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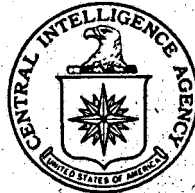
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

Memorandum



THE SITUATION IN VIETNAM

Information as of 1600
13 July 1966

ARMY review(s) completed.

State Dept. review completed

PREPARED FOR THE NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
FURTHER DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION
CONTAINED HEREIN IS NOT AUTHORIZED

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Approved For Release 2007/03/06 : CIA-RDP79T00826A001000010031-0

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13 July 1966

HIGHLIGHTS

Premier Ky announced today a series of changes in his cabinet. No reaction to these changes has been noted either from government functionaries or from Buddhist elements. The North Vietnamese remain determined to continue the war, according to reports attributed to French diplomat Jean Sainteny who talked with Ho Chi Minh on 5 and 6 July.

I. The Military Situation in South Vietnam:

Another North Vietnamese regiment has been accepted by MACV in northernmost Quang Tri Province (Paras. 3-4). Weekly review of South Vietnam battle statistics (Para. 6).

II. Political Developments in South Vietnam:

Premier Ky announced expected revisions in his cabinet on 13 July (Paras. 1-4). Thich Tam Chau, the chairman of the Buddhist Institute, has used another ploy in his attempt to avoid a confrontation with the militant faction within the Buddhist clerical hierarchy (Paras. 5-6). Tam Chau's announced two-month leave for reasons of health may provide Buddhist militants aligned with Tri Quang the opportunity to press for a Buddhist boycott of the forthcoming elections (Para. 7).

III. Military Developments in North Vietnam:

One MIG-17 was downed in an engagement with US Navy aircraft over North Vietnam (Para. 1). Recent photography has disclosed additional MIG-21s at North Vietnam's Phuc Yen Airfield (Paras. 2-3).

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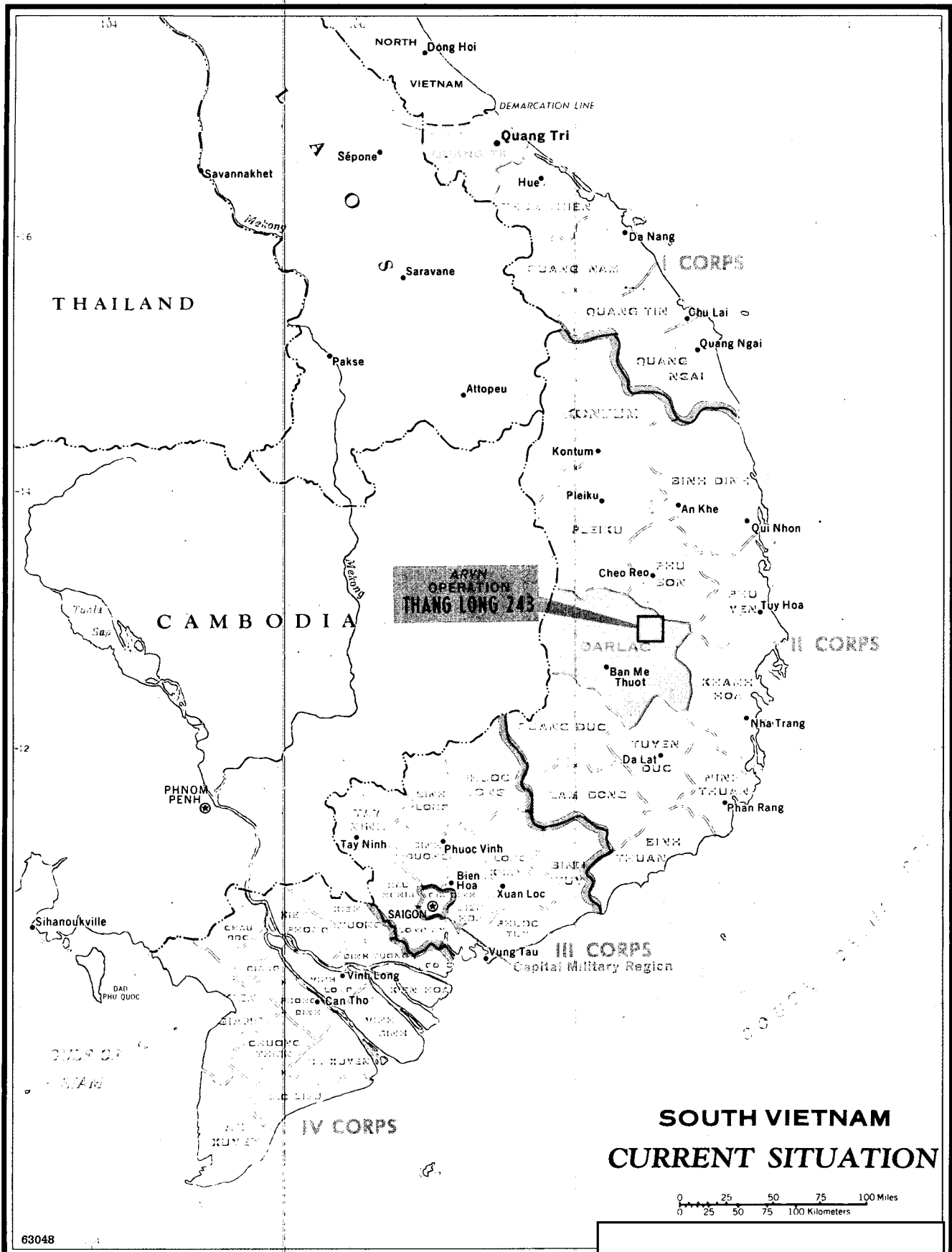
IV. Other Communist Military Developments:

There is nothing of significance to report.

V. Communist Political Developments: French diplomat Jean Sainteny is reported to have found Ho Chi Minh adamant on the impossibility of negotiations at present (Paras. 1-3).

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I. THE MILITARY SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM

1. US forces are participating in ten of 27 battalion-sized or larger ground operations currently in progress in South Vietnam. Ground combat activity is reported to be at a low level of intensity.

2. South Vietnamese Operation THANG LONG 243 ended yesterday after six days in central Darlac Province. South Vietnamese forces killed 104 Viet Cong and captured one. Friendly losses included 18 South Vietnamese killed and 52 wounded.

3. MACV has accepted another North Vietnamese Army regiment--the 812th--in South Vietnam. The 812th Regiment has a strength of 1,500 men and was last located in an area about 20 miles west of Quang Tri city. It is the sixteenth confirmed NVA regiment to date in South Vietnam. The parent unit of the 812th Regiment is the 324th Division. Two other infantry regiments of this division--the 90th and 803rd--are reported in South Vietnam in the same general area as the 812th, but MACV cannot substantiate their acceptance at this time from information now available. The 812th Regiment left North Vietnam around 30 May and arrived in Quang Tri Province on 20 June.

