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3/O/STY/R21-68
24 January 1968
DIST: O/UT
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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
SOUTHEAST ASIA SIGINT SUMMARY

This report is presented in two sections; Section A summarizes significant developments noted throughout Southeast Asia during the period 17 January - 23 January 1968; Section B summarizes those developments noted throughout Southeast Asia available to NSA at the time of publication on 24 January 1968. All information in this report is based entirely on SIGINT except where otherwise specifically indicated.

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SITUATION SUMMARY

SECTION A

Renewed Communist interest in the Hue area of Military Region (MR) Tri-Thien-Hue in South Vietnam was reflected in SIGINT during the past week. Indications of impending attacks in Pleiku Province and further evidence of plans for offensive activity in the Dak To area of Kontum Province were noted in communications serving Communist units in MR 5. To the east, several Vietnamese Communist military elements completed relocations in the Quang Nam-Quang Tin Province area. In MR 1 Allied activity throughout Tay Ninh Province continues to be of interest to VC military intelligence units and in MR 10 SIGINT has revealed indications that the unidentified possible Front Headquarters in Binh Long Province is assuming a more prominent role in that area of South Vietnam.

Other highlights of activity observed in SIGINT during the week included the intensified offensive actions by PAVN forces in both the western and eastern DMZ areas; the consolidation of Hq, PAVN 325C Division with its detached element; the isolation of the probable 320th Division in traffic-passing communications; and an increase in communications by the major PAVN headquarters in Laos. In addition SIGINT reflected the increased communications activity by all elements of the deploying 304th Infantry Division and the appearance of three new unidentified entities associated with the 304th Division.

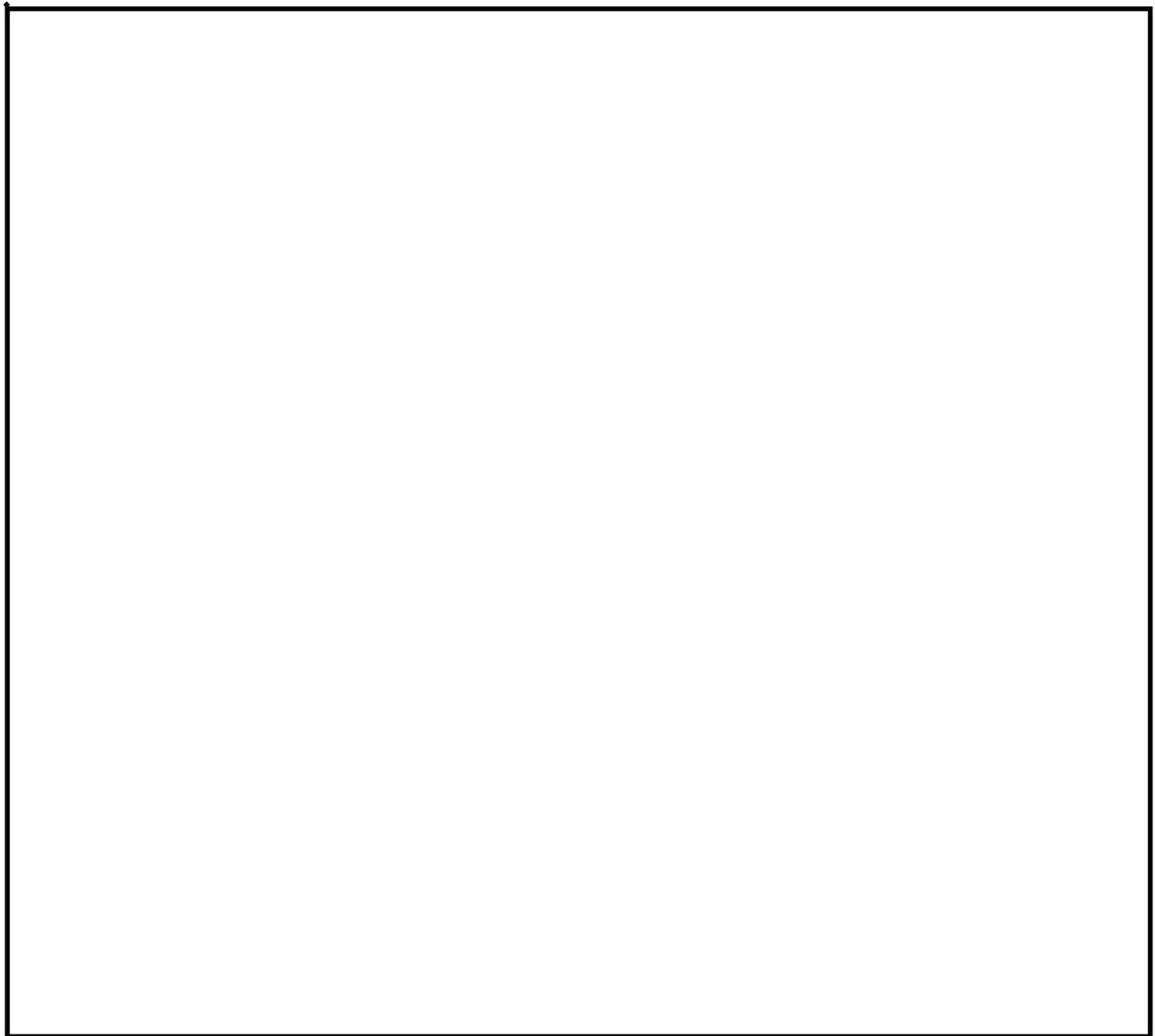


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SECTION B

Indications of impending Vietnamese Communist attacks in western Kontum Province on 24 and 25 January highlighted activity in MR 5 in South Vietnam. The move of the unidentified artillery unit subordinate to the Hq, PAVN B3 Front in western Kontum and the continued repositioning of Communist units in the Quang Nam-Quang Tri Province area were also noted. Viet Cong (VC) military intelligence elements continue

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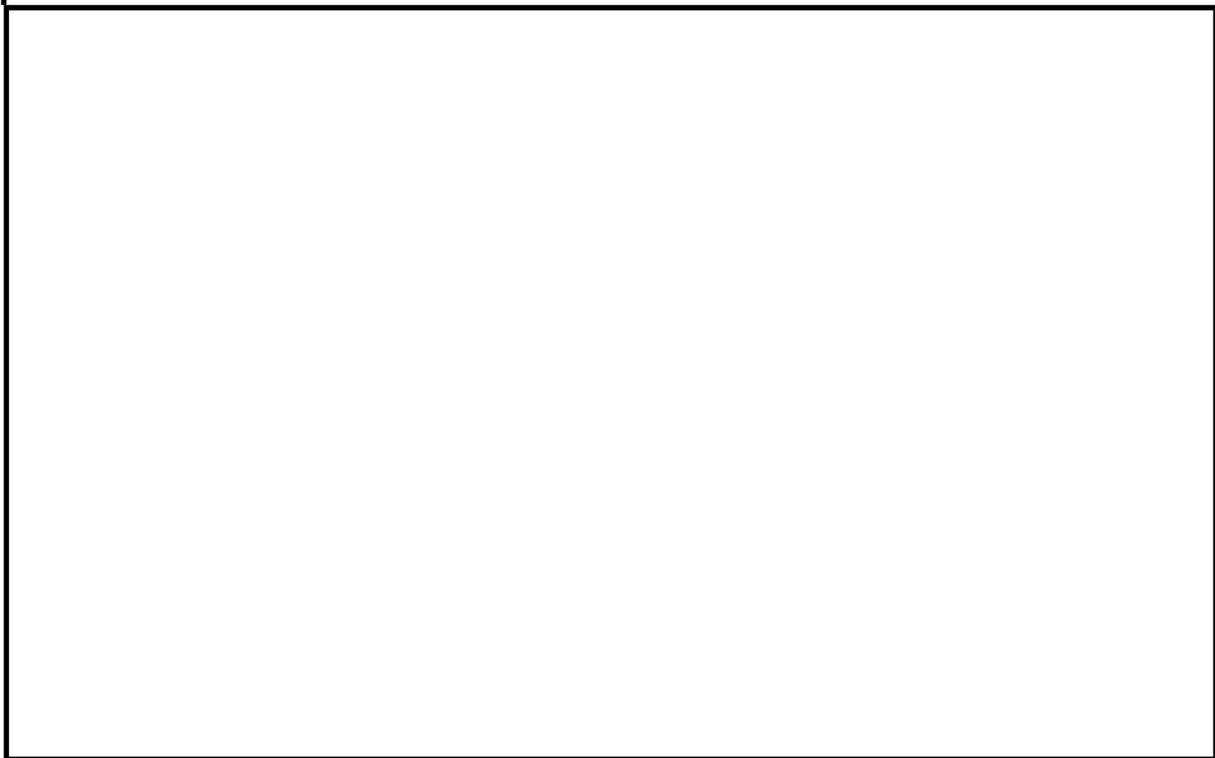
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:to report on Allied activity in Tay Ninh and Bien Hoa
:Provinces of MR 1, while in MR 2, Vietnamese Communist Party-
:associated elements have again provided forewarning of Allied
:operations in Dinh Tuong Province.

: In South Vietnam's northernmost province of Quang Tri,
:PAVN communications have reflected combat plans for further
:attacks in the area of Khe Sanh. A message from the PAVN
:803rd Regiment alleged that a friendly unit had completely
:annihilated the Khe Sanh position. Also press releases --
:probably filed by a North Vietnamese reporter -- reported
:that the Khe Sanh position had been destroyed, Huong Hoa
:District Town overrun and the Marine Combat Base at Khe Sanh
:left aflame.



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SECTION A

I. COMMUNIST SOUTHEAST ASIA

A. MILITARY

1. Vietnamese Communist Communications - South Vietnam

Military Region Tri-Thien-Hue

During the past several weeks, SIGINT has reflected a renewed Communist interest in the Hue area of Thua Thien Province. On 20 January, Hq, MR Tri-Thien-Hue (TTH) was located near 16-25N 107-21E (YD 5115), approximately 26 km west-southwest of Hue. Other units located in the Hue area include the possible Hue Municipal Unit and a possible subordinate; Hq, PAVN 6th Regiment; and a possible battalion of the 6th Regiment.

(3/O/STY/R18-68; R20-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 5

Indications of Communist plans for attacks in Pleiku Province highlighted Vietnamese Communist military communications activity in MR 5 during the past week.

On 16 and 17 January a probable Hq, PAVN B3 Front authority and a probable Hq, PAVN 1st Division element discussed attack plans against Le Thanh, Duc Co and Tan Lap, all located in west-central Pleiku Province. Regarding Allied reaction in this area, Hq, 1st Division element reported to the Front authority on 22 January that Allied activity had increased greatly in comparison with previous Allied activity in the area.

In the northeastern area of Pleiku Province, elements suspected to be associated with the concentration of B3 Front units located northeast of Pleiku city, reported plans to launch mortar attacks on undisclosed targets between 17 and 19 January.

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In another area of the western highlands, plans for an impending attack in western Kontum Province were partially disclosed in an 18 January message from an unidentified B3 Front-associated entity to a suspect artillery unit. The message stated "Suggest the company provide an additional (C val radio station) right away, since the station is going into combat on the morning of the 20th."

Vietnamese Communist military intelligence (MI) communications during the past week continued to indicate attack plans in the Dak To area. On 19 and 20 January, the Military Intelligence Section (MIS), Hq, PAVN 1st Division and a subordinate discussed plans for an attack on an Allied position probably southwest of Dak To.

In other MI activity in Kontum Province, a possible Allied bombing was predicted on 20 January by a B3 Front-associated MI control authority located on 15 January about 20 km north of Kontum city.

