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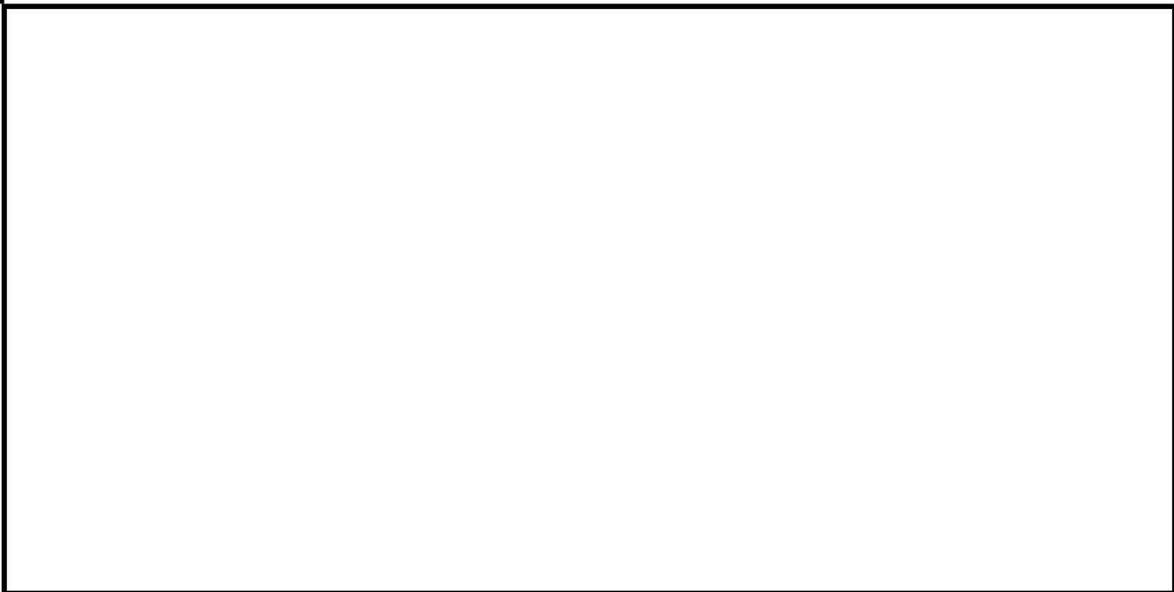
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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
SOUTHEAST ASIA SIGINT SUMMARY

This report summarizes developments noted throughout Southeast Asia available to NSA at time of publication on 20 February 1968. All information in this report is based entirely on SIGINT except where otherwise specifically indicated.

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SITUATION SUMMARY

Indications of impending attacks in the western highlands, relocations in Quang Tin Province and discussion of Allied activity and Communist battle results highlighted Vietnamese Communist activity in South Vietnam's Military Region (MR) 5. The formation of a three-man "infiltration" unit was disclosed in communications serving the Military Intelligence Bureau of COSVN in Tay Ninh Province of MR 1.

