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2/0/VCM/R46-68  
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 DIST: OSCAR/VICTOR KILO  
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CONCENTRATION OF VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST MILITARY ENTITIES

IN THE MICHELIN PLANTATION AREA

The establishment of a military intelligence (MI) control authority in western Binh Duong Province, the relocation of an MI element subordinate to the MI Section (MIS), Viet Cong (VC) 9th Light Infantry Division (LID) to the southwestern Binh Long-Tay Ninh Province border, and the deployment of at least six unidentified elements in an area encompassing the Michelin Plantation in western Binh Duong, has produced a concentration of Vietnamese Communist military entities in the vicinity of the plantation. Most of the entities are currently unidentified; however, some have been associated with Vietnamese Communist main force units. The six unidentified elements~~s~~ which currently employ related signal plans and are active on communications groups which first appeared in October 1967~~s~~ are currently located within 10 km of the Michelin Plantation. Four of the six unidentified elements have moved into the Michelin area as follows: one during November 1967, one during December 1967, and two during January. The other two elements have been located in the area since their activation in October 1967. Details of the disposition and communications of these unidentified elements (arbitrarily designated A through F) follow:

ELEMENT A

Element A, which was located at 11-32N 106-18E (XT 411745) on 12 October, relocated to 11-16N 106-27E (XT 583457) by 27 November, and was last located in the Michelin area at 11-22N 106-31E (XT 644551) on 23 January. This element may be associated with the tentative Hq, PAVN 101st Regiment since its movements parallel those of the regiment, and communications between the regiment and the tentative Hq, PAVN 7th Division Forward Element have not recently been noted. Since its activation in early October, Element A has communicated with an unidentified entity located in northern Tay Ninh Province, and through mid-December with an unidentified control authority located in the Cambodia-Binh Long-Tay Ninh Province border area.<sup>1</sup>

ELEMENT B

Between 5 and 20 December, Element B moved from a position in northern Tay Ninh Province and was located at 11-29N 106-19E (XT 434686) on 20 December, and most recently in the Michelin Plantation area at 11-20N 106-32E (XT 674522) on 18 January. Since early December, this element has been noted in sporadic communications with Element A, and during January, has been observed in increased communications with that element. On 20 January, Element B was active in communications with its control authority, located in northern Tay Ninh, and requested that messages be relayed to the Hq, PAVN B3 Front, and several unidentified entities.

ELEMENT C

Element C was located at 11-36N 106-14E (XT 358816) on 13 January and by 16 January moved to the Michelin area at 11-20N 106-28E (XT 596525). This element communicates with an unidentified entity located in northern Tay Ninh and an unidentified control authority located in the Binh Duong-Bien Hoa Province border area.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS 4 PAGES

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ELEMENT D

Element D moved from northern Phuoc Long Province to the Michelin area at 11-21N 106-31E (XT 650545) between 17 December and 10 January and has not been observed in communications since the latter date. SIGINT revealed parallel movements by this element and the possible Hq, PAVN 88th Regiment during December. Between 20 October 1967 and 10 January, Element D communicated with an unidentified control authority which may be associated with a Hq, VC 5th LID element. This control authority moved from northern to southern Phuoc Long Province near 11-26N 107-05E (YT 283712) between 21 December and 12 January and has not been noted in communications since the latter date.<sup>1</sup>

ELEMENT E

Element E was located in the Binh Duong-Tay Ninh border area near the Michelin area at 11-14N 106-23E (XT 502414) on 28 January and first appeared in communications with an unidentified control authority, located in northern Tay Ninh, in early December.

ELEMENT F

Element F, an unidentified control authority, was first noted in communications in early October, and was located on 29 January in the Michelin area at 11-12N 106-28E (XT 601372). It has been located in this area since it was first observed in communications. This control authority communicates with an unidentified entity in northern Tay Ninh and with Elements A and C.

In addition to the six new, unidentified elements, another group comprised of three unidentified elements has been active within 20 km of the Michelin Plantation, probably since mid-October. The latest locations for these elements are as follows: an unidentified control authority on 29 January at 11-09N 106-29E (XT 615310); an unidentified subordinate on 29 January at 11-12N 106-23E (XT 602388); and an unidentified subordinate on 3 January at 11-10N 106-30E (XT 636344).

Identified elements operating in the Michelin Plantation area include: the tentative Hq, 101st Regiment, located at 11-14N 106-26E (XT 560414) on 13 December; an unidentified subordinate of the possible Tay Ninh Provincial Unit, located at 11-22N 106-17E (XT 394554) on 23 January; and the Military Affairs Section, Region 4 Committee, located at 11-22N 106-30E (XT 630552) on 13 January.<sup>2</sup>

The activation of a VC MI control authority, which was located at 11-21N 106-29E (XT 614540) on 16 January, and which communicates with at least six other MI elements previously subordinate to the MIS of the possible unidentified Front Headquarters, may also indicate increased emphasis in the Michelin Plantation area.<sup>3</sup>

Between 20 and 22 January, an MI element subordinate to the probable Hq, C95 Reconnaissance Company, MIS, Hq, VC 9th LID, moved about 20 km southward and was located on 22 January at 11-29N 106-24E (XT 526677), approximately 5 km north of the Michelin Plantation. Since about 17 January, this MI element has been reporting to its superior on Allied activities in northeastern Tay Ninh Province, and has been observed in contact apparently with the possible VC 46th Reconnaissance-Sapper Battalion, also located in northeastern Tay Ninh.<sup>4</sup>

A map depicting the disposition of the units discussed in this report is attached to the hard copy only.