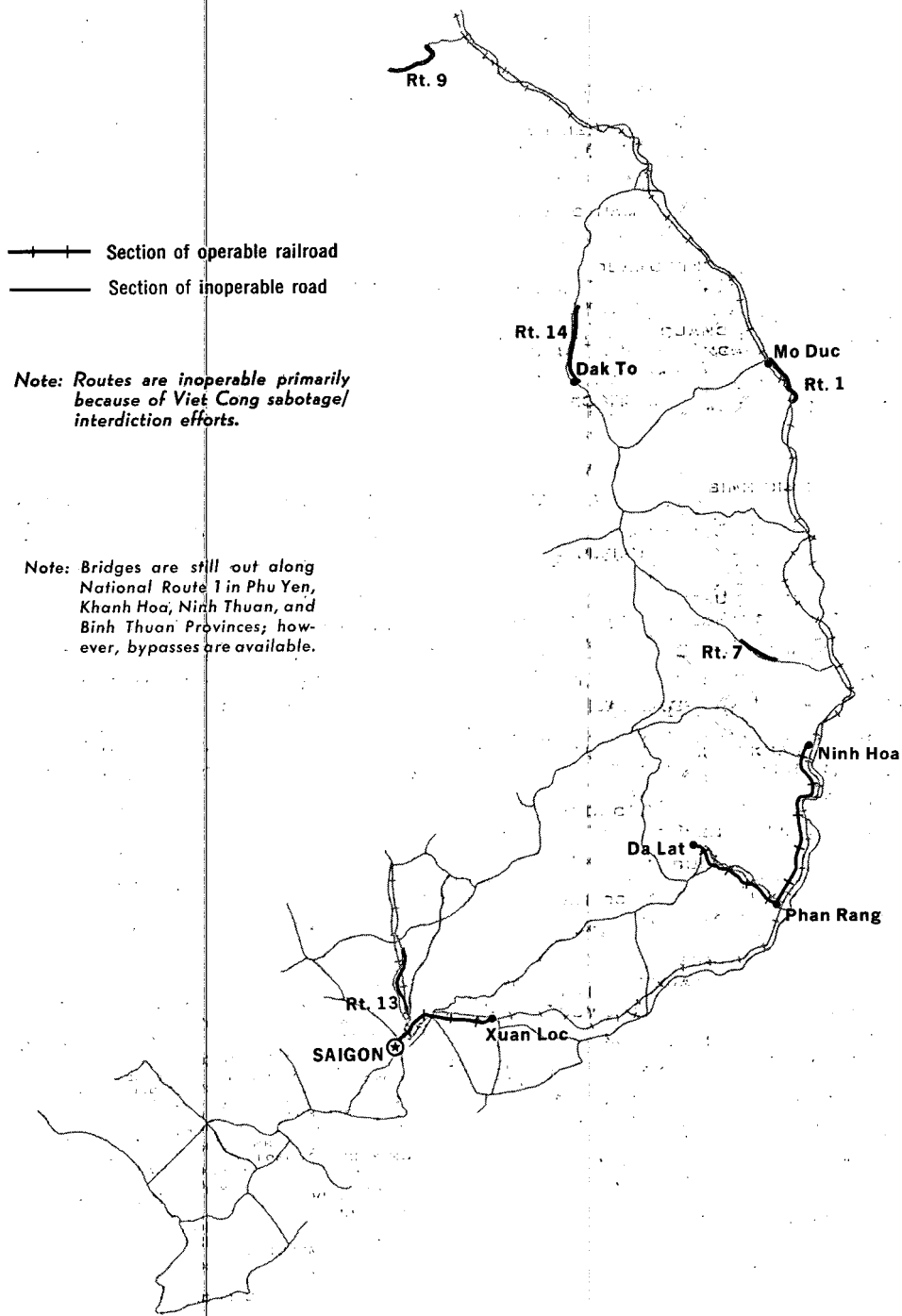


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4. Total confirmed NVA strength in South Vietnam now stands at 34,910. Another 4,500 men in various units are carried in the probable or possible categories. In addition, there are a number of units--such as the two other regiments of the 324th Division--which have been reported by prisoners, returnees, and in captured documents, but which are not included in the above-mentioned categories.

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CURRENT OPERATIONAL STATUS OF MAJOR TRANSPORTATION ROUTES AND COASTAL RAILROAD



Information as of 9 July 1966

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Status of Major Lines of Communications

5. The operational status of South Vietnam's major highways remained about the same during the week of 2-9 July. Route 1 was reopened in portions of Phu Yen and Khanh Hoa provinces. Route 14 was closed north of Dak To in Kontum Province. Route 8 in Kien Giang Province and Route 4 in Bac Lieu Province both were reopened. Interprovincial Route 4 in Vinh Binh Province was also reopened. The nation's coastal railway was closed in portions of Binh Dinh Province.

Weekly Review of South Vietnam Battle Statistics

6. The week of 2-9 July compared with the week of 26 June - 2 July:

I. Viet Cong Incidents

<u>Time Period</u>	<u>At-tacks</u>	<u>Regimental size</u>	<u>Battalion size</u>	<u>Company size</u>	<u>Harass-ment</u>	<u>Ter-rorism</u>
26 June-2 July	27	1	1	4	--	576
2-9 July	19	1	0	2	434	39

<u>Time Period</u>	<u>Sabotage</u>	<u>Propaganda</u>	<u>Anti-Aircraft</u>	<u>Total Incidents</u>
26 June-2 July	39	24	112	778
2-9 July	69	26	133	720

II. Casualties

	<u>VC/PAVN</u>		<u>GVN</u>	
	<u>26 June-2 July</u>	<u>2-9 July</u>	<u>26 June-2 July</u>	<u>2-9 July</u>
Killed	1,270	1,349	251	165
Wounded	-----	-----	459	316
Missing/Captured	114	71	58	106
TOTALS	1,384	1,420	768	587

II. Casualties (continued)

	US..		FREE WORLD	
	<u>26 June-2 July</u>	<u>2-9 July</u>	<u>26 June-2 July</u>	<u>2-9 July</u>
Killed	115	110	2	12
Wounded	487	620	9	12
Missing/Captured	9	5	0	0
TOTALS	<u>611</u>	<u>735</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>24</u>

III. Weapons Captured

	VC/PAVN		GVN	
	<u>26 June-2 July</u>	<u>2-9 July</u>	<u>26 June-2 July</u>	<u>2-9 July</u>
Individual	295	382	279	147
Crew-served	53	58	3	4
TOTALS	<u>348</u>	<u>440</u>	<u>282</u>	<u>151</u>

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II. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH VIETNAM

1. On 13 July, Prime Minister Ky announced the following changes in his cabinet (Central Executive Committee):

Dr. Nguyen Luu Vien	-- Deputy Prime Minister in charge of Social and Cultural Affairs (new post)
Major General Linh Quang Vien	-- Minister of Security (new post to replace dissolved Ministry of Interior)
Major General Nguyen Bao Tri	-- Minister of Information and Open Arms (replaced Dinh Trinh Chinh)
Dinh Trinh Chinh	-- Assistant to Prime Minister
Lu Van Vi	-- Minister of Inspection (apparently replacing Ngo Trong Anh)
Nguyen Van Truong	-- Secretary of State for Education (replacing Dr. Tran Ngoc Ninh)
Tran Luu Cang	-- Under Secretary of State for Education
Nguyen Huu Hung	-- Secretary of State for Labor (replacing Nguyen Xuan Phong)
Nguyen Xuan Phong	-- Assistant to Prime Minister
Tran Minh Tiet	-- Minister of Justice (replacing Lu Van Vi)
Nguyen Van Tuyen	-- Special Commissioner for Administration (attached to Ministry of Revolutionary Development)

2. One significant aspect of the revisions involves the removal of the minister of education and the inspector general, both Buddhists informally endorsed by the Institute. Neither of them has been assigned another government job as was lawyer Dinh Trinh Chinh, the replaced information minister.

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12 July 1966

3. No reactions to the cabinet changes have been reported either from government functionaries or from the remnants of the Buddhist Institute, which might be expected to register a complaint that some of the last vestiges of Buddhist influence in the government have been removed.

4. The appointment of Dr. Nguyen Luu Vien as a second deputy along with General Co appears in part to be another attempt to give the militarily controlled regime a more civilian appearance. Dr. Vien's appointment also reflects an attempt by government leaders to gain the sympathy of the southern non-Institute Buddhists, with whom Vien is informally affiliated.

Buddhist Institute Chairman Tam Chau Under Pressure From Buddhist Council

5. In response to an ultimatum from the Buddhist Institute Council, Institute chairman Tam Chau announced his intention today to take two months' sick leave from his duties, according to press accounts. Chau reportedly informed the council, however, that he intends to remain as chairman of the Institute and to retain his veto power over official Institute pronouncements in spite of its suggestion that he turn over his responsibilities to Chairman of Clerical Affairs Thich Tri Quang.

6. The Institute council, apparently under the firm influence of the militant faction, yesterday had served a three-point ultimatum to Tam Chau to be answered in 24 hours.

7. Chau had apparently not been attending the council's meetings, feigning ill health. The council also informed Chau that it has decided to postpone the convening of an extraordinary congress of the Unified Buddhist Association, thus further eroding his mitigating control over Buddhist affairs. The US Embassy suggests that the council letter to Chau may indicate that Institute extremists are nearing a fait accompli of ousting Chau.

