This report contains information obtained from an enemy document captured on 9 July 1970, and concerns a circular, dated 1 July 1970, originated by M19 (possibly Security Section, Dien Bien District Party Committee, Quang Ba Province, VC Military Region 5), which pertains to VC knowledge of the Phoenix Program (Phoenix), intelligence program, especially at village level. Documents instruct all N's (possibly village Party Committees in Dien Bien District, Quang Ba Special Zone) to watch district and village NVT's (Combined Intelligence Operations Centers), establish a list of the names of their personnel, and regularly submit reports on their activities to M19, which in turn will eliminate (Phoenix) ringleaders. All N's were also to combine their political struggles with the recruitment of underground agents in the inside (earning among the NVT civilian organizations) and the proselytizing of the people in order to gain their allegiance and neutralize local Phoenix organizations.

CICDC COMMENT: This document was captured on 9 July 1970 in South Vietnam (20905305; RVTN HR 1) by 26th Co, 2nd MCRP Bat. The document was received at CICDC on 29 July 1970, and was summarized in Bulletin Number 35, dated 29 July 1970, under CICDC Document Log Number 07-2013-01. Translation was requested by Phoenix Directorate, Saigon.
CIRCULAR

No. 19.78

((Subject:)) The Organization of Phong Binh ((Phoenix)) Intelligence Committees at Village Level.

Analysis of ((captured)) documents reveals that the ((IVP)) Phoenix Intelligence Committees were activated in various villages towards the end of 1969. Each Committee is composed of:

A village chief, appointed as Committee Chief,

An assistant village chief in charge of security, appointed as Deputy

A police sub-station chief, appointed as a permanent secretary.

Members of the Committee include: Coder of the Information Service, the leader of the ((village)) Popular Force Committee, leader of the People's Self-Defense Forces, and hamlet chiefs.

At each village, there is a permanent office ((for the Phoenix Committee)).

It was decided that each member of the Phoenix Committee is to report on the general situation in his area of responsibility to the village ((Committee)) twice a month, on the 15th and 30th in addition to special reports. Each member is also to recruit at least two secret informants and three collaborators whose names should be reported to the village ((Phoenix)) Committees.

The main mission of a village Phoenix Intelligence Committee is to investigate, discover, and destroy the ((FNC)) infrastructure in villages and hamlets.

In 1970, the personnel of these Committees will undergo a one-week training course.

It was revealed that the enemy has recently activated Phoenix Committees at central government ((meaning in Saigon Capital)), (IVP)) DG, province, and city levels. The district Phoenix Committees have changed their names to Combined Intelligence Operations Center (abbreviated as PMH/Mach Quang). Each center has a chief, two assistant chiefs, and nine members. The district chief fills the role of Center chief. The first assistant chief is the deputy chief of the district Military Sub-Sector, and while the second assistant chief is the chief of the district police station.
The Plan of action for the Phoenix Organisation in 1970:

1. Strengthening and improvement of the (Phoenix) organisational structure from province to district echelon. One hundred percent of the village (Phoenix) organisations should be strengthened.

2. The activation of "village Combined Intelligence Sections" must be completed in Jun 70 (finishing Jun 71).

3. Popularisation of the Phoenix Plan. To be more specific, civilians are to be turned into intelligence agents. They (NVD) said: The Communists usually utilize civilians as a screen to cover up their subversive actions. Therefore, the Phoenix project should be disseminated to people of all walks of life, so that they will isolate the Communist organisations and cooperate with the Phoenix personnel to destroy the Communist infrastructure.

All N’s (possibly village Party Committees in Binh Son District, NVD’s, or Special Zones) are instructed to keep an eye on the district and village NVD’s, establish a list of the names of their personnel, and regularly submit reports on their activities to BNV which will take charge of the elimination of the (Phoenix) vangladers at district and village level. All N’s should combine their political struggles with the recruitment of underground agents in the inside (Phoenix among the NVD civilian organisations) and the proselytising of the people in order to gain their allegiance and neutralise the local Phoenix organisations.

1 Jul 70
For BNV

Distribution:
- To C&O (possibly Current Affairs Committee, Bien Son District Party Committee)
  In line of report.
- To all N’s for implementation.
- To cadre in charge of key areas.
- For files.

END OF TRANSLATION
This report concerns a circular, dated 