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SOUTHEAST ASIA SIGINT SUMMARY

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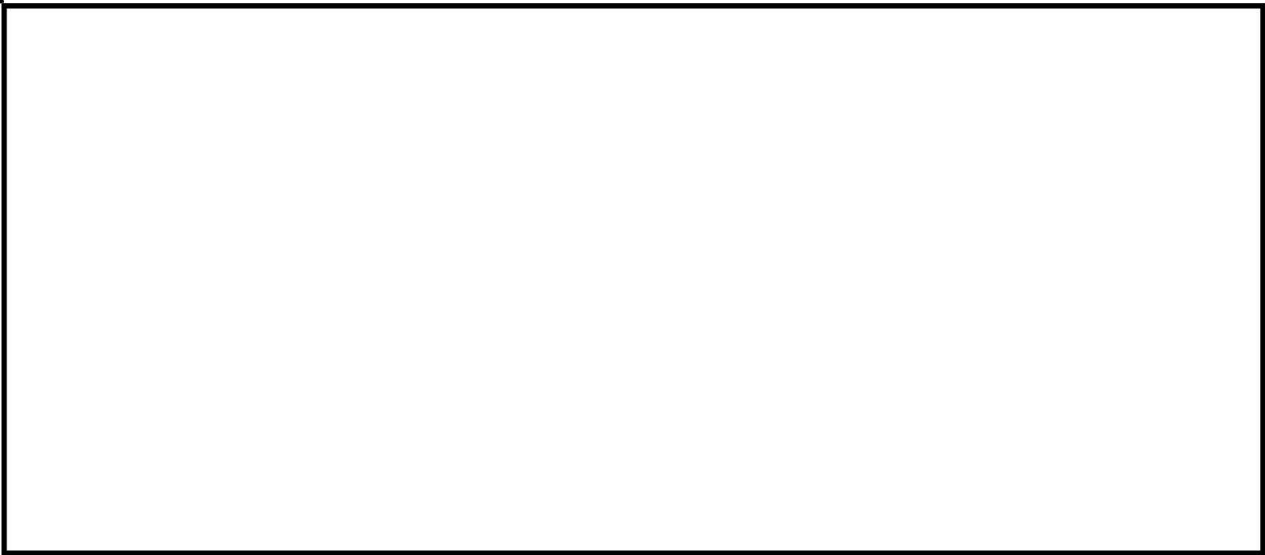
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12 Jan 68 2145Z
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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
SOUTHEAST ASIA SIGINT SUMMARY

This report summarizes developments noted throughout Southeast Asia available to NSA at time of publication on 12 Jan 68. All information in this report is based entirely on SIGINT except where otherwise specifically indicated.

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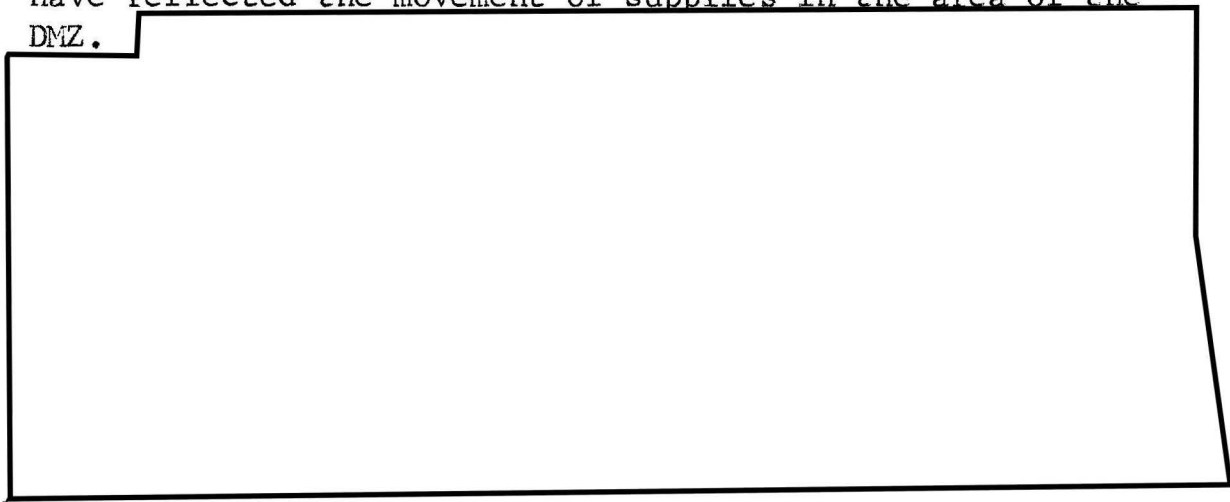
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SITUATION SUMMARY

