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INTELLIGENCE

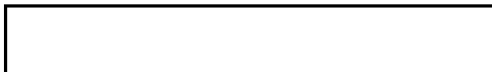
MEMORANDUM

The Situation in Vietnam

State Dept. review completed

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ARMY review(s) completed.



Top Secret

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Approved For Release 2007/04/02 : CIA-RDP79T00826A001600010016-1

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Information as of 1600
20 January 1967

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HIGHLIGHTS

The South Vietnamese Government has made arrangements to have deputy premier and defense minister General Co remain out of Vietnam at least until after Premier Ky's return on about 27 January. Co apparently has not been informed of his dismissal, which was agreed upon by the Saigon government's military leaders on 17 January.

I. The Military Situation in South Vietnam:
The US Marine base at Phu Bai, ten miles southeast of Hue, was struck on 20 January (Paras. 1-2). Eighteen Communist troops were killed by US Army forces of Operation THAYER II on 20 January (Para. 3). Viet Cong guerrillas simultaneously attacked a district town and an ARVN battalion in Vinh Binh Province (Para. 4). The 18th NVA Regiment in the Quang Ngai - Binh Dinh Province area has been experiencing difficulties (Paras. 6-9). Weekly review of South Vietnam Battle Statistics (Para. 10).

II. Political Developments in South Vietnam:
Chief of State Thieu reportedly has ordered General Co, who has been dismissed as deputy premier and defense minister to proceed from Taiwan to South Korea on a temporary military assignment in an effort to keep him out of Vietnam until Premier Ky returns from New Zealand (Para. 1).

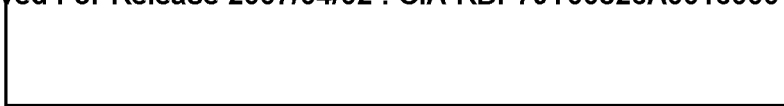
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On 19 January, the Constituent Assembly began its debate on the initial draft of the constitution, and approved the first three articles (Para. 3).

III. Military Developments in North Vietnam:
There is nothing of significance to report.

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IV. Other Communist Military Developments:
There is nothing of significance to report.

