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3/O/STY/R14-68  
16 January 1968  
DIST: O/UT  
SEA SIGSUM 14-68

# SOUTHEAST ASIA SIGINT SUMMARY

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3/O/STY/R14-68  
16 Jan 68 2204Z  
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 16 January 1968. All information in this report is based entirely on SIGINT except where otherwise specifically indicated.

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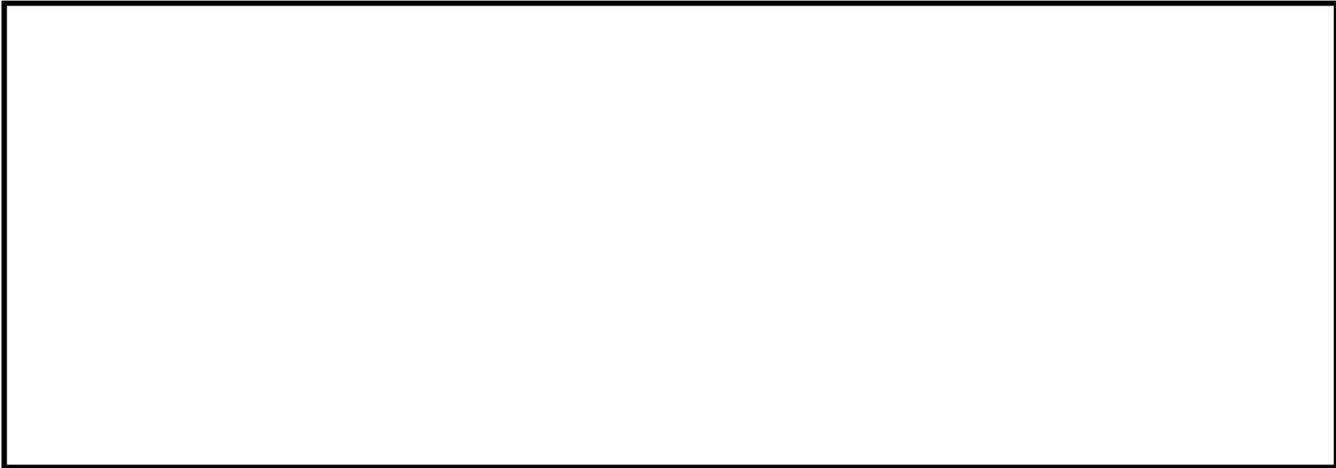
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SITUATION SUMMARY

In Military Region (MR) 5 in South Vietnam, Vietnamese Communist interest in the Dak To area of western Kontum Province continues to be reflected in communications serving military intelligence elements of the PAVN 1st Division. To the south, two PAVN B3 Front-associated terminals have relocated into the concentration involving other elements of the Front in extreme northern Kontum Province.

In the DMZ area SIGINT indicates the possible Hq, PAVN 325C Division and the division's three subordinate regiments are now concentrated in Laos near the Laos/Quang Tri Province Border. South of the DMZ in the Khe Sanh area of South Vietnam, way station ECHO was noted passing messages originated by a suspected infantry regiment of the possible 320th Division, indicating that the regiment is located in the same general area. Station ECHO was located on 15 January in South Vietnam approximately 10 km northwest of Khe Sanh.



Reference 3/O/STY/R09-68 Section B part I item A para 2  
subject: "Rear Services . . .". Cancel this item.

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I. COMMUNIST SOUTHEAST ASIA

A. MILITARY

1. Vietnamese Communist Communications - South Vietnam

Military Region 5

In the western highlands, the Hq, PAVN 32nd Regiment, PAVN 1st Division, was located on 15 January in western Kontum Province near 13-40N 107-30E (YB 714126), 7 km south-southeast of its 14 January location. About 15 km to the northeast of the 32nd Regiment's latest location is a clustering of PAVN units which now includes: Hq, PAVN B3 Front, Kontum Province; Hq, 1st Division; the Military Intelligence Section (MIS), 1st Division; the possible Hq, 1st Division Forward Tactical Element; Hq, PAVN 66th Regiment; suspected Hq, PAVN 174th Regiment; a subordinate of the MIS, 1st Division; a subordinate of the Hq, B3 Front; and at least one unidentified unit.

