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Points of Information

1. The necessity to obtain fresh soldiers for the fighting in Quang Tri Province has resulted in cadre being in the unfortunate position of deceiving soldiers. For example, on 15 July 1972 the men of the 813th Battalion of the 8th Regiment were told they were going to Que Vo District, Ha Bac Province, to repair dikes. When they arrived there the mission was canceled and the men were told that the unit would go on field exercises. They traveled south to Ha Tinh and arrived in Ky An District on 7 August. The 3rd and 4th Companies were designated the 7104th Infiltration Group and told they would go to South Viet-Nam.

The men complained that they had been lied to. If they were told the truth, then they could have informed their families, said good-bye, asked for money to buy extra cigarettes and food. Morale was reduced and two soldiers left to try and return home.

On 10 August the 7104 Infiltration Group left Ky An District by truck for the Vinh Linh Special Zone. They crossed the Ben Hai river through the mountains and arrived in the Dong Ha area on 17 August. Then all the men were sent to be replacements for the 101st Regiment of the 325th Division. They were following in the footsteps of at least two other replacement groups who were necessary because of the heavy casualties suffered by Quan Doi Nhan Dan on the Quang Tri front.

2. In the same Quang Tri area, other units over the Summer months have taken heavy casualties. In June the T9 battalion of the 102 Regiment 308 Division had such problems that some men left the unit to find their way home. The 1st Battalion, 36 Regiment, 308 Division also had some soldiers who departed their unit and tried to return home.
3. The 7th Battalion, 64th Regiment, of the 320B Division is also demoralized on the Quang Tri front. Their locations have been bombed or struck by artillery fire daily. A large number of cadre and men have been killed in recent days.