V. Communist Political Developments:

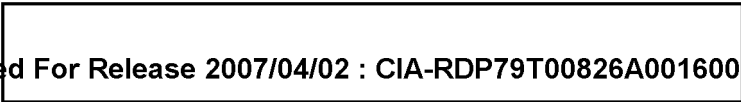


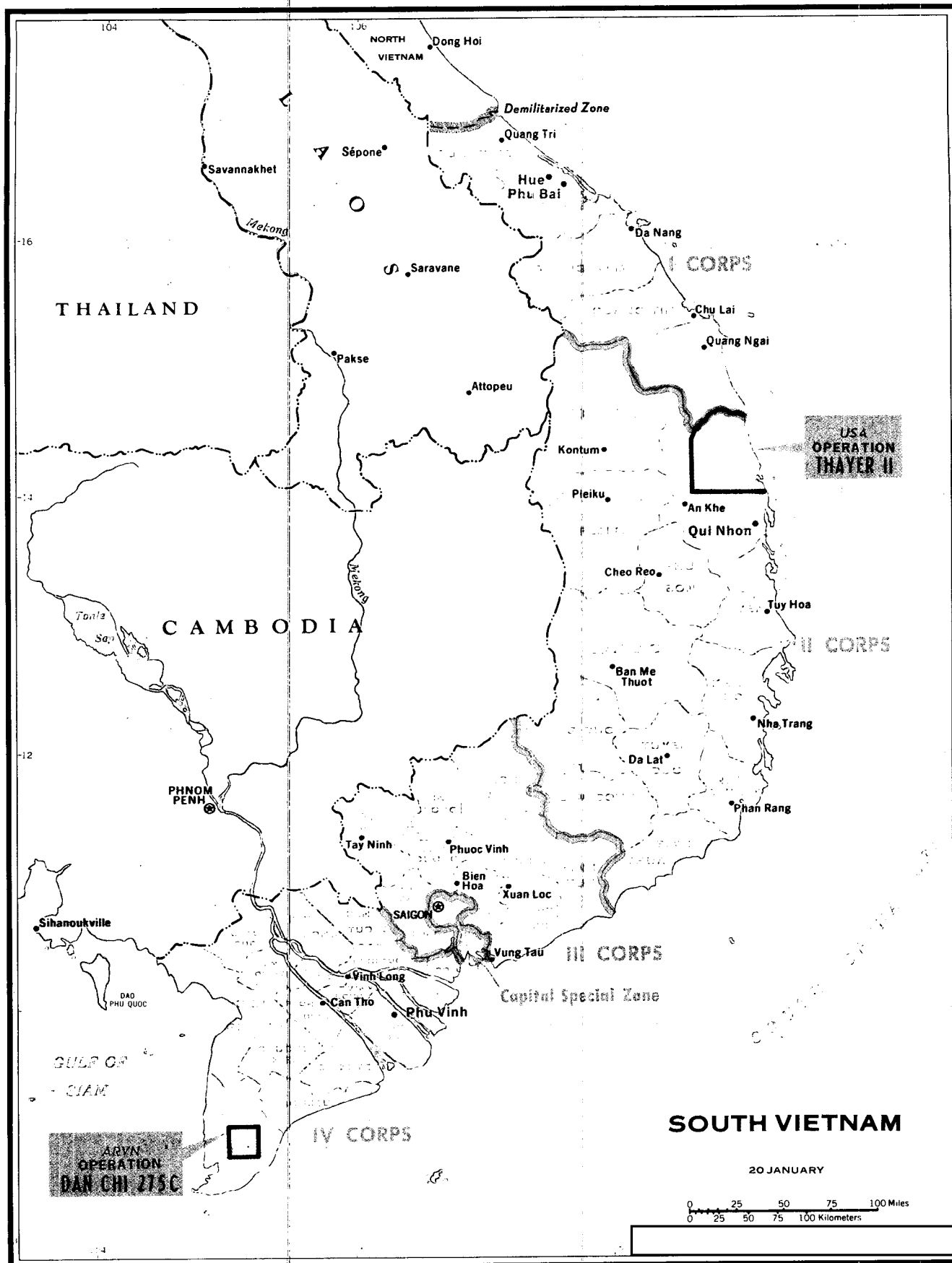
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Communist China has condemned recent Thai assistance to South Vietnam (Para. 3).

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I. THE MILITARY SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM

1. The US Marine base ten miles southeast of Hue in northern Thua Thien Province was hit by approximately 35 rounds of 82-mm. mortar during a pre-dawn attack on 20 January. Countermortar fire was directed against suspected enemy positions and a reaction force was dispatched. One American was killed and 36 wounded; there was no major damage to equipment or facilities on the base. Enemy losses are unknown.

2.

A larger number of marine units have recently been deployed to the Phu Bai area in an effort to prevent the Communists from taking any of the rice harvest in the area and to support other marine units now in blocking positions south of the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).

3. A US Army platoon participating in the eight battalion search-and-destroy Operation THAYER II in the northern section of coastal Binh Dinh Province reported two encounters with Communist units of unknown size about 30 miles northwest of Qui Nhon on 20 January. Seven Americans were killed and eight wounded in the two engagements. Enemy casualties were reported as 18 killed. Since this vast sweep operation began on 24 October, nearly 1,300 enemy troops have been killed compared with 161 Americans killed and 635 wounded. Both North Vietnamese Army and Viet Cong units, with an estimated total of 7,200 men, are believed operating in this area of Binh Dinh Province.

4. In the Mekong Delta province of Vinh Binh, a Viet Cong force of unknown size early on 20 January simultaneously fired mortars at a district town ten miles northwest of Phu Vinh, which was defended by a Regular Force company, and attacked a South Vietnamese Army (ARVN) battalion nearby. Artillery and US armed aircraft supported the friendly forces.

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[redacted]

Twenty-eight South Vietnamese were killed and 71 wounded. At least 15 Viet Cong were killed. A re-action operation was initiated several hours later, but no contact with the attacking force has been reported.

5. A five-battalion South Vietnamese Army (ARVN) operation named DAN CHI 275C, presently being conducted in southernmost An Xuyen Province, has reported several light engagements since it began on 18 January. Sixteen Viet Cong have been killed compared with ARVN casualties of only two wounded. Communist losses also include 26 individual weapons, small-arms ammunition, and a number of bombs, mines, and grenades captured.

Reorganization of the 18th NVA Regiment

6. [redacted]

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[redacted]

the regiment is experiencing difficulties as a result of allied operations.

7. [redacted] the 18th Regiment had dispersed in late December into company-size units in an effort to avoid allied forces. [redacted]

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[redacted]

the US 1st Air Cavalry's great mobility, along with air strikes and artillery attacks, had lowered the morale [redacted] In addition, approximately two-thirds of the regiment was suffering from malaria and other diseases.

8. [redacted] the 18th will attempt to counter allied pacification work in rural areas. [redacted] the 3rd Division cadres were reconnoitering areas along the Binh Dinh - Quang Ngai Province border in connection with its winter-spring campaign, which has the purpose of "regaining prestige."

9. The 18th is apparently still subordinate to the 3rd Division, and its dispersal and shift of emphasis to smaller scale activities may therefore be only a temporary move to permit it to regain strength and build up manpower, rather than indicative of a trend to breakup permanently larger Communist units.

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Weekly Review of South Vietnam Battle Statistics

10. The week of 8-14 January compared with 1-7 January:

I. Viet Cong Incidents

<u>Time Period</u>	<u>At-tacks</u>	<u>Regimental size</u>	<u>Battalion size</u>
1-7 Jan	21	0	0
8-14 Jan	42	0	1

<u>Time Period</u>	<u>Company size</u>	<u>Harassment</u>	<u>Terrorism</u>
1-7 Jan	3	391	35
8-14 Jan	5	360	24

<u>Time Period</u>	<u>Sabo-tage</u>	<u>Propa-ganda</u>	<u>Anti-Aircraft</u>	<u>Total Incidents</u>
1-7 Jan	16	42	180	685
8-14 Jan	19	18	448	911

II. Casualties

	<u>VC/NVA</u>		<u>GVN</u>	
	<u>1-7 Jan</u>	<u>8-14 Jan</u>	<u>1-7 Jan</u>	<u>8-14 Jan</u>
Killed	626	1,176	120	197
Wounded	---	-----	300	425
Missing/ Captured	<u>155</u>	<u>213</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>45</u>
TOTALS	781	1,389	451	667

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	US		FREE WORLD	
	1-7 Jan	8-14 Jan	1-7 Jan	8-14 Jan
Killed	67	143	3	32
Wounded	479	1,044	7	64
Missing/ Captured	<u>2</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTALS	548	1,187*	10	96

III. Weapons Captured

	VC/NVA		GVN	
	1-7 Jan	8-14 Jan	1-7 Jan	8-14 Jan
Individual	232	Not	104	203
Crew-Served	<u>7</u>	Reported	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>
TOTALS	239		107	204

*As reported by MACV, although no known operations have accounted for this unusually high casualty figure.

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II. POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN SOUTH VIETNAM



Constituent Assembly Debate on Draft Constitution Under Way

3. After two earlier postponements, the Constituent Assembly on 19 January began its plenary debate on the draft constitution, and approved the first three articles. These provisions are contained in the first chapter of the constitution called "Basic Provisions," and include statements on Vietnamese sovereignty, guarantees of the basic

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rights and equality of all citizens, and the delineation of executive, legislative, and judicial responsibilities. The latter provision caused a long and rather disorderly semantic debate which was generally resolved by a compromise provision. The assembly plans to hold two sessions daily until the Tet holiday break beginning on 8 February.

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III. MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTH VIETNAM

1. There is nothing of significance to report.

IV. OTHER COMMUNIST MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

1. There is nothing of significance to report.

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V. COMMUNIST POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

1. Mai Van Bo, chief of the North Vietnamese delegation in Paris, reportedly reiterated to a member of the American Friends Service Committee on 17 January his remark of 5 January that if the US were permanently to stop bombing North Vietnam, this would be "a concrete action" sufficient to prompt Hanoi to examine closely US proposals for negotiations. Although Bo's recent remarks do not commit Hanoi to any action in response to a cessation of air strikes by the US, he apparently is having some success in conveying to certain of his listeners the impression of a major concession. The American Friends Service Committee member stated that it was his impression that Bo "may well have been saying in the most noncommittal way possible that North Vietnam would indeed agree to negotiations if the bombings were first stopped and there was reasonable evidence that they would not be started up again."

2. Mai Van Bo also seemed more encouraging about permitting American Friends Service Committee representatives to go to Hanoi for discussions on the Friends' proposed medical aid program. He gave the impression that visas for two members of the committee would shortly be forthcoming.

3. Peking, as Hanoi did earlier this month, has denounced recent Thai actions in support of the US effort in Vietnam. A Chinese Foreign Ministry statement of 19 January protested the Thai Government's decision to send troops to South Vietnam and its alleged acquiescence in permitting the US to station B-52 bombers in Thailand. Peking claimed that the "peoples of Vietnam and other Indo-Chinese states" would "deal resolute counterblows" against the Thai Government and that the Thai people would rebel against it. China also asserted that Thai aid would not save the US from defeat in Vietnam.

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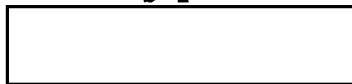


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South Vietnamese and Viet Cong Casualties and
Weapons Losses: 1962 - 31 December 1966

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	18255	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
	1966	2844	862	5532	1638	-	242	414	2742	5946	744	1483



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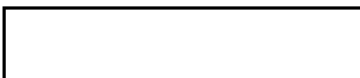
Time Period	Viet Cong Incidents	Killed in Action		Wounded in Action		Captured or Missing		Total Casualties		Weapons Losses	
		GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC
Aug 1962	1642	377	2271	626	367	63	669	1066	3307	-	-
Aug 1963	1349	411	1685	804	237	352	482	1567	2404	637	428
Aug 1964	2580	721	1449	1612	-	478	282	2811	1731	1106	619
Aug 1965	2498	808	3624	1945	-	287	606	3040	4230	705	1074
Aug 1966	2401	722	5857	1491	-	209	924	2422	6781	654	1298
Sep 1962	1375	419	2218	646	365	59	446	1124	3029	-	-
Sep 1963	1763	672	1982	1155	234	566	347	2393	2563	878	389
Sep 1964	3091	819	1187	1759	-	737	230	3315	1417	1465	525
Sep 1965	2473	655	3485	1724	-	266	838	2645	4323	778	838
Sep 1966	2864	566	4447	1554	-	185	839	2305	5286	426	1580
Oct 1962	1357	365	1967	619	286	64	373	1048	2626	-	-
Oct 1963	1422	428	1520	989	244	398	236	1815	2000	753	330
Oct 1964	2827	739	1617	1583	-	693	576	3015	2193	1510	482
Oct 1965	3330	961	3874	2416	-	225	660	3602	4534	762	1013
Oct 1966	2923	906	5665	2118	-	216	2438	3240	8103	851	1977
Nov 1962	1311	410	1982	834	368	92	561	1336	2911	-	-
Nov 1963	3182	664	2333	1554	373	665	252	2883	2958	1595	455
Nov 1964	1982	574	1747	1404	-	410	570	2388	2317	1104	515
Nov 1965	3638	1034	5516	2056	-	520	592	3610	6108	1126	2164
Nov 1966	2942	804	5227	1933	-	200	816	2937	6043	650	1423
Dec 1962	1346	294	2203	618	289	78	463	990	2955	-	-
Dec 1963	1921	389	1440	961	191	320	190	1670	1821	724	546
Dec 1964	2504	1002	1813	2053	-	1092	503	4147	2316	2111	666
Dec 1965	4106	1239	4076	2262	-	926	516	4427	4592	1728	1158
Dec 1966	2837	815	3864	1851	-	338	701	3004	4565	830	1338

Composite Annual Totals

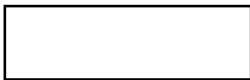
Time Period	VC Incidents	KIA		WIA		Captured or Missing		Total Casualties		Weapons Losses	
		GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC	GVN	VC
1962	19076	4417	21158	7195	4235	1270	5700	12882	31093	5195	4049*
1963	17852	5665	20575	11488	3501	3137	4307	20290	28383	8267	5397
1964	28526	7457	16785	17017	-	6036	4157	30510	20942	14055	5881
1965	31529	11243	35436	23118	-	7848	6326	42209	41762	16915	11755
**1966	37655	9469	55524	20974	-	3283	9719	33726	65243	9381	18606

*Monthly data unavailable for 1962 Weapons Losses.

**Through 31 December 1966



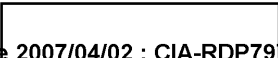
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2. Viet Cong Incidents: 1962 - 31 December 1966

Time Period	Viet Cong Incidents	A T T A C K S				Harassment & Terrorism	Sabotage	Propa- ganda	Anti- Aircraft
		Small- Scale	Co. Size	Bn. Size or Larger	Total				
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	3190	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
1962	1564	437	10	1	448	735	158	223	-
Jul 1963	1368	398	8	1	407	698	80	183	-
1964	3045	166	12	7	185	2132	286	224	218
1965	2520	42	0	6	48	1706	400	154	212
1966	2844	91	0	0	91	1906	200	86	561



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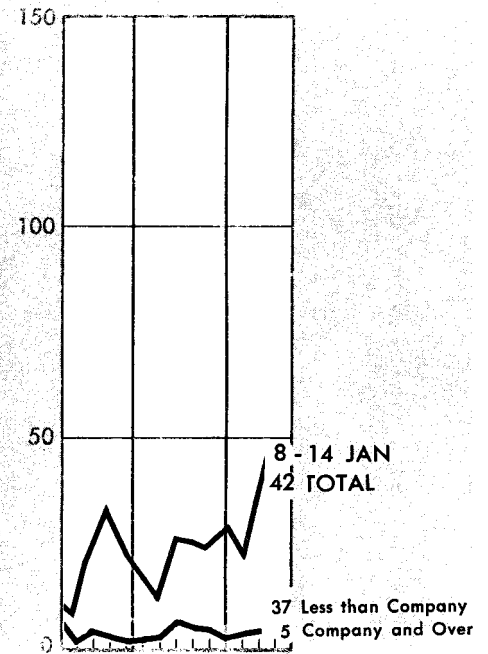
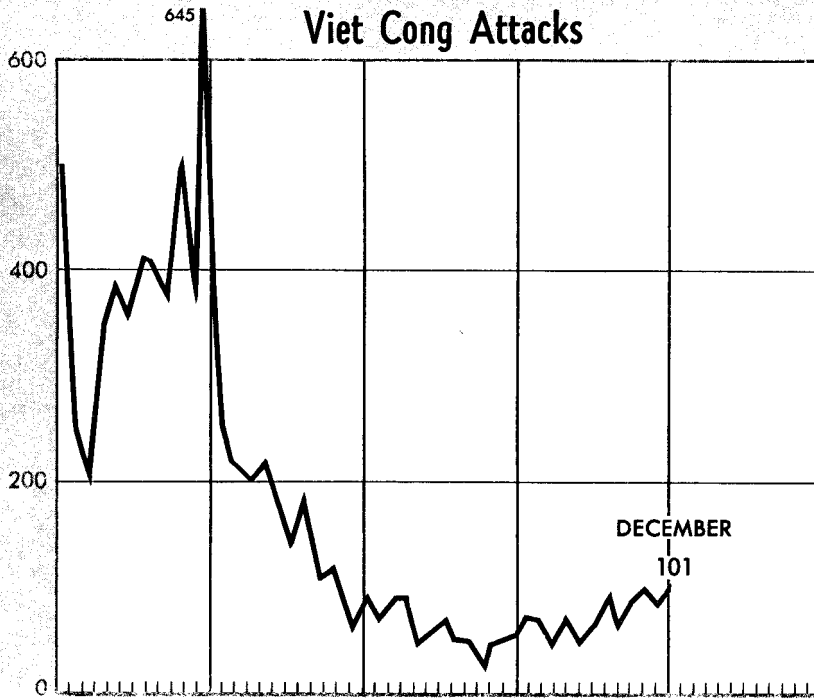
Time Period	Viet Cong Incidents	A T T A C K S				Harassment & Terrorism	Sabotage	Propaganda	Anti-Aircraft
		Small-Scale	Co. Size	Bn. Size and Larger	Total				
Aug 1962	1642	368	10	0	378	885	146	233	-
1963	1349	356	11	1	368	647	113	221	-
1964	2580	107	3	3	113	1775	315	173	204
1965	2498	38	9	5	52	1597	349	200	300
1966	2401	51	8	5	64	1752	113	87	385
Sep 1962	1375	382	9	0	391	624	178	182	-
1963	1763	483	17	3	503	889	164	207	-
1964	3091	110	4	4	118	1938	482	178	375
1965	2473	19	7	5	31	1530	278	185	449
1966	2864	78	6	2	86	1972	90	115	601
Oct 1962	1357	406	12	1	419	583	189	166	-
1963	1422	359	6	0	365	802	105	150	-
1964	2827	75	2	6	83	1790	480	197	277
1965	3330	24	8	12	44	1969	415	198	704
1966	2923	107	12	2	121	1749	103	81	869
Nov 1962	1311	411	7	3	421	614	144	132	-
1963	3182	631	11	3	645	1990	269	278	-
1964	1982	57	2	1	60	1391	247	109	175
1965	3638	26	16	10	52	2234	486	255	611
1966	2778	80	4	2	86	1701	125	72	794
Dec 1962	1346	375	8	1	384	670	107	185	-
1963	1921	258	3	0	261	1298	111	251	-
1964	2504	81	9	6	96	1719	318	128	243
1965	4106	32	18	7	57	2572	442	317	718
1966	2837	84	13	4	101	1761	98	112	765