Indications of Communist interest in order-of-battle information on Allied forces in the Dak To area were revealed in two messages of 15 January exchanged between MI elements of the 1st Division. The MIS, 1st Division ordered a subordinate--located on 12 January in Laos near 14-39N 107-28E (YB 663215)--to reconfirm the designations of the Allied units on Hill 823 (14-37N 107-38E, YB 852188). The subordinate was also instructed to make a terrain estimate of the hill and to assess the results of Communist shelling of the hill.

The MIS directed another subordinate--located in the Dak To area on 14 January near 14-42N 107-39E (YB 872277)--to forward immediately the "original text of the address" on the envelope the subordinate had picked up. The subordinate subsequently answered, giving the name and address of an American belonging to the 1st Battalion of the 8th Infantry. According to collateral, this unit is subordinate to the U.S. 4th Division and is operating in the Dak To area. The MIS also notified this subordinate that the Allies

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had withdrawn from Hill 823 and that the "82nd Battalion" (not further identified) was at Ngoc Do Lan (14-37N 107-53E, ZB 4113).

In the Kontum-Pleiku Province border area, an unidentified terminal tentatively associated with the B3 Front was located near 14-13N 108-12E (AR 973730) on 15 January, about 92 km north-east of its 16 November location and 25 km southeast of Kontum City. Another terminal associated with the Front was tenuously located in the same general area on 16 January near 14-14N 108-11E (AR 961742), approximately 24 km east-northeast of its 26 December location. Both of these entities are within an area in which the following B3 Front elements are presently located: an element of Hq, B3 Front, Pleiku Province; the possible Hq, B3 Front Forward Element One; the probable Gia Lai Provincial Unit; and at least three unidentified B3 Front-associated radio entities.

To the east in central Binh Dinh Province, a radio station associated with the PAVN 3rd Division was initially located near 14-08N 108-54E (BR 721618).

In the Quang Nam-Quang Tin Province border area, a communications subordinate of the Rear Services Headquarters, Quang Nam Province, which is suspected to be either the 1st or 3rd Battalion of the PAVN 68th Artillery Regiment, reported that it was about to move. This subordinate was located on 12 January in south-central Quang Nam Province near 15-43N 107-59E (ZC 200400). In the same general area, the probable Hq, PAVN 2nd Division Forward Element moved about 12 km northward between 10 and 15 January to a position near 15-41N 108-08E (ZT 922364).

The radio station serving the Region 5 Committee (RC-5) was located in northern Quang Tin on 15 January near 15-31N 107-57E (ZC 171178), approximately 42 km northwest of its 16 November 1967 location in the Do Xa base area. SIGINT had previously indicated that Hq, MR 5 had moved to this general area during December 1967.

The probable RC-5 secondary station had also relocated into Quang Tin by 15 January to a position near 15-32N 108-03E

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(AT 832108), approximately 24 km north of its 22 September 1967 location. These stations possibly relocated during the period of decreased message activity between 18 and 25 December.

(3/O/STY/R308-67; 2/G12/VCM/R145-68, 161125Z; R143-68, 160430Z; R142-68, 151847Z; R140-68, 151400Z; R139-68, 151255Z; R137-68, 151142Z; R132-68, 141350Z; T130-68, 151245Z; T128-68, 150816Z; T127-68, 151137Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 1

In a 15 January message the Military Intelligence Bureau (MIB) of COSVN directed a subordinate in the Tay Ninh Province-Cambodia border area to "improve the organization, leadership and thinking of the comrades so they are not demoralized by the enemy" but rather "valiantly fight and work to avenge the comrades who have been lost." MIB COSVN further stressed the need for "reconsolidating the underground shelters and combat trenches" to counter the sweep operation. According to collateral, Allied Operation YELLOWSTONE is currently underway in Tay Ninh Province. This subordinate was last located on 11 May 1967 in northern Tay Ninh near 11-45N 106-05E (XT 176996).

