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SOUTHEAST ASIA SIGINT SUMMARY

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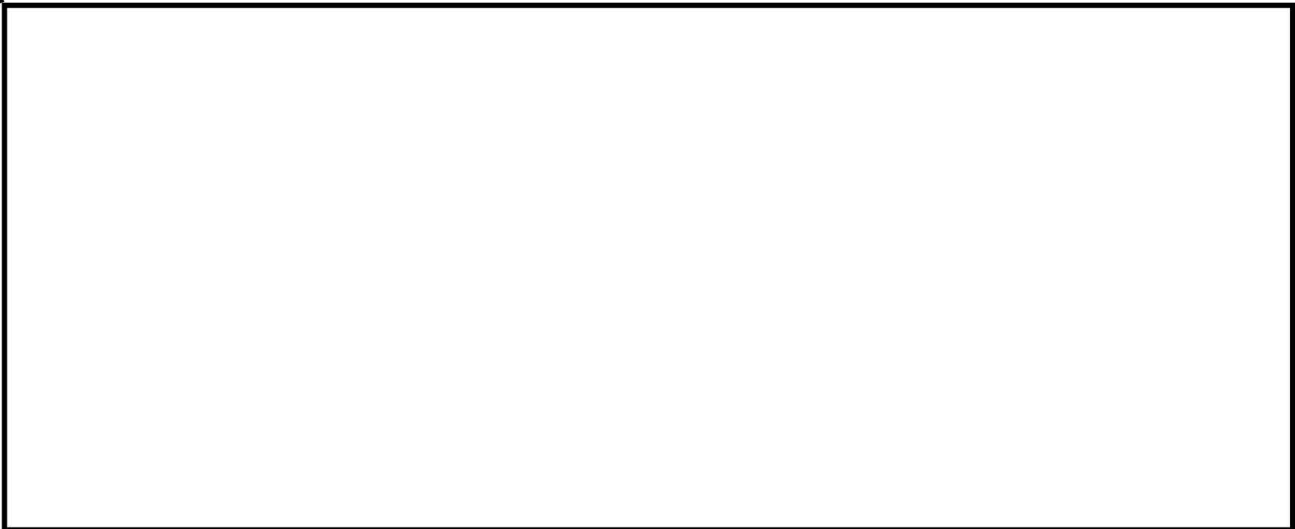
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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
SOUTHEAST ASIA SIGINT SUMMARY

This report summarizes developments noted throughout Southeast Asia available to NSA at time of publication on 08 Jan 68. All information in this report is based entirely on SIGINT except where otherwise specifically indicated.

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SITUATION SUMMARY

Reflections of Allied activity continue to appear in communications serving Vietnamese Communist units in the Quang Nam-Quang Tin Province border area of Military Region (MR) 5 in South Vietnam. The tentative relocation into Laos of a radio terminal serving the Hq, PAVN B3 Front, Kontum Province, and indications of continued Communist interest in the Dak To area highlighted activity in the western highlands. To the south, Allied and Communist activities in Bien Hoa and Long Khanh Provinces were contained in messages exchanged by military intelligence subordinates of Hq, MR 1 on 4, 6 and 7 January. In MR 1, a message passed between two unidentified entities on 7 January reported that two "enemy" sweep operations were scheduled to begin in eastern Dinh Tuong Province on the following day.

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In the DMZ area an element of the 27th Independent Battalion was ordered to plant mines and to conduct small-scale ambushes along Route 9. SIGINT revealed that large amounts of gasoline have been shipped to a "K200", possibly a transshipment point. In addition, the movements of a group of boats from Hong Ha to Vinh was also noted in rear services communications.

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I. COMMUNIST SOUTHEAST ASIA

A. MILITARY

1. Vietnamese Communist Communications - South Vietnam

Military Region 5

In the Quang Nam-Quang Tin area, communications serving the Hq, PAVN 2nd Division continued to reflect contact with Allied forces. On 4 January, Hq, 2nd Division informed the Hq, MR 5 Main Force Unit Control (MFUC) that it was engaged in combat and about to move. On the preceding day, this headquarters had been located in north-central Quang Tin Province near 15-38N 108-09E (AT 942295); by 6 January, Hq, 2nd Division was located in the same area near 15-37N 108-08E (AT 935288). On 7 January, the division headquarters reported that it was about to relocate, and on 8 January, again reported that it was under bombardment, in combat, and about to move. The division headquarters also reported on 8 January that a B-52 raid was to be conducted at an unspecified time and location. Through at least 7 January, the possible Hq, 2nd Division Forward Element has continued to communicate on hourly radio schedules with two subordinates of the 2nd Division--the possible PAVN 3rd and 21st Regiments.