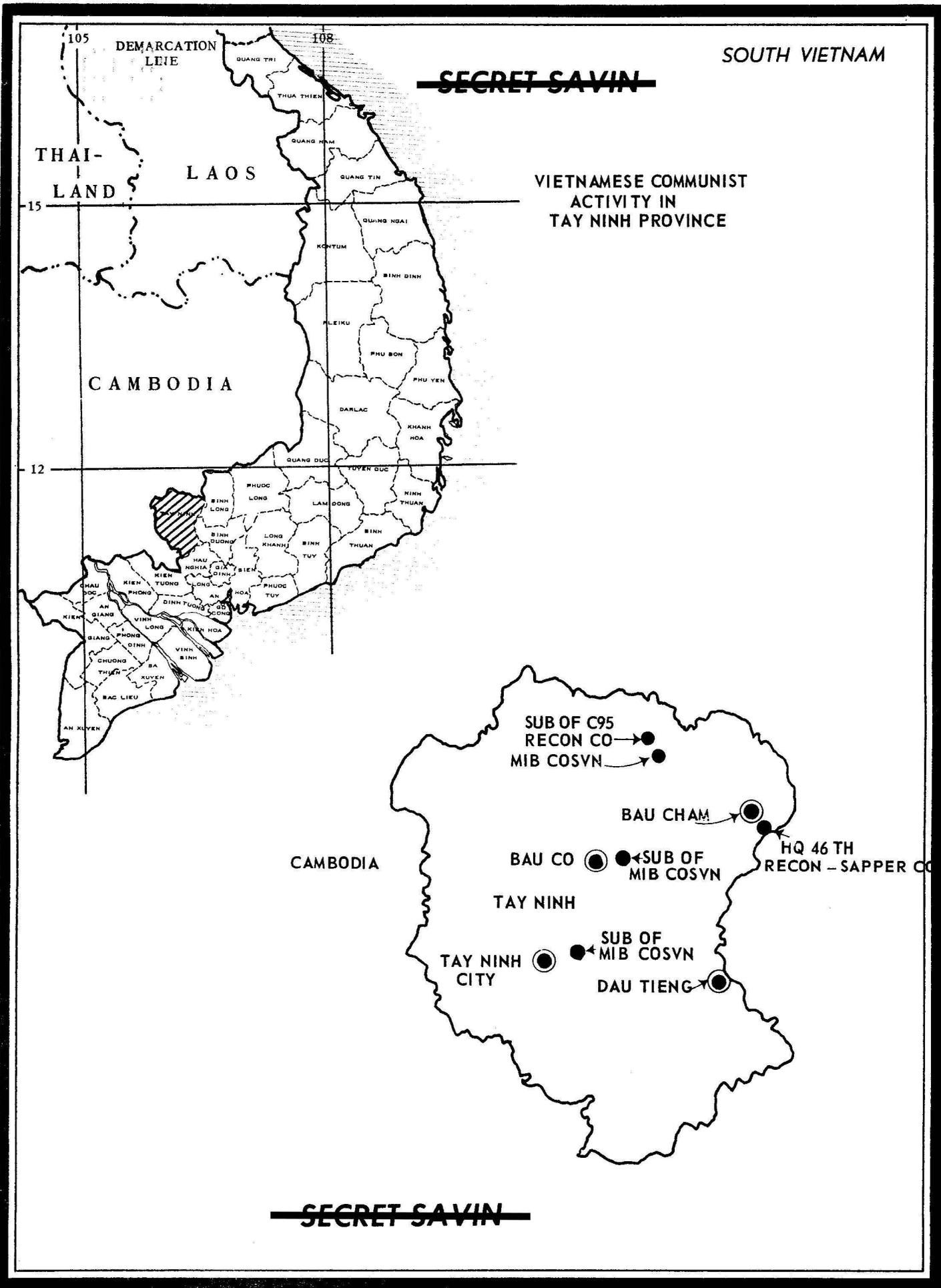
In the Quang Nam-Quang Tin Province area, Vietnamese Communist military elements appeared to be effecting a general repositioning during the past week. Numerous reports of intentions to move and resultant relocations by PAVN 2nd Division, Hq, MR 5 and MR 5 Rear Services-associated elements, characterized Communist activity in this area.

Finally, recently captured material has revealed that the radio station previously identified as serving the unidentified Rear Services Headquarters, Quang Nam Province is serving Hq, Rear Services Group 44.

(3/O/STY/R20-68; R19-68; R18-68; R17-68; R16-68; R15-68)

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Military Region 1

Preliminary information indicates that the Military Affairs Section (MAS) of COSVN received a high volume of messages on 18 and 20 January from Hq, MR 2 and Hq, PAVN B3 Front. The increased involvement of Hq, B3 Front with elements located within Nam Bo has been evidenced by that authority's recent activation of communications with the possible Hq, Unidentified Front in Binh Long Province and by increased message activity with MAS COSVN.

Communist interest in Allied activity in northern Tay Ninh Province continued to be reflected in MI communications during the past week. The locations of U.S. and Allied troops in this area and a reference to a Vietnamese Communist-Allied clash at Bau Cham were contained in messages of 16 and 17 January passed between the Military Intelligence Bureau (MIB) of COSVN and the possible Hq, VC 46th Reconnaissance-Sapper Battalion, located in northern and northeastern Tay Ninh, respectively.

The clash at Bau Cham was also mentioned in a 17 January message passed to the probable Hq, C95 Reconnaissance Company, MIS, VC 9th Light Infantry Division (LID) from a subordinate tentatively located on 13 January in northern Tay Ninh.

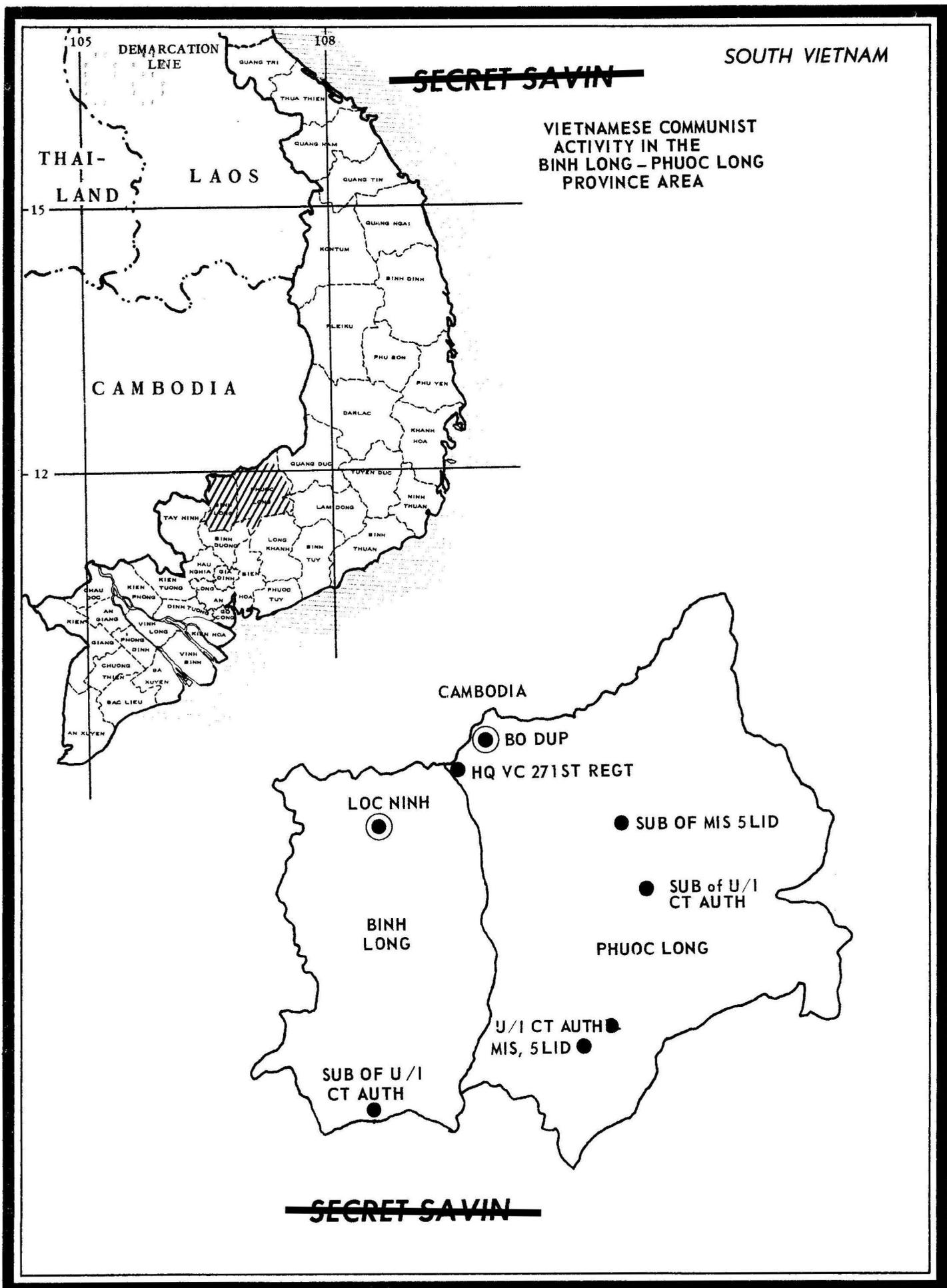
Additionally, an unidentified subordinate of MIB COSVN--located on 13 January in central Tay Ninh--continued to report on Allied air and/or ground activity in the vicinity of Tay Ninh city and Dau Tieng. Another subordinate--located on 9 January in east-central Tay Ninh--reported in a 19 January message on U.S. forces and equipment at the Bau Co outpost.

To the southeast, on 19 January an element of Hq, VC 5th LID was located in northeastern Bien Hoa Province, approximately 37 km west of its 17 December position. Collateral indicates that Allied Operation UNIONTOWN is presently being conducted in the vicinity of this Hq, 5th LID element.

Finally, the control authority of an unidentified Vietnamese Communist communications link serving military elements in the

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Bien Hoa-Long Khanh Province area, was located on 17 January in Bien Hoa Province. This control authority has been communicating with a subordinate terminal--located in Long Khanh Province--since at least 3 January, and possibly as early as 23 October. Messages observed on this link have been of a type associated with Hq, B3 Front and Hq, 5th LID.

(3/O/STY/R19-68; R18-68; R17-68; R16-68; R15-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 10

In Binh Long Province, Hq, B3 Front and Hq, MR 2 attempted to establish communications with the unidentified possible Front Headquarters on 16 and 17 January; on 15 January Hq, MR 6 also attempted to contact the Front. In addition, the possible Front Headquarters attempted to contact an unidentified station possibly associated with Hq, MR 5 on 14 and 15 January. Communications on this level (i.e., front and MR headquarters) and the lack of activity between the possible Front Headquarters and former tactical subordinates suggest that the Front may be assuming a more strategic role. A further indication of the unidentified Front's expanding role is its recent activation of a watch communication facility which has at least four and possible as many as seven subscribers, one of which has been identified as Hq, B3 Front.

To the east in Phuoc Long Province, the probable Hq, VC 271st Regiment attempted to establish communications with its superior Hq, VC 9th LID on 20 and 22 January for the first time since 19 November. The regiment was located on 22 January in northwestern Phuoc Long.

To the south, the unidentified control authority of a radio group--active in communications since at least 20 October--was located on 12 January in the Phuoc Long-Long Khanh Province border area, approximately 50 km south of its 31 December position. Previous SIGINT locations of this authority and its two subordinates--both located on 10 January in southwestern Binh

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Long and in southern Phuoc Long, respectively--suggested that the radio group may represent communications between the possible Hq, VC 5th LID element operating in Phuoc Long and its two subordinates --the possible Hq, PAVN 88th and VC 275th Regiments.

