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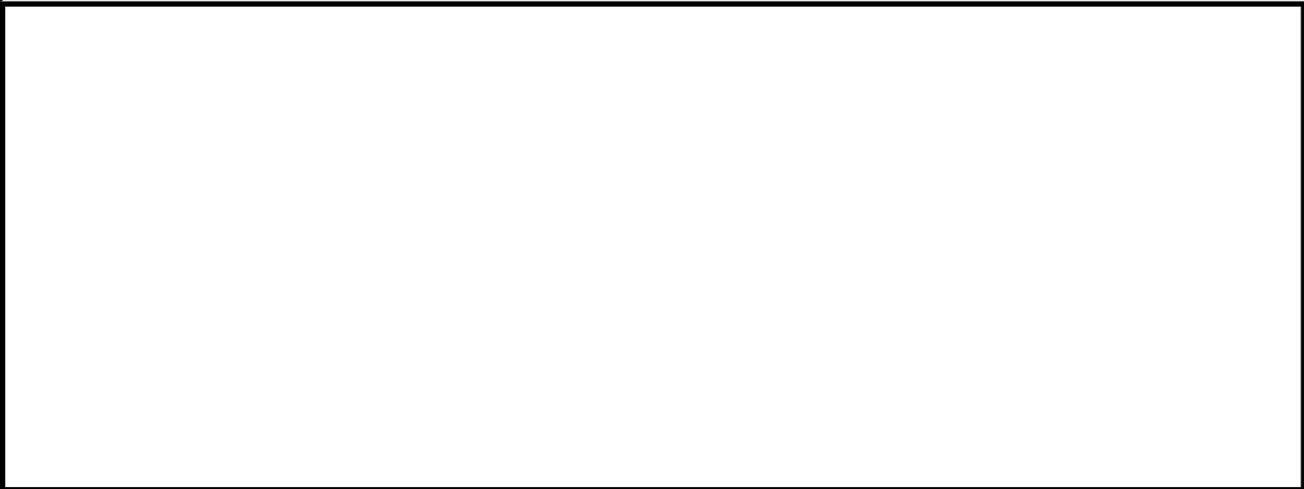
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21 Jan 68 1945Z
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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
SOUTHEAST ASIA SIGINT SUMMARY

This report summarizes developments noted throughout Southeast Asia available to NSA at time of publication on 21 January 1968. All information in this report is based entirely on SIGINT except where otherwise specifically indicated.

<u>CONTENTS</u>	<u>PAGE</u>
Situation Summary.	1
I. Communist Southeast Asia	
A. Military	
1. Vietnamese Communist Communications - South Vietnam	2
2. DRV Communications.	5
3. PAVN Communications in Laos	8

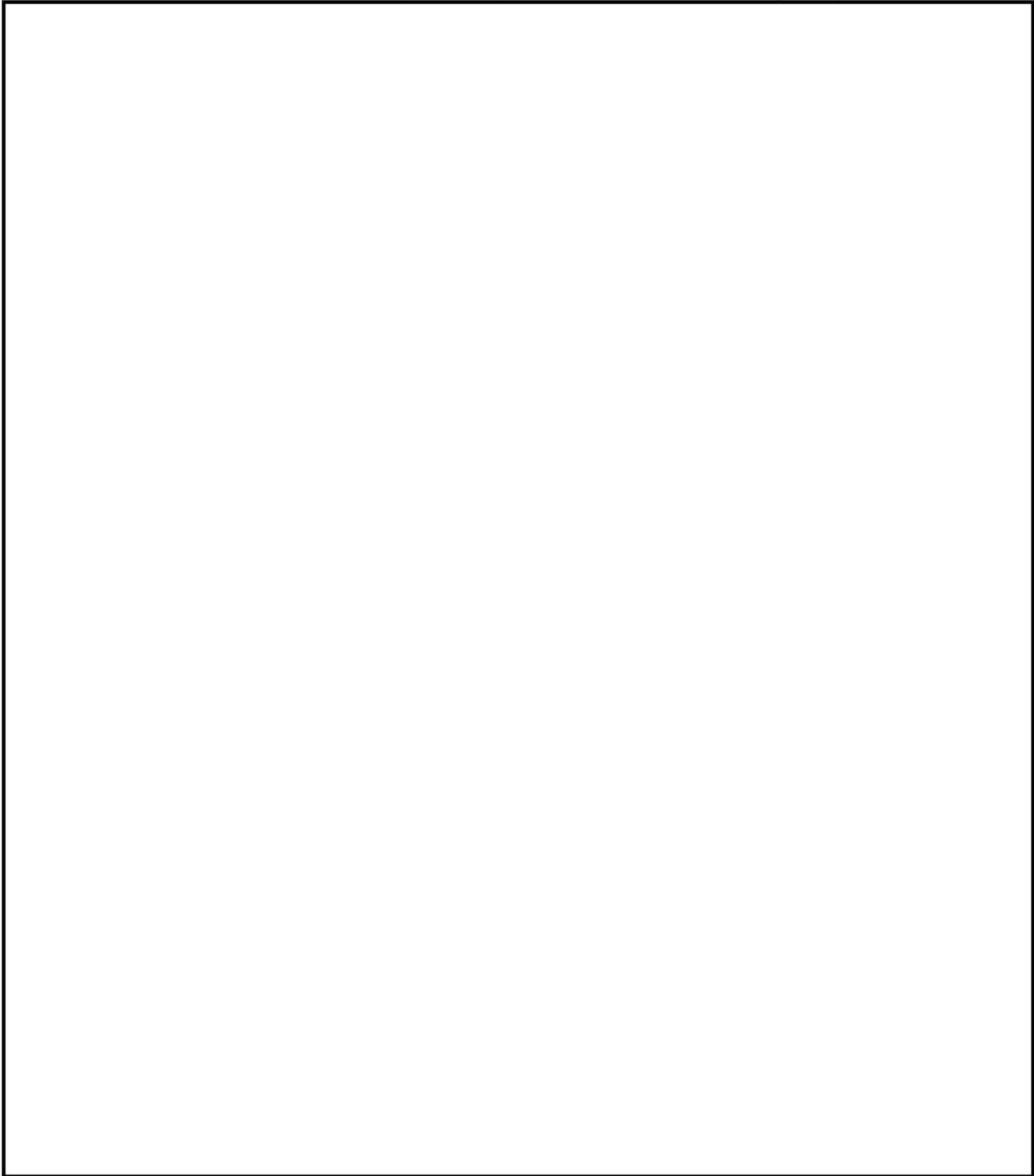
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SITUATION SUMMARY

In South Vietnam, the possible Hq, Military Region (MR) Tri-Thien-Hue has relocated southward into Thua Thien Province, according to recent SIGINT. Indications of impending attacks in western Pleiku Province of MR 5 continue to be reflected in communications serving elements of the PAVN B3 Front and PAVN 1st Division in that area. Additional evidence that Vietnamese Communist units in the Quang-Nam-Quang Tin Province border area are repositioning, was also noted. In MR 1 the Hq, Viet Cong (VC) 5th Light Infantry Division has moved from Long Khanh into northeastern Bien Hoa Province.

In the western DMZ area, the PAVN 29th Regiment reported that it had clashed with Allied forces and that the combat was continuing. SIGINT also indicated that the 8th Battalion, 29th Regiment, may have been involved in the 13 January ambush of a U.S. Marine convoy on Route 9. Further south an unidentified subordinate of the PAVN Headquarters in the Tchepone area relocated into South Vietnam northwest of Khe Sanh. In addition communications between the Hq, probable 304th Infantry Division and its subordinates regiments have increased through 21 January.

-1-

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I. COMMUNIST SOUTHEAST ASIA

A. MILITARY

1. Vietnamese Communist Communications - South Vietnam

Military Region Tri-Thien-Hue

The 19 January location of the tentative forward element of Hq, MR Tri-Thien-Hue (TTH) near 16-21N 107-28E (YD 6312), approximately 10 km southwest of Hue indicates that this major Headquarters has relocated southward during late December 1967 - early January 1968, from the Quang Tri-Thua Thien Province border area. The forward element appears to exercise control over approximately 8 to 10 subordinates, including the tentative Hq, PAVN 4th Regiment; Hq, PAVN 6th Regiment; the possible Hq, PAVN 9th Regiment; and the possible Hue Municipal Unit.