On 6 January, a subordinate of the Rear Services Headquarters, Quang Nam, was located in eastern Quang Nam near 15-54N 108-15E (BT C54587), 18 km south of its 4 January location. On 7 January, a possible Rear-associated Services element informed the Hq, MR 5 MFUC that it was engaged in combat, and requested the maintenance of close communications. A subordinate of the Hq, MR 5 MFUC was initially located on 6 January in northwestern Quang Tin near 15-33N 107-58E (ZC 175213).

To the south in Quang Ngai Province, the probable Quang Ngai Provincial Unit--located near 15-05N 108-41E (BS 528685)

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on 30 December--indicated on 7 January that it was about to relocate.

The possible Phu Yen Provincial Unit was located on 7 January in northwestern Phu Yen Province near 13-22N 108-51E (BQ 654758), 14 km northwest of its 3 January position. An unidentified subordinate of the PAVN 5th Division was located in southern Phu Yen Province near 12-53N 109-04E (BQ 898247) on 7 January, 35 km north of its 4 January location.

In the western highlands, on 8 January SIGINT tentatively located a radio terminal serving Hq, PAVN B3 Front, Kontum Province, in southeastern Laos in the vicinity of 14-41N 107-21E (YB 537241) on 8 January; if valid, this location represents a move of approximately 21 km to the north-northwest of the front's 1 January location in Cambodia. A terminal suspected to serve Hq, PAVN 174th Regiment had moved to a position near the Kontum Province-Cambodia border at 14-30N 107-32E (YB 729041) by 7 January, about 9 km southwest of its 14 December location in western Kontum.

Indications of continued Vietnamese Communist activity in the Dak To area were noted in messages of 4 and 5 January passed to the Military Intelligence Section (MIS), PAVN 1st Division from a subordinate identified as "K13." According to collateral, there is a 13th Air Defense unit subordinate to the 1st Division. In a message of 4 January the subordinate reported to the MIS that the Allies had been burning and destroying the nearby forest areas, resulting in the exposure of its position. It claimed that the defoliation had caused it to be subjected to Allied air and artillery attacks and made it impossible to move the artillery in during the day. The subordinate further stated that it had set up a recoilless rifle emplacement 4350 meters southeast of Hill ONG UYNH (unlocated). The subordinate also reported that it had conducted an attack on an undetermined location at 0815(G) hours on 3 January but did not detect any "eruption of flames."

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In a message of 5 January the subordinate reported that one of its detachments had "met with difficulties" and "possibly had suffered casualties." SIGINT located this subordinate on 31 December in western Kontum near 14-35N 107-44E (YB 957149).

In a message of 7 January, the MIS instructed another subordinate to ascertain which Allied units at Ngok Rinh Rua (14-37N 107-42E, YB 9318) and Plei Can (14-47N 107-35E, YB 8525) equated to the Allied "designators." This subordinate, located on 7 January near 14-41N 107-43E (YB 905223), has been reporting on Allied activity in the Dak To area. The MIS was located on 7 January in the Laos-Kontum-Cambodia border area near 14-34N 107-29E (YB 691107).

(2/G12/VCM/TC57-68, 060515Z; T046-68, 040919Z; T071-68, 071503Z; 2/G12/VCM/R074-68, 080855Z; R073-68, 080800Z; R072-68, 080145Z; R069-68, Change 1, 080015Z; R071-68, 072135Z; R070-68, 071630Z; R068-68, 071430Z; R066-68, 071110Z; R065-68, 070645Z; R064-68, 070605Z; R062-68, 062335Z; R041-68, 041140Z)

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Military Region 1

Preliminary information indicates that the Hq, VC 9th Light Infantry Division (LID) is again active on its broadcast facility. The division headquarters was noted in brief activity on 1 and 7 January (using a new signal plan), after a period of extended radio silence since 24 October 1967.

The lack of radio communications on this group may be attributed to the activation of a new communications group on 20 October. This new group possibly represents communications between an unidentified control authority and the possible Hq, PAVN 7th Division; the tentative 7th Division Forward Element, and unidentified subordinate; and the probable Hq, VC 272nd Regiment. The stations of this new group are currently located in northeastern Tay Ninh Province. One of the stations in this communications group employed part of the signal plan associated with the Hq, 9th LID watch communications prior to 24 October.