(2/G10/VCM/T100-68, 151600Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 10

The VC radio station serving the probable Quang Duc Provincial Branch of the Liberation News Agency--first observed in communications in January 1962--was initially located by SIGINT on 12 January in central Quang Duc Province at 12-15N 107-43E (YU 944544). This location is near the 26 December position of the Quang Duc Provincial Committee at 12-15N 107-41E (YU 938560).

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Military Region 2

On 15 January, a message passed between two unidentified VC Party elements in central Dinh Tuong Province warned of an Allied

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operation scheduled to take place on 18 January. The message warned that "the 1st Battalion, 12th Regiment, 7th Division, along with artillery" elements was scheduled to conduct an operation in the vicinity of Cai Lay (10-23N 106-06E, XS 2250) and My Phuoc Tay (10-27N 106-06E, XS 2159). The recipient of the message was directed to "alert Tan Hoi [10-26N 106-10E, XS 2753], Tan Phu [10-21N 106-18E, XS 4243], My Hanh Trung [10-27N 106-08E, XS 2456] and My Hanh Dong [10-28N 106-10E, XS 2757]."

Collateral reports Operation CORONADO IX is currently being conducted in Dinh Tuong Province.

On 14 January Alternate Hq, MR 2 was noted sending a high volume of 61 messages to 4 of its subordinates. Twenty-six messages were passed to the tentative VC 261st Battalion; 19 to the suspected An Giang Provincial Unit; and 16 to the tentative Kien Tuong and Ben Tre Provincial Units. Available information indicates that at least some of these messages were dated as early as 8 January, suggesting that a portion of the traffic passed by the Alternate Hq, MR 2 may have been backlog material. A total of 3 to 10 messages per day is normally passed to these subordinates by Alternate Hq, MR 2.

(2/G10/VCJ/R14-68, 141600Z; VCM/T104-68, 160031Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

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## 2. DRV Communications

Since at least 8 January, a new communications watch group apparently serving a major unlocated PAVN headquarters has been observed in SIGINT. Although the control of this group is presently unidentified, its status as a major headquarters is indicated by the echelon of the subscribers presently noted on the group. These subscribers include: PAVN High Command; Hq, Military Region (MR) 4 (North Vietnam), Vinh; Hq, DMZ Front; the detached element of the DMZ Front; an unidentified subordinate of Hq, DMZ Front; the probable Hq, 320th Division; and two unidentified entities, one associated with the 320th Division.

### DMZ Area

On 16 January a, radio terminal serving Hq, PAVN 325C Division was located approximately 28 km west-northwest of Khe Sanh near 16-41N 106-30E (XD 590458). This location marks the first time that this radio terminal, which serves the 325C headquarters for communications with its three subordinate regiments and its detached element, has been located anywhere south of the general Dong Hoi city area, North Vietnam.

Since the division headquarters has been virtually inactive in January with its detached element, and the 16 January location of the headquarters terminal is proximate to that of the detached element, it is possible that a consolidation of the division headquarters with its detached element is imminent.

Additionally, on 16 January, a radio terminal identified as possibly serving the Hq, PAVN 101D Regiment was located by SIGINT in the vicinity of 16-39N 106-27E (XD 565435), northwest of Khe Sanh. This terminal was previously located north of the DMZ in the vicinity of 17-07N 106-41E (XD 806921) on 29 November 1967. With the relocation of the Hq, possible 101D Regiment to an area northwest of Khe Sanh, SIGINT now indicates that all three regimental subordinates of the PAVN 325C Division are located in this general area. The Hq, PAVN 29th Regiment was located in the vicinity of 16-37N 106-23E (XD 471401) on 11 January, and the possible Hq,

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PAVN 95C Regiment was located in the vicinity of 16-48N 106-35E (XD 802579) on 13 January. At the present time, all three regiments maintain communications with the possible Hq, 325C Division. On 11 January SIGINT reflected initial communications between the 29th Regiment and High Command, Hanoi.