1. 2/0/VCM/R10-68.
2. 3/0/STY/R02-68.
3. 2/0/VCM/R17-68, SUPPLEMENT 1.
4. 3/0/STY/R21-68.

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APPENDIX ALIST OF IDENTIFICATIONS

Appendix A is keyed to lettered units in Appendix B. Appendix B depicts each units disposition and date of their previous and current locations. The six elements arbitrarily designated A through F are unidentified. These and other identifications appearing in Appendix B are as follows:

A = Element A  
B = Element B  
C = Element C  
D = Element D  
E = Element E  
F = Element F  
G = U/I control authority  
H = U/I subordinate of U/I control authority  
I = U/I subordinate of U/I control authority  
J = Tentative Hq, PAVN 101st Regiment  
K = U/I subordinate of possible Tay Ninh Provincial Unit  
L = Military Affairs Section, Region 4 Committee  
M = VC military intelligence control authority  
N = Military intelligence element, probable Hq,  
C95 Reconnaissance Company

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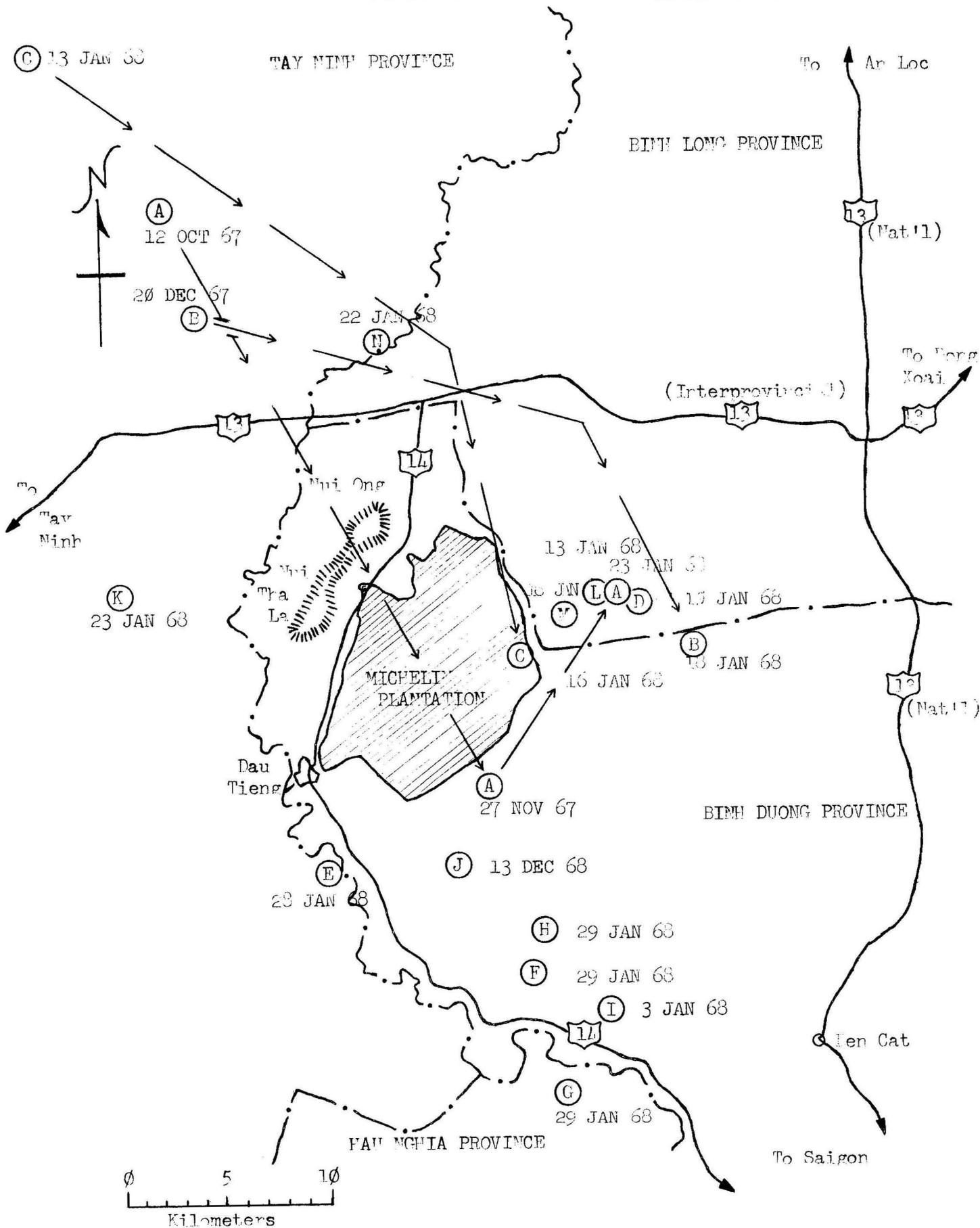
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APPENDIX B

C/O/VCM/R46-68

CONCENTRATION AND DISPOSITION OF VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST MILITARY ENTITIES

IN THE MICHELIN PLANTATION AREA: OCT 1967-JAN 1968



SCALE: 1:250,000

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