

Top Secret

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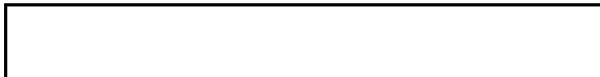
MEMORANDUM

The Situation in Vietnam

Top Secret

111

19 April 1967



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Information as of 1600
19 April 1967

[Redacted]

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HIGHLIGHTS

Preliminary field reports indicate that the largest air battle of the Vietnam war may have occurred on 19 April southwest of Hanoi. First reports have one MIG-17 downed and several additional MIGs probably lost.

I. The Military Situation in South Vietnam: Communist troops continue to harass allied forces south of the DMZ (Paras. 1-3). [Redacted]

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[Redacted] a recent rallier, reveals Communist plans against the RD program and reports the arrival of a four-man North Korean advisory group in South Vietnam (Paras. 4-5). Communist-initiated activity has increased sharply since the Tet period in early February (Paras. 6-9). The weekly review of South Vietnam's battle statistics (Para. 10).

[Redacted]

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III. Military Developments in North Vietnam: A major air battle took place southwest of Hanoi on 19 April (Paras. 1-3). [Redacted]

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

V. Communist Political Developments: There is nothing of significance to report.

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ANNEX:

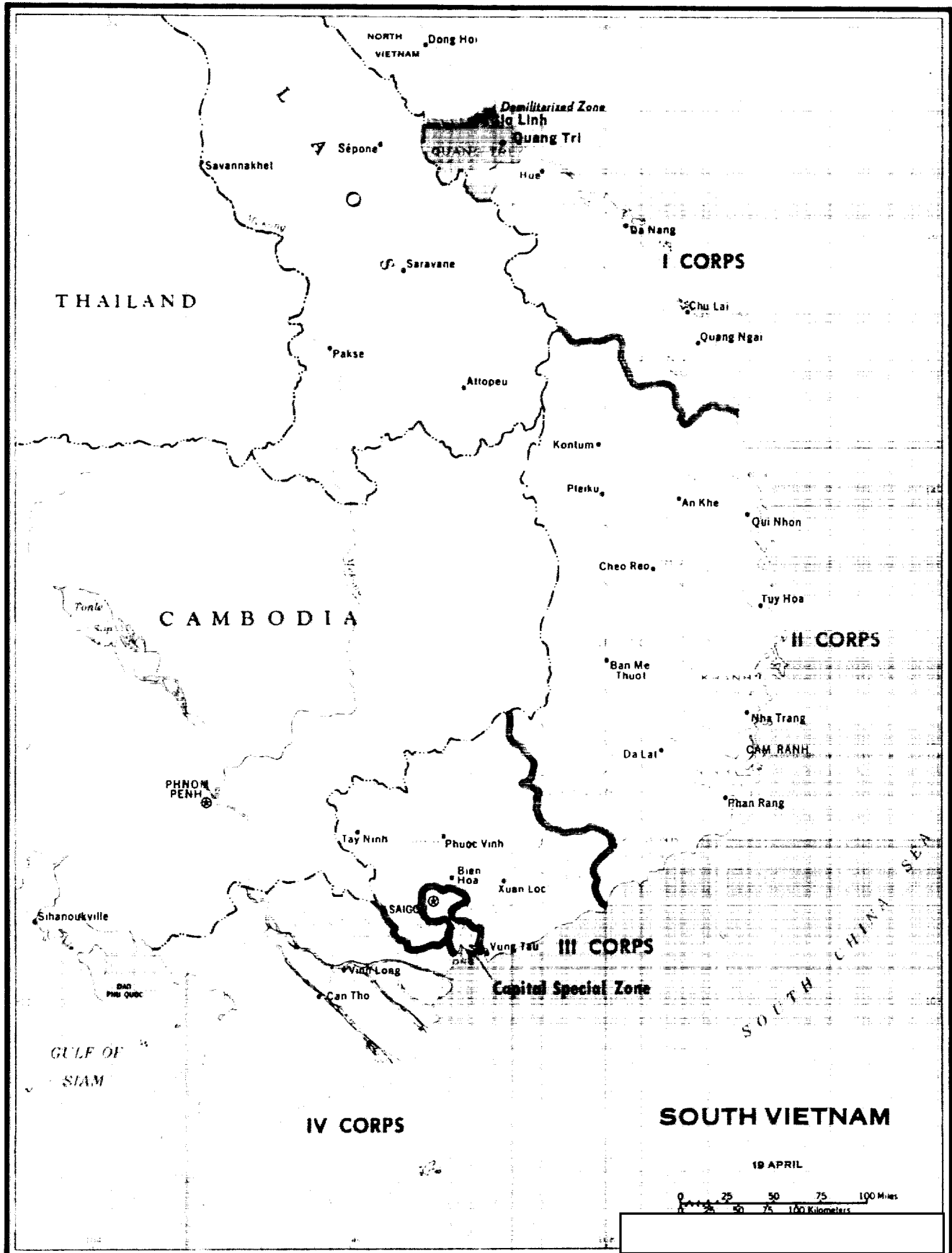
South Vietnam Battle Statistics
1963 to week of 9-15 April 1967