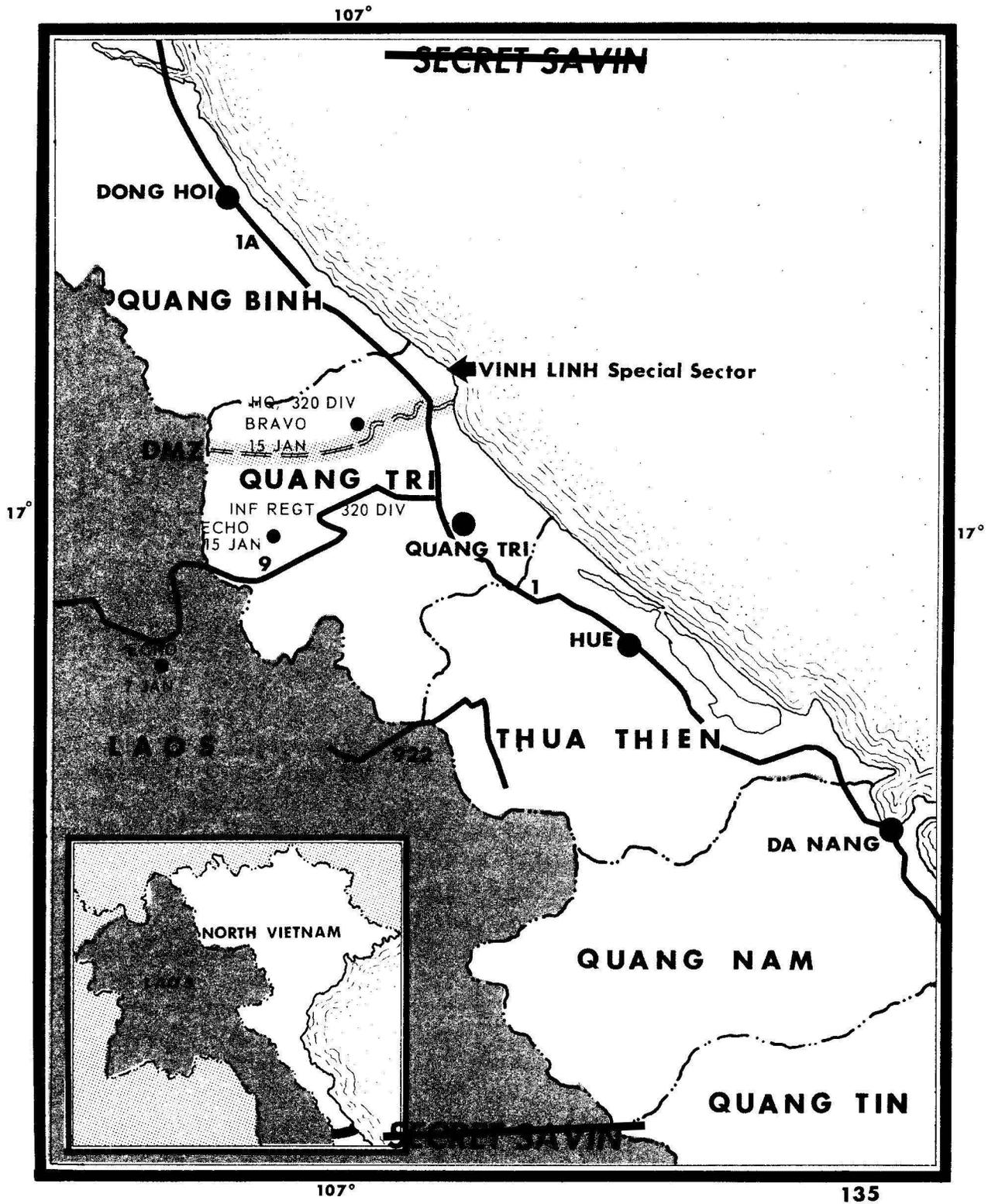
Preliminary information locates the 7th Battalion, PAVN 90th Regiment, approximately 15 km north of Khe Sanh, in the vicinity of 16-44N 106-42E (XD 827505) on 15 January. The 7th Battalion has recently been engaged in the transporting of supplies, and tactical communications have indicated that the battalion may be preparing for combat.

