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31 January 1968

(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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OPERATIONAL/INTELLIGENCE BRIEFS

SOUTH VIETNAM

GROUND OPERATIONS: 38 bn-size or larger opns in prog. (S)

1 CTZ: On 30 Jan, Phu Bai AB rec est 5-10 rds 122-mm rkt and unk-cal mort fire. 5 US rec minor wounds; no damage to acft or runway; 2 hardback tents dest. (S)

Updated info on atk on ARVN 1 CTZ Hq Da Nang 29 Jan indicates atk conducted by est co-size en force sptd by 40-50 rds mort fire. 64 en KIA, 7 pers detained; 2 US KIA, 7 WIA. (S)

Updated info on Da Nang Afld atk indicates that during period 291400-291600 EST, Marble Mountain Air Facility hit by 20 rds mort fire. 3,000-ft section of east runway non-opnl. Damage to 12 UH-1Ds, 3 UH-1Bs, 2 UH-1As, and 1 U-6. At 291330 EST, main airbase hit by approx 42 rds 122-mm rkt fire. 1 US KIA, 10 WIA. 1 F-4, 2 F-4Bs, and 1 A-6A dest; 15 F-4s, 2 F-4Bs, 1 RF-4B, 4 A-6s, and 2 F-8Es damaged. 5 vehs, several photo trailers, 1 avionics van and misc gnd equip damaged. One warehouse of electronics dest. Base on YELLOW alert and open to traffic. (S)

At 201455 EST, Marine Acft Gp 16 at Marble Mountain rec est 25-30 rds 122-mm rkt and unk-cal mort fire. 2 US WIA; ramp area rec numerous holes; 1 hangar and the commo and electronics repair bldg damaged. 9 CH-46As, 8 UH-34Ds, and 6 CH-53As rec various degrees of damage. (S)

In Hoi An on 29 Jan, prov hospital, ARVN eng bn, and ARVN arty unit atkd by unk-size en force. En reported to have occupied engineer compound and to be digging in. Elms of ROKMC bn heli-lifted into area, have engaged en force. Latest results -- 21 en KIA and 2 pers det. No friendly losses reported. (S)

In Opn WHEELER/WALLOWA on 29 Jan, USA 23 Div reported total of 90 rds en mort fire on 5 different LZs in its area of opns. Results mort atks not avail. On 29 Jan, village loc approx 27 nm SSE Da Nang atkd by est 200-300 en. No results avail. (S)

Chu Lai AB rec est 20-30 rds 122-mm rkt and unk-cal mort fire approx 301510 EST. Friendly cas -- 2 US KIA, 4 WIA; 2 hangars damaged. Following acft losses/damage resulted -- 3 F-4Bs dest; 7 F-4Bs, 1 A-4E, and 1 C-117D damaged. (S)

