

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE

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MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

SUBJECT: Extracts from Briefing of Dr. Kissinger
by Joint Staff

DATE: November 15, 1972

PARTICIPANTS: Colonel Carlson
Colonel West
Dr. Kissinger
Commander Howe

The following are Dr. Kissinger's comments during the JCS briefing on November 15, 1972:

Colonel Carlson: ARVN forces found 70 enemy bodies in a tunnel in MR-1.

Dr. Kissinger: What were they doing in a tunnel?

Colonel Carlson: The enemy probably dragged them in there. They had been there for a month.

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Colonel Carlson: The headquarters of the 325th Division has moved south to the northern part of MR-1 with the mission of defending the area just north of Quang Tri city.

Dr. Kissinger: They are not there to make an attack?

Colonel Carlson: No.

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Colonel Carlson:

Both the 7th and 9th NVA Divisions appear to be heading for their base areas.

Dr. Kissinger:

Where are they?

Colonel Carlson:

(Pointing to Map) One is in the Fish Hook area and one is due north of Saigon.

Dr. Kissinger:

Why not put B-52s in there?

Colonel Carlson:

One of those base areas has been targeted. I suspect there will be more sorties in there.

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Colonel Carlson:

There were nine B-52 sorties against the targeted 19 degrees 30 minutes north.

Dr. Kissinger:

What is it?

Colonel Carlson:

It is a transshipment point where three roads come to a junction.

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Colonel Carlson:

There are 325 attack sorties scheduled against North Vietnam tomorrow.

Dr. Kissinger:

Does that include armed reconnaissance?

Colonel Carlson:

Yes.

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