On 15 January, a radio terminal identified as serving Hq, DMZ Front was located in the central DMZ area in the vicinity of 16-55N 106-47E (XD 918712) approximately 30 km south of its November position. The apparent relocation of the DMZ Front and its possible reunification with its detached element have been indicated in SIGINT since early January. The above-noted location further substantiates that at least a part of the DMZ Front has effected this relocation and possible reunification.

On 14 January a PAVN artillery-associated element located in the DMZ area reported the positions of an unidentified possible artillery battalion and its subordinate companies. A message indicated that the units would move to the following positions: the battalion command post to 17-02N 106-53E (YD 020875); one company to 17-02N 106-53E (YD 011867); a second company to 17-02N 106-53E (YD 014874); and a possible third company to 17-02N 106-53E (YD 009872). On 15 January the same communications revealed that the command post of a possible 8th Battalion was located at 17-03N 106-59E (YD 145874). A possible 14th Company was reported located at 17-02N 106-59E (YD 134877), and an unidentified company at 17-03N 107-00E (YD 145881).

(2/0/VCM/R11-68, 152115Z; R09-68, 152019Z; 3/0/STY/R13-68, R11-68; 2/G11/VCM/R83-68, 151417Z) (~~SECRET SAVIN~~)

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PAVN High Command/320th Division

On 15 January way station ECHO was noted passing messages originated by a suspect infantry regiment of the probable 320th Division, indicating that this regiment is in the vicinity of station ECHO. This regiment has been located in the same area as station ECHO since at least 27 December. On the same day SIGINT located station ECHO in the vicinity of 16-42N 106-40E (XD 789469), a move to the northeast of approximately 30 km from its previous location on 7 January in the vicinity of 16-28N 106-30E (XD 608220).

Also on 15 January way station BRAVO was again noted passing a message originated by Hq, probable 320th Division, indicating that this headquarters continues to be located in the general area of station BRAVO. Station BRAVO was last located in the DMZ area at 16-56N 106-48E (XD 923740) on 15 January. Message activity of this same type occurred on 7 January; at least as late as 21 December Hq, probable 320th Division was located in the general area of station ECHO at 16-28N 106-30E (XD 608220).

(2/G11/VCM/R82-68, 150950Z; R85-68, 151805Z; 3/O/STY/R10-68)

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An unidentified PAVN High Command subordinate has relocated to the vicinity of 16-43N 106-08E (XD 233486) on 15 January from the previous location of 16-33N 106-15E (XD 350330) on 7 January. This represents a move of approximately 20 km in a northwesterly direction. This subordinate was first noted active on 21 November 1967 and remains unidentified.

(2/G11/VCM/R084-68, 151511Z) ~~(SECRET SAVIN)~~

Military Region 4

A possible PAVN regiment was mentioned in a message passed from an unidentified battalion to subordinate suspected to be located in Nghe An Province on 16 January. The message referred to a "Battalion 66, E275" ("E" is the standard PAVN designator

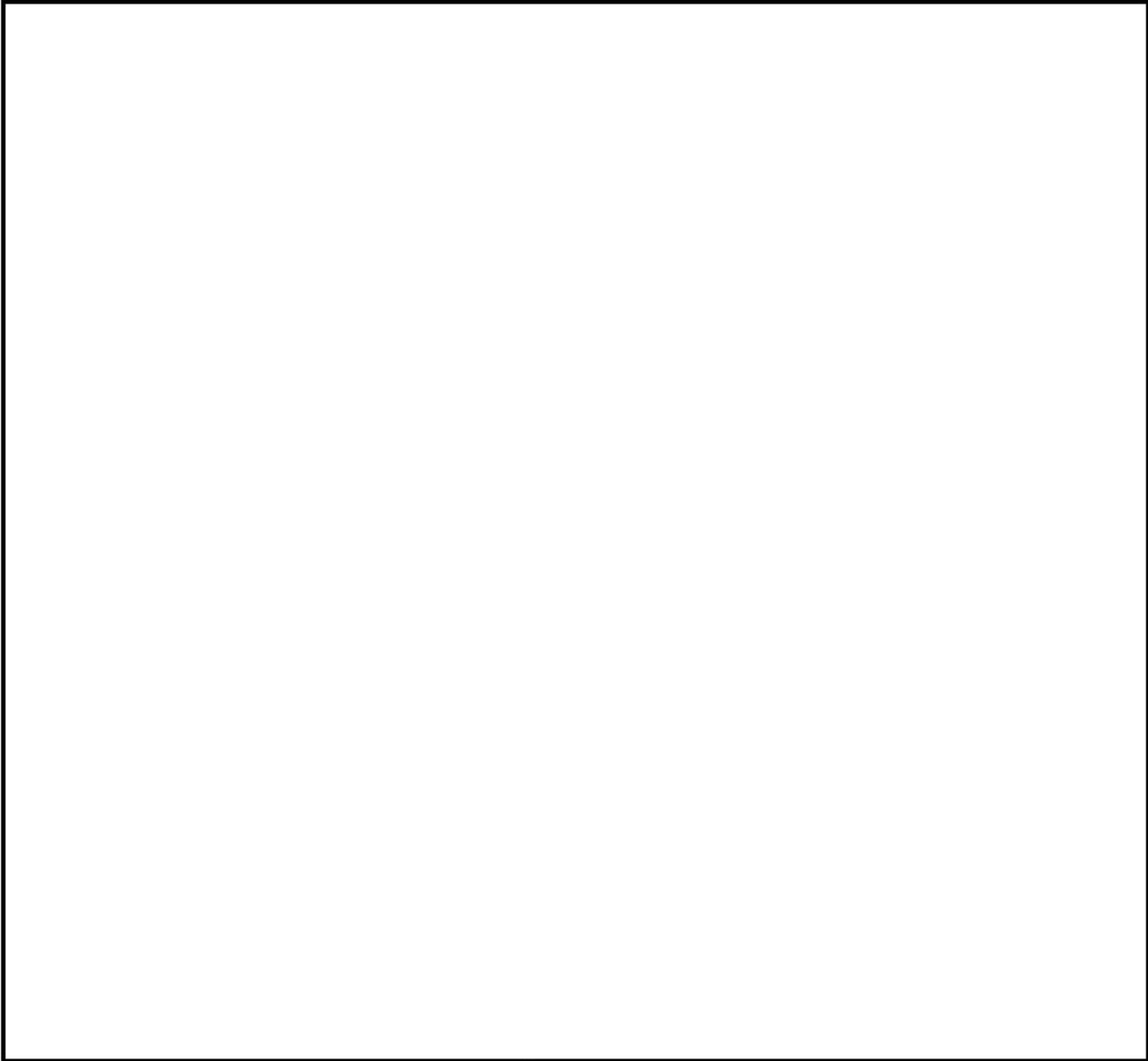
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for regiment). Neither SIGINT nor the all-source Order-of-battle list a 275th Regiment active in North Vietnam. However, on 23 September 1967 two messages from the 27th Independent Battalion in the DMZ area referred to an unidentified "275." A unit designator for the latter "275" was not noted.

