FORT DU FOU (FRANCE, 1963)
(Other titles: Fort of the mad; Madman’s fort; Outpost Indochina)

Credits: director, Leo Joannon; writers, Georges Kessel, Jean Larteguy, Leo Joannon

Cast: Jacques Harden, Alain Saury, Jean Rochefort

Summary: War film set in northern Vietnam in 1953 near the end of the Indochina War. A French Army Captain (Harden) commanding a small detachment protecting a group of Vietnamese Catholic refugees is besieged in a fortified compound by the Viet Minh. The garrison is reinforced by a unit of Vietnamese commandos led by a French Lieutenant. The Viet Minh harass them with music and propaganda broadcast over loudspeakers. The Catholic refugees give in to the Viet Minh promises and leave the compound and are killed. The Viet Minh commissar incites dissension among the French officers by asserting that the Lieutenant had an affair with the Captain’s wife (a Vietnamese woman he had secretly married). On the verge of madness, the Captain leads a raid against the Viet Minh headquarters. He discovers his wife is dead and did not betray him. He is killed while broadcasting his apologies to the Lieutenant over the Viet Minh loudspeakers. French reinforcements arrive, but the fort is abandoned and blown up as the French evacuate.

Daniel, Joseph. Guerre et cinema [GB] (p. 365, 406)