In South Vietnam, SIGINT has tentatively identified two radio stations in the Quang Nam Province area of Military Region (MR) 5 as serving the Hq, PAVN 368B Artillery Regiment and the Da Nang Municipal Unit. Possible indications of impending Communist offensive activity in the western highlands were contained in several messages exchanged by unidentified PAVN B3 Front-associated elements on 8 January. The location of the control authority of a new Vietnamese Communist radio group in Tay Ninh Province and the moves of radio stations serving the possible Hq, PAVN 88th and Viet Cong (VC) 275th Regiments highlighted activity in MR's 1 and 10.

Tactical communications of the PAVN 90th Regiment have reflected the movement of supplies in the area of the DMZ.



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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 Province border area, the possible Hq, PAVN 2nd Division Forward Element continues its communications control of the regiments of the division through at least 11 January, indicating that an alert posture is being maintained in that formation. The possible forward element-- located on 5 January in northern Quang Tin Province near 15-36N 108-08E (AT 926268)--informed the possible Hq, VC 1st Regiment on 9 January that it was under bombardment. In this same general area, the unidentified Rear Services Headquarters, Quang Nam Province was located in southern Quang Nam near 15-57N 108-02E (AT 816648) on 11 January, 23 km north-northeast of its 10 January location. Additionally on 11 January, an unidentified subordinate of the probable Quang Nam Provincial Unit indicated that it was about to move and that the next radio schedule would be on the following day. This subordinate was last located in east-central Quang Tin near 14-36N 108-23E (BT 180174).

Radio stations in the Quang Nam Province area have been tentatively identified as serving the Da Nang Municipal Unit and the Hq, PAVN 360B Artillery Regiment. Collateral has reported the existence of these units in this area. Another radio station is suspected of serving an associate of the 368B Artillery Regiment, and may be that unit's forward element. On 11 January the radio station tentatively identified as serving the Da Nang Municipal Unit was located about 15 km south-southwest of Da Nang near 15-52N 108-10E (AT 974556). This station communicates with Hq, MR 5's Main Force Unit Control (MFUC) and Provincial Unit Control (PUC); the Quang Da Provincial Unit; the Unidentified Rear Services Headquarters, Quang Nam Province and three

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unidentified entities also operating in the Quang Nam area. The radio stations tentatively identified as serving the Hq, 368B Artillery Regiment--previously identified as a possible Rear Services element--and its forward element communicate with each other and with the unidentified Rear Services Headquarters, Quang Nam Province. The suspect Hq, 368B Artillery Regiment, located on 7 January in eastern Quang Nam Province near 15-56N 108-02E (AT 810647), also maintains communications with the Hq, MR 5 PUC. Its suspect forward element was last located in the same general area near 15-55N 108-02E (AT 808619) on 3 January.

The unidentified Rear Services Hq, Quang Nam Province--in addition to its rear services function--appears to be tasked with the mission of insuring a stable and reliable system of radio communications encompassing all Vietnamese Communist military units currently operating in the Quang Nam-Quang Tin area. In an apparent effort to accomplish this, the Rear Services Headquarters is maintaining an extensive communications complex in this two-province area where it functions as the communications control.

In the western highlands, possible indications of an impending Vietnamese Communist military operation were contained in several messages of 8 January passed between unidentified elements associated with the PAVN B3 Front. The earliest message--sent by the apparent control authority--directed the recipient to inform a comrade BA of the revised "N plus 4 day" and to tell him to report the extent of preparations for "X-17's" participation in "N plus 4 day." In a second message, the apparent subordinate reported that it had not gone out to an unspecified position and was awaiting orders. In a later message the control authority asked whether the "2...th Company of the 2nd Battalion and X-18 have left with the formation." The message also instructed the recipient to "struggle against time along the way and indoctrinate the men concerning the secrecy of the unit."

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In the past, the Communist have used "N-day" to indicate the day of execution for an operation or phase thereof. In this content, however, it appears that "N plus 4" itself refers to the day of execution.

