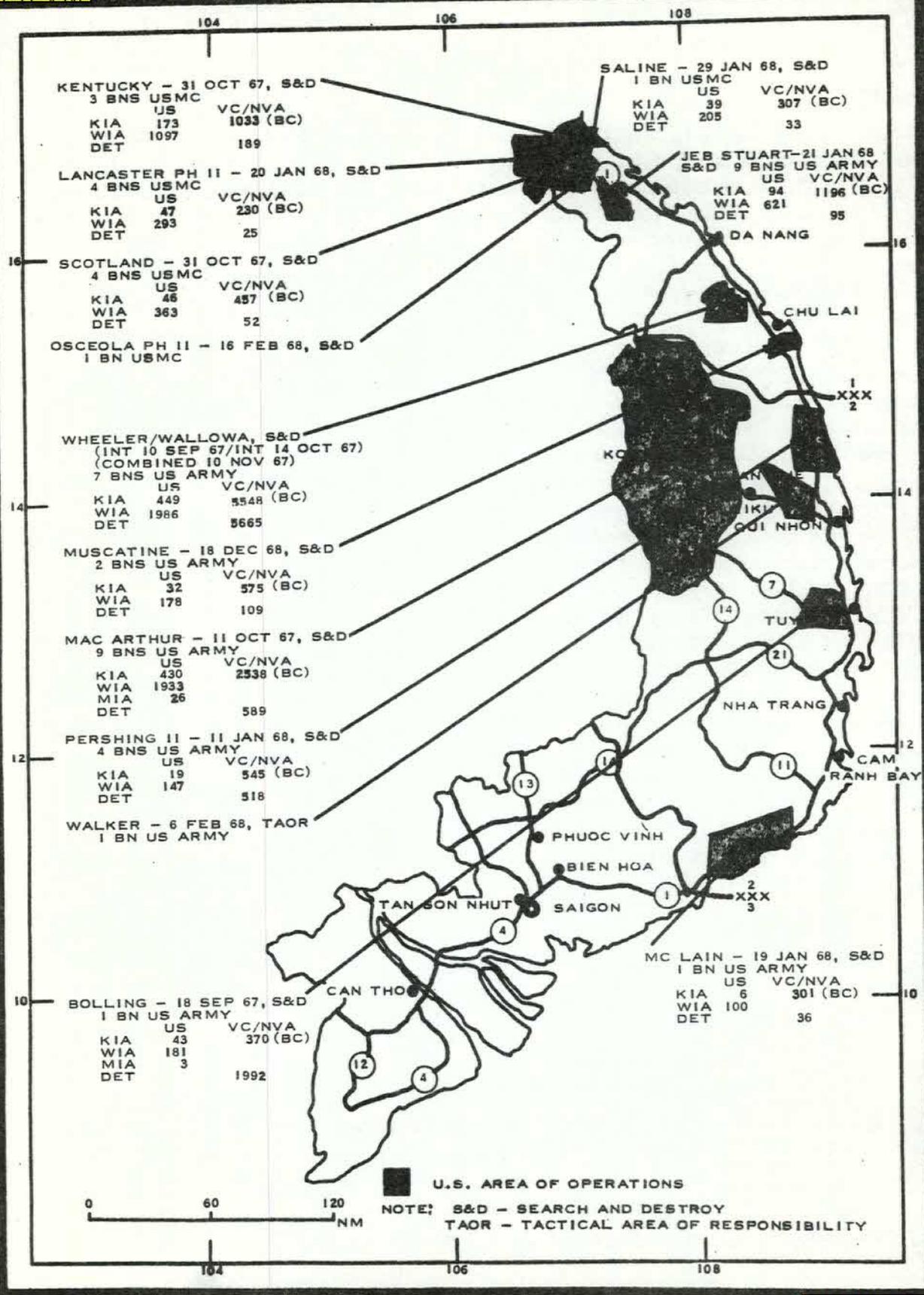
34 small-unit contacts reported. Losses -- US: 2 KIA, 28 WIA; VC/NVA: 87 KIA, 3 pers det, 10 wpns. ~~(S)~~

2 CTZ: On 15 Feb, ARVN bn engaged est 2 co en force 18 nm NNW Qui Nhon. Arty sptd in 4-hr contact. Losses -- Friendly: none; VC/NVA: 7 KIA, 1 indiv and 1 crew-served wpn. ~~(S)~~