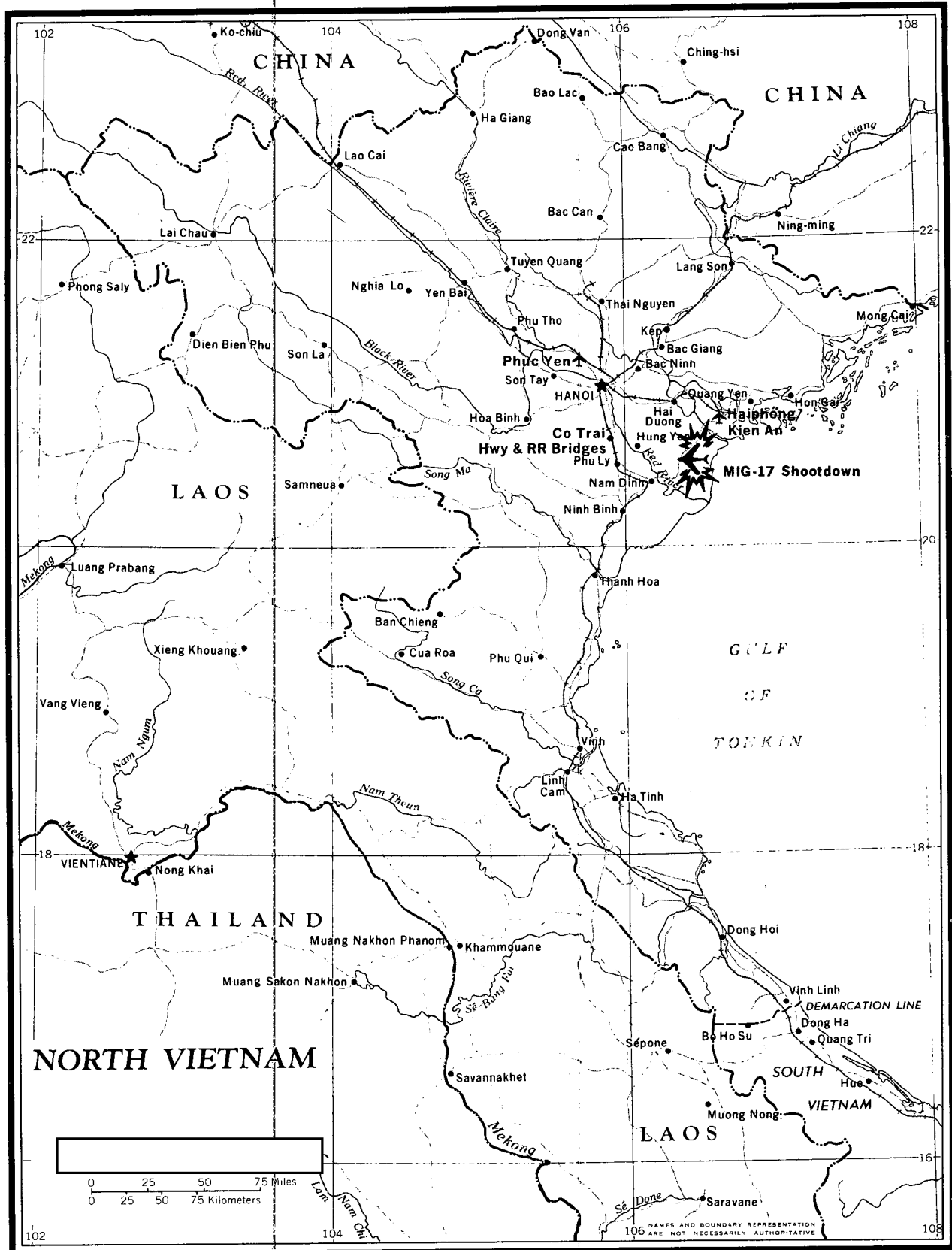
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8. Tam Chau's absence from the scene until after the September elections may provide militant members of the Institute council with the opportunity to press for an election boycott, especially since one of Chau's two deputy chairmen, Thich Phap Tri, is the Institute representative to the "All-Religions Citizen Front." The "Front," composed of some notable religious dissidents including Catholic Father Hoang Quynh, attacked the government and its proposed September elections in a press conference on 12 July.

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III. MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTH VIETNAM

1. Four US Navy aircraft were involved in three air engagements with DRV MIGs following today's second strike on the Co Trai rail and highway bridge 21 miles south of Hanoi. One of the six MIG-17 Frescos encountered was downed by a Sidewinder missile from an F4B Phantom. The US airmen observed that the MIG pilots evidenced good training and air discipline.

2. Recent drone photography has revealed that additional MIG-21 Fishbed fighters have been delivered to North Vietnam. The DRV had been credited with 13 MIG-21s; however, 17 were photographed at Phuc Yen [redacted]

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[redacted] The arrival of additional MIG-21 aircraft-- along with air-to-air missiles--has been expected for some time to replace losses suffered by the DRV Air Force in aerial engagements with US fighters.

3. The same photographic mission also disclosed that the four recently delivered Hook heavy transport helicopters were being assembled at Haiphong/Kien An Airfield. North Vietnam had previously received two of these heavy-duty helicopters.

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IV. OTHER COMMUNIST MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

1. There is nothing of significance to report.

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V. COMMUNIST POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

1. French diplomat Jean Sainteny is reported to have found Ho Chi Minh and Pham Van Dong absolutely adamant on the impossibility of negotiations at present. Reports given to Western diplomats by French representatives in Phnom Penh and New Delhi, who talked with Sainteny on his way home from Hanoi, state that the North Vietnamese leaders insisted on US acceptance of Hanoi's four points. Sainteny is reported to have stated his own view that only another prolonged bombing pause with no appearance of conditions would bring North Vietnam to a reconsideration of their decision that the time for talks had not yet arrived.

2. The North Vietnamese, according to these sources, gave the French diplomat a warm welcome. Apparently they also made an effort in their talks with him to hold out some conciliatory but noncommittal prospects for the future. For example, they told Sainteny that they are prepared to accept an independent South Vietnamese government for "10, 20, or even 30 years."

3. The North Vietnamese leaders also expressed their "deep fear" that the US would bomb the dams on the Red River which would result in heavy loss of life and devastating damage to crops. Sainteny felt, however, that even this would not force Hanoi to the negotiating table. He mentioned that many parts of Hanoi are being evacuated and that an all-out effort is being made to mobilize all available human and material resources for the continuation of the war.