The elements involved in this message activity are possibly entities previously observed during October and November 1967, one of which had operated in the vicinity of the probable Hq, PAVN 95B Regiment (the Pleiku Province-Cambodia border region). Although not specifically identified with this regiment, an association is suspected. Between 25 and 30 November, Hq, 95B Regiment began moving into Pleiku Province and was last located in the tri-border area of Pleiku, Kontum and Binh Dinh Provinces on 9 January near 14-12N 108-18E (BR 084705). It is possible that the above elements, which are both presently unlocated, are operating in the same general area.

On 11 January, the Military Intelligence Section (MIS), PAVN 1st Division instructed a subordinate--located on 10 January near Dak To at 14-40N 107-42E (YB 912232)--to "carefully determine enemy unit designators" and to report whether the units were new or had been there for some time. The MIS stated that "the enemy" had replaced some units, and instructed the subordinate to report as soon as it obtained the information.

A second subordinate, located on 9 January in the Dak To area near 14-38N 107-35E (YB 780183), reported to the MIS on 11 January that Allied troops were searching for it and reported "a great deal of artillery fire in Area C [unlocated]."

In central Binh Dinh Province, the Hq, PAVN 3rd Division, located on 10 January near 14-06N 108-54E (BR 734591), informed the Hq, MR 5 MFUC on 11 January that it was under bombardment.

(2/G12/VCM/R104-68, 1121..Z; R103-68, 111935Z; R101-68, 111115Z; R100-68, 111429Z; RC81-68(sic), 100530Z; T102-68, 111555Z; T101-68, 111217Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

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Military Region 1 and 10

The control authority of a new Vietnamese Communist radio group--active since mid-October 1967 and suspected to serve a watch function--was located on 2 January in northeastern Tay Ninh Province at 11-34N 106-19E (XT 420780), approximately 25 km southwest of its 12 December position in west-central Binh Long Province.

On 10 January SIGINT revealed that the radio stations associated with the possible Hq, PAVN 88th and VC 275th Regiments have relocated. The possible Hq, 88th Regiment-associated station was located in southwestern Binh Long at 11-21N 106-31E (XT 650545), approximately 90 km southwest of its 17 December location in the northern Phuoc Long Province-Cambodian border area. The station associated with the Hq, 275th Regiment was located in southern Phuoc Long at 11-42N 107-09E (YT 350950), about 40 km from its 23 December location in the northern area of that province. Since 20 October these two stations have been noted in communications with an unidentified control authority associated with the possible Hq, VC 5th Light Infantry Division element operating in Phuoc Long. This unidentified control authority was previously located in Cambodia on 19 December and more recently, on 30 December, at 11-56N 107-09E (YU 330206) in northeastern Phuoc Long. The signal plan used on the radio group serving these entities is similar to that used on other radio groups activated since early October and is associated with Military Affairs Section of COSVN, the possible Unidentified Front Headquarters in northern Binh Long, and an unidentified control authority in the Binh Long-Tay Ninh Province-Cambodia border area.

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Military Region 2

SIGINT indicates that two VC Party-associated stations have relocated with MR 2.

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The tentative Can Giuoc District Committee of Long An Province was located on 11 January at 10-29N 106-32E (XS 6759), 18 km southwest of its 10 January position. On the same day, an unidentified Party-associated station was located on the Go Cong-Long An border at 10-25N 106-36E (XS 7352), 17 km northeast of its location on 4 December in eastern Dinh Tuong Province.
(3/O/STY/R10-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

2. DRV Communications

On 11 January a radio terminal serving the DMZ Front was located near 16-58N 106-48E (XD 923771), immediately north of the central DMZ, approximately 30 km southeast of its last firm location in the vicinity of 17-13N 106-36E (XE 704026) during November. Tenuous SIGINT, however, indicates that the front may have relocated to this area as early as 31 December. The present location of the front places it in the vicinity of its detached element. In addition, available SIGINT indicates that the reunification of the front with its detached element may be under way. In the past, such reunifications--lasting approximately two weeks--have preceded further relocation by the front and/or the detached element and increased tactical activity by PAVN forces in the area.

On 11 January tactical communications serving elements of the PAVN 90th Regiment revealed that unidentified elements of the regiment were engaged in transporting supplies, possibly in the central DMZ area. Messages on that date revealed that supplies were being moved to unlocated areas designated T2, T3 and T4. These same unidentified designators were recently observed in messages of the PAVN 812th Regiment which discussed supply movements in the central DMZ area.

