INTERROGATION REPORT


COUNTRY: NORTH VIETNAM (NVN)
SOUTH VIETNAM (SVN)

SUBJECT: Preliminary Interrogation Report

DATE OF INFO: 1942 - 29 January 1968
DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: DANANG, Vietnam

This report was collected by a NIC Field Exploitation Team on 15 February 1968 in DANANG City, QUANG NAM Province, SVN. Source is not available at the NIC for further exploitation.

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None

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I. CHRONOLOGICAL LISTING OF SOURCE'S SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES:

1942 - 1959: Source lived with his parents in  and attended the following schools during the period from 1951 to 1960:

1960 - 8 October 1967: He was drafted on 6 April 1960 and served with Division 304 in BINH DA District, HA DONG Province. He received military and political training during the period from April 1960 to September 1960.

During his period of service at Division 304, Source and his unit moved through THANH HOA, NINH BINH, SON TAY, HOA BINH and HA DONG in order to train VC recruits and assign them to SVN.

October 1967 - 19 January 1968: On 9 October 1967, Source and Division 304 left THANH HOA to infiltrate SVN. They walked through NGHE AN, HA TINH, QUANG BINH, VINH LINH, LAOS, and QUANG TRI, and on 18 January 1968 arrived at a forest which was a two day march to the west of KHE SANH. On 19 January 1968, Source and Regiment 66 were ordered to attack KHE SANH.

22 January 1968 - 29 January 1968: At 0500 hours on 22 January 1968, Platoon 7, Regiment 66 opened fire on KHE SANH post. The U.S. soldiers inside the post withdrew by helicopters. (NIC COMMENT: What was probably meant was a KHE SANH outpost that was overrun and evacuated by helicopter). Battalion 8, Regiment 66, was encamped about two kilometers from KHE SANH post and deployed in its trenches located on top of the hills to wait and to attack Allied reinforcements. The battalion remained there from 22 through 26 January 1968, but did not meet the Allied forces. At the same time, the Battalion Executive Office and one squad were ordered to go to the VEI Village Post (on National Road 9) to reconnoiter on 28 January 1968, the Battalion was ordered to penetrate VEI Village Post at 1600 hours. Source was sick and stayed behind with some of his comrades. At about 1800 hours the same day, the battalion was bombed and dispersed in disorder in the forest. At about 0200 hours on 29 January 1968, Source left his unit and rallied to the GVN at VEI Village post.

II. CIRCUMSTANCES OF RALLYING:

The following are reasons for Source's rallying to the GVN. The NVN regime tried to present many false ideas in order to mobilize the people into working day and night without any promised compensation. Famine was still widespread in NVN. The NVA had a shortage of weapons, ammunition and food. The promotion
policy was usually disregarded and undeserved promotions occurred. The NVA soldiers' morale was low. Moreover, they were ill treated by their high ranking officers when wounded or dying. Source also recognized that the regime's sending of soldiers into SVN was a form of risking the soldiers' lives because the allied forces were so strong. Source wanted to change his way of life, and he also hoped to meet some of his relatives living in SVN.

On 25 January 1968, Source's unit was ordered to launch an operation into VEI Village. Source was sick and allowed to remain behind with some of his comrades. At about 1800 hours to same day, the unit was bombed and had to disperse in the forest. At about 0200 hours on 29 January 1968, Source left his unit and sought the way to National Road 9 which was about 500 meters from his unit.

III. PROPOSED SUBJECTS FOR FUTURE INTERROGATIONS.

The following are subjects on which Source has been interrogated, which will be published as they are completed.

1. VC's new strategy and tactics for the future war in Vietnam.
2. Effects of leaflets on VC cadres and soldiers.
3. Spirit of Division 304 cadres and soldiers in NVN and SVN.
4. NVA Division 304.