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

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(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424;3.3(h)(2)
GROUND OPERATIONS: 38 bn-size or larger opns in progress. (22 US, 13 ARVN, 1 ROK, 1 Thai, 1 Aust).

1 CTZ: On 8 Dec, 2 ARVN bns engaged est en co in fortified psns 4 nm NE Con Thien. 45 VC/NVA KIA, 9 indiv, 2 crew-served wpns seized. 10 ARVN KIA, 27 WIA.

On 8 Dec, in Opn WHEELER/WALLOWA, USA co sighted 5 en 19 nm S Da Nang. 2d USA co reinforced and contacted est 75 en. In 7-hr fire fight 103 VC/NVA KIA 7 wpns seized. 2 US WIA. En on rice gathering opn.

At 100140 EST, USAF F-4C downed by gnd fire, 13 nm SE Da Nang. Both crew members recovered; good condition.

41 small-unit contacts resulted 24 VC/NVA KIA, 5 wpns seized. 1 US, 1 ARVN KIA; 17 US, 5 ARVN WIA.

2 CTZ: On 9 Dec, in Opn PERSHING, in area 43 nm NNE Qui Nhon, 3 USA cos engaged and attempted to overrun unk number en in hamlet. US force went into night psns to atk first light. US cas this contact since 5 Dec 28 US KIA, 140 WIA, 1 MIA. 254 VC/NVA KIA, 21 indiv, 7 crew-served wpns seized.

On 8 Dec, 13 nm NW Qui Nhon, 3 ROK cos encircled 1 en co and tightened cordon on 9 Dec. 4 ROK KIA, 15 WIA. 13 VC/NVA KIA, 1 wpn seized.

On 7 Dec, 45 nm NNE Phan Thiet, est en bn overrun 15 PF outposts, RF reinf. On 8 Dec, another RF committed. 4 US KIA, 1 WIA. 4 PF WIA.

On 9 Dec, in Opn KLAMATH FALLS, 2 US helos downed by gnd fire. 1 helo flew out, the 2d recovered with major damage. 4 US KIA, 13 WIA. 3 VC/NVA KIA, 3 wpns seized.

3 CTZ: On 9 Dec, a fire, to clear vegetation around USA arty psn, 11 nm NE Tay Ninh, dest 6 105-mm howitzers, unk number 105-mm ammo, 12 M-16 rifles, and injured 6 US pers. An additional 1,500 rds 105-mm ammo had to be dest.

On 9 Dec, USA bn sustained rkt, mortar, and gnd atk from unk-size en force 43 nm N Saigon. 124 VC/NVA KIA, 38 indiv and 18 crew-served wpns seized. 1 US KIA, 31 WIA.

On 9 Dec, 42 nm N Saigon, USA base camp recd rkt and gnd atk from unk-size en force. 15 VC/NVA KIA. 7 US KIA, 46 US, 4 PF WIA.

On 8 Dec, in Opn FAIRFAX, 5 nm N Saigon, 3 ARVN Ranger bns engaged unk-size en force. 18 VC/NVA KIA, 5 indiv wpns seized. 16 ARVN KIA, 1 US, 17 ARVN WIA.

27 small-unit contacts resulted: 26 VC/NVA KIA, 2 wpns seized. 3 US, 2 ARVN KIA, 18 US, 12 ARVN WIA.
4 CTZ: On 9 Dec, in Opn DAN CHI 315 C, contact reestablished with VC/NVA. 74 VC/NVA KIA, 19 indiv wpns seized. 1 US WIA. On 10 Dec, opn term after 3 days with cum results -- 73 ARVN KIA, 6 US, 136 ARVN WIA. 456 VC/NVA KIA, 106 indiv, 24 crew-served wpns seized. 13 small-unit contacts resulted 7 VC/NVA KIA, 5 wpns seized. 2 ARVN KIA, 11 WIA.

