

Interrogation of NGUYEN CONG NHUAN,
Private First Class and rifleman in the 7th Squad,
9th Platoon, 13th Company, 3rd Battalion, 141st
Infantry Regiment of the 312th Infantry
Division of the North Vietnamese Army. He
was captured in March 1966.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION REPORT

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2. SUBJECT: Organization of 141st Infantry Regiment	9. DATE OF REPORT: 26 Dec 66
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7. SOURCE: Captive NGUYEN CONG NHUAN, CMIC No 1315	14. APPROVING AUTHORITY: J. A. McCHRISTIAN Brigadier General, US Army AGofs, J2

REC'D CO-3 16 JAN 1967

15. SUMMARY:
This report forwards Combined RVNAP/USMACV Military Interrogation Center (CMIC) Interrogation Report No US 600-66. Source provides information on the training, infiltration equipment, organization, weapons, personnel, morale and mission of the 141st Regt, 312th Div. MACJ-214-2.

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18. ATTACHMENT DATA:
SUBJ: Order of Battle of the 141st Infantry Regiment
Source: NGUYEN CONG NHUAN
SPECIAL REPORT
16 Dec 66
No 65 600-66/1315
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SPECIAL REPORT

Additional requirements for levy on subject source should be relayed immediately to MACV, J2, IOD referencing CMIC source number 1315

COUNTRY: NVN, RVN

SUBJECT: Order of Battle of the 141st Infantry Regiment

DATE OF INFORMATION: Apr 65 - Mar 66

DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION: Nov 66, SAIGON.

EVALUATION: SOURCE F INFORMATION 3

SOURCE: NGUYEN CONG NHUAN, CMIC#1315

REPORT NUMBER: US 600-66/1315.

DATE OF REPORT: 16 Dec 66.

NUMBER OF PAGES: Seven (7).

PREPARED BY: M.E. Highfill, SP4, US Army.

REFERENCES: SICRs: U.GPA-G0500, U.GPA-G0587, U.GPA-G0604, D.LBS-1S259
Map Sheet 6152 II, Series L7014

SUMMARY: This report contains limited information about training locations of training companies, mission, weapons, personalities, morale and statistics of the 7th Squad, 9th Platoon, 13th Company, 3d Battalion, 141st Infantry Regiment (141st Regt, aka 304th Group), 312th Infantry Division to which source was assigned as a PFC and rifleman.

1. Source stated that in Apr 65 his parents received a letter from the Government of NVN stating that their son was to report to DAN TAO Village, DA PHUC District, VINH PHUC Province for his basic training. He was then assigned to the 7th Squad, 7th Platoon, 13th Company, 3d Battalion, 141st Regiment, 312th Division at DAN TAO Village.

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2. Source attended basic training from mid Apr 65 to mid Oct 65.

During this time he received training on the following subjects:

- (1) Throwing dummy grenades
- (2) Firing the CKC rifle (source fired three rounds)
- (3) Ambush training.
- (4) How to attack strongholds
- (5) Political indoctrination
- (6) Bayonet drill.
- (7) Defense of area training
- (8) Raid techniques
- (9) Mine laying (he was taught how to dig a hole, place the antipersonal mine into it and camouflage the mine. He was also trained on how to dig the mine up with a bayonet)

3. From 9 Dec 65 to 28 Dec 65 source received infiltration training on the following subjects:

(1) Two weeks on carrying heavy loads. These loads weighed approx 25 kg, and consisted of wood and bricks.

(2) Political indoctrination classes, lasted for five days and consisted of why they were going to RVN, and the reasons for liberating the people from the Americans. They were told it was an easy task because four-fifths of the land had already been liberated, and three-fourths of the people were on their side. He received this training at PHU LIEN District, THAI NGUYEN Province.

4. Each man was issued the following equipment from the 13th Company Adjutant for infiltration of RVN:

- a. Three pairs(pr) of pajamas.
- b. Three pr underwear
- c. One pr boots,
- d. Two pr socks
- e. One pr sandals
- f. One meter of boot laces
- g. One rucksack
- h. One hammock
- i. Ten meters of string to tie hammock
- j. One nylon tent (length was two meters, width 1.6 meters).
- k. One raincoat

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- l. One hat
- m. Two towels
- n. One jacket
- o. One canteen
- p. One blanket
- q. Two kg of rice
- r. 1.5 kg of meat
- s. 1.5 kg of salt
- t. 400 grams of seasoning
- u. Two bags to carry the rice
- v. One CKC rifle
- w. 100 rounds of ammunition of the CKC rifle
- x. Two grenades
- y. One shovel

5. Source had limited knowledge of the weapons in the units, but did know the following:

- a. The 3d Bn, 141st Regt, 312th Div:
 - (1) Four 75mm DKZ (country of origin for all weapons was unk by source)
 - (2) 27 RPD
 - (3) Nine. 61mm mortars
 - (4) Four 82mm mortars
 - (5) Four GORYUNOV M.1943 machineguns
- b. The 13th Co had
 - (1) 33 AK submachineguns
 - (2) 45. CKC rifles
 - (3) Four B.40 antitank weapons
 - (4) Three. 61mm mortars

6. Source had limited knowledge on the personalities of the following units:

- a. 141st Infantry (Inf) Regt, 312th Inf Div.

