

SA 99 B-380

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

3 MAY 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Vietnam Post Cease-fire Report, 1600 EDT, 3 May 1973

Cease-fire Violations. Fourteen major and 105 minor violations were reported during the period since the last report. The distribution of major violations by Military Region was: MR 1 - 7; MR 2 - 0; MR 3 - 1; and MR 4 - 6. Preliminary reports indicate that a total of 30 enemy and 29 friendly personnel were killed during the period. A description of major cease-fire violations and charts depicting trends in major and minor violations and casualties are attached.

Four Party Joint Military Team (FPJMT). During the FPJMT meeting on 3 May, the Chiefs of the Delegations formally signed the agreements concerning designation, organization of headquarters and privileges and immunities of the FPJMT. Other significant business included a request by the DRV regarding the US concept for the visit to grave sites of persons that died in captivity (DIC) in NVN. In response the US delegate emphasized that the primary task of the US element would be to discuss and make arrangements with DRV authorities for the subsequent repatriation of remains. The US element would consist of both US representatives from the FPJMT and specialists from the Joint Casualty Resolution Center (JCRC) in Thailand, totaling approximately 13 US personnel. The DRV delegation indicated that they would study the US concept and proposed composition of the visiting element and would be prepared to discuss these arrangements at the next FPJMT meeting. (In a private meeting with the US, the Deputy Chief of the DRV delegation stated that the DRV would propose 11 May 1973 as the date for a FPJMT visit to graves of DIC personnel and that the DRV is willing to provide 'mutual assistance' in obtaining information about MIAs in Laos.)

The US delegation also presented to the other delegations, copies of a letter informing them of US intent in the near future to investigate several US aircraft crash sites with the concurrence of GVN officials. The letter further stated that the investigations will be pursued by US teams composed of mortuary and ordnance disposal personnel who will attempt to locate remains at crash sites and repatriate remains which are found. All delegations were invited to accompany the US investigators and observe their examination of the sites.

Sec Def Cont Nr. X-2035

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

NSC F9301187 10/4/93; DOD I-93/54551 10/28/93

By WAC NARA, Date 1/26/94

SA 99

The US delegation notified other members that the US-Saigon-Hanoi liaison flights would continue on a temporary basis.

The next FPJMT meeting is scheduled for 8 May 1973.

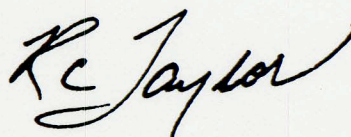
Two Party Joint Military Commission (TPJMC). The GVN civilian detainee release scheduled for 2 May 1973 was cancelled due to unspecified problems relating to the ICCS.

International Commission of Control and Supervision (ICCS). The Canadian delegation in Region VII has moved forcefully to defuse the potentially serious issue regarding an ICCS marked VNAF helicopter reportedly being employed on a combat mission on 1 May 1973. The Canadians have negotiated a letter of protest to ICCS headquarters charging the GVN with negligence and not with a cease-fire violation. The Hungarians and Indonesians have agreed to sign this letter and the Poles are soon expected to follow suit.

The evacuation of the dismantled portions of the ICCS helicopter in Quang Tri remains incomplete. Additional details on the ICCS helicopter incident reported yesterday indicate that at 020245Z May 1973, two properly marked ICCS helicopters en route to Gio Linh to retrieve the dismantled portions of the helicopter received small-arms fire while flying over a PRG controlled area one kilometer north of the Thach Han River. Both aircraft returned to RVN controlled territory, even though this flight had been previously cleared by the PRG at Gio Linh. Each aircraft had two ICCS representatives on board but no PRG personnel. The PRG has now declined to agree to an ICCS request to evacuate by road, insisting instead that movement must be by helicopter.

Mine Countermeasures. No significant reports have been received.

Intelligence. A DIA summary regarding the Indochina situation is appended.



Robert C. Taylor
Colonel, USAF
Assistant

RVN Major Cease-fire Violations

During the period 012001-022000 EDT May, 14 major cease-fire violations were reported.

Military Region 1

Seven major cease-fire violations were reported. West and northwest of Hue, ARVN infantry elements received five enemy attacks by fire (ABFs) which killed one ARVN soldier and wounded three. Two ABFs in the vicinity of Da Nang resulted in one ARVN soldier killed and nine wounded.

Military Region 2

No major violations were reported.

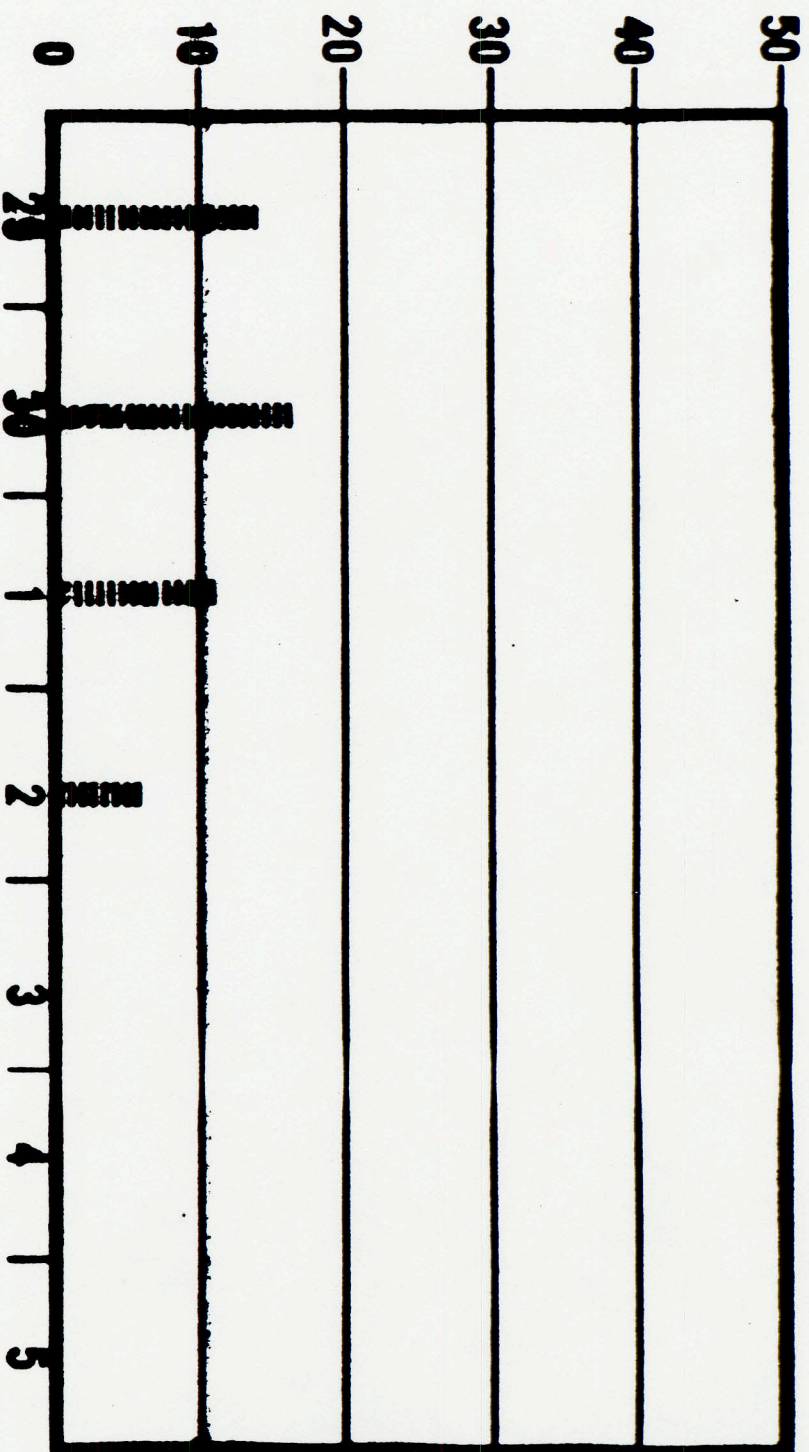
Military Region 3

The one violation reported was a 122-round mortar attack on Tonle Cham Base Camp southwest of An Loc. One ARVN soldier was wounded.

Military Region 4

Six violations were reported. East of Vi Thanh, in Chuong Thien Province, an enemy ground attack resulted in two friendly soldiers killed, one wounded, and 16 missing. Five civilians were also killed while enemy casualties were not reported. Three attacks by fire east and south of Vi Thanh wounded two friendly soldiers and three civilians. Two other enemy mortar attacks in scattered locations wounded a total of six PF soldiers.

MAJOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS DAILY TOTAL



APRIL/MAY

ZULU DAY 2001-2000 EDT

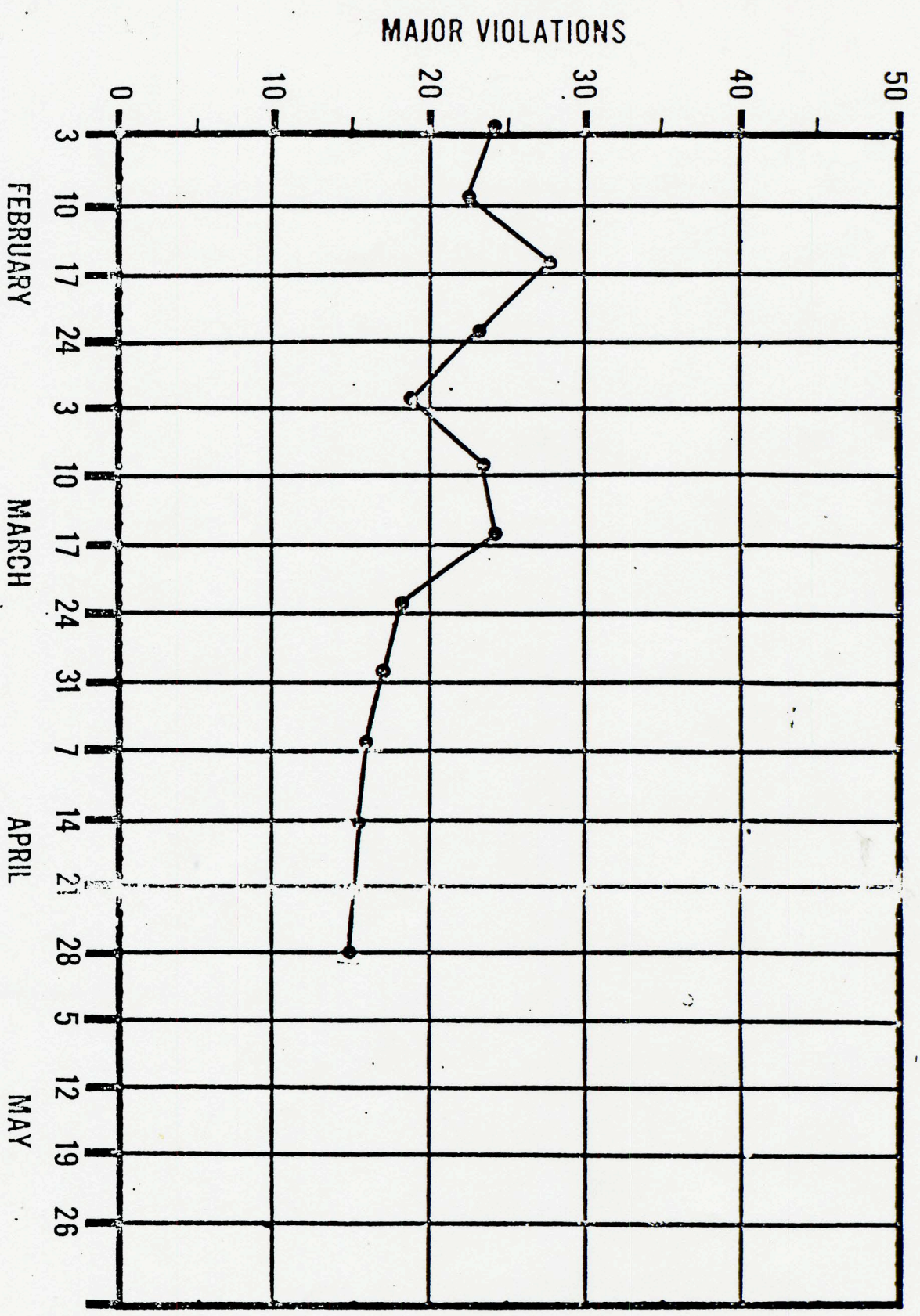
SOURCE: OTHS - 4

ATTACKS BY FIVE 5

OTHER 3

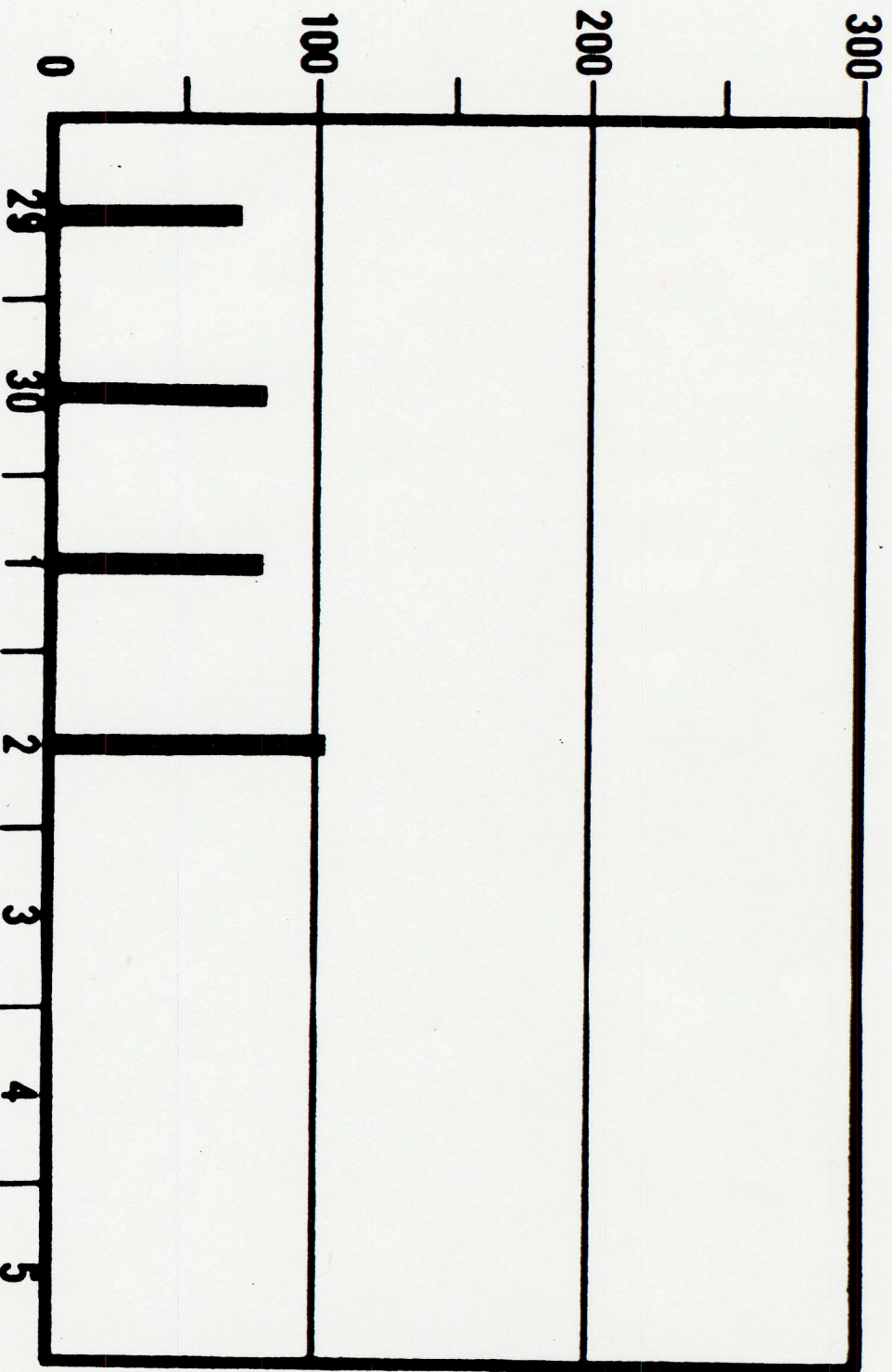
RVN MAJOR CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS

WEEKLY AVERAGE TREND



SOURCE OPRP 4

MINOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS DAILY TOTAL

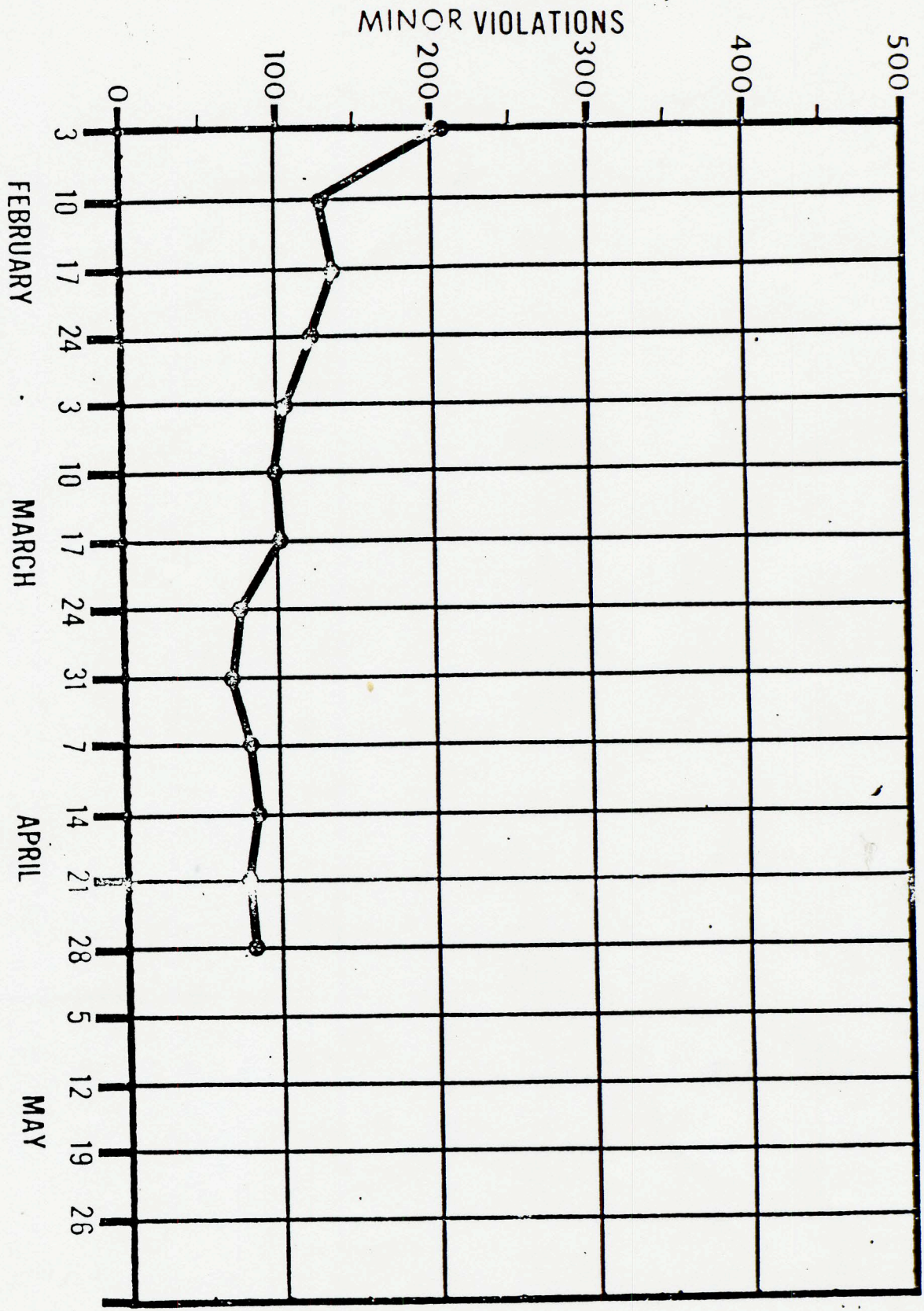


APRIL/MAY

ZULU DAY 2001-2000 EDT

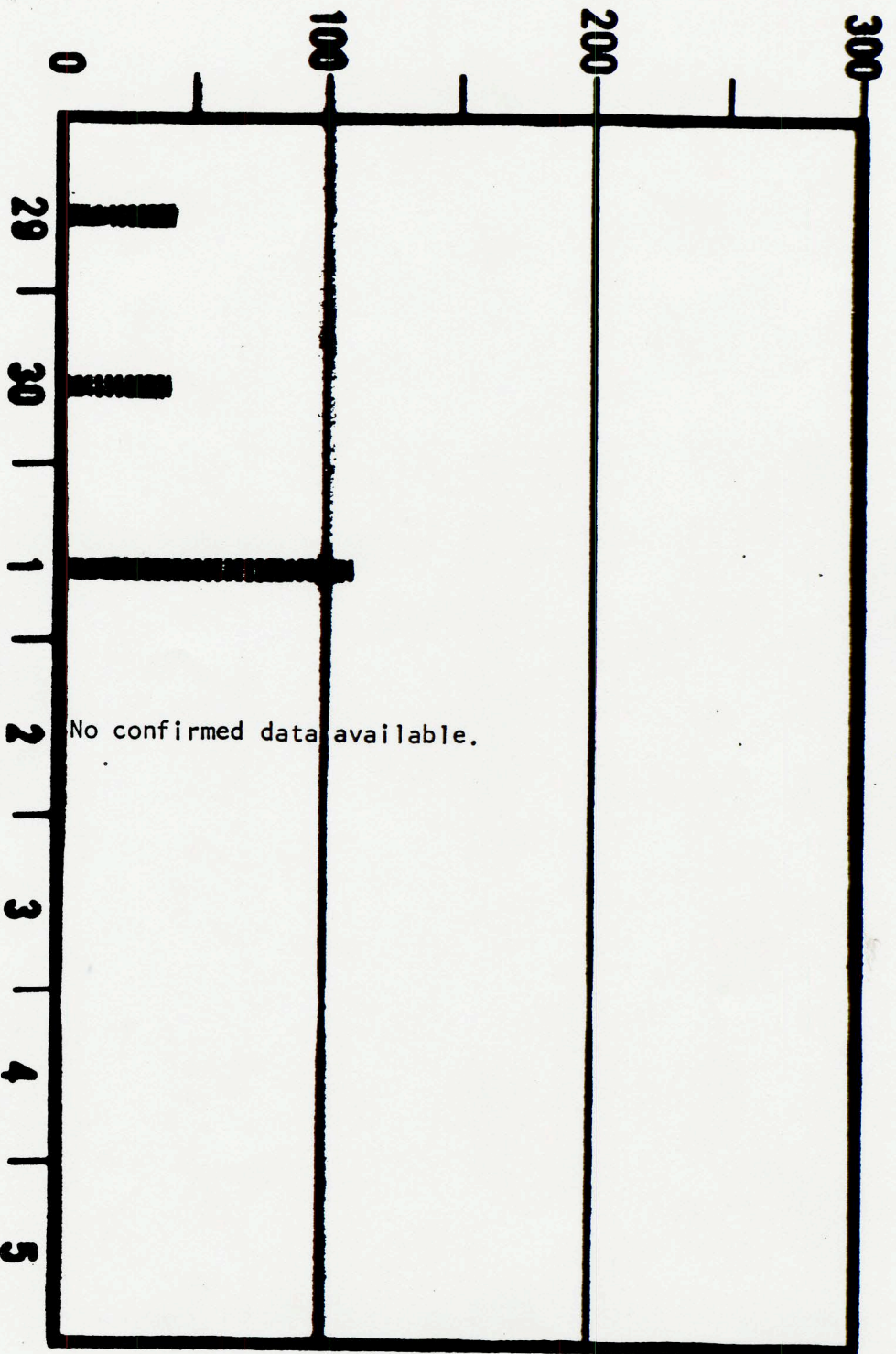
SOURCE: OPREP - 4

RVN MINOR CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS WEEKLY AVERAGE TREND



SOURCE OPRP 4

POST CEASE-FIRE CASUALTIES (KIA) VC/NVA - RVN DAILY TOTAL



SOURCE: OPREP - 4

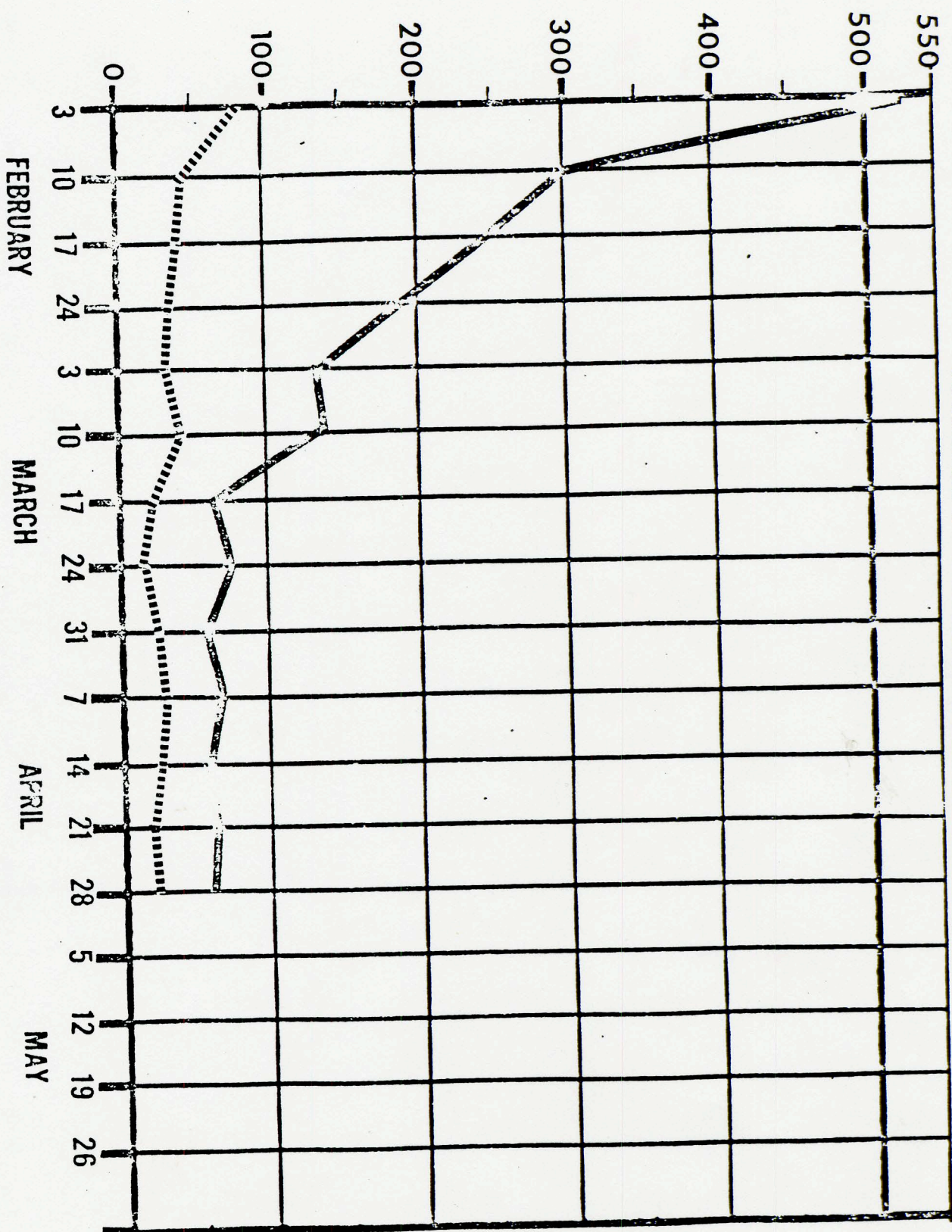
(1001-1000 EDT)

APRIL/MAY

VC/NVA

RVN

WEEKLY AVERAGE TREND



SOURCE OPREP 4

VC/NVA —

RVN

INDOCHINA SITUATION

3 May 1973

ENEMY FORCES

There have been no major enemy unit deployments detected in Indochina since the last report.

SOUTH VIETNAM

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

MILITARY REGION	TOTAL SINCE CEASE-FIRE LEVEL OF ACTION			LAST 24 HOURS* LEVEL OF ACTION		
	SER	MAJ	MIN	SER	MAJ (**)	MIN
MR 1	0	851	2,843	0	7 (3)	13
MR 2	0	201	1,387	0	0 (0)	14
MR 3	0	307	1,918	0	1 (0)	14
MR 4	0	472	4,301	0	6 (4)	64
TOTALS	0	1,831	10,449	0	14 (7)	105

*Included in totals.

**Number of major violations which occurred prior to the last 24 hours.

A total of 14 major violations were reported, one less than yesterday's total. Minor violations totaled 105, compared to 78 during the previous 24 hours. Activity consisted of scattered attacks-by-fire throughout the country.

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

In Military Region 4, there are indications the VC intend to field legal cadre -- communists who possess government documents and otherwise appear to be loyal citizens -- as candidates in upcoming elections for local village councils. If elected, they would be in a position to disrupt administration at the grass-roots level. So far, however, the VC have had little success in using their cadre for political purposes. One report from Quang Nam Province says that 40 percent of the legal cadre there have been exposed since the cease-fire and that the remainder have been forced into hiding.

LAOS

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

Minor clashes continued southeast of Thakhek.

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

In Laos, military activity remains insignificant while negotiations continue; a breakthrough does not appear imminent. The senior Pathet Lao negotiator, Phoumi Vongvichit, returned to Vientiane last week after a 60-day absence. This was considered an encouraging signal that serious negotiations might resume; the US Embassy in Vientiane, however, reports no further progress has been made. The Pathet Lao remain adamant on certain issues. The principal obstacle hampering military negotiations is the Pathet Lao demand for formally defined geographic zones of control which the Lao-tian Government fears would perpetuate the division of the country. The major political stumbling block is the Pathet Lao insistence on creating the office of Vice Prime Minister, to be held by Prince Souphanouvong. The 21 February Cease-fire Agreement does not provide for such a position and the Lao Government considers this demand unacceptable.

Although progress in the negotiations is expected to be slow, Phoumi's return to Vientiane suggests Hanoi and the Pathet Lao desire to keep high-level negotiating channels open.

Vientiane's senior negotiator, Pheng Phongsovan, currently the RLG' Minister of Interior, interprets the Lao communist posture as one of "marking time" until there is further movement toward a resolution of the Cambodian and Vietnam questions.

CAMBODIA

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

The Khmer insurgents now occupy nine miles of the east bank of the Mekong River northwest of Banam following the loss of two government battalions in the area yesterday. Of the approximately 600 men in the battalions, 20 were reported killed and the remainder -- including 100 wounded -- were captured. This loss represents a serious setback for government forces in the area because one understrength brigade at Banam is scheduled to return to the capital for rest and refitting. The enemy now holds from nine to 12 miles along each bank of the river northwest of Neak Luong.

South of Neak Luong, insurgent forces have surrounded a government battalion and are harassing two other battalions attempting to relieve the isolated garrison.

The next Mekong River convoy -- originally scheduled to move to Phnom Penh today -- is now scheduled to sail for the capital from Tan Chau, South Vietnam, on 6 May. This convoy currently is being loaded at Vung Tau on the coast and is tentatively listed as comprising seven POL and three cargo ships plus three tugs with barges (two with rice and one with ammunition). The upsurge in enemy activity along the lower Mekong River corridor during the last two days probably represents preparations to attack river convoys.

South of the capital, enemy activity against Takeo City itself continues at a low level; however, the insurgents have stalled a government counterattack just southeast of the city. Government troops were attempting to exploit US tactical air strikes outside the city in their efforts to enlarge the defensive perimeter. Friendly losses during the action were at least six killed and 21 wounded, while enemy casualties were reported as approximately 70 killed and 130 wounded.

Two government convoys transited Route 4 yesterday without incident. One of the convoys with some 250 empty trucks arrived at Kompong Som from Phnom Penh, while the other convoy of approximately 300 trucks delivered cargo -- type as yet unreported -- to the capital from Kompong Som.

SA 99 B-377

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Memo For

5/9/3
Jim Sowercraft

Any chance we
could back this
thing off to once
a week or every-
other day? It
doesn't add much
except the charts.

R. Taylor

Robert C. Taylor
Staff Sergeant
Military Assistant

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

NSC F9301187 10/4/93; DOD I-93/54551 10/28/93

By WKO NARA, Date 1/26/94

SA 99

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

9 MAY 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Vietnam Post Cease-fire Report, 1600 EDT, 9 May 1973

Cease-fire Violations. Ten major and 69 minor violations were reported during the period since the last report. The distribution of major violations by Military Region was: MR 1 - 2; MR 2 - 1; MR 3 - 5; and MR 4 - 2. Preliminary reports indicate that a total of 21 enemy and 27 friendly personnel were killed during the period. Of the major violations reported the more significant included two separate cases of rail interdiction, one near Bien Hoa and one near Tuy Hoa. Charts depicting trends in major and minor violations and casualties are attached.

Two Party Joint Military Commission (TPJMC). The TPJMC met on 8 May 1973, in a generally unproductive session. Both sides reiterated previous positions on contacts between unit commanders, POWs, and civilian detainees.

The GVN has sent a letter to the ICCS containing a proposed schedule for ICCS participation in civilian detainee releases scheduled for this week-end in PRG-controlled areas. According to a GVN source, the GVN will not participate in releases in PRG areas without ICCS participation. With the ICCS observing, the GVN released 197 civilian detainees on 8 May 1973, at the Thach Han River site in Quang Tri; three personnel refused repatriation.

Four Party Joint Military Team (FPJMT). At the 8 May 1973 session, the DRV Delegation formally announced that the visit of the FPJMT element to graves of US prisoners who died in captivity in NVN will take place on 11 May 1973. The visit to NVN will last 5 hours, and each FPJMT Delegation except the US will be restricted to five delegates. The US Delegation will send eight delegates, including three JCRC members.

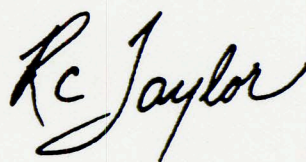
The helicopter crash site investigation in Long An Province was completed on 8 May 1973. Although some personal possessions were found, no remains were located. On 8 May 1973, the US Delegation forwarded a list of 1,444 US and third country MIAs to the PRG and DRV Delegations, and requested information on current status.

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Sec Def Cont Nr. X-2132

International Commission of Control and Supervision (ICCS). The trend of Polish and Hungarian nonconcurrence with reports of ICCS investigations continued during the 7 May 1973 plenary session. They refuted Canadian and Indonesian findings and denied evidence which pointed to PRG violations. In one case the Hungarians went so far as to accuse the ARVN of attacking their own positions. Unanimity was only achieved in a report which failed to determine if a violation had occurred.

The Poles and Hungarians at Tri Ton conducted an independent investigation, without inviting Canadian and Indonesian participation, and forwarded a report charging the ARVN with a cease-fire violation. The Canadians and Indonesians are disturbed by this tactic, and are now preparing a strong rebuttal.

Intelligence. A DIA summary of the Indochina situation is appended.



Attachments

Robert C. Taylor
Colonel, USAF
Military Assistant

SA 99 15-375

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

11 MAY 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Vietnam Post Cease-fire Report, 1600 EDT, 11 May 1973

Cease-fire Violations. Eleven major and 63 minor violations were reported during the period since the last report. The distribution of major violations by Military Region was: MR 1 - 2; MR 2 - 3; MR 3 - 2; and MR 4 - 4. Preliminary reports indicate that a total of 32 enemy and 19 friendly personnel were killed during the period.

Two Party Joint Military Commission (TPJMC). No significant activity was reported.

Four Party Joint Military Team (FPJMT). Representatives of the Four Delegations to the FPJMT accompanied by US specialist personnel from the JCRC, traveled to Hanoi on US C-130 aircraft today to visit graves of US Military Persons who died in Captivity (DIC). The visit was made in accordance with procedures agreed upon at the 8 May FPJMT meeting. The representatives visited the Van Dien Cemetery where, according to the DRV, all US DIC except one are buried. After visiting the Cemetery, the FPJMT representatives met with DRV officials at Gia Lam. The US Delegate posed a series of questions regarding arrangements for repatriation of remains. The DRV officials took note of the questions but would not respond, stating that formal procedures for repatriation had not yet been agreed upon by the FPJMT. On the return flight to Saigon, the Deputy Chief of the DRV delegation stated to the US delegate that the DRV is prepared to work out details for repatriation of DICs very quickly with the US. He also stated that the US would be invited to send JMT Representatives and specialists to Hanoi to work with "local authorities" on details of repatriation.

The FPJMT is scheduled to reconvene on 15 May with the DRV as host.

International Commission of Control and Supervision (ICCS). Agreement was reached in the 9 May ICCS Plenary session, to dispatch a letter to the PRG and GVN suggesting the deployment of the TPJMC, and specifically the PRG, to all TPJMC sites.

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

NSC F9301187 10/4/93; DOD I-93/54551 10/28/93

By MS NARA, Date 1/26/94

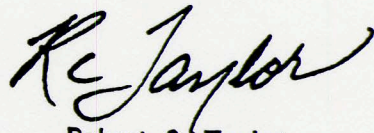
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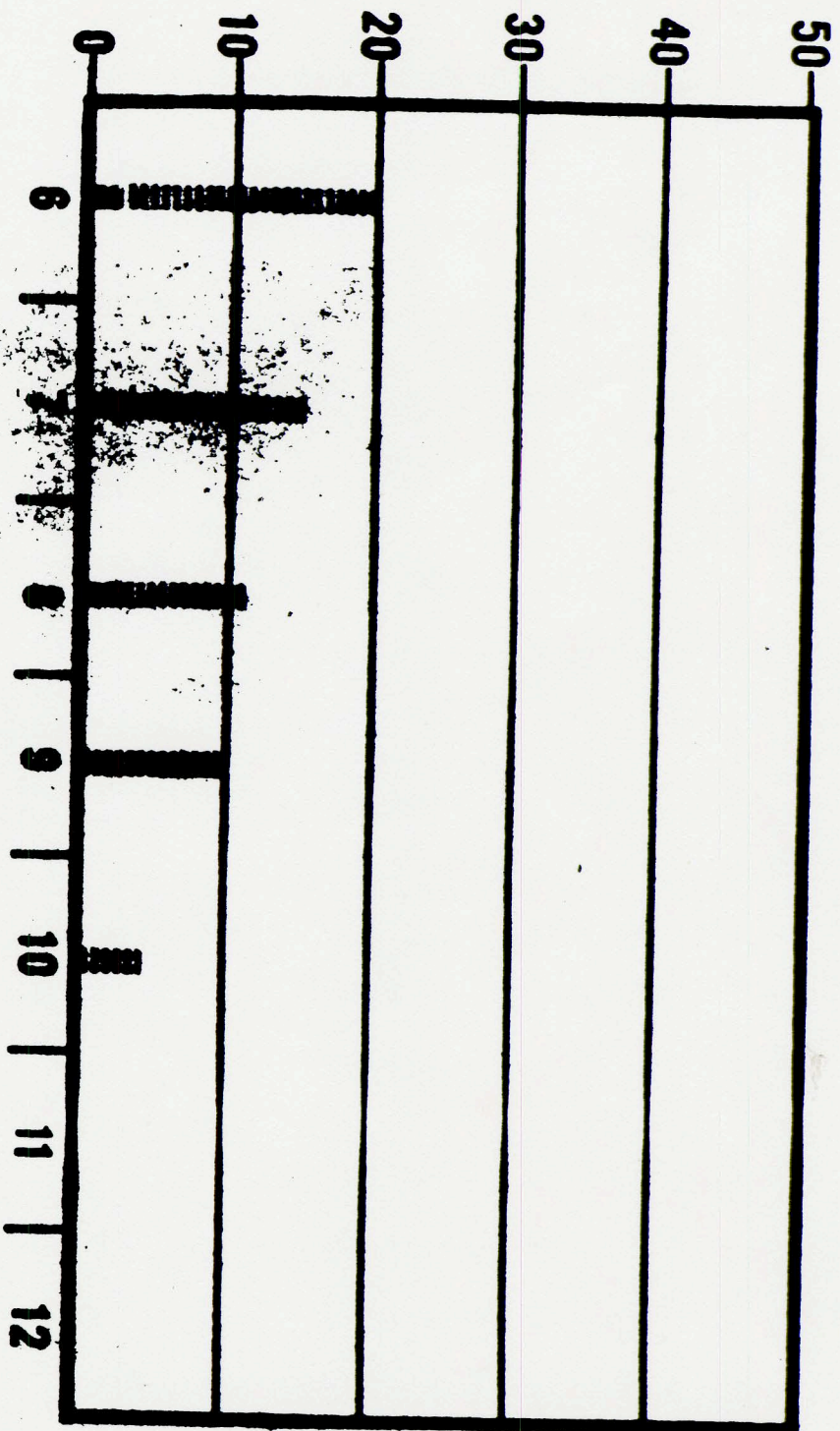
Intelligence. A DIA summary of the Indochina situation is appended:

