

(Morgan Gandy)

Saigon 29230 (UPIS) Communists appear to be ~~bringin~~  
bringing heavier weapons into south Vietnam and preparing for a  
much harder fight, said the senior ~~unistates~~ airforce commander  
here today.

"There's no reduction of enemy efforts in South  
Vietnam either on the ~~ground~~ or against our planes," ~~stressed~~  
stressed Major General ~~Bilbert~~ Gilbert LLL Meyers, ~~commander~~

His comments came in the wake of aye furor in both  
Saigon and Washington over ~~reporting~~ aye news dispatch SAYING that the  
enemy ~~force~~ forces were "scaling down" their activities."  
against American, allied and Vietnamese government units.

(More Malloy--BD)



first add--morgan gandy--saigon

x x x vietnamese government units. x x x

An American Mission spokesman here today ~~flat~~ flatly rejected the news report. Ranking American officers in the Saigon command were known to <sup>HAVE BEEN</sup> <sup>LED</sup> ~~be~~ awakened in the wee morning hours by ~~numerous~~ urgent telephone calls from quote rattled unquote Pentagon brass.

"There are indications the Communists are coming in with ~~much~~ bigger and heavier weapons--and they'll fight harder and harder," emphasized General Meyers, ~~who is~~ the acting commander of the ~~Second Air Division~~ Unistates Air Force Second Air Division.

Aye major share of intelligence gathering on enemy movements is borne by <sup>THE UNISTATES</sup> ~~American~~ airforce which employs visual, ~~photo~~ photographic and electronic reconnaissance, <sup>AYE</sup> on a ~~an~~ around-the-clock basis.

(More)

(More Malloy--BD)



second add--morgan gandy--saigon ~~XX~~ clock basis x x x.

Speaking at his Saigon airport headquarters, the twostar general went on: "We have norptnot indications that ~~the~~ enemy troops are moving back into North Vietnam or ~~that they are~~ moving out of the country into Laos or Cambodia. We think there is an increase in the <sup>RATE OF</sup> infiltration of new troops coming into South Viet Nam, but it will take us some time to confirm this positively."

Reliable military sources ~~the~~ estimate <sup>HAVE</sup> as many as three new North Vietnamese regiments ~~has~~ infiltrated into South Vietnam since the bombing ~~in~~ pause started on Christmas Eve. These are in addition to seven confirmed North Vietnamese regiments and <sup>which have been</sup> two probables ~~are~~ operating within the South <sup>BE</sup> for some months. More North Vietnamese Army antiaircraft units--using the standard .50 repeat fifty calibre machineguns--are known to flowing into South Vietnam, the general said.

(More Malloy--BD)



third add--morgan gandy--saigon

X/K the general said x x x.

Yet, curiously, despite the Communist buildup there has been little ~~se~~ significant contact with the People's Army of North Vietnam (PAVN) units since the November clash with the Unistates First Cavalry Divison near the Cambodian border.

General Meyers' explanation: "They got such a ~~bloody~~ bloody nose that time ~~that~~ they're notrptnot interested in hitting us head-on again."

The general~~it~~ added, "There is a possible change of Communist tactics. It's <sup>870411VG</sup> harder to find them ~~but it's easier~~ ~~for the people on the ground~~ because the Air Force keeps them dispersed into smaller ~~groups~~ groups."

"They're moving about quite aye bit within the country ~~which~~ ~~so we think they are~~ preparing for an offensive. We have to be pessimistic in this business."

(Endit-Malloy--ED)