ARC LIGHT OPERATIONS 9, 10 DEC: At 100721 EST, 9 B-52s (ROMEO 48) bombed arty psns and bunker complex 41 nm NW Hue. At 101835 EST, 9 B-52s (ROMEO 98) bombed elms NVA arty regt and rkt psns 43 nm NW Hue. At 101354 EST, 6 B-52s (QUEBEC 96) bombed elms 272 and 273 VC regts on infiltration rte 49 nm NE Tay Ninh. At 091151 and 091430 EST, 2 flights of 6 B-52s ea (ROMEO 78 and 34) bombed psns of NVA 101 Regt 19 nm E Tay Ninh. Gnd follow-up by 25th Inf Div sked.

ATTACK INDICATIONS: Preparations for "large-scale"/"coordinated" inf/rkt atks NE of Con Thien were reflected in comms serving two elms of NVA 90th Regt on 10 Dec. Msgs indicated, however, that it was not certain when action would occur.

TRIBORDER SITUATION: There are indications that en elms involved in recent fighting around Dak To have fallen back into Cambodian-Laos-SVNese border area to recover from losses sustained. Units identified in area include Hqs NVA 1st Div and supporting elms, plus 2 div subordinates -- 32d and 66th Regts -- and separate 174th Regt. Prior to recent fighting around Dak To, their combined strength was about 6,600. On basis of cas inflicted at Dak To, en prob retreated across border with about 5,000 trps. Based on past experience, 1st Div Hqs can be expected to remain in sanctuary area for next 45 days; regts will prob stay there 20 more.

NORTH VIETNAM

ROLLING THUNDER 57 OPERATIONS 9, 10 DEC: 202 sorties (110 USAF, 85 USMC, 7 USN) dest/damaged 4/3 bldgs, 0/61 gun psns, 0/19 trks, 0/16 stor areas, 0/10 bridges, 0/8 trp conc, 0/6 trk pkys, 0/6 ferries, 0/5 AAA sites, 0/5 bunkers, 0/1 transshipment pt, 0/1 afld, 0/1 RR yd, 0/1 WBL cft, and LOCs. Adverse wx continued to limit air ops.

Tgt within 10-nm radius Haiphong: Haiphong/Kien An Afl. Son Tay Army Barracks.

NVA 304 DIV: An increased threat to DMZ area is indicated by recent movement of commo elms of NVA 304th Div from NVN to psns in Lao/VN border area just W and NW of DMZ. These elms are prob associated with regt-size units, and this move suggests that entire NVA 304th Div will soon be opnl in area, adding some 10,000 to 12,000 men to 29,000-30,000 en trps already there. Current disposition of 304th indicates that its msn is to reinforce western DMZ and poss to react to COMUS-MACV's proposed barrier system. 304th may also, however, be destined
for opns farther S. A linkup with NVA 31st Regt, just W of Ashau Valley, would provide yet another strong border force whose msn would be to draw friendly forces away from the more populated areas of coast. (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424;3

TRANSPORT EXERCISES: Eight AN-2 acft conducted gnd atk exercises at low-altitude near Gia Lam Afd on 8 Dec similar to but more extensive than those held on 28 Nov (OIS 2 Dec) and 2 Dec. Wpns or simulated wpns not identified. Purpose of trng is still not clear. Flight acty coincided with practice trng by NVNese patrol boats at Cac Ba Island near Haiphong, but there is no evidence, however, that joint opns are planned. (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424;3(b)(3)

LAOS

BARREL ROLL/STEEL TIGER OPERATIONS 9, 10 DEC: 399 sorties (354 USAF, 31 USN, 14 USMC) dest/damaged 35/99 trks, 4/2 bunkers, 1/6 bridges, 0/51 trk pks, 0/21 stor areas, 0/10 gun site's, 0/8 trp concs, 0/4 mil complexes, 0/4 supply areas, 0/2 ferries, 0/1 POL stor area and LOCs.

ARC LIGHT OPERATIONS: At 090730 EST, 9 B-52s (MIKE 32) bombed log area on infiltration rte 922, 70 nm W Da Nang. At 091558 EST, 9 B-52s (QUEBEC 62) bombed trp concs and tng camps 46 nm WNW Kontum. 40

Non Responsive
Page 8 of 9

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