En exploded demolition charge on a bridge on Hwy 1, 4 nm WNW Nha Trang 15 Feb causing maj damage. A bypass is available for N-S traffic around Nha Trang and bypass is being constructed

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS IN SOUTH VIETNAM WHICH INVOLVE PARTICIPATION BY US FORCES (1ST & 2D CORPS)

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around damaged bridge and is expected to be completed 17 Feb.
Est time for repair of bridge unk at this time. (S)

3 CTZ: (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424;3.3(h)(2) currently augmenting forces in Tay Ninh City, engaged en force 16 Feb. Losses -- US: 2 KIA, 20 WIA; VC/NVA: 40 KIA. (S)

Update of en atk on sector hqs RF/PF outposts, and Ben Keo Training Center in Tay Ninh indicates 7 ARVN KIA and 49 WIA. En lost 14 KIA and 6 indiv and 8 crew-served wpns. (S)

A USA OH-23G helo hit by gnd fire 2 nm E of Ben Tre at 171230 EST. Acft crashed and was dest; 2 US were WIA. (S)

4 CTZ: Opn DAN CHI 324A/SD, ARVN 5-bn S&D opn which commenced 30 Jan, 2 nm SSW Can Tho is continuing. Cum losses -- Friendly: 2 ARVN KIA, 46 ARVN and 1 US WIA; VC/NVA: 21 KIA, 8 pers det, 50 indiv wpns, 10 mines, 5 B-40 rds, and 50 kilos TNT. (S)

On 15 Feb, USN light fire team atkd 2 en sqds 17 nm WSW My Tho killing 10. (S)

12 small-unit contacts reported. Losses -- ARVN: 5 KIA, 18 WIA; VC/NVA: 38 KIA, 7 pers det, 4 wpns. (S)

ARC LIGHT OPERATIONS 16 FEB: 10 B-52 msns (28 sorties) bombed trp conc and stor areas within 21 nm radius Khe Sanh in spt Opn NIAGARA. 8 B-52s struck trp conc 46-50 nm NNW Pleiku and 12 bombed trp conc 26 and 27 nm NNW Saigon. No gnd follow-up sked. (S)

ATTACK INDICATIONS: Nat Police Dir Gen Loan warned on 16 Feb that he expected Communists to launch a 2d wave of atks in DMZ, Khe Sanh, Hue, Quang Tri City, and Saigon about 18 Feb. Loan based his assessment on info obtained from prisoners. Possibly related, a source who travels between Kien Hoa Prov and Saigon reported COSVN has directed VC in Kien Hoa to supply max reinforcements for a 2d phase atk on Saigon which is sked begin on 18 Feb and continue to end of mo. Object of atk being to help remaining VC in city to escape. (b)(3) 10

NORTH VIETNAM

ROLLING THUNDER OPERATIONS 16 FEB: 83 sorties (51 USAF, 21 USN, 11 USMC) dest/damaged 9/72 trks, 0/7 gun psns, 0/4 stor areas, 0/4 trk pks, 0/2 trp concs, 0/2 radar sites, 0/2 transship pts, 0/2 afllds, (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424 0/1 mil complex, 0/1 barracks, 0/1 ferry, 0/1 TPP, and LOCs. (S)

Tgts 30 nm Hanoi: Hoa Lac Aflld, Phuc Yen Aflld. (S)

Tgt 10 nm Haiphong: Kien An Aflld. (S)

