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

21 December 1967

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

SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

OPS - INT

SUMMARY



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WARNING

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(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424



OPERATIONAL/INTELLIGENCE BRIEFS

SOUTH VIETNAM

GROUND OPERATIONS: 42 bn-size or larger opns in prog: 26 US, 3 FWF, 13 ARVN. ~~(S)~~

1 CTZ: USA 11th Inf Bde arrived Duc Pho 19 Dec and asg to 23d Inf (Americal) Div. ~~(S)~~

28 small-unit contacts resulted in following losses -- US: 4 KIA, 16 WIA; ARVN: 6 WIA, 1 wpns; VC/NVA: 26 KIA, 8 det, 4 wpns. ~~(S)~~

2 CTZ: 12 small-unit contacts resulted in following losses -- ARVN: 1 KIA, 2 WIA; VC/NVA: 12 KIA, 1 det, 5 wpns. ~~(S)~~

3 CTZ: In Opn YELLOWSTONE on 20 Dec, CIDG camp 20 nm NW Tay Ninh and USA bn base camp 10 nm NE Tay Ninh atkd by mort fire. Losses -- US: 29 WIA; CIDG: 7 WIA; VC/NVA: unk. ~~(S)~~

In Opn CAMDEN 19 Dec, USA base camp atkd with small-arms, grenades, RPG-2, and mort fire from unk-size en force. Losses -- US: 4 WIA; VC/NVA: 6 KIA. ~~(S)~~

In Opn RILEY 20 Dec, USA co contacted unk-size en force. Losses -- US: 3 KIA, 8 WIA; VC/NVA: 7 KIA. ~~(S)~~

In Opn NARESUAN, Thai co engaged unk-size en force on 20 Dec 15 nm ESE Saigon. Losses -- Thai: 5 KIA, 8 WIA; VC/NVA: 50 KIA, unk no wpns. ~~(S)~~

16 small-unit contacts resulted in following losses -- US: 6 WIA, 1 MIA; ARVN: 5 KIA, 10 WIA; VC/NVA: 14 KIA, 3 wpns. (C)

4 CTZ: On 20 Dec, unk number en atkd Can Tho Afld employing infiltrating gnd elms and placing grenades in/around acft. 3 UH-1Ds and 2 Air America fixed-wing acft dest. 6 UH-1Ds and 2 C-7A acft damaged. ~~(S)~~

Opn DAN CHI 315D term 20 Dec after 1-day opn. Losses -- ARVN: 2 WIA; VC/NVA: 7 KIA, 12 det, 4 wpns. ~~(S)~~

No small-unit contacts reported. ~~(S)~~

ARC LIGHT OPERATIONS 20 DEC: 15 B-52s bombed areas 46 nm NW Hue containing fortified psns, stor areas, and trp elms. ~~(S)~~

HQS 320 DIV: "Way station" Echo (loc 3 nm SW Tchepone and W of Khe Sanh area) has been observed xmitting msgs originated by subject hqs -- an indication that latter is, or soon will be, in Tchepone area. (Station Echo has also been noted in similar acty involving 304 Div, one of its subord regts, and an unident elm associated with 304th -- all of which carried in Tchepone area.

(b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424:3

NVN TEACHERS: NVN detainee who recently arrived in SVN says that his entire infiltration grp of 25 pers was composed of teachers. Detainee was to teach children in 7- to 13-yr age grp. Is one

