NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

March 20, 1972

INFORMATION

SECRET

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

MEMORANDUM FOR:

GENERAL HAIG

FROM:

RICHARD T. KENNEDY JOHN HOLDRIDGE AND

SUBEJCT:

Laos Sitrep as of 1800, 20 March

Laos Time

25X1

Friendly forces continue to hold seven of the nine helicopter landing zones on Skyline Ridge. The two in enemy hands (CA and CW) are in the center of the ridge. CC, which is just to the west of the road leading north to Sam Thong, was lost and recaptured twice on 19 March. Prisoner interrogation indicates the NVA has committed five regiments to the attack on Skyline with two, possibly three in reserve.

We have located about 700 irregulars from Sam Thong along the Nam Ngum river to the west. This leaves approximately 400 unaccounted for.

Task Force Alpha has moved about 7-9 kilometers south of Bouam Long against sporadic, light resistance.

Task Force Bravo, which landed a few kilometers north of Xieng Kouangville, has made good progress. One group has moved 12 kilometers northwest without resistance and is only about four kilometers from Route 7. The second group, also without resistance, has walked ten kilometers to the west and is north of Route 4 approximately 7 to 8 kilometers from the edge of the PDJ.

ARMY review completed.

SECRET