

URGENT

t/c

~~PROSS~~

~~REINDECKE TRIBUNE NEWYORK~~

01234 proscen? proscenfeld one secure one bien hoc ~~frühzeitig~~
american officers here today were openly critical inadeq inadequate defence
measures for this jetlent jetlength runway airbase following
twentyminute quote infernal unquoteve vietcong mortar shelling but also were
disturbed by seeming impossibi impossibilityve preventing totally
preventing future attacks stoppara merodeepe

note ajoutes:

note rayes:

beverly deepe carte no. 44

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press

tribune newyork

01234 prorosensfeld secure two ^{un states} ~~the~~ army officer advising base security
 complained that the one battalionve vietnamese troops responsible for
 securing airbase perm perimeter was twentypercent understrength seico
 semicolon that and that he had recommended ~~max~~ mortars for counterfiring be
~~phased comm the base~~ added to base security measures but these never received
 stoppara

AISO an air american airforce officer ~~jet bbb57 to jet fighter~~
 bomber pilot said jet bbb555777 ^{Pushed by REVTment} jet fighter bombers were parked too
 close together on runway etwere not rpt not sandbagged for individual
^{LINE NORMAL} security stoppara moredeepe

mots ajoutes: 9

mots rayes: 15



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02002

02020 prorosensfeld secure seven quote we needed countermortar fire
omaunquote he said ~~the suspension of the mortar fire would be a major contribution to the situation~~
stopquote but even then we could shot only in the general direction
but not not accurately stop and even if had a divisionve troops in
those hills dash even aye divisionve american marines undash still
could not not guarantee twould stop mortar attacks stop aye static
position is always vulnerable to mortars ettheres so much territory
out there twould take an army to cover it all stopunquote

he said the perimeter around the airbase was ten miles
ettha t etthat patrolling for aye two mile radius beyond that would
be necessary to prevent protect against future attacks by mortars which have
aye range of two miles stoppara

mots ajoutes:

mots rayes:

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tribune newyork

02003 prrosenfeld secure three ~~unidentified~~ american officers did not
 notrpn notrptnot criticize their vietnamese counterparts etnoted that
 two vietnamese were killed ~~six~~ ^{multa in a double} etfive wounded in ~~acti-atted~~
 blazing shelling stoppara

an official for unistates airf
 reliable sources in saigon said that ~~eye~~ report made eye

^{stated} year ago said that all major airbase installations in vietnam were

vulnerable to viet cong mortaring but according source quote nothing was

ever done about it stopunquote ~~moredeepe~~
 BASES FOR AMERICAN HELICOPTERS AND AIRPLANE UNITS STOPPARA

reliable observers long considered vietcong were capable

overrunning provincial capitals and major installations but would do

so infrequently only when i political and psychological impact was


needed in their campaign to effect an american withdrawal comma to

turn vietnam neutralist first neutralist s and eventually communist stoppara

moredeepe

mots ajoutews: / 7

mots rayes: / /


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02001 prorosensfeld secure three ^{four} ltgen william coo weste
 westmoreland comma commander amerigian mili unistates military
 assistance command ~~da~~ sh dash vietnam ci ~~comma~~ said however that
 quote alotve energy had gone into securing the airbase but obviously
 these measures were notrptnot fully successful stopunquote para

he said he wa s notrptnot quote notrptnot critical unquote
 of vietnamese security efforts and quote was proud unquoteve american
 servicemans performance during attack stop airbase had been on special
 alert becauseve vietnamese national day celebrations which viet cong
 quote celebrate unq unquote with ~~was a very dramatic and~~ spectacular
 displays terrorism or attacks stoppara

westmoreland said the airbase was covered protected by arceve
 vietnamese government artillery fire which he described as being more

he said governments artillery counterfired at vietcong ten minute
 effective than mortars stop when asked whether one battalion troops
 enough for security airbase perimeter, he replied one patrol was in
 area near vietcong mortar squads ~~and had~~ and had
 fired sixty millimeter ~~more~~ mortars at them ~~stop~~ moredecepe