(2/G11/VCM/T043-67, 160627Z) ~~(TOP SECRET TRINE)~~

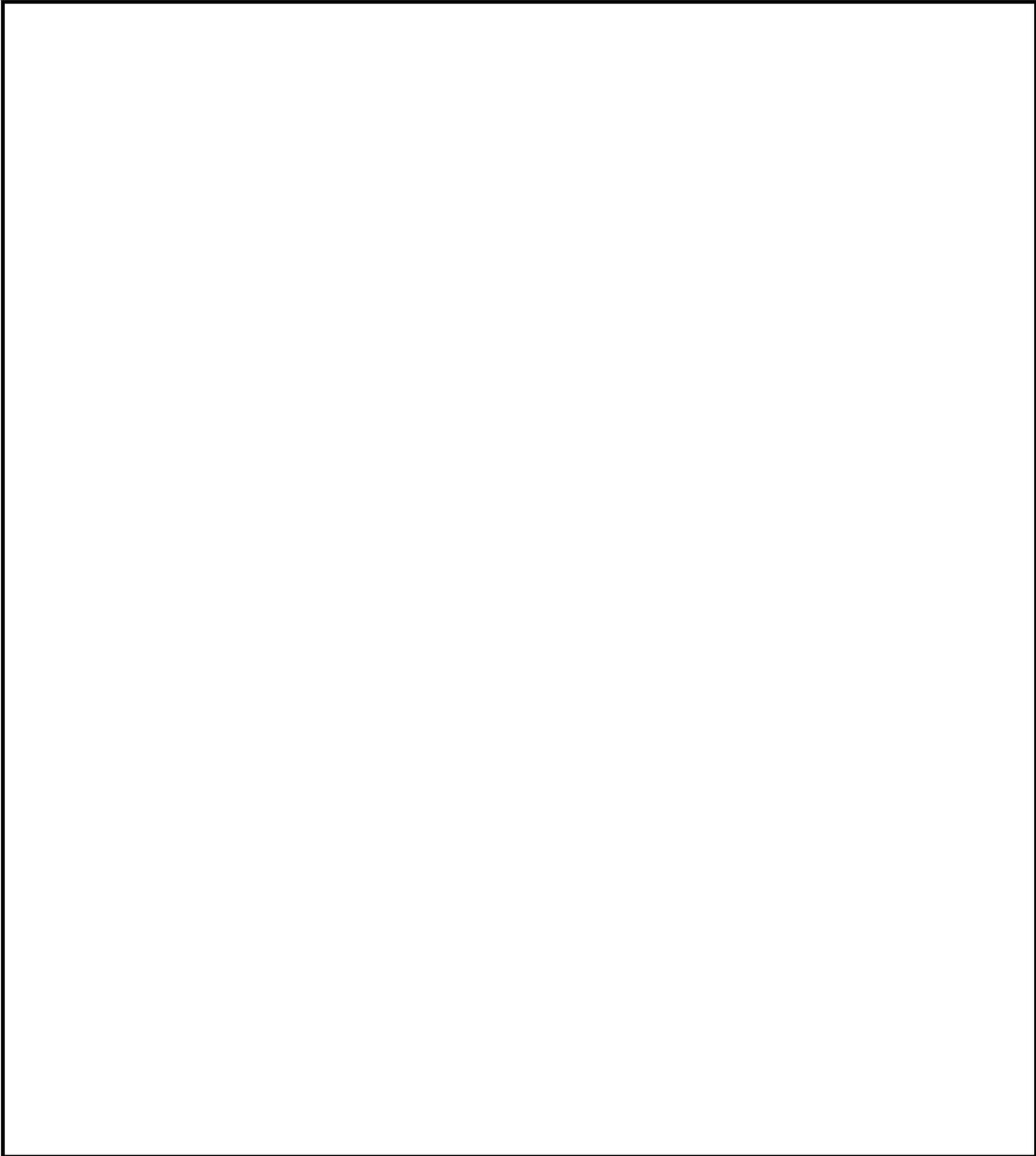


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