Attachments



Robert C. Taylor
Colonel, USAF
Military /

MAJOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS DAILY TOTAL



MAY

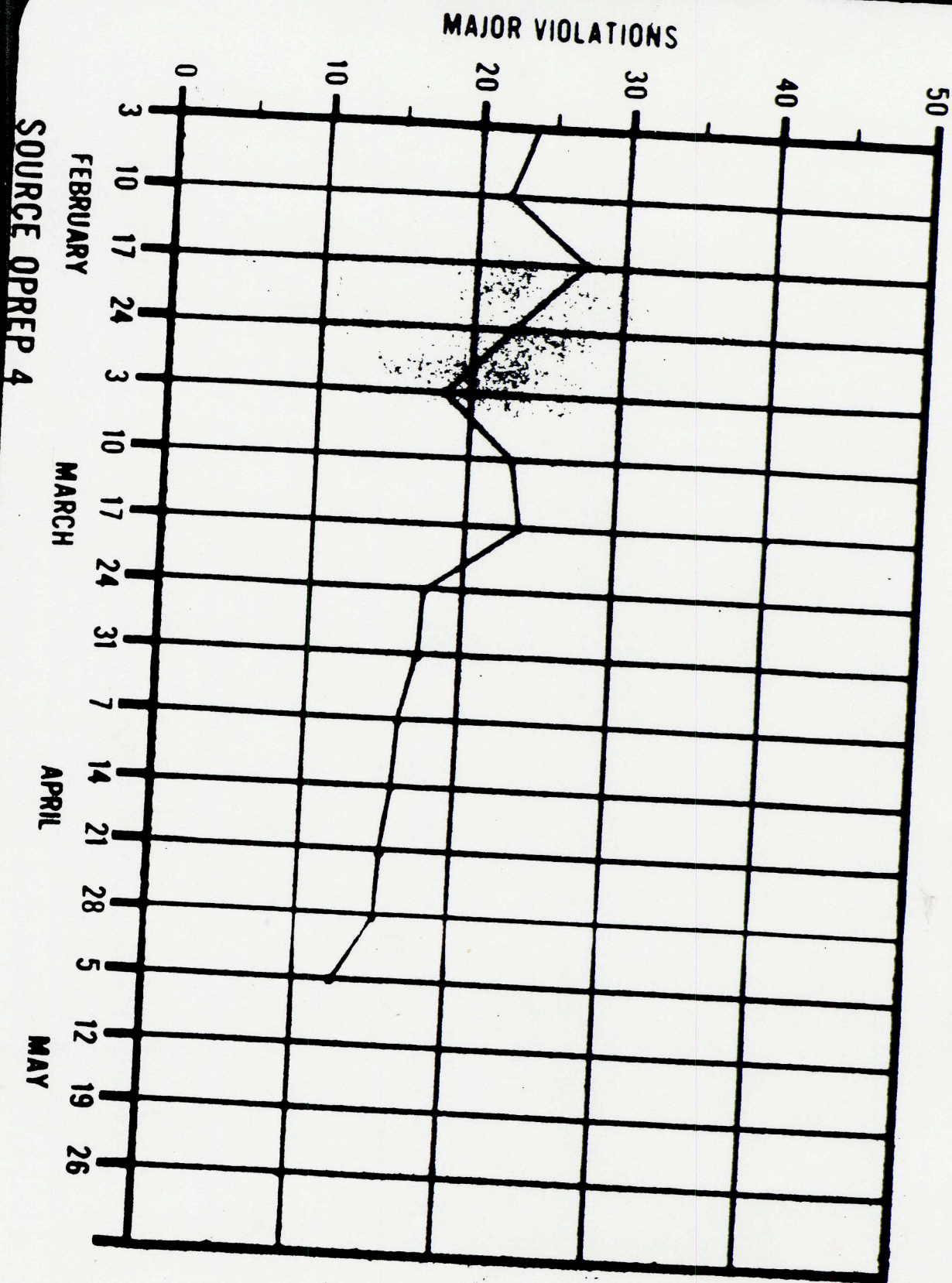
ZULU DAY 2001-2000 EDT

SOURCE: OPRF - 4

ATTACKS BY FIRE

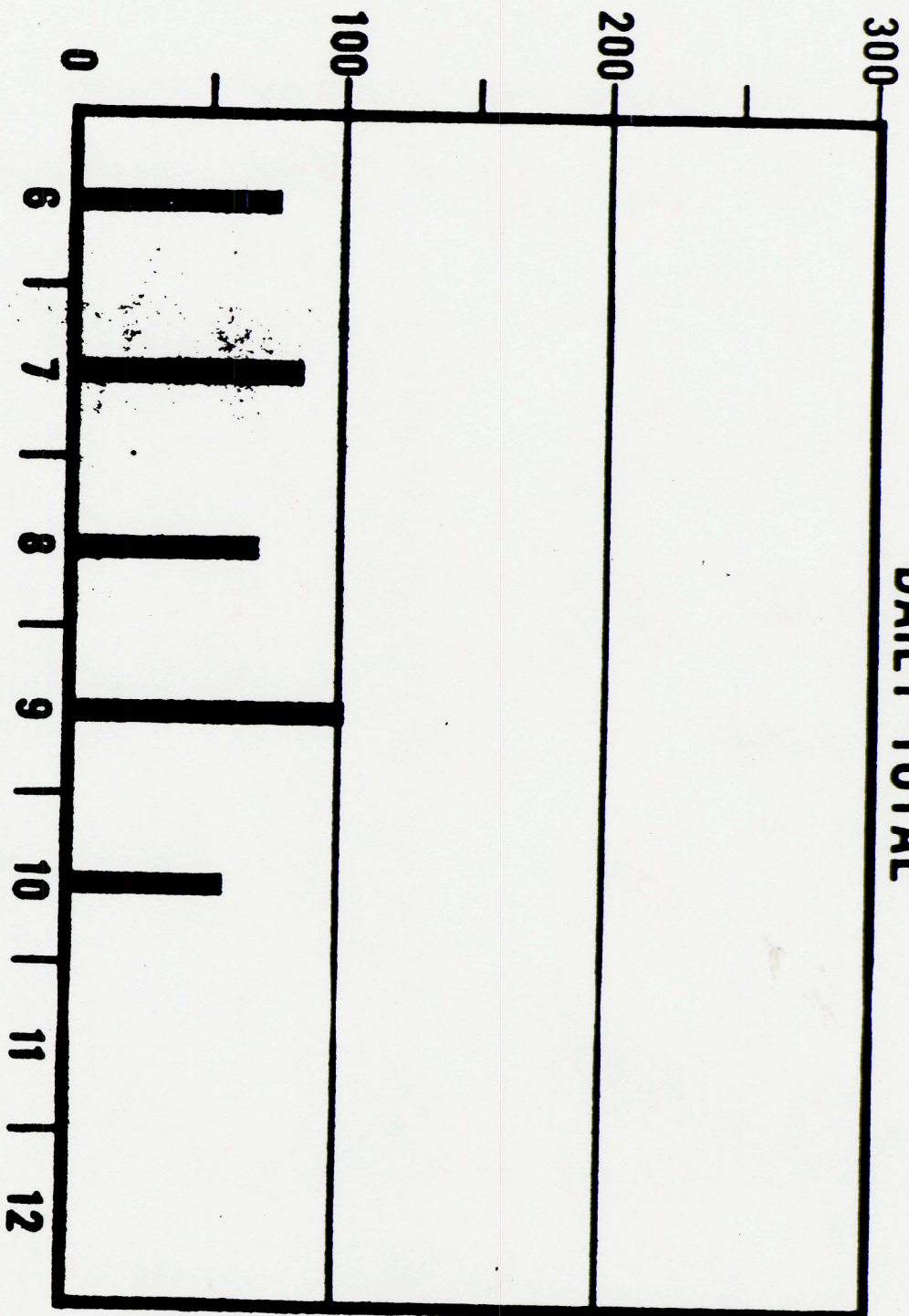
OTHER

RVN MAJOR CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS WEEKLY AVERAGE TREND



MINOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

DAILY TOTAL

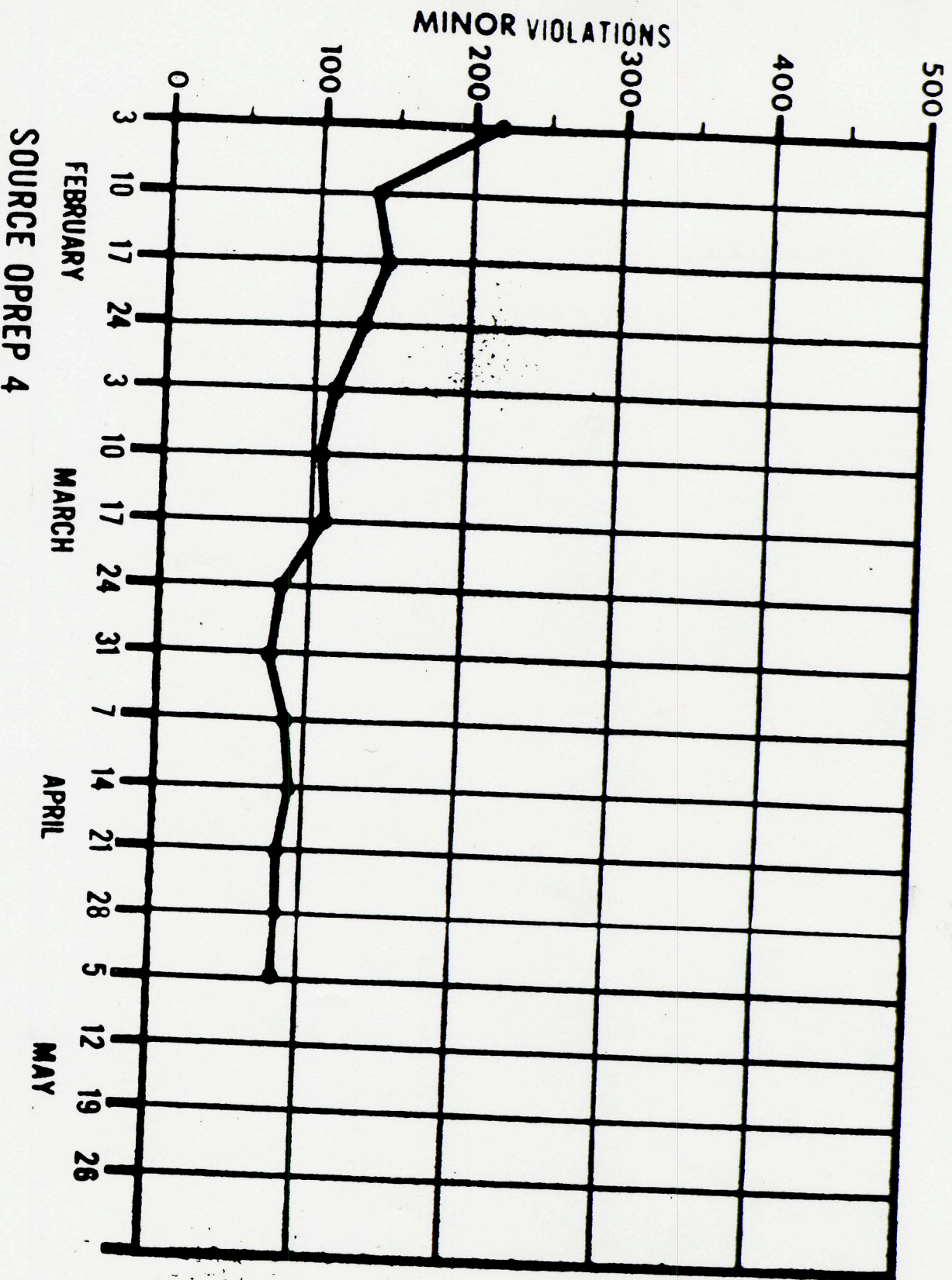


MAY

ZULU DAY 2001-2000 EDT

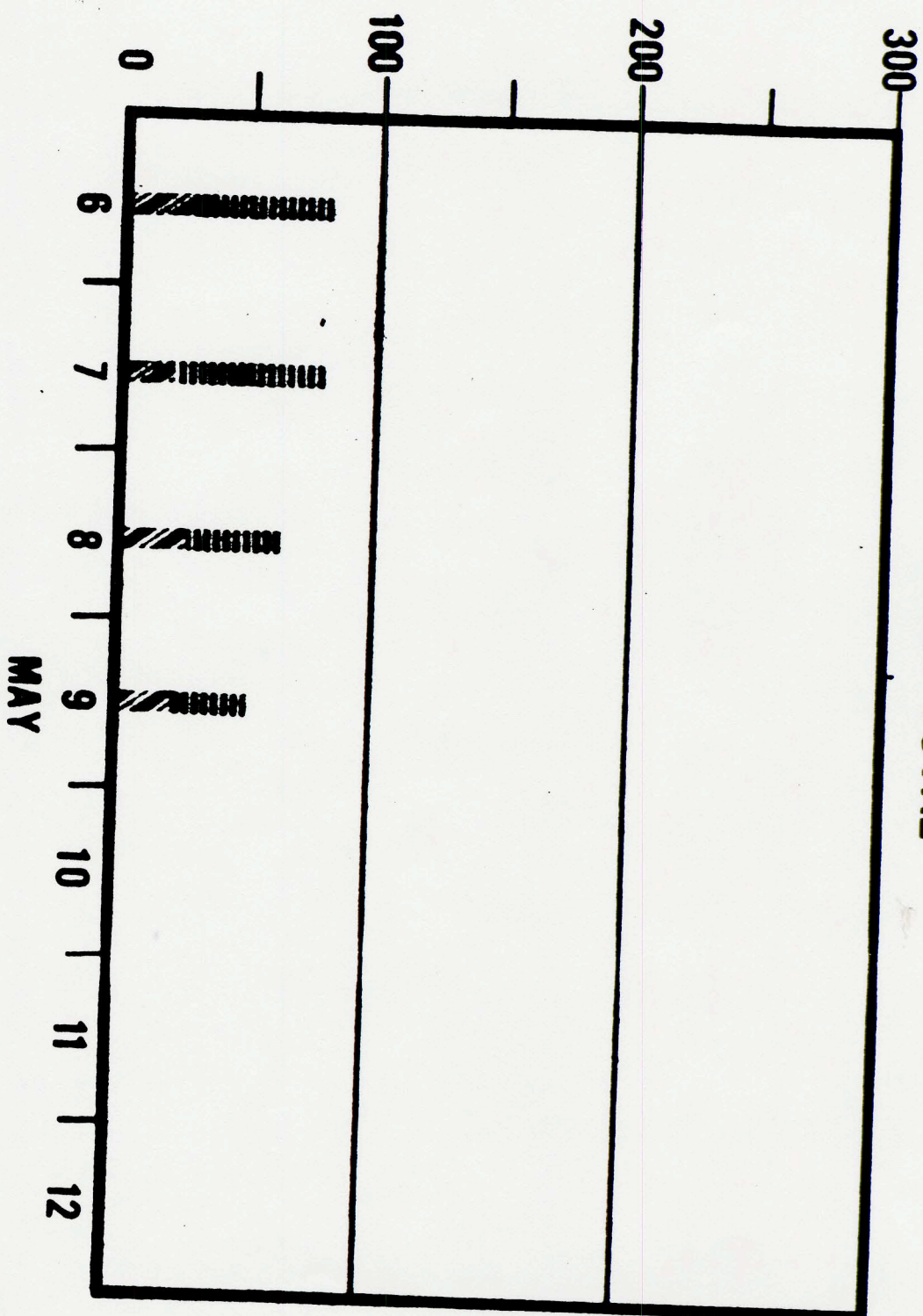
SOURCE: OPRP - 4

RVN MINOR CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS WEEKLY AVERAGE TREND



SOURCE OPREP 4

POST CEASE-FIRE CASUALTIES (KIA) VC/NVA - RVN DAILY TOTAL



SOURCE: OPRP - 4

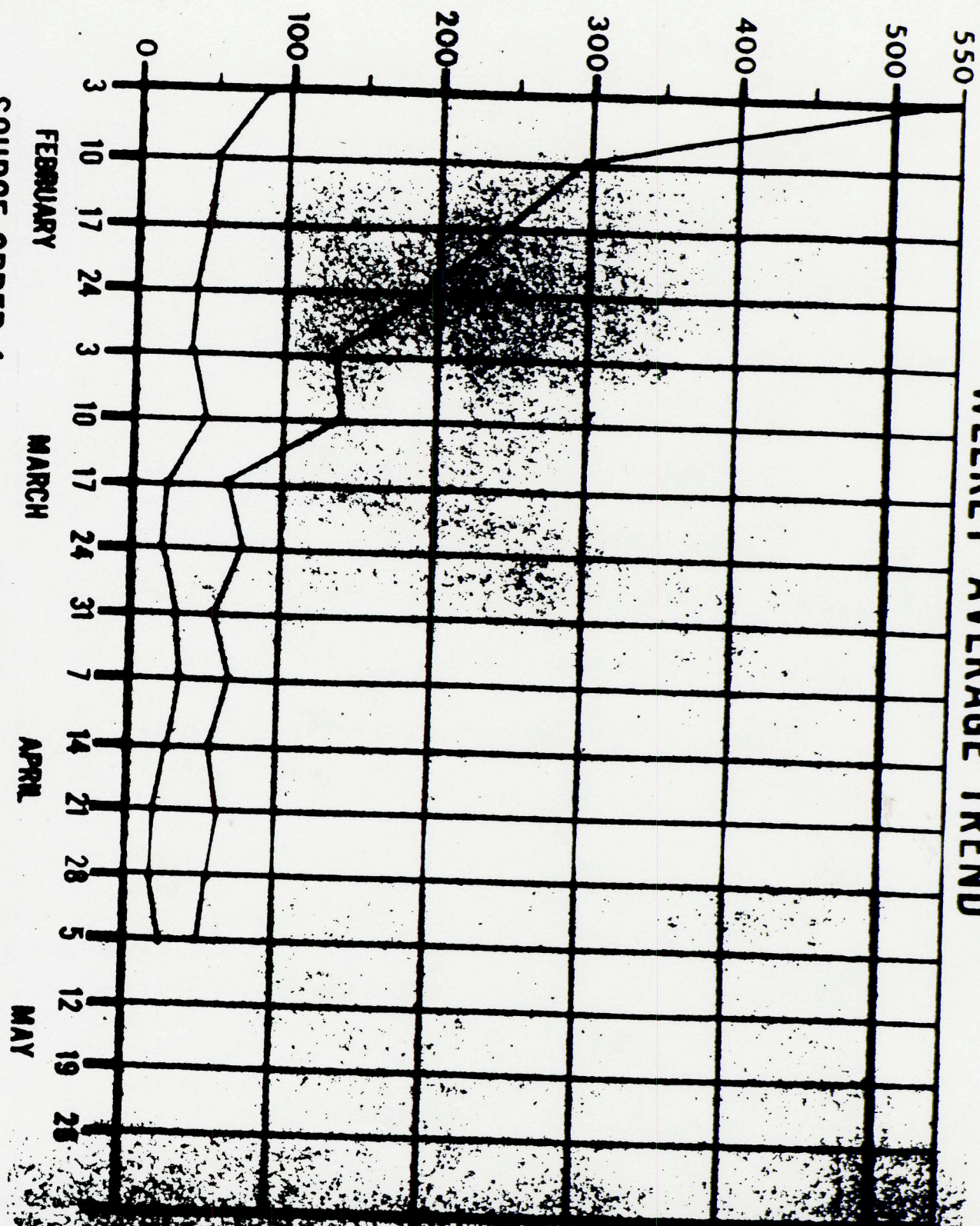
(1801-1800 EDT)

VC/NVA

RVN

POST CEASE FIRE CASUALTIES (KIA)

WEEKLY AVERAGE TREND



SOURCE OPRP 4

VC/NVA

RVN

INDOCHINA SITUATION

11 May 1973

ENEMY FORCES

There have been no major enemy unit deployments detected in Indochina since the last report.

