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## U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIRECTOR OF INTELLIGENCE AND RESEARCH

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Note

January 6, 1968

To : The Secretary

Case # NLJ/CBS 11

From : INR - Thomas L. Hughes

Document # 3

Subject: Continuing Communist Military Deployments in Northern South Vietnam

Embassy Saigon has reported that evidence of a Communist military buildup in the Quang Tri - Thua Thien - Quang Nam area is now becoming incontrovertible. The Embassy suggests that this buildup, along with an increase in truck traffic in the Laos panhandle, indicates that the Communists may be preparing to launch a major offensive in the northern region of South Vietnam. As we have earlier reported, this buildup has been under way for some months; this paper reviews the information currently available.

Recent Developments.

This report was produced by the Bureau of Intelligence and Research. Aside from normal substantive exchange with other agencies at the working level, it has not been coordinated elsewhere.

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Laos Truck Traffic Not Unusual. Preliminary reports in October and early November indicated a possible increase in truck traffic in the Laos panhandle. However, roadwatch reports since then suggest that truck traffic thus far has remained at about the same level as that of the same period last year. On the other hand, two developments since early last November suggest that the Communists have made plans for an increased logistic supply effort through Laos. [

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