An unidentified terminal subordinate to both Hq, MR TTH and its forward element was located in Thua Thien near 16-10N 107-04E (YC 7589) on 20 January, approximately 35 km southeast of its 11 January location.

(2/G11/VCM/R142-68, 210919Z; 2/G11/VCM/R124-68, 201149Z)

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Military Region 5

A probable Hq, PAVN B3 Front authority and a probable Hq, PAVN 1st Division element--both located by SIGINT in the west-central Pleiku Province--have continued to exchange information relating to impending Communist offensives in that region.

At 0242Z on 20 January, the probable Hq, 1st Division element reported to the B3 Front authority as follows: "The unit is vigilant and prepared for combat. The guards are alert night and day. Concerning the research phase, we finished marking the

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3/O/STY/R18-68

route for the three infantry battalions. Tomorrow, we will proceed with marking the route for headquarters and the subordinate units." At 0238Z, the 1st Division element reported: "19 January: about 0700 hours an L-19 flew over the hills in the area of activity. At 1100 hours, artillery at Sung Le fired toward Beng Viaage. At 1400 an L-19 flew low over the hills in the area of activity. Among the hills they flew over was the hill where our troops are bivouacked. At 1630 hours an L-19 flew over the area of Chu Ba. The fact that L-19s are reconnoitering this way indicates a possibility that the enemy has discovered us."

At 0320Z on 20 January, the probable Hq, 1st Division element reported: "The artillery has been fired according to the grid-square type of plan which is generally used. Commandos are still active in small areas all around the area along the road and in the areas neighboring Lang Beng Village [13-53N 107-38E, YA 845368], Lang Bina Village, and Lang Trang Village." The message ended with: "Together with the command cadre, [we] will do our utmost to complete the mission."

A message passed ten minutes later by this 1st Division element reported: "Our security has been rearranged, but it is still not very good. We will reorganize [further]."

SIGINT located the probable Hq, 1st Division element in the vicinity of 13-50N 107-36E (YA 812308), near Duc Co. The probable B3 Front authority was located near 13-59N 107-19E (YA 502470) on 20 January, about 12 km northeast of its 19 January position.

Also in the western highlands area, two elements subordinate to Hq, B3 Front were located in extreme southeastern Laos on 20 January. One of these elements was located near 14-36N 107-28E (YB 678188), about 20 km east of its position on 16 January. The other element was located in the vicinity of 14-35N 107-22E (YB 555145) about 15 km southwest of its 13 January location.

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Plans for an attack on an Allied position probably southwest of Dak To in Kontum Province, were contained in recent messages exchanged between the Military Intelligence Section (MIS), Hq, 1st Division and a subordinate.

In a message of 19 January the MIS instructed a subordinate to "restrict" its artillery fire during the night of 19 January and all day of the 20th. In addition the subordinate was instructed to maintain direct communications in order to "receive orders directly." On 20 January, this subordinate informed the MIS that it had reached the position and would open fire on the night of the 20th. However, another message from the subordinate sent immediately after the first, indicated that the position at "Hill 782" 14-36N 117-44E (YB 913172) was a good artillery position but that the range to the target was too great. This subordinate was last located on 6 January in Kontum near 14-34N 107-44E (YB 938127) approximately 3 km south of Hill 782. The MIS, was located on 20 January in Laos, near 11-45N 107-28E (YB 670325), in an area in which it has been located since approximately 10 January.

In a 20 January message from the MIS to another subordinate --tentatively located in western Kontum Province near the Cambodian border on 19 January in the vicinity of 14-37N 107-33E (YB 703181)--instructed the subordinate to turn around immediately and to return to its "own unit." In addition, the MIS stated that the "Sapper Detachment" was to return to the location of "K9 E66 (probably the 9th Battalion, 66th Regiment, 1st Division)."

