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division 1 (normass/deepe)

DANANG, SOUTH VIETNAM, JUNE 7--The North Vietnamese High Command has moved substantial elements of its elite 308th Infantry Division into South ~~West~~² Vietnam.

Allied intelligence sources report indications that at least two of the division's three regiments are currently operation in ~~the~~^{the} the South. One regiment is believed to operate near ~~Khe~~^{the} Sanh Combat Base, on the western ^{ALLIED} anchor of the demilitarized zone, and ~~the~~ another regiment is believed to operate further south.

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division 2 (normass/deepe)

Allied commanders and intelligence experts have long kept their been especially alert to determine ~~what~~ whether the 308th division would be tossed into South Vietnam for these two reasons:

1. The ~~808~~ 308th Division ~~is considered an elite one~~ has been considered an elite unit because it participated in the battle of Dien Bien Phu, which lead to the French defeat in 1954. A sister ~~divisio~~ ~~the divisio~~ division at Dien Bien Phu—the 304th —also ~~is~~ maintains at least two regiments near Khe Sanh, informed sources report.

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division 3 (normass/deepe)

2. Last year, the 308th was considered as a "palace guard" unit--a division to guard the ~~of~~ North ~~Vietnam~~ Vietnamese capital of Hanoi. Especially as American officials talked of ~~invading~~ invading North Vietnam with Allied ground troops, intelligence experts thought there was little likelihood that the 308th ~~was~~ ~~was~~ Division would be sent in into the South Vietnam war. They believed if at that time if the division was sent ~~to~~ into the South, it would indicate that the North Vietnamese Army was ^{so} seriously hurting for troop strength ~~and~~ ~~it~~ it would risk leaving a vacuum around Hanoi.

Now, however, intelligence sources believe ~~the~~ that without much threat of ^{an allied} a ground invasion into North Vietnam, the movement of this pivotal division into the South ~~is~~ is part of Hanoi's "maximum effort" ^{to} to build up their forces in the South, to maintain heavy pressure on Allied units and South Vietnamese cities ~~and~~ and to continue pushing their "general offensive."

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division 4 (normans/deeps)

~~SECRET~~

During the battle of Dien Bien Phu, the 308th Division was composed of three ~~regiments~~ regiments: the 36th infantry regiment, the 88th and the 102nd Regiments.

Last week, two North Vietnamese soldiers defected to the ~~AR~~ American Marines ~~in~~ near Khe Sanh and identified themselves as members of the 102 Regiment of the 308th Division. However, senior Marine commanders were still ~~at~~ weighing their statements to determine whether the two defectors were genuine or "planted agents."

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division 5 (normess/deespo)

Earlier, ~~however~~ in April, the U. S. Army 1st Air Cavalry Cavalry Division, in breaking the Khe Sanh siege, captured a North Vietnamese signalman who said he ~~operated with the 308th Division~~ also in January and February, operated with the ~~308th Division~~ 308th Division. Before that, two North Vietnamese soldiers, captured in Quang Nam province which surrounds this U. S. Marine headquarters city, identified his unit ~~as the 36th Regiment of the 308th Division~~ as the 36th Regiment of the ~~their unit~~ was the "vanguard of the 308th." "I have the distinct feeling there are two regimented of the 308th Division in the South at this time," one ~~the~~ informed source explained. "But probably the entire division is not here. Hanoi is undoubtedly ~~using~~ their capabilities moving the division in to add to the military pressure."

(Hank: could you please cable me the focus ~~some~~ deadline for June.

Thanks Bev).

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