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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

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INFORMATION

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June 27, 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR:

MR. KISSINGER

FROM:

DIA, NSA reviews completed.

WILLIAM L. STEARMAN *WLS*

SUBJECT:

Communist Infiltration and Cease-fire Violations -- June 15-26

Attached at Tab A is the CIA/DIA weekly report (briefed in your evening report June 23) on Communist cease-fire violations from June 15-21 while at Tab B is the CIA's weekly report (dated June 26) on Communist logistical and manpower developments in Indochina. Both reports indicate that there has been little change in North Vietnamese infiltration activities since the Communique, although the level of combat has decreased. The North Vietnamese, for example, continue to infiltrate special purpose cadre into the South and combat replacements into southern Laos. Large amounts of war supplies are still illegally crossing the DMZ into northern MR-1 but the rainy season has forced a drastic reduction of infiltration via the Ho Chi Minh Trail. Hanoi is pushing forward its annexation of Quang Tri Province; we have received no indication that major NVA units are conducting any deployment out of Laos or South Vietnam back to the North.

Tab A states that the detection of 11 small special purpose groups raises to 51,000 the total figure for personnel infiltration since the January agreement. Also one new group of NVA combat personnel was detected heading for southern Laos. Cargo movements in the Lao panhandle have slowed to a funeral pace but have increased in the southern North Vietnam and northern South Vietnam. The Communists are continuing a major transportation offensive into northern MR 1; 6,500 vehicles reportedly transited two checkpoints in northeastern Quang Tri province in the period June 14-20. The North Vietnamese meanwhile continue to move civilians into northern MR 1 (at least 20,000 so far) and have further evidenced their outright annexation of Quang Tri by placing DRV areas immediately north of the DMZ under their Quang Tri provincial administration.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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Tab B states that NVA logistic and manpower activity remained at a low level throughout most of Indochina in the past week, but there were moderate increases in resupply traffic in areas not affected by the rainy season. Another combat infiltration group headed for southern Laos was detected departing North Vietnam on June 18 (this is the second artillery-associated replacement group for southern Laos we have detected since the Communiqué). Additionally, eight special purpose groups -- aggregating 175 persons -- were observed in the pipeline during the week. Meanwhile, the headquarters of two major NVA units (Binh Tram 42 and the 46th AAA regiment) have relocated from Laos and northeastern Cambodia, respectively, into South Vietnam, probably in support of the new supply corridor through western South Vietnam. In resupply activity, moderately heavy vehicle traffic continued in the North Vietnamese panhandle and a moderate upswing in logistics activity was reported in northern South Vietnam where a major transportation offensive continued. Reportedly 4,300 vehicles transited a DMZ-associated checkpoint in northeastern Quang Tri in the period June 14-20. Traffic in Laos remains at a snail's pace due to heavy rains.

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