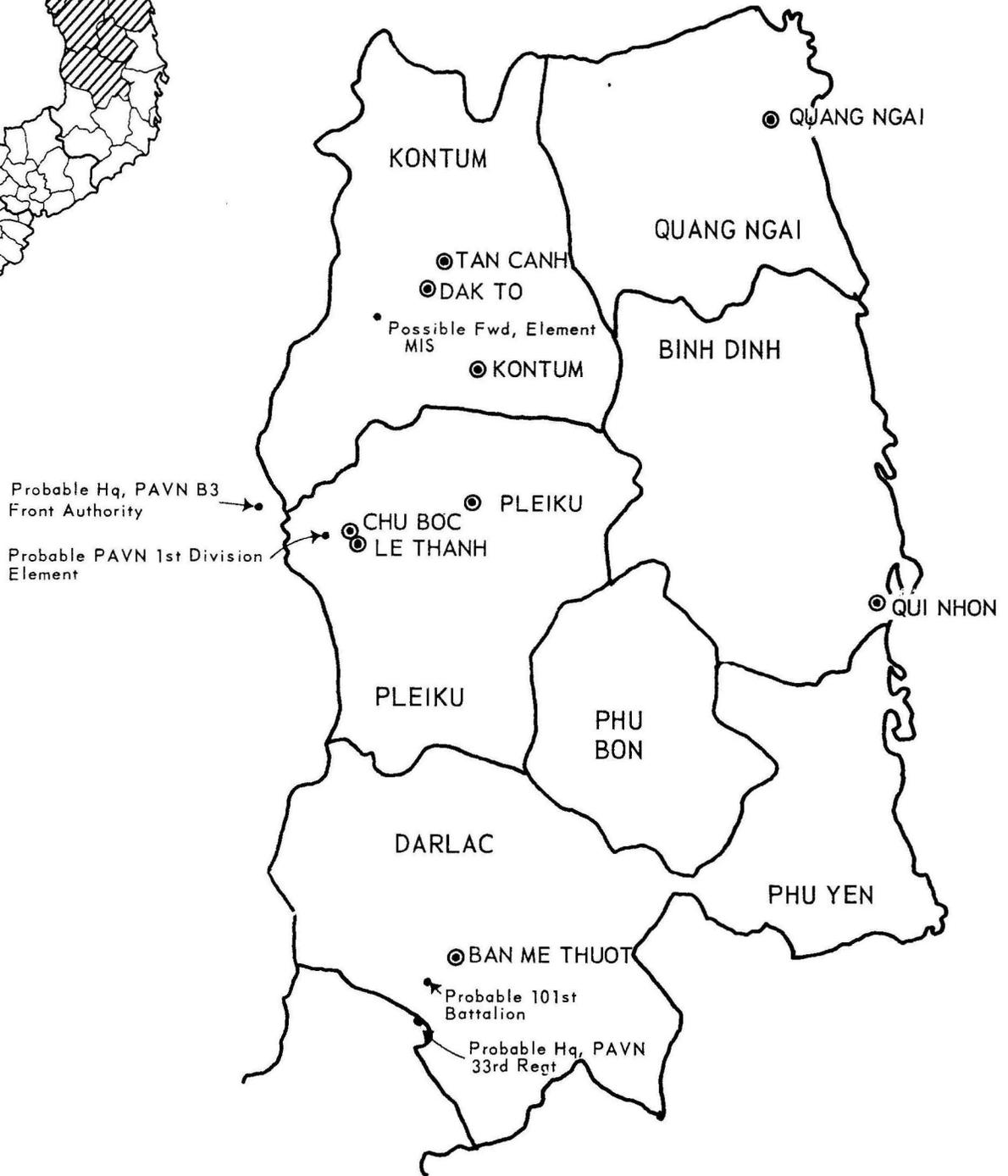
In the DMZ area SIGINT continues to reflect PAVN reconnaissance activity in the Khe Sanh area. The reconnaissance reports, although limited due to fog, were primarily concerned with the arrival and departures of Allied aircraft. In the eastern DMZ area the 27th Independent Battalion has reported a lack of success in night ambush attempts against Allied forces.

In North Vietnam's southernmost province Quang Binh a message addressed to an individual in that province contained a reference to a 208th Regiment.

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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

Hanoi Communications

A communications link possibly serving the Central Executive Committee (CEC) of the Lao Dong Party in Hanoi and the Region 4 Committee (RC-4) has been observed since 18 December 1967; however, control of this link has not been isolated in communications. This is the first noted communications link between CEC and RC-4. Communications characteristics indicate that this link is not part of the network used by CEC to communicate with other regional subordinates in South Vietnam.

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Military Region 5

An impending Vietnamese Communist attack in the Dak To area of western Kontum Province, possibly in relation to another "N-Day", was indicated in Military Intelligence (MI) communications on 17 February. On that day, the possible forward element of the Military Intelligence Section (MIS), Hq, PAVN 1st Division, instructed three persons associated with the MIS to report daily on the operations situation. The possible forward element stated that the division (probably Hq, PAVN 1st Division) did not yet have the "situation" and that without it "how can proper preparations be made to strike Phuong Hoang airfield [unlocated] and participate in N-day?" The possible forward element then stated that orders for N-day would arrive later. Apparently all three persons were ordered by the possible forward element to "prepare ammunition, rice, weapons positions, and elements to fire into Phuong Hoang airfield and Tan Canh [14-39N 107-49E, YB 995224] so that when you have orders you can take part."

