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# Le Minh Battle 2/13/74 Rages On

SAIGON, South Vietnam (AP) — South Vietnamese troops with tank, air and artillery support are battling toward a strategic border camp in the central highlands, the Saigon command reported Monday.

The command reported hard fighting Sunday from the highlands to the Mekong Delta, with 94 North Vietnamese and Viet Cong and 29 government soldiers killed in five battles.

In the highlands 12 to 15 miles southwest of Pleiku, 38 North Vietnamese and 18 government soldiers were reported killed. Lt. Col. Le Trung Hien, Saigon's chief military spokesman, said the North Vietnamese were blocking reinforcements for the Le Minh base camp, which threatens Communist supply lines on the western side of the highlands along the Cambodian border.

The Communists overran the camp on Sept. 22, but in January it was retaken by a 30-man platoon landed by helicopter. Since then Saigon has been trying to get more men to Le Minh. Hien said the camp is not occupied permanently now by either side.