

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Indochina

DATE DISTR. 30 AUG 51

SUBJECT Organization of the 234 Intelligence Battalion, Vinh Yen-Phuc Yen

NO. OF PAGES 4

PLACE ACQUIRED

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

DATE OF INFO.

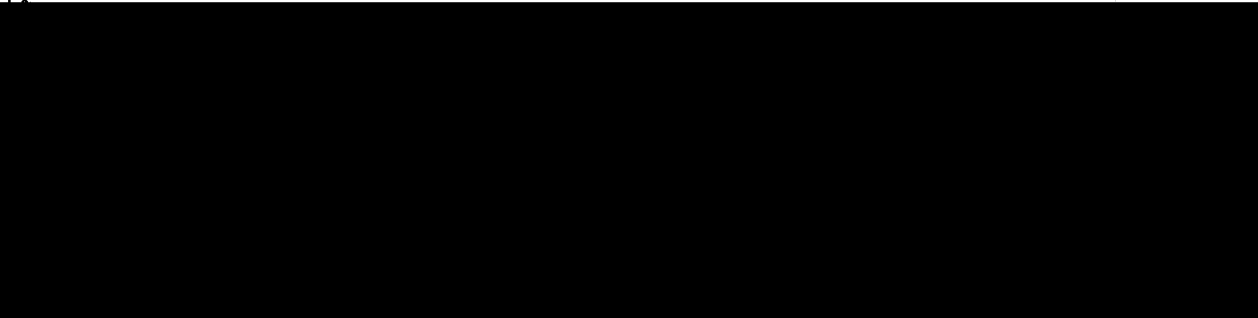
SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

File 946

25X1A

25X1C

25X1Y



1. The 234 Battalion, an intelligence unit of the 2nd Bureau of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) High Command, was organized in mid-October 1950 by a special delegate of the General Staff, Le Linh, aka Le Thanh Bao. The battalion is composed of 70 intelligence agents, recruited by regional cells of the Communist Party of Indochina (PCI), 80 percent of whom are agricultural workers and 70 percent of whom are PCI members.
2. The 234 Battalion is currently assigned to the Tran Hung Dao (Vinh Yen-Phuc Yen) Front. In preparation for the Tran Hung Dao front, the DRV High Command assigned Le Ninh and Le Tien as Provincial Commissars and Du Cao¹ as a special delegate of the General Staff in the area. In late February 1951 Le Ninh was replaced as Provincial Commissar by Nguyen Ky, aka Nguyen Tien Hung, Commander of the battalion.
3. Battalion headquarters is currently at Ap Cau Vong, Nam Ly hamlet, Ky Son canton, Da Phuc (105-52, 21-20), northeast of Phuc Yen. The command staff of the battalion includes the following sections:
 - a. Organization. Nguyen Van Bang and Nguyen Van Thanh, section chiefs permanently attached to the battalion command staff, are responsible for over-all coordination of the activities of the battalion cells and for liaison with other intelligence battalions.
 - b. Research. Tran Dinh Le is in charge of evaluating information provided by the district cells and formulating operational plans. He reports to the central organization every two days; priority information is radioed twice daily. Le Con is the Secretary-typist.

The Map and Plans section of the Research section is headed by Le Van and Duong Cong Dung.
 - c. Administration and Correspondence. This section, composed of 20 men, is responsible for the distribution of supplies to the battalion units. Reports on their activities are sent to DRV military headquarters every other day. Couriers are sent via Route Coloniale No. 3 to a liaison post at Quan Trieu, Thai Nguyen, where the messages are further transmitted. The section is also

CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

STATE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NAVY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NSRB	DISTRIBUTION									
ARMY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AIR	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FBI										

Document No. 2
 No Change in Class.
 Reclassified
 Date Changed For TS S G
 Date: 12/1/82

TO CIA LIBRARY

CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A

- 2 -

responsible for transmitting DRV directives to posts under the battalion's jurisdiction. Important news is radioed, but liaison is usually effected by foot or bicycle.

Personnel of this section include the following:

Administrator	Pho Van Nga
Secretary	Nguyen Van Nghi
Liaison	Nguyen Van Chich
Chief of the Liaison Post	Nguyen Van Cuong
Messengers	Nguyen Van Lan Nguyen Xuan Vinh
Messenger for the Battalion Commander	Nguyen Huu Tich

4. The 234 Battalion has established cells in the following places:

Phuc Thang

Chief	Do Dac Tuoc
Agents	Nguyen Van Nghinh Nguyen Van Phep Nguyen Van Duyet Nguyen Van Ngo

Phu Lo

Chief	Doan Van Le
Agents	Nguyen Van Huu Tran Van Phu Nguyen Van Luc

Tan Dan

Chief	Do Van Tien
Agents	Pham Van De Nguyen Van Thuoc

This cell also receives information from a mason and a servant working at the Kim Anh post, one of whom is married to a French National Guard sergeant at Cau Kay, and the other to a Senegalese at Kim Anh.

Than Lan

Chief	Tran Ngoc Danh
Agents	Duong Van Nhung Tran Van Lai

CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL -- U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

- 3 -

25X1A

Cao Phong

Chief Nguyen Van Vo
 Agent Tran Van Duc

Information is also received from Ong Tong, a mason who works daily at the French post at Cao Phong.

Nui Doi (106-40, 20-45)

Chief Nguyen Van Lun
 Agents Nguyen Dinh Sun
 Nguyen Van Bai
 Nguyen Van Binh

Me Linh

Chief Nguyen Van Bon
 Agents Danh Duc The
 Pham Van Cuc
 Nguyen Van Bay

Lien Minh

Chief Nguyen Van Phon
 Agents Nguyen Van Buom
 Nguyen Van Hanh
 Pham Van Lam
 Vu Quang Thanh

Dong Anh

Chief Nguyen Van Thanh
 Deputy Chief Nguyen Van Hoi
 Agents Nguyen Van Tai
 Nguyen Van Che
 Nguyen Quang Thac
 Nguyen Van Hat
 Ha Dinh Mat
 Le Van Hai
 Le Van Duong
 Tran Van Sau

5. The 234 Battalion maintains liaison with the following additional DRV intelligence units in the area:

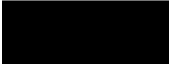
- a. The 566 Battalion, north of Vinh Yen-Phuc Yen
- b. The 456 Battalion, in the Bac Ninh area
- c. The No. 4 Security Station, under Nguyen Kim Tien

CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL -- U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY

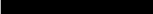
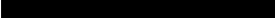
25X1A

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY



- c. Intelligence units in the four districts south of Vinh Yen-Phuc Yen: Dong Anh, under Tran Quang Thai; Da Phuc, under Le Toan; Yen Lang, under Ho Duc Thu; Kim Anh, under Le Gian.
6. The efficiency of the 234 Battalion is handicapped by Nguyen Ky's lack of intelligence experience and lack of money and weapons. Following the Vinh Yen-Phuc Yen offensive, however, it was rated third in efficiency next to the Bac Giang intelligence unit and the 456 Battalion.

25X1A

1.  Comment. According to available information, Du Cao was formerly commander of the 456 Battalion. 

25X1A

CONFIDENTIAL/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLY