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SUB-CAT SOUTH VIETNAM

REPORTS ON PLAF MILITARY ACTION IN SOUTH

My Tho Province

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East  
1607 GMT 10 Jan 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam January 10 GPA--Attacking or punishing the enemy for violating the Christmas cease-fire initiated by the N.F.L., the regional forces and guerrillas in My Tho Province on December 21, 25 and 27 killed or wounded 90 enemy troops, and shot down one plane.

On the night of December 26 they put out of action in Long Binh village a whole pacification team of 35 enemy agents, the enemy defences, offices and houses were all levelled.

On December 28, the liberation forces mounted a surprise attack on a militia position some 12 km northeast of My Tho town, putting out of action one platoon, and heavily trouncing two others.

From December 15 to 20, the regional forces and guerrillas in Can Tho Province wiped out 152 enemy including many cruel agents.

In the same period, guerrillas and regional forces in Soc Trang Province killed or wounded 30 enemy cruel agents and 20 soldiers. They also heavily decimated three platoons of commandos and popular defence men.

Striking at enemy raiders, in the five days ending December 25, the regional forces and guerrillas in Rach Gia Province inflicted on them 60 casualties, brought down three helicopters, and set fire to four vessels.

Tay Ninh Province

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East  
1542 GMT 12 Jan 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam January 12 GPA--After more than an hour's fighting, the People's Liberation Armed Forces on the night of December 22 overran the Ben Cau post in Tay Ninh Province, wiping out one U.S. battalion and two puppet commando companies totalling more than 600 men. The P.L.A.F. destroyed 9 105mm howitzers and 106.7mm mortars and seized a large quantity of firearms. Reported our correspondent from the field:

In an attempt to rebuild a link in their defence system north of Saigon, the American commanders on December 17 moved one U.S. battalion and two puppet command companies into Ben Cau area where the P.L.A.F. on November 28 heavily decimated a battalion of the U.S. Air Cavalry Division.

A unit of the P.L.A. east of Saigon and a unit of the regional forces in Tay Ninh Province on December 28 were given the task of destroying the Ban Vau post.

At 10.30 P.M. that day, the 4th and 6th detachments of the PLA and a detachment of the regional forces swiftly and secretly moved into position. Some 45 minutes later, shells of all calibres of the P.L.A.F. artillery crashed into the enemy position, turning it into a sea of flames.

All communications between the headquarters of the post and its defence system were cut off. Signals for rescue were fired. But no response came as the nearby positions also were being heavily pounded by the P.L.A.F. seizing this opportunity, the liberation fighters stormed into the post. With satchel charges they tore off barbed wire concertinas, making a wide breach for the shock forces to rush in.

Fighters of the 6th detachment quickly broke enemy resistance pockets. With 9 anti-tank shells, squad leader Hua wrecked 7 blockhouses and bunkers. Nhuong, a fighter, silenced an enemy machinegun with an A-T shot, enabling his buddies to smash 3 trucks. Meanwhile, two P.L.A. platoons coming from other directions broke through the enemy defence, destroyed two heavy machineguns and, with the regional forces, cut the post into two. In utter confusion, many enemy troops tried to hide away, even leaving their big guns. Just then, the P.L.A. 4th detachment from the northeast also breached the enemy defence perimeter and made straight into the H.Q., where it met the second prong of the regional forces.

The enemy C.P. was overrun after 15 minutes' fighting. Shortly later, the P.L.A.F. smashed the last enemy resistance. While the Ben Cau post was completely overrun, enemy aircraft circled overhead, unable to react because of the P.L.A.F.'s withering anti-aircraft fire.

#### Soc Trang Province

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East  
1602 GMT 10 Jan 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam January 10 GPA--Assisted by the guerrillas and people, nationally minded soldiers of the puppet 187th "Civil Guards" Company in Soc Trang Province on the night of December 27 revolted, completely wiping out one die-hard company. They seized 30 firearms, including two heavy machineguns and two mortars, and went over to the people.

#### Gunboats Hit

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East  
1554 GMT 12 Jan 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam January 12 GPA--Guerrillas in Tan Lap village (Chau Thanh district), Binh Phong Thanh and Binh Hoa village (Tuyen Nhon district) Kien Tuong Province, on January 6 ambushed and completely wiped out a three-gunboat convoy moving on the Vam Co Tay River. Two of them were sunk and two U.S. platoons, on board wiped out. The third boat was hit and set aflame.

Intercepting the 6,000 enemy troops--mostly of the 21st puppet division--engaged in "accelerated pacification" under the cover of 40 aircraft and 80 military vehicles of various kinds in U Minh area, the local forces and people within a few days in late December wiped out 312 U.S. and puppet troops, including 5 U.S. officers. They also completely put out of action the eighth "pacification" team, shot down three helicopters, sank or damaged six landing craft and captured a quantity of weapons.