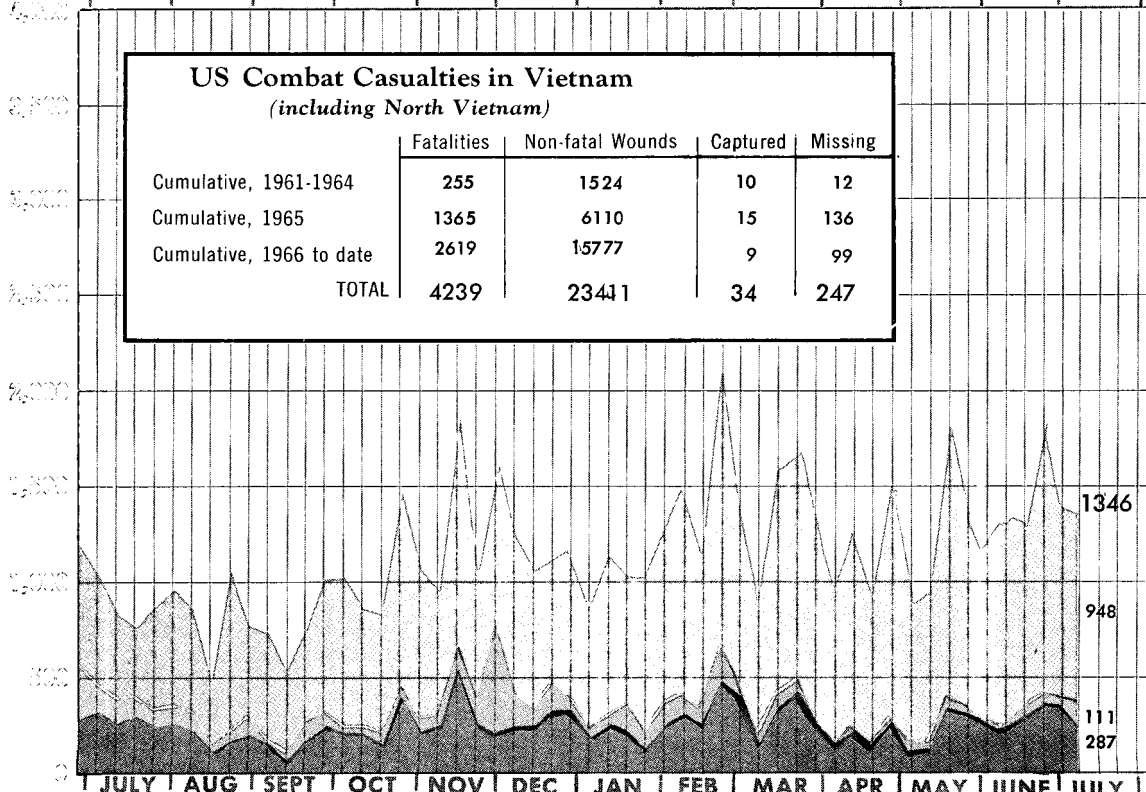
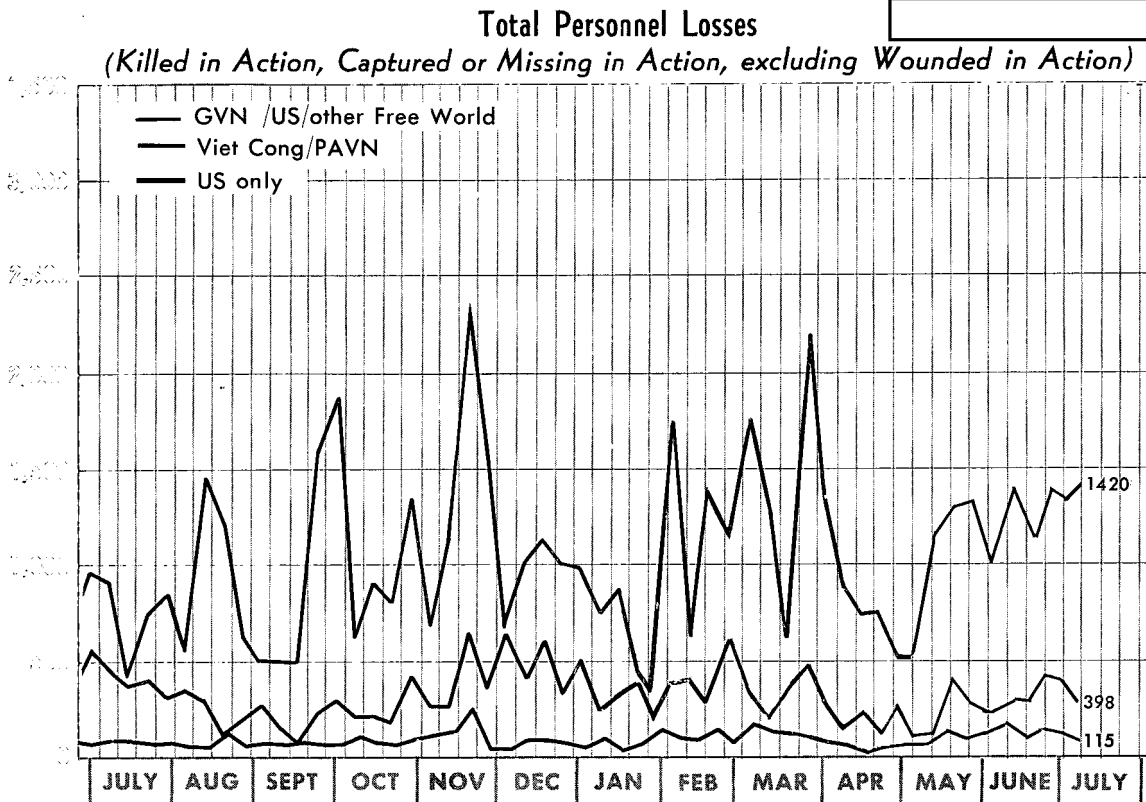
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SOUTH VIETNAM BATTLE STATISTICS

WEEKLY REPORT 3 - 9 JULY 1966

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Total Friendly Forces Personnel Losses
(US/GVN/Other Free World)

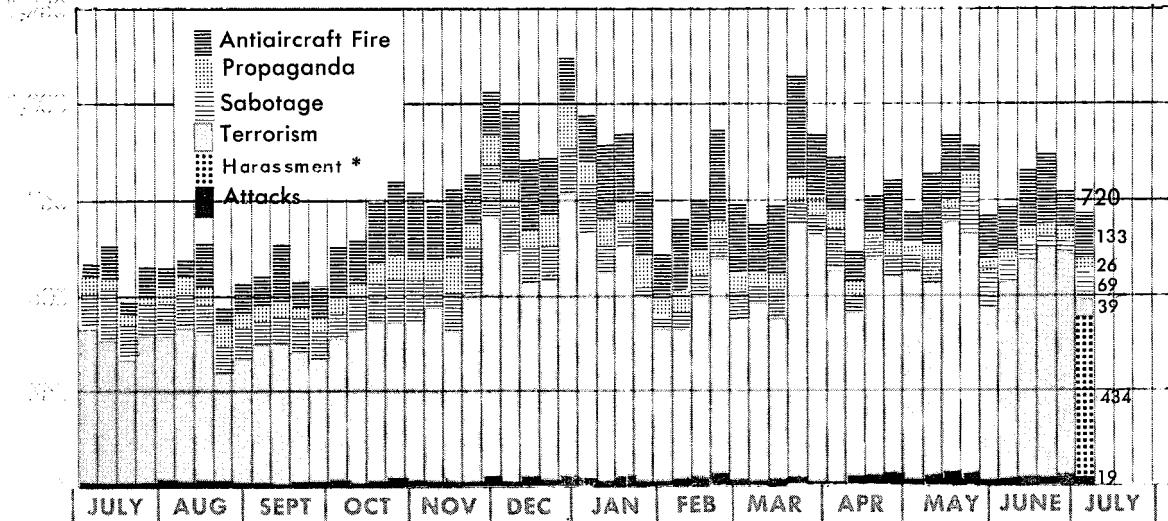
63019 Killed in action Missing or Captured in action Wounded in action

