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3/O/STY/R01-68  
01 January 1968  
DIST: O/UT  
SEA SIGSUM 01-68



# SOUTHEAST ASIA SIGINT SUMMARY

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3/O/STY/R01-68  
01 JAN 68 2000Z  
DIST: O/UT

NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY  
SOUTHEAST ASIA SIGINT SUMMARY

This report summarizes developments noted throughout Southeast Asia available to NSA at time of publication on 01 January 1968. All information in this report is based entirely on SIGINT except where otherwise specifically indicated.

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SITUATION SUMMARY

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: In Military Region (MR) 5 in South Vietnam, communications  
: serving Vietnamese Communist units in the Quang Nam-Quang Tin  
: Province border area continue to reflect Allied tactical activity.  
: The relocations of the probable Gia Lai Provincial Unit in Pleiku  
: Province and the possible Hq, 18B Regiment, PAVN 5th Division  
: in Khanh Hoa Province were also noted. In the western highlands,  
: indications of impending attacks against Allied forces in the  
: Dak To area of western Kontum Province have appeared in messages  
: passed between elements of the PAVN 1st Division, PAVN B3  
: Front.

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: In the DMZ, reports on increased ground activity near Khe  
: Sanh were contained in communications possibly serving elements  
: associated with the PAVN 29th Regiment.

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I. COMMUNIST SOUTHEAST ASIA

A. MILITARY

1. Vietnamese Communist Communications - South Vietnam

Military Region 5

Reflections of Allied activity continue to appear in communications serving Vietnamese Communist units in the Quang Nam-Quang Tin Province area. Hq, PAVN 2nd Division -- located on 31 December in southern Quang Nam near 15-41N 108-06E (AT 869324) -- indicated on the same date that it had been in a difficult situation on 30 December and that it intended to move on 1 January. On 1 January the division headquarters again indicated that it was about to relocate. In the same area the probable Hq, 2nd Division Forward Element, located on 28 December near 15-39N 108-07E (AT 912310), indicated on 31 December that it was in a difficult situation. An unidentified subordinate of Hq, MR 5 Provincial Unit Control -- located in southern Quang Nam near 15-50N 108-10E (AT 985506) on 25 December -- reported on 31 December that it too was in a difficult situation, in combat and requested that close communications be maintained.

In northeastern Quang Tin an unidentified subordinate of the probable Quang Nam Provincial Unit, located on 13 December near 15-48N 108-25E (BT 245466), informed the provincial unit twice on 31 December that it was about to move. In other activity in this area, Hq, MR 5 Main Force Unit Control was located in west-central Quang Tin near 15-27N 106-59E (ZC 135075) on 30 December, approximately 17 km south of its 27 December position.

In the western highlands the probable Gia Lia Provincial Unit, located near 14-11N 108-11E (AR 968694) in northern Pleiku Province on 30 December, approximately 31 km southwest of its 29 November position, reported on 31 December that it was about to move.

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Finally, in Khanh Hoa Province the possible Hq, PAVN 18B Regiment, PAVN 5th Division moved approximately 20 km eastward between 13 and 31 December to a position near 12-23N 109-03E (BP 885686), about 15 km west of Nha Trang.

(2/G12/VCM/R0001-68, 010300Z; R1742-67, 311915Z; R1741-67, 311550; R1740-67, 311552Z; R1739-67, 311415Z; R1736-67, 311323Z; R1734-67, 311045Z; R1733-67, 310835Z; R1732-67, 310650Z; R1731-67, 310531Z; R1730-67, 310525Z; R1729-67, 310645Z DEC) ~~(SECRET PAVN)~~

Indications of impending attacks on Allied forces near Dak To in Kontum Province by elements of the PAVN 1st Division PAVN B3 Front have been noted in SIGINT since 31 December. These attacks have been discussed in messages passed by Military Intelligence (MI) elements of the PAVN 1st Division and two unidentified elements probably associated with the division.

On 31 December, one of the unidentified elements -- the probable authority of the two -- informed its subordinate (addressed C2) that "the enemy has withdrawn from Bai Le (unlocated) and from other hills in the area." "The division's order" for C2 was to quickly strike "the objective." It was further stated: "On 2 January, make an effort to conserve your ammunition; on 3 January, you must fire methodically." The authority then stated that there were to be two attacks, with the first occurring at 1700G, apparently on 2 January. The subordinate was then ordered to remain in the area for 12 hours and to apparently attack again at 0500G on 3 January. The authority then stated, "If you can't find a way to attack that target, then find a way to attack V10 (unidentified) and Ngoc Hoi (14-47N 107-53E, YB 8125). [When you] are finished, send in reconnaissance teams to determine the results of the attack. The unit is to return to the old command post of the 66th Regiment." The authority also mentioned K9 (probably the 9th Battalion of the 66th Regiment, subordinate to the 1st Division).

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Approximately one hour later on 31 December, another message possibly from the subordinate stated "C2 has already gone out to K8 (probably the 8th Battalion, 66th Regiment), then to E18. At this time, I am sending THANG's detachment out to the command post of the 66th (Regiment)." E18 may represent Worksite 18 which has been under constant surveillance by MI elements of the PAVN 1st Division.

On 1 January, the MI Section (MIS), Hq, 1st Division, passed the following message to a subordinate, apparently activated between 26 and 29 December: "The 3rd Airborne unit assembled at the airfield on 1 January to return to Saigon. Overcome every difficulty in securing positions prior to 0500G on 3 January. Wait until the soldiers form up and, when the C-130's land, make an artillery attack and annihilate them." This new MI subordinate was located on 31 December near 14-36N 107-44E (YB 957149), about 9 km southwest of Dak To.