- (1) CO: LTC TRAT
- (2) Political Officer: LTC BAD

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b. 3d Bn, 141st Inf Regt.

(1) Commanding Officer: Sr CPT THON

(2) Executive Officer: Sr CPT-TY

(3) Political Officer: Sr CPT PHONG

c. 13th Co, 3d Bn, 141st Inf Regt.

(1) Commanding Officer: 1LT NGUYEN VAN TUY

(2) Executive Officer: 2LT NGUYEN VAN LONG

(3) Political Officer: 1LT PHUNG VAN CUONG

d. 9th Plat, 13th Co, 3d Bn, 141st Inf Regt.

(1) Platoon Leader: Aspirant NGUYEN VAN PHOT

(2) Asst Platoon Leader: Aspirant NGA (nickname)

e. 7th Sqd, 9th Plat, 13th Co, 3d Bn, 141st Inf Regt.

(1) Squad Leader: SGT DANG VAN NGAI

(2) Asst Squad Leader: CPL NGO DOAN BAC

7. Members of the 7th Sqd, 9th Plat, 13th Co, 3d Bn, 141st Inf Regt, 312th Inf Div received a fifteen day leave from 25 Nov 65 to 10 Dec 65.

8. Source said that the 3d Bn started infiltrating on 8 Jan 66. The other bn of the regt were to follow at two day intervals. They traveled by train from PHU LIEN District (WJ 872855), THAI NGUYEN Province to DO LEN Bridge, THANH HOA Province. This trip took approx 12 hours. The remainder of the infiltration was done on foot.

9. Source was only knowledgeable of the losses of the 13th Co. He said when they left NVN from PHO YEN District, THAI NGUYEN Province on 8 Jan 66, that his company had approx 125 men. During infiltration approx 10 men were left at several rest stops because they had contracted malaria (location unk). He said after they had arrived in the RVN they lost approx 40 men due to an air attack. Source said that the aircraft fired machineguns. They only came in contact with the aircraft one time. He could not remember their location at that time, but remembered that the action took place in Mar 66.

10. Source stated that approx 66% of the 125 men in the 13th Co were regulars and 34% were draftees. He stated that these men came from several provinces, but he could only remember the VINH PHUC Province.

11. Morale.

a. In NVN the morale was high due to the following:

(1) They believed that their government was doing the right thing by fighting the Americans in the RVN.

(2) They wanted to keep the Americans from getting their land.

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b. During infiltration and in the RVN.

The morale was low for the following reasons:

- (1) Low medical supplies.
- (2) Low food supplies.
- (3) Many of the men were homesick.

12. Code Names:

Source had limited knowledge on code names and only knew that the 141st Regt was changed to the 304th Infiltration Group. Although the name was changed, the personnel and the weapons they had started the infiltration with remained the same. Each of the three bn was called the 304th Group.

13. Mission.

Source stated that their only mission was to get to the RVN and liberate the people from the Americans.

14. Source had only seen, and come in contact with, one foreign person. This was in 1957 at a market place in HAI DUONG Province. He observed a Caucasian with a Vietnamese interpreter. He asked the interpreter who the man was and was told that he was a Russian engineer who specialized in bridges. Source was 15 years old at the time. He did not know in what type of bridges the Russian specialized.

14. Source stated that while in PHU LIE District, THAI NGUYEN Province, he observed men working in the train station. They were conductors and flagmen who were directing other trains into the station. He was told by the cadre that these were members of the Youth Labor Group. He had limited information on these people and their jobs. He said it was night when they arrived at the station and the train left immediately. Source did not observe any units or construction activity during infiltration.

15. Construction and reconstruction activity in NVN, RVN.

a. Source reported observing a construction crew, consisting of approx 20 civilian laborers, in QUANG BINH Province, NVN. The crew which worked with shovels, picks, hammers and five or six carts, was widening the trail from four meters to approx eight meters. After completing a section they would cover the trail with large leaves to prevent air observation. Sources passed this section four or five days prior to the crossing of the BEN HAI River (location unk).

b. Source crossed the LEN River on 9 Jan 66 by means of a bridge that was below water level. It was constructed of bamboo and was approx four meters wide and 20 meters long. Source believed large vehicles were capable of using this bridge, because he saw tire marks of trucks which led up to the bridge. According to source the bridge is in vic WH 885091.

c. Source stated he crossed the MA River by means of a ferry which was in the vic WH 807004 - WH 802005. Five boats were utilized in the crossing. Three boats contained 20 men, one boat contained 10 men and one boat contained 30 men. Source stated that each boat had a crew of two men to row the boats across the river.