- Weapons and Personnel Losses
- Viet Cong Attacks and Incidents

South Vietnamese and Viet Cong Casualties
and Weapons Losses - 1962 to 31 March 1967

- General Statistical Data
- Composite Annual Totals
- Viet Cong Incidents

19 April 1967



I. THE MILITARY SITUATION IN SOUTH VIETNAM

1. A US Marine battalion command post 15 miles northwest of Quang Tri city was attacked on 18 April, possibly reflecting Communist concern over the defense strip which is being constructed immediately south of the DMZ in northernmost Quang Tri Province. Two Americans were killed and 13 wounded in the brief attack.

2. Other enemy efforts against US and South Vietnamese troops working on the barrier have included scattered firefights and the laying of mines in the construction area. Several construction vehicles have been damaged or destroyed by the mines.

3. Total casualties sustained thus far by the US Marines who are pushing westward from Gio Linh, were reported as four killed and 62 wounded. The South Vietnamese are building their section between Gio Linh and the sea.

Further Communist Planning Revealed by Defector [redacted]

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4. Further interrogation [redacted]

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[redacted] has revealed additional information on Communist planning to counter the effectiveness of the Revolutionary Development program. [redacted] that emphasis will be placed on developing the guerrilla warfare movement and on converting party members and sympathizers to active guerrillas. Sabotage of roads in the government-controlled areas will also be increased. The Viet Cong hope to prevent completion of pacification objectives during the dry season and then work against the towns and cities during the rainy season.

5. [redacted] a four-man North Korean advisory group arrived in South Vietnam in early 1967 to obtain information regarding the deployments and tactics of the South Korean troops and to study infiltration routes into the country. The defector claims that North Korea has offered to provide a division of troops, but that so far, only medical supplies have been received. There is no other information to confirm the prisoner's statement on the offer of troops. North Korea, as have other bloc countries, has promised in propaganda statements to send "volunteers" if requested and when needed.

19 April 1967

I-1

Enemy Activity Since Tet

6. Intensive Communist activity and a more aggressive attitude have characterized enemy operations since the end of the four-day lunar new year holiday period, Tet, from 8-12 February.

7. The increase in activity was revealed in a study of monthly figures before and after the Tet period. The number of Communist-initiated attacks for the two-month period prior to Tet averaged 121 compared with 168 for the two months following the cease-fire period. In contrast, the over-all 1966 monthly average of attacks was 78.

8. Since early February, the enemy has used, for the first time in South Vietnam, the 100-mm. field gun, the 105-mm. howitzer (fired from across the DMZ), and the 140-mm. rocket launcher. An estimate of the total number of rounds of artillery, mortar, recoilless rifle and rocket ammunition expended in enemy attacks also show a large increase since the first of the year. In January, a total of 2,183 rounds were fired in comparison with 5,075 fired in March.

9. As more allied troops deploy to positions throughout the country the number and frequency of these artillery-type attacks against allied military targets can be expected to increase further. It has also been noted that the enemy has intensified his efforts to offset the Revolutionary Development program, especially in the northern provinces of I Corps.

Weekly Review of South Vietnam Battle Statistics

10. The week of 9-15 April compared with the week of 2-8 April:

I. Viet Cong Incidents

	<u>2-8 April</u>	<u>9-15 April</u>
Attacks	55	36
Battalion or larger.....	2	3
Small Unit	53	33
Harassment	436	248
Terrorism	57	52
Sabotage	8	20
Propaganda	36	38
Antiaircraft	260	385
TOTAL INCIDENTS	852	779

II. Casualties

	<u>VC/NVA</u>		<u>GVN</u>	
	<u>2-8 April</u>	<u>9-15 April</u>	<u>2-8 April</u>	<u>9-15 April</u>
Killed	1,478	1,511	284	287
Wounded	-----	-----	710	784
Missing/ Captured	-----	-----	<u>69</u>	<u>14</u>
TOTALS	1,478	1,511	1,063	1,085

	<u>US</u>		<u>FREE WORLD</u>	
	<u>2-8 April</u>	<u>9-15 April</u>	<u>2-8 April</u>	<u>9-15 April</u>
Killed	177	147	16	21
Wounded	1,345	1,141	73	91
Missing/ Captured	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
TOTALS	1,522	1,288	89	112

III. Weapons Captured

	<u>VC/NVA</u>		<u>GVN</u>	
	<u>2-8 April</u>	<u>9-15 April</u>	<u>2-8 April</u>	<u>9-15 April</u>
Individual	646	Not	278	151
Crew-Served	<u>58</u>	Reported	<u>11</u>	<u>4</u>
TOTALS	704		289	155

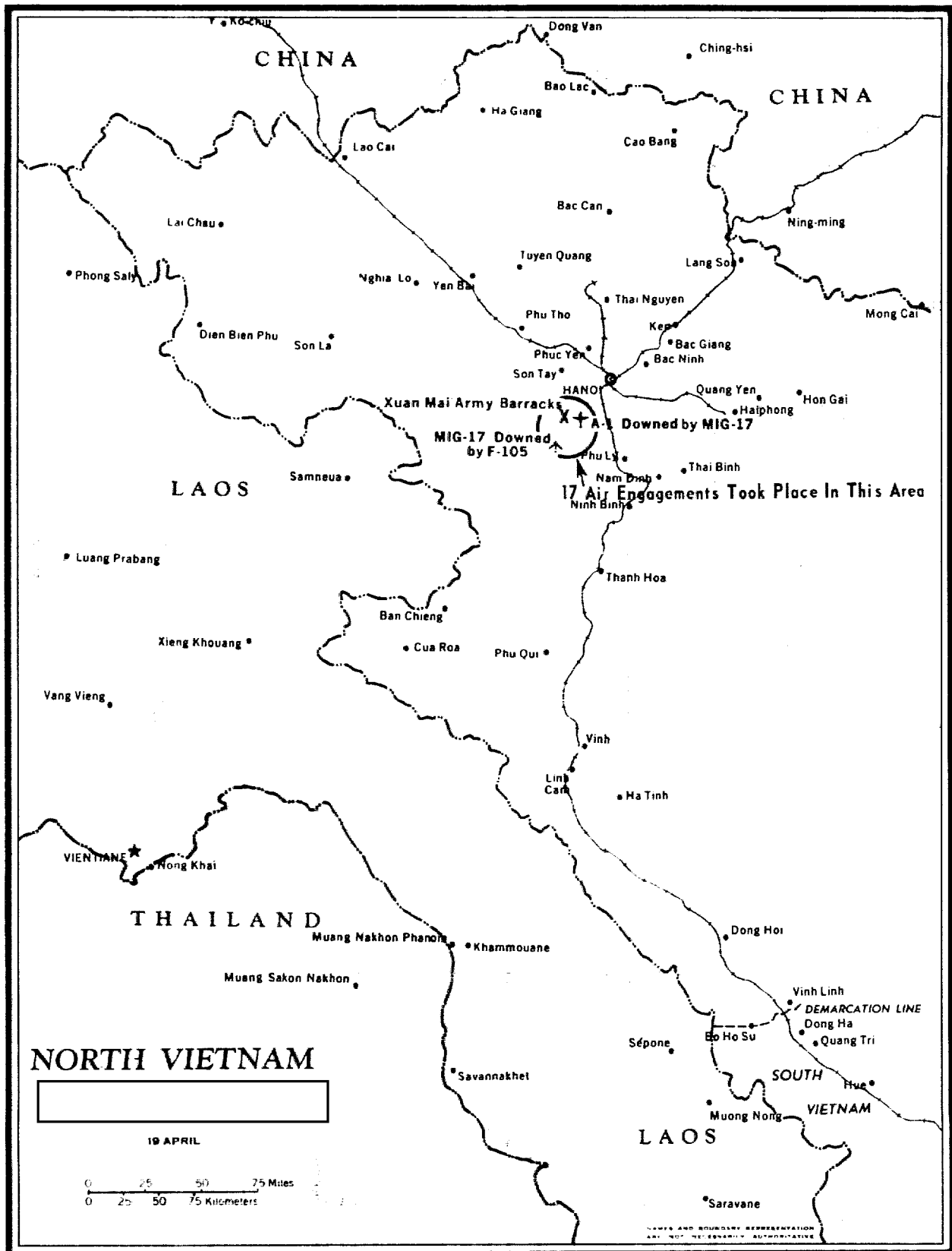
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III. MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS IN NORTH VIETNAM

1. Preliminary field reports indicate that the largest air battle of the war may have occurred on 19 April in the wake of a major US air strike on the Xuan Mai army barracks 25 miles southwest of Hanoi. At least 17 separate air engagements have been reported involving approximately 28 MIGs and 20 or more US aircraft. Initial reports of the results of these encounters indicate one USAF A-1E and one MIG-17 downed and several additional MIGs probably lost.

2. The Xuan Mai barracks is believed to be a special training center for large infiltration groups being deployed to support Viet Cong and Pathet Lao insurgency operations. Preliminary reports suggest that the initial strike force of 16 F-105s did major damage to this target and escaped without encountering any MIGs or sustaining any losses. A second wave of F-105s which struck the barracks 30 minutes later, however, ran into major ground and missile fire and became heavily engaged with large numbers of MIG-17 fighters.

3. The loss of one F-105 to ground fire caused his wingman and two A-1Es to stay in the target area to provide air cover for the downed crew. Separate groups of MIG-17s attacked these planes and in the ensuing engagements one A-1E was brought down by a group of four MIG-17s and the F-105 shot down at least one MIG-17. The details of 15 other encounters with Communist interceptors have not yet been received but early reports indicate that five more MIGs may have been shot down by US pilots.

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19 April 1967

III-1

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IV. OTHER COMMUNIST MILITARY DEVELOPMENTS

1. There is nothing of significance to report.

V. COMMUNIST POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

1. There is nothing of significance to report.

19 April 1967

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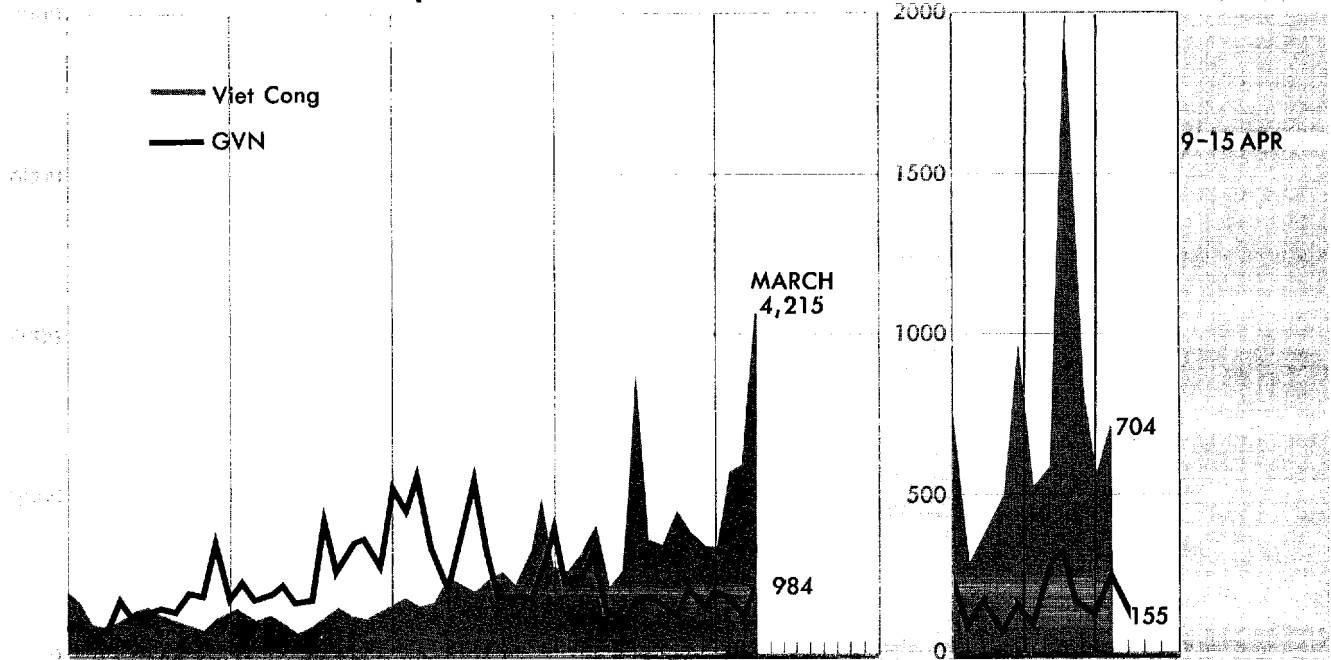
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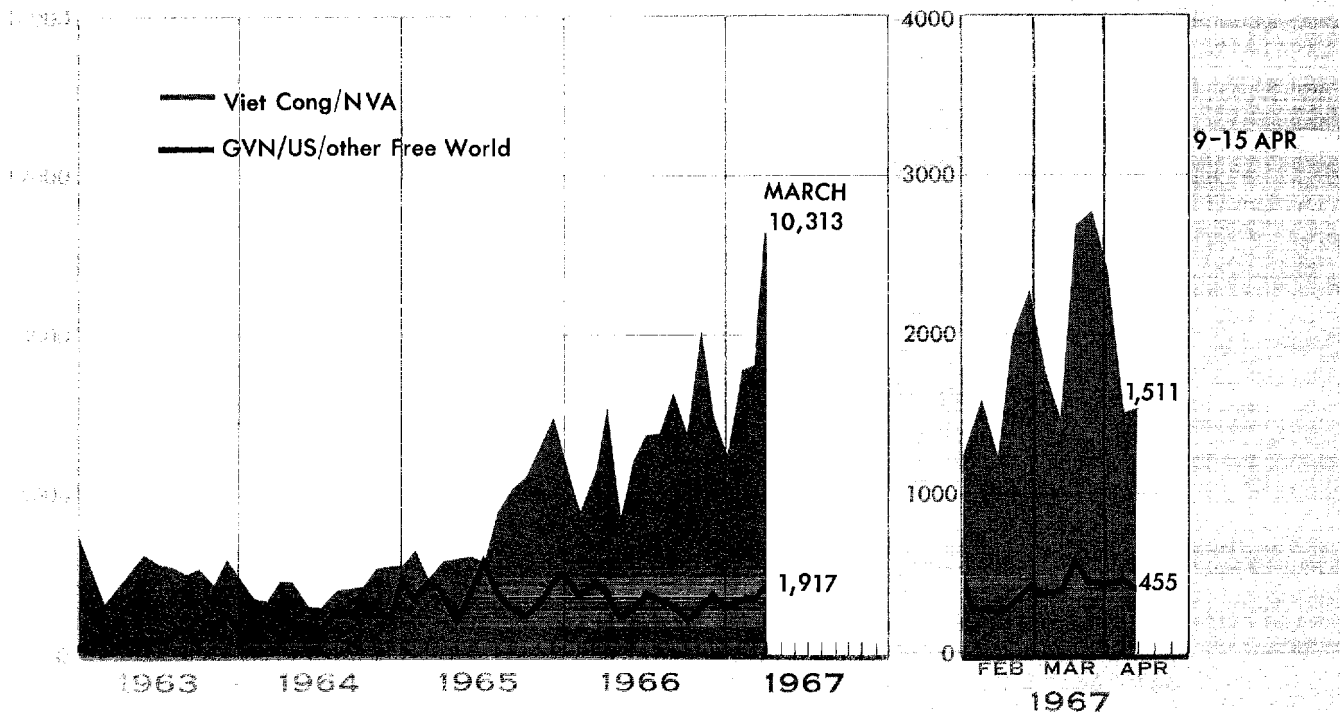
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Weapons Losses

