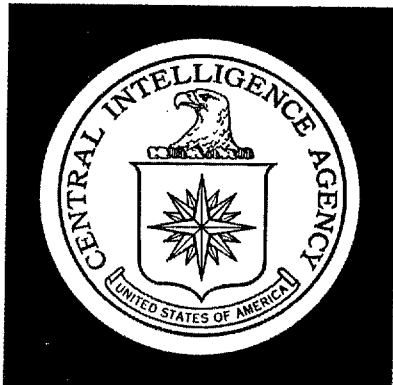


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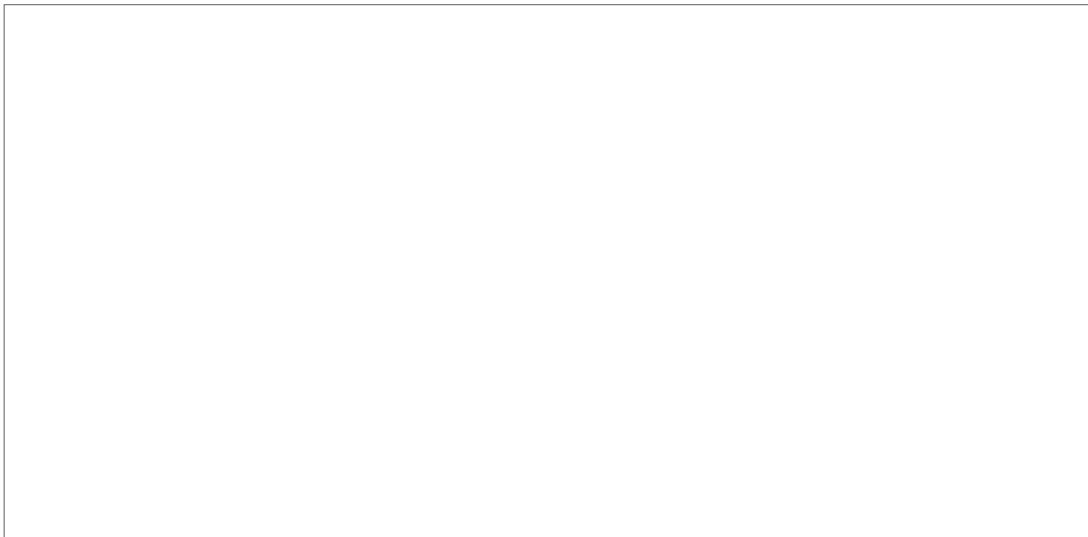
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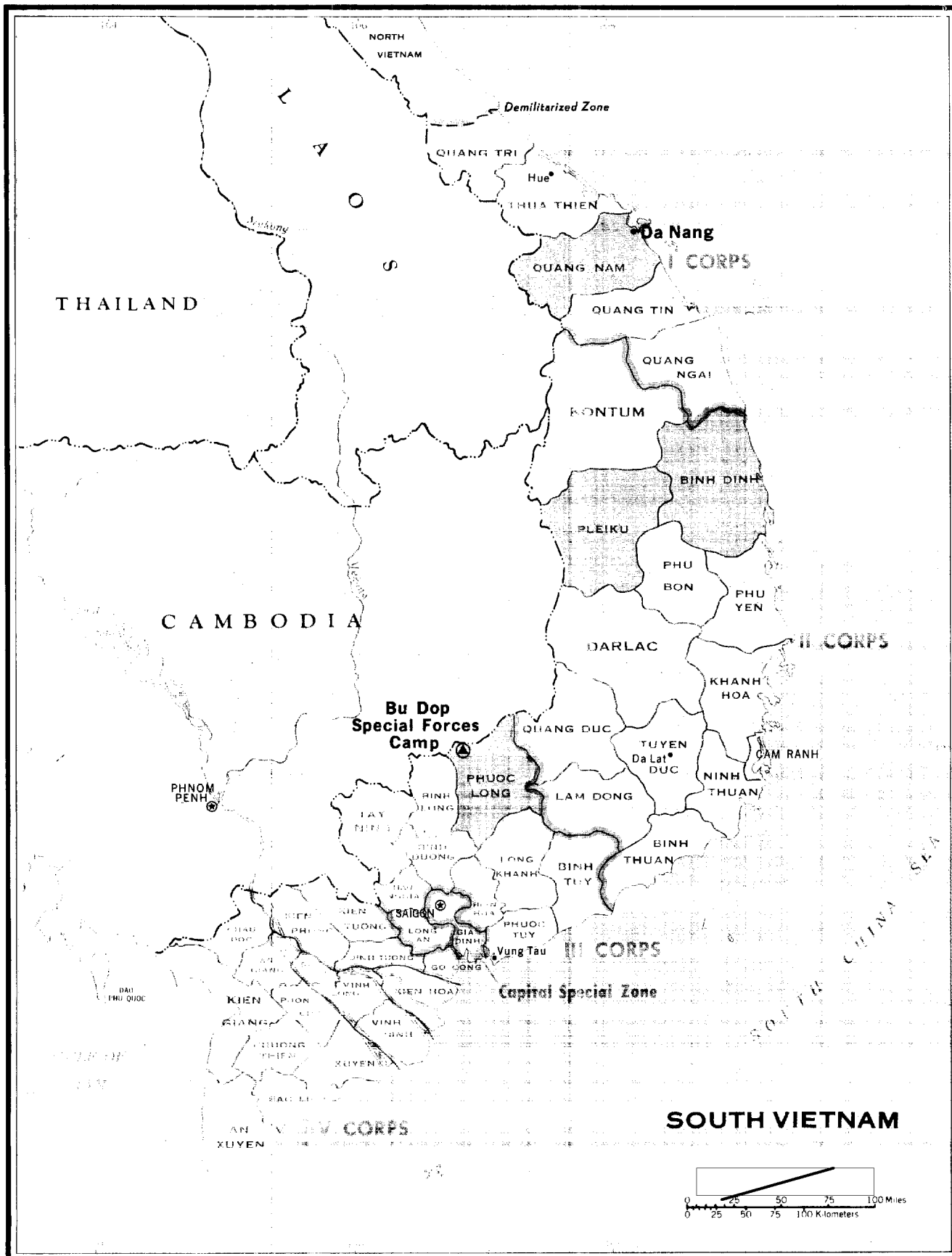
3.3(h)(2)