On January 8, the regional forces in Kontum Province laid mines on Highway 14 north of Kontum city, destroying 9 military vehicles including three tank and armoured cars and a number of weapons, including 3 heavy machineguns. They wiped out 31 enemy troops, including 9 G.I.'s.

## Tay Ninh Province

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East  
1611 GMT 10 Jan 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam January 10 GPA--The regional forces in Tay Ninh Province on January 7 launched fierce attacks on elements of the U.S. 1st Air Cavalry Division operating in Bau Sen area. Right at the start, the people's forces, advancing in two prongs, encircled and heavily trounced a U.S. company that had just been landed by helicopters. The regional forces then hit another U.S. company that had been moved in reinforcement. They shattered to pieces 7 helicopters full of enemy troops.

According to initial reports, the regional forces of Tay Ninh wiped out one U.S. company, heavily decimated another company of the U.S. 1st Air Cavalry Division, blasted down seven helicopters, captured five AR-15 guns and two wireless sets.

On the same day, the liberation forces shot down one jet fighter plane over Bau Rau area, west northwest of Tay Ninh provincial capital.

## Binh Long Province

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East  
1615 GMT 13 Jan 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam January 13 GPA--A whole military convoy including 7 tanks, 20 trucks and a jeep with 50 Americans aboard was wrecked at 15 hours on January 8 when way-laid on Highway 13 by the P.L.A. in Binh Long Province. The enemy also lost 3 helicopters sent in to the rescue.

Next morning, the P.L.A.F. intercepted another enemy convoy on the same highway destroying or damaging beyond salvage 5 M-41 tanks and M-113 personnel carriers and killing or wounding army G.I.'s.

## Kien Phong Province

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East  
1617 GMT 13 Jan 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam January 13--Simultaneous attacks were mounted by the P.L.A.F. on the night of January 10 on many enemy positions inside and outside Cao Lanh town.

The P.L.A.F. shelled the commanding office of the 44th special zone, the sub-sector of Kien Phong Province, a U.S. military base, an artillery site and a logistic base in the town causing heavy losses to the enemy. The local people in Cao Lanh and on its vicinity also rose up and, together with the P.L.A.F. fighters, tracked down cruel puppet agents, hoisted N.F.L. flags and distributed leaflets.

## My Tho Province

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East  
1613 GMT 13 Jan 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam January 13 GPA--On the night of January 10, the people's armed forces pounded with heavy guns many enemy positions in the very heart and surrounding areas of the capital of My Tho Province. The headquarters of the 7th puppet division and the military subsector came under heavy fire and suffered heavy casualties.

Meanwhile, the P.L.A.F. infantry troops attacked the enemy's "pacification" teams and civil guards inside and outside the town, knocking out many of them. People in the town also rose up and wiped out enemy cruel agents. Thousands of leaflets were scattered and N.F.L. flags put up at many places in the capital city.

#### Bien Hoa Province

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East  
1558 GMT 11 Jan 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam January 11 GPA--A PLAF artillery unit in Bien Hoa Province at 14:20 hours on January 2nd took on a 12,000 ton US cargo ship on the Do Hoa River, a tributary of the Long Tau River, 30 kilometres southeast of Saigon. The shells made gaping breaches on the ship and destroyed a large quantity of war means aboard. The ship was completely immobilized. At noon the following day, PLAF gunners shot afire a 10,000-ton US freighter on the Cha La River in the same general area, at a point about 20 kilometres southeast of Saigon.

#### III Corps

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East  
1609 GMT 13 Jan 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam January 13 GPA--The guerrillas and regional armed forces in Tay Ninh, Binh Long, Phuoc Long and Rach Gia provinces late in December and early in January brought down or damaged 22 U.S. aircraft.

On January 2 alone, the guerrillas in Tay Ninh brought down or hit seven U.S. aircraft including two jets, two cargo planes and three helicopters.

On the following day, the P.L.A.F. in the same province blasted down three helicopters near Soc Con Trang with only 60 bullets.

On January 7, two helicopters were shattered in Sec Ton and Ven Ven areas.

In Binh Long, the P.L.A.F. on December 28 and 29 knocked down four helicopters north of Song Rat.

The guerrillas in Phu Van village, Phuoc Long Province, shot down with rifles a U.S. aircraft on the night of December 28.

During the period under review, the guerrillas in Phu Van, same Province, shot down nearly 30 U.S. aircraft.

In Rach Gia two helicopters were blasted down in Vinh Thuan district on January 4.

Earlier, on December 29, the guerrillas in Tan Hiup district, same province, shattered one F-105 and hit another jet.

#### Quang Nam-Da Nang

LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY (Clandestine) in English to East Europe and the Far East  
1559 GMT 11 Jan 69 B

[Text] South Vietnam January 11 GPA--According to incomplete figures, the Liberation Armed Forces in the Quang Nam-Da Nang region in December 1968 wiped out 5,270 enemy troops, including 1,500 GI's and Pak Chong-hui mercenaries.