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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO. [redacted]

CD NO.

COUNTRY Indochina

DATE DISTR. 23 July 1951

SUBJECT 1. Binh-Tri-Thien Front
2. Projected Departure of General Hoang Sam for Korea

NO. OF PAGES 1

25X1 PLACE ACQUIRED [redacted]

NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

25X1 DATE OF INFO. [redacted]

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

[redacted]

1. The Ministry of National Defense of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) has issued orders for the opening of the "Binh-Tri-Thien Front" in Quang Binh, Quang Tri and Thua Thien provinces of Central Vietnam. Chinese Communist General TRAN Nghi will act as advisor to DRV forces on this front, which will include the 304 and 308 Divisions. The 304 Division is now in Intersector IV, preparing to move south[1]; the 308 Division left North Vietnam on 27 June and is currently in Intersector IV.[2]

2. Delegates from the DRV military headquarters, including General Chu Van Tan, Commander-in-Chief of the Viet Bac Intersector, Le Thiet Hung and Phan Tu Lang, accompanied by about ten colonels, moved from the Viet Bac Intersector to Intersector IV in early July. Prior to their departure, the DRV spread a false rumor stating that these individuals had been reassigned to South Vietnam[3].

25X1 3. [redacted] General Hoang Sam, Sam will head a DRV voluntary force scheduled to leave for Korea in August 1951. He will be replaced as Commander-in-Chief of Intersector III by General Ha Ke Tan.

4. During the period from 1945 to 1948 Tan was a Commissar in the Administrative and Resistance Committee of Nam Dinh and Political Commissar of the "Main Forces Regiment" of Nam Dinh. He later worked in the Political Bureau of the Ministry of National Defense. Tan received political and military training in South China from 1949 to early 1951.

25X1 1. [redacted] Comment. According to available information as of 17 July 1951, elements of the 304 Division are in the area south of Sontay and other elements in the vicinity of Vinh in Intersector IV.

25X1 2. [redacted] Comment. According to available information as of 17 July 1951, part of the 308 Division is in Thai Nguyen and part in the Ninh Binh area. Previous reports have indicated that the 308 Division was preparing to move north rather than south.

25X1 3. [redacted]

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