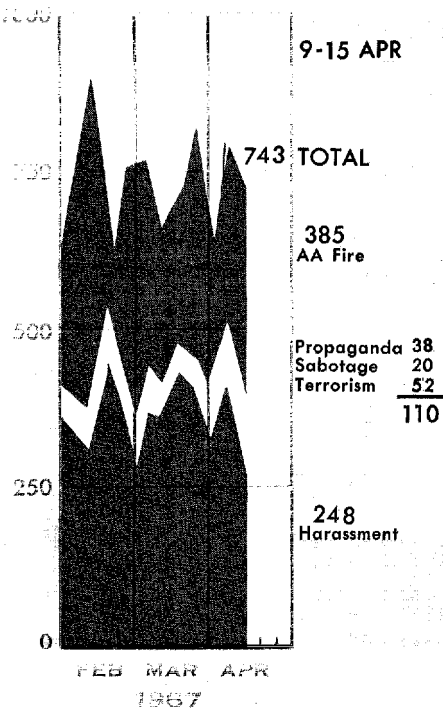
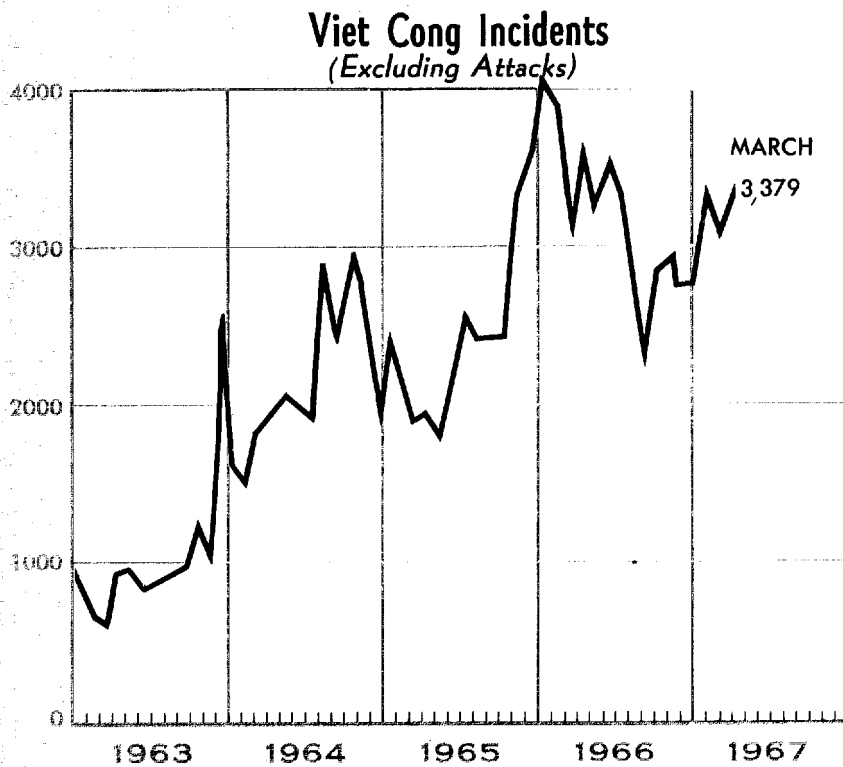
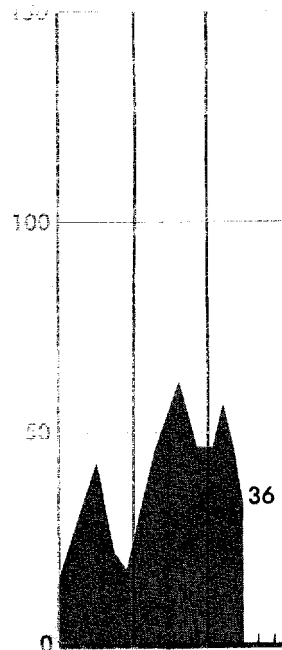
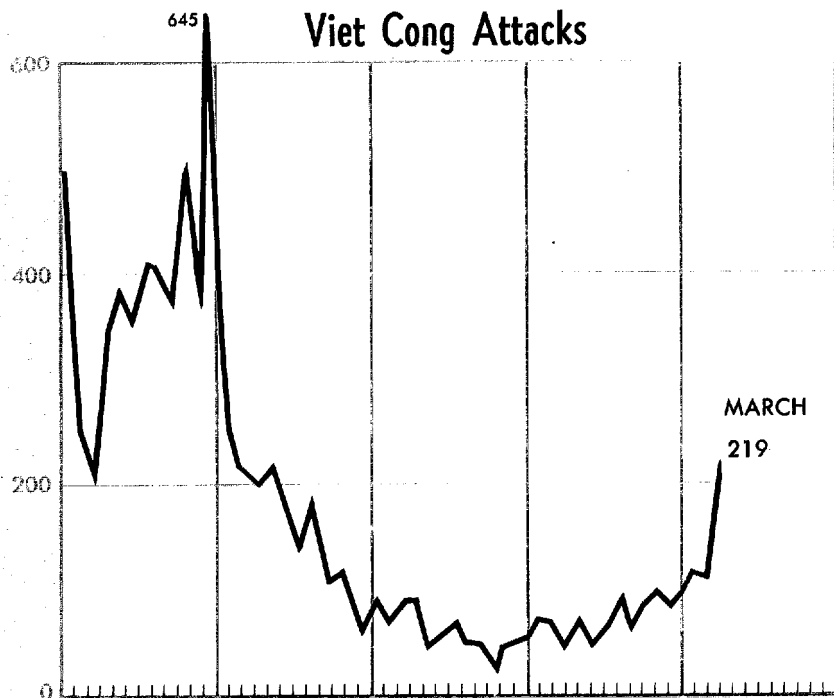


