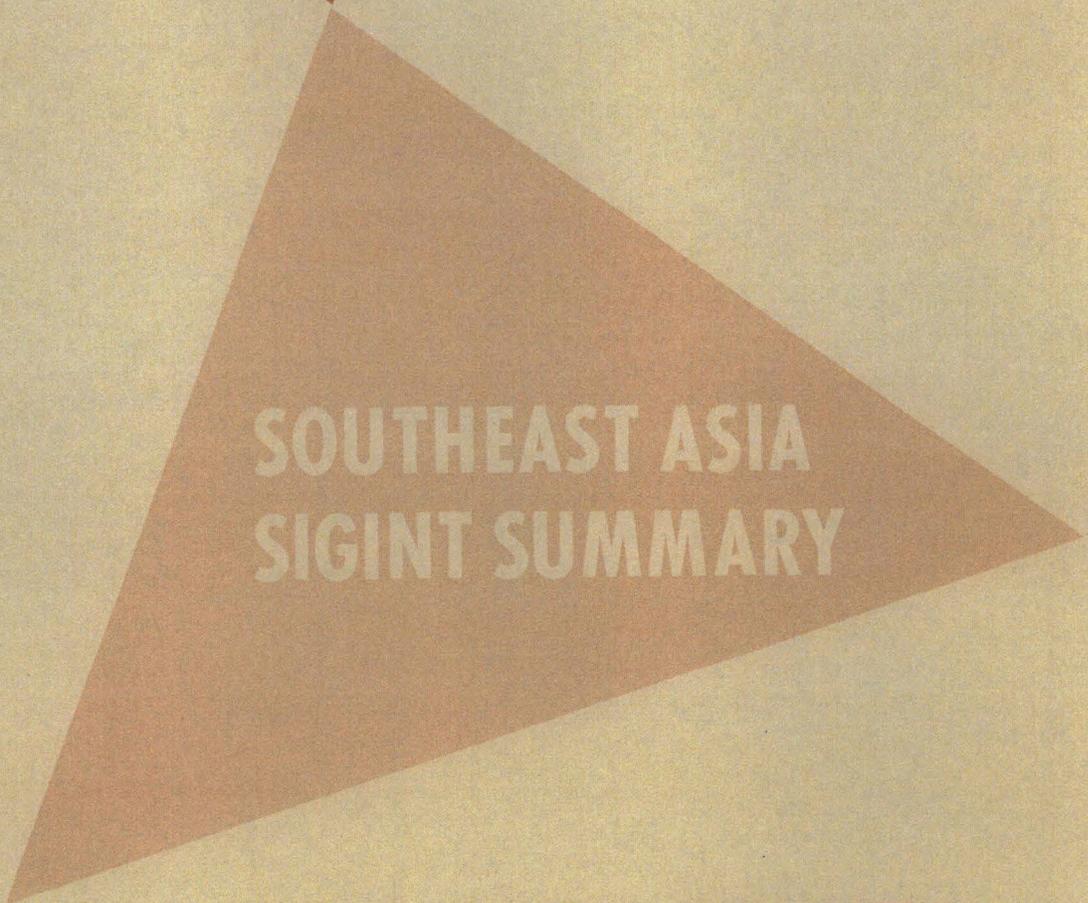


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3/O/STY/R37-68
12 February 1968
DIST: O/UT
SEA SIGSUM 37-68



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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 February 1968. All information in this report is based entirely on SIGINT except where otherwise specifically indicated.