In other activity, two of the MI elements of Hq, 5th LID--the MIS and one subordinate--reappeared in communications on 29 December and resumed reporting on 6 January on Vietnamese Communist activities. The MIS was located on 21 January in the Phuoc Long-Long Khanh Province border area, and the subordinate on 6 January in central Phuoc Long.

(3/O/STY/R20-68; R19-68; R17-68; R15-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 2

During the past week five messages concerned with "enemy" sweep operations in Dinh Tuong Province were passed on VC Party communications. Three of them--sent on 17, 20, and 21 January--contained specific foreknowledge information regarding "enemy" strength and areas of scheduled operations. On 17 January an unidentified unlocated subordinate of the probable My Tho Provincial Committee (MTPC) reported that the enemy had captured personal effects and histories in a sweep operation. On 20 January the probable MTPC informed a subordinate located in central Dinh Tuong Province that the "Marines . . . were still at Cai Lay" (10-24N 106-07E, XS 2250).

Collateral reports that Allied Operation CORONADO IX is currently being conducted in Dinh Tuong Province.

~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 4

SIGINT revealed attempts to establish radio communications with the possible Hq, MR 4 (SVN) by Hq, 9th LID on 19 January,

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and by an element of Hq, VC 5th LID on 20 January. The possible Hq, MR 4 was last located on 3 January in north-central Tay Ninh Province.

(3/O/STY/R20-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

2. DRV Communications

DMZ Area

Since 9 January, SIGINT has reflected the consolidation of the possible PAVN 325C Division Headquarters with its detached element located in Laos immediately west of Khe Sanh. In late December and early January the division headquarters ceased communications with PAVN High Command, the DMZ Front, and the division's detached element. However, communications have been maintained with the major PAVN headquarters located in Laos. Subsequent to the consolidation, the division headquarters re-established communications with High Command and the DMZ Front. Communications with the subordinate regiments--29th, possible 95C and possibly 101D--have remained normal. The division headquarters was last located on 22 January in the vicinity of 16-39N 106-30E (XD 602435).

Since early January the probable PAVN 320th Division has been noted in traffic-passing communications with its subordinate elements. Prior to that time, only a broadcast facility, first noted in SIGINT on 12 November 1967, served the division for communications to its subordinates. The division headquarters, located in the vicinity of 16-50N 106-54E (YD 033616) on 22 January, maintains communications with three probable regimental subordinates and at least four unidentified subordinates, one of which was located on 17 January at 16-52N 106-55E (XD 042652). Activation of a more permanent type of communications, the locations of the division headquarters and one subordinate, and the fact that messages observed are characteristic of MR 4 (North Vietnam) and the DMZ areas all tend to confirm that the ultimate destination of the probable PAVN 320th Division is the DMZ area and deployment is near completion.

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An increase in communications involving the major PAVN headquarters which emerged as early as 29 November 1967 has been evidenced in SIGINT since early January. This headquarters, located by SIGINT in the vicinity of 16-51N 106-25E (XD 503654) on 16 January, now communicates with PAVN High Command; MR 4 (North Vietnam); DMZ Front; the detached element DMZ Front; possible Hq, 325C Division; probable Hq, 320th Division; probable Hq, 304th Division; probable Hq, PAVN 559th Transportation Group; General Directorate of Rear Services Forward; two unidentified subordinates of the probable 304th Division; one unidentified terminal associated with the 320th Division; one unidentified terminal subordinate to the DMZ Front; one unidentified element tentatively associated with the 325C Division; and five other unidentified entities.

803rd Regiment

Tactical communications serving the PAVN 803rd Regiment reflected increased combat operations during the past week. The 3rd Battalion, probable supported by elements of the PAVN 270th Regiment and the PAVN 164th Artillery Regiment, struck southward in the area east of Gio Linh (16-52N 107-05E, YD 213732). Attacks were ordered for 22 January as far south as Lam Xuan (16-54N 107-07E, YD 270700) and Nhi Ha (16-55N 107-08E, YD 287712). Ammunition to resupply engaged units was reportedly transported across the Ben Hai River and picked up in the vicinity of Cat Son (17-00N 107-07E, YD 252805). On 20 January, messages indicated the 1st Battalion would soon enter the fighting and elements of the 2nd Battalion may have been present in this area. Other elements of the 2nd Battalion, however, were engaged northwest of Con Thien in fence breaching and sniper activity.

812th Regiment

The PAVN 812th Regiment has not been observed in low-level communications since 16 January when the probable movement of the 6th Battalion was reflected. Regiment directed the battalion to

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report upon arrival at "the new position." Tenuous SIGINT evidence indicates that elements of the regiment may have moved southeast, down the Quang Tri River valley.

90th Regiment

During the past week low-level communications of the PAVN 90th Regiment have continued to reflect supply activity in the central DMZ area. The 7th Battalion, engaged in the movement of rice and mortar ammunition until 17 January, reported on that date it would move to an undisclosed position and has since been unobserved in communications. On the same day an unidentified possible 75th Battalion initiated communications with the 90th Regiment, and exchanged messages through 22 January dealing with supply activity in the central DMZ. On 22 January the possible 75th Battalion was located by SIGINT in the vicinity of 16-51N 106-40E (XD 789650).

29th Regiment

The probable 8th Battalion, PAVN 29th Regiment, was noted in tactical communications on 19 January for the first time since 15 September. Messages stated that regimental elements had clashed with Allied forces, reportedly killing 150 in two days, and that combat was continuing. SIGINT also indicates that the 8th Battalion may have been involved in the ambush of a U.S. Marine convoy on 13 January near 16-43N 106-52E (XD 991494) on Route 9. One 19 January message contained the first SIGINT reference to 12.7-mm probable AAA weapons in the Khe Sanh area and mentioned a blocking position on Dong A Hai Peak (16-40N 106-35E, XD 715445).

325C Division-Associated Reconnaissance Elements

Communications of these reconnaissance elements, presaging the intensified activity in the Khe Sanh area, have been unobserved since 14 January.

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27th Independent Battalion

Preparations for and the subsequent southward movement of 27th Battalion elements to possible positions along Route 9 were reflected in the tactical communications exchanged between the battalion and its subordinate units. On 18 January messages to the 6th Company instructed the unit to cross Route 9 after reaching the (possible Cam Lo) river bank. The company was instructed to reconnoiter Cam Thai (16-48N 107-01E, YD 140590) and Hill 241 (Camp Carroll at 16-46N 106-55E, YD 067543).

In other activity, reconnaissance elements of the battalion reported that Allied forces had placed monitoring devices with attached mines along the "McNamara Strip." A message from the Front reported a need for detailed maps of Dong Ha (16-49N 107-08E, YD 245605) and Ai Tu (16-46N 107-09E, YD 294543). The Front also reported the arrival of the entire 26th Marine Regiment at an undisclosed location, the move of an unspecified brigade and the arrival of the 5th Marine Regiment at Phu Bai (16-24N 107-43E, YD 880140). Six American regiments were reported to be present in the "Tri-Thien" area and along Route 9.

164th Artillery Regiment

Communications of the 4th Battalion, PAVN 164th Artillery Regiment, reflected battle preparations and probable coordination with elements of the 803rd Regiment. A message on 20 January reported the firing of 160 rounds at an Allied company in the vicinity of 16-55N 107-00E (YD 136717). Another 20 January message mentioned fire support of an unidentified 2nd Battalion, probably the 2nd Battalion, 803rd Regiment.

Unidentified Artillery Elements

An unidentified possible air defense-associated regiment observed since mid-December 1967 and located in the eastern Vinh Linh sector continues to reflect the movement of subordinate companies. Armed with 12.7-, 14.5- and 37-mm AAA weapons, the

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companies appear to regularly shift their emplacements. Numerous mentions of combat readiness for shooting down aircraft further substantiates the role of these elements as air defense-associated.

(3/O/STY/R15-68; R16-68; R17-68; R18-68; R19-68; R20-68;
2/O/VCM/R15-68, 172145Z; R22-68, 192039Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

PAVN High Command/304th - 320th Divisions

The past week was highlighted by increased communications activity by all elements of the deploying probable 304th Infantry Division and the appearance of three new unidentified 304th Division-associated entities. Available locations indicate a grouping of probable 304th Division elements and associated terminals in the Khe Sanh area.

The latest locations follow:

21 January	Hq, probable 304th Division	16-36N 106-42E (XD 821372)
23 January	Suspect Infantry Regiment	16-39N 106-28E (XD 754433)
22 January	Suspect Infantry Regiment	16-50N 106-12E (XD 2861) (tentative)
22 January	Suspect Artillery Regiment	16-35N 106-43E (XD 842349)
19 January	Unidentified Regimental- echelon Subordinate	16-33N 106-46E (XD 891324)
30 December	Unidentified Regimental- echelon Subordinate	16-29N 106-46E (XD 8724) (tentative)

Two of the three new unidentified 304th-associated entities were located on 19 and 22 January at 16-28N 106-34E (XD 675233)

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and 16-29N 106-35E (XD 701238) respectively; the third entity remains unlocated.

Way Station ECHO was last observed in communications with the PAVN High Command on 15 January at which time it passed a message originated by a suspect infantry regiment of the probable 320th Division, indicating that this regiment was still in the vicinity of station ECHO. ECHO was located on 15 January at 16-42N 106-40E (XD 789469). Way Station BRAVO may be the only way station still active. When last observed in communication with PAVN High Command on 21 January, message activity indicated that the Hq, 320th Division was still in the vicinity of station BRAVO. On 20 January SIGINT located station BRAVO at 16-50N 106-52E (XD 995640).

(3/O/STY/R15-68; R16-68; R18-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

DRV Naval Activity

SIGINT of the past week has indicated that the North Vietnamese Navy apparently will not conduct any unusual operations during the forthcoming TET truce.

(3/O/STY/R20-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

PAVN Rear Services

PAVN Rear Services communications reflected the following cargo shipments during the period 14-19 January.