Composite Annual Totals

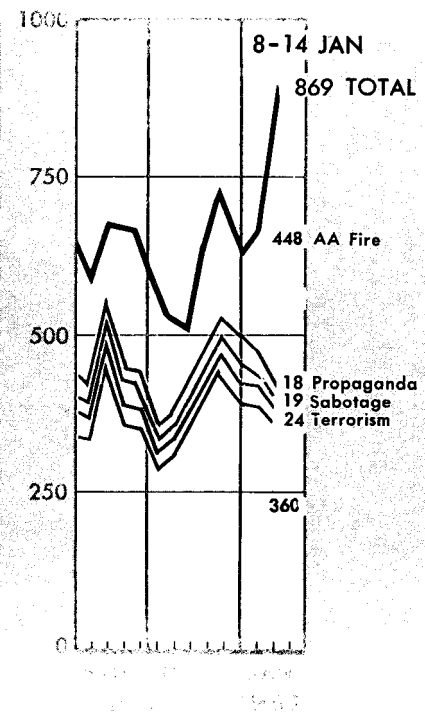
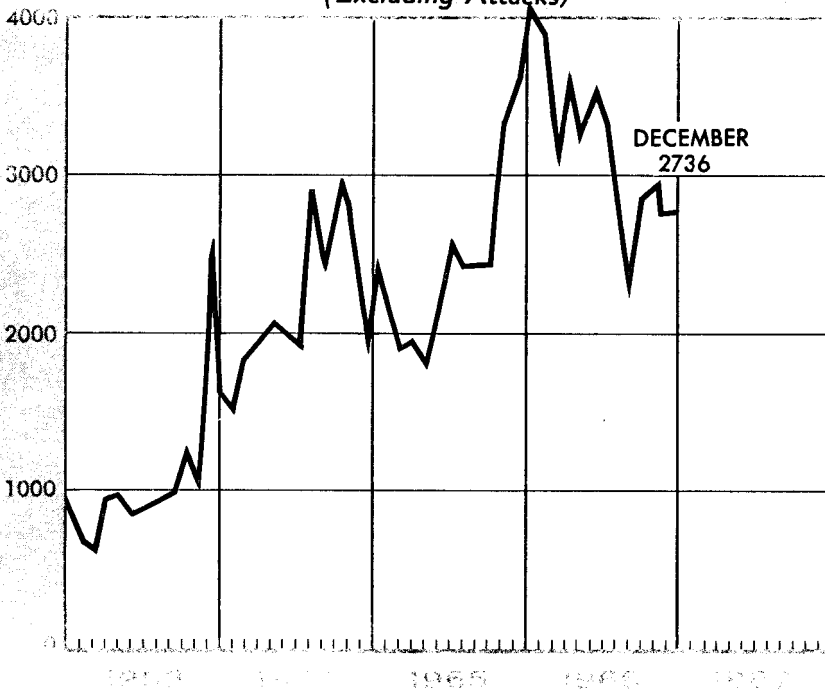
1962	19076	5247	212	6	5465	8875	2060	2676	No Data
1963	17852	4354	121	15	4490	9805	1396	2161	No Data
1964	28526	1732	60	41	1833	19556	3178	2080	1879
1965	31529	531	81	73	685	20730	4132	1974	4008
*1966	37446	760	112	66	938	24664	2212	1504	8128

*Through 31 December 1966

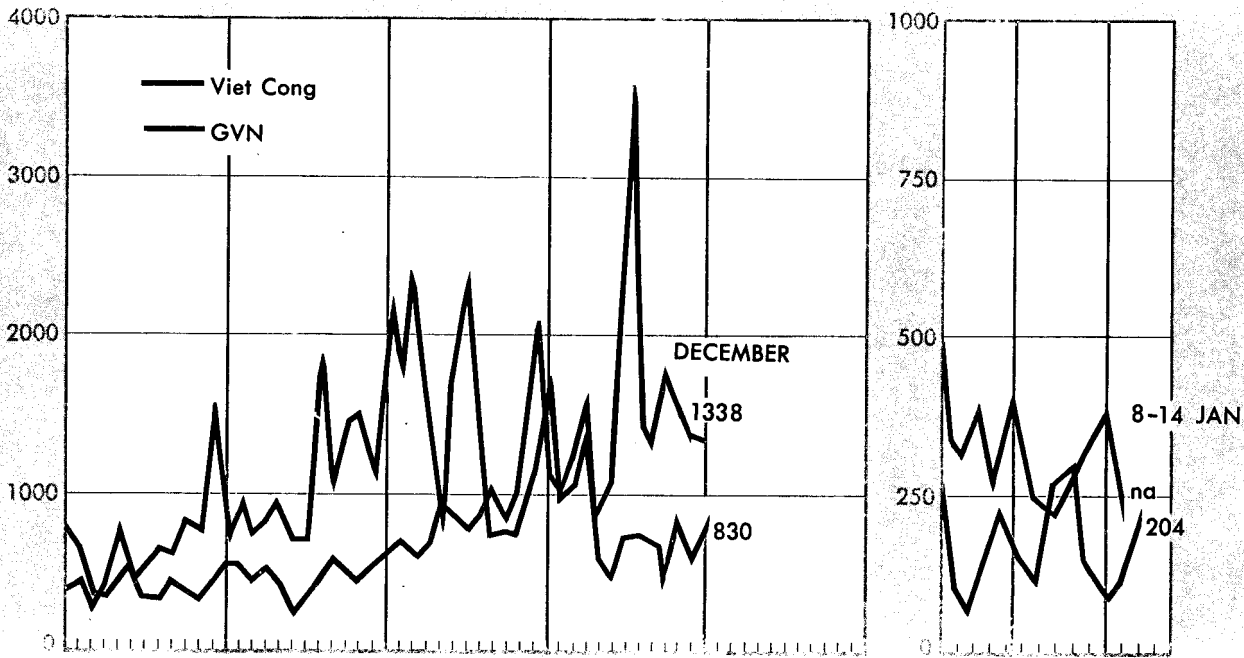
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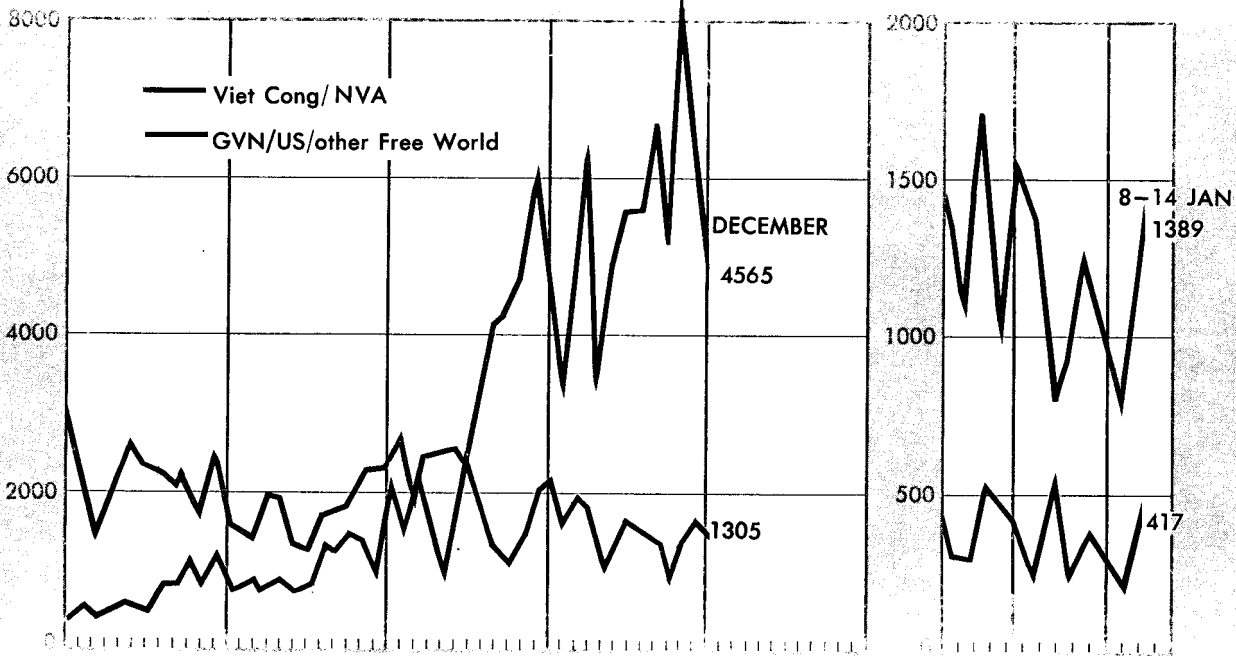
Viet Cong Incidents (Excluding Attacks)



Weapons Losses



Personnel Losses (Excluding Wounded)



US Casualties to Date: Killed 6,854 Wounded 39,261 Captured 99 Missing 375