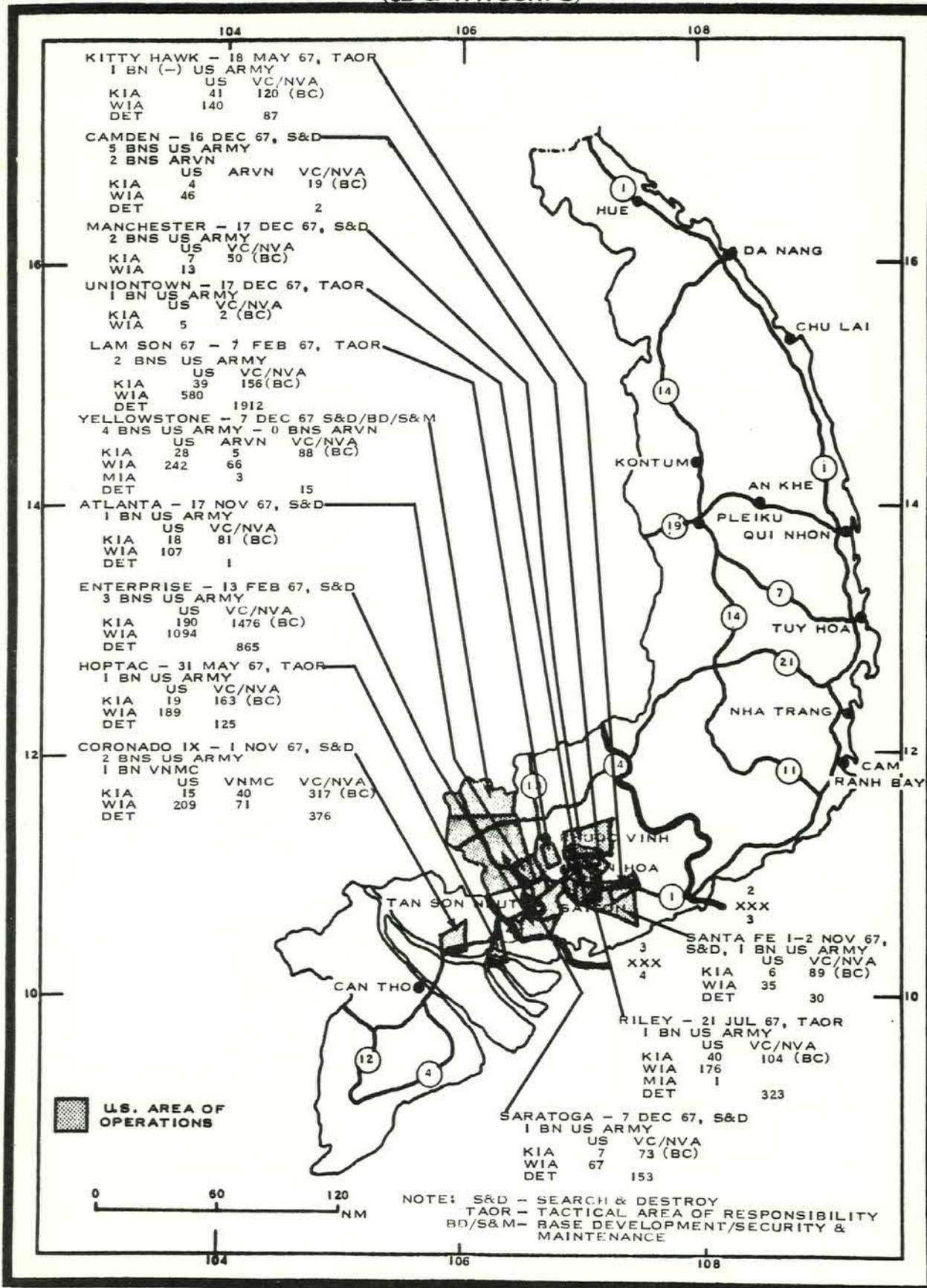
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example of Hanoi's own methods of/interest in gaining control over SVNese people. (Noted also that COSVN recently directed its subord prop/trng sections at all levels to increase number of teachers, in order to firm up popular spt for "the struggle".

