

dope--1

march 15, 1965

SA IGGH--North Vietnamese teenager-troops are suspected of being drugged with opium before they initiate their frenzied battalion-sized attacks using "human wave" tactics, reliable military sources reported today.

The unofficial, unconfirmed reports were based on evidence that light unmarked aircraft were reportedly dropping opium supplies into Communist-infested areas of South Viet Nam, sources said.

These opium supplies are being airdropped or landed on small planted plantation runways in the Communist-infested mountainous jungles north of Kontum, 50 miles north of Saigon, and close to the finger-like Communist infiltration routes called the Ho Chi Minh Trail which runs from North Vietnam through Laos & into South Viet Nam.

(More)

deeps

dope—2

The batta lion-sized attack by newly infiltrated unit consisting of North Vietnamese-born youth ~~annihilation~~ on the Special Forces camp at Kannack last week also increased the suspicions that these youngsters were being drugged before the ~~batta~~ battle. The unit of North Vietnamese—which American ground advisors said attacked in "human wave after human wave" —were defeated, leaving ~~more~~ than one hundred dead behind. mainly

The reliable military sources said the reports of using ~~opium~~ opium or opium ~~derivatives~~ derivatives to drug the units have not been confirmed by standard intelligence means, such as capturing a prisoner or seizing an enemy document which ~~mentions~~ provides evidence.

The sources said that the nationality of aircraft ~~being used to~~ ~~delivered~~ suspected of being used to drop opium supplies was also unknown.

In the past years, French ~~planes~~ planes ~~are~~ were known to be used to drop opium from Laos onto ~~French~~ short, dirt runways ~~near~~ on French ~~in~~ coffee or tea plantations. However, these ~~plantations~~ landings of opium were much closer to Saigon ~~and~~ this is the first suspected landing of opium in the Kontum area, ~~which is in difficult~~ S. H. H. mountain terrain, which makes it difficult to transport to the populous ~~areas~~. Centers.

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Other informed sources ^{Party} the price of ~~expensive~~ opium has increased by more than ~~twenty~~ per cent in Saigon during the past two months. These sources said that the opium price jumped from 35,000 piastres ~~per~~ (254,500) per ~~kilo~~ kilo to 50,000 (\$ 700) during the past two months. The original explanation given for the increase in price was that more of the ~~opium-producing~~ ^{growing opium} areas in Laos had slipped under Pathet Lao (Communist) control, ~~though~~ The strategic ~~at~~ Plaines des Jarres in Laos, the scene of off-and-on battling between ~~the~~ American-supported Miao tribesmen and Communist Pathet Lao forces, is the most important opium-producing area in Laos.

However, now, some informed sources indicate that ~~the~~ ^{the} opium prices in Saigon ^{are} have increased because normal supplies from Laos are being funneled into the Communist-infested areas of South Vietnam.

During the French Indo-China War, in which the French colonialists were defeated 11 years ago, the Communist forces launched what the French called la guerre du pavot—"the war for the ~~the~~ poppy"—to control the ~~opium-producing~~ areas producing opium, which they used as a source of revenue.