SOUTH VIETNAM

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

MILITARY REGION	TOTAL SINCE CEASE-FIRE LEVEL OF ACTION			LAST 24 HOURS* LEVEL OF ACTION		
	SER	MAJ	MIN	SER	MAJ (**)	MIN
MR 1	0	883	2,929	0	2 (0)	8
MR 2	0	210	1,491	0	3 (3)	9
MR 3	0	328	2,015	0	2 (0)	10
MR 4	0	514	4,708	0	4 (4)	36
TOTALS	0	1,935	11,143	0	11 (7)	63

*Included in totals.

**Number of major violations which occurred prior to the last 24 hours.

A total of 11 major violations were reported, the same number as yesterday. Minor violations totaled 63, compared to 101 during the previous 24 hours. Attacks-by-fire characterized enemy activity throughout the country.

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

No significant activity.

LAOS

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

No significant activity.

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

Military action in Laos during the past week reached a new low with only 17 minor incidents reported, making it the most peaceful week since the cease-fire went into effect on 22 February. Government casualties for the week totaled two killed, 14 wounded, and two missing in action. On the political front, Lao internal talks remain deadlocked.

CAMBODIA

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

In Cambodia, 16 miles west of Phnom Penh, 400 to 600 insurgent troops cut Route 26 and forced four government local force companies to abandon their positions along the road. Route 26 was last cut by enemy forces between 19 and 21 April. Yesterday's insurgent attacks on Route 2 six miles south of the capital, resulted in the loss of one government company-size position. Small-scale harrassing attacks can be expected

to continue around the outskirts of the capital.

Enemy ground attacks continued against the southern defenses of surrounded Takeo City. Friendly casualties for the past week at Takeo amounted to 85 killed and 272 wounded, as opposed to an estimated 350 enemy killed, mainly as a result of US air strikes. The number of fatalities on both sides has increased considerably over last week's total. However, analysis of FANK reporting of enemy KBA suggests that FANK is intentionally exaggerating the number of enemy KBA in an effort to insure continued US air support. The Defense Attache reported that the increase in government fatalities will probably weaken the capabilities of the city's primary defense force.

Members of the garrison that abandoned Phnom Den on 8 May are now located on the Vietnamese border and will be helilifted by the Khmer Air Force to Takeo in the near future to become part of the defenses there. There are approximately 35 UH-1 helicopters in the Khmer Air Force inventory that can be utilized for this shuttle operation. A single UH-1 can carry about 12 troops. Negotiations are also underway with the South Vietnamese concerning transportation of the families of these troops to Phnom Penh.

North of the capital on Route 5, a 200- to 300-man enemy force counterattacked yesterday and isolated three reserve companies patrolling the road behind the task force advancing from the north. Also, an additional two miles of the highway in the area was cut, giving the enemy a total number of six miles of occupied road. The Defense Attache commented that the Route 5 clearing operation is now completely stalled and that reinforcements and additional planning will be necessary to get the operation moving again.

No progress has resulted from government clearing operations along the lower Mekong and the enemy still occupies both banks of an eight-mile segment of the river north of Neak Luong.

In political developments, according to US Ambassador Swank, two members of the High Political Council, In Tam and Cheng Heng, informed him yesterday that the Council had decided unanimously to dispense with the post of Prime Minister.

The major reason for dispensing with the Prime Ministership was that the four Council members could not agree on who should fill the position. Under the new concept, each of the four members of the Council will assume the direction and coordination of a particular number of the various ministerial positions. These ministers are yet to be named. The Council is to meet today to determine the allocation of functions among themselves.

SA 99 B-374

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

14 MAY 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Vietnam Post Cease-fire Report, 1600 EDT, 14 May 1973

Cease-fire Violations. Thirty-three major and 256 minor violations were reported during the three-day period since the last report. The distribution of major violations by Military Region was: MR 1 - 14; MR 2 - 1; MR 3 - 4; and MR 4 - 14. Twenty-eight of the major violations were attacks-by-fire. Enemy ground attacks against friendly installations comprised the remainder of the major violations and accounted for 87 enemy and 13 friendly personnel killed and one bridge destroyed. Preliminary total casualty reports indicate that 191 enemy and 117 friendly personnel were killed during the reporting period. Charts depicting trends in major and minor violations and casualties are attached.

Two Party Joint Military Commission (TPJMC). The GVN released 222 civilian detainees on 11 May 1973. An additional 28 were scheduled for release but refused repatriation.

Four Party Joint Military Team (FPJMT). The Chief of the US delegation met privately with the Acting Chief of the DRV delegation on 14 May. The US interest in establishing some momentum for the repatriation process was emphasized and our willingness to proceed on an incremental basis was established. The DRV was requested to begin repatriation within 10 days. The US delegation presented a list of 1,114 names of US and foreign persons believed to be dead and whose bodies have not been recovered.

International Commission of Control and Supervision (ICCS). No significant activity was reported.

Intelligence. A DIA summary of the Indochina situation is appended.

Robert C. Taylor

Attachments

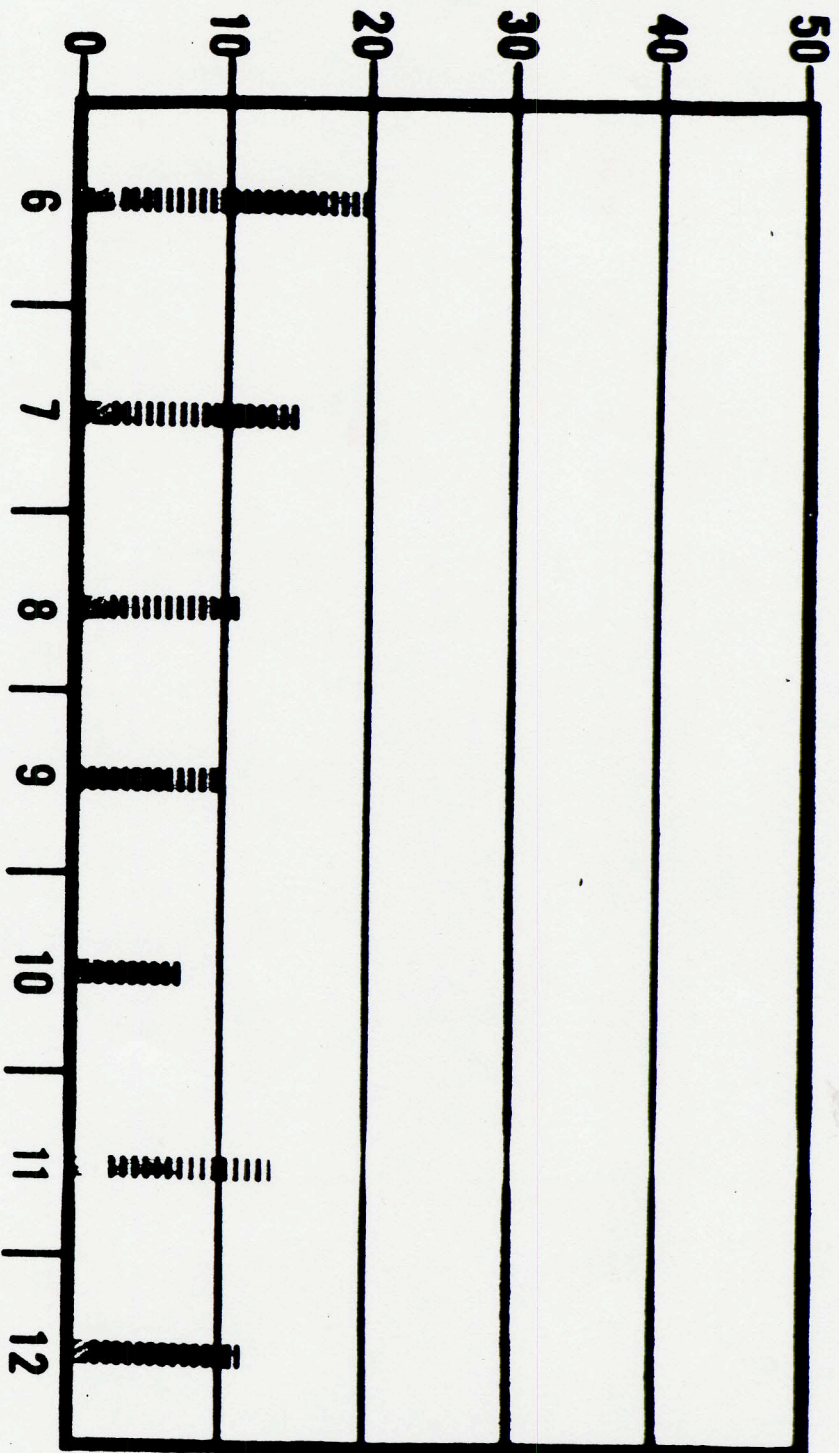
Robert C. Taylor
Colonel, USAF
Deputy Assistant

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4
NSC F9301187 10/4/93; DOD I-93/54551 10/28/93
By MRO NARA, Date 1/26/94
SA 99

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MAJOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS **DAILY TOTAL**



MAY

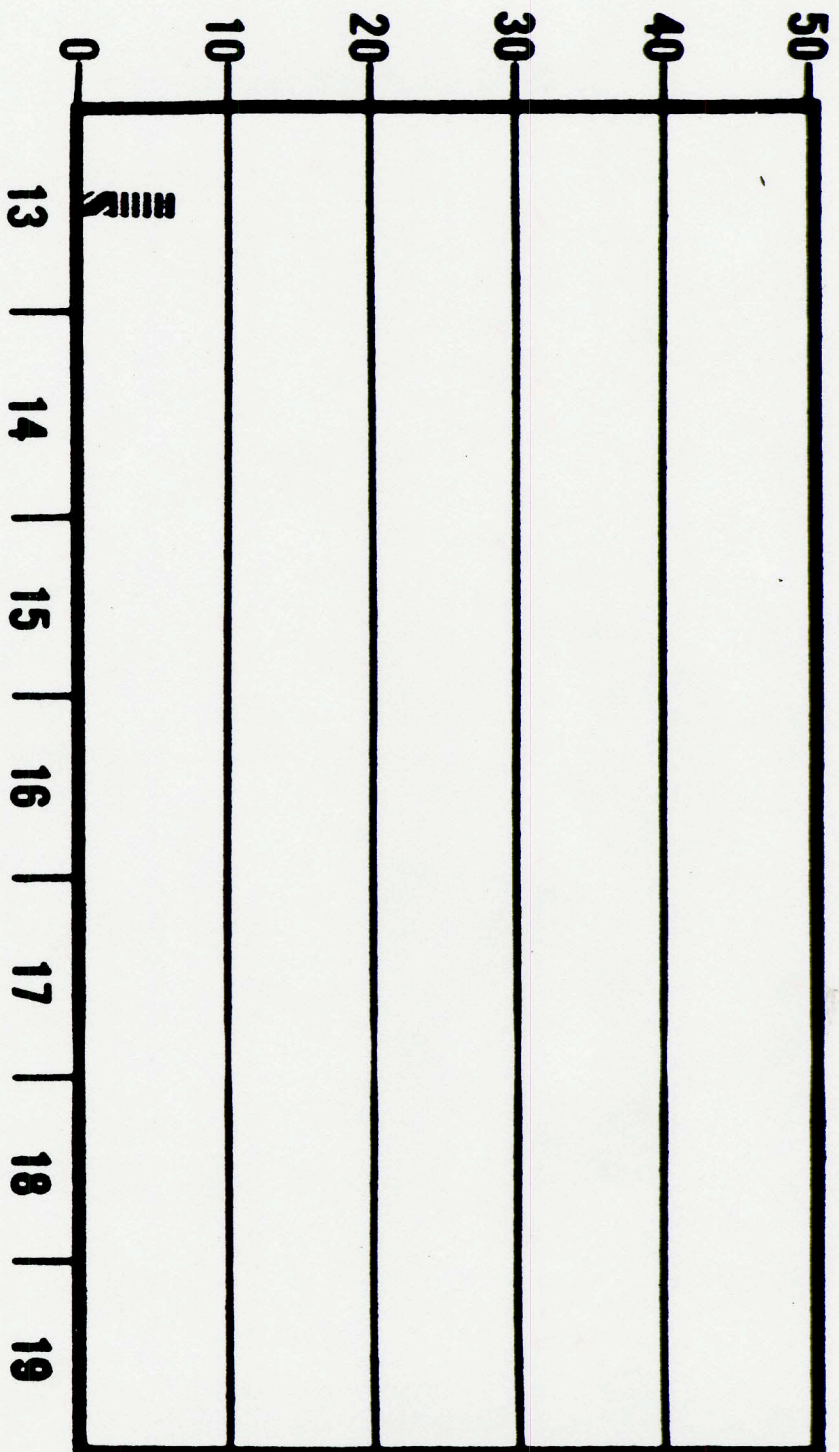
ZULU DAY 2001-2000 EDT

SOURCE: OPRP - 4

ATTACKS BY FIRE

OTHER

MAJOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS **DAILY TOTAL**



MAY

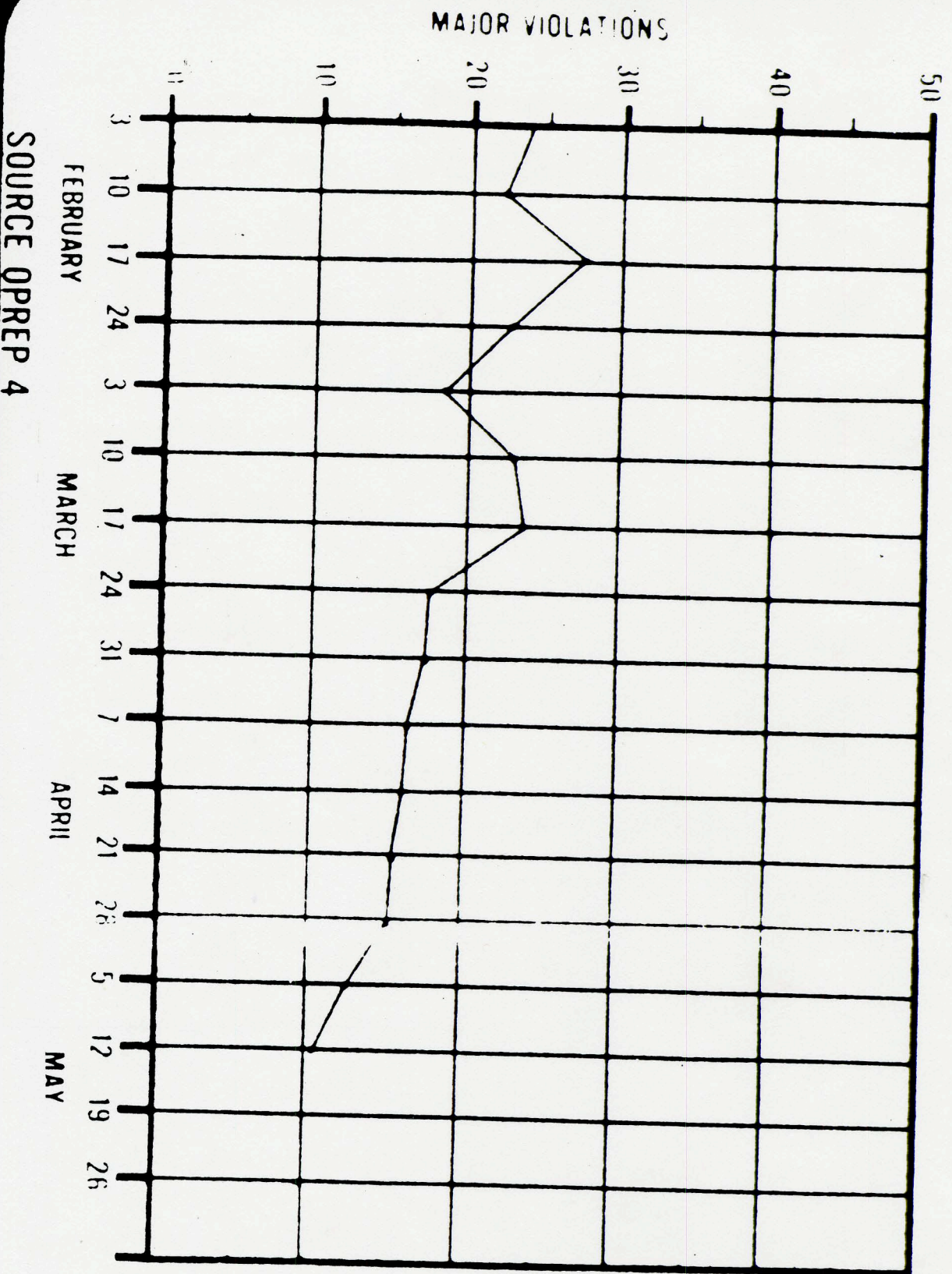
ZULU DAY 2001-2000 EDT

SOURCE: OPREP - 4

ATTACKS BY FIRE

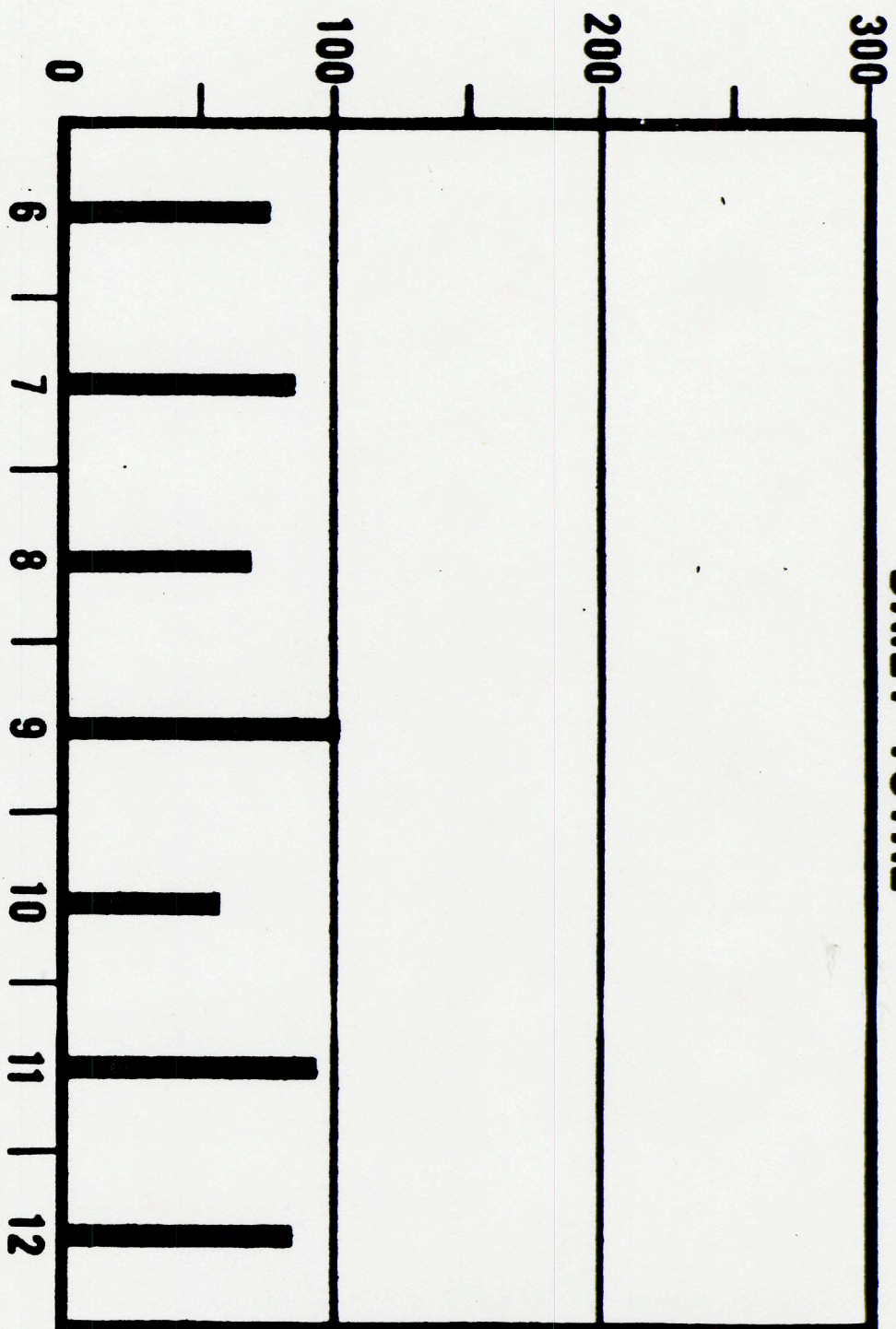
OTHER

RVN MAJOR CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS WEEKLY AVERAGE TREND



MINOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

DAILY TOTAL



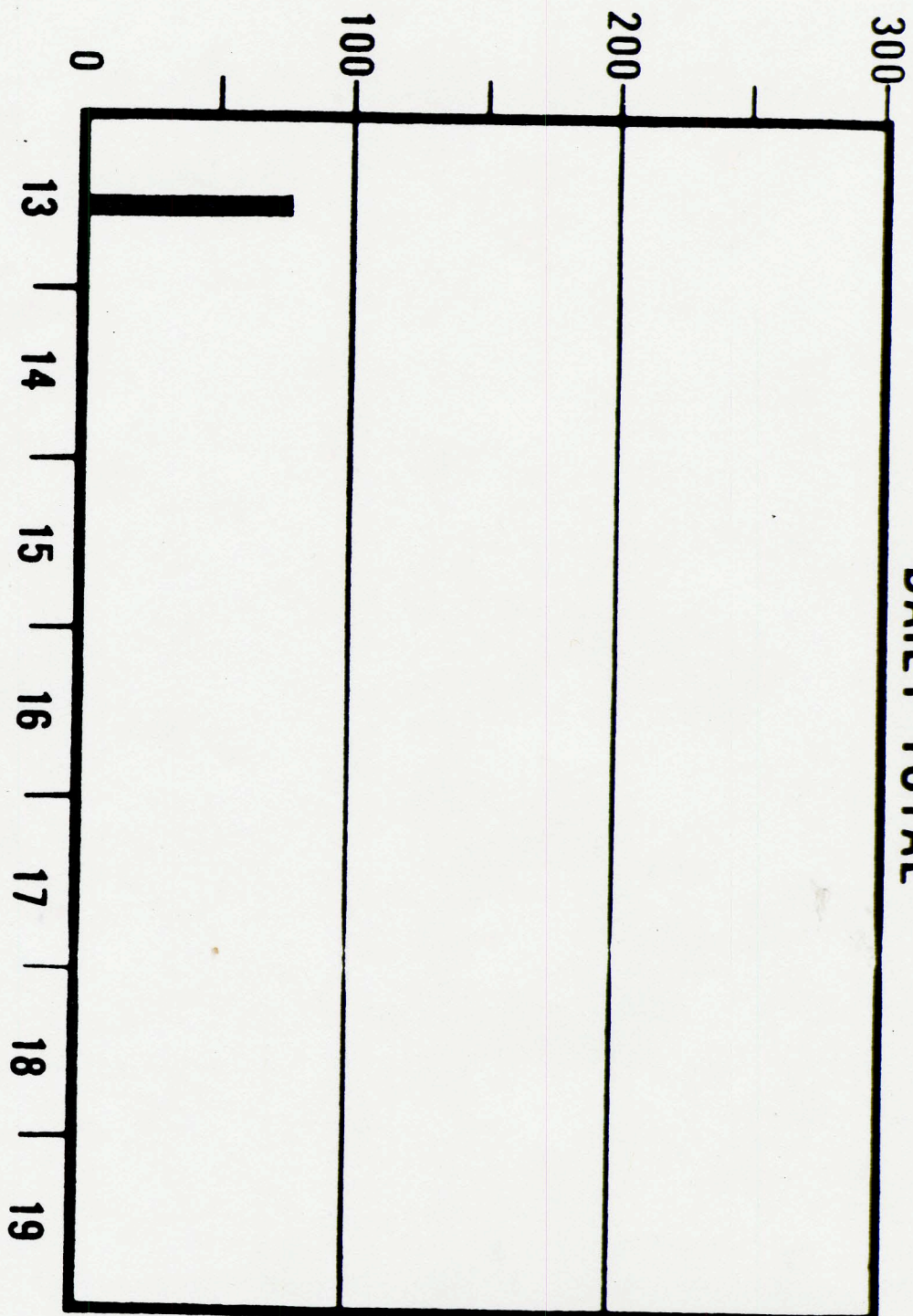
MAY

ZULU DAY 2001-2000 EDT

SOURCE: OPRP - 4

MINOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

DAILY TOTAL

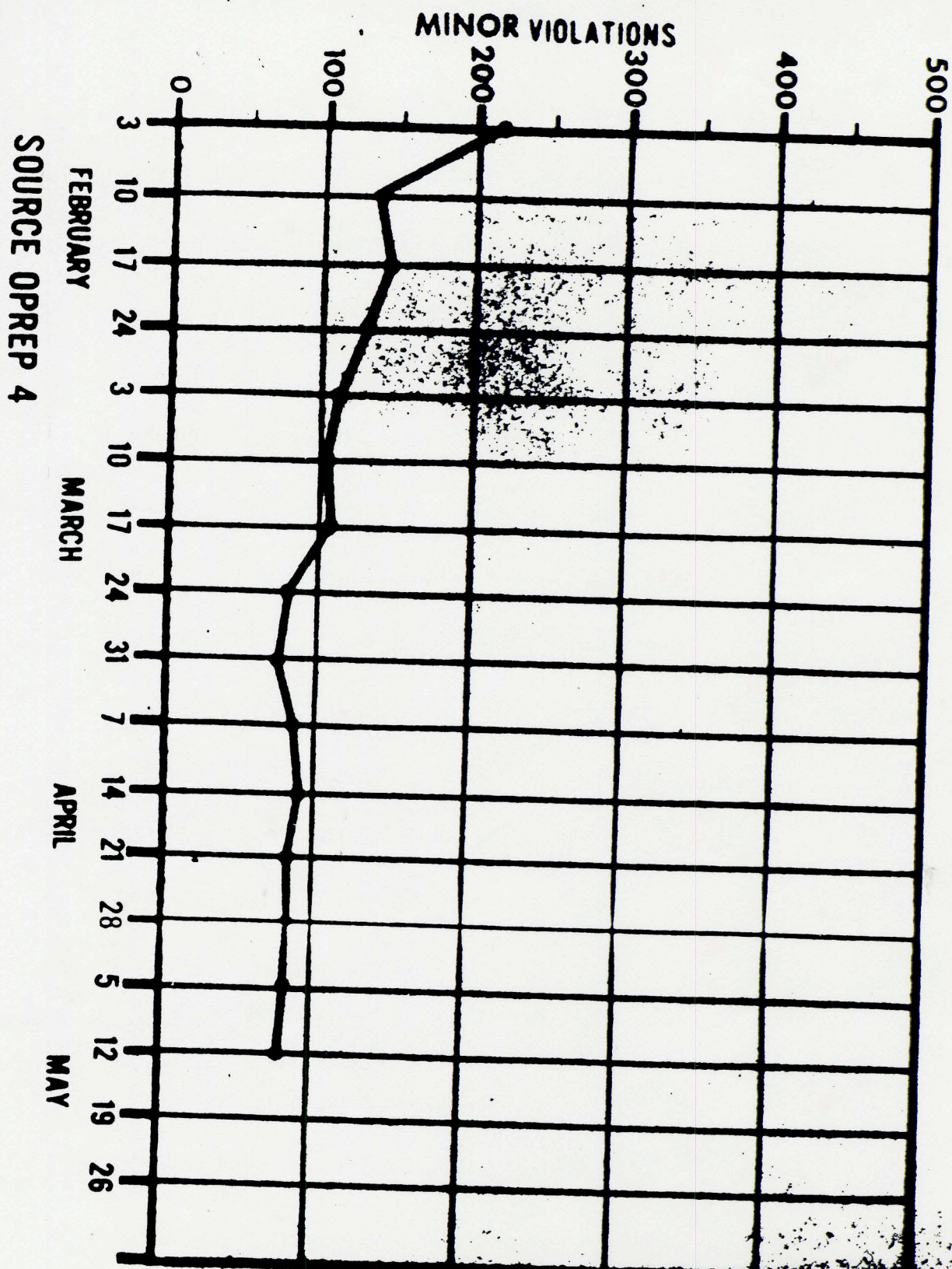


MAY

ZULU DAY 2001-2000 EDT

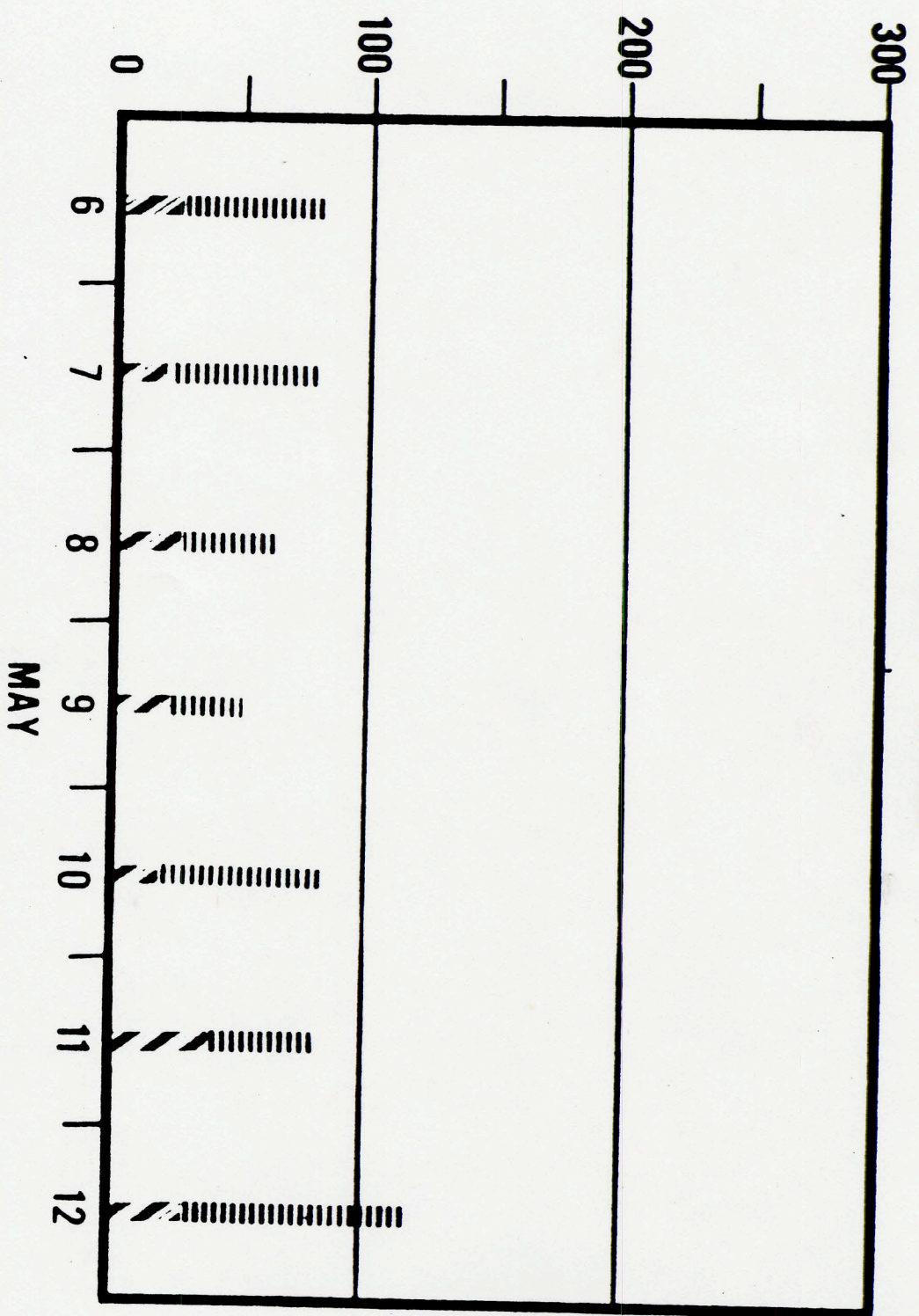
SOURCE: OPREP - 4

RVN MINOR CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS WEEKLY AVERAGE TREND



SOURCE OPRP 4

POST CEASE-FIRE CASUALTIES (KIA) VC/NVA - RVN DAILY TOTAL



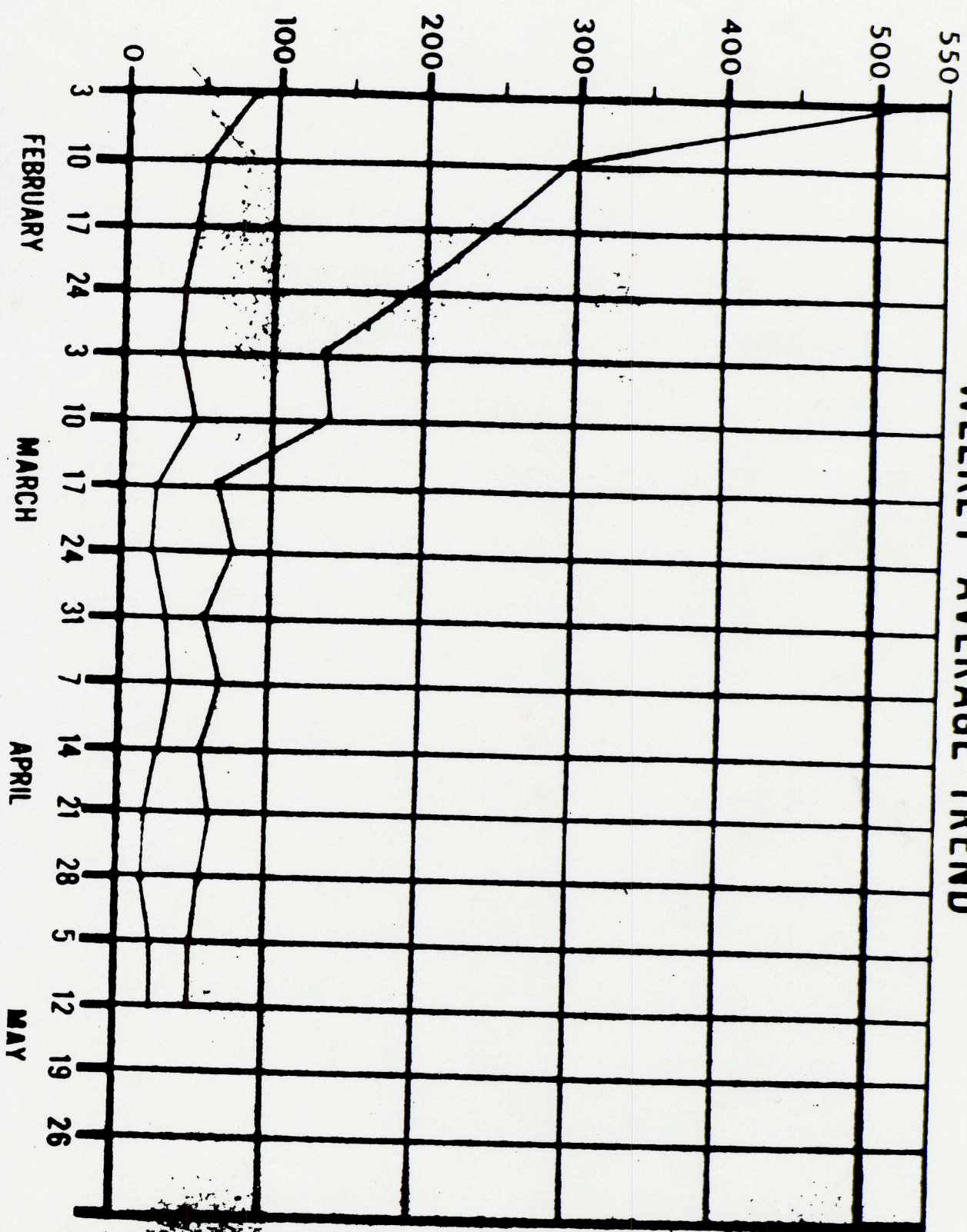
SOURCE: OPRP - 4

(1801-1800 EDT)

VC NVA RVN

POST CEASE FIRE CASUALTIES (KIA)

WEEKLY AVERAGE TREND



SOURCE OPREP 4

VC / NVA —

RVN —

INDOCHINA SITUATION

14 May 1973

ENEMY FORCES

There have been no major enemy unit deployments detected in Indochina since the last report.

SOUTH VIETNAM

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

MILITARY REGION	TOTAL SINCE CEASE-FIRE LEVEL OF ACTION			LAST 72 HOURS* LEVEL OF ACTION		
	SER	MAJ	MIN	SER	MAJ (**)	MIN
MR 1	0	897	2,972	0	14 (1)	43
MR 2	0	211	1,531	0	1 (0)	40
MR 3	0	332	2,053	0	4 (0)	38
MR 4	0	528	4,843	0	14 (3)	135
TOTAL	0	1,968	11,399	0	33 (4)	256

*Included in totals.

**Number of major violations which occurred prior to the last 72 hours.

A total of 11 major violations were reported on 11 May, nine on 12 May, and 13 on 13 May. The grand total of 33 major violations consisted of 27 attacks-by-fire and six enemy-initiated ground attacks. A total of 256 minor violations were reported, of which 94 occurred on 11 May, 86 on 12 May, and 76 on 13 May. In MR 4, 12 miles north of Tri Ton, 39 enemy were killed during a ground attack.

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

The MR 2 commander, MG Toan, is reported to believe that the present "half war, half peace" situation will continue in MR 2 and the other military regions of South Vietnam until at least July. At that time, he feels, the enemy will have the capability to mount an offensive, but its probability rests on how the Provisional Revolutionary Government (PRG) views the political situation and the likelihood of success or failure in the political struggle with the Saigon Government.

A southern communist official has also recently talked about the buildup of communist forces. Dinh Ba Thi, a member of the PRG's delegation to the Paris bilateral talks with the GVN, reportedly said that North Vietnam's military buildup was continuing inside South Vietnam, along its borders, and in Cambodia. He said the current strong US support to the GVN gives it great advantage, so the PRG must strengthen its military position. Thi emphasized that neither the PRG nor North Vietnam were willing to risk a withdrawal of troops to the north, leaving the south at the mercy of the GVN as happened in 1954.

LAOS

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

No significant activity.

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

No significant activity.

CAMBODIA

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

The enemy expanded his activity along Route 26 west of Phnom Penh over the weekend. In a series of attacks and ground probes, the insurgents overran or forced government units to abandon several lightly defended company-size positions along the road. The enemy now holds all but about 3 miles of Route 26 west of the capital and north of Route 4.

The capital's second line of defense is manned by two of Cambodia's four divisions, plus territorial forces that are rested and more combat-experienced than those territorial forces that were positioned along Route 26. These units should be able to contain any further enemy attempts to advance toward Phnom Penh. The enemy is not expected to launch a major assault on the capital.

Northwest of the capital on Route 5, government forces in the northern relief column re-secured the road to O Sandan yesterday. This northern relief column has turned south and is now attempting to move against a well-entrenched insurgent force commanding a 5-mile section of the road between it and the southern relief column attempting to move north.

