

~~SECRET SAVIN~~

2/0/VCM/R35-68  
SPOT REPORT  
AVC,AVN/OPER-G-H,DAMC-M/.  
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HCF

POSSIBLE PAVN 1ST DIVISION ELEMENTS DETECTED

IN NORTHWESTERN PLEIKU PROVINCE, MILITARY REGION 5

Elements associated with the PAVN 1st Division, PAVN B3 Front, apparently moved to the northwestern Pleiku Province area. A message passed on 24 January between two unidentified entities associated with the PAVN B3 Front stated "K-6 arrived at the attack position east of Chu Re [unlocated] at 0300 [Golf] hours on 22 January and was building fortifications. At 1300 [Golf] hours an American company with armored vehicles and tanks entered. ... [We] destroyed two platoons, shot down a helicopter, and seized five automatic rifles. After 30 minutes the enemy was reinforced ... and we had to withdraw. K6 suffered 1\* wounded and 8 killed. At present it has returned northwest of Chu Rang [unlocated]."

According to collateral, K6 is a cover designator for the 6th Battalion, PAVN 32nd Regiment, 1st Division. Hq, 32nd Regiment has not been located by SIGINT since 16 January when it was operating in the Laos-Cambodia-Kontum Province tri-border area near 14-35N 107-28E (YB 676149). Hq, 32nd Regiment has been observed in only limited communications activity with Hq, B3 Front between 19 and 22 January and unobserved in activity with that headquarters since. The regiment has also not been observed in communications with the Hq, 1st Division since 23 January. Communications inactivity has in the past often accompanied moves of the units involved.

The two other regimental subordinates of the PAVN 1st Division--the 66th and suspect 174th--have also been observed in only limited communications activity throughout January. The Hq, 66th Regiment was last located near 14-43N 107-37E (YB 839298) on 13 January in western Kontum Province, while the suspect Hq, PAVN 174th Regiment was last located in the same general area near 14-44N 107-33E (YB 766319) on 12 January.

The originator of the above message was initially located on 20 January near 14-03N 107-46E (YA 988560) in northwestern Pleiku Province. By 24 January the radio station had moved approximately 7 km east-southeast to a position near 14-02E 107-47E (YA 015530) about 22 km west-northwest of Pleiku city. At least five unidentified elements associated with the B3 Front have recently concentrated in this general area. One of these elements, which communicates with Hq, 1st Division, was located on 24 January near 14-02N 107-47E (ZA 009531). A second--which communicates with the possible Hq, PAVN 1st Division Forward Tactical Element operating in northeastern Pleiku Province, an unidentified suspected artillery unit operating in Kontum Province and an unidentified associate of the B3 Front--was located on 24 January near 14-02N 107-44E (YA 962545). The other two stations operating in the area communicate with the Hq, B3 Front, Kontum Province, and were last located near 14-08N 107-43E (YA 943639) and 14-02N 107-46E (YA 990535) on 24 and 19 January respectively.

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