In the Quang Nam-Quang Tin Province area, Hq, MR 5 Main Force Unit Control moved about 12 km to the northwest between 17 and 19 January, to a position near 15-39N 107-51E (ZC 057335). On 21 January this headquarters reported that it was about to begin another move. Nearby, the MR 5 Rear Services Headquarters--located in the area of 15-33N 107-51E (ZC 110450) on 20 January--informed the Rear Services Authority, A Snau Valley, that it was about to move. In this same area, the Hq, PAVN 2nd Division informed the possible VC 1st Regiment, 2nd Division, that it too

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was about to move. Located near 15-42N 108-06E (AT 902369) on 17 January, this division headquarters had reported similar plans to its probable Hq, 2nd Division Forward Element four hours earlier. In extreme northeastern Quang Nam Province, an unidentified element of the Rear Services complex in Quang Nam was located near 16-13N 108-05E (AT 877939) on 19 January, 12 km north of its 17 January location.

In central Binh Dinh Province, a subordinate of Hq, MR 5 informed the Hq, MR 5 Main Force Unit Control that it was in the area of an enemy sweep operation on 19 January.

(2/G12/VCM/T165-68, 201250Z; T164-68, 201252Z; T158-68, 191701Z; T157-68, 191703Z; T169-68, 210225Z; T170-68, 210120Z; T163-68, 201200Z; T162-68, 201128Z; T161-68, 200938Z; 2/G12/VCM/R185-68, 210151Z; R182-68, 201330Z; R181-68, 201245Z; R180-68, 201005Z; R178-68, 200310Z; R176-68, 192031Z; R175-68, 191638Z; R172-68, 191200Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 1

On 19 January, the Hq, VC 5th Light Infantry Division (LID) was located in northeastern Bien Hoa Province at 11-02N 107-03E (YT 235202), approximately 37 km west of its 17 December location in east-central Long Khanh Province. Collateral indicates that Allied Operation UNIONTOWN is presently being conducted in an area which encompasses the current location of the Hq, VC 5th LID.

(2/G10/R024-68, 190733Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

2. DRV Communications

DMZ Area

PAVN communications reflect recent intensified offensive actions in both the western and eastern DMZ area. In the western DMZ, communications of the PAVN 29th Regiment indicated

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3/O/STY/R18-68

regimental elements had clashed with Allied forces, and stated that the combat was continuing. SIGINT also indicates that the 8th Battalion, 29th Regiment, may have been involved in the ambush of a U.S. Marine convoy on 13 January on Route 9 near 16-43N 106-52E (XD 991494). The increasing threat to the Khe Sanh area is further indicated in SIGINT by relocation of Headquarters 325C Division to a position approximately 20 km west of Khe Sanh, the relocation of the possible PAVN 95C Regiment to a position near 16-44N 106-40E (XD 777490), and the relocation of Hq, PAVN 304th Division to a position near 16-33N 106-40E (XD 786327) west of Khe Sanh. Collateral indicates ground, mortar and artillery attacks took place northwest, west and south of Khe Sanh on 20 and 21 January.

In addition preliminary information indicates that Way Station BRAVO has relocated south of the DMZ, near 16-50N 106-52E (XD 995640), approximately 12 km south of its 12 January location, in the central DMZ area.

In the eastern DMZ area offensive operations by the 3rd Battalion, PAVN 803rd Regiment were reflected on 21 January. The support of mortars from the PAVN 270th Regiment was mentioned and penetrations to as far south as Lam Xuan (16-54N 107-07E, YD 270700), and Nhi Ha (16-55N 107-08E, YD 287712) were ordered for 22 January.

The 27th Battalion was informed on 19 January that the entire 26th Marine Regiment with three battalions and 20 artillery pieces had arrived at an undisclosed location. Communications of the 27th Battalion indicate that increased emphasis will probably be given to ambush activity on Route 9 with the area for such actions probably including An Thai (16-47N 106-55E, YD 065570) and Hill 241/Camp Carroll (16-46N 106-55E, YD 067543). A message on 20 January reported that the 5th Company had destroyed five trucks and killed 25 Americans during a Route 9 ambush.

(2/G11/VCM/R129-68, 2009?3Z; R130-68, 201617Z; T499-68, 191500Z)
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PAVN 304th Division

Heavy communications of the Hq probable 304th Infantry Division and its subordinates have continued through 21 January. A recap of the latest available SIGINT reveals the following locations:

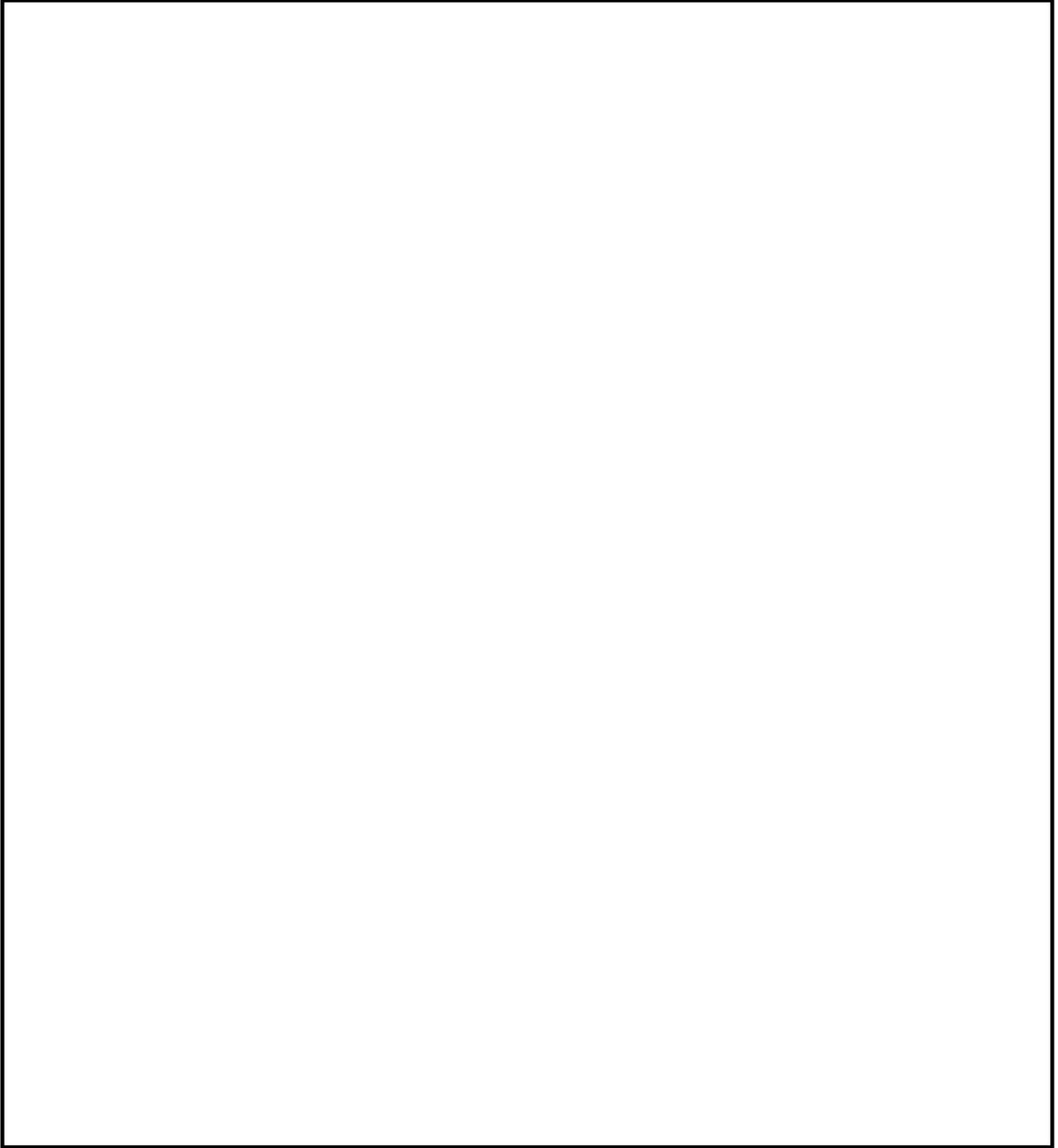
20 January	Hq, probable 304th Division	16-33N	106-40E (XD 786327)
20 January	Suspect Infantry Regiment	16-39N	106-31E (XD 619428)
21 December	Suspect Infantry Regiment	17-15N	106-25E (XE 5108)
21 January	Suspect Artillery Regiment	16-36N	106-44E (XD 861369)
19 January	Unidentified Regimental-echelon Subordinate	16-33N	106-46E (XD 891324)
30 December	Unidentified Regimental-echelon Subordinate	16-29N	106-46E (XD 8724)

On 21 January, the suspect infantry regiment last located on 21 December and the suspect artillery regiment were observed in communications with division headquarters for the first time since mid-December. Additionally, at least three new unidentified entities have been observed in communications with the division headquarters since approximately mid-January. Two of these unidentified entities were located at 16-28N 106-35E (XD 692230) on 21 January and 16-28N 106-34E (XD 675233) on 19 January respectively. The third unidentified entity remains unlocated.

(2/G11/VCM/R0141-68, 210840Z; 3/O/STY/R17-68) ~~(SECRET PAVN)~~

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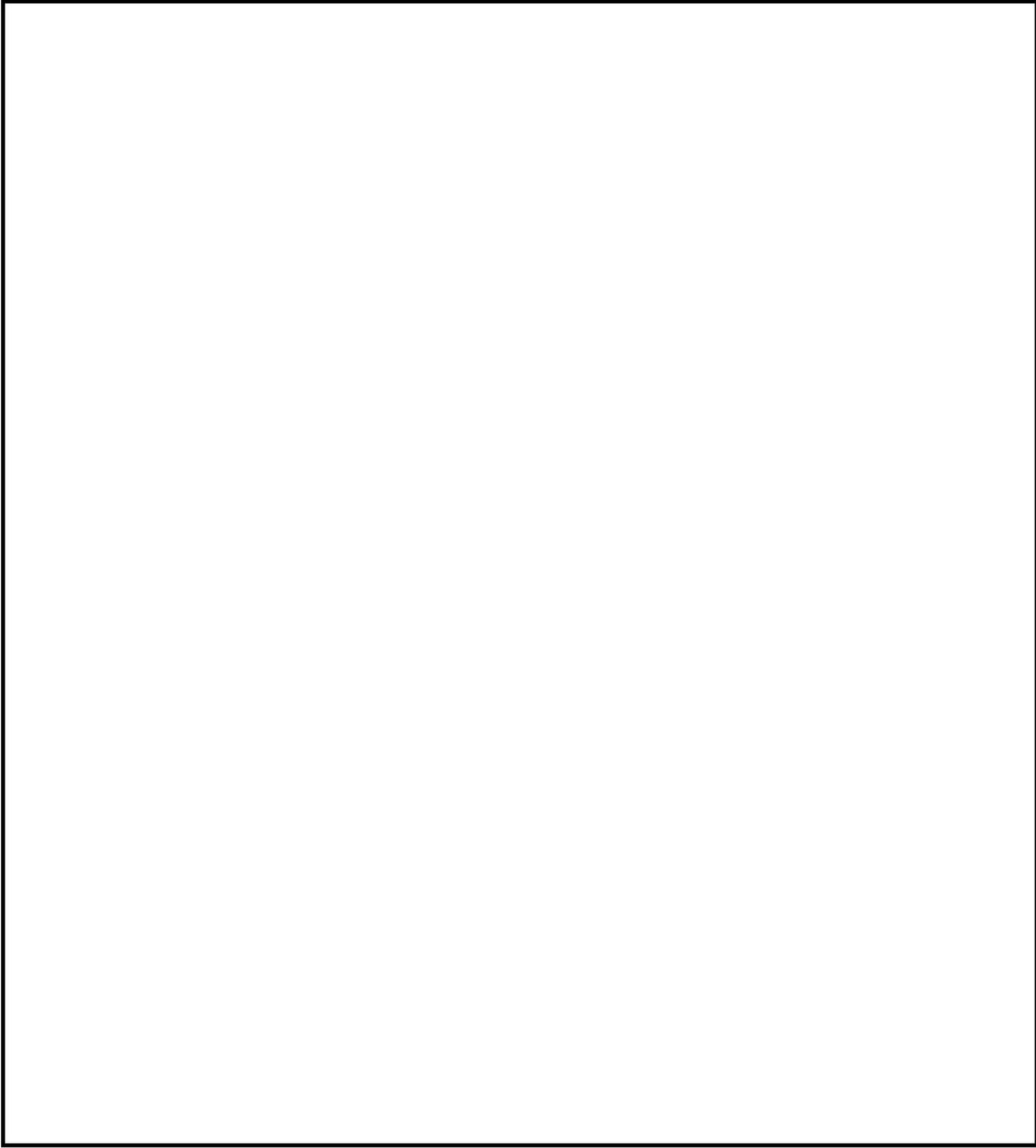