SOUTH VIETNAM BATTLE STATISTICS

WEEKLY REPORT 3-9 JULY 1966

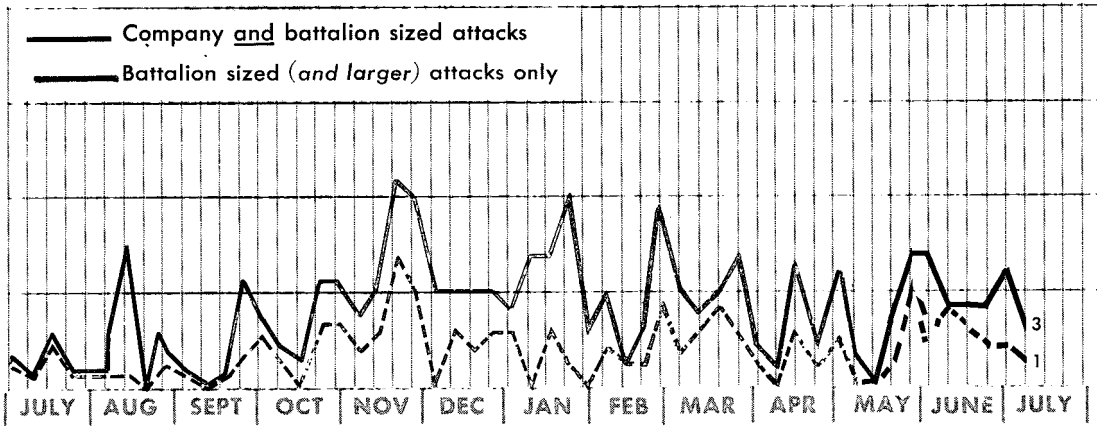
Viet Cong Incidents

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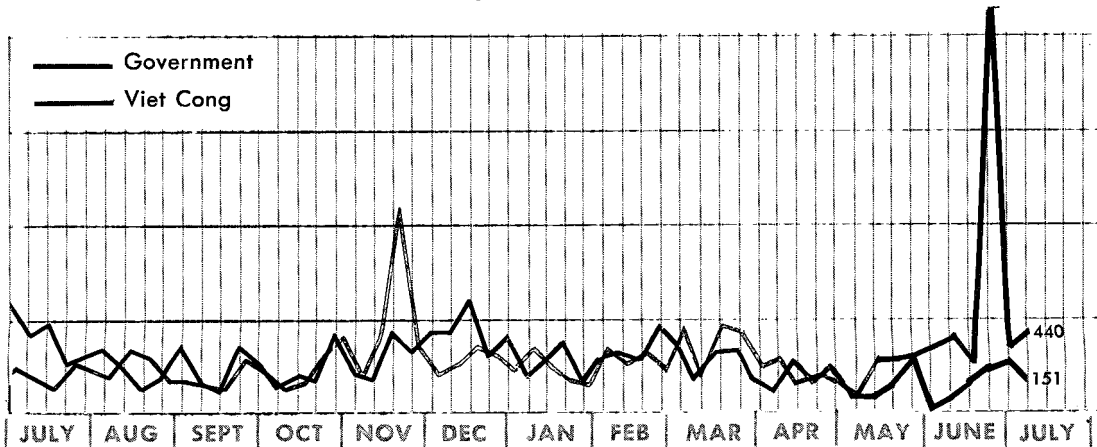


* COMUSMACV has added the Harassment category to the weekly report on battle statistics. It covers incidents in which the primary objective is to disrupt temporarily the activities of a unit, installation, village, or hamlet rather than to inflict serious casualties or damage. The use of this new category will result in a general trend reduction in the Terrorism category. However, many incidents formerly reported as Terrorism were in reality acts of harassment. The new category was established to correct this discrepancy.

Viet Cong Attacks



Weapons Losses



South Vietnamese and Viet Cong Casualties and
Weapons Losses: 1962 - 30 June 1966

1. General Statistical Data:

Time Period	Viet Cong Incidents	Killed in Action		Wounded in Action		Captured or Missing		Total Casualties		Weapons Losses		
		GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC	
Jan	1962	1825	299	1294	475	212	116	390	890	1896	-	-
	1963	927	453	1754	908	318	102	379	1463	2451	457	683
	1964	1770	343	1223	913	-	555	240	1811	1463	917	532
	1965	2206	904	2203	1938	-	471	565	3313	2768	1700	711
	1966	3914	747	2648	1557	-	450	588	2754	3236	935	979
Feb	1962	1460	244	1205	300	316	124	353	668	1874	-	-
	1963	788	379	1082	656	303	82	292	1117	1677	253	399
	1964	2078	374	1055	916	-	303	289	1593	1344	708	471
	1965	1982	880	1564	1840	-	1394	309	4114	1873	2454	620
	1966	3100	1015	4727	2095	-	477	508	3587	5235	1076	1219
Mar	1962	1961	523	1456	737	551	140	523	1400	2530	-	-
	1963	1282	410	1443	851	368	66	222	1327	2033	467	367
	1964	2160	439	1456	1249	-	345	531	2033	1987	814	532
	1965	2056	751	2022	1633	-	720	394	3104	2416	1442	698
	1966	3670	938	5685	1961	-	466	604	3365	6289	1393	1632
Apr	1962	1933	387	1596	532	292	151	415	1070	2303	-	-
	1963	1331	506	1660	878	256	96	388	1440	2304	797	468
	1964	2284	594	1671	1584	-	398	245	2576	1916	990	424
	1965	1860	591	1909	1650	-	232	529	2473	2438	757	973
	1966	3235	573	2818	1522	-	121	483	2216	3301	594	829
May	1962	1825	390	1756	509	352	94	524	993	2632	-	-
	1963	1208	435	1895	889	295	94	695	1418	2885	463	564
	1964	2143	458	1135	987	-	202	242	1647	1377	723	281
	1965	2263	1049	1975	2143	-	873	548	4065	2523	1701	831
	1966	3566	661	4239	1454	-	196	652	2311	4891	493	1087
Jun	1962	1477	325	1666	613	413	77	441	1015	2520	-	-
	1963	1311	389	1863	772	310	90	437	1251	2609	580	394
	1964	2062	494	1005	1145	-	313	230	1952	1235	718	387
	1965	2597	1211	2208	1920	-	1260	189	4391	2397	2387	793
	1966	3359	860	4815	1800	-	183	752	2843	5567	735	3761
Jul	1962	1564	384	1544	686	424	212	542	1282	2510	-	-
	1963	1368	529	1918	1071	372	306	387	1906	2677	663	374
	1964	3045	900	1427	1812	-	510	219	3222	1646	1889	447
	1965	2520	1160	2980	1591	-	540	580	3425	3560	1375	882

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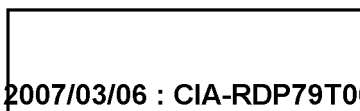
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Time Period	Viet Cong Incidents	Killed in Action		Wounded in Action		Captured or Missing		Total Casualties		Weapons Losses		
		GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC	
Aug	1962	1642	377	2271	626	367	63	669	1066	3307	-	-
	1963	1349	411	1685	804	237	352	482	1567	2404	637	428
	1964	2580	721	1449	1612	-	478	282	2811	1731	1106	619
	1965	2498	808	3624	1945	-	287	606	3040	4230	705	1074
Sep	1962	1375	419	2218	646	365	59	446	1124	3029	-	-
	1963	1763	672	1982	1155	234	566	347	2393	2563	878	389
	1964	3091	819	1187	1759	-	737	230	3315	1417	1465	525
	1965	2473	655	3485	1724	-	266	838	2645	4323	778	838
Oct	1962	1357	365	1967	619	286	64	373	1048	2626	-	-
	1963	1422	428	1520	989	244	398	236	1815	2000	753	330
	1964	2827	739	1617	1583	-	693	576	3015	2193	1510	482
	1965	3330	961	3874	2416	-	225	660	3602	4534	762	1013
Nov	1962	1311	410	1982	834	368	92	561	1336	2911	-	-
	1963	3182	664	2333	1554	373	665	252	2883	2958	1595	455
	1964	1982	574	1747	1404	-	410	570	2388	2317	1104	515
	1965	3638	1034	5516	2056	-	520	592	3610	6108	1126	2164
Dec	1962	1346	294	2203	618	289	78	463	990	2955	-	-
	1963	1921	389	1440	961	191	320	190	1670	1821	724	546
	1964	2504	1002	1813	2053	-	1092	503	4147	2316	2111	666
	1965	4106	1239	4076	2262	-	926	516	4427	4592	1728	1158

Composite Annual Totals

Time Period	VC Incidents	KIA		WIA		Captured or Missing		Total Casualties		Weapons Losses	
		GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC
1962	19076	4417	21158	7195	4235	1270	5700	12882	31093	5195	4049*
1963	17852	5665	20575	11488	3501	3137	4307	20290	28383	8267	5397
1964	28526	7457	16785	17017	-	6036	4157	30510	20942	14055	5881
1965	31529	11243	35436	23118	-	7848	6326	42209	41762	16915	11755
**1966	20844	4794	24932	10389	-	1893	3587	17076	28519	5226	9507

*Monthly data unavailable for 1962 Weapons Losses.
 **Through 30 June 1966



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2. Viet Cong Incidents: 1962 - 30 June 1966

