

VLA005

PP

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326 2840650

P 110625Z

FM DMI CANBERRA

TO DSD

AUM352

ZEM

~~SECRET SAVIN~~

FROM M18.

REF A 2/G10/VCM/T1018-66

REF B 2/G10/VCM/T1019-66

REF C 2/G10/VCM/T1020-66

REF D 2/G10/VCM/R259-66

REF E 2/G10/VCM/R261-66.

BASED ON STUDY OF REFERENCE SIGNALS AND COLLATIERAL INFORMATION DESK
MADE THE FOLLOWING ASSESSMENT TO 110200Z.

ONE.

ORIGINAL MESSAGES FROM RAD 137 BRAVO TO 137 ALPHA REFS A AND B
INDICATED VC INTEREST IN NUI THI VAI AND NUI ONG TRINH AREA.

THESE INTERCEPTS TENDED TO CONFIRM 7 OCT MOVE OF 274 REGT TO
WESTERN PHUOC TUY (REF D) AND IT WAS FELT THAT RAD 137 ALPHA WOULD
SOON BE RELOCATED BY ARDF IN VICINITY OF NEW 274 LOCATION. THIS HAS
NOW OCCURRED IN REF E ALTHOUGH THE LOCATION OF RAD 137 ALPHA AS
BEING QUOTE 6 KM WNW OF 274 REGT UNQUOTE HAS BEEN QUERIED
SEPARATELY.

TWO.

REGARDING REF C THE FOLLOWING POINTS APPEAR VALID.

ALPHA. MENTION OF QUOTE COMMANDOS UNQUOTE (AS ALSO IN REF A) TIES
IN WITH KNOWN DEPLOYMENT OF SAS PATROLS AT THE TIME SPECIFIED.

BRAVO. DESCRIPTION OF AUST FORCES LOCATIONS AT QUOTE LO CAT LON AND
LO CAT NHO UNQUOTE SUGGEST NICKNAMES FOR TERRAIN POINTS RATHER

31 9 118 149

111

CNS

ADCI

CN



Handwritten signatures and initials, including "JHR", "SA", and "JP".

THAN PROPER NAMES OF KNOWN VILLAGES/HAMLETS ETC. HQ 5 RAR, D COY AND C COY ON NIGHT 7/8 OCT WERE DISPERSED ON TWO FEATURES IN SQUARE YS2869, POSSIBLY ASSOCIATED WITH FOREGOING.

CHARLIE. ALTHOUGH TANKS ARE MENTIONED IT SEEMED LIKELY THAT ARMoured VEHICLES WERE MEANT, FITTING IN WITH 5 RAR USE OF APCs DURING PERIOD.

DELTA. THE REFERENCE TO QUOTE C5 BASE UNQUOTE IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROXIMITY OF COMMANDOS ON 4 OCT, SIZE OF BASE AND NUMBERS OF PORTERS REQUIRED, AND DISTANCE OF ONE KILOMETRE FROM OUR FORCES (BRAVO ABOVE) INDICATES THAT C5 WAS THE BASE DISCOVERED BY C COY 5 RAR AT YS 283712 ON 9 OCT.

THREE.

FROM FOREGOING IT APPEARS CERTAIN THAT RAD 137 BRAVO IS LOCATED IN THE THI VAI/ONG TRINH AREA ALTHOUGH NOT YET ISOLATED BY ARDF. FOUR.

IT CANNOT YET BE ASCERTAINED WHETHER OR NOT THESE 274 REGT ELEMENTS WILL WITHDRAW FROM THE SCENE HAVING NOW LOST THE C5 BASE. HOWEVER IT SEEMS LIKELY THAT 274 REGT MUST HAVE INTENDED SURVEILLANCE AND PROBABLY FOLLOW-UP ACTION AGAINST ROUTE 15 TRAFFIC OTHERWISE RAD 137 BRAVO WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN IN A POSITION TO REPORT ON ACTIVITIES IN THE AREA IN THE FIRST PLACE. THUS IT IS POSSIBLE THAT 274 REGT MAY CLOSE ON ROUTE 15 NOW THAT 5 RAR ELEMENTS HAVE DEPLOYED OFF THE HILLS.

FIVE.

FIRST EVIDENCE OF THE ENEMY'S INTENDED COURSE OF ACTION IS LIKELY TO COME FROM SIGINT AND IF ACTION AGAINST ROUTE 15 IS PLANNED WE CAN EXPECT TO SEE MORE TRAFFIC FROM RADS 137 ALPHA AND BRAVO AND THE POSSIBLE RE-EMERGENCE OF 5 VC DIV OP RAD 196 BRAVO. WE ARE WATCHING THIS SITUATION CAREFULLY AND WILL BE PARTICULARLY INTERESTED TO SEE THE NEXT ARDF LOCATION RAD 137 BRAVO.

SIX.

DESK GRATEFUL FOR COMMENTS FROM BOTH ADDRESSES ON ASSESSMENT CLN
IN PARTICULAR COMMENTS FROM 1TF ON ABOVE ASSESSMENT AND IDEAS CONTAINED
IN TWO ALPHA TO DELTA INCLUDING DIFFERENCES IN 1TF ASSESSMENT WILL
BE APPRECIATED. DMI WOULD APPRECIATE ANY COMMENTS BY COMD 1TF ON
ABOVE ASSESSMENT.

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