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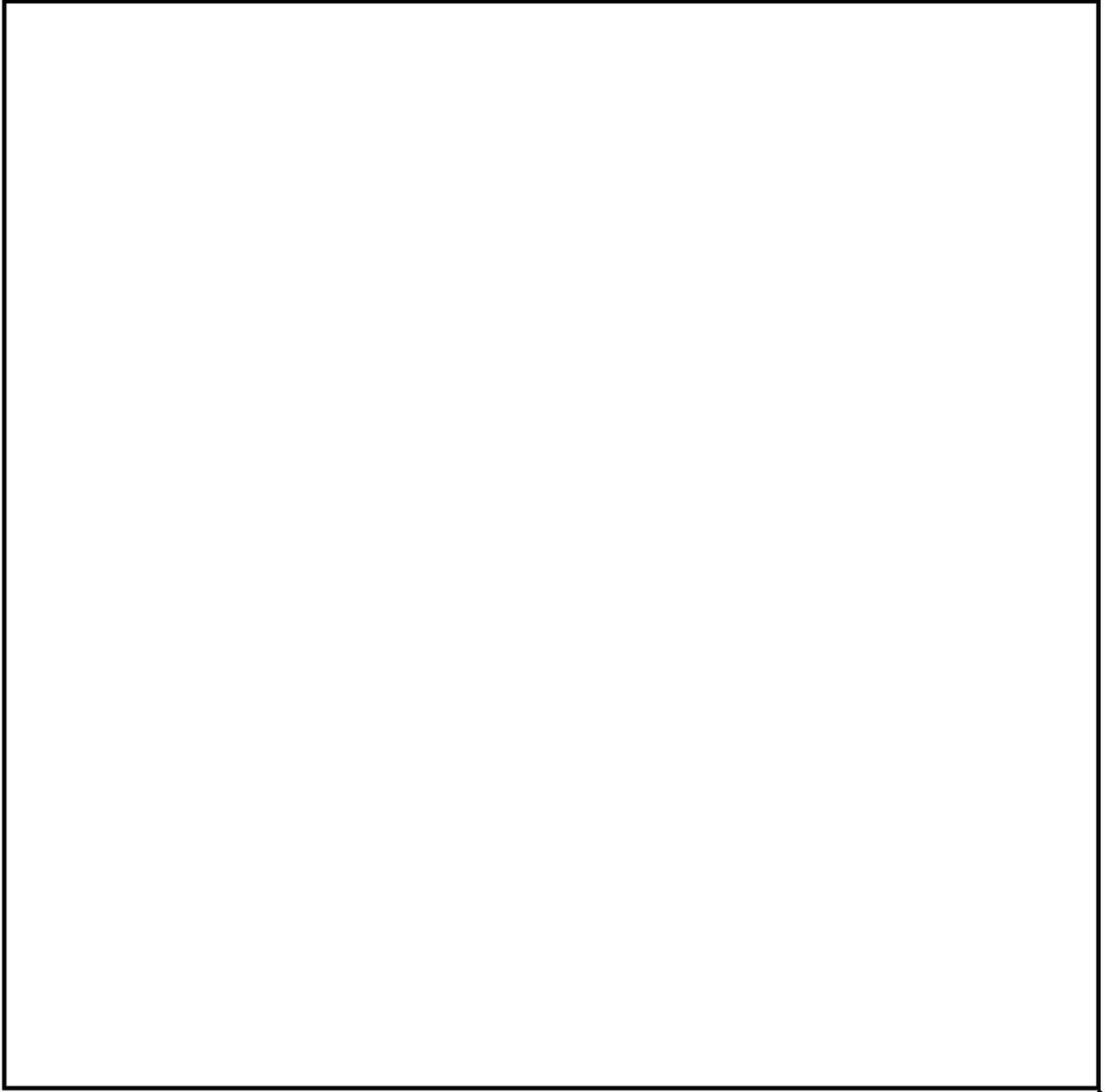
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