Shipped to GDRS Forward (18-05N 105-45E, WE 7999)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TYPE CARGO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	
14 Jan	82-mm DKZ ammunition	<u>5402 kg</u>	/528 rds /

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>TYPE CARGO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
14 Jan	57-mm antiaircraft ammunition	428 cases / 2140 rds / 21,150 kg
18 Jan	K-56 (7.65 assault rifle) weapons	17 cases / 305 weapons / 2,142 kg
18 Jan	K-57 (7/62 Heavy Machine-gun)	25 cases / 25 weapons / 3,220 kg
18 Jan	K-44 (unidentified)	4 cases / 72 weapons / 490 kg
18 Jan	K-59 (unidentified probable automatic weapon)	5 cases / 20 weapons / 275 kg
18 Jan	Liberation Mortars	40 cases / 160 weapons / 1,470 kg

Shipped to Southern Military Region 4 (not further defined)

14 Jan	57-mm Antiaircraft ammunition	109 cases / 545 rds / _____
14 Jan	82-mm DKZ ammunition	87 cases / 348 rds / 3,878 kg
18 Jan	57-mm antiaircraft ammunition	11 cases / 55 rds / 539 kg
18 Jan	82-mm DKZ ammunition	234 cases / 436 rds / 10,613 kg

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Shipped to Military Region 4 (not further defined)

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TYPE CARGO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
14 Jan	12.7-mm antiaircraft ammunition	145 cases / _____ / _____
14 Jan	57-mm antiaircraft ammunition	_____ / _____ / 7,376 kg
18 Jan	60-mm mortar ammunition	60 cases / 480 rds / 960 kg
18 Jan	82-mm mortar ammunition	589 cases / 1767 rds / 9,424 kg
18 Jan	85-mm anti-tank ammuni- tion	99 cases / 198 rds / 4,445 kg
18 Jan	122-mm ammunition	205 cases / 205 rds / 11,480 kg

Shipped to Relay Station 8 (unlocated)

17 Jan	K-56	17 cases / _____ / _____
19 Jan	explosives (unspecified)	492 cases / _____ / 15,744 kg
19 Jan	explosives (unspecified)	505 cases / _____ / 16,160 kg

Shipped to B5 Vinh Linh (DMZ Area)

14 Jan	57-mm antiaircraft ammunition	150 cases / 750 rds / 7,350 kg
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<u>DATE</u>	<u>TYPE CARGO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
14 Jan	82-mm DKZ ammunition	49 cases / _____ / 2,303 kg
17 Jan	explosives (unspecified)	84 cases / _____ / 3,360 kg
17 Jan	slow-burning fuses	18 cases / _____ / 520 kg
17 Jan	57-mm antiaircraft ammunition	111 cases / 555 rds / 5,439 kg
17 Jan	122-mm rocket ammunition	5 cases / 5 rds / 400 kg
18 Jan	12.7-mm heavy machine- guns	6 cases / 6 weapons / 1,200 kg
18 Jan	Liberation Mortars	20 cases / 80 weapons / 640 kg

Shipped to B5T8 Sappers (Probable DMZ Area)

18 Jan	60-mm mortars	11 cases / 11 weapons / 407 kg
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Shipped to Tri-Thien Vinh Linh (Probable DMZ Area)

14 Jan	unspecified ammunition	43 cases / 863 rds / 1,075 kg
14 Jan	60-mm mortar ammunition	61 cases / 488 rds / 1,464 kg
17 Jan	82-mm mortar ammunition	102 cases / 306 rds / 1,632 kg

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>TYPE CARGO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
18 Jan	12.7-mm heavy machine-guns	2 cases / 2 weapons / 400 kg
18 Jan	K-53 (7.62 Carbine bolt action)	3 cases / _____ / 330 kg
18 Jan	60-mm mortar	21 cases / 21 weapons / 777 kg

Shipped to Tri-Thien A Tuc (16-15N 106-59E, XC 102981)

14 Jan	60-mm mortar ammunition	24 cases / 192 rds / 571 kg
18 Jan	60-mm mortars	48 cases / 48 weapons / 1,876 kg

Shipped to Khu 5 (Possible Military Region 5)

18 Jan	82-mm mortar ammunition	235 cases / 705 rds / 3,860 kg
18 Jan	57-mm DKZ ammunition	138 cases / 552 rds / 2,760 kg
18 Jan	75-mm DKZ ammunition	6 cases / 6 rds / 460 kg
18 Jan	Liberation Mortar	25 cases / 100 weapons / 925 kg
18 Jan	60-mm mortars	69 cases / 69 weapons / 2,533 kg
18 Jan	K-56	31 cases / 31 weapons / 304 kg

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>TYPE CARGO</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
18 Jan	K-59	5 cases / 20 weapons / 925 kg
<u>Shipped to Nam Bo (Probable South Vietnam)</u>		
14 Jan	TM-41 mines	24 cases / 48 pieces / 576 kg
<u>Shipped to B6 (unlocated)</u>		
18 Jan	B-40	1 case / 1 weapon / 40 kg
<u>Shipped to Unspecified Destinations</u>		
14 Jan	TM-41 mines	160 cases / 320 pieces / 4,000 kg
14 Jan	gasoline type 100	5 barrels
14 Jan	gasoline type 200	57 barrels
18 Jan	gasoline type 100	295 barrels
18 Jan	gasoline type 200	537 barrels
19 Jan	B-41 ammunition	1023 cases / _____ / _____

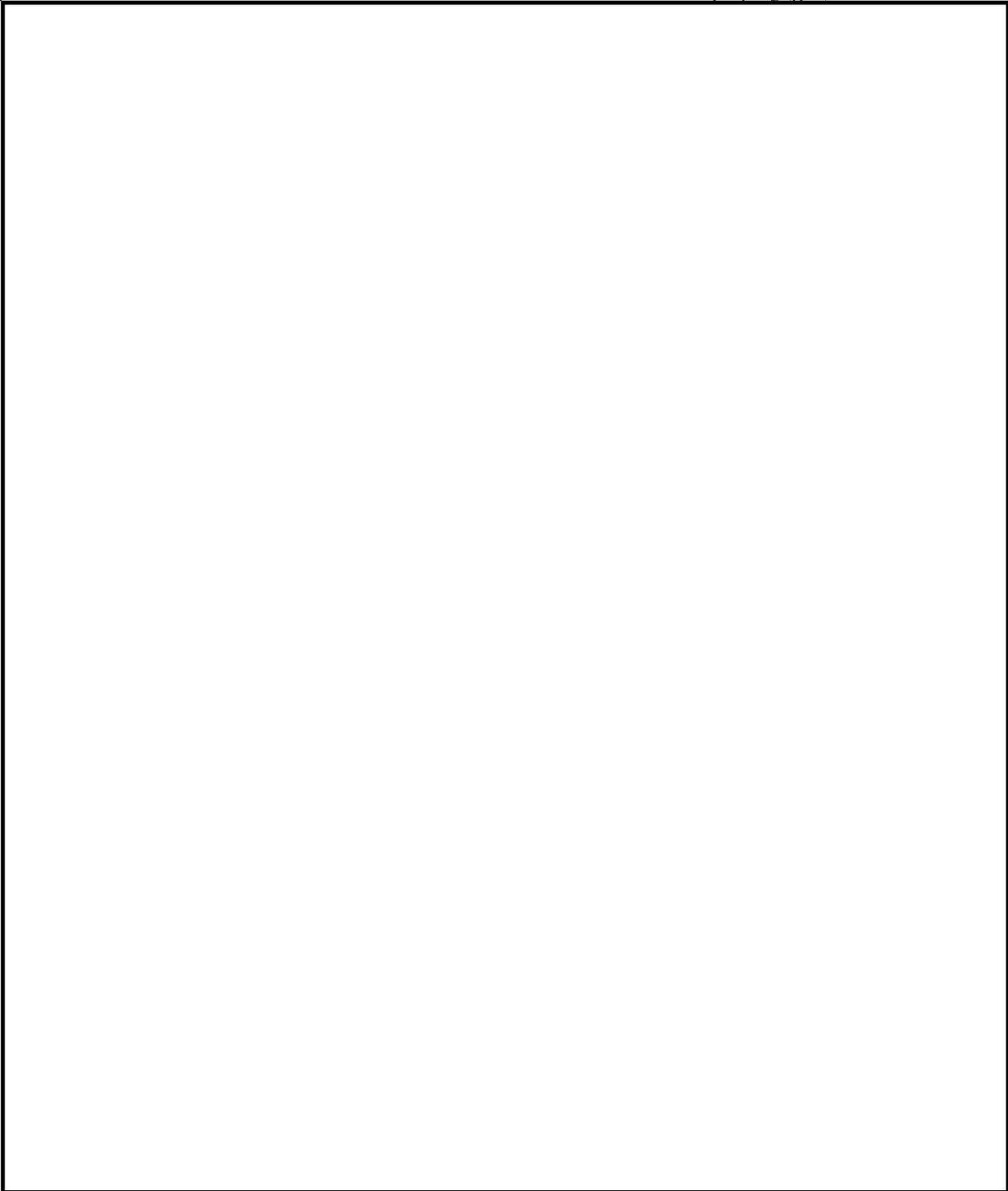
(2/G11/VCM/R122-68, 200136Z; R113-68, 190548Z; R102-68, 180956Z)

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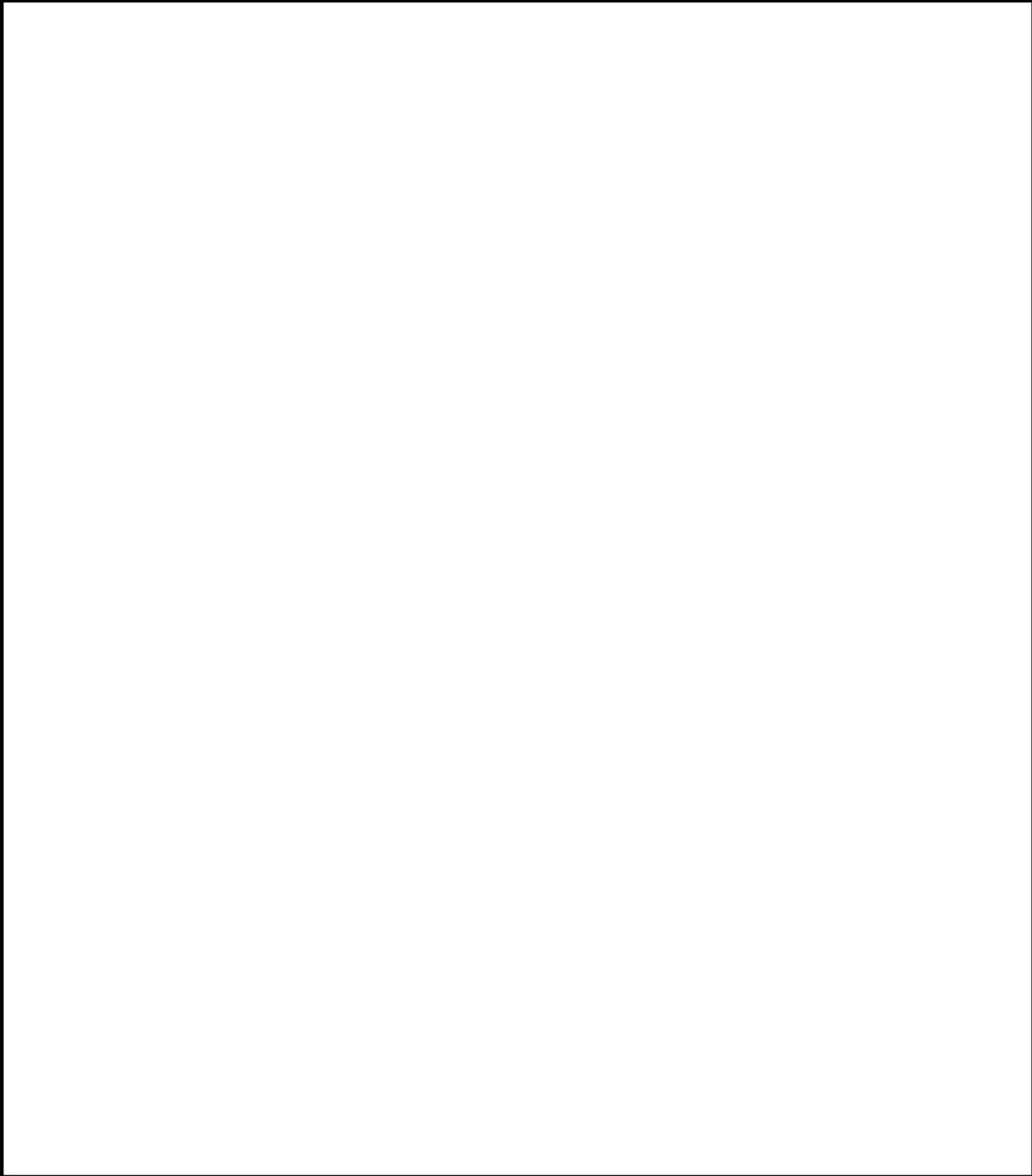