Other elements of the PAVN 1st Division are preparing for attacks in western Pleiku Province, probably on the night of 21 February. The probable B3 Front Authority, last

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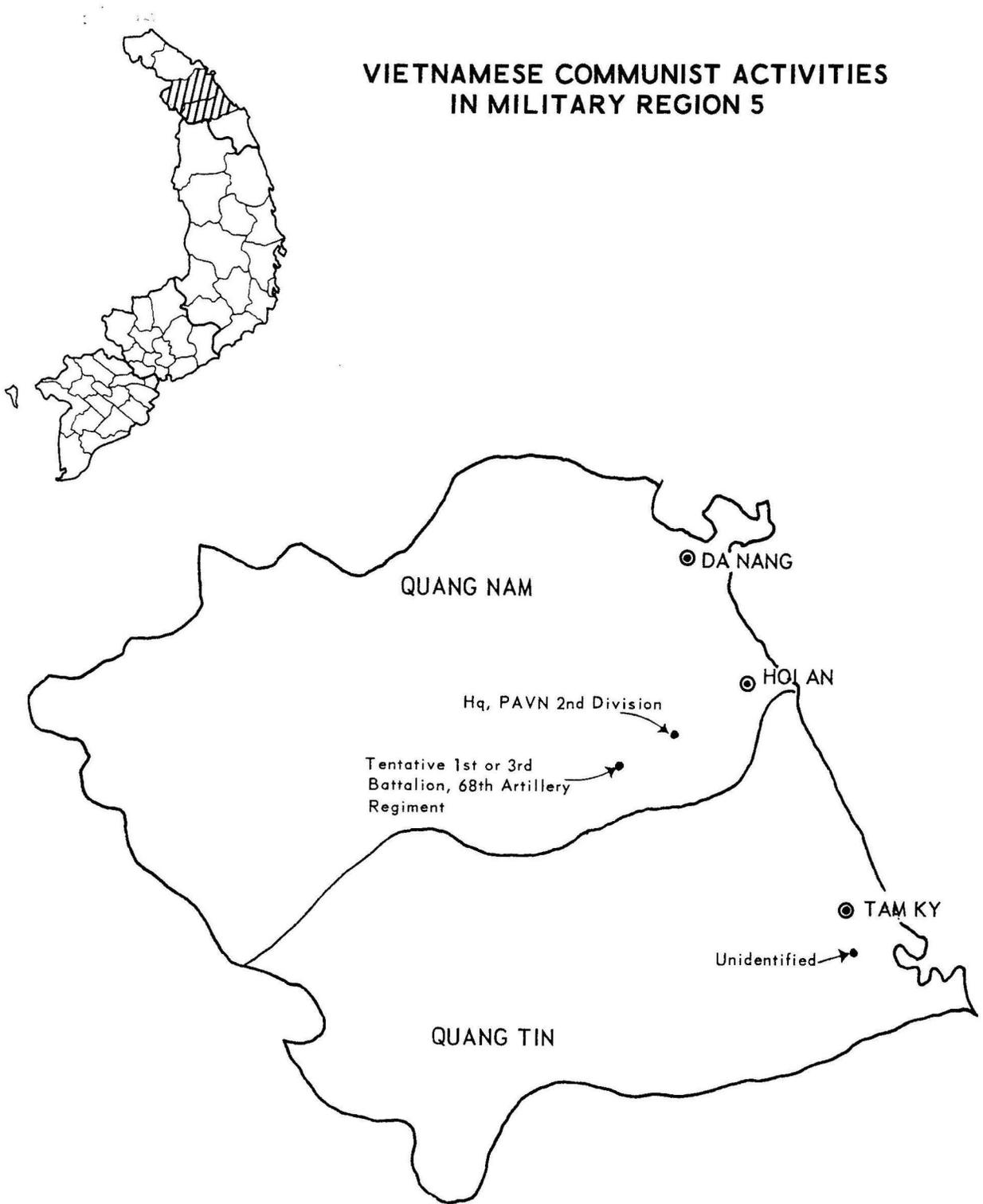
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located near 14-04N 107-20E (YA 524567) on 16 February, instructed a probable 1st Division element on 19 February to ". . . zealously prepare to shell Le Thanh [13-50N 107-40E, YA 8930] immediately." Earlier on the same day, the probable 1st Division element, located on 19 February near 13-52N 107-34E (YA 794349), discussed an Allied installation in the vicinity of Chu Boc (13-52N 107-41E, YA 8833), and stated that "we are determined to put TET artillery into that area on the night of 21 February."