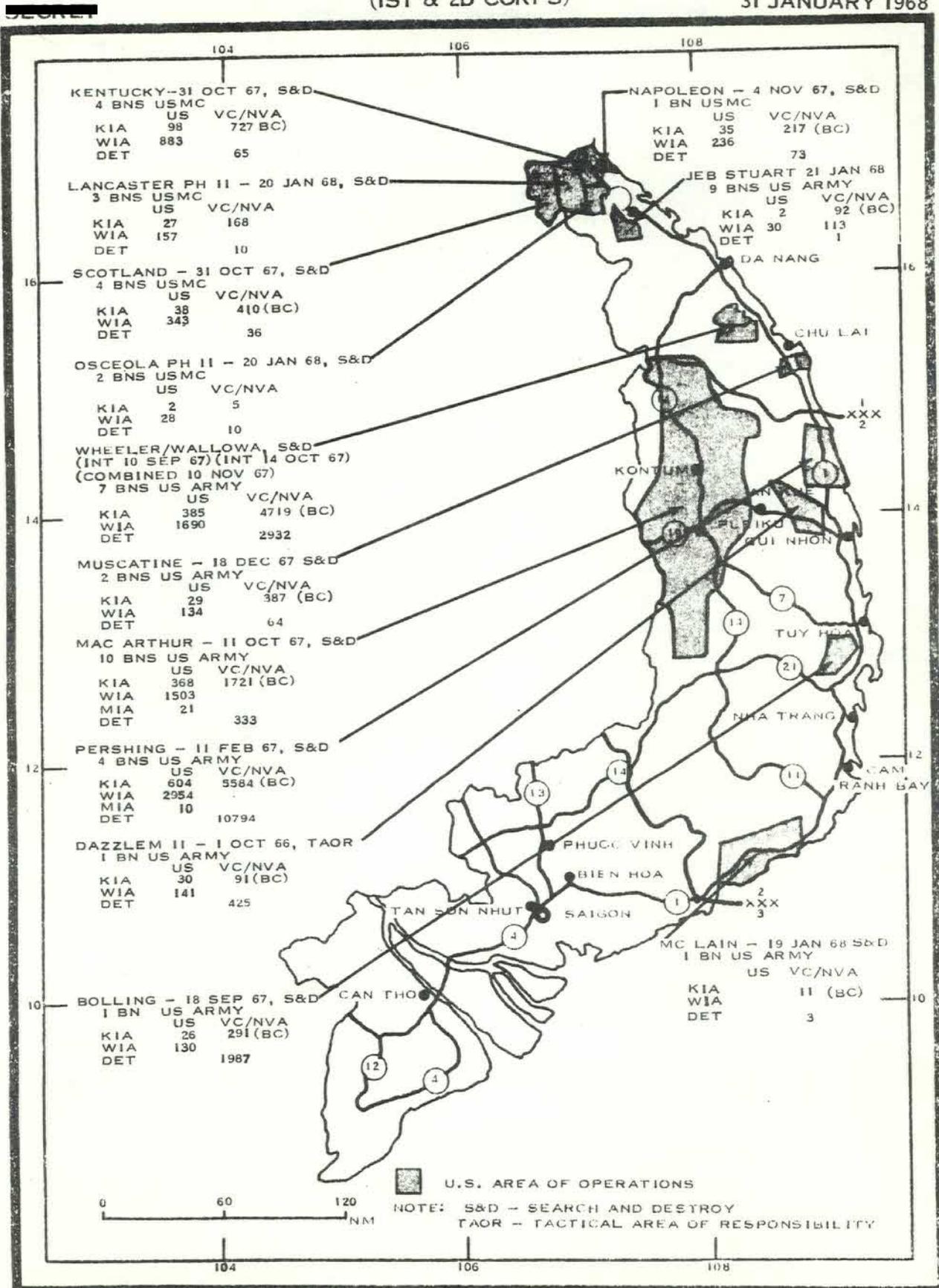
2 CTZ: KAHM ZEI 3, ARVN 1-bn S&D opn begun 25 Jan 38 nm NNW Kontum, term 29 Jan. Updated cum results -- 21 ARVN KIA (vice 17) and 139 WIA (vice 67). Also, 24 indiv wpns, 15 crew-served wpns, 223 rds 80-mm rkt ammo and 200 rds of 82-mm mort ammo destroyed. (S)

Kontum City fighting still in progress. Air/arty strikes being conducted against est 2 en bns near and in city. En losses 165 KIA, 2 pers det; friendly, 7 KIA, 5 WIA. (S)

In Pleiku, contact continues with unk-size en force outside city;

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UPDATED CASUALTY FIGURES NOT AVAILABLE AT PUBLICATION TIME.

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friendly units attempting to cut off en escape routes. En losses 104 KIA; friendly, 7 KIA, 22 WIA. (S)

As of 301800 EST Jan in Qui Nhon, ROK elms regained control of radio station and CIDG elms secured rail station. ROK bn sweeping area. 3 US KIA, 5 WIA; 50 en KIA. (S)

In Tuy Hoa, contact broken. En losses 76 KIA; friendly, 14 KIA, 54 WIA. (C)

In Ban Me Thuot, fighting continues in and outside city against est 2 en bns. Friendly losses 7 KIA, 16 WIA, 3 tks and 2 APCs damaged. 91 en KIA and 28 pers det. (S)

3 CTZ: On 29 Jan 12 nm S of Tay Ninh, airborne FAC sighted 25 oxcarts and est 200 en. Tac air and helo gunships rec small-arms fire but remained opnl. 40 en KIA; no friendly losses. (S)