Time Period	Viet Cong Incidents	A T T A C K S				Total	Terrorism	Sabotage	Propa- ganda	Anti- Aircraft
		Small- Scale	Co. Size	Bn. Size or Larger						
1962	1825	528	21	0	549	839	180	257	-	
Jan 1963	927	242	8	2	252	447	49	179	-	
1964	1770	218	2	3	223	1244	129	174	-	
1965	2206	57	5	1	63	1489	272	170	212	
1966	3914	42	23	5	70	2490	312	299	743	
1962	1460	480	20	0	500	613	137	210	-	
Feb 1963	788	181	13	1	195	433	69	91	-	
1964	2078	211	3	3	217	1389	210	271	-	
1965	1982	73	6	3	82	1411	267	91	131	
1966	3100	50	10	9	69	1829	201	172	829	
1962	1961	561	27	0	588	660	290	423	-	
Mar 1963	1282	333	11	0	344	653	131	154	-	
1964	2160	198	4	1	203	1632	158	167	-	
1965	2056	80	3	3	86	1476	240	90	164	
1966	3670	32	10	10	52	2332	212	154	920	
1962	1933	470	27	0	497	1024	220	192	-	
Apr 1963	1331	371	9	3	383	688	105	155	-	
1964	2284	211	6	3	220	1738	169	157	-	
1965	1860	38	1	4	43	1407	149	96	165	
1966	3235	61	7	9	77	2238	252	110	513	
1962	1825	490	28	0	528	892	154	251	-	
May 1963	1208	344	13	0	357	608	93	150	-	
1964	2143	170	3	2	175	418	217	140	193	
1965	2263	40	7	11	58	1558	365	115	170	
1966	3566	37	9	7	53	2552	295	106	560	
1962	1477	339	23	0	362	736	157	222	-	
Jun 1963	1311	398	11	1	410	652	107	142	-	
1964	2062	128	10	2	140	1390	176	162	194	
1965	2597	62	1	6	69	1784	469	103	172	
*1966	3359	47	10	11	68	2382	211	110	588	

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Time Period	Viet Cong Incidents	A T T A C K S				Total	Terrorism	Sabotage	Propa- ganda	Anti- Aircraft
		Small- Scale	Co. Size	Bn. Size and Larger						
Jul 1962	1564	437	10	1	448	735	158	223	-	
Jul 1963	1368	398	8	1	407	698	80	183	-	
Jul 1964	3045	166	12	7	185	2132	286	224	218	
Jul 1965	2520	42	0	6	48	1706	400	154	212	
Aug 1962	1642	368	10	0	378	885	146	233	-	
Aug 1963	1349	356	11	1	368	647	113	221	-	
Aug 1964	2580	107	3	3	113	1775	315	173	204	
Aug 1965	2498	38	9	5	52	1597	349	200	300	
Sep 1962	1375	382	9	0	391	624	178	182	-	
Sep 1963	1763	483	17	3	503	889	164	207	-	
Sep 1964	3091	110	4	4	118	1938	482	178	375	
Sep 1965	2473	19	7	5	31	1530	278	185	449	
Oct 1962	1357	406	12	1	419	583	189	166	-	
Oct 1963	1422	359	6	0	365	802	105	150	-	
Oct 1964	2827	75	2	6	83	1790	480	197	277	
Oct 1965	3330	24	8	12	44	1969	415	198	704	
Nov 1962	1311	411	7	3	421	614	144	132	-	
Nov 1963	3182	631	11	3	645	1990	269	278	-	
Nov 1964	1982	57	2	1	60	1391	247	109	175	
Nov 1965	3638	26	16	10	52	2234	486	255	611	
Dec 1962	1346	375	8	1	384	670	107	185	-	
Dec 1963	1921	258	3	0	261	1298	111	251	-	
Dec 1964	2504	81	9	6	96	1719	318	128	243	
Dec 1965	4106	32	18	7	57	2572	442	317	718	

Composite Annual Totals

1962	19076	5247	212	6	5465	8875	2060	2676	No Data
1963	17852	4354	121	15	4490	9805	1396	2161	No Data
1964	28526	1732	60	41	1833	19556	3178	2080	1879
1965	31529	531	81	73	685	20730	4132	1974	4008
*1966	20844	269	51	69	389	13868	1483	951	4153

*Through 30 June 1966

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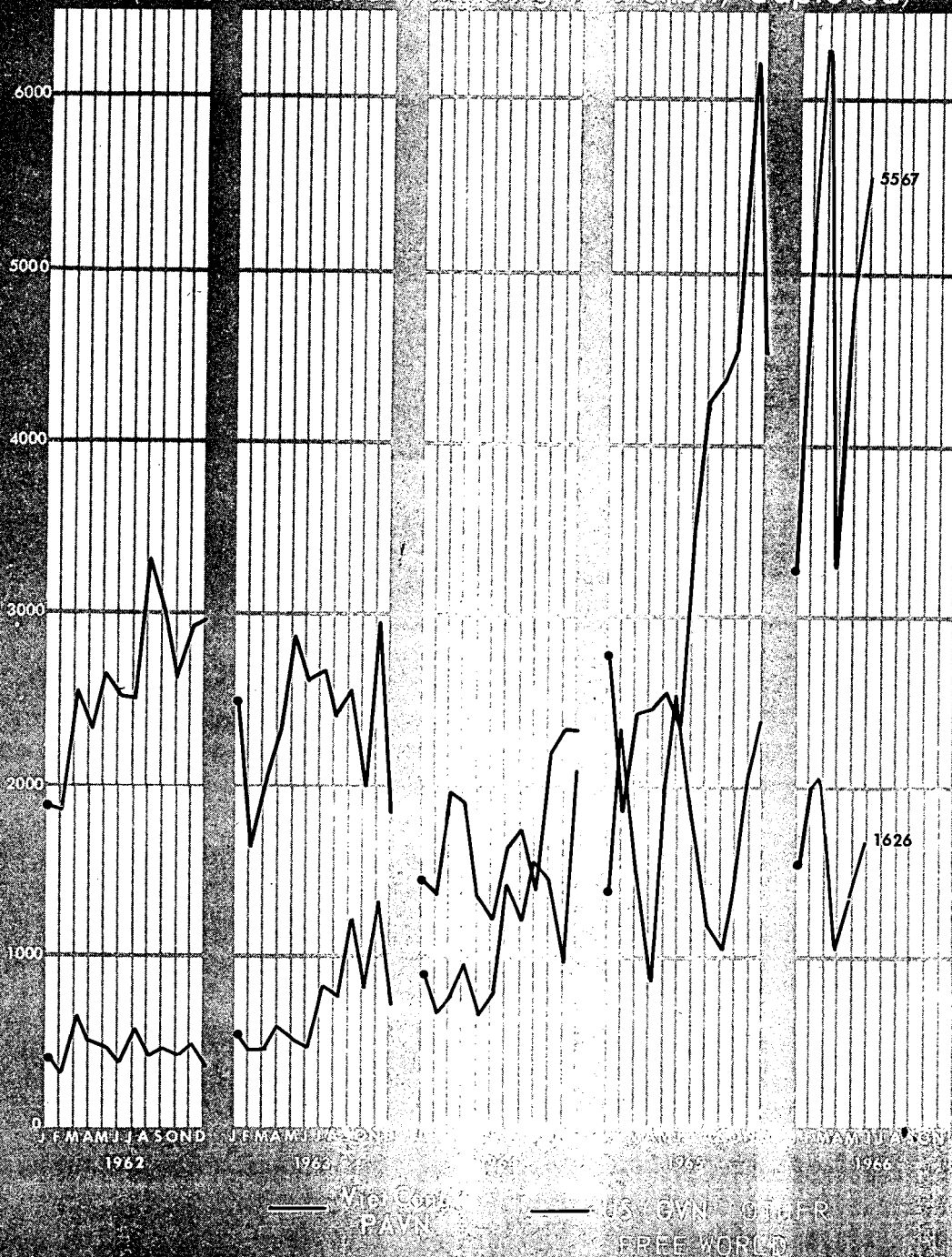
Available

SOUTH VIETNAM BATTLE STATISTICS

MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 1966

PERSONNEL LOSSES (Killed in Action, Missing in Action, Captured)



