

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY Intelligence Information Cable

• PRIORITY

IN 51213

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EXO DDI

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GROUP 1
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THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT. NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

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DIST 14 FEBRUARY 1968

COUNTRY: NORTH VIETNAM/SOUTH VIETNAM

DOI:

[Redacted]

Intentional
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SUBJECT: DRV AND VIETCONG AUTHORITIES AT HANOI HAIL "VICTORIES" THROUGHOUT THE SOUTH WHILE HANOI PREPARES FOR POSSIBLE AIR ATTACK RETALIATIONS.

ACQ:

[Redacted]

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SOURCE:

(SUMMARY: NGUYEN PHU SOAI, SOUTH VIETNAM LIBERATION FRONT (SVNLF) MISSION DEPUTY CHIEF IN HANOI, AND NORTH VIETNAMESE OFFICIAL MEDIA OUTLETS PUBLICIZED ENTHUSIASTICALLY THE POST-TET URBAN ATTACKS OF THE VIETNAMESE COMMUNISTS IN SOUTH VIETNAM. BY THEIR PREPARATIONS FOR EVACUATION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN AND

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(classification) (dissem. controls)

OTHER MEASURES, THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (DRV) AUTHORITIES IN EARLY FEBRUARY SHOWED THEIR EXPECTATIONS OF RETALIATORY AIR ATTACKS ON HANOI, WHICH HAD NOT MATERIALIZED BY 5 FEBRUARY. END SUMMARY.)

1. IN A TELEGRAM ON 5 FEBRUARY 1968 SENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS [Redacted]

3.3(h)(2)

[Redacted] IN HANOI REPORTED "ON THE STARTLING EVENTS IN SOUTH VIETNAM" AS FOLLOWS:

A. NGUYEN PHU SOAI, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE SVNLF IN HANOI IN A PRESS CONFERENCE ON 1 FEBRUARY 1968, CALLED THE SIMULTANEOUS ATTACKS, OCCUPATIONS, AND RECAPTURES INVOLVING MORE THAN 40 CITIES, INCLUDING SAIGON, DANANG, AND HUE, AS "THE MOST ALL-SIDE AND WIDESPREAD ATTACKS EVER KNOWN".

B. THE SVNLF ATTACKS WERE SUPPORTED BY THE LOCAL PEOPLE AND EVEN BY ARMY OF SOUTH VIETNAM TRCO'S CALLING THEMSELVES "SEPARALISTS" (FROM THE FIRST DIVISION ALONE THERE WERE MORE THAN 100 MEN).

C. LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS ASSISTING THE SVNLF INCLUDED THE FOLLOWING:

(1) IN SAIGON, THE ALLIANCE OF NATIONAL AND PEACE FORCES.

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THIS ORGANIZATION HAS ISSUED A MANIFESTO CONCERNING "URGENT NATIONAL SALVATION" WHICH ASKS THAT THE UNITED STATES AND ITS SATELLITES WITHDRAW THEIR TROOPS FROM SOUTH VIETNAM AND UNDERTAKE (GARBLED, CORRECTION WILL FOLLOW) WITH THE SVNLF ON MEASURES TO RESTORE PEACE AND REGAIN NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY".

(2) IN HUE, THE FRONT OF NATIONAL DEMOCRATIC AND PEACE ALLIANCE HEADED BY LE VAN HAO, AN ETHNOLOGIST. THEIR APPEAL CONSISTS IN PART, OF THE FOLLOWING: INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY, FREEDOM, DEMOCRACY, PEACE, NEUTRALITY, FOOD, CLOTHES, AND LAND.

D. THE SVNLF VICTORIES WERE ENTHUSIASTICALLY HAILED BY THE PRESS AND RADIO, AS WELL AS BY ALL THE PEOPLE IN HANOI. SOME OF THE POSTERS PICTURING DRV ECONOMIC ADVANCES WHICH WERE PUT UP FOR TET CELEBRATIONS WERE REPLACED BY PHOTOS SHOWING THE VICTORIES IN SOUTH VIETNAM. PEOPLE HAD TO WAIT PATIENTLY IN LONG LINES TO BUY NEWSPAPERS.

E. THE DAILY "NHAN DAN" PROCLAIMED THAT THE VICTORIES WERE THE RESULT OF "ATTACKS BEING CONDUCTED ON THE BASIS OF THE POLITICAL PROGRAM OF THE SVNLF", WHILE THE DAILY "QUAN DOI NHAN

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"DAN" PRAISED THE PROGRESS OF THE ARMED FORCES AND PEOPLE OF SOUTH VIETNAM WHO WERE ABLE TO STRIKE AT THE ENEMY "NOT ONLY IN THE MOUNTAIN AREAS BUT ALSO IN TOWNS WHERE THE ENEMY'S NERVE CENTERS ARE".

F. WHILE HAILING THE VICTORIES, THE DRV IS STILL CONCERNED ABOUT THE CONTINUING UNITED STATES AIR ATTACKS AGAINST HANOI. IN ORDER TO LESSEN THE NUMBER OF CASUALTIES, THE EVACUATION OF VACATIONING SCHOOL CHILDREN IS BEING ACCELERATED. SINCE 1 FEBRUARY THE CINEMAS IN THE CITY HAVE CLOSED DOWN SEVERAL NIGHTS.

G. FROM 1 TO 4 FEBRUARY 1968, HANOI HAS HAD ONLY THREE AIR RAID ALERTS.

2. [Redacted] COMMENT: THE PORTIONS ABOVE INSIDE QUOTATION MARKS WERE RENDERED IN ENGLISH QUOTED FROM THE SOURCES INDICATED.)

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3. [Redacted] DISSEM: STATE ONLY. EXCLUSIVE FOR CINCPAC AND POLAD. (ALSO SENT: SAIGON FOR AMBASSADOR AND GENERAL WESTMORELAND)

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