South of the capital, Cambodian defenders at Takeo made limited progress in expanding their defensive belt around the isolated city. Government troops, attacking west and southwest from the city, occupied several enemy positions less than 2 miles from Takeo. During the past week, friendly forces have had limited success in expanding the perimeter to the north, south, and west, but the insurgents continue to prevent any large friendly gains and retain the capability to strike the city at will with attacks-by-fire -- including fire by captured US, 105-mm howitzers.

To the west, two convoys are transiting Route 4 today. Each convoy -- one from Kompong Som to Phnom Penh and one from Phnom Penh to Kompong Som -- consists of approximately 250 trucks. The trucks traveling south are normally empty, while the north-bound convoy carries supplies for the capital.

In the Mekong River corridor, the situation remains unchanged; however, clashes were reported along Route 1 northwest of Neak Luong. A recent Khmer communist message alluded to attacks against Cambodian positions east of Neak Luong and may be a prelude to a concerted effort to eliminate the major government installation at the city. The effort would be conducted by insurgent forces; there are no VC-NVA combat units in this area.

SA 99 B-372

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

15 MAY 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Vietnam Post Cease-fire Report, 1600 EDT, 15 May 1973

Cease-fire Violations. Nine major and 85 minor violations were reported during the period since the last report. The distribution of major violations by Military Region was: MR 1 - 5; MR 2 - 0; MR 3 - 1; and MR 4 - 3. Most of the major violations were attacks-by-fire. Preliminary casualty reports indicate that 27 enemy and 13 friendly personnel were killed during the reporting period. Charts depicting trends in major and minor violations and casualties are attached.

Two Party Joint Military Commission (TPJMC) A PRG liberation radio broadcast monitored on 14 May 1973 announced that MGen Hoang Anh Tuan has been appointed to head the PRG Delegation, replacing LTG Tran Van Tra. No further information is available at this time.

Four Party Joint Military Team (FPJMT) The Chief, US Delegation, met privately with the Acting Chief, DRV Delegation, on 14 May 1973, to discuss the repatriation of remains of US personnel who died in captivity. The US presented the DRV with a list of questions concerning coordination, logistical and financial matters, communications, etc. These questions must be answered before final arrangements can be made. The DRV was requested to begin repatriation within ten days. While the DRV response was noncommittal, the DRV Delegate indicated that an attempt will be made this week to promote a decision.

International Commission of Control and Supervision (ICCS) No significant activities were reported during this period. There have been no changes in the deployment status of ICCS delegates.

Mine Countermeasures No significant changes have occurred during this reporting period.

Intelligence. A DIA summary of the Indochina situation is appended.

Attachments

Robert C. Taylor

Robert C. Taylor
Colonel, USAF
Military Assistant

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

NSC F9301187 10/4/93; DoD I-93/54551 10/28/93

By MRX NARA, Date 1/26/94

SA 99

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Sec Def Cont Nr. X-2213

RVN Major Cease-Fire Violations

(C) During the period 132001 - 142000 EDT May 1973, nine major cease-fire violations were reported.

Military Region 1

(C) Five major cease-fire violations were reported. Four violations were attacks-by-fire resulting in four friendly soldiers wounded. The remaining violation is described below:

At 131600 EDT, 12 miles north of Quang Ngai, ARVN infantry elements received an attack-by-fire followed by a ground attack. No casualties were reported.

Military Region 2

(C) No major cease-fire violations were reported.

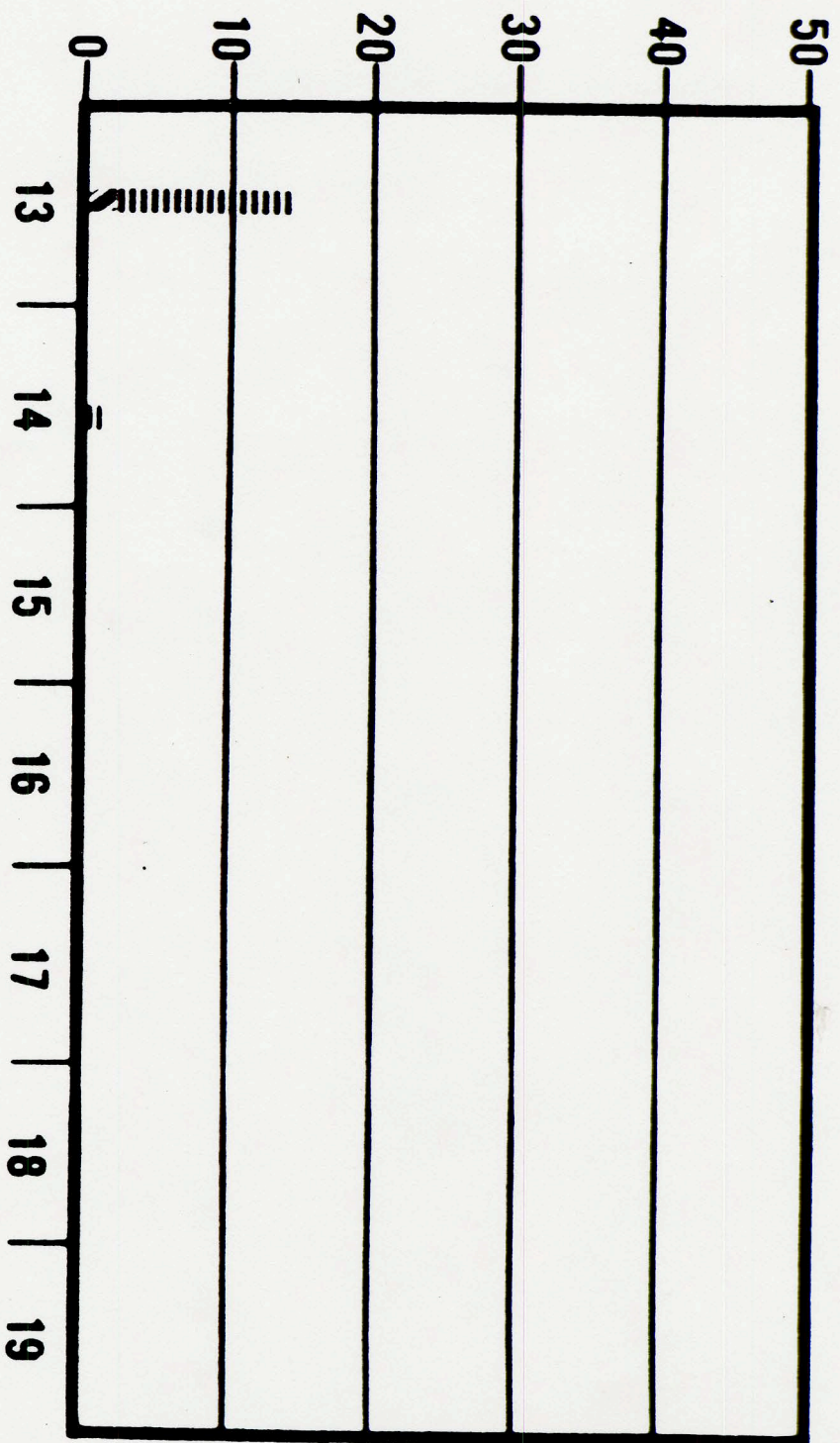
Military Region 3

(C) The only major cease-fire violation reported was one attack-by-fire resulting in no casualties.

Military Region 4

(C) Three major cease-fire violations were reported. All violations were attacks-by-fire which wounded four friendly soldiers.

MAJOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS DAILY TOTAL



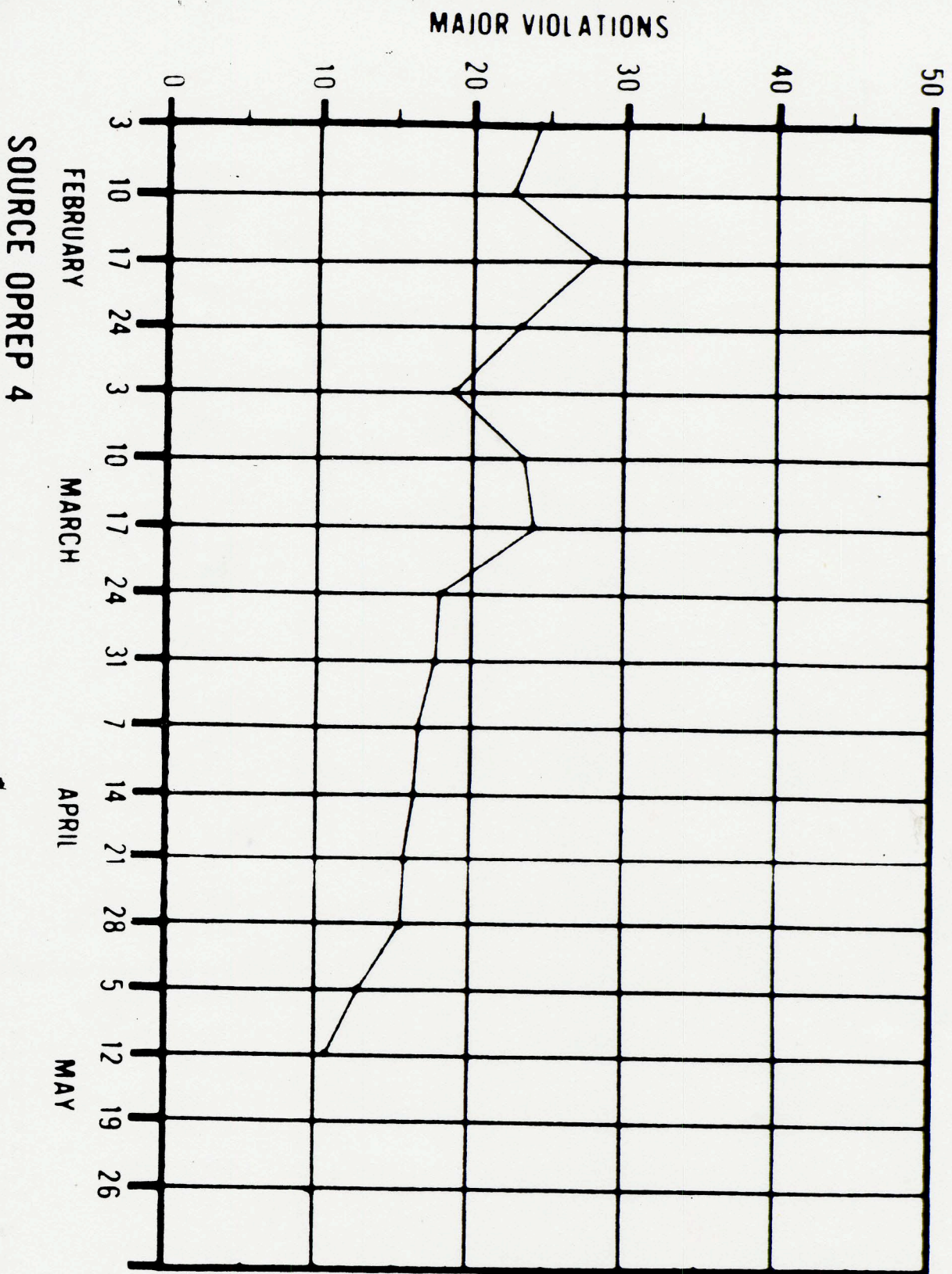
SOURCE: OPRP . 4

ATTACKS BY FIRE ≡

OTHER ▨

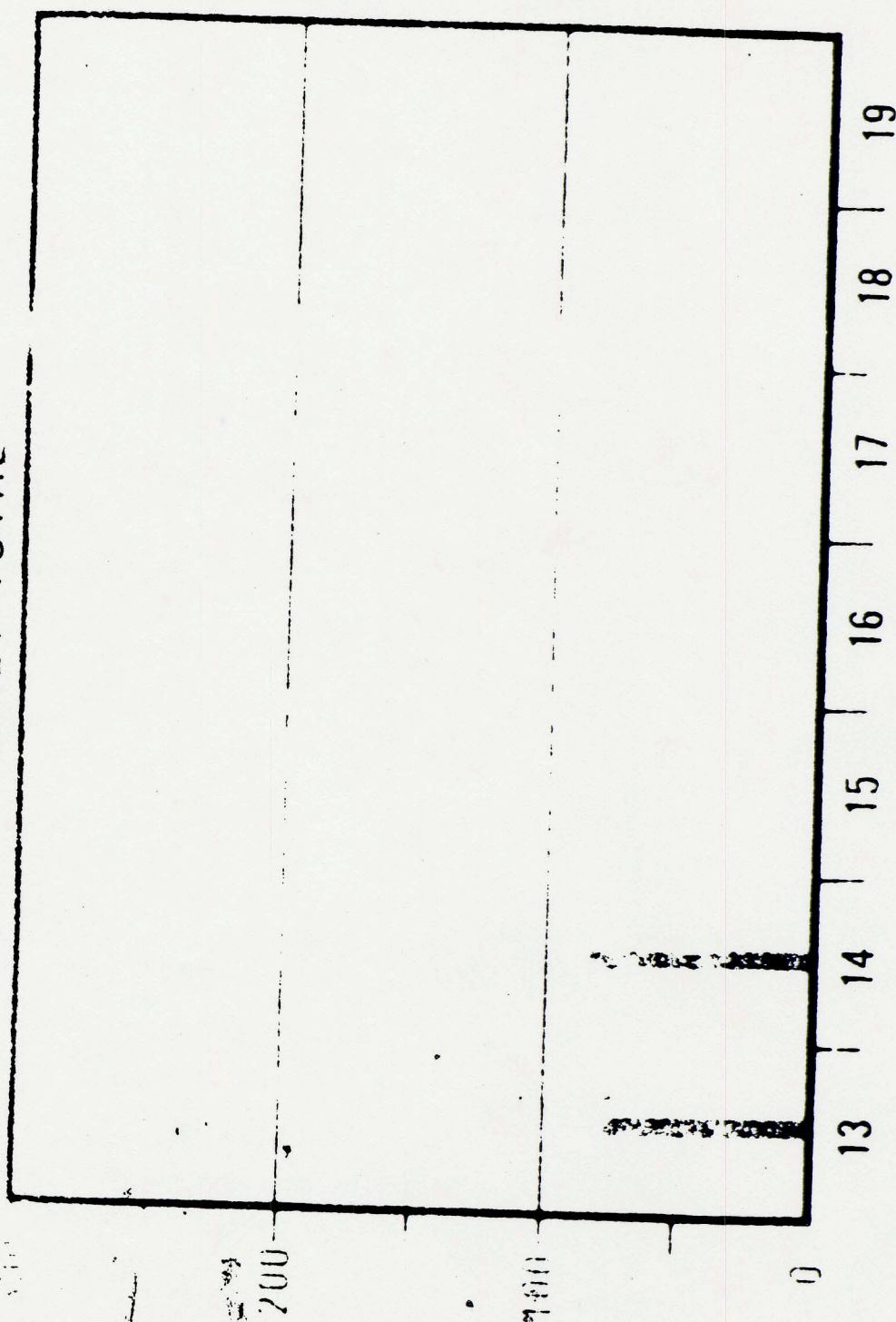
MAY
ZULU DAY 2001-2000 EDT

RVN MAJOR CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS DAILY AVERAGE BY WEEK



MINOR CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS

DAILY TOTAL

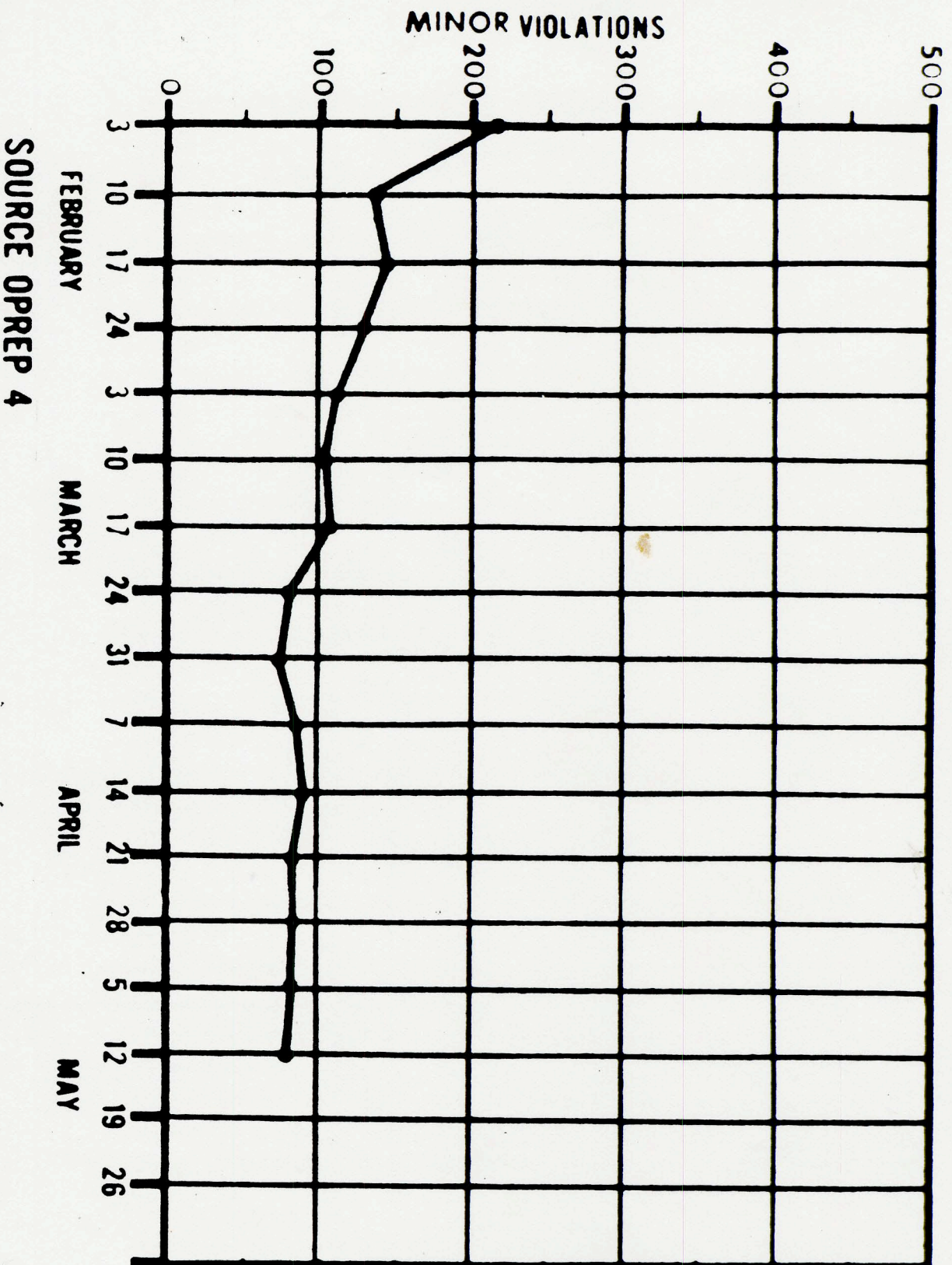


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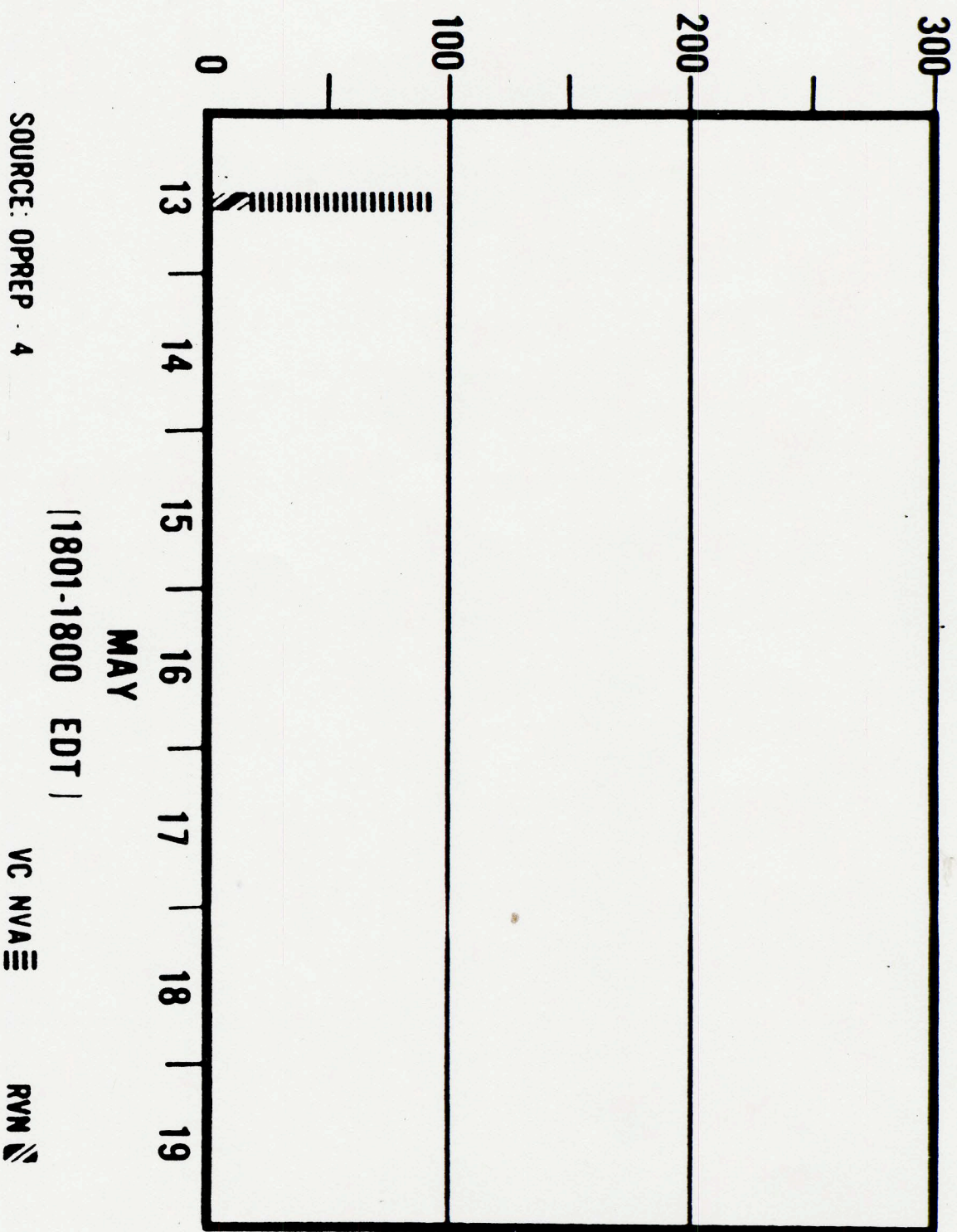
JOINT GROUP 4