~~(S)~~
VC ACTIVITY SAIGON AREA: Terrorist atks continue. Cptrd documents indicate Vietnamese working for govt agencies are prime tgt. Intercept of 17 Dec indicate poss VC plans atk FWF air base (prob Bien Hoa) and near-by US base at Long Binh. ~~(S)~~ SAVIN)

ATTACKS IN KONTUM-PLEIKU: Indications are that en will prob atk population centers in subject provs between 25 Dec and Tet (26 Jan EST). (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424;3.3

MOBILIZATION: According to reliable source, on 30 Nov Cabinet received MinDef document outlining specific measures considered necessary to implement 25 Oct partial mob decree (sked take effect 1 Jan 68). MinDef recommended, among other things, that 200,000 men be inducted in '68 to replace anticipated casualties of 58,000 and est desertions of 78,000, and to meet overall planned increase of 64,000. MinDef stated current draft regs would produce only 88,000 men in '68. As of 15 Dec, Cabinet had taken no action on MinDef request. Decree is, of course, under heavy fire in both houses of NA. (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424;3.3(h)(2)

NORTH VIETNAM

ROLLING THUNDER OPERATIONS 20 DEC: 190 sorties (89 USAF, 72 USN, 38 USMC) dest/damaged 3/60 trks, 2/3 bldgs, 2/41 WBLC, (b)(3) 10 U. (b)(3) 1 0/29 gun psns, 0/13 stor areas, 0/8 bridges, 0/4 trk pks, 0/1 transship pts, 0/1 radar site, 0/4 SAM sites, 0/2 mil compl, 0/1 obs tower, and LOCs. (S)

MIG ENGAGEMENT 19 DEC: 4 USAF F-105s atkd by 4 MIG-17s and 2 MIG-21s 64 nm NNW Hanoi. 2 MIGs fired cannon. No damage. (S)

SAM SIGHTINGS: 8 abn msls obs: 5 on 19 Dec vic Hanoi; 3 on 20 Dec vic Dong Hoi. (S)

SAMs FIRE ON B-52: On 20 Dec, for 3d time since Sep, NVN has unsuccessfully fired SAMs at B-52s. 2-6 msls were launched at flight of 9 B-52s near 17th parallel; firings came after bombs away. Have been almost daily (b)(3) 1 indications of presence of SAMs in DMZ area. (As in past, Hanoi may claim acft downed.)