63024

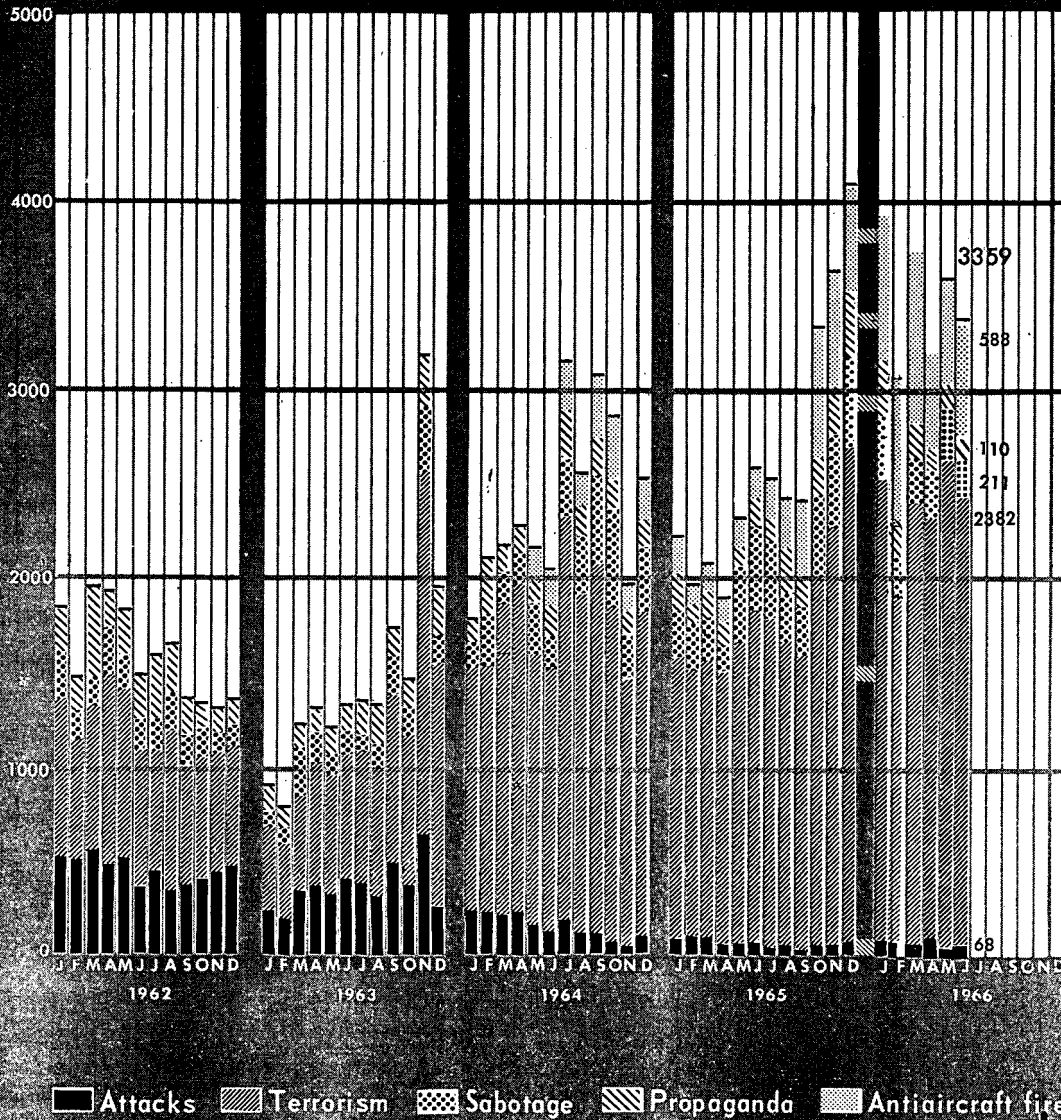
Wounded not included;
Viet Cong figures unavailable

SOUTH VIETNAM: BATTLE STATISTICS

MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 1966

VIET CONG INCIDENTS



25X1

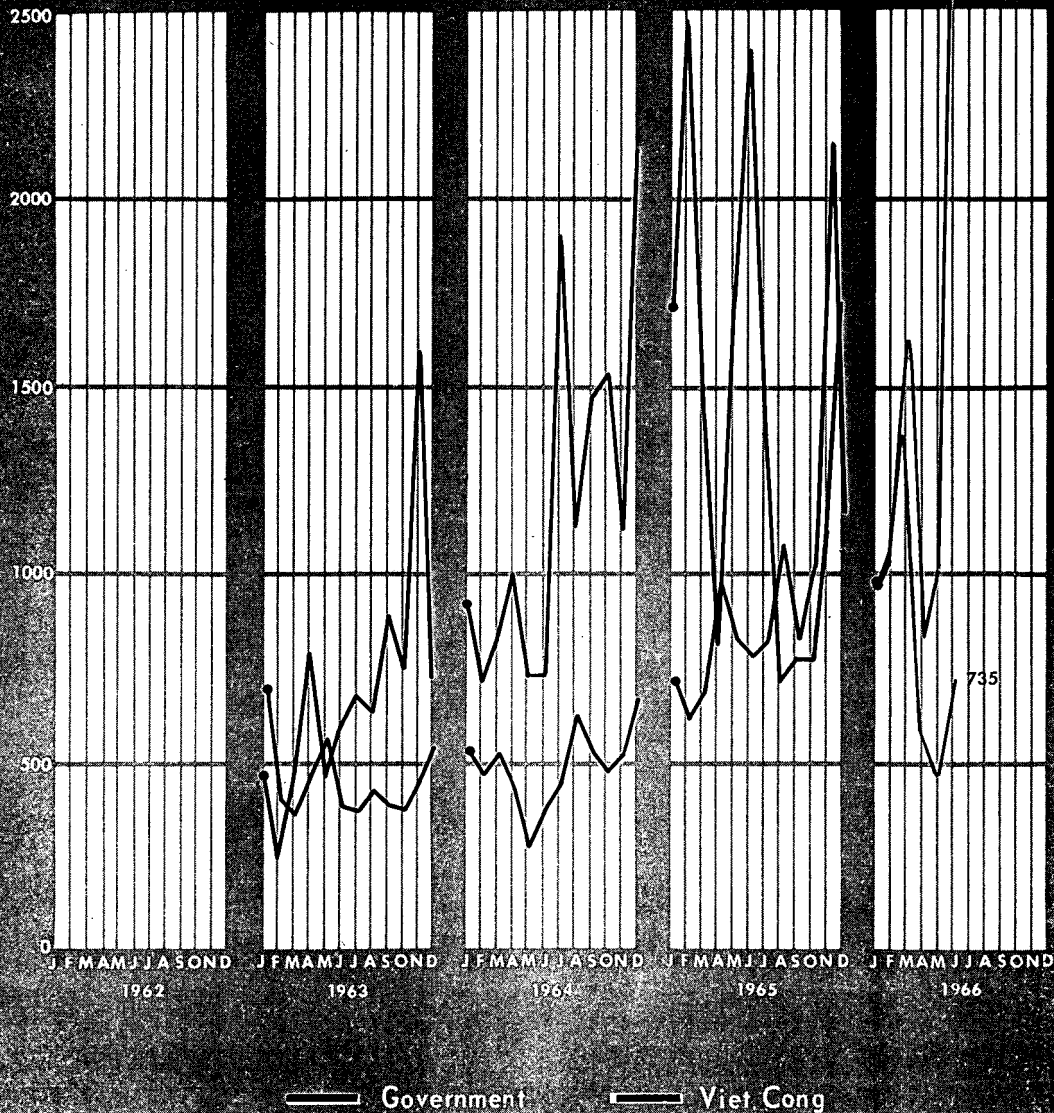
38098

SOUTH VIETNAM: BATTLE STATISTICS

MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 1966

WEAPONS LOSSES (South Vietnamese and Viet Cong)