RVN MINOR CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS DAILY AVERAGE BY WEEK



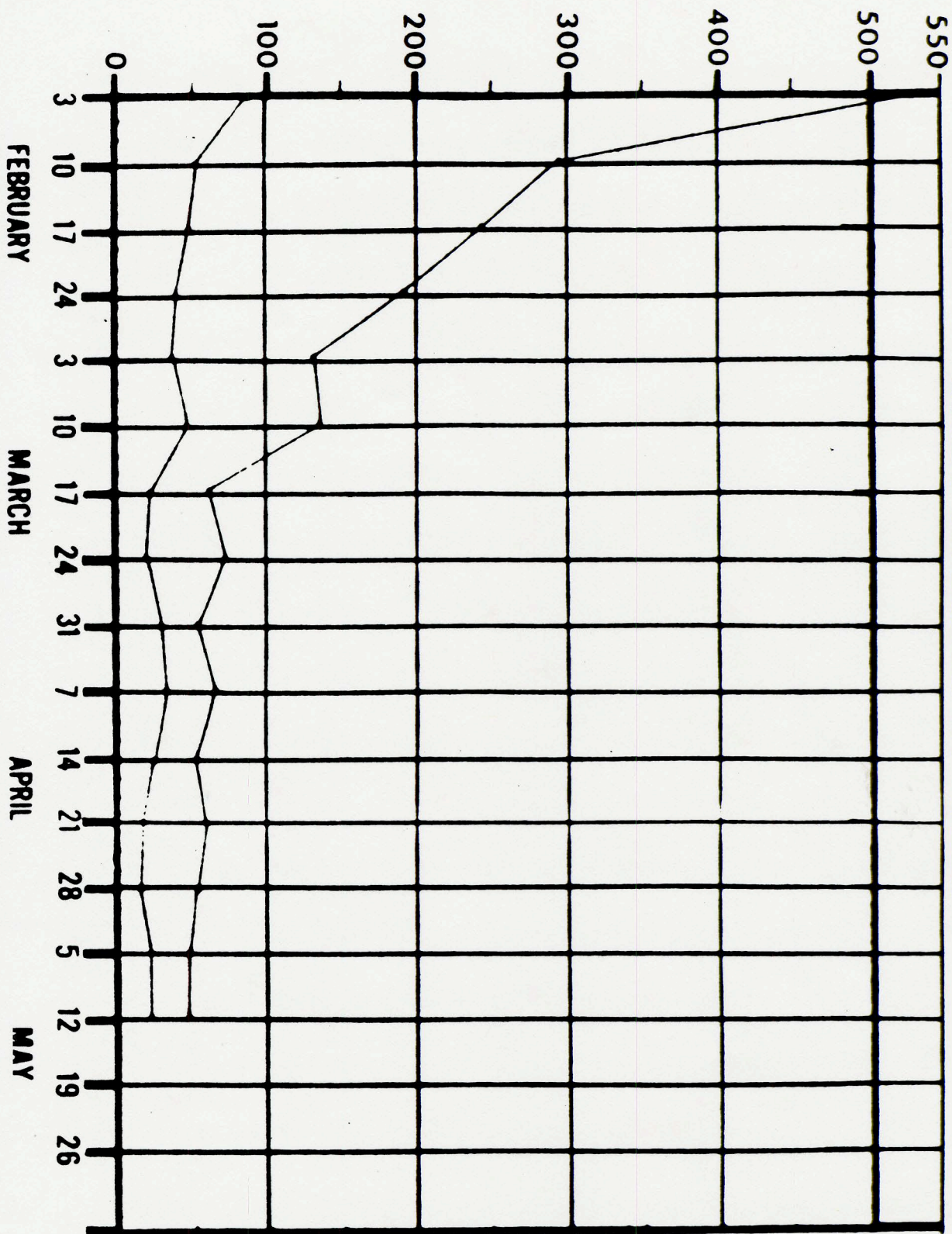
SOURCE OPREP 4

POST CEASE-FIRE CASUALTIES (KIA) VC/NVA - RVN DAILY TOTAL



POST CEASE FIRE CASUALTIES (KIA)

DAILY AVERAGE BY WEEK



SOURCE OPRP 4

VC/NVA

RVN

INDOCHINA SITUATION

15 May 1973

ENEMY FORCES

There have been no major enemy unit deployments detected in Indochina since the last report.

SOUTH VIETNAM

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

MILITARY REGION	TOTAL SINCE CEASE-FIRE LEVEL OF ACTION			LAST 24 HOURS* LEVEL OF ACTION		
	SER	MAJ	MIN	SER	MAJ (**)	MIN
MR 1	0	902	2,986	0	5 (5)	14
MR 2	0	211	1,546	0	0 (0)	15
MR 3	0	333	2,067	0	1 (0)	14
MR 4	0	531	4,885	0	3 (3)	42
	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	0	1,977	11,484	0	9 (8)	85

*Included in totals.

**Number of major violations which occurred prior to the last 24 hours.

A total of nine major violations were reported, four less than yesterday's total. Minor violations totaled 85, compared to 76 during the previous 24 hours. Attacks-by-fire characterized enemy activity throughout the country.

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

No significant activity.

LAOS

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

Southeast of Pakse in southern Laos, the enemy initiated an estimated two-company attack on friendly forces on 11 May.

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

No significant activity.

CAMBODIA

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

In Cambodia, two government battalions advanced approximately 1 mile in their effort to clear Route 26 west of the capital. They plan to move north and re-establish old positions along the road following heavy air strikes. The timing and nature of the recent enemy attacks in this area indicates that the enemy intends to keep FANK moving and constantly reacting to new initiatives in the capital area.

The Defense Attache in Phnom Penh has confirmed earlier press reports that troops of the 7th Division marched into Phnom Penh yesterday demanding back pay. The soldiers marched

to the home of the FANK Assistant Chief of Staff for Personnel and then to the national stadium where they were addressed by their division commander. Later in the day, they returned to their garrison northwest of Phnom Penh. The Attache reported no casualties and only minor property damage as a result of the demonstration. Late pay has been a major cause of morale problems for the FANK soldiers. In this instance, the troops were newly assigned to their division and their records did not reflect the change.

There has been no significant military activity in the Mekong River corridor, where enemy forces still occupy sections of both river banks. The enemy is probably resting and refitting for an attempt to intercept the next river convoy now scheduled for 17 May. Recent reports indicate the insurgents are having ammunition distribution problems, and they may be conserving their ammunition stocks for use against the 17 May convoy.

According to a late unconfirmed press report, the Panamanian-registered POL ship, Vira I, docked at Phnom Penh, was damaged by a plastique charge which blew a hole in the ship's side. The Vira I received extensive damage enroute to the capital on 6 May and remained there for temporary repairs prior to returning to South Vietnam.

Press reports of a "major victory" at Takeo apparently were made in reference to FANK successes in expanding defenses west and south of the city. Four enemy positions were overrun in the operation, expanding the city's defensive perimeter about 1 mile to the west and about one-half mile to the south. The local commander, however, continues to report heavy enemy pressure against the city.

INFILTRATION

Two combat infiltration groups with about 1,000 personnel were noted in southern North Vietnam on 12 and 13 May. These constitute the first regular combat groups entering the infiltration pipeline since 11 March. The numerical designators of these two groups suggest that an additional five groups bound for the DMZ/MRTTH area may also have entered the pipeline unnoticed. If so, these five groups would represent an estimated 2,500 more personnel in the system.

SA 99 B-389

THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

16 MAY 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS

SUBJECT: Vietnam Post Cease-fire Report, 1600 EDT, 16 May 1973

Cease-fire Violations. Nine major and 74 minor violations were reported during the period since the last report. The distribution of major violations by Military Region was: MR 1 - 1; MR 2 - 0; MR 3 - 2; and MR 4 - 6. The more significant of the major violations took place in MR 4 and involved Regional and Popular Force units. Preliminary casualty reports indicate that 31 enemy and 41 friendly personnel were killed during the reporting period. Charts depicting trends in major and minor violations and casualties are attached.

Defense Attache Office (DAO). The DAO has 921 regular and 247 TDY civilian employees for a total operational strength of 1,168. Contractor personnel in-country include 4,022 US citizens and 1,164 third country nationals.

Two Party Joint Military Commission (TPJMC). The announcement concerning the appointment of MGEN TUAN, vice LTGEN TRA, as Chief of the PRG Delegation confirms the GVN belief that Tra would not be returning to the negotiating table. The GVN and American Embassy, Saigon, believe that this move indicates that the PRG is downgrading the importance of the TPJMC. There is expected to be a continuing impasse over the 11 points of privileges and immunities, and on PRG deployment.

Four Party Joint Military Team (FPJMT). The 15 May 1973 meeting began with a strong PRG protest regarding recent alleged US/GVN bombings in Tay Ninh and Binh Long Provinces. The DRV then proposed a monthly schedule of activities, to include such items as dates for visits to grave sites and repatriation operations, that should be agreed upon as a planning document to facilitate FPJMT business. The US proposed that the rest of the May schedule include a US liaison visit to Hanoi on 18 May 1973 to complete the preparations for the repatriation of remains, and that actual exhumation and repatriation take place during the week of 21-25 May 1973. The US also suggested a liaison visit to Hanoi, on 25 May 1973, to discuss additional repatriation operations in June. Further discussion concerned a visit to US grave sites in the Loc Ninh area and in other PRG areas. The DRV and PRG stated that they would study the US proposals.

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Sec Def Cont Nr. I-222

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E.O. 12356, Sect. 3.4

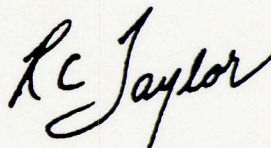
NSC F9301187 10/4/93; DOD I-93/54551 10/28/93

By WAC NARA, Date 1/26/94

SA 99

International Commission of Control and Supervision (ICCS). The Canadian Delegation has reported that up to 20 Polish translators have been sent home. In several cases, the absence of these translators has delayed local ICCS operations. No reason was given as to why these personnel were returned to Poland. A lengthy 4-hour plenary session, on 14 May 1973, was notable for ICCS agreement to investigate PRG charges of US/GVN cease-fire violations.

Intelligence. A DIA summary of the Indochina situation is appended.

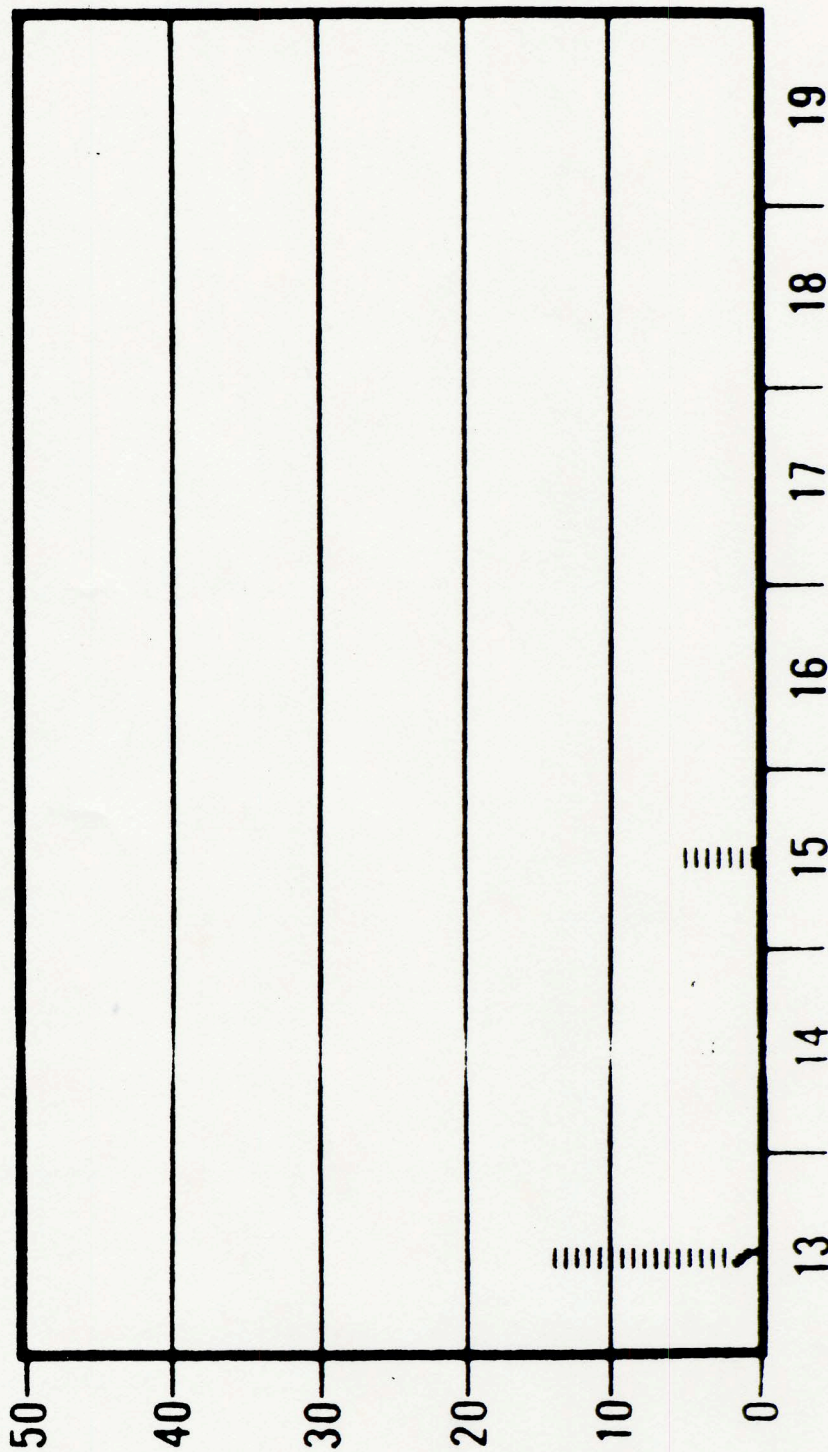


Robert C. Taylor
Colonel, USAF
Military Assistant

Attachments

MAJOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

DAILY TOTAL



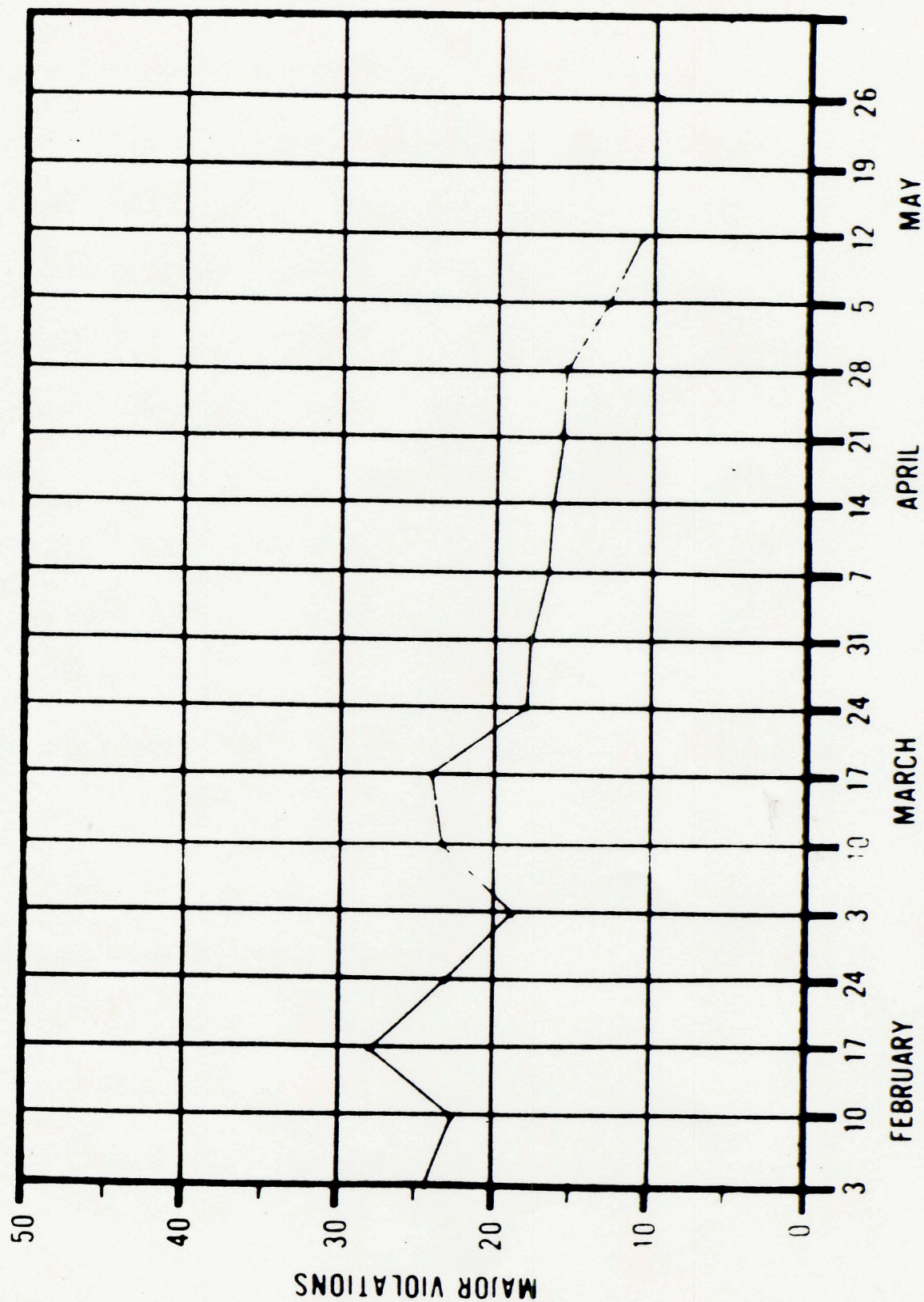
MAY
ZULU DAY 2001-2000 EDT

SOURCE OPREP 4

ATTACKS BY FIRE ≡

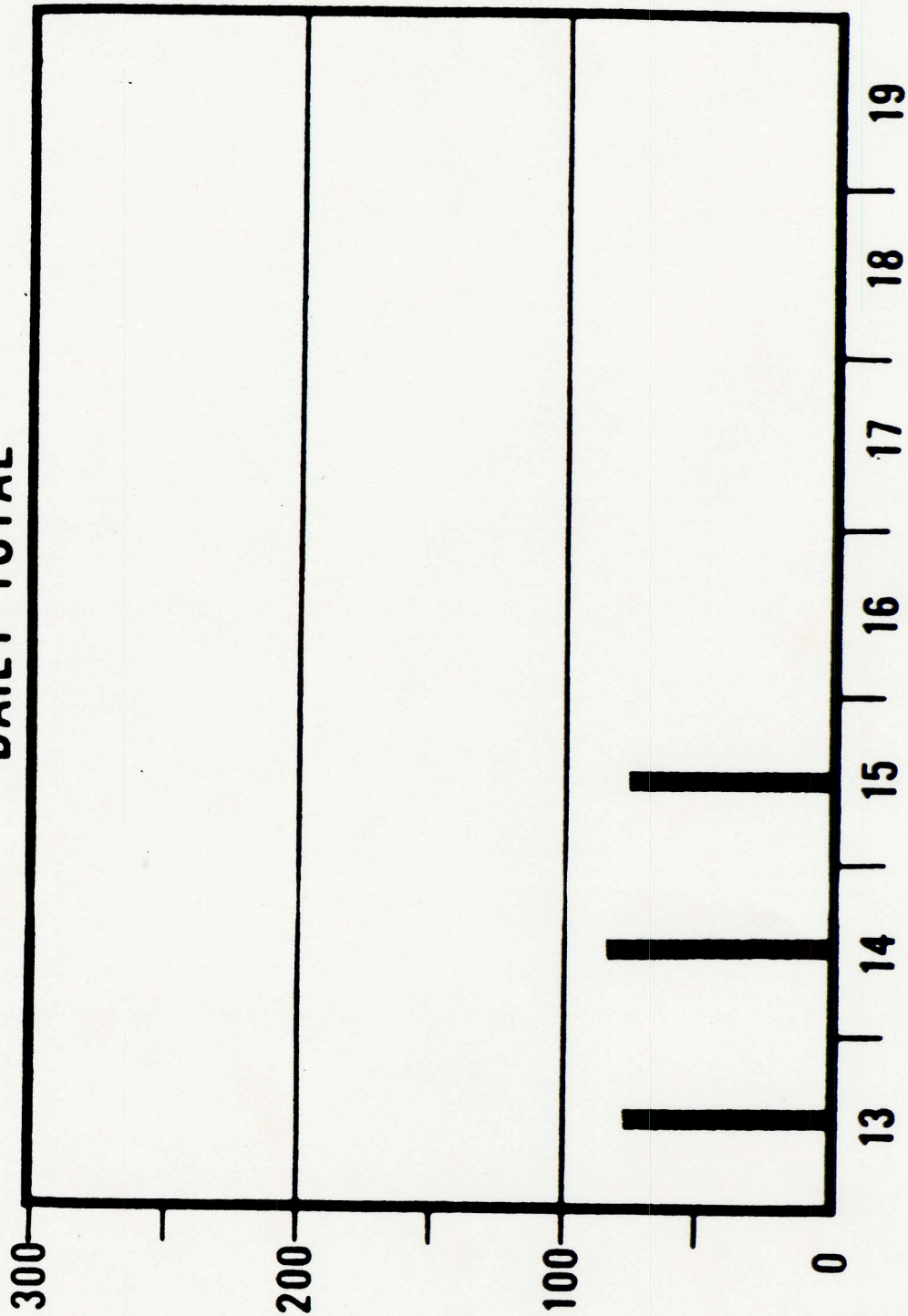
OTHER ▽

KVN MAJOR CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS DAILY AVERAGE BY WEEK



SOURCE OPREP 4

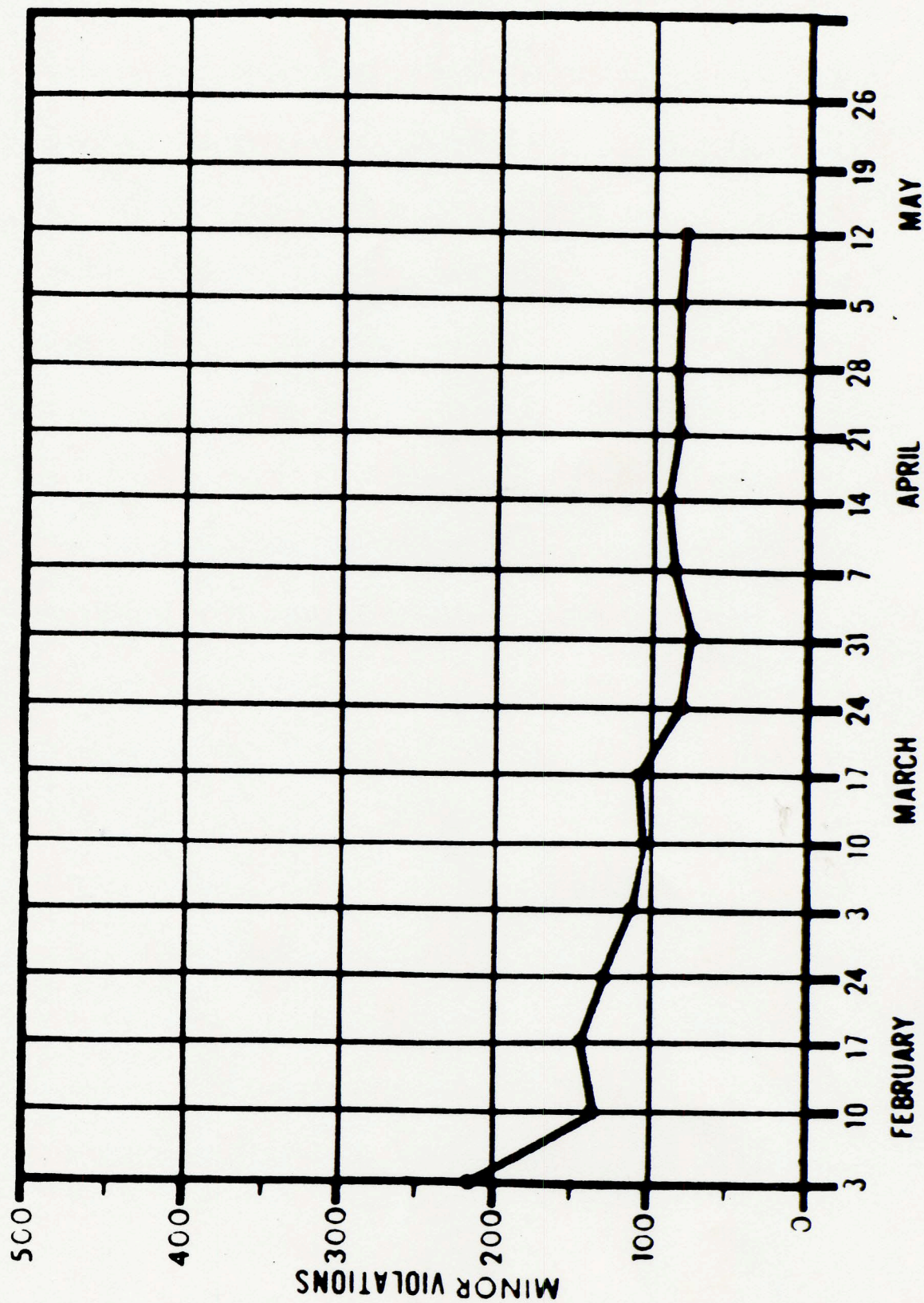
MINOR CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS DAILY TOTAL



MAY
ZULU DAY 2001-2000 EDT

SOURCE: OPREP - 4

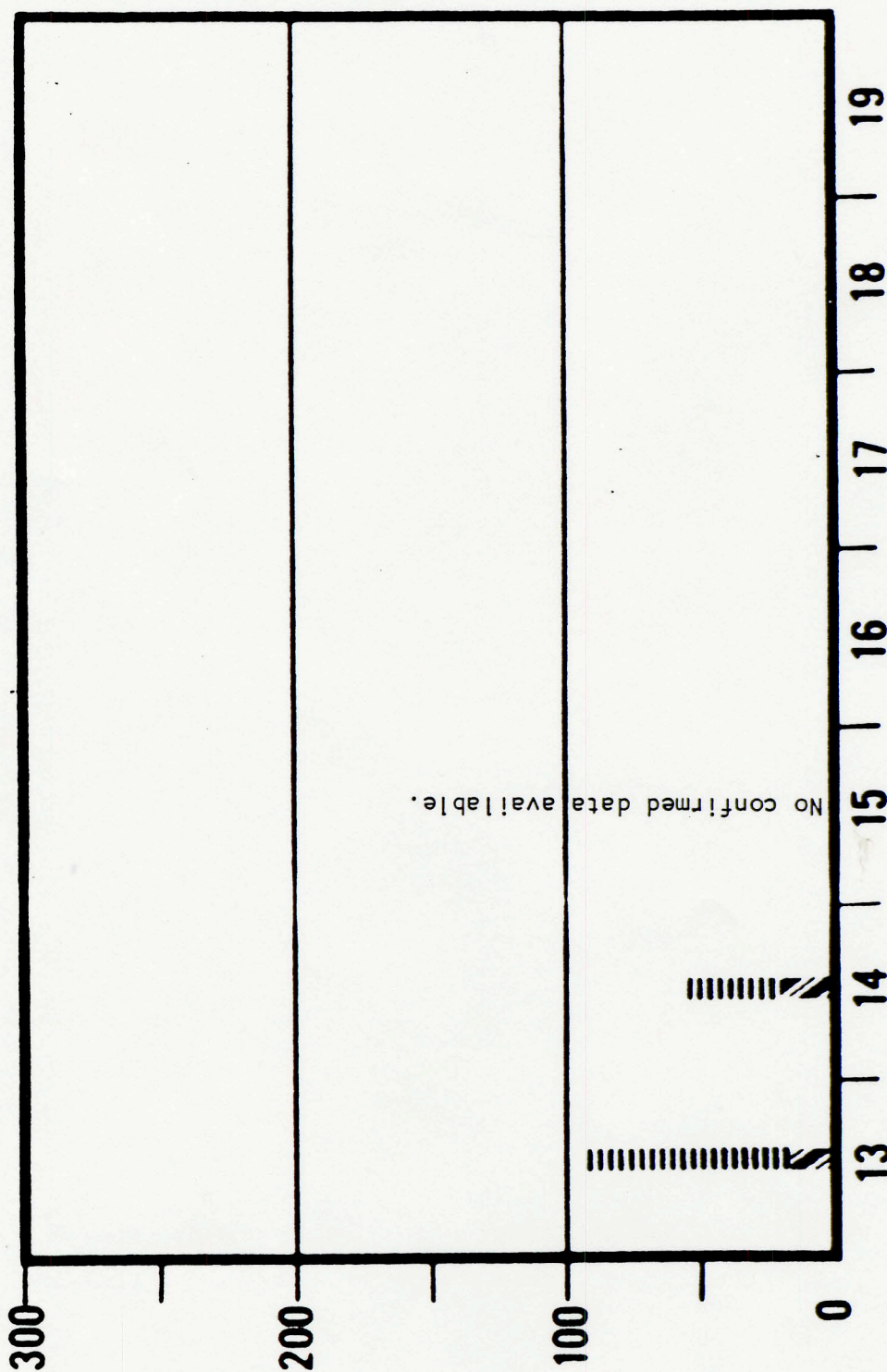
KVN MINOR CEASE FIRE VIOLATIONS DAILY AVERAGE BY WEEK



SOURCE OPREP 4

POST CEASE-FIRE CASUALTIES (KIA)

VC/NVA - RVN
DAILY TOTAL



MAY

(1801-1800 EDT)

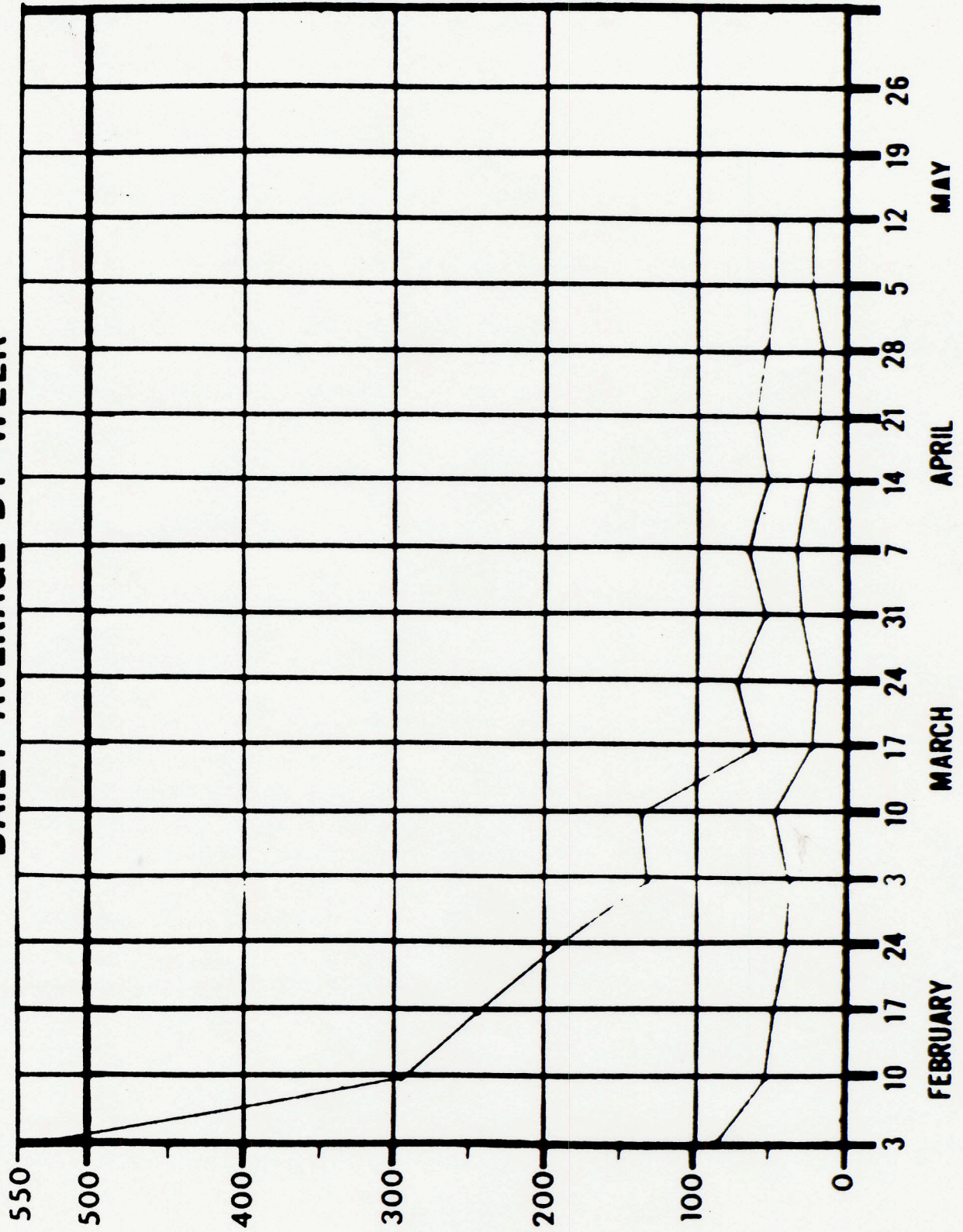
SOURCE: OPREP 4

VC NVA

RVN

PYST CEASE FIRE CASUALTIES (KIA)

DAILY AVERAGE BY WEEK



RVN

VC/NVA

SOURCE OPREP 4

INDOCHINA SITUATION

16 May 1973

ENEMY FORCES

There have been no major enemy unit deployments detected in Indochina since the last report.

SOUTH VIETNAM

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

MILITARY REGION	TOTAL SINCE CEASE-FIRE LEVEL OF ACTION			LAST 24 HOURS* LEVEL OF ACTION		
	SER	MAJ	MIN	SER	MAJ (**)	MIN
MR 1	0	903	2,998	0	1 (0)	12
MR 2	0	211	1,554	0	0 (0)	8
MR 3	0	335	2,077	0	2 (0)	10
MR 4	0	537	4,929	0	6 (4)	44
TOTALS	0	1,986	11,558	0	9 (4)	74

*Included in totals.

**Number of major violations which occurred prior to the last 24 hours.

A total of nine major violations were reported, the same as yesterday's total. These violations consisted of seven attacks-by-fire and two enemy-initiated ground attacks. Minor violations totaled 74, compared to 85 during the previous 24 hours.

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

No significant activity.

LAOS

CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS

No significant activity.

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

No significant activity.

CAMBODIA

ENEMY INTENTIONS

No change.

SECURITY AND POLITICAL SITUATION

In Cambodia, early yesterday morning, insurgent forces attacked a FANK brigade camp at Kompong Kantuot, 13 miles southwest of Phnom Penh. Shortly afterward, a coordinated enemy attack was launched along Route 3 between Kompong Kantuot and Tram Khnar. The enemy occupied a 2-mile section of the road and overran three company positions. Three smaller positions in the area are surrounded. These attacks, along with recent enemy activity west of Phnom Penh, could be the beginning of a major offensive. To carry out this mission, enemy battalions in the area have been organized as two regiments of about 1,500 troops each, controlled by a single command element. This reorganization does not reflect any increase in enemy troop strength, but rather indicates improved command and control.

At the surrounded provincial capital of Takeo, government forces are consolidating their positions following successes in expanding their defenses to the west and south

of the city. The local government commander reports 62 enemy killed. He also reports capturing 60 122-mm rockets and over 50 cases of smaller caliber ammunition. Intense US air strikes have again temporarily reduced enemy pressure, although enemy units remain and are still able to offer firm resistance.

The 17 May convoy from South Vietnam to Phnom Penh is tentatively scheduled to consist of ten ships. It will probably depart Tan Chau, South Vietnam, at 1800 EDT today and arrive in Phnom Penh at 0600 EDT tomorrow. However, two of the POL ships are presently without crews and may not be ready to sail by the seventeenth.

Motor gasoline, auto diesel, and kerosene stocks are critical in Phnom Penh at this time. Private sales of motor gas were suspended on 9 May, and auto diesel has been rationed since that time. Civilian stocks of kerosene were exhausted prior to the arrival of the last convoy and so remain.

LOGISTICS

Logistics activity in southern Laos continues at a heavy pace. On 12 May, 92 loaded trucks were ~~METHOD~~ traveling southbound on Route 9211. ~~METHOD~~

~~METHOD~~ 80 trucks along Route 9 in northern South Vietnam. These sightings indicate that the enemy is moving as much material south as possible before heavy monsoon rains commence.

Increasing rains already may be restricting Hanoi's infiltration of men and material through southern Laos. During the past several weeks, ~~METHOD~~

~~METHOD~~ road deterioration, such as standing water, along Route 99, the major north-south corridor. The severity of the problems will be increasing in the near future, because May is a transition month in Indochina, bringing with it the onset of the southwest monsoon. Precipitation during the month normally totals about 10 inches. Logistics movement will dwindle rapidly from now until late June when the accumulation of rain will have saturated the soil and made most roads impassable. The approaching wet season will also restrict infiltration of personnel through southern Laos.