

# The Hue Massacre 1968.



- Prior to 1968, the communist party realized that they cannot prolong the war against the American fire powers.
- They could only win the war with surprises and quick attacks, and close range battlements .
- The longer war will only result in their failures.

# Violation of cease-fire agreement.



- The North Vietnamese communist aggressors deliberately violated "three days" cease fire.
- In the Vietnamese tradition, the New Year celebration considered one of the biggest event of the year. It is time for families to reunion and blesses.
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- The North communists sent two battalion of foot soldiers and opened fire on New Year's eve. Battalion 800 & 802.
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- The North Communists launched shock & awe attack, utilizing on shock and surprise element.
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- Two months of occupation & terrors reigned to innocent civilians, especially Hue.
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# Communist Initiate Attacks:



January 29, 1968 (one day before New Year's eve):

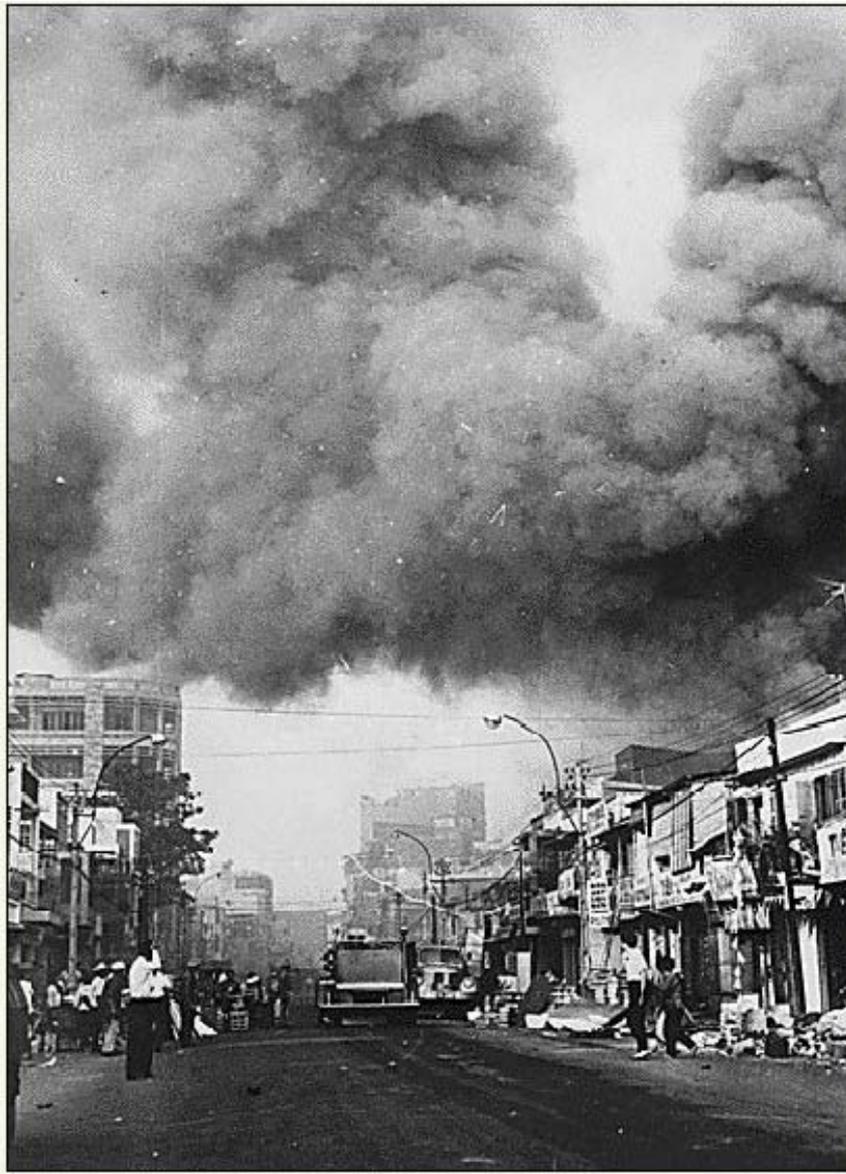
- Attacked Qui Nhon @ 4:10 am (Zone II).
- Kontum @ 2:00 am (Zone II).
- Pleiku @ 4:40 am (Zone II).
- Darlac @ 1:30 am (Zone II).
- Nha Trang @ 0:30 am (Zone II).

