OSCAR/VICTOR XRAY
PLUS ALL CVA NSCDETS WESPAC

SC

IMMEDIATE

NONE

2/O/VHN/RØ6-64 ST 22Ø

DZI

GULF OF TONKIN SITUATION REPORT NUMBER 4

DURING 7 AUGUST NORTH VIETNAMESE (DRV) NAVAL COMMUNICATIONS KEPT A SUSPICIOUS WATCH ON THE ACTIVITIES OF U.S. NAVAL VESSELS IN THE GULF OF TONKIN. HAIPHONE, THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE NAVAL FLEETS, HAS REPORTEDLY ORDERED THE MAINTENANCE OF A FIRST DEGREE ALERT AS IT FELT THAT "THE ENEMY WAS PREPARING A NEW CONSPIRACY." AT THE SAME TIME PORT WALLUT WHICH IS THE HQ FOR THE NORTHERN FLEET REPORTED THE MOVEMENT OF THREE ENEMY DESTROYERS AND TWO CRUISERS FOR OVER TWO HOURS. PORT WALLUT ALSO NOTED THAT ENEMY AIRCRAFT HAD VIOLATED AIRSPACE (2/G11/VHN/R45-64).

THE DRV MAY BE PLANNING A NEW "CONSPIRACY" OF ITS OWN, ACCORDING TO A READABLE CIPHER MESSAGE PASSED BETWEEN TWO UNIDENTIFIED NAVAL ENTITIES ON 8 AUGUST. "NO. 44, THE ENEMY IS OBSERVING YOU. GO OUT FROM BAI CHAI HA TU (AS IN TEXT, MEANING UNKNOWN. BAI CHAI PORT IS LOCATED AT 2Ø-57N 1Ø7-Ø5E) (AT) POST 5 (YOU WILL BE) WITHIN THE AREA OF (OUR) NAVAL POWER, THEN FIRE (DONT MOVE) (PARENS IN ORIGINAL TEXT) WHEN THE ENEMY FIRES, THEN ACTIVELY ENGAGE HIM." (2/O/VHN/RØ5-64). ALTHOUGH THE EXACT MEANING OF THIS MESSAGE IS NOT CLEAR, IT COULD BE INTERPRETED AS DRV INTENTIONS TO PROVOKE AN INCIDENT IN DRV TERRITORIAL WATERS. IT CAN ALSO BE VIEWED AS AN ORDER TO ENGAGE U.S. VESSELS ONLY FROM WITHIN DRV WATERS.

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