To the south in Darlac Province, the probable Hq, PAVN 33rd Regiment and the probable 101st Battalion have discussed Allied activity and Vietnamese Communist battle results, probably in the southern Darlac-Quang Duc Province border area. On 15 February the regiment told the battalion that a "C2 of 39" had killed 70 Americans on 10 February and that "D1" (probably the 1st Battalion, PAVN 33rd Regiment) had shelled the location of an Allied troop concentration with 70 rounds of 82-mm mortar ammunition on the same day. According to the regiment "39" had fired sixty 82-mm mortar shells, "annihilating" two platoons of Americans and one platoon of South Koreans, and "the entire regiment has withdrawn to the other side of the river to transport rice." On 16 February the subordinate was directed to "initiate communications with the regimental reconnaissance [element] at the plantation area" and to make arrangements for one of its companies to conduct activity in that area. The probable Hq, PAVN 33rd Regiment was last located in the Darlac-Quang Duc border area near 12-24N 107-53E (ZU 129708) on 14 February. The probable 101st Battalion was located near 12-35N 108-01E (AP 755922) on 16 February, approximately 10 km southwest of Ban Me Thuot.

Other developments in MR 5 suggest that the attacks in the western highlands area may be designed to occur concurrently with Communist offensive activities in other areas. The Hq, MR 5, for example, exchanged an unusually high volume of messages with subordinate elements on 19 February. The last such occurrence was noted on 17 February. Shortly thereafter, according to collateral, attacks were initiated on several

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areas of South Vietnam. Moreover, the PAVN 2nd Division may begin using tactical communications procedures on 20 February. The division headquarters was located on 18 February in southeastern Quang Nam Province near 15-43N 108-10E (AT 965405). Finally on 18 and 19 February a total of 43 messages were passed by RC-5 to all subordinates. This was the highest message volume observed on this facility since the period 29 through 31 January when a total of 118 messages were passed. During that period widespread Communist attacks occurred in South Vietnam. The average message volume during February has been six per day.

In northern MR 5 the suspected 1st or 3rd Battalion, PAVN 68th Artillery Regiment, last located in southeastern Quang Nam near 15-42N 108-01E (AT 809386) on 2 February, reported on 19 February that it was planning to relocate. In eastern Quang Tin an unidentified subordinate of the Quang Nam Provincial Unit was located on 19 February near 15-28N 108-31E (BT 340110), 27 km southeast of its 25 January position and 9 km south of Tam Ky.

(2/G12/VCM/T434-68, 200217Z; T432-68, 192218Z; T429-68, 191200Z; R533-68, 192110Z; R532-68, 192023Z; R531-68, 192019Z; R529-68, 190900Z; 2/O/VCM/R95-68, 181436Z; 2/G12/VCJ/R050-68, 191920Z)

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Military Region 1

In Tay Ninh Province, in a message of 19 February the Military Intelligence Bureau (MIB) of COSVN instructed the possible Hq, VC 46th Reconnaissance-Sapper Battalion to select one individual who knew how to "sneak under fences" to be trained for "infiltration". MIB COSVN further stated that a three-man unit had been formed for infiltration and that it would be best if the individual selected had "practical experience in infiltration." The possible battalion was located on 8 January in the Tay Ninh-Binh Long Province border area near 11-31N 106-24E (XT 518724).

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In Binh Duong Province, two additional unidentified elements, possibly associated with the MI control authority and its subordinate which are currently reporting on the Lai Khe-Ben Cat area in central Binh Duong, appeared in communications on 17 February. On that date, one of the elements -- a possible subordinate -- located on 17 February in eastern Binh Duong near 11-15N 106-47E (XT 949440), informed the other element of the destruction of an Allied fuel storage facility on 8 February.

On 19 February, an unidentified entity, tentatively associated with the possible PAVN 7th Division, was located in southern Binh Duong at 11-05N 106-38E (XT 799260), approximately 10 km west of its 16 February position and near Route 13 between Ben Cat and Phu Cuong.

(2/G10/VCM/T300-68, 191911Z; 3/0/STY/R41-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 3

On 19 February three message containing reports of battles in Vinh Binh Province were passed on probable VC Party communications. These reports stated that the townships of Long Huu, Da Loc and Thanh My, located in Vinh Binh Province, had been "completely liberated."

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Military Region 4

On 19 February, the possible Hq, MR 4 was located in western Binh Duong Province, MR 1, at 11-14N 106-27E (XT 576419), approximately 10 km northwest of its 16 February location. Preliminary information indicates that on 19 February the region headquarters received seven messages from the possible Hq, PAVN 7th Division, and passed at least two messages of an urgent nature to the division headquarters. Recent increased activity between the possible Hq, MR 4 and the possible Hq, 7th Division as well as the region headquarters' attempts to contact Hq, VC 5th and 9th Light Infantry Divisions, may indicate that the possible Hq, MR 4 requires cognizance of the

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activity of main force elements operating in the Binh Duong-Bien Hoa-Gia Dinh Province areas.

Two unidentified communications groups, controlled by elements located near Hq, MR 4, may serve Vietnamese Communist tactical units. One of the groups, which has been active since 7 January, has two subordinates, both of which were located just north of Saigon -- one on 5 February at 10-52N 106-40E (XS 829990), the other on 9 February at 10-54N 106-40E (XT 821051). The other group has been active since 17 February with three subordinates, two of which have been located -- one in northeastern Hau Nghia Province on 13 February at 11-05N 106-26E (XT 566251) the other in southern Binh Duong Province on 8 February at 11-05N 106-36E (XT 746265).

(2/G10/VCJ/R049-68, 191625Z; 2/G10/VCM/R085-68, 140717Z;
3/O/STY/R35-68) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

2. DRV Communications

DMZ Area

A PAVN 325C Division-associated reconnaissance team in the Khe Sanh area reported on 17 February that it had been able to observe only from 1100 to 1300 hours (GOLF) due to fog. During these two hours the team reported that three C-130 aircraft had arrived and left after five minutes on the ground and two helicopters had flown to Hill 832 (16-41N 106-40E, XD 403444).

In the eastern DMZ, the 6th Company, 27th Independent Battalion reported on 19 February that it had been unsuccessful in night ambushes for six consecutive nights and would soon intensify "political activity" north of the (Cam Lo) river to draw the "enemy" across for more favorable ambush opportunities. Battalion communications have recently made several mentions of problems concerning recruits. Company 6 was ordered on 19 February to pick up recruits from Company 7 immediately or they would return to the North. Four recruits were later reported missing after an Allied ambush and fears were expressed that they would be captured.

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Communications of the PAVN 803rd Regiment continue to reflect activity northeast of Quang Tri city. On 19 February an unidentified element report that the wounded would be taken to Van Tuong (16-50N 107-13E, YD 352619). The possible 4th Battalion, PAVN 812th Regiment also active near Quang Tri city, reported that K16 (possible 16th Company) had struck Hai Vinh (unlocated) on 18 February, killing over one platoon of Americans and capturing several pieces of equipment. An unidentified regimental element claimed the 6th Battalion had killed 160 Americans on 16 and 17 February. No further reflections of a southward movement of regimental elements toward Hue have been noted.