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SITUATION SUMMARY

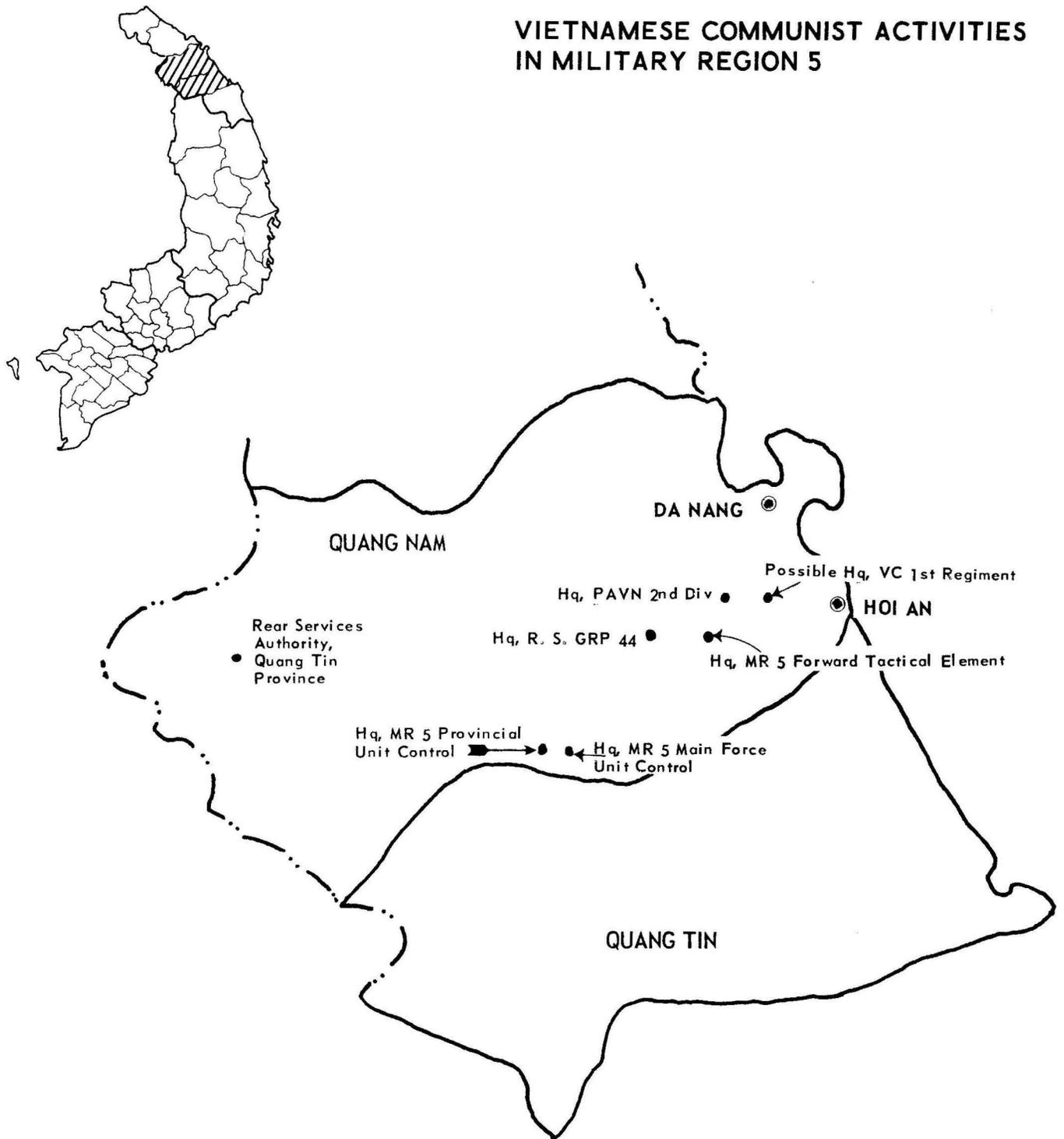
Relocations or reports of intent to move by Vietnamese Communist units in Quang Nam, Binh Dinh, Kontum, Pleiku and Darlac Provinces highlighted activity in South Vietnam's Military Region (MR) 5. Additionally, a terminal previously identified as a suspected PAVN B3 Front-associated artillery unit has now been tentatively identified as the Hq, 40th Artillery Regiment. In MR 1 the Military Intelligence Section, Viet Cong (VC) 5th Light Infantry Division was located east of Bien Hoa and military intelligence elements reported extremely detailed locations of Allied units and positions in central Binh Duong Province.

Elements of the PAVN 101D Regiment, active in the Khe Sanh area of Quang Tri Province, continue their reconnaissance of Allied operations with specific emphasis on helicopter activity. Also, an unidentified PAVN Rear Services element reported on movements of various types of ammunition to artillery units in the DMZ area.

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VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN MILITARY REGION 5



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I. COMMUNIST SOUTHEAST ASIA

A. MILITARY

1. Vietnamese Communist Communications - South Vietnam

Military Region Tri-Thien-Hue

PAVN elements associated with the PAVN 6th Regiment remain in the Hue area. On 11 February an unidentified 10th Company reported to its unidentified possible parent battalion that it had sunk a boat carrying military supplies and 30 Americans. Additionally on 11 February, the possible battalion indicated that activities in the area would continue. Further directives on 12 February ordered the 10th Company to organize a rocket launcher platoon to fire upon boats and also mentioned the use of mortars and snipers against Allied forces at Dia Linh (16-28N 107-46E, YD 758255) as well as the deployment of automatic weapons in the same general area.