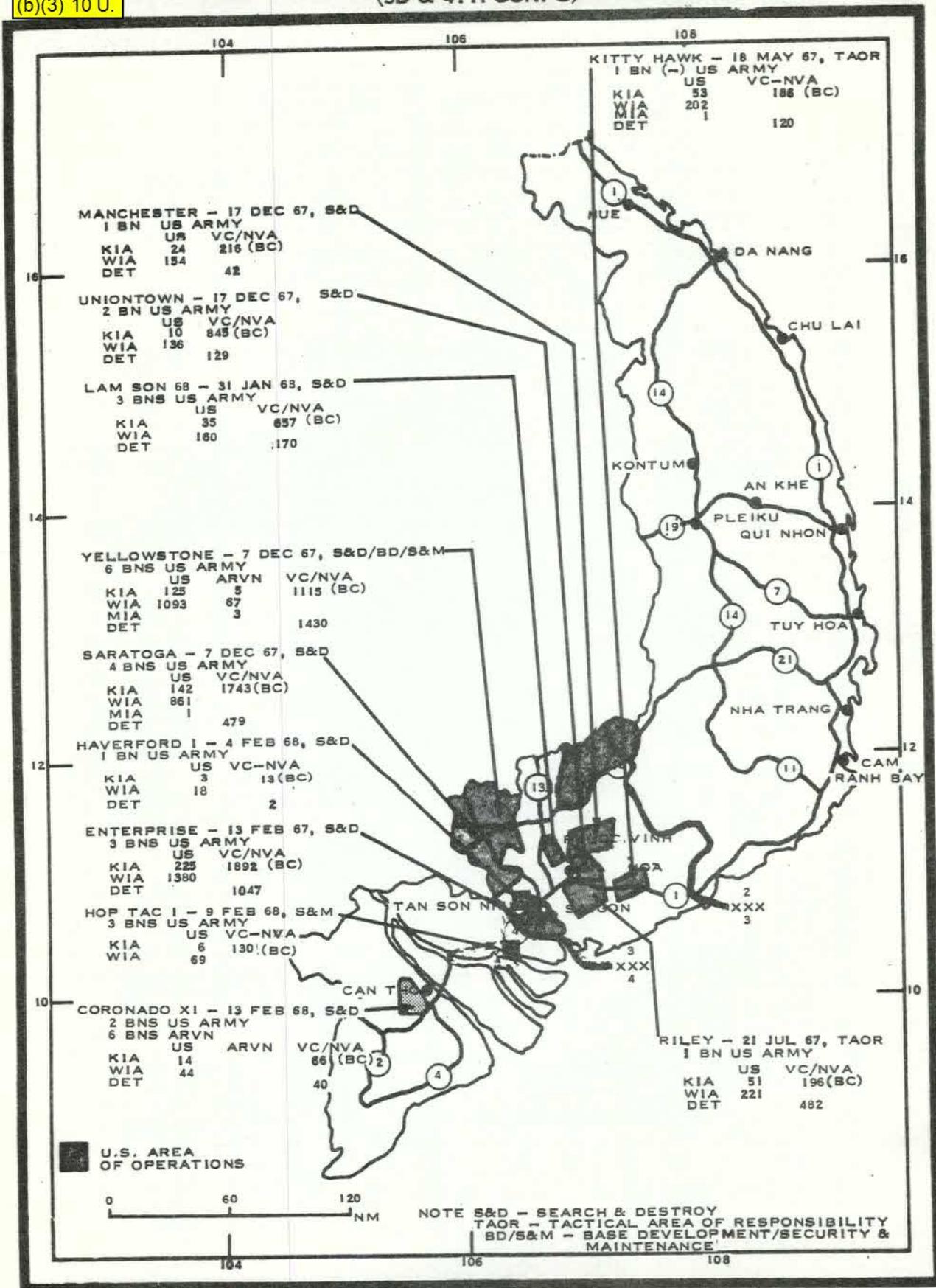
Other Significant tgt: Uong Bi TPP. (S)

SAM SIGHTINGS: US pilots obs 6 abn SAMs vic Vinh on 16 Feb. (S)
US pilots obs 8 abn SAMs 23 nm N Hanoi on 16 Feb. (S)

NEW SAM SITE: Site 282 (unocc) is loc just N of DMZ and approx 10 nm W of Vinh Linh. Sites 274 (occ) and 278 (occ) are within 1/2 and 3 nms respectively. (b)(3) 10 U.S.

SUMMARY OF OPERATIONS IN SOUTH VIETNAM WHICH INVOLVE PARTICIPATION BY US FORCES (3D & 4TH CORPS)

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LAOS

BARREL ROLL/STEEL TIGER OPERATIONS 16 FEB: 218 sorties (201 USAF, 13 USN, 4 USMC) dest/damaged 14/43 trks, 3/2 WBLC, 2/18 gun psns, 1/4 AAA psns, 0/27 stor areas, 0/12 trp concs, 0/6 trk pks, 0/3 mil complex, 0/1 ferry, 0/1 transmitter, 0/1 bivouac area, and LOCs. ~~(S)~~

SARAVANE: City is braced for an atk, civilians being evac. Up to 4 NVA bns in area may be using tactics that worked so well at Nam Bac -- exert steady pressure at little cost until army breaks and runs. Another mil defeat so soon after Nam Bac debacle could cause Lao Govt some difficulty. (b)(3) 10

AIRCRAFT LOSS: USN OP-2 acft, engaged in MUSCLE SHOALS opns, downed by gnd fire 75 nm W of Quang Tri at 170013 EST. No chutes sighted or beepers heard. ~~(S)~~

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