(2/G12/VCM/R1738-67, 311410Z; 2/G12/VCM/TOC 04-67, 010721Z; T0006-67, 011300Z) ~~(SECRET SAVED)~~

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2. DRV CommunicationsDMZ Area

Communications possibly serving the PAVN 29th Regiment-associated elements have reflected increased ground activity in the Khe Sanh area. A reported clash with an Allied reconnaissance team on 30 December resulted in four "enemy" killed and two wounded, with a quantity of equipment captured by PAVN forces. On 31 December an element reported reconnoitering the areas of Miet Xa (16-42N 106-40E, XD 805478), Phu Can Ap (16-42N 106-40E, XD 798484) and Moc Bai Xa (16-43N 106-42E, XD 829498). Reconnaissance of Hill 845 (16-40N 106-40E, XD 778439) was also reported. On 1 January an unidentified element reported that three weapons and four maps had been lost, and that two cadre were missing and two other men wounded in another unspecified battle. Terrain reconnaissance by cadre and completion of unidentified preparations have also been mentioned, further indicating probable impending offensive actions in the Khe Sanh area. ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

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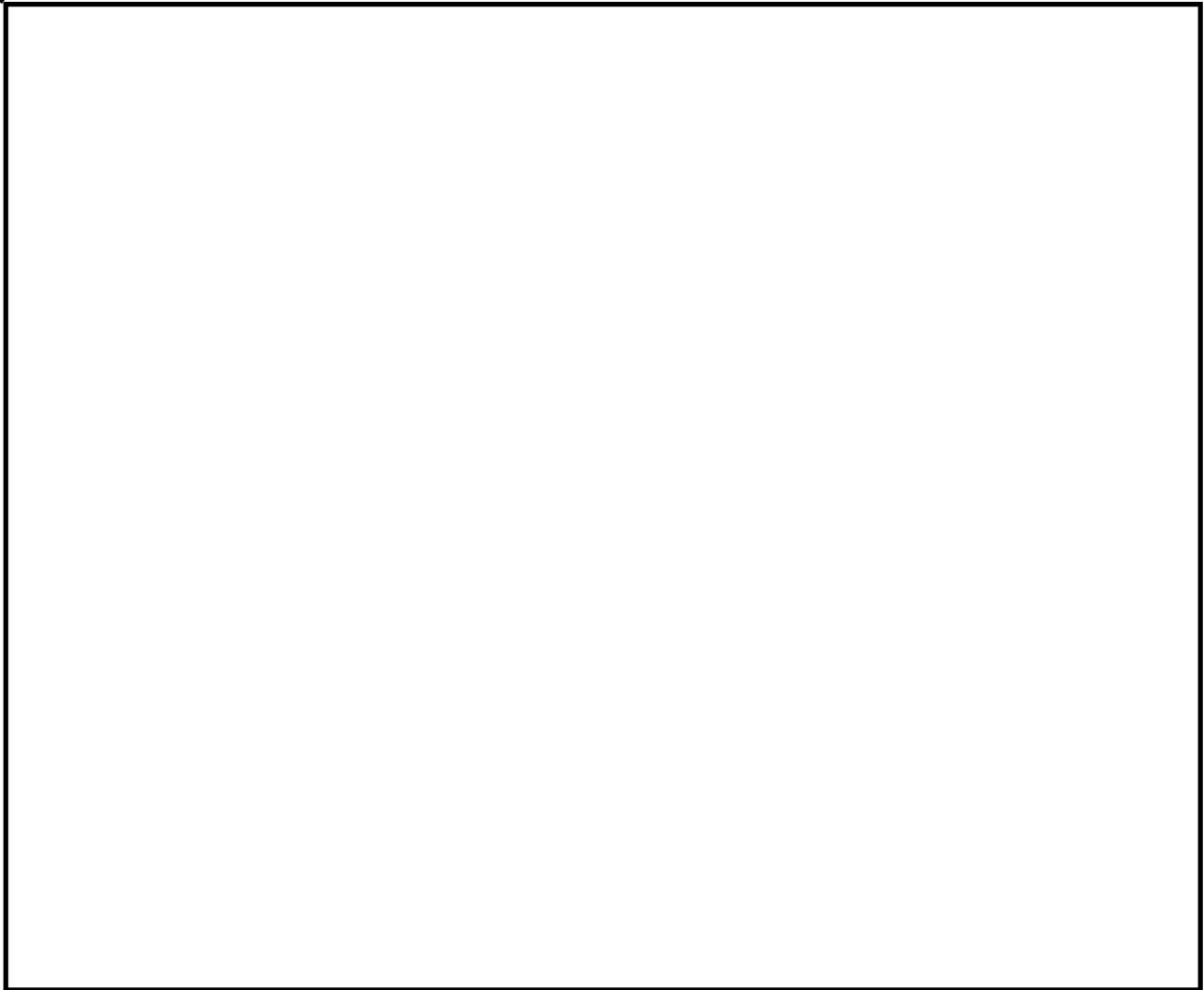
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Change to 3/0/STY/R311-67

I. A. 2., PAVN High Command/304th-320th Infantry Division:

Second sentence of this item should read: "A re-evaluation of the PAVN High Command-controlled communications group serving "way stations" ALFA through ECHO indicates that station BRAVO is possibly located in the vicinity of 17-05N 106-45E (XD 8789) vice 19-50N 105-25E (WG 4394) as previously reported."

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