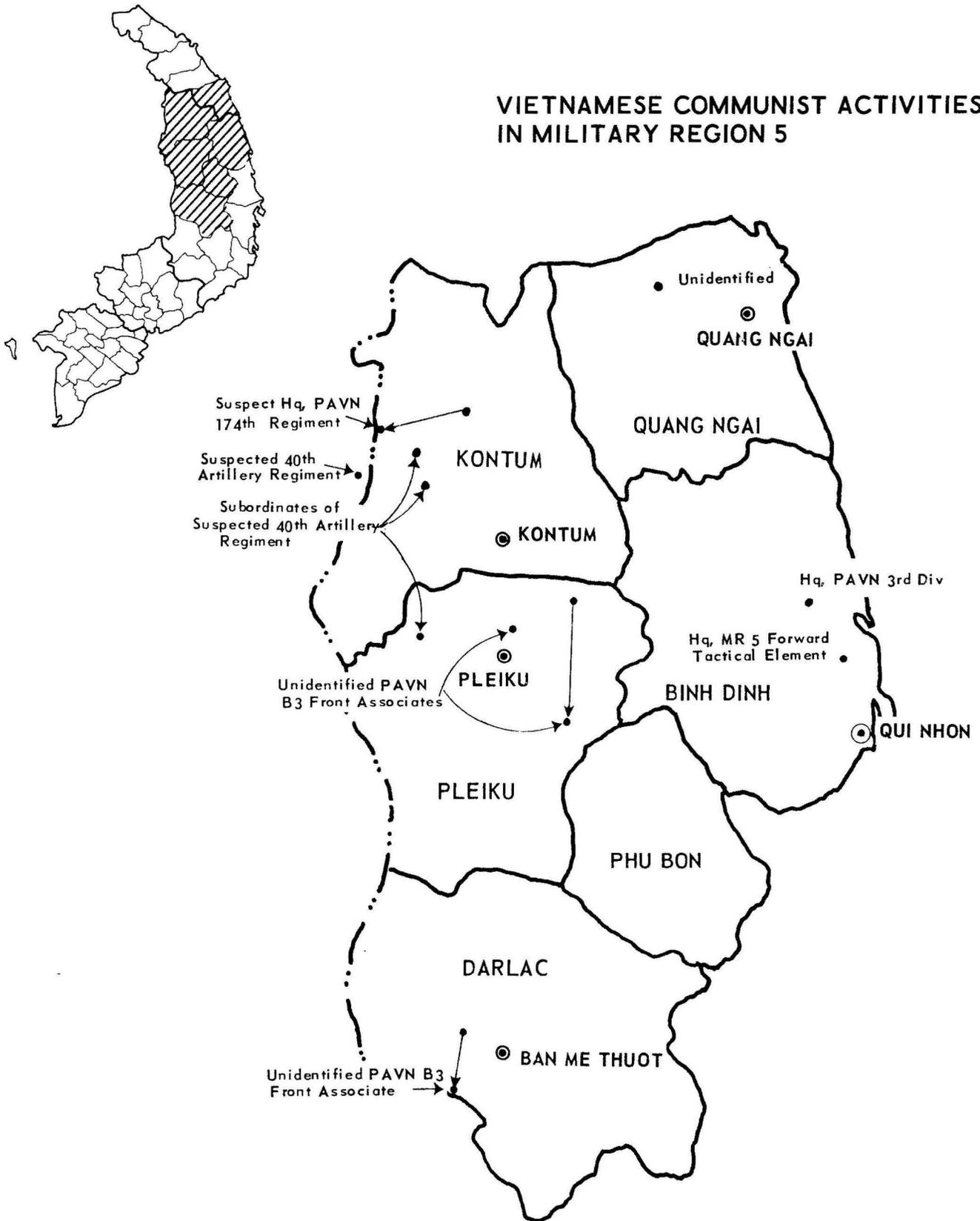
Military Region 5

Communications activity of Vietnamese Communist military units operating in the Quang Nam Province area was highlighted on 10 and 11 February by numerous minor moves or the reported intent to move. In southern Quang Nam the Hq, MR 5 Provincial and Main Force Unit Controls have recently conducted minor moves. Hq, MR 5 Main Force Unit Control was located on 11 February near 15-37N 107-54E (ZC 100299), 14 km southwest of its 6 February location, while Hq, MR 5 Provincial Unit Control was located on 10 February in the same area near 15-37N 107-50E (ZC 040294), 10 km south of its 9 February position. In eastern Quang Nam, Hq, MR 5 Forward Tactical Element, Quang Nam Province -- located on 10 February near 15-51N 108-08E (AT 941530) -- indicated on the same date that it was about to move. Hq, PAVN 2nd Division, located on 10 February near 15-52N 108-09E (AT 944547), and Hq, Rear Services Group 44, located on 10 February near 15-51N 108-04E (AT 865538), indicated on 11 February that they too were about to move. Meanwhile, the

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VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES IN MILITARY REGION 5



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possible Hq, VC 1st Regiment, 2nd Division, was located on 11 February near 15-54N 108-13E (BT 037595), approximately 18 km south of Da Nang and about 10 km south of its 8 February position. Finally, in western Quang Nam, recently available information indicates that the Rear Services Authority, Quang Tin Province, was located on 5 February near 15-48N 107-28E (YC 659470), approximately 47 km northwest of its 20 January position in the western Quang Nam-Quang Tin Province border area.

