

~~SECRET SAVIN~~

2/0/VCM/R21-68
 AVC, AVN/OPER-G-H/.
 19 JANUARY 1968 2041Z
 DIST: OSCAR/VICTOR KILO
 PLUS USM-604, USM-626
 HCF

PAVN AIR DEFENSE ASSOCIATED REGIMENT LOCATED NORTH OF DMZ

Tactical communications serving an unidentified PAVN regiment in the Vinh Linh-southern Quang Binh Province area, observed since mid-December 1967, indicate that the regiment may be air defense associated.

Although the regiment is unidentified, SIGINT indicates that it is composed of possibly as many as 5 battalions--battalions numbered 8, 81, 82, 84, and 85 have been noted in messages. Place-names noted in texts have indicated that the regiment is deployed in the eastern Vinh Linh-Quang Binh Province area. Vinh Chap (17-04N 106-57E, YD 100903) has been mentioned as a regimental rear area; and on 14 and 15 January, SIGINT indicated that possibly two battalions were deployed immediately north of the DMZ in the areas of 17-02N 106-53E (YD 0187) and 17-03N 106-59E (YD 1487).¹ The regiment's communications have referred to 12.7mm, 14.5mm and 37mm AA guns. In addition, directions sent to the regiment on 1 January for forwarding a message to "air defense headquarters" suggests an air defense association. References to the regiment's reporting to the "Military Region" (MR)--possibly suggesting its operational subordination to MR 4 (North Vietnam)--has also been noted.

Although the present tactical communications serving this regiment have only been observed since mid-December, there are indications that the users of the present communications are associated with tactical communications which have been observed in the DMZ area since late August 1967.

 1. 3/0/STY/R15-68

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