DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 2D BRIGADE, 9TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96372

INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN 14-68
5 March 1968

SUBJECT: Intelligence Estimate, DINH TUONG PROVINCE.

REFERENCE: AHS: 62291, 6229IV, 61291, 6130II, 6230II, 6230III, 6329IV.

LIGHT DATA

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General: DINH TUONG PROVINCE covers 1463 square kilometers of rice growing alluvium soil, in the Mekong Delta, at an average height of three (3) meters above sea level. Politically, it is subdivided into the seven districts of Cho Gao, Ben Tranh, Chau Thanh, Long Dinh, Cai Lay, Cai Be and Giao Duc. This month is the last full month of the North-east monsoon. Winds are becoming somewhat lighter and more South Easterly.

Group 4
Downgraded at 3 year intervals
Declassified after 12 years
DOD Dir 5200-10

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During this operation, some smoke and haze will cause visibility to drop 3-5 miles over the A/O from 0700H to 0900H. Relative humidity will vary from 85% to 40%. Predicted maximum temperature is 95° with a low of 69°. Winds will remain a constant 7-10 knots with gusts to 22-27 knots.

1. The anticipated enemy in the area of operations are elements of the 261 HP Bn, 263 HF Bn, 514 PH Bn and the 207 LF CO.

2. The 261 HF Bn, subordinate to DONG THAP I Regiment, enjoys the reputation of the best equipped, trained and armed VC force in the Delta. Prior to the attack on LONG DONG, this Bn was split into the 261 and 261B Bns. Recent reports indicate that these two Bns reinforced by support units now comprise the 1st VC Battle Group. The original 261 Bn was organized with three rifle companies, a combat support company and a headquarters company. Total strength was approximately 500 combat effective troops. It is not unreasonable to assume that this organization has been affected for the 261B Bn. The 261 Bn was originally formed in KIEN HOI PROVINCE from elements of the 518 HF Bn. Due to heavy casualties sustained during the recent fighting, a majority of the effective fighting strength of these Bns are expected to be recently recruited youths. The uniforms of the 261 Bn are chocolate brown shirts and short pants. They also wear blue scarfs with red trim.

3. The 263d HF Bn is reported to have a combat effective strength of 400 men. It is also subordinate to the DONG THAP I Regiment. It consists of five companies, three rifle, a combat support company and a headquarters company. Like the 261 Bn, this Bn also has District Coordinating Units attached to it on occasions.

4. The 514 Bn is the Provincial Mobile Force Battalion of VC MY THO Province. (DINH TUONG SECTOR and GO CONG) This Bn is normally composed of 300 combat effective troops. It also has five companies and is organized similarly to the 263d HF Bn.

5. There are two demolition companies directly subordinate to HR II that operate in DINH TUONG Province. These are the 332 and 334 Sapper Companies. The 332 has a reported strength of 45 and the 334 has 120 men.

6. There are two separate demolition companies at the VC MY THO Province level. They are the 207 and the 212 Engineer Sapper Companies. The strength of the 212 was last reported to be 72 personnel. The strength of the 207 is unknown, but assumed to be approximately 100 troops.

7. Recent reports from usually reliable sources, indicate an extremely high level of VC activity in the area North and
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As of this date, the 514 PMBn is reported to be located in the vicinity of XS519505, the 261 Bn in vicinity of XS555575. An unidentified unit of unknown strength is located at XS524554. This unit is assumed to be the 261 Bn. The 263 MF Bn is reported in vicinity XS539499. An unidentified unit, probably the 207 LF Co, is located in vicinity XS552437. Indications are that the enemy will move from their present locations to the South into the wooded area along the CHO GJO Canal (see hydrography) and the coconut grove.

8. A POW revealed that the VC have dispatched a number of VC female comms-liaison agents to collect information and more documents and munitions from cache sights to using units. These women are wearing blue jackets with a flower, embroidered with white thread, on the right pocket.

9. MISCELLANEOUS: Males between the ages of 15-50 will be detained and evacuated to the Combined Tactical Screening Center at Dong Tam. (The LZ is immediately West of the POW stockade). Documents, weapons and captured materials in the possession of detainees will be evacuated together with the detainees and identified as belonging to a particular detainee. All documents and other material, captured in the AO, will be tagged with date, time and place of capture, capturing unit and circumstances. Detainees will be evacuated from the Combined Tactical Screening Center through MACV channels upon completion of interrogation.

10. EXE: All units will immediately report enemy uniforms, insignia, equipment and weapons identification.

ACKNOWLEDGE: B.A. DAVID
COL USA

OFFICIAL:

[Signature]

MARWITZ
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