To the south, an unidentified subordinate of Hq, MR 5 Provincial Unit Control -- located in northern Quang Ngai Province near 15-14N 108-37E (BS 434837) on 29 January -- indicated on 11 February that it was in a difficult situation and surrounded.

In eastern Binh Dinh Province, Hq, MR 5 Forward Tactical Element, Binh Dinh -- last located on 10 February near 14-03N 108-59E (CR 003530) -- reported to Hq, MR 5 on 11 February that it was about to move. Hq, PAVN 3rd Division -- located on 10 February near 14-12N 108-58E (BR 813693) -- reported on the same date that it too was about to relocate; however, on 11 February, this headquarters was located near 14-41N 108-58E (BR 808725) in the vicinity of its 10 February position.

In the western highlands, the suspected Hq, PAVN 174th Regiment, PAVN 1st Division, was located on 10 February near 14-35N 107-30E (YB 703143) in the Kontum Province-Cambodia border area, approximately 45 km west-southwest of its 7 February position. To the south, an unidentified possible PAVN B3 Front-associated entity was located on 11 February near 14-01N 108-01E (AR 774519), about 5 km northeast of Pleiku city and in the same general area of its initial location on 8 February. Another unidentified associate of the B3 Front moved about 44 km southward between 9 and 11 February to a position near 13-48N 108-11E (AR 953270), approximately 27 km southeast of Pleiku city.

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In southern Darlac Province, a third B3 Front-associated element was located on 11 February in the Darlac-Cambodia border area near 12-34N 107-57E (ZU 217898), about 17 km south-southwest of Ban Me Thuot and approximately 21 km south-southwest of its 8 February position.

A radio terminal previously identified in SIGINT as a suspected artillery unit associated with the B3 Front has now been tentatively identified as the Hq, 40th Artillery Regiment. In addition, three of its subordinates have been tentatively identified as artillery units. The tentative Hq, 40th Artillery Regiment also maintains communications with Hq, B3 Front, Kontum Province, and with elements of Hq, 1st Division. All three subordinate tentative artillery units communicate with Hq, B3 Front, Kontum Province, and two of these units also maintain links to Hq, 1st Division.

The suspected Hq, 40th Artillery Regiment was located on 3 February in the Kontum Province-Cambodia border area near 14-37N 107-29E (YB 692172). Its three subordinates were located as follows: one in Pleiku Province at 14-03N 107-45E (YA 971548) on 17 January; and two in the Kontum Province area -- one at 14-43N 107-38E (YB 840294) on 29 January and the other in the same general area on 3 February, at 14-38N 107-40E (YB 884195).

Military intelligence (MI) activity in Kontum Province was highlighted by a message passed on 11 February to a subordinate in the Dak To area by the probable forward element of the Military Intelligence Section (MIS), 1st Division. In the message, the probable forward element ordered the subordinate to be prepared to "shell the enemy immediately if they withdraw" and requested "the present location of the 82-mm mortars." The probable forward element had reported on 10 February that it had arrived at the foot of Ngoc Ba Bieng (14-36N 107-46E, YB 9715) and "will move on tomorrow." The probable forward element was located on 4 February near 14-34N 107-38E (YB 855136), and its subordinate, on 2 February near 14-31N 107-42E (YB 922065), both in west-central Kontum Province.

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(2/O/VCM/R0448-68, 112320Z; R0447-68, 112350Z; R0446-68, 112055Z; R0445-68, 111840Z; R0444-68, 111758Z; R0443-68, 111615Z; R0439-68, 111300Z; R0438-68, 111217Z; R0437-68, 111215Z; R0436-68, 111135Z; R0434-68, 110747Z; R0433-68, 102135Z; R0432-68, 102137Z; R0423-68, 100820Z; T350-68, 111650Z; T341-68, 101430Z; 3/O/STY/R36-68)

~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~Military Region 1

A subordinate of the MIS, Hq, VC 5th Light Infantry Division was located on 11 February about 18 km east of Bien Hoa near 10-56N 106-59E (YT 173102). The subordinate -- noted in communications on 28 December 1967 after a three-month period of inactivity -- was previously located on 12 September in southwestern Binh Tuy Province near 10-44N 107-38E (YS 891868).

