

~~SECRET SAVIN~~

2/0/VCM/R71-68
 FOLLOW-UP NUMBER 31 TO
 2/0/VCM/R32-68
 SPOT REPORT
 AVC,AVN/OPER-G-H/.
 7 FEBRUARY 1968 2156Z
 DIST: OSCAR/VICTOR ALFA
 PLUS USM-604, GCU 1 AUSTF,
 WHITE HOUSE
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FOLLOW-UP NUMBER 31 TO

COORDINATED VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST OFFENSIVE

EVIDENCED IN SOUTH VIETNAM (252332Z JAN)

Recently available SIGINT information indicates that elements of the PAVN 7th Division have moved into Binh Duong Province and apparently have the mission of containing Allied forces at Lai Khe (11-10N 106-35E, XT 720350) and preventing those forces from being used elsewhere. According to collateral, Lai Khe is the base camp for the 3rd Brigade of the U.S. 1st Infantry Division.

Messages since 1 February¹ between two possible military intelligence (MI) elements (control authority and a subordinate) located near Ben Cat (11-11N 106-36E, XT 750360) and Lai Khe have contained references to attacks on both locations. On 1 February the subordinate stated that the mission of the "infantry forces" of the 7th Division would be "to contain Lai Khe" while the mission of Communist local forces would be to "reattack Ben Cat." On the same date the control authority spoke of a "joint operation" with the 7th Division "to contain Lai Khe." According to collateral Lai Khe was attacked on 1 and 3 February.

The possible Hq, PAVN 7th Division and its forward element had relocated from northeastern Tay Ninh Province to positions north-northeast of Lai Khe-Ben Cat by 4 February.² Since at least 1 February, the possible Hq, PAVN 7th Division has established new communications with the Military Affairs Section of COSVN and the possible Hq, unidentified front in Binh Long Province. The possible Hq, PAVN 7th Division was located on 4 February at 11-17N 106-43E (XT 877463) approximately 5 km from the location of its forward element (at 11-17N 106-40E, XT 826480) on the same day.³

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1. 2/0/VCM/R58-68
 2. 3/0/STY/R31-68
 3. 2/0/VCM/R64-68

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