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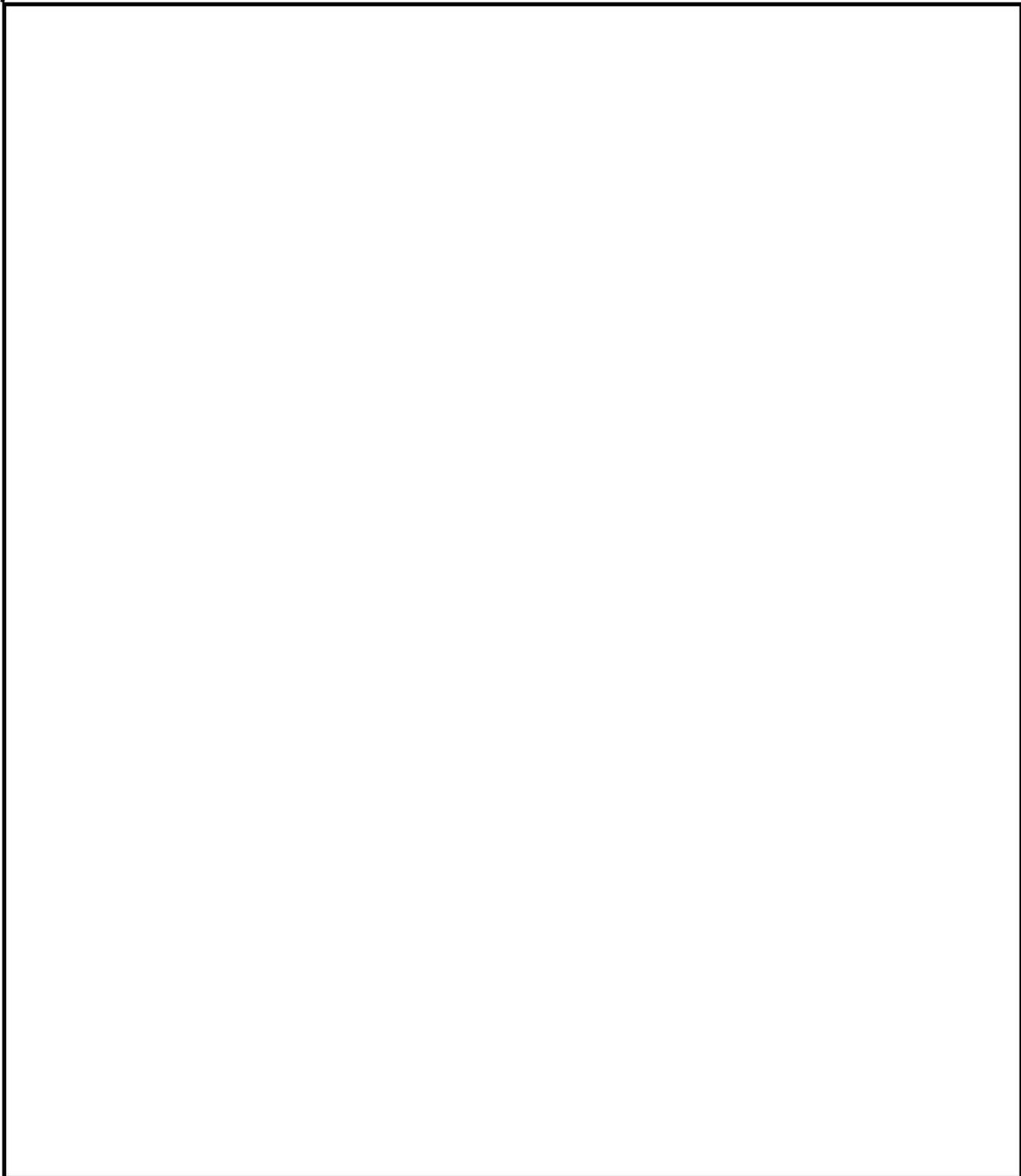


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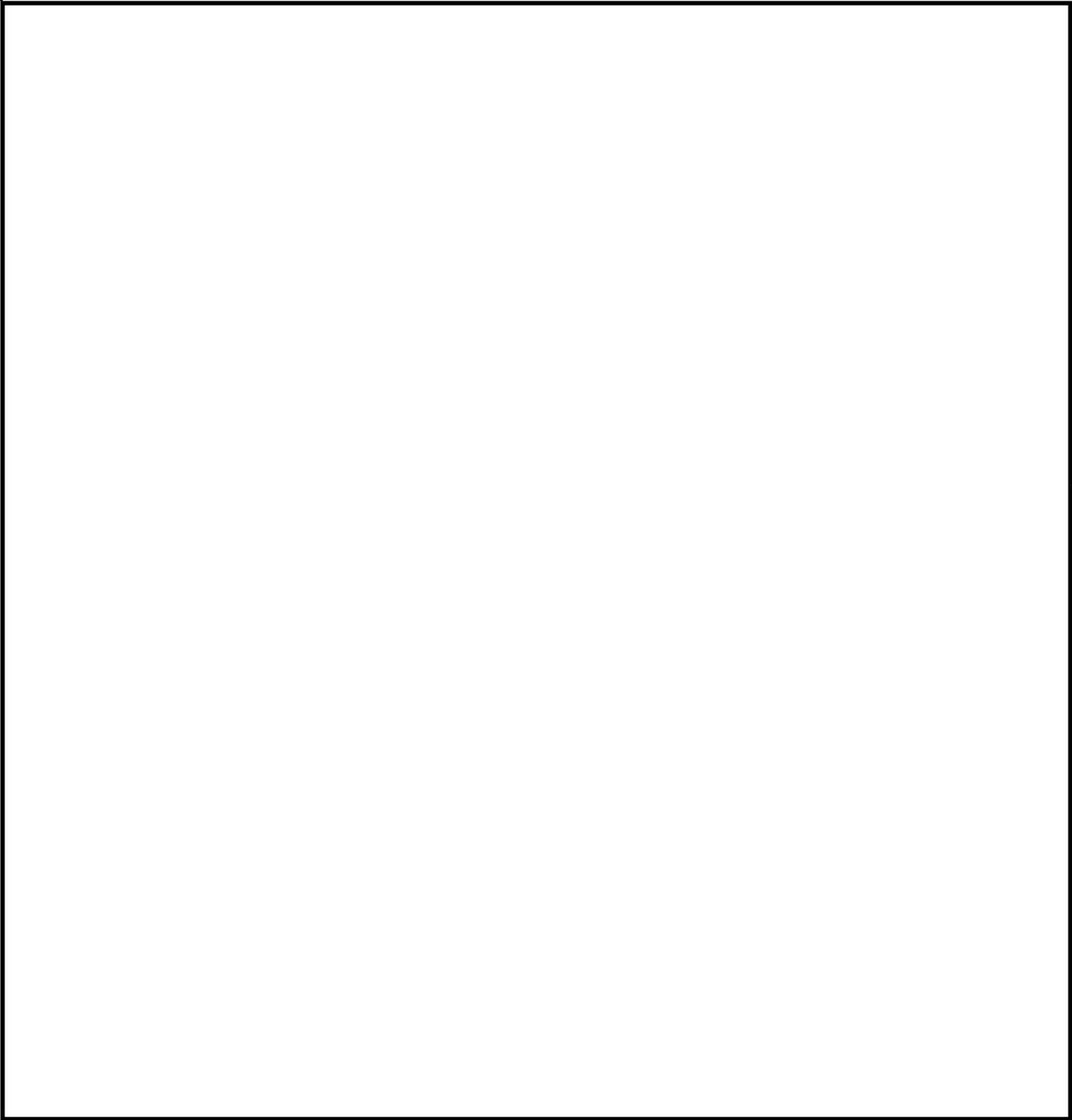


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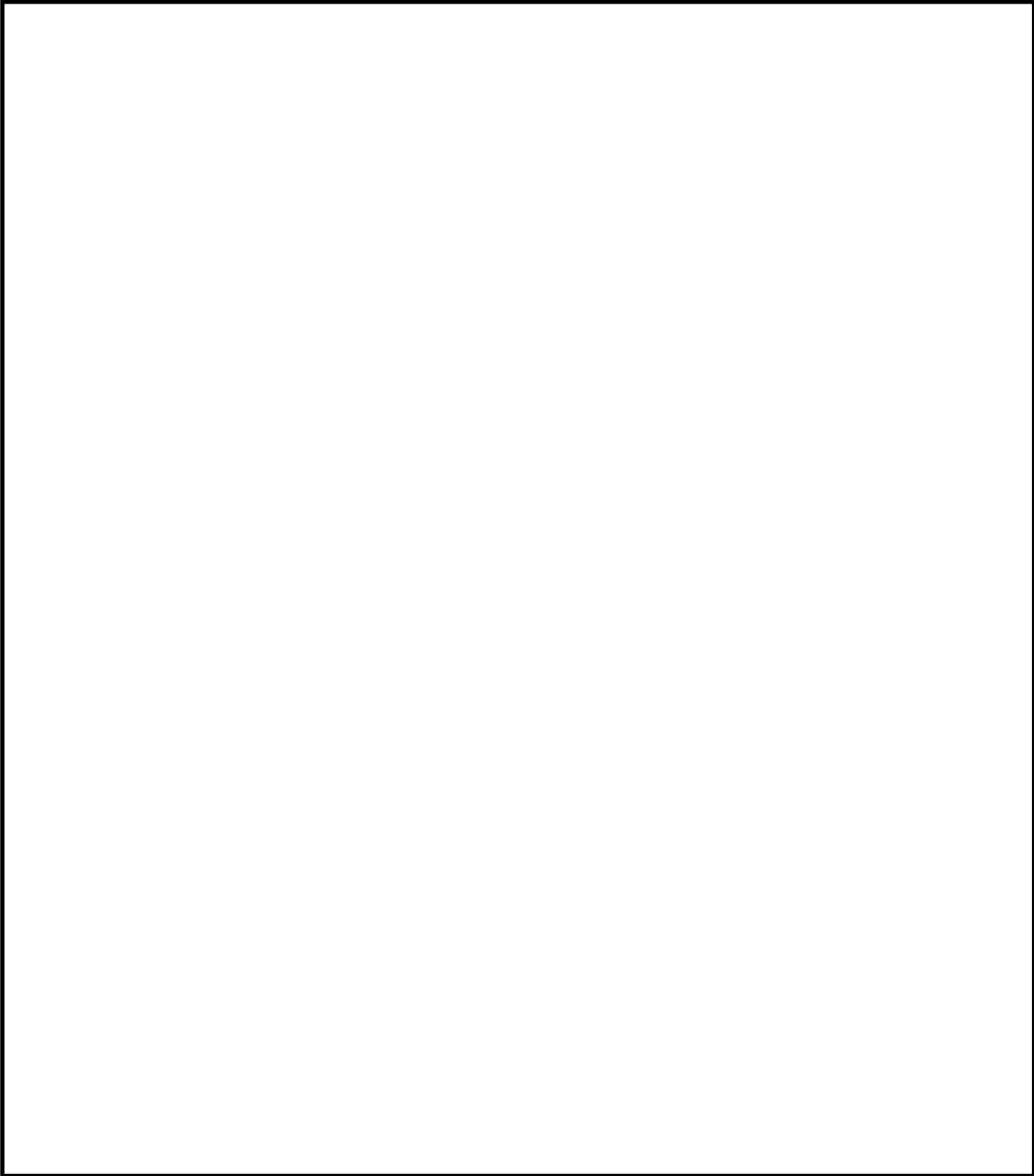


