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~~TOP SECRET UMBRA~~

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EYES ONLY

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C 351353Z ZYH ZFF-1  
FM GEN WHEELER CJCS SAIGON  
TO DEP SEC DEF PACKARD PENTAGON  
ADM MOORER ACTING CJCS PENTAGON  
EEM

~~TOP SECRET UMBRA~~ MAC 2976 EYES ONLY  
DELIVER F ORIST ON RECEIPT. LITERALLY ADDRESSEES EYES ONLY.  
REFERENCE: JCS 22730 MAR 69

1. INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REQUESTED IS SET FORTH IN LATTER PARAGRAPHS THIS MESSAGE.
2. CONFERENCE WITH GEN ABRAMS, HIS AIR COMMANDER AND STAFF CONFIRMS THAT STRIKE CAN BE EXECUTED EARLY SUNDAY MORNING SAIGON TIME: FIRST TOT 0300 SUNDAY 9 MARCH, WHICH IS 1400 HOURS SATURDAY 8 MARCH WASHINGTON TIME.
3. IN ACCORDANCE WITH DISCUSSION HELD BY SECRETARY LAIRD AND MYSELF WITH HIGHEST AUTHORITY ON WEDNESDAY MORNING, WE ARE ISSUING THE NECESSARY ORDERS FOR THE JCS FROM HEADQUARTERS MACV TO IMPLEMENT THE STRIKE WITH TIMING AS ABOVE, STRIKE PLANS AS TRANSMITTED TO KISSINGER BY COL HAIG.
4. IF DECISION IS MADE IN WASHINGTON TO COUNTERMAND STRIKE, ORDER SHOULD BE ISSUED BY RED ROCKET (AS WAS DONE BEFORE) SIX REPEAT SIX HOURS PRIOR TO FIRST TOT (THAT IS BY 2100 HOURS SATURDAY 8 MARCH SAIGON TIME; 0800 SATURDAY WASHINGTON TIME.)
5. SECRETARY LAIRD HAS CONSULTED WITH AMBASSADOR BUNKER RELATIVE TO THIS OPERATION. AMBASSADOR BUNKER CONCURS THAT THIS IS A WORTH WHILE AND DESIRABLE EFFORT ON OUR PART.
6. LATEST LOCATION ON TERMINALS SERVING COSVN ARE AS FOLLOWS: 4 MARCH AN ARDF FIX (1200 METERS) AT XT 539926; 5 MARCH AN WREF CUT (43 DEGREES) AT XT 335949. THE 4 MAR FIX IS SUSPECT.
7. THE DEFINITION OF GEOGRAPHIC LIMITS OF COSVN IS AREA BOUNDED BY LINES DRAWN BETWEEN FOLLOWING UTM COORDINATES: XT 419 915, XT 431947, XT 454 948, XT 453917. COMINT DATA IS AS OF 5 MAR 69. RELIABILITY OF OVERALL INTELLIGENCE OF LOCATION IS GOOD. SOG INSERTIONS ON 2-3 MARCH IN AREA AND A LOW-LEVEL PW CAPTURED NEAR AREA ON 2 MARCH TEND TO CONFIRM LOCATION OF COSVN AS BRIEFED IN WASHINGTON.
8. ALL INTELLIGENCE INDICATES THAT AREA DEFINED IN PARA 7 ABOVE CONTAINS ONLY COSVN HEADQUARTERS AND ASSOCIATES INSTALLATIONS AS BRIEFED BY MACV TEAM IN LATE FEBRUARY. NO CIVILIANS ARE BELIEVED TO BE IN THE AREA.

SSS NOTE: DELIVER IMMEDIATELY  
360

OSD, NSA and  
JCS reviews  
completed

NNMM