68022

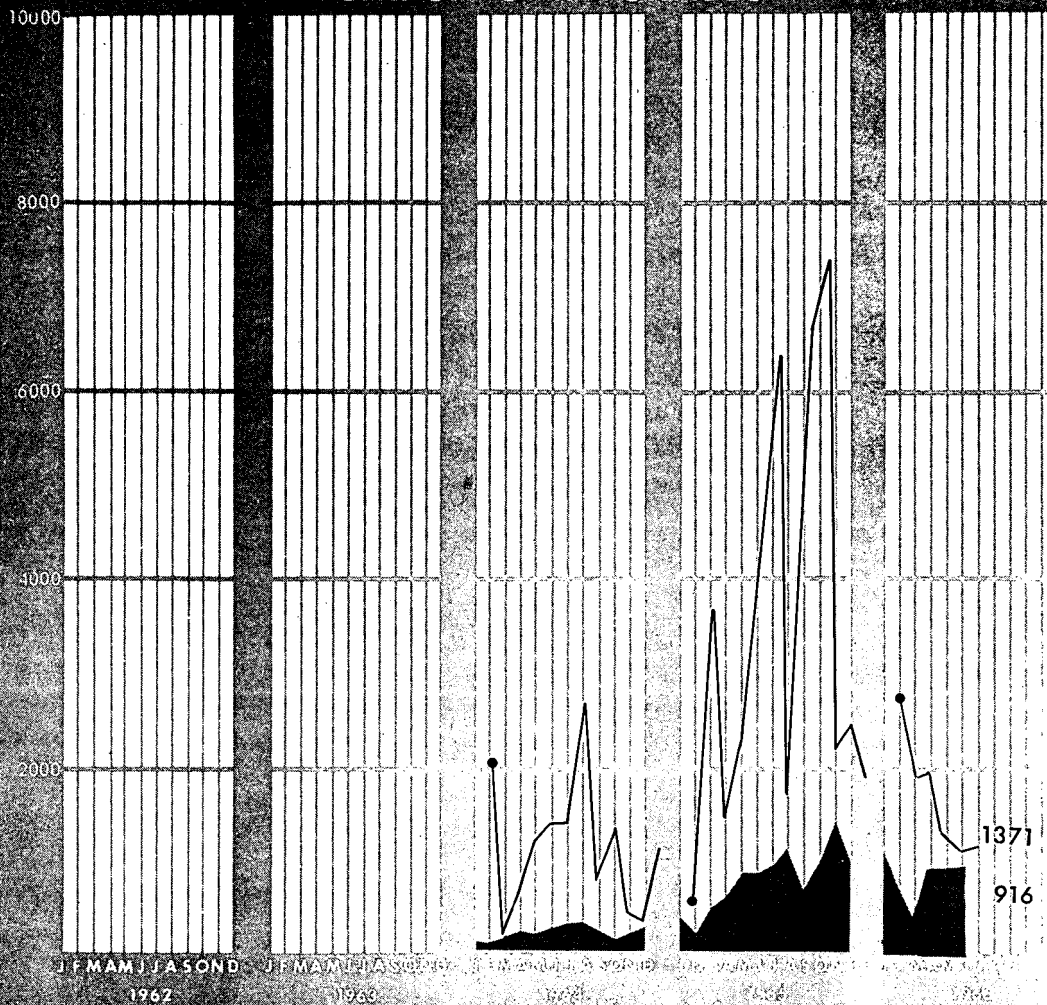
25X1

SOUTH VIETNAM: BATTLE STATISTICS

MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 1966

CHIEU HOI RETURNEES



Annual Totals

	Military	Totals
1964	1,903	14,465
1965	9,472	42,552
1966	6,459	10,247

 Monthly Totals
 Military

63021

25X1

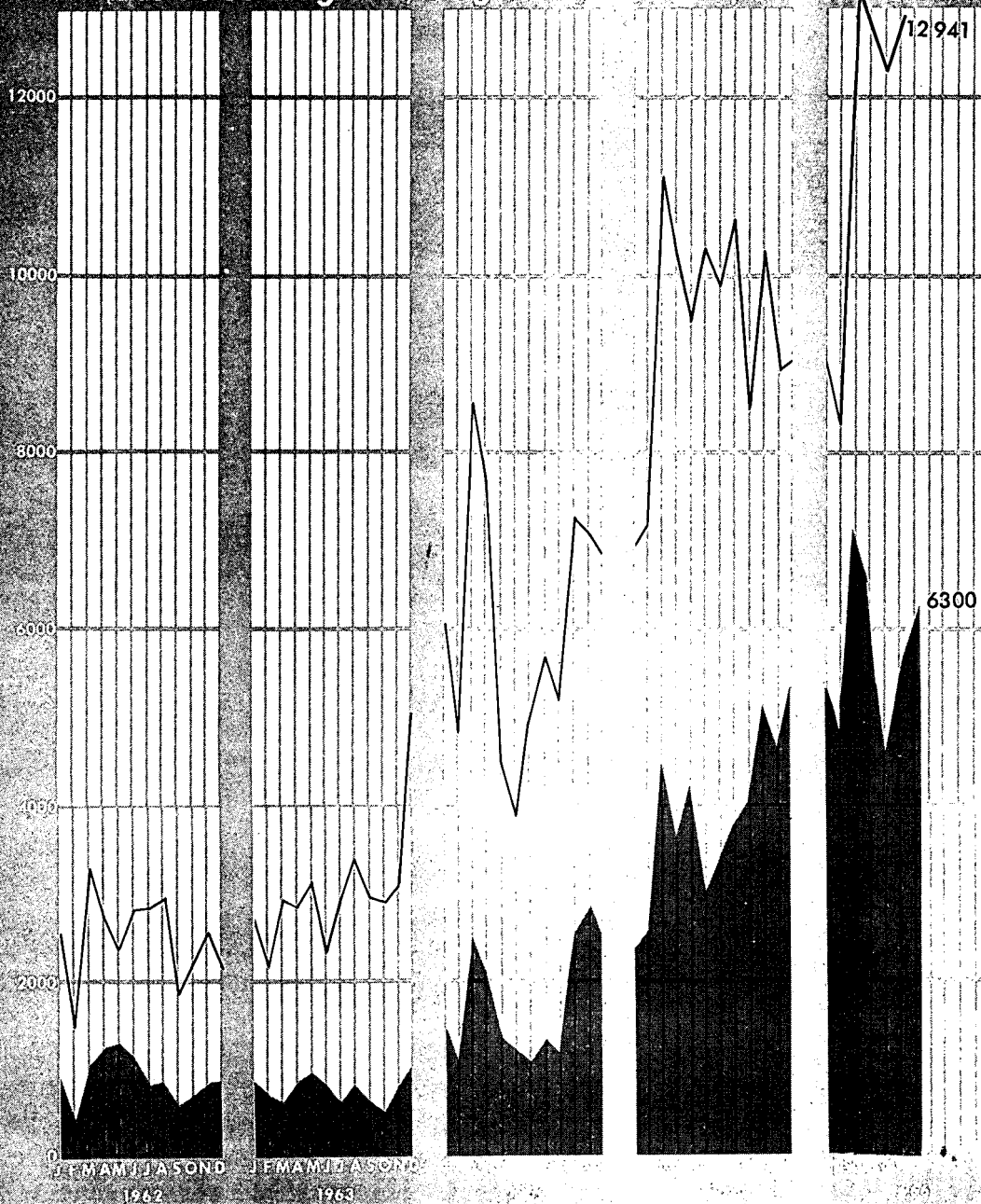
SOUTH VIETNAM DESERTION STATISTICS

MONTHLY

MAY 1966

DESERTION

(Includes Regular, Regional, and Popular Forces)



Annual Totals

Year	Regular Forces	Totals
1962	11,203	29,924
1963	9,666	36,441
1964	21,441	73,010
1965	47,297	113,168
1966	30,533	59,003

THRU 31-MAY

Monthly Totals

Regulars

GVN statistics do not differentiate between deserters who eventually return or enlist in other government units, remain AWOL, or defect to the Viet Cong. Statistics do show that 53% of the regular force desertions are among draftees who comprise 13% of the regular force strength.