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d. In Dec 65, source saw two cement factories in HAI PHONG City, HAI PHONG Province. Source did not know who received this cement.

f. Source observed no construction or reconstruction work in the RVN by either the VC or NVA.

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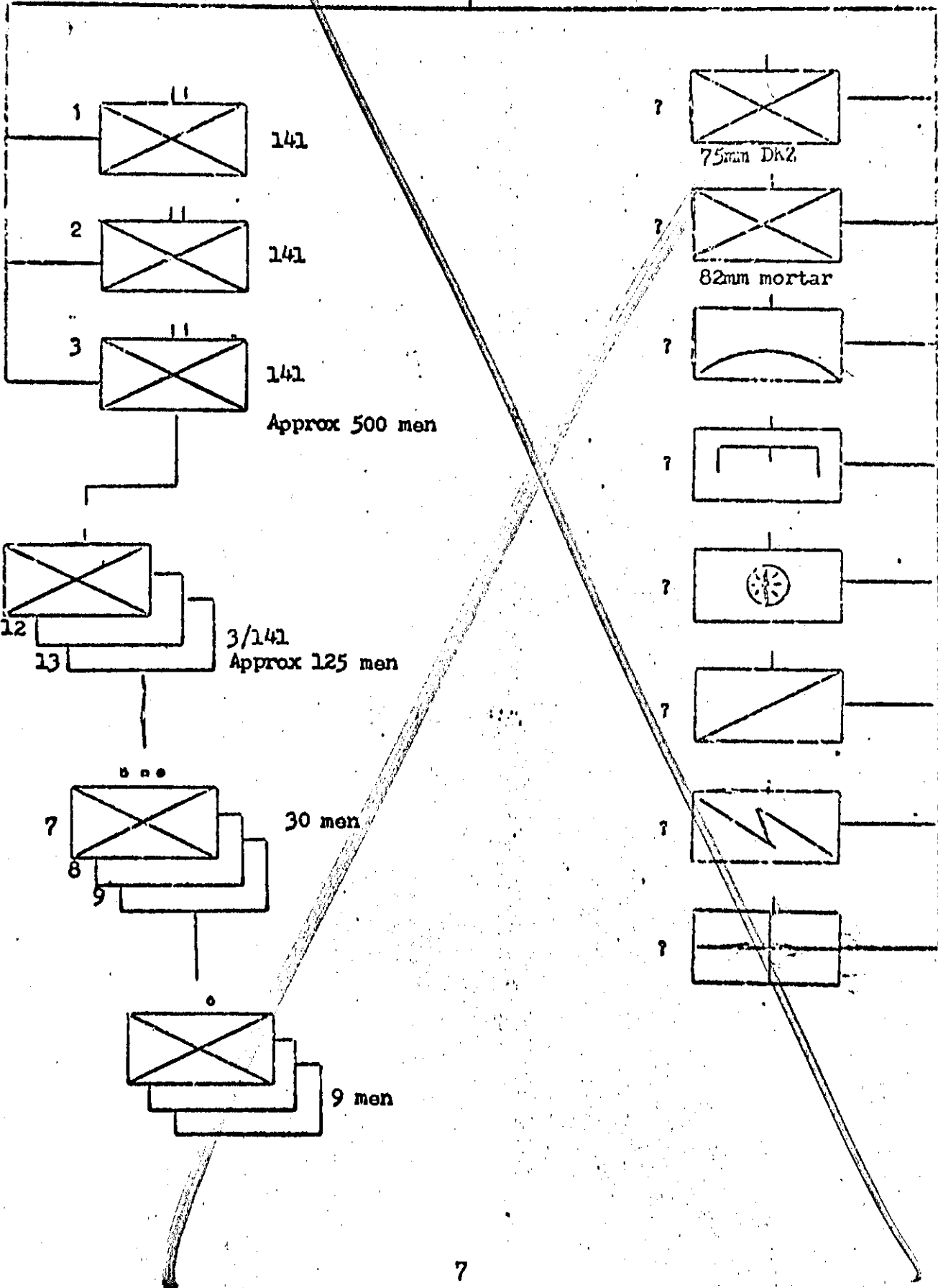
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ORGANIZATION OF THE 141ST REGT, 312TH DIV.

141st Regt
aka
304th Group



312th Div



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