

~~SECRET SAVIN~~

2/O/VCM/R60-68  
 FOLLOW-UP NR 20 TO  
 2/O/VCM/R32-68  
 SPOT REPORT  
 AVC,AVN/OPER-G-H/  
 2 FEBRUARY 1968 2204Z  
 DIST: OSCAR/VICTOR ALFA  
 PLUS USM-604, WHITE HOUSE  
 HCF

FOLLOW-UP NUMBER 20 TO

COORDINATED VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST

OFFENSIVE EVIDENCED IN SOUTH VIETNAM (252332Z JAN)

An unidentified element of the PAVN B3 Front possibly operating in the northeastern Pleiku Province area was the recipient of instructions for a mission to be conducted possibly after 2300Z on 1 February. A message passed at 0737Z on 1 February from an unidentified and unlocated control authority to the subordinate stated: "Take advantage of both sides being engaged in combat to enter secretly. Be sure to find the correct position." In a probable continuation of this message the authority stated: "Find a way to ensure communications. The mission is difficult. You are to help each other to complete it well. Beginning at 2300 [GOLF] hours headquarters will watch you on the even hours. Pay attention to the primary and temporary schedules." A later message transmitted by the control at 2347Z, 1 February instructed the recipient to "turn over the mission" and to "return to the battalion."

The elements involved in the above activity are believed to be the same units which on 16 January discussed plans for an attack, probably against Pleiku city.<sup>1</sup> The echelon of forces involved appears to be battalion to company, possibly an artillery or sapper unit.

Communications alerts of the type referred to in the above 1 February message are sometimes observed immediately prior to an attack. One of the most recent occurrences of this type of communications alert involved Vietnamese Communist main force units operating in the coastal provinces of Military Region 5 which were instructed to initiate an alert on 29 January.<sup>2</sup>

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1. 2/O/VCM/R14-68.
  2. 2/O/VCM/R37-68.

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS 1 PAGE

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