Elements of the 7th Battalion, 90th Regiment, have also been engaged in possible transport activity. On

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10 January it was reported that the 1st Company, 7th Battalion, and the 14th Company possibly a regimental support company would move material back to a Position 90 (vicinity of 16-58N 106-58E, YD 003775). The 1st Company, 7th Battalion, has recently withdrawn from the area south of Con Thien, and the reported movement of materials is possibly associated with its withdrawal. On 12 January the 7th Battalion, 90th Regiment, was informed that the regiment had many urgent messages for it.

Elsewhere, tactical communications indicate that on the night of 11 January elements of the PAVN 803rd Regiment intended to breach three fences, designated M2, M4 and M6, probably located to the west of Con Thien. SIGINT also indicated that possible suppressing fire by elements of the PAVN 164th Artillery Regiment was to be employed in coordination with the attempt to breach the fences.

Messages on 11 and 12 January also indicated that elements of the 164th Artillery Regiment were preparing to fire on a target possibly in the vicinity of Position 161 (16-54N 106-55E, YD 053687), and on the "main blockhouse" at Con Thien, on 12 January.

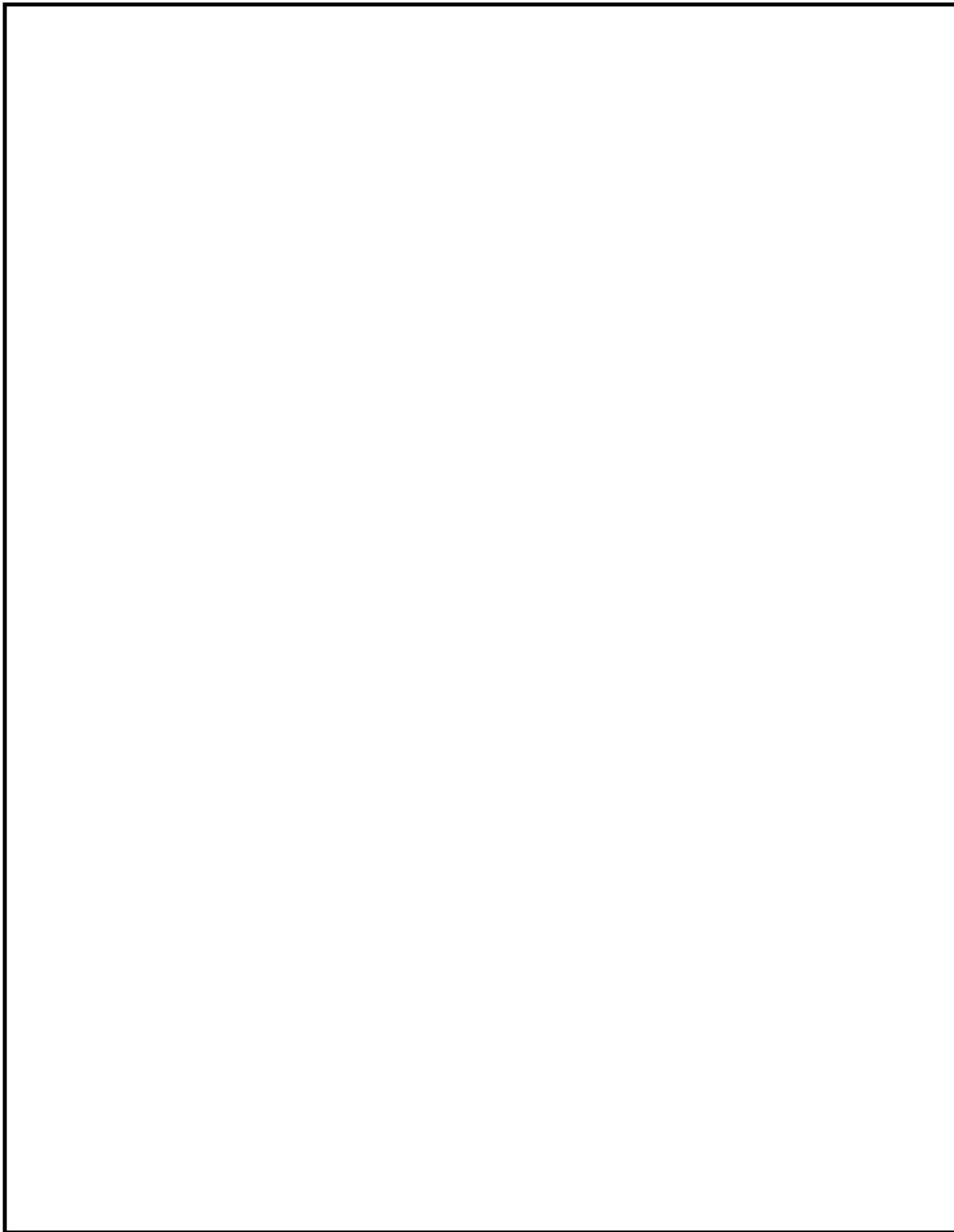
Finally, on 12 January the 27th Independent Battalion received a report from its subordinate 6th Company stating that "four American battalions were concentrating at Dong Ha." Reference was also made to a possible Allied sweep operation south of Route 9. The company then reported that it had deployed to strike in all directions. (2/G11/VCM/T321-68, 111511Z; T325-68, 120801Z; T338-68, 121226Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~



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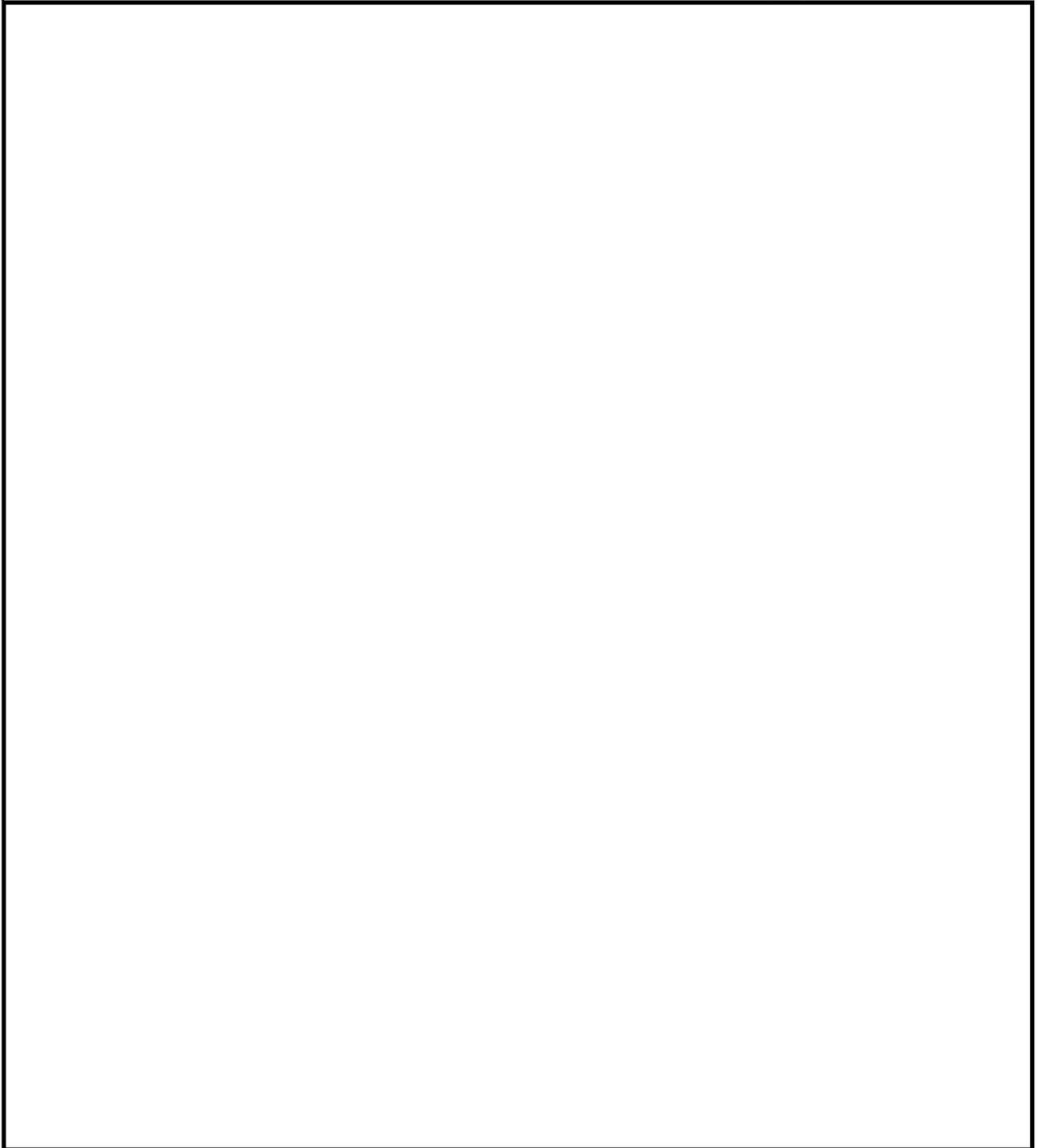
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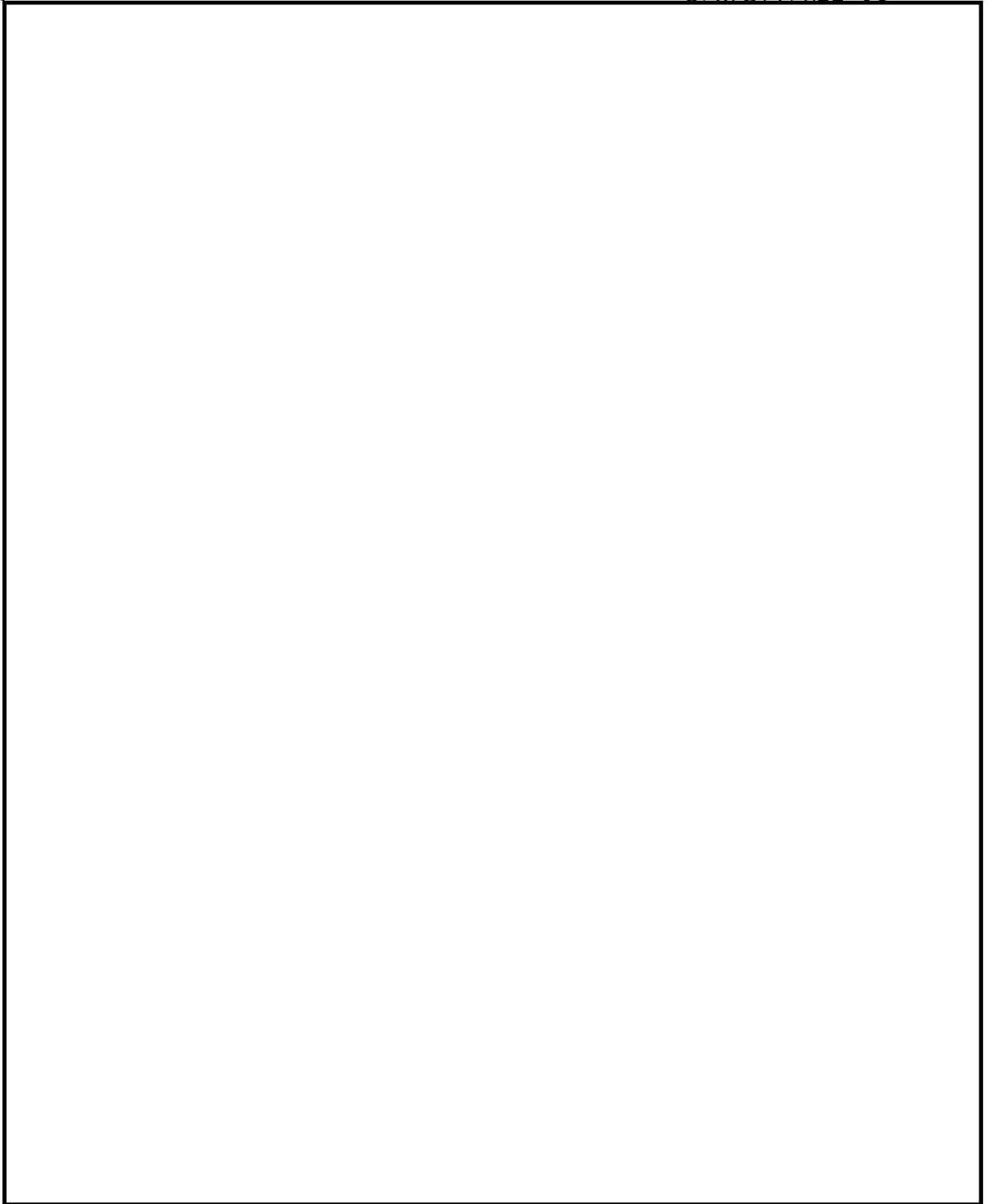
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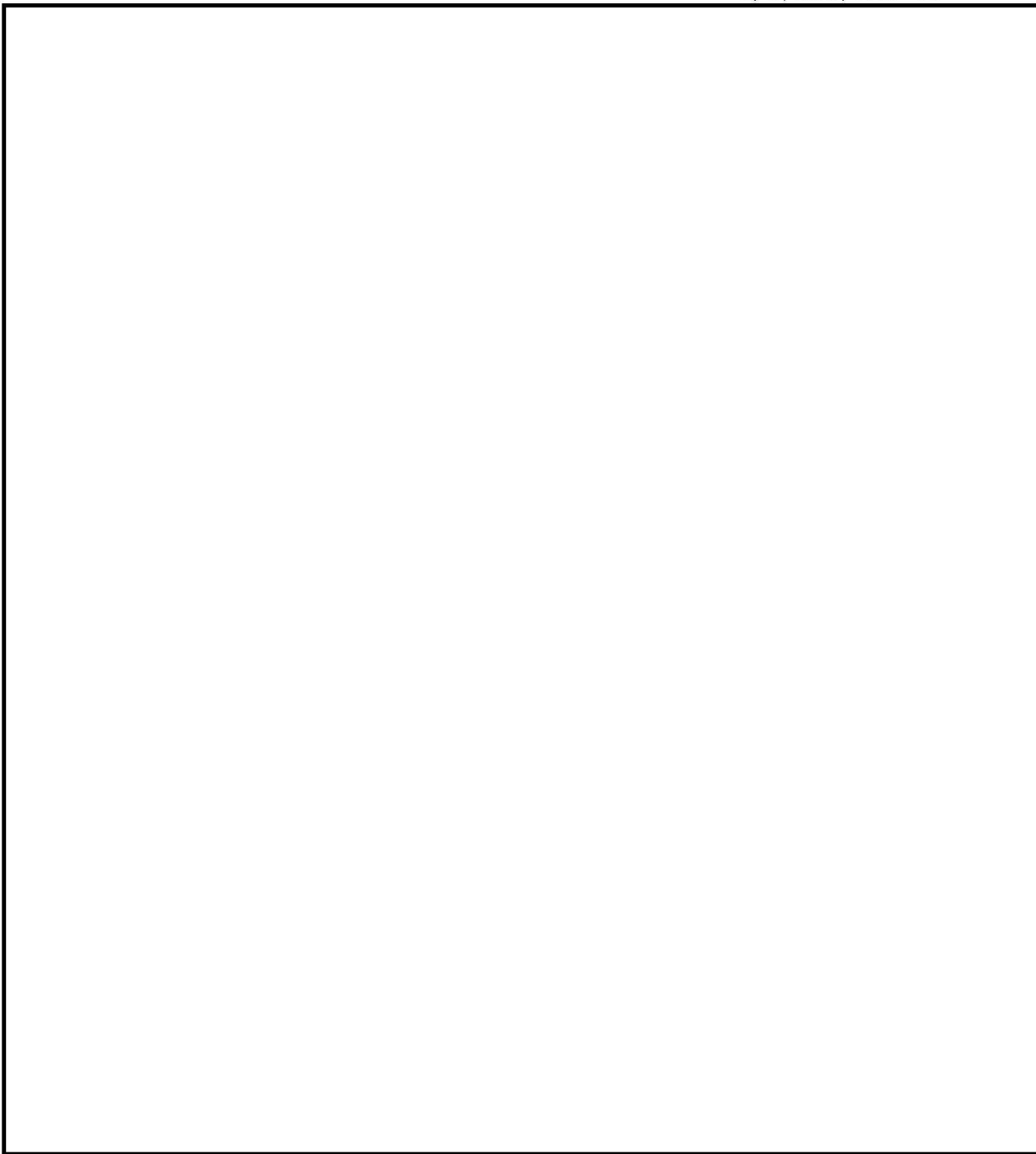
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