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According to collateral, the U.S. base area located in northeastern Tay Ninh was attacked by Communist forces on 2-3 January.

In other developments, a message sent on 7 January to the MIS, MR 1, from a subordinate in the Bien Hoa-Long Khanh Province border area, reported that "81 delivered three tons of goods to Dong Nai." According to collateral, there is a Dong Nai Regiment operating in the Bien Hoa-Binh Duong Province border area. Collateral also indicates that "Dong Nai" is a cover designator for the 274th Regiment which is currently operating in eastern Bien Hoa Province and that there is a Group 81 Rear Services element subordinate to COSVN. The subordinate stated that it did not know what type of goods were involved and that it wanted to go to the "3rd Battalion" (not further identified) to pick up the supplies.

In the same message, the subordinate reported that it had been unable to cross the road because "the enemy on Highway 2 fired continuously," and that later there was heavy artillery fire. The subordinate also indicated that the "3rd Battalion's base area" was bombed but that there were no casualties.

In a message on 6 January, the subordinate reported that an Allied convoy at Cong Ba Mieng (10-57N 107-06E, YT 2911) was "fired on by our troops and two gasoline tank trucks were burned," and that "eight compatriots" had been seized. SIGINT located this subordinate on 7 January near 10-54N 107-05E (YT 285060).

On 4 January the MIS, MR 1, instructed a second subordinate to investigate the results of "our raid" at an undetermined location. The subordinate was ordered to report daily on the enemy situation on Route 15 and at the Nuoc Trong Bridge (not located). This subordinate was located on 5 January near 10-42N 106-59E (YS 185836) in eastern Bien Hoa Province. (2/G10/VCM/R10-68, 071900Z; 2/G10/VCM/T54-68, 080820Z; T47-68, 071025Z; T43-68, 061530Z; 3/O/STY/R06-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

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Military Region 10

On 6 January the probable Hq, C95 Reconnaissance Company, MIS, VC 9th LID and one subordinate reappeared in communications and resumed reporting, for the first time since 12 December. This subordinate was located on 7 January in central Binh Long Province near 11-39N 106-34E (XT 700874), approximately 4 km west of the Hon Quan Special Forces Camp and about 40 km southwest of its 10 December position in Phuoc Long Province. The Hq, C95 Reconnaissance Company was located on 9 December in the Phuoc Long-Binh Long border area near 11-56N 106-43E (XU 879204).

During late November and early December, the MI elements of the VC 9th LID were reporting on Allied activity in the Bu Dop-Bo Duc area of Phuoc Long. According to collateral, Bu Dop and Bo Duc were attacked by elements of the VC 9th LID during early December.

In the past, the reappearance in communications and the resumption of reporting by MI elements after extended periods of silence had indicated impending tactical activity by the Vietnamese Communist elements involved.
(2/G10/VCM/R008-68, 071332Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 2

On 7 January, a message passed between two unidentified entities in central Dinh Tuong Province forewarned of two "enemy sweep" operations scheduled to take place on 8 January. The first operation was reported to be a sweep by the "subsector force" in Nhi Qui (10-24N 106-06E, XS 2949) and Phu Qui (10-22N 106-06E XS 2746). "A battalion of the 11th Regiment, 7th ARVN Division" was to conduct the second operation in the vicinity of Chanh Gi (unlocated), Tan Hiep (10-27N 106-17E, XS 4755), and Tan Phu (10-20N 106-17E, XS 4243).

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

A radio station tentatively identified as serving the My Tho Provincial Unit relocated 16 km southwestward, between 3 and 7 January, to a position in western Dinh Tuong near 10-24N 106-01E (XS 117517).
(2/G10/VCM/R009-68, 071500Z; T052-68, 071930Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

2. DRV Communications

DMZ Area

PAVN 812th Regiment tactical communications continue to reflect the movement of considerable amounts of supplies and references to the Cam Lo River have also been noted. However, the specific area of responsibility of the 812th Regiment is as yet undetermined.