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Civil Communications

The first SIGINT reference to a 208th Regiment was contained in an 18 February message sent via DRV civil communications. The message was addressed to an individual at Letter Box Number (LBN) 54284 in Quang Binh Province, Military Region 4, which falls within a previously unidentified regimental sized block of LBNs, 54271-54290. The overall LBN span with initial dinome 54 has been previously identified as probably serving PAVN artillery units. Following the clear reference to the 208th Regiment in the 18 February message were the digits "351," a possible reference to the PAVN 351st Artillery Division although no unit designator

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preceded 351 in the message text. Collateral has reported a
208th Artillery Regiment subordinate to the 351st Division.

The 18 February message permits the identification
of the LBN block 54271-54290 as probably serving the PAVN
208th Artillery Regiment.

(2/G11/VCM/R334-68, 191500Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

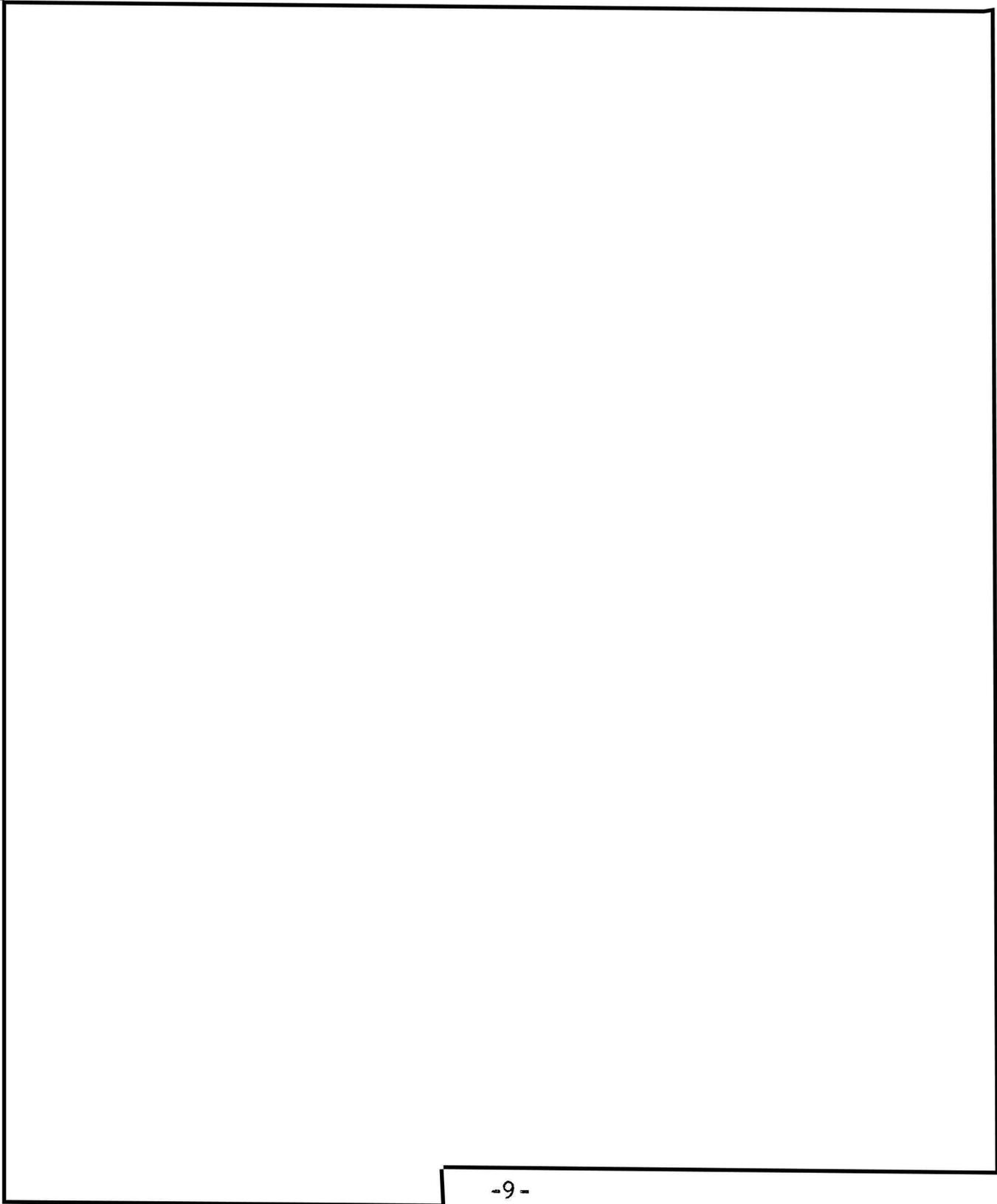


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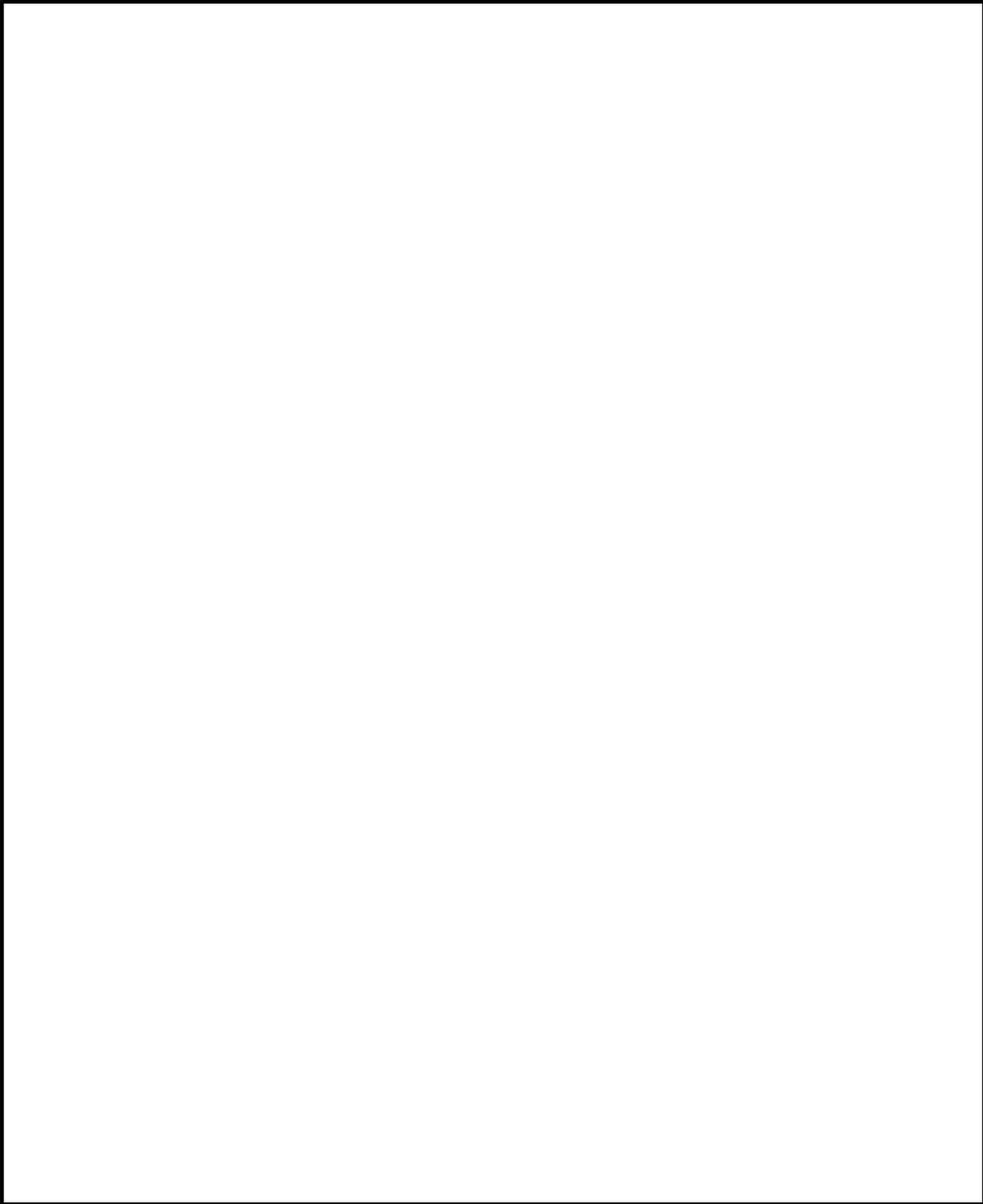