Personnel Losses (Killed only)*



US Casualties to Date: Killed 8,931 Wounded 52,946 Captured 150 Missing 385

*Due to a change in the reporting of personnel losses, beginning 12 February 1967, the weekly figure will represent only personnel killed.



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South Vietnamese and Viet Cong Casualties and
Weapons Losses: 1962 - 31 March 1967

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
1967	3369	887	6064	2036	-	166	-	3089	--	738	2360
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
1967	3183	771	7341	2125	-	154	-	3050	--	532	2395
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
1967	3379	1718	10313	2786	-	468	-	4372	10313	984	4215
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	3190	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	2778	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	37446	9469	55524	20974	-	3283	9719	33726	65243	9381	18606
**1967	9951	2776	23718	6947	-	788	-	10511	-	2254	8970

*Monthly data unavailable for 1962 Weapons Losses.

**Through 31 March 1967

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2. Viet Cong Incidents: 1962 - 31 March 1967

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				
Jan 1962	1825	528	21	0	549	839	180	257	-
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
1967	3369	141	-	1	142	1772	70	128	1257
Feb 1962	1460	480	20	0	500	613	137	210	-
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
1967	3183	115	-	2	117	1499	39	76	1452
Mar 1962	1961	561	27	0	588	660	290	423	-
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
1967	3379	212	-	7	219	1844	50	45	1221
Apr 1962	1933	470	27	0	497	1024	220	192	-
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
May 1962	1825	490	28	0	528	892	154	251	-
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
Jun 1962	1477	339	23	0	362	736	157	222	-
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
Jul 1962	1564	437	10	1	448	735	158	223	-
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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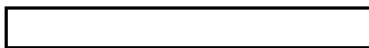
Time Period	Viet Cong Incidents	A T T A C K S				Harassment & Terrorism	Sabotage	Propa-ganda	Anti-Aircraft
		Small-Scale	Co. Size	Bn. Size and Larger	Total				
1962	1642	368	10	0	378	885	146	233	-
Aug 1963	1349	356	11	1	368	647	113	221	-
1964	2580	107	3	3	113	1775	315	173	204
1965	2498	38	9	5	52	1597	349	200	300
1966	2401	51	8	5	64	1752	113	87	385
1962	1375	382	9	0	391	624	178	182	-
Sep 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
1962	1357	406	12	1	419	583	189	166	-
Oct 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
1962	1311	411	7	3	421	614	144	132	-
Nov 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
1962	1346	375	8	1	384	670	107	185	-
Dec 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
*1967	9931	468	-	10	478	5115	159	249	3930

*Through 31 March 1967

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