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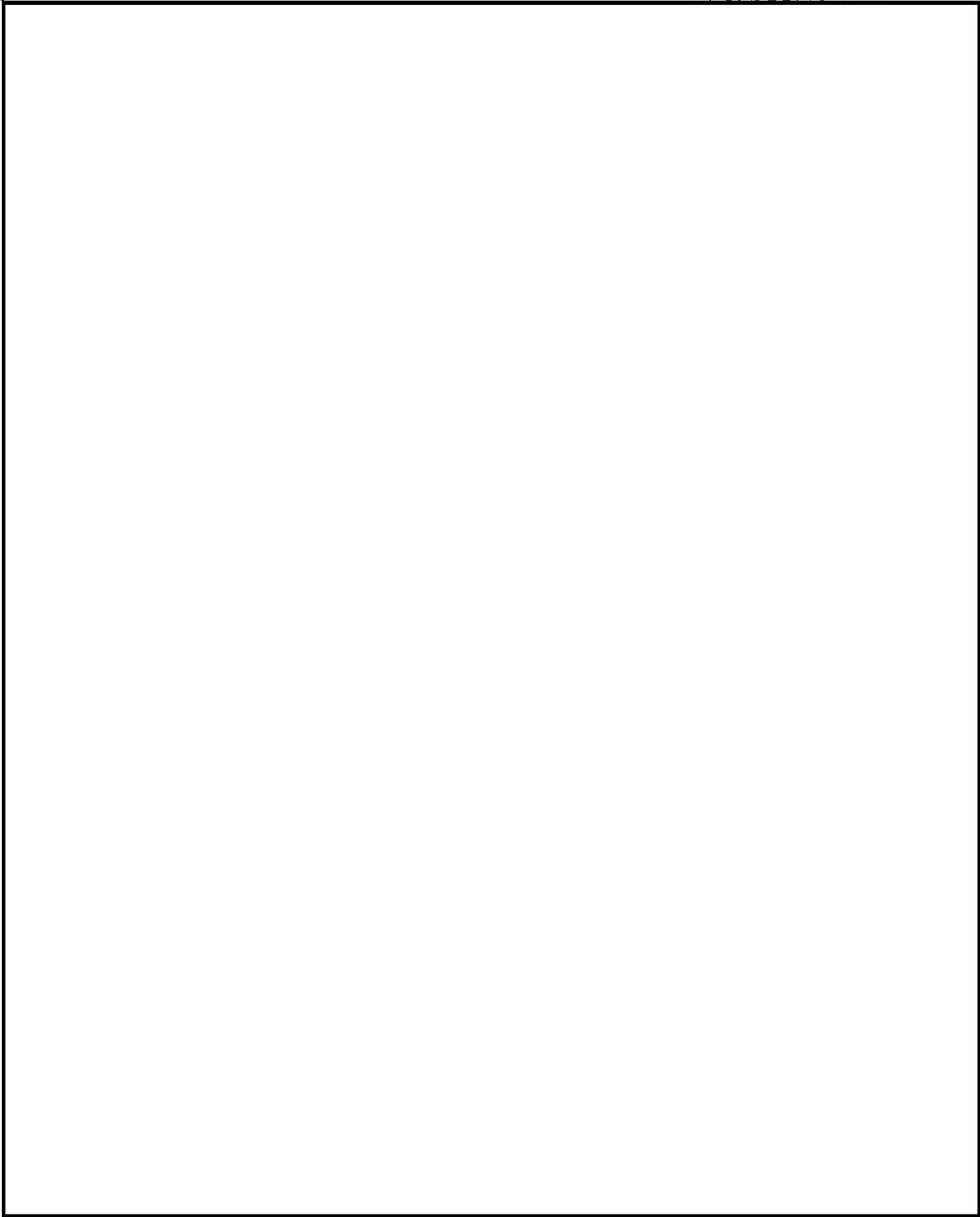
In addition, the 6th Company, 27th Independent Battalion was ordered on 8 January to plant mines and carry out small-scale ambushes utilizing B40 rockets along Route 9, probably from Dong Ha (16-49N 107-08E, YD 245605) to Cam Lo (16-49N 107-00E, YD 140600). ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

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CORRECTION TO 3/O/STY/RC5-68, 5 January, I.A.1.,

Military Region 1:

Change date in fourth sentence of first paragraph from "30 December 1967" to "30 September 1967."

CORRECTION TO 3/O/STY/RC6-68, 6 January I.A.2.,

PAVN High Command-304th/320th Divisions

Change first sentence to read "Communications between 'Ray Stations' BRAVO and ECHO and PAVN High Command were reflected....."

Change date on last sentence second paragraph from "27 December" to "24 December."

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