# Communist Initiate Attacks:



- Hue were first attacked @ 2:00 am on January 31, 1968 (New Year day).
- Quang Tri @ 4:00 am on February 1, 1968 (New Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> day).
- Quang Tin @ 4:00 am on February 1, 1968 (New Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> day).
- Quang Ngai @ 4:00 am on February 1, 1968 (New Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> day).
- Binh Thuan @ 3:25 am on February 1, 1968 (New Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> day). [Zone II].
- Tuyen Duc @ 2:00 am on February 2, 1968 (New Year, 3<sup>rd</sup> day).

# Communist Initiate Attacks:



- The Viet Cong attacked Saigon, Cho-lon, Gia-dinh @ 2:00 am on February 1, 1968 (New Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> day).
- Binh Duong @ 4:25 am on February 2, 1968 (New Year, 3<sup>rd</sup> day).
- Bien Hoa @ 3:03 am on February 1, 1968 (New Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> day).
- Long Khanh @ 1:00 am on February 4, 1968 (New Year, 5<sup>th</sup> day).

# Viet Cong attacked Zone IV:

- Viet Cong attacked Phong Dinh @ 3:00 am on February 1, 1968 (New Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> day).
- Vinh Long @ 3:30 am on February 1, 1968 (New Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> day).
- Kien Hoa @ 3:03 am on February 1, 1968 (New Year, 2<sup>nd</sup> day).
- Dinh Tuong @ 4:00 am on February 2, 1968 (New Year, 3<sup>rd</sup> day).



# Viet Cong temporary occupied Hue.



- North communist forces occupied Hue for approximately 26 days before the South Army & its Alliances regained control of Hue.
- While occupying, communist forces began its tool of terrors to sweep off population. They aimed to eliminate anyone who they though may not be a communist sympathy.

# The Truth color of communists at Hue:



- Using the inside informers who had already infiltrated the city, communist forces began names calling and they did it systematically throughout the city.
- They started pulling out people who they thought may or may have associated with the South government.
- They made house-to-house visited, arrested, and abducted.

# Casualties counted by the South Vietnamese Government.



- February 1968:

Killed in action: 3,501

Wounded: 10,678

Missing: 543

- March 1968:

Killed in action: 1,453

Wounded: 4,419

Missing: 383

- Alliances February 1968:

Killed in action: 2,832

Wounded: 15,832

Missing: 352

- Alliances March 1968:

Killed in action: 1,292

Wounded: 3,453

Missing: 252

\* \* In addition: There were 14,300 civilians killed, 24,000 wounds, 72,000 lost their homes, 627,000 became refugees.

# Massacre at Hue:

- **After the battle, the Government of South Viet Nam's total estimated civilian casualties resulting from Battle of Hue 7,600:**
- **Wounded (hospitalized or outpatients) with injuries attributable to warfare: 1900**
- **Estimated civilian deaths due to accident of battle: 844**
- **First finds-bodies discovered immediately post battle, 1968: 1,173**
- **Second finds, including Sand Dune finds, March-July, 1969 (est.): 809**
- **Third find, Da Mai Creek find (Nam Hoa district) September, 1969: 428**
- **Fourth Finds-Phu Thu Salt Flat find, November, 1969 (est.): 300**
- **Miscellaneous finds during 1969 (approximate): 200**
- **Total yet unaccounted for: 1,946**
- **Total casualty and wounded in Hue : 7,600**

# References:

- 1. Vietnam Chien Tranh Lich Su:  
<http://vietnam.ictglobal.net>**
- 2. (An Excerpt from the Viet Cong Strategy of Terror, Douglas Pike, p. 23-39)**
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