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DIRECTORATE OF
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C O N T E N T S

(Information as of 1200 EST)

GENERAL

Vietnam
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Situation Report.

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GENERAL

Vietnam

Allied troops fought again with North Vietnamese regulars around Dak To in the central highlands on 12-13 November.

Communist forces in this sector appear to be operating in battalion-size units. They have been trying to ambush smaller US patrols from dug-in positions.

There are indications, meanwhile, that the Communists intend to broaden their offensive activity in the highlands by launching attacks in Darlac Province. Captured notes based on a combat plan prepared by an element of the North Vietnamese 33rd Regiment reveal that the regiment will try to draw allied units into good terrain for ambushes. This is to mark the opening of the regiment's "winter-spring campaign."

In southern II Corps, Communist military activity has

[Redacted]

increased, and it has been directed for the most part against vital lines of communications in an effort to erode government security in the area. On 12 November, a Communist force destroyed a bridge on strategic Route 20 some 25 miles east of Bao Lac and then ambushed a South Vietnamese reaction force sent to the scene. Simultaneously, another enemy force attacked South Vietnamese military compounds at nearby Di Linh. As a result, traffic between Bao Lac and Da Lat in Tuyen Duc Province via Route 20 has been suspended. This road has been secured by South Vietnamese forces for several months, thus denying the Communists between \$8,000 and \$16,000 a day in estimated tax booty collected at former road-blocks along the route. The recent enemy military action has also served to draw friendly forces out of southwestern Lam Dong Province where most of the tax collection points were located.

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