In other activity, recent messages exchanged between two MI elements possibly associated with a 52nd Battalion -- a control authority and a subordinate -- continue to reflect Vietnamese Communist interest in the area around Lai Khe (11-12N 106-29E, XT 7737). According to collateral there is a 52nd Battalion subordinate to the 69th VC Artillery Regiment. In a 9 February message to the control authority, the subordinate -- located on 11 February in central Binh Duong Province near 11-11N 106-35E (XT 729367) -- reported that there were eight artillery pieces "from the Dong So Bridge [unlocated] 800 meters in the direction of Lai Khe to 150 meters east of the road." In two messages passed on 10 February, the control authority -- located on 11 February in northwestern Binh Duong near 11-14N 106-30E (XT 638422) -- requested the coordinates of the artillery position, those of a regiment, and also inquired about the results of an attack on 9 February. The subordinate replied in a message of 11 February, indicating that it had fired at 0600, 1400 and 1700 hours (Golf), the last attack hitting a portion of the highway. According to collateral Communist attacks were staged against the U.S. 1st Infantry Division base camp at Lai Khe on 8 and 10 February.

In a second message of 11 February the subordinate provided extremely detailed UTM coordinates for two Allied artillery

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positions, a regiment, an ammunition dump, and a motor pool, all in the vicinity of 11-11N 106-36E (XT 757369).

These two MI elements have been reporting on Allied forces and operations at Lai Khe and Ben Cat (11-09N 107-36E, XT 740430) since 1 February and have previously passed messages indicating close association with elements of the possible Hq, PAVN 7th Division.

(2/G10/VCM/R79-68, 111416Z; T235-68, 091331Z; T240-68, 100430Z; T242-68, 101248Z; T243-68, 101306Z; T251-68, 111541Z; T252-68 111431Z; 2/O/VCM/R71-68, 072158Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 10

On 7 February, COSVN passed an unusually high volume of 45 messages to the tentative Region 10 Committee (RC-10). Normally COSVN passes about four messages per day to RC-10. Twenty-three of these messages were passed by COSVN to all subordinates. ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 3

On 11 February the radio station serving the probable Vinh Long Provincial Branch of the Liberation News Agency (LNA) was located at 09-59N 105-37E (WS 654036), in western Phong Dinh Province, approximately 41 km southwest of its location on 1 August 1967 in north-central Vinh Long Province. ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

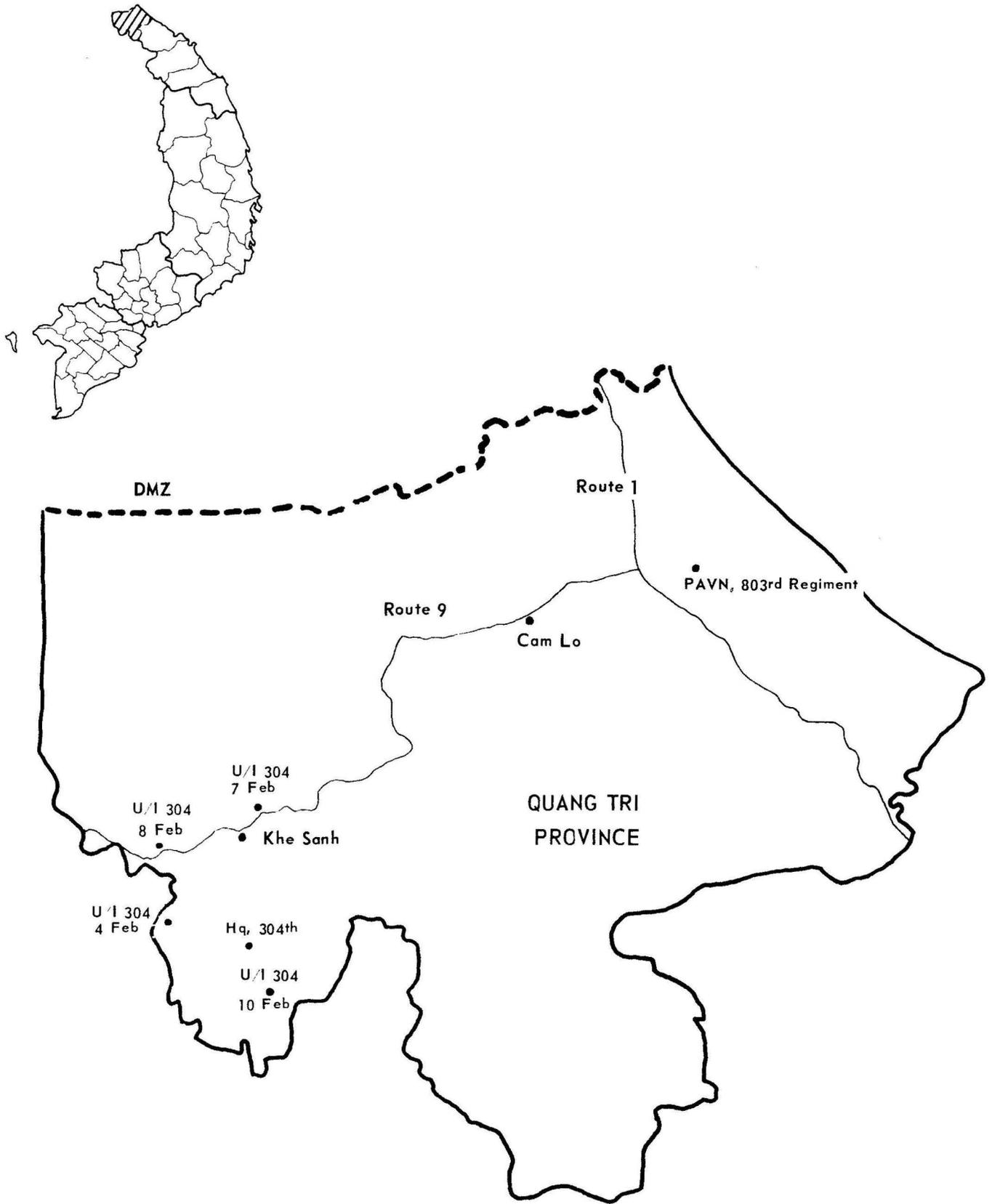
SIGINT indicates that the Western Nam Bo Branch of the LNA has relocated. On 10 February this station was located at 09-46N 104-50E (VR 815809) in Kien Giang Province, approximately 25 km northwest of its 8 January location. ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 2

