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INFORMATION REPORT

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TITLE: Indochina

SUBJECT: Biographical Information on Democratic Republic of Vietnam Military Leaders in South Vietnam 25X1A

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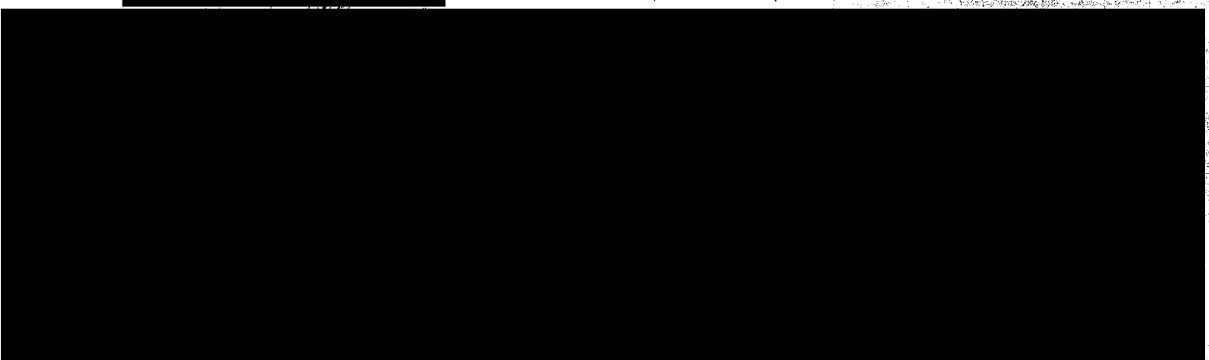
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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.



Huynh Van Dao.

1. Huynh Van Dao, commander of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam (DRV) 303 Artillery Battalion in South Vietnam, was born at Long Thanh, Bien Hoa Province. Prior to 1945 he was secretary of the Bien Hoa military tribunal and a member of Ta Thu Thau's Fourth International group. DRV efforts to detain Dao because of his Fourth International activities were successful in late 1947 when he accepted an invitation to a DRV military conference. Dao was kept under close surveillance and required to attend meetings of the military tribunals of South Vietnam, where his presence was used to support DRV claims of cooperation between the Communist factions of the south. In 1950 Dao became a Communist, and following an extensive period of indoctrination he is now permitted to circulate freely.

Hua Van Yen.

2. The 917 Battalion, stationed near Dao's unit, is commanded by Hua Van Yen. Like Dao, Yen was a former secretary of the Bien Hoa military tribunal. In September 1949, suspected of being a member of the Tan Dan Chu (Progressive Democratic Party), Yen was taken to Tan Hoa for interrogation. However, he was released and reinstated to his former position through the intervention of To Van Lac, his brother-in-law and a long-time member of the Communist Party.

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