France-Iraq: The two countries are working on closer military ties and on oil exploration agreements. (Page 4)

Congo (Kinshasa): Belgian airlift of mercenaries (Page 5)

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~~TOP SECRET~~ [REDACTED]

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*South Vietnam: Scattered skirmishes have marked the military action for the past two days.

A company of the US 1st Infantry Division engaged an estimated two enemy platoons approximately one mile from the Bu Dop Special Forces Camp in Phuoc Long Province on 5 December, and a US patrol was hit in the same area on 6 December. The camp was the scene of a heavy enemy attack on 29 November, and of sporadic clashes since.

US forces took light casualties in two other skirmishes on 5 December, one in Quang Nam Province south of Da Nang and the other in Binh Dinh Province. A total of 34 enemy troops were killed in the two actions.

[REDACTED] 3.3(h)(2)

Five prisoners from a Viet Cong local force unit [REDACTED] say that their unit received North Vietnamese replacements in September. This is the second indication of North Vietnamese replacements for this particular unit, and similar reports have been received on several other sapper units in I and II Corps.

3.3(h)(2)

The same thing is apparently going on in other areas of the country, pointing to an increased enemy emphasis on sapper units. The Communists evidently regard them as a relatively inexpensive way to inflict casualties and destruction on allied installations and population centers.

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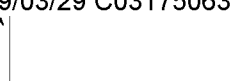
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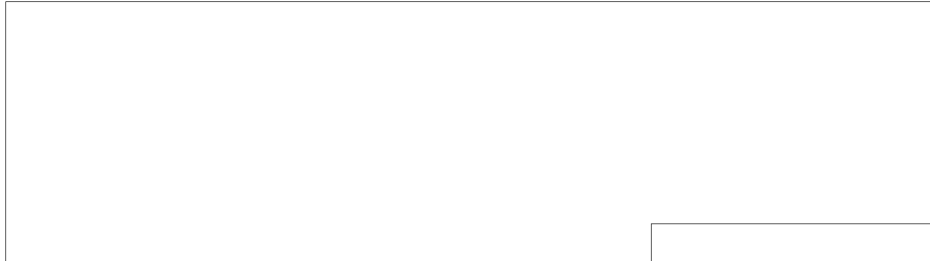
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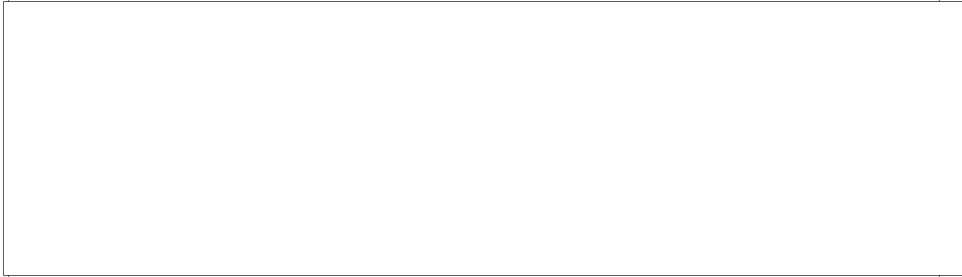
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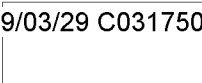
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France-Iraq: The two countries are developing closer military ties and are concluding an agreement for oil exploration in Iraq.

Iraqi Chief of Staff Hasan Sabri is heading a military delegation which arrived in Paris on 5 December for a ten-day visit. [redacted]

3.3(h)(2)

[redacted] The French government-controlled oil company, ERAP, tentatively signed a prospecting agreement in late November covering concessionary areas formerly controlled by the Iraq Petroleum Company. Oil has not yet been found in this area.

3.3(h)(2)

The French Government also has an interest in another French oil company, CFP, which has been negotiating for rights in Iraq's North Rumaila field. The Iraq Petroleum Company lays claim to this potentially very productive field. CFP is planning to send a team to Baghdad this weekend in an effort to wrap up the Rumaila deal.

In a further gesture indicative of warming relations, President Abd Ar-Rahman Arif has invited General De Gaulle to visit Baghdad. A government spokesman in Paris indicated, however, that such a visit is a long way off [redacted]

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~~TOP SECRET~~ [redacted]

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NOTE

Congo (Kinshasa): The Belgians apparently plan to evacuate as many mercenaries as possible from Rwanda, despite the outcry in Africa such a move might cause. The Belgian effort follows a Rwandan ultimatum on 5 December that the mercenaries must be removed within 48 hours. A Sabena DC-6 now in Rwanda would be used. There are an estimated 120 mercenaries detained in Rwanda. Congolese reaction to such an airlift could be explosive. [redacted]

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