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Sunday, January 23, 1966

7:00 AM

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

South Vietnam

The stand-down of offensive military operations by Vietnamese and Free World forces in observance of TET came to an end at 5:00 A.M. EST this morning. The cease fire period announced by the Viet Cong is scheduled to continue until noon EST today.

There were 88 cease fire violations by the Viet Cong reported up to the time the holiday period ended. Fifty-six of these were against U.S. forces, 23 against the South Vietnamese and 9 against the Koreans. Total casualties were: 6 US, 4 South Vietnamese and 7 Koreans killed; 17 US, 23 South Vietnamese and 26 Koreans wounded, and 8 Koreans missing. Fifty-nine Viet Cong were killed and two captured.

As offensive ground and air operations are resumed, U.S. forces are participating in four operations of battalion-size or larger. The mission of the largest of these (Operation VAN BUREN), with five U.S., two Korean and two South Vietnamese battalions, is to secure the rice harvest in the valley southwest of Tuy Hoa, approximately 40 miles south of Qui Nhon.

Two other operations, BUCKSKIN and SHORT FUSE, are search and destroy operations 25 and 40 miles north of Saigon respectively. Operation KAMEHAHA is providing road security in Pleiku Province.

At 11:05 A.M. EST today, 15 B-52's will attack a target area 40 miles east-southeast of Saigon reported to contain 3 Viet Cong base camps, a Viet Cong battalion and a regimental command headquarters. An hour and twenty minutes later, 12 more B-52's will attack another Viet Cong troop concentration 45 miles north-northwest of Saigon.

Yesterday, 233 U.S. aircraft attacked military targets in Laos.

SPAIN

The search for the missing weapon from the B-52/KC-135 mid-air collision continues.

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E.O. 12356, Sec. 3.4
NLJ 88-141
By ing NARA, Date 4-12-89

White House Situation Room

J. Murray

Briefing Officer

David Usher 7:10 AM