

~~SECRET SPOKE~~

1596

CATEGORY = 8

M = 147

MESSAGE = 01148061

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(b) (3) - P.L. 86-36

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~~SECRET SPOKE~~

XXMM
ENP01FTB06050 2/O/VCM/R269-70 SPOT REPORT (AVC, ALS/OPER-C-H/Z) NVA ELEMENTS IN
ROUTE 71 AREA, NORTHERN LAOS, PREPARE TO AMBUSH PRO-GOVERNMENT HELICOPTERS
XXCC

THE REDEPLOYMENT OF A 12.7-MM GUN CREW FOR THE PURPOSE OF FIRING ON
PRO-GOVERNMENT HELICOPTERS OPERATING IN THE ROUTE 71 AREA OF XIENG KHOUANG
PROVINCE, LAOS, WAS DISCLOSED ON 3 MAY BY UNIDENTIFIED NVA ELEMENTS LOCATED IN
THAT AREA. THE 12.7-MM GUN CREW OF THE 9TH COMPANY, 54TH BATTALION (NOT FURTHER
IDENTIFIED), WAS ORDERED TO DEPLOY TO THE 2D PLATOON'S POSITION (UNLOCATED) IN
ORDER TO FIRE AT HELICOPTERS LANDING IN THE FIELDS NORTHWEST OF THE PLATOON'S
POSITION. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, ON 26 APRIL THESE ELEMENTS DISPLAYED CONCERN
OVER \$ENEMY\$ ACTIVITY IN THEIR AREA OF OPERATION. ((1)) ON THAT DATE, THE 4TH
COMPANY WAS INSTRUCTED TO PREPARE FOR COMBAT SINCE THE \$ENEMY\$ HAD THE
CAPABILITY TO ADVANCE TO CO PUNG (UNLOCATED; HOWEVER, THERE IS A BAN PUNG ON
ROUTE 71 AT UG 0776, 19-40N 103-09E). ADDITIONALLY, ON 18 APRIL THEIR
COMMUNICATIONS DISCLOSED THE SHOOTDOWN OF TWO AIRCRAFT BY AN ELEMENT OF THE
SONG HUONG (UNIDENTIFIED) OBSERVATION STATION. ((2)) THREE AMERICANS WERE
REPORTEDLY KILLED IN THE ACTION. ((1)) 3/02 [] R96-70. ((2)) 3/02 [] R95-70.
XXHH 250 NNNN

Approved for release by NSA on 08-13-2014, Transparency Case# 65886

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