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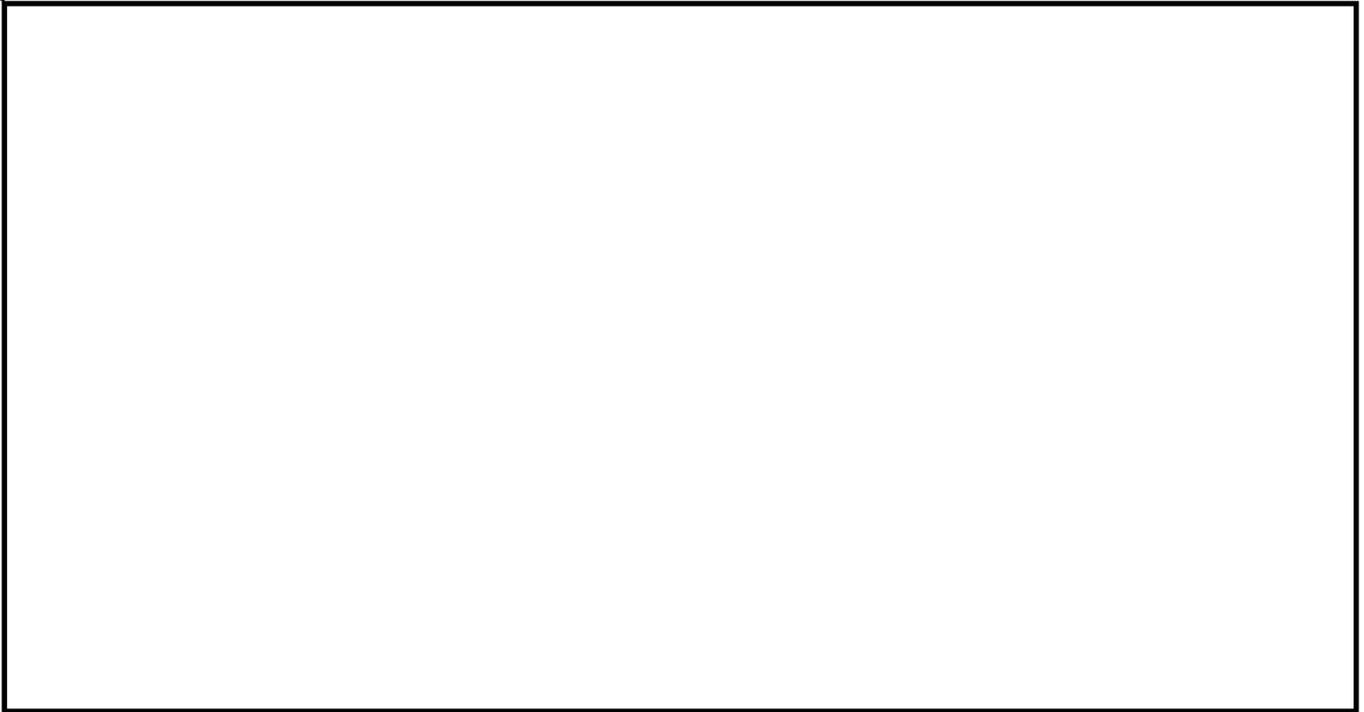


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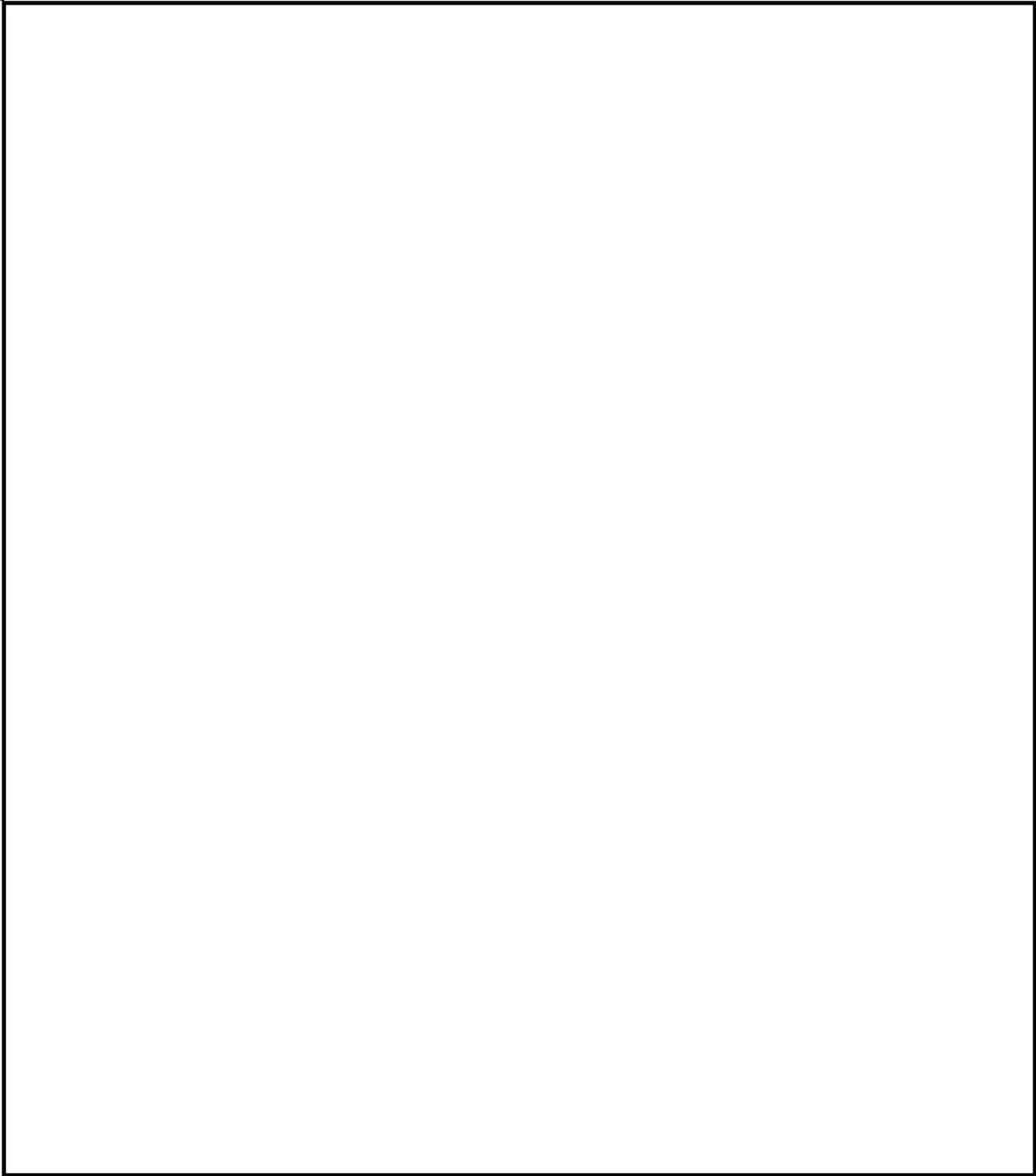


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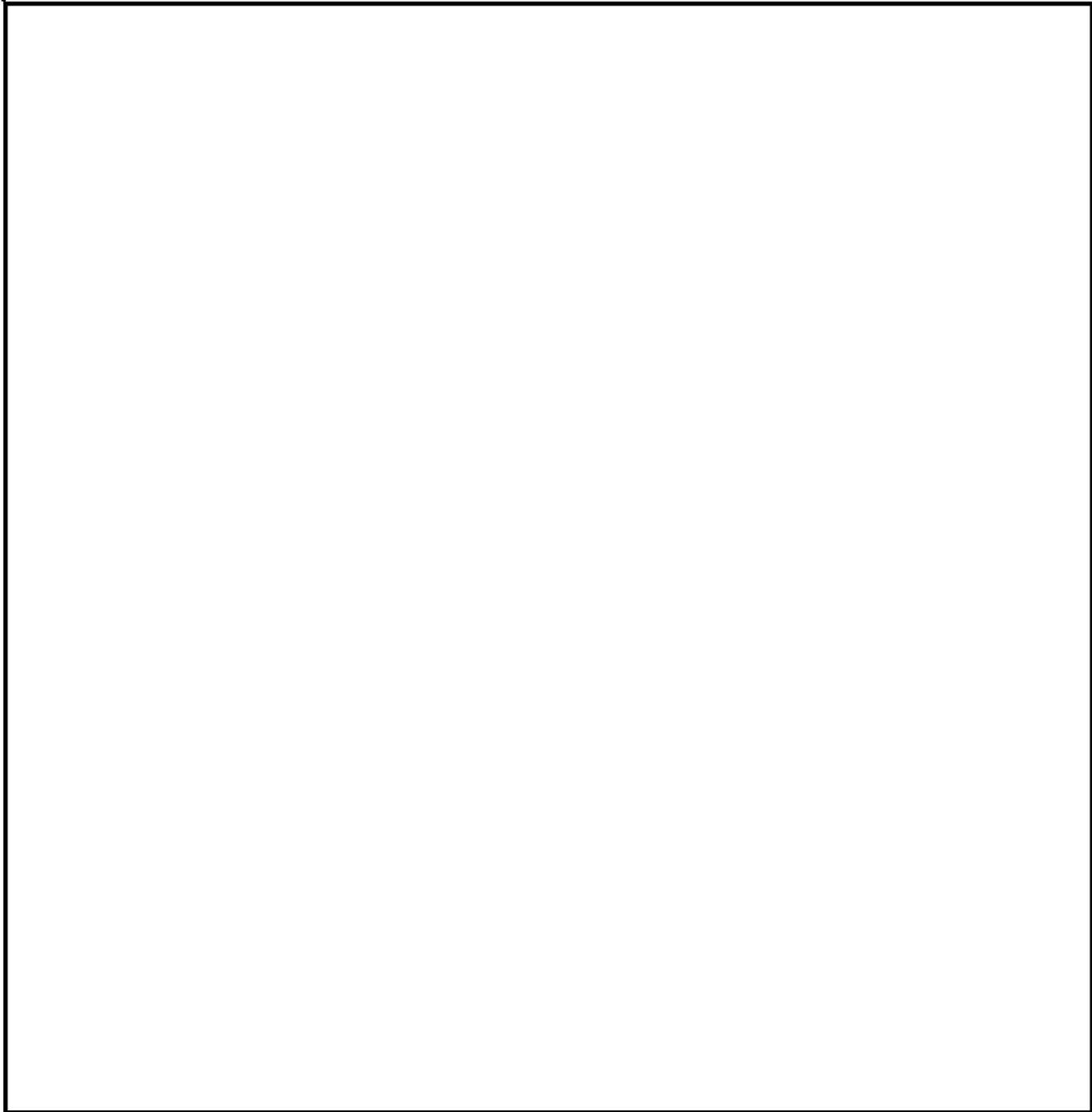


