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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Office of Current Intelligence
19 April 1966

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The Political Situation in South Vietnam
(As of 12:00 Noon)

1. The cities of Hue and Da Nang were reported to be generally quiet today. However, press reports indicate that there have been scattered incidents of violence in both cities which I Corps commander General Dinh has reportedly blamed on the Viet Cong. The Hue radio appears to be lining up behind Tri Quang's position, but Radio Da Nang has not referred to Quang's speech yesterday, and is continuing its strong criticisms of the Ky government and the US.

2. In the provincial capital of Quang Ngai, fragmentary reports indicate that several hundred student "suicide troops" confronted some 5,000 VNQDD (Nationalist) Party demonstrators this morning. It is not yet clear whether there was an actual clash. The city was reported quiet by late afternoon (Vietnam time), after the 2nd Division commander talked to both groups. In Da Lat the situation also remains unsettled. The US Embassy has commented that local officials there are apparently unwilling or unable to control groups of demonstrators there, who yesterday seized a military police captain.

Note: The current series of special Situation Reports on Vietnam will terminate with this issue. The series will be resumed, however, if a crisis situation again develops in Vietnam. Continuity on Vietnam developments will continue to be provided in the regular Situation in Vietnam memorandum issued daily by OCI and by the daily Central Intelligence Bulletin.

State Dept. review completed

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