On 11 February an unidentified Party-associated station was located in Dinh Tuong Province at 10-26N 106-23E (XS 527508), approximately 36 km southeast of its 22 January location.

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To the east, on 9 February the probable Long An Provincial Committee (LAPC) was located at 10-34N 106-34E (XS 700639), approximately 34 km southeast of its position on 8 February and approximately 5 km from one of its subordinate stations.

~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

2. DRV Communications

DMZ Area

SIGINT reveals the existence of at least four unidentified subordinates on the traffic-passing communications group serving the PAVN 304th Division. The headquarters was last located on 10 February in the area of 16-32N 106-44E (XD 857278) and the four unidentified subordinates were located near 16-32N 106-40E (XD 770299) on 4 February; 16-38N 106-45E (XD 865404) on 7 February; 16-37N 106-39E (XD 770370) on 8 February and 16-29N 106-46E (XD 882231) on 10 February. In addition, the subordinate located on 8 February also communicates with the Hq, Khe Sanh Area Front.

Additionally, unidentified PAVN 101D Regiment elements in the Khe Sanh combat base area continue their reconnaissance, noting specifically helicopter activity. These elements reported that their artillery had destroyed one helicopter and burned three others. The frequency of Allied artillery firing was also mentioned.

Elsewhere, since 2 February communications of unidentified PAVN Rear Service Elements have revealed the movement of varied types of ammunition to artillery units currently active in the DMZ Area. Among the units which have been supplied by these Rear Service Elements are the PAVN 164th Artillery Regiment -- which was to receive 100-mm antitank ammunition -- the PAVN 204th Artillery Regiment -- which was to receive 152-mm ammunition and the PAVN 270th Regiment -- which was to receive 60-mm mortar, 82-, 85-, 100- and 152-mm ammunition and 122-mm rockets. In addition, the possible 184th Artillery Regiment has been noted as the intended recipient of 82-mm mortar

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ammunition. Finally, 130-mm cannon ammunition has been referenced in movement to an unidentified destination.

(3/O/STY/R27-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Communications serving the PAVN 803rd Regiment indicate that regimental headquarters and the 3rd Battalion have crossed the Cua Viet River at a ferry crossing between 16-50N 107-06E (YD 267643) and 16-50N 107-07E (YD 272642), and that the 1st Battalion is planning to cross in the very near future.

A message from the 1st Battalion indicates that the regimental headquarters is presently at Gia Do (16-50N 107-07E, YD 275635) and Thanh Liem (16-50N 107-07E, YD 282630), and that the 3rd Battalion, previously located at Gia Do and Phan Xa (16-49N 107-08E, YD 290628) possibly since 10 February, is moving southward. It is believed that the 1st Battalion will deploy in the area recently vacated by the 3rd Battalion.

Since 31 January 1968, tactical communications between elements of the PAVN 812th Regiment have been observed. These elements, located in the Quang Tri city area, have been engaged in intensive reconnaissance activity around the city and Tri Buu (16-45N 107-11E, YD 345535) as well as to the south along Route 1. On 9 February, the 6th Battalion informed "Group 7" that 5 prisoners had been captured by the "Hai Duong Guerrillas." It cannot be determined whether the prisoners were Allied or U.S.