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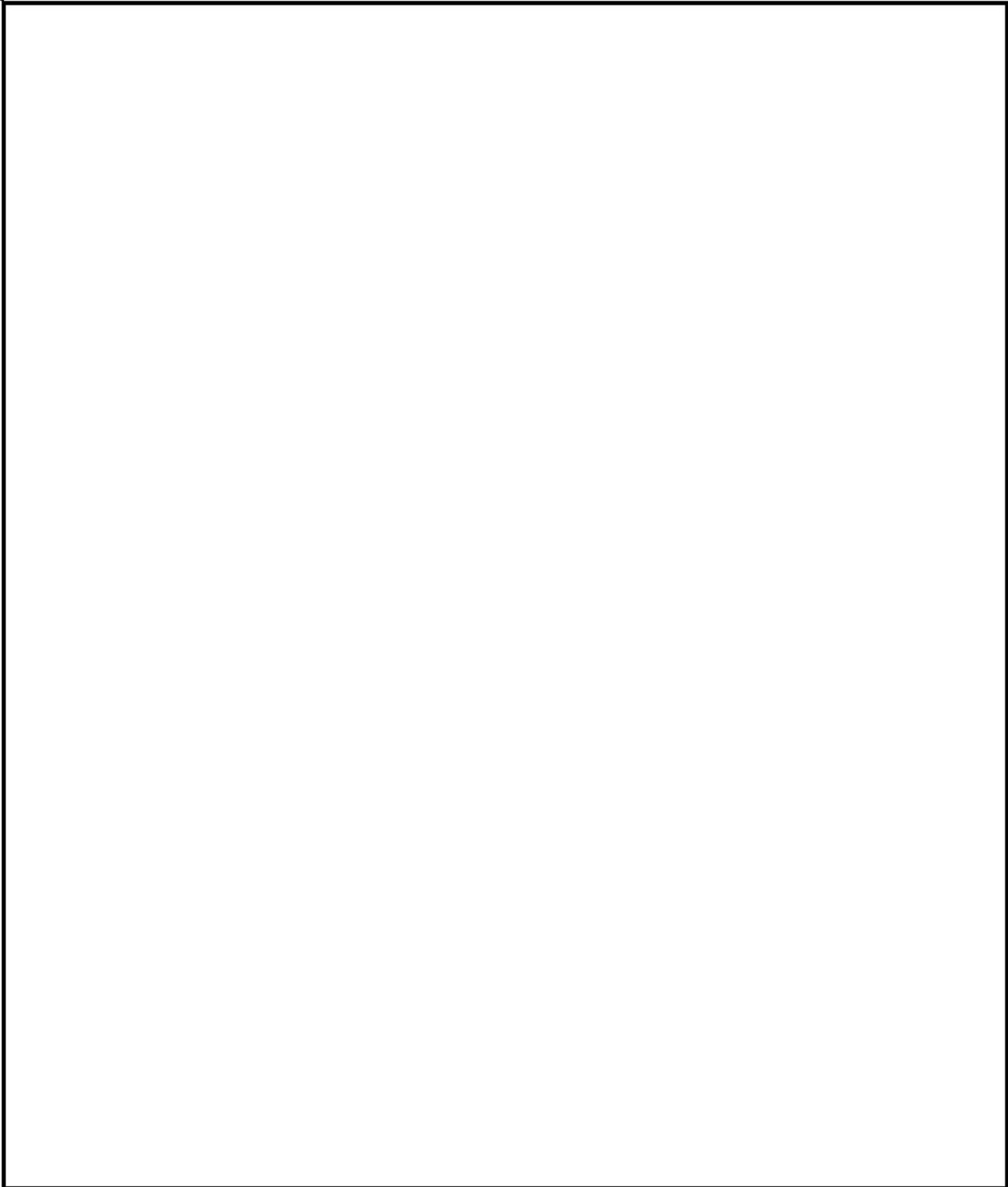


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SECTION B

I. COMMUNIST SOUTHEAST ASIA

A. MILITARY

1. Vietnamese Communist Communications - South Vietnam

Military Region 5

Attacks may occur in the Duc Co and Le Thanh areas on 24 or 25 January according to recent Vietnamese Communist military communications activity in the western highlands. On 24 January the probable Hq, PAVN B3 Front authority instructed a probable PAVN 1st Division element to "appoint one squad to return before making communication with Comrade PHAT's position at 1500 hours (0800Z) on 24 January. Take over PHAT's detachment . . . The plan of battle for your position and the order for Comrade PHAT's detachment are still the same for the night of 24 January. Along with the team on the other side, [you should] guarantee [victory?] for the night of 25 January for the comrades." The B3 Front authority was located in the border area of Cambodia and southwestern Kontum Province near 14-03N 107-21E (YA 543545) on 23 January. On 24 January the probable 1st Division element was located 8 km west-northwest of Duc Co near 13-48N 107-33E (YA 757282).

In western Kontum Province, the unidentified artillery unit subordinate to Hq, B3 Front was located on 23 January near 14-33N 107-38E (YB 862113), approximately 16 km south-southwest of Dak To and about 19 km east-northeast of its 21 January location.

Activity in the Quang Nam-Quang Tin Province area was highlighted by minor moves of several Vietnamese Communist military elements. In northeastern Quang Nam Province, an unidentified military element which communicates with Hq, Rear Services Group 44 was located near 16-07N 108-04E (AT 852811) on 23 January,

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approximately 16 km west of Da Nang and about 12 km south of its 19 January location. In southern Quang Nam Province the possible Hq, PAVN 3rd Regiment, PAVN 2nd Division, was located on 23 January near 15-44N 108-10E (AT 975411) approximately 10 km east northeast of its 22 January position. Additionally, an unidentified element associated with Hq, MR 5 Provincial Unit Control was located in southern Quang Nam on 23 January near 15-41N 107-51E (ZC 059361) about 23 km north of its 14 January location. Meanwhile, in eastern Quang Tin Province, the possible Hq, PAVN 21st Regiment, 2nd Division, was located on 23 January near 15-28N 108-19E (BT 132104), approximately 30 km southwest of Tam Ky and about 11 km west of its 22 January location.

To the south in eastern Binh Dinh Province, Hq, PAVN 3rd Division, last located on 23 January near 14-13N 108-57E (BR 835725), indicated on 23 January that it was in a difficult situation, under bombardment.

Finally, in eastern Khanh Hoa Province the Khanh Hoa Provincial Unit was located near 12-24N 109-04E (BP 901712) on 23 January, approximately 20 km northwest of Nha Trang city and about 25 km southeast of its 30 December location.

(2/G12/VCM/T185-68, 240745Z; R208-68, 231558Z; R207-68, 231540Z; R206-68, 231518Z; R204-68, 231430Z; R203-68, 231217Z; R201-68, 231910Z; R200-68, 230045Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 1

In a message of 21 January, a subordinate reported to the probable Hq, C95 Reconnaissance Company, Military Intelligence Section (MIS), Hq, VC 9th Light Infantry Division (LID) on Allied activity in the Trang Tranh (not located) area of northeastern Tay Ninh Province and stated that it had encountered personnel "returning from 46" (a probable reference to the possible VC 46th Reconnaissance-Sapper Battalion). A subordinate, possibly serving the Hq, 46th Battalion, has been reporting to the Military

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Intelligence Bureau (MIB) of COSVN on the Trang Tranh area and on possible Allied artillery fire and troop movements along the Ba Chiem (11-30N 106-21E, XT 469701) Highway (probably Route 244) between Bau Cot (11-32N 106-20E, XT 4573) and Trang Tranh. The MIB COSVN subordinate was located on 20 January in north-eastern Tay Ninh Province near 11-39N 106-23E (XT 505873).

Additionally, in a message of 19 January to the MIS, MR 1, a subordinate in southern Bien Hoa Province reported in detail on Allied defenses at an undetermined hamlet. The subordinate stated that "two additional" artillery pieces had recently been brought in and that there were 15 Americans operating two other artillery pieces. The perimeters of the artillery emplacements were described as being 100 meters apart. The subordinate listed the number of weapons at the gate and at several blockhouses inside the hamlet, and stated that "there are five rows of barbed wire two and a half meters high around the perimeter."

The subordinate was located on 23 January in east-central Bien Hoa Province near 10-41N 106-58E (YS 165818), approximately 5 km west of the 8 January location of the Hq, VC 274th Regiment.

In a 23 January message to a second subordinate--located on 22 January in the Long Khanh-Bien Hoa Province border area near 10-52N 107-05E (YT 288035)--the MIS, MR 1 stated that it had several "important and very urgent directives from higher echelons," and was dispatching them to "X500." According to collateral, "500" is a cover designator for the 1st Battalion, VC 274th Regiment. The MIS instructed the subordinate to return "immediately", possibly to carry out a mission.

Finally, preliminary information indicates that the Military Affairs Section of COSVN passed 13 messages of an urgent nature on 22 January. Two of the messages were addressed to Hq, MR's 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 10; the remainder were addressed to Hq, MR 3, and MR 6; Hq, PAVN B3 Front; and an unidentified military station located in northern Phuoc Long Province.

(2/G10/VCM/T160-68, 231547Z; T154-68, 221310Z; T130-68, 191311Z; 2/G10/VCJ/R23-68, 231605Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

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Military Region 10

Since 19 January, Hq, VC 9th LID has been noted in renewed communications with its subordinates--the probable Hq, VC 271st, 272nd and 273rd Regiments--employing the same signal plan that was used prior to the last observed communications on 25 November.

These units have been located in the MR 1/10 area as follows: the Hq, 9th LID on 3 December 1967 in northwestern Phuoc Long Province at 11-57N 106-43E (XU 867208); the probable Hq, 273rd Regiment on 23 January in Cambodia near the Binh Long-Tay Ninh Province border at 11-45N 106-25E (XT 538982), approximately 47 km west-northwest of its 14 January position in western Phuoc Long; the probable Hq, 271st Regiment on 22 January in northeastern Binh Long Province near 11-59N 106-44E (XU 901245); and a station tentatively identified as serving the probable Hq, 272nd Regiment on 23 January in the Binh Long-Tay Ninh-Cambodia border area near 11-42N 106-25E (XT 549925).

(3/O/STY/R20-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 2

The Alternate Hq, MR 2 has been noted passing high volumes of messages to a number of its subordinates through 23 January. Frequent high levels of message activity have been noted being passed by this headquarters since late October 1967. Collateral indicates that Allied operations in the CORONADO series have been conducted in the MR 2 area since October.

In other activity, the tentatively identified VC 516th Battalion was located on 23 January in southeastern Kien Phong Province at 10-24N 105-47E (WS 866501), approximately 10 km southwest of its 22 January position.

On 21 January, a message passed between two unidentified Party-associated stations in central Dinh Tuong Province warned of an American build-up in specific areas of that province. In

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the message it was reported that "from 23 January to 25 January the Americans will be near Thanh Hung (10-21N 105-50E, WS 9143), Hau Thanh (10-23N 106-01E, XS 1147), Hoa Khanh (10-22N 105-59E, XS 0845), My Thien (10-30N 105-53E, XS 0561), Long Trung (10-21N 106-08E, XS 2343), Long Tien (10-21N 106-09E, XS 2642), Tan Binh (10-26N 106-07E, XS 2253), My Hanh Trung (10-27N 106-08E, XS 2456) and My Phuoc Tay (10-29N 106-06E, XS 2159)."

(2/G10/VCM/T164-68, 232310Z; R031-68, 232330Z; 2/G10/VCJ/R023-68, 231605Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

2. DRV Communications

DMZ Area

Since 21 January, SIGINT has reflected the appearance of an unidentified subordinate of MR 4 located on 22 January in the Khe Sanh area near 16-38N 106-34E (XD 678407). On 21 January this subordinate, while in communications with Hq, MR 4, passed a series of messages normally observed on DRV Air/Air Defense communications. Due to use of an unusual signal plan, it was believed that this new element represented a subordinate of the PAVN Headquarters, Tchepone area. However, subsequent SIGINT reveals the subordination of this entity only to Hq, MR 4.

After-action reports on the Khe Sanh area combat and plans for further attacks on 30 January were reflected in PAVN communications of 23 January. A message of the PAVN 803rd Regiment reported that on 21 January a "friendly" unit had completely annihilated the Khe Sanh position, reportedly killing 90 and capturing 30 Americans.