at 10:10
 attack
 began
 stop

mots ajoutes: 6 mots rayes: 11

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02003 prorosensfeld secure ^{AVE} four he also said one ^{V.I. THAM 50} marine battalion et
 and one vietnamese airborne battalion were in bien hoa dash only eighteen
 miles northeastve saigon undash in reserve but when asked why it took
 seven hours for the two battalions to counterattack he replied quote it
 was aye question of communications and locationve minefields minefields
 stopunquote

he also said that after ^{ARRIVAL} ~~arrival jet airc~~ american jet bombers
 august fifth he had assigned ^{two} an american captain ~~at lieutenant~~ to assist
 advising base security stoppara

when questioned about ~~quo~~ counterfiring devices unquote
 which calibrate positionve attacking mortars ~~omma comma westmoreland~~
 effectivenessve
 said the quote radartype devices if pretty good if fire is sustained
~~so can get this data stopunquote~~ ~~no/did/ but are still being tested stop~~
^{however} ~~there are not~~ ^{such} ~~notrnot~~ such ~~devid~~ devices known to ~~exist~~ have been supplied to
 vietnam ~~sto~~ moredeepe

mots ajoutes: 8

mots rayes: 14

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02020 prorsenfeld secure six eightone millimeter mortars dash
perhaps usmade undash used by victcong have eye rangeve two miles stop
~~submarine~~ northve airbase ~~whaxx~~ from where they attacked
is heavily wooded hills quote which we own sometimes etthey own sometimes
stop tis nomans land ~~skaxx~~ omanquote according ~~xxx~~ officer stoppara

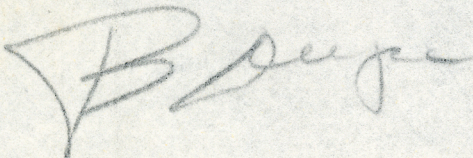
quote only thing that can stop eye mortar attack is more men
or countermortar attack omanquote american officer advising on base
security said quote eteven then theres notrptnot total defense against it stop
its' eye lethal lethal etaccurate weapon if used by experts dash etvietcong
are experts stopunquote

he said perimeter outside airbase secured by one battalionve
regional forces dash provion provincial ~~q~~ troops paid ~~etr~~ ettrained less
than regular army dash eteven that ^{BATTALION} ~~battalion~~ understrength by twenty
per cent moredeepe

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mots ajoutes: 0

mots rayes; 8



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02030 proesenfeld secure eight while american advisors didnt criticize
their vietnamese counterparts there appeared to be an exceptionally
complex chainve responsibility for securityve base stop the ba tt
~~battalion was responsible for onbase security dash assisted by american~~
the airfrc vietnamese
airforce was responsible for onbase security dash assisted by american
army advisor stop this onbase security consisted of vietnamese airforce
enlisted men plus american enlisted men around american aircraft according
general westmoreland stop however outside the base etaround its perimeter
security delegated to the regional force battalion responsible to the
chief of province dash both civilian etmilitary ~~skiffs~~ ^{heads} the fortyfive
subdivisions $\frac{1}{2}$ of vietnam stoppara

the one airborne battalion living onbase as reserve but
tis unknown who gave them final authority to move into counterattack semicolon
the one marine battalion was ~~commanded~~ temporarily attached to
third corps command comma which had moved to bien hoa in recent weeks
while oneve its divisions had moved elsewhere stop final VIETNAMESE
however both airborne and marine brigades operated directly under joint
~~high command~~
chieve staff in saigon stop ~~in addition to change of third corps headquarters~~
in addition to change of third corps headquarters third corps also given
new assigned new commander after september thirteen coup and fifteen
fifth division commanders change several months earlier enditdeepe
mots ajoutes: 12 mots rayes: 9
beverly deepe carte no. 44