(2/G11/VCM/R297-68, 111843Z; R296-68, 111519Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region Northwest

Communications between Hq, possible 316th Infantry Division and its two unidentified subordinates have not been noted since 30 January. Division headquarters continued to be noted in communications with Hq, MR Northwest through at least 7 February. Since a change of signal plan occurred

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throughout MR Northwest on 1 February, it is possible that the lack of identified communications between the division headquarters and its subordinates is due to the use of an alternate and as yet unrecovered signal plan.

(2/0/VCM/R57-68, 022123Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Overland Infiltration

The probable Hq, PAVN 559th Transportation Group was observed in unusually high message activity on 9 February. This headquarters was observed sending a total of 56 messages to four subordinates: 21 to Unit 17 located on 13 January in the vicinity of 15-49N 106-44E (XC 851492); 15 to the A Shau Valley Rear Services Headquarters located on 5 February in the area of 16-00N 107-25E (YD 286045); 13 to Unit 16 located on 7 February at 15-24N 107-34E (YB 770026); and 7 to Unit 36 located on 27 December near 16-40N 106-24E (XD 501450).

Additionally, the probable 559th Headquarters was observed receiving a total of 27 messages on the same day from four subordinates: 12 from Unit 53; 8 from the A Shau Valley Rear Services Headquarters; 4 from Unit 36 and 3 from Unit 16.

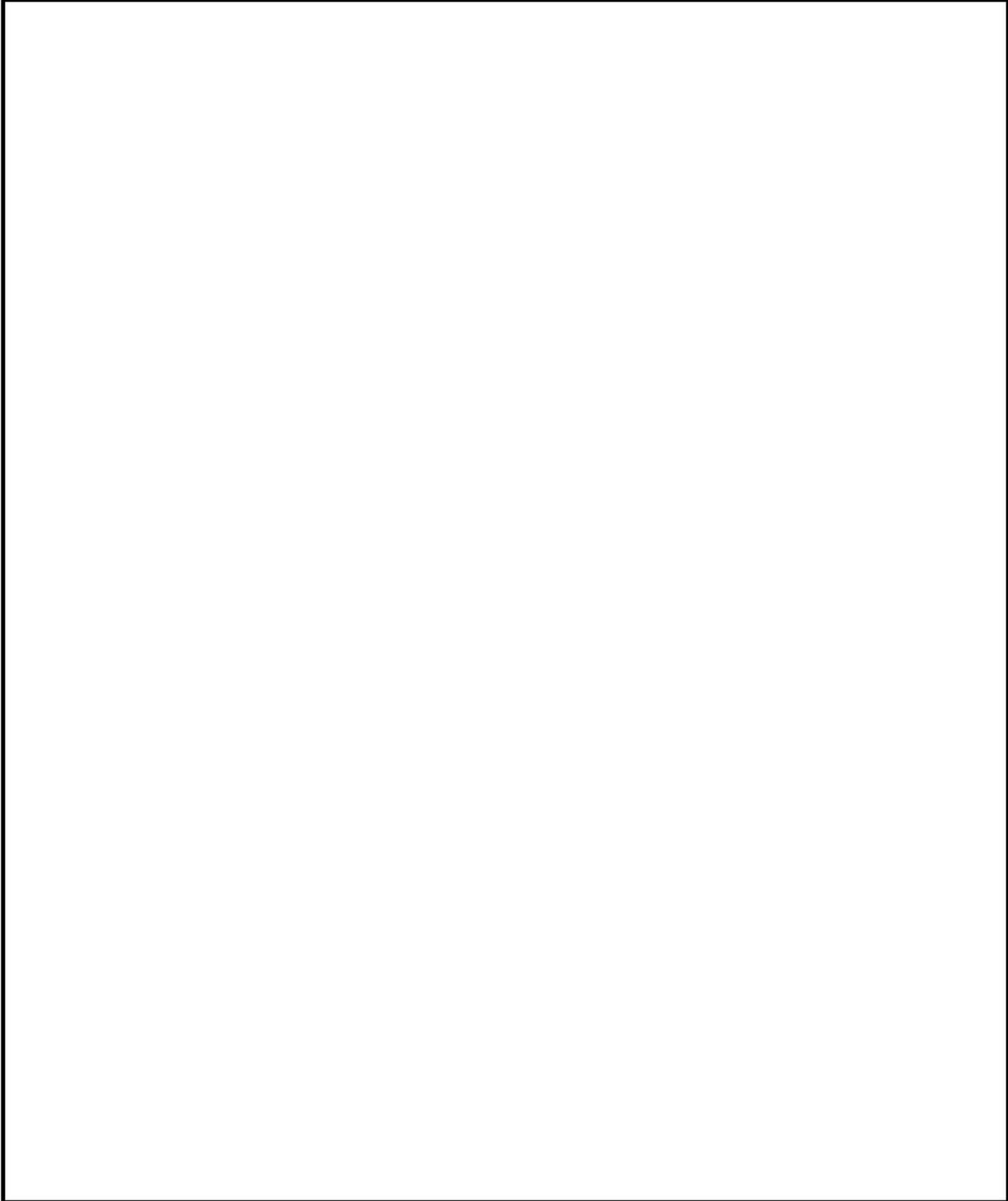
This message activity is over twice the normal message volume noted between these entities. ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