A probable press release sent later by an unidentified element reported the Khe Sanh position had been destroyed, Huong Hoa District Town (16-37N 106-45E, XD 865379) overrun, two aircraft shot down, one at Hill 471 (16-38N 106-44E, XD 846393) and one at Cu Bac (unlocated), 227 "enemy" killed and the Ta Con (Marine Combat Base, 16-39N 106-42E, XD 829422) left aflame. This report

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was probably originated by a North Vietnamese correspondent and filed at the Vinh Linh Post and Telecommunications station for forwarding to Hanoi.

On 23 January elements of the 27th Battalion reported "we will strike Ta Con on 30 January." The message further stated that a detachment of the 1st Battalion, PAVN 29th Regiment was at Hill 832 (16-41N 106-40E, XD 803444) and that artillery would fire into Hill 241 (Camp Carroll, 16-46N 106-55E, YD 067543) at an undetermined time. The unidentified element was instructed to make plans for observing the Hill 241 bombardment.

(2X/G11/VCM/T001-68, 231619Z; 2/G11/VCM/R169-68, 231011Z)

~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

PAVN High Command/304th Division

SIGINT has isolated a detached element of Hq, probable 304th Division. On 23 January, the detached element was located at 16-28N 106-44E (XD 846229), while Hq, 304th was located on 21 January at 16-36N 106-42E (XD 821372). Available evidence indicates that the element detached itself from Hq, 304th between 12 and 16 January.

(2/G11/VCM/R167-68, 23....Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 4

On 23 January Hq, MR 4 was initially observed in communications with an unlocated subordinate of Hq, MR 4 Air Defense Command Post. The Hq, MR 4 terminal also controls Hq, 270th Independent Regiment; Hq, Quang Binh Provincial Unit; and Hq, Ha Tinh Provincial Unit. The significance of this activity has not been determined.

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DRV Naval Activity

SIGINT of 22 January disclosed the following drydock scheduling for P-4 class vessels of North Vietnamese Motor Torpedo Boat Divisions 2 and 4:

<u>In</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Out</u>	<u>Vessel</u>	<u>Div</u>	<u>Drydock</u>	<u>Location</u>
27 Jan	31 Jan		T-349	4	A-1	vicinity 20-56N 107-06E (YJ 1515)
27 Jan	31 Jan		T-329	2	A-1	vicinity 20-56N 107-06E (YJ 1515)
27 Jan	31 Jan		T-326	2	93	vicinity 20-56N 107-06E (YJ 1515)

In addition, the T-323 of Division 2 is to prepare to proceed to drydock D-41 (vicinity 20-56N 107-06E, YJ 1515) on an unknown date.

(3/O/STY/R20-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~Overland Infiltration

SIGINT of 21 January indicates the presence of three unidentified infiltration terminals in an area adjacent to Route 9 in Laos. Two of these entities, previously located at 16-43N 106-03E (XD 131486) on 6 December and 17-14N 106-38E (XE 704073) on 16 December respectively are now in the approximate areas of 16-32N 106-34E (XD 654261) and 16-37N 106-34E (XD 681397), respectively. The third unidentified terminal was located for the first time on 21 January at 16-35N 106-27E (XD 564353).

(2/G11/VCM/R137-68, 210115Z; R145-68, 211004Z; R148-68, 211825Z)

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3. PAVN Communications in Laos

Since approximately 15 January, three of the six radio terminals serving the PAVN headquarters in the Tchepone area of Laos (17-06N 105-47E, WD 8590) have been located by SIGINT in the Muong Phine area at 16-46N 106-02E (XD 1251). This represents a move of approximately 41 km in a southerly direction from their previous location. Additionally, these three elements reflected a decrease in communications activity between 16 and 18 January. This new location is approximately 10 km west of Base Area 604 and is in the vicinity of the present location of Hq, PAVN 559th Transportation Group.

Normally, the Tchepone headquarters maintains daily communications with Hq, 559th; however, since 20 January and the apparent relocation of these three elements of the Tchepone headquarters, this communications activity has not been observed. Although not substantiated, this movement may indicate a possible split in the headquarters with the three relocated terminals serving as a forward element.

(2/G11/VCM/R165-68, 230942Z; 2/G11/VCM/R173-68, 240345Z)

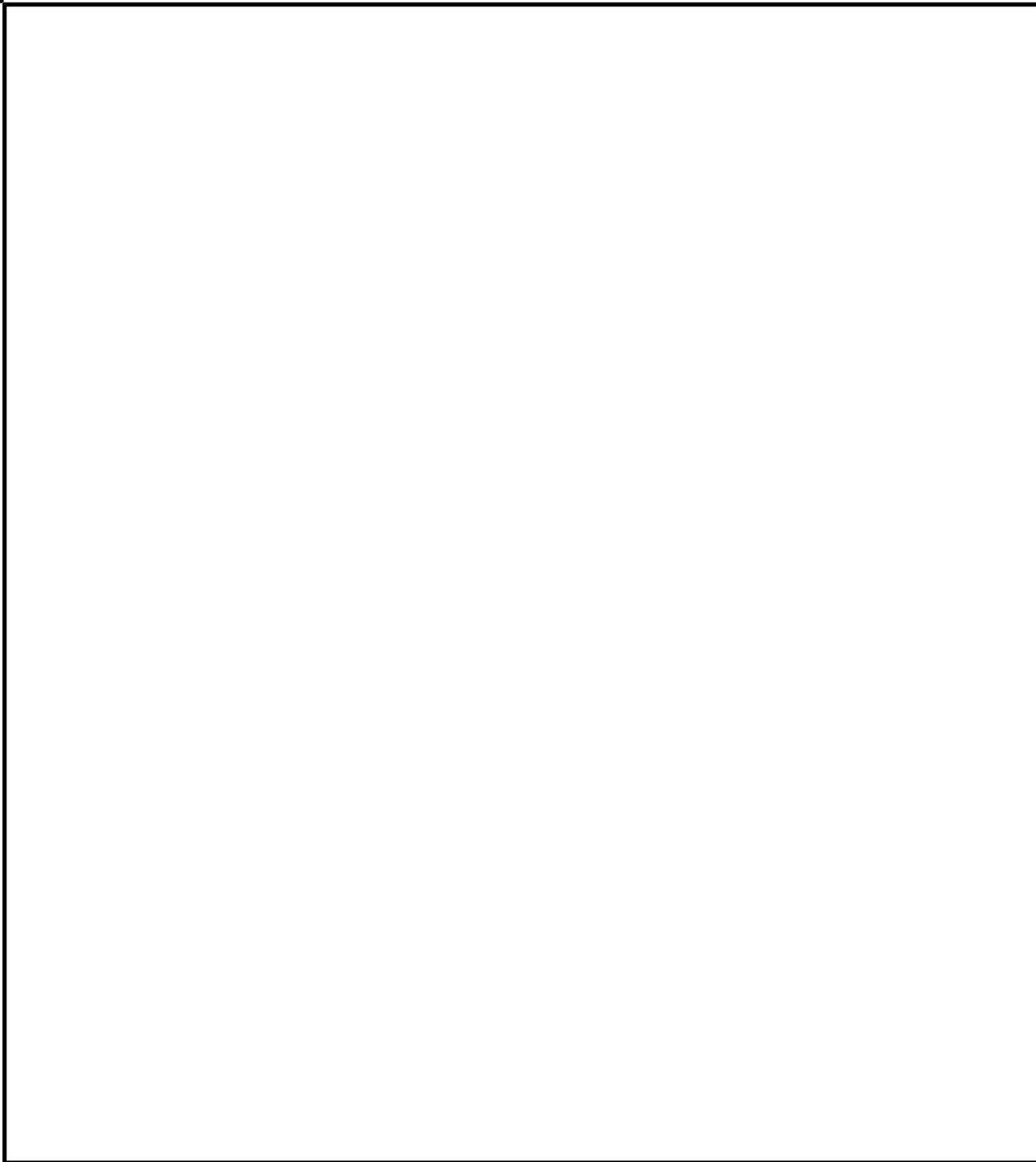
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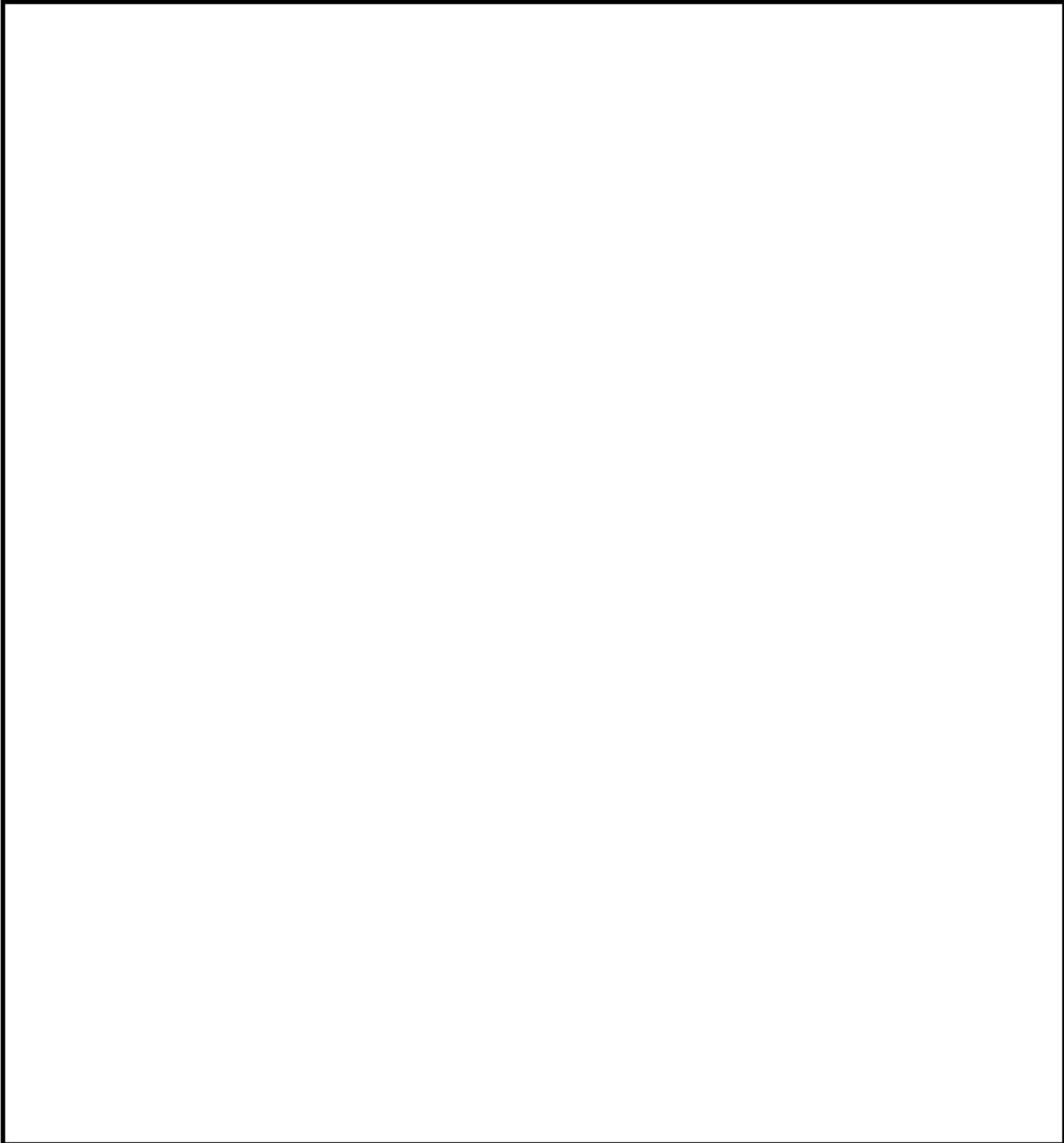


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