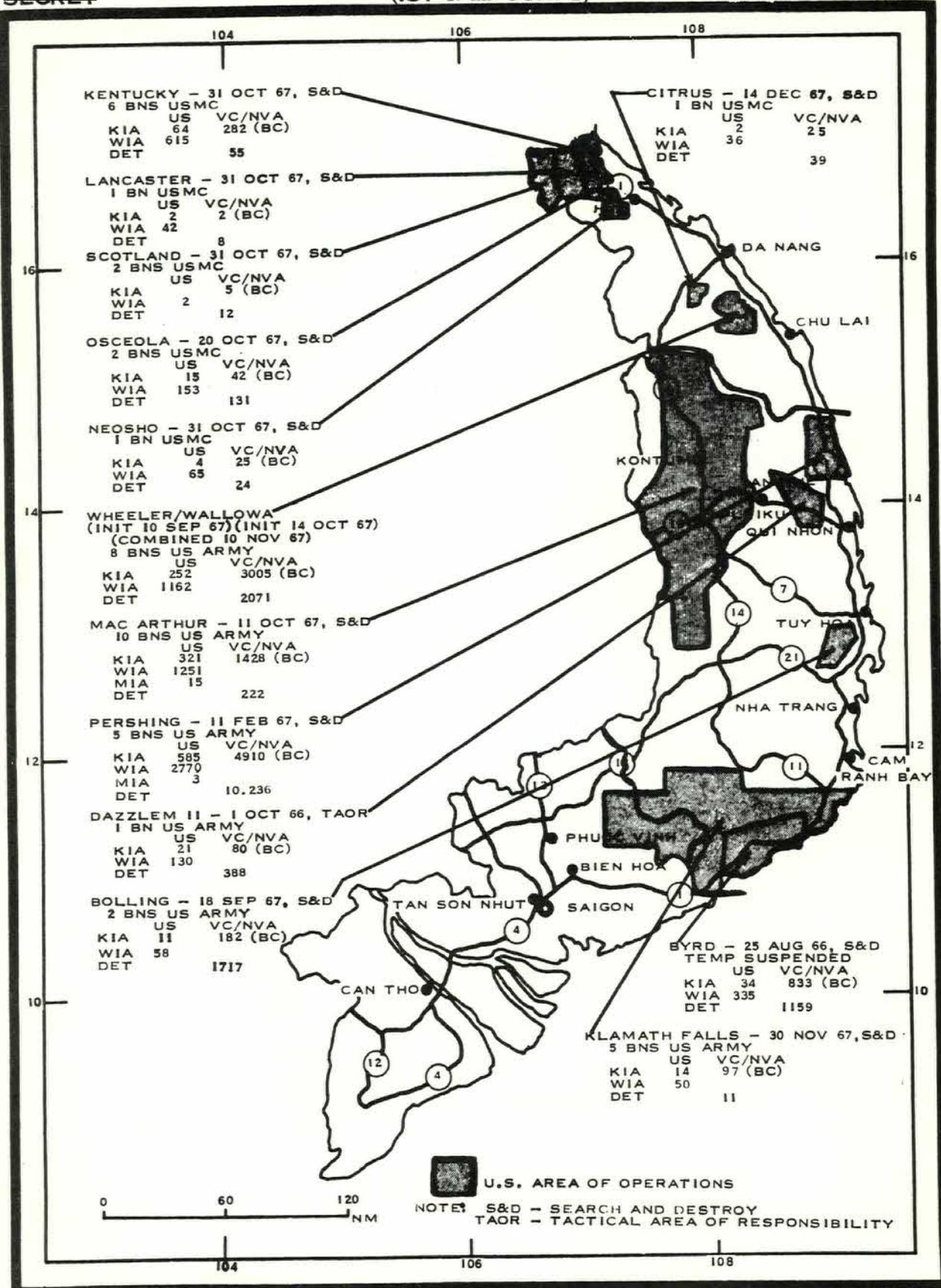
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OFFLOADING OPERATIONS HAIPHONG: NVN is reducing turn-around-time of at least some ships by use of large number of barges/lighters. Thus, Sov tkr AMURSK (arr 12 Dec, departed 16 Dec) was obs during daytime hours 15 Dec with 14-16 barges alongside (largest number ever obs servicing single ship; capable of accepting all of AMURSK's 4000 MT of POL). Radar photos of

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night of 11 Dec also showed prob cgo ship with lighters along-side. Possibility is that stepped up 24-hr offloading opns are under way. (b)(3) 10 U.

AIR DEFENSE SHELTERS: An NSA report notes that during Nov there occurred (in NVN civil commo) first-known SIGINT reference to specific allocation of large amts of money (US \$650,000) for air def shelters. Areas involved are Ha Tinh and Quang Binh Provs in NVN panhandle. Report states that, in past, sums of such size have been allocated for rather broadly described, general-purpose categories, not for specific projects. If this correct, development suggests emphasis, poss urgency, re shelter construction in panhandle. Further significance unk. (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424;3.

LAOS

BARREL ROLL/STEEL TIGER OPERATIONS: 208 sorties (190 USAF, 11 USN, 7 USMC) dest/damaged 14/34 trks, 0/5 mil compl, 0/23 trk pks, 0/7 trp concs, 0/12 stor areas, 0/2 biv areas, 0/1 ford, 1/24 gun sites, 1/0 bridge, 1/0 bldg, and LOCs. (S)

ARC LIGHT OPERATIONS 20 DEC: 6 B-52s bombed stor area and trk pks 53 nm SW Dong Hoi. (S)

UNUSUAL AIR BURSTS: Pilots in Laos have reported recently seeing ground fire followed by unusual air bursts -- an initial single burst (some at 9000') with multiple secondary bursts (in a star configuration). Purpose unk, but reminiscent of another recent pilot report re use in Laos of "photoflash-like signaling device to warn of incoming acft". (37/57-mm AA guns are in Laos, but use of incendiary pellets would prob degrade their effectiveness against acft.) (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424;3

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