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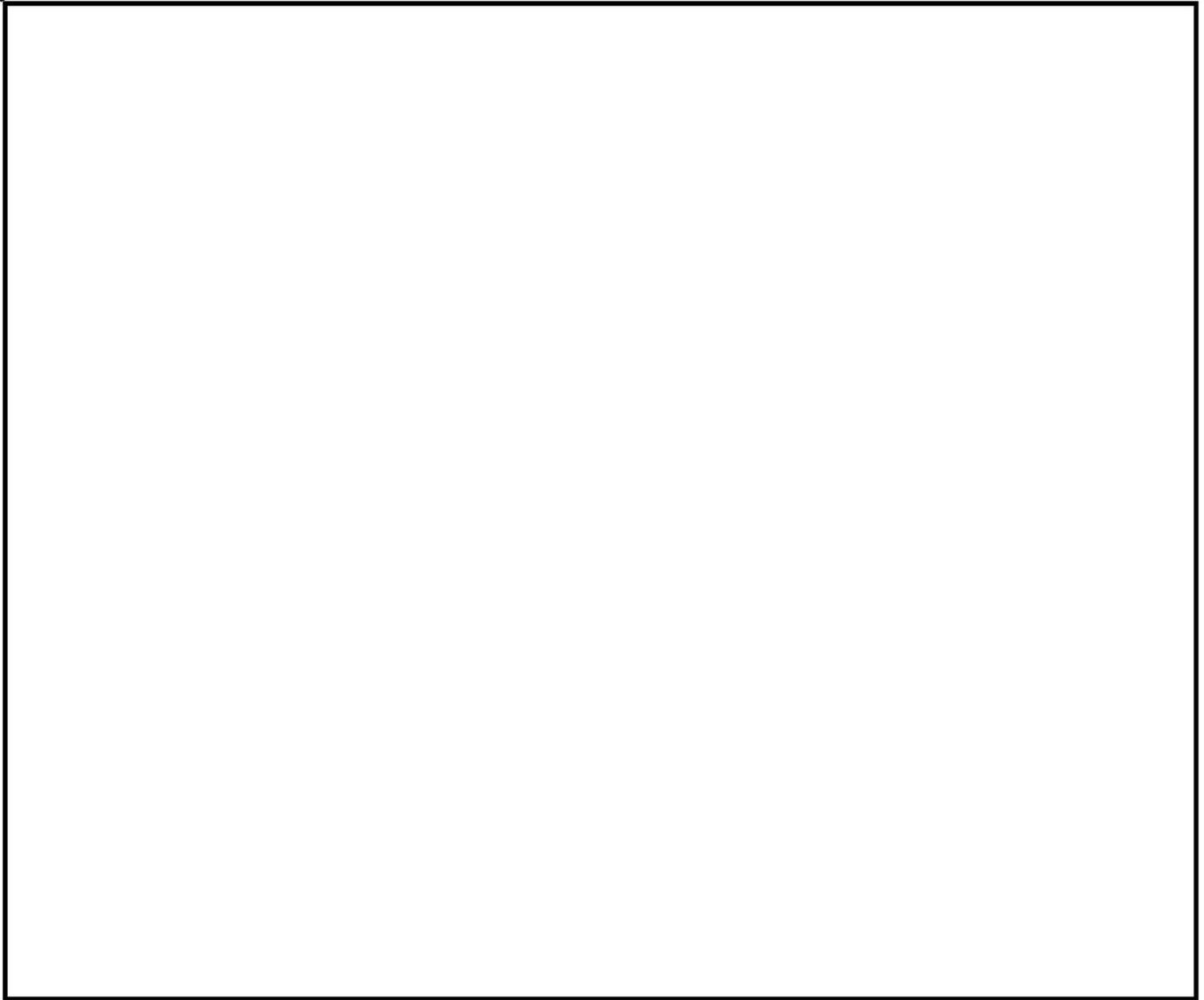


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