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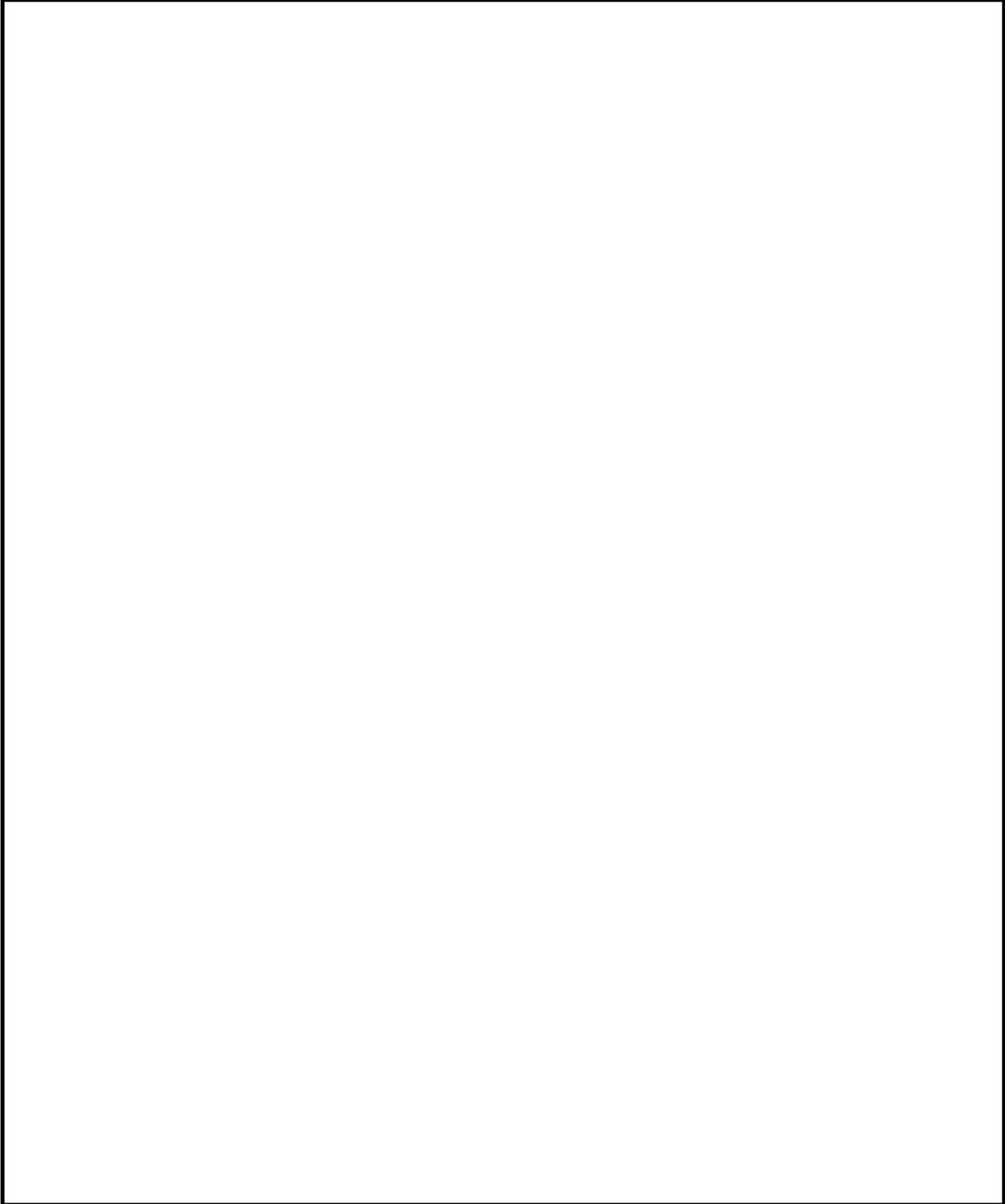


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