

2020 sag

yy ljp

pacify 2 (normass/deepe)

To match the buildup of Communist forces ~~along~~ in the I Corps area, the American command has been and is continuing to funnel in massive ~~doe doses~~ ^{droplets} of ~~ground~~ U. S. ground troops and increased firepower. The five provinces ~~now in~~ contain nearly three American Marine Divisions, three U. S. Army divisions and two Vietnamese divisions, the American command has ^{officially} announced.

"The war here is now almost entirely relegated to the profession of arms," one American ^{closely} ~~involved in the~~ ^{here} involved in the pacification program explained. "It's difficult to make the American officials in Saigon understand this. They are ^{that} still pushing us to go back into the countryside--without understanding ~~the~~ Communist regiments are ~~any~~ hugging even the ~~principal~~ principal cities."

--more reuter

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pacify 3 (normass/deepe)

^{REVEALED} As of March 1 preliminary assessment, in the five provinces, 114 of the 133 pacification or revolutionary development teams has been accounted for. The Of the 114 accounted for, only 48 per cent were working in the villages assigned to them for 1968. Roughly 23 per cent were temporarily assigned to other duties, such as distributing relief supplies and assisting city refugees, and the remaining 27 per cent were working in villages still working in villages assigned them in the 1967 pacification plan.

The cadre-teams in the and program in Thua Thien province, which suffered from three-weeks of all-out fighting in its chief city of Hue, seem to be worst affected as of the March 1 assessment; only 15 per cent of the cadre, averaging 40 men per team, were accounted for at the time.

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pacify 4 (normass/deepe)

"But

"If you take the pacification program only on its measurable manifestations—number of ~~the~~ teams attacked, number of villages destroyed—it is not really a complete picture," the source explained.

"I would say on these two, our teams came out better than we expected. The damage ~~to~~ is going to be a big problem—the ~~g's~~ physical damage in cities, ~~not~~ provincial capitals and villages—but it is not excessive, except for Hue. The ~~real~~ problem is going to be in the villages because the intensity of the war has been alot more disruptive."

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~~pacification~~ 5
pacify 4 (normass/deepe)

"We have suffered a disastrous defeat, or whatever you want to call it," one reliable source reported. "I look at pacification as much more ~~x~~ intangible than the number of teams-- and the number of canals, schools and dispensaries they have constructed. The buildings are part and parcel of pacification--but the real point of ~~pacification~~ the program is what the villagers ~~x~~ feel, or their attitude ~~towards~~ towards their own government. That's what we're really ~~talking about~~ when talking about when we discuss pacification. And this is what our military strategy has failed to give us.

"There is no change in ~~our~~ ^{SUR} strategy--but there may be an intensification on the military side," he continued. "To pacify, the military ~~a~~ machine must give the people security--to live daily ~~without~~ without having to feel the wave of battle over and around them. This is where we've had a tremendous shellacking.

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pacify (normass/deepe)

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"The military strategy is still to ~~and~~ defeat the enemy and keep them away from the South Vietnamese population," the anti-Communist source explained. "Even along the demilitarized zone, this is still the aim of the American and Vietnamese military leaders--to keep the North Vietnamese Army from invading the South. ~~will~~

"Still, there's a vacuum that initially can be filled by propaganda and psychological warfare--and then has to be ~~build~~ built up by military and civilian efforts. I wouldn't say the Tet offensive ~~has~~ struck an irrevocable blow to pacification--but we might as well face the fact ~~that~~ that, not purely militarily, but in the over-all sense, this is where ~~we took it~~ the Allies took it on the ~~side~~ chin. REVEALED HQ by the Communists/incredible ~~coordination~~ coordination to attack as they did."

--more reuter

ECZC sag

JY ljp

pacify ~~7~~ (normass/deepe)

The ~~knowledgeable~~ knowledgeable source said ~~the~~ that the Allied military effort during the initial phases ~~of~~ of the offensive had fallen back to protecting the cities, which was a detriment to the defensive of the villages.

Whether the Allied forces, despite an increase in numbers in I Corps, have the ~~strength~~ ^{OUTRAGE} ^{ENDLENDERSHIP} strength to regain the strategic offensive from the Communists, and to re-assert some degree of security in the villages outside the major cities in the area, ~~is~~ is expected to be ~~one of the decisive~~ ^a pivotal developments ~~questions~~ paralleling ~~the~~ the predicted ~~bloody~~ bloodier battles ^{meant} surfacing on the purely military side of the Vietnam ledger.

(Hank: I think this is one of the ~~most honest assessments~~ ^{MADE} assessments ^{by} by the one of the most honest, informed sources in the area.

Sorriest I unable to file earlier. The Khe Sanh airstrip was closed for two days and I unable to get out until Saturday.

Khe ~~Sanh~~ Sanh is at this time closed to women correspondents because another woman wounded there and lieutenant she talking with was gravely hurt. Hence, in the event something big does happen there—which I doubt—I hope John Hughes can plan to come in. I'll ~~write~~ ^{submit} long memo on this and other developments in several days.

Tomorrow I'll start filing a Khe Sanh series, probably five or six articles, or 1000 to 1500 words each. This cover ~~color~~ ^{Background} defenses, strategy ^{and} significance. I think for impact ~~one~~ ^{one} must ~~write~~ write the whole Khe Sanh piece as an ~~integrated~~ ^{integrated} package, since so much has been written about ~~it in~~ ^{it in} separate facets. If you want, however, you can run the pieces separately and scissor up the series.

I'm fine and collected only ~~skinned~~ ^{skinned} elbow swandiving into a trench during ~~artillery~~ artillery barrage. Will appreciate any guidance of what you ~~want~~ think ~~won~~ need to cover after Khe Sanh series; otherwise I'll plan to stay in Saigon for awhile, I'm also airmailing three or four

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