

~~SECRET SAVIN~~

2/O/VCM/R241-67
 SPOT REPORT
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MAJOR PAVN GROUND FORCE DEPLOYMENTS FROM

MILITARY REGION 3 NORTH AND SOUTH

SIGINT now indicates a major deployment by PAVN ground force units from Military Region (MR) 3 is currently underway. The two units involved are the probable PAVN 304th and 320th Infantry Divisions from MR 3 south and north, respectively.^{ab}

Since early November, almost all normal "internal" communications associated with these two divisions have been unobserved. Meanwhile, at least three new communications entities associated with out-of-country activity have been observed--two in connection with the probable 304th Division and one in connection with the probable 320th. The first entity, a watch group, first heard 12 November, was found to be serving the probable 304th Headquarters and five of its original six subordinates i.e., two suspect infantry regiments, a suspect artillery regiment and two unidentified regimental-echelon subordinates. A broadcast group, which parallels the first group, was also activated at approximately the same time by Hq, probable 304th Division. These two communications groups represent the division headquarters and four of those five subordinates in deployment. The fifth subordinate on these two communications groups had earlier deployed (July 1967) to MR 4.^c The last of the original six subordinates of the probable 304th Division has been identified as the possible 14th AAA Battalion and has probably remained in MR 3 south, as a subordinate of the tentative MR 3 south Air Defense Command Post (ADCP). The division headquarters continues to be located in the general Vinh area of MR 4, along with the suspect infantry regiment which has been in that area since July. One unidentified regimental-echelon subordinate and the suspect artillery regiment are unlocated at this time. Of the remaining two subordinates--a suspect infantry regiment and an unidentified regimental-echelon subordinate--the first was tentatively located on 22 November in the DMZ area at 16-57N 106-46E (XD 9777),^d the other in Laos at 16-50N 106-08E (XD 225644) on 29 November.^e Additionally, the regimental-echelon subordinate in Laos has been observed on the watch group serving the DMZ Front since 18 November and continuing sporadically through 27 November. The other subordinate was tentatively observed in communications with the DMZ Front only on 22 November. These communications possibly indicate that the DMZ area is the ultimate destination or the route to be followed during movement of the deploying units of the probable 304th Division.

The third communications entity, a watch group consisting of a control and five subscribers, is also associated with out-of-country activity was active at least as early as 8 November. This group serves Hq, probable 320th Infantry Division and five unidentified subscribers, one of which has been firmly equated to a suspect infantry regiment of the division. Although the remaining four subscribers are unidentified, message characteristics indicate that they are also subordinate to or associated with the probable 320th Division. Additional indications of deployment by this division were noted on the High Command mainline broadcast serving PAVN units and replacement personnel infiltrating through Laos. On 4 November, four new subscribers were noted on this broadcast net. On 25 November Hanoi relayed ten messages to one of these

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new subscribers using message characteristics unique to MR 3 north. These messages were originated by an unidentified unlocated terminal which was subsequently observed on the watch group serving the DMZ Front on 27 November. One message, also unique to units of MR 3 north, was sent by this same unidentified terminal to the DMZ Front.

Other technical characteristics displayed by the group serving the probable 320th Division possibly indicate that this unit will or is presently deploying through the Laotian panhandle for unknown points south of the DMZ. The deploying subordinates of the 320th Division probably include two suspect infantry regiments, an artillery regiment and an unidentified regimental-echelon subordinate. SIGINT indicates that the other two subordinates of the division, another suspect infantry regiment and the possible 14th AAA Battalion will remain in MR 3 north. All deploying subordinates and the 320th Division Headquarters are unlocated.

In summary, SIGINT through 30 November indicates that at least eight subordinates of the two divisions are deploying--three suspect infantry regiments, two suspect artillery regiments and three unidentified regimental-echelon subordinates. Evidence suggests the 304th Division is heading for or passing through the DMZ area. The 320th Division's destination is unknown; however, as noted, its deployment may possibly be through the Laotian panhandle to points in South Vietnam.

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- a. 2/O/VCM/R231-67, 2/O/VCM/R232-67.
 - b. 2/O/VCM/R237-67.
 - c. 3/O/STY/R171-67, 20 July 1967.
 - d. 2/O/VCM/R236-67.
 - e. 2/G11/VCM/R1221-67.

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