At 290325 EST, 25 nm NW of Saigon, a USA bn engaged unk-size en force. Second bn reinf, sptd by AC-47s, helo gunships, and arty. En broke contact at 291130, leaving 66 dead. USA losses 8 KIA, 14 WIA. (S)

At 301400 EST, Bien Hoa AB rec approx 140 rds mort, plus B-40 and 122-mm rkt fire, followed by gnd atk from est 3 en cos. En penetrated eastern perimeter, but was repelled; light contact continuing at last report. Interim cas 4 US KIA, approx 61 WIA; 1 died of heart attack. Runway and taxiways opnl. 1 fuel trk dest, 3 x 50,000-gal fuel bladders, 3 bldgs, 2 VNAF warehouses damaged. Acft losses -- 2 A37s dest, 6 damaged; 1 F-100 dest, 1 damaged; 7 O-1s damaged; 4 U-10s damaged; 1 C-123 and 1 C-47 damaged. (S)

4 CTZ: On 30 Jan, plat of helo gunships atkd numerous sampans in a canal 8 nm NNE Can Tho. Also, tgt was struck by a flt of fixed-wing acft. 80 en KIA and 124 sampans dest. (S)

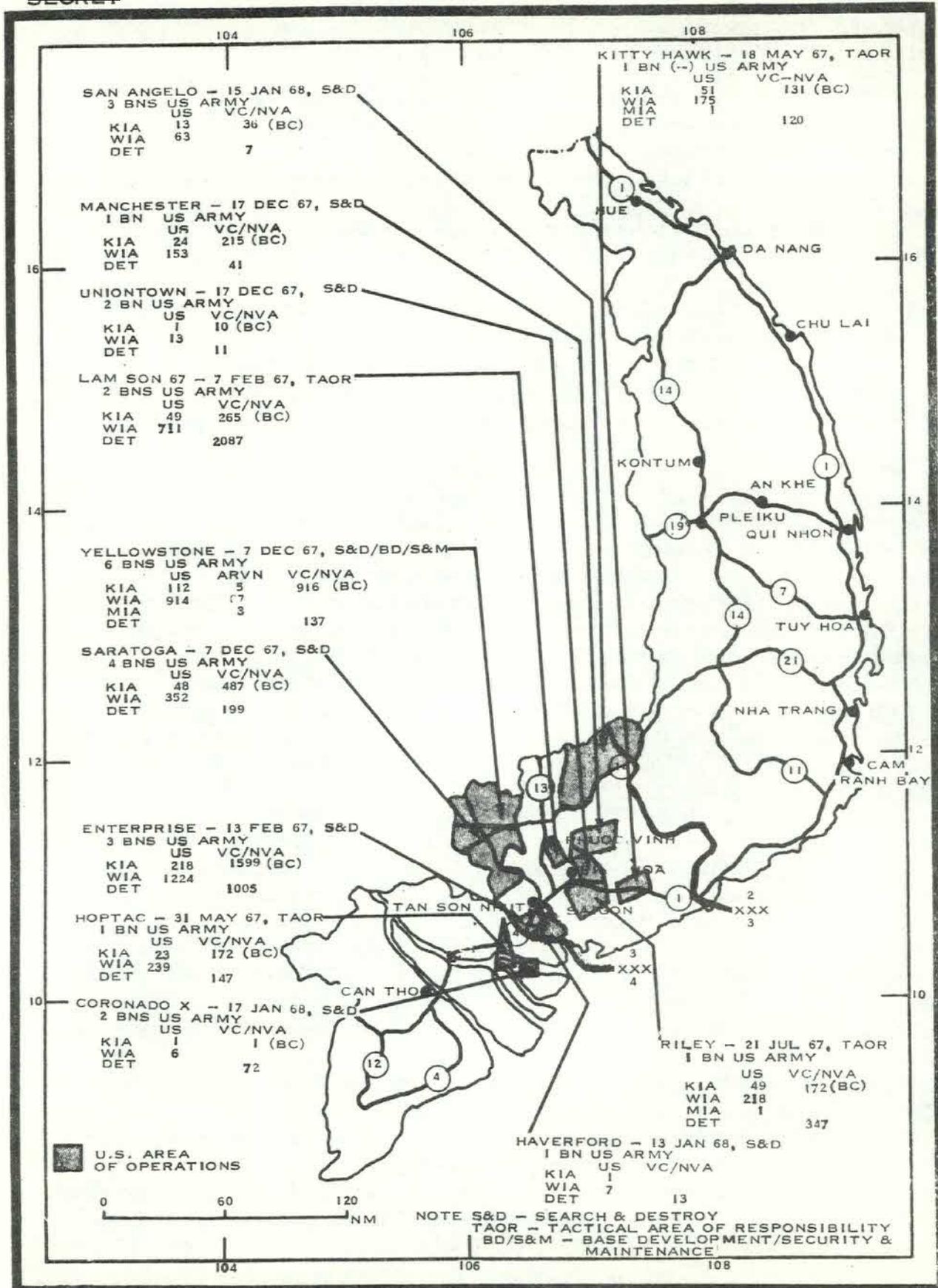
ARC LIGHT OPERATIONS 30 JAN: 9 B-52s bombed area 47 nm WNW Hue in spt Opn NIAGARA. 6 B-52s bombed area 28 nm NNW Nha Trang in spt Opn NIAGARA. No gnd follow-up sked for above strikes. (S)

COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA: Latest Nhan Dan output bears down heavily on theme of "glorious communist victories" this month, to incl actions reported on in above Briefs. Hanoi Radio quotes Liberation Press to effect that VC's "simultaneous atks" throughout 1 and 2 CTZs over past 2 days were instituted to "punish US aggressors"; allies were charged with double-dealing re truce stand-down and with "trampling on traditional habits/customs of VNese people even during Tet truce days". They will prob also cite allied truce-period "perfidy" as reason for their terrorist actys Saigon area. (A most revealing sidelight on level VC/NVA self-confidence, however, is fact communists themselves found it necessary attempt introduce element of surprise by initiating their well-planned series of atks on Tet itself.) Enemy may, of course, have hoped that an extensive "show of force" would make appreciable dent in allied pacification program. (b)(3) 10

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DMZ AREA: Northern Quang Tri Prov area still relatively quiet. COMINT continues indicate impending tactical acty. No indication of timing. ~~SECRET~~ Sec. 3.3

NORTH VIETNAM

ROLLING THUNDER OPERATIONS 30 JAN: 90 sorties (43 USAF, 42 USN, 5 USMC) dest/damaged 36/289 trks, 8/58 WBLC, 4/0 structures, 1/2 bulldozers, 1/4 bridges, 0/19 stor areas, 0/18 road segs, 0/3 gun psns, 0/3 transship pts, 0/2 trk pks, 0/1 AAA site. ~~SECRET~~

Other tgt: Suspected SAM site. ~~SECRET~~

SAM ACTIVITY IN DMZ AREA: Appearance in DMZ area of SAM-associated voice comms similar those Hanoi-Haiphong area may mean msl units in south will expand acty. Recent voice intercepts confirm location of SAM bn 5 nm N of DMZ in foothills rising from coast. Photos have not yet pinpointed site. ~~SECRET~~ Sec. 3.3(b) (

NVN AIR THREAT IN DMZ: Recent developments strongly suggest it only matter of time before NVN pilots attempt intercepts in DMZ area. (Developments incl: recent flights and fighter probes over southern Panhandle; dispatch of GCI pers to radar sites there; more frequent reference to DMZ in air opns msgs; increased wx reporting for area.) (Today's DIA Intel Sum contains graphic on wpns/space factors.) ~~SECRET~~ Sec. 3.3

LAOS

BARREL ROLL/STEEL TIGER OPERATIONS 30 JAN: 417 sorties (264 USAF, 151 USN, 2 USMC) dest/damaged 30/82 trks, 28/26 structures, (b)(3) 10 U. sites, 1/10 gun sites, 0/43 trp concs, 0/35 stor areas, 0/14 trk pks, 0/8 road segs, 0/7 mil compl, 0/3 WBLC, 0/1 rkt site, 0/1 bunker. (S)

ARC LIGHT OPERATIONS 30 JAN: 9 B-52s struck trp concs and stor areas 70 nm WNW Hue. 9 B-52s struck bunkers, stor area, and trp concs 54 nm W of Hue. (S)

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