

~~SECRET SAVIN~~

2/O/VCM/R63-68
 FOLLOW-UP NR 23 TO
 2/O/VCM/R32-68
 SPOT REPORT
 AVC,AVN/OPER-G-H/
 4 FEBRUARY 1968 0109Z
 DIST: OSCAR/VICTOR ALFA
 PLUS USM-604, GCU 1 AUSTF,
 WHITE HOUSE
 HCF

FOLLOW-UP NR 23 TO

COORDINATED VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST

OFFENSIVE EVIDENCED IN SOUTH VIETNAM (252332Z JAN)

A message passed on 4 February between unlocated possible elements of the Viet Cong (VC) 5th Light Infantry Division (LID) discussed an imminent VC artillery attack on targets probably on or near Bien Hoa Airbase. The recipient of the message was given the following coordinates for five targets: "X13/280, Y00/080"; "X13/285, Y99/045"; "X13/400, Y98/595"; "X13/535, Y98/000"; and "X13/535, Y00/350." The message directed the recipient to initially conduct practice fire on the first three targets; then upon orders, to "shell, concentrating your fire power. ...by all means struggle for early restricting fire so as to prevent the enemy from using the airport to provide counterattack reinforcements to Saigon and other places."

The recipient was instructed to "maintain direct communications with me beginning at seven o'clock." Seven o'clock could refer to either 0700 or 1900 hours (local time).

By reversing VC coordinates, the locations of the above targets appear to be good for the vicinity of Bien Hoa Airbase. As of 2 February, the Hq, VC 5th LID was located at 11-00N, 106-59E (YT 123174) approximately 11 km northeast of Bien Hoa. ¹

 1. 2/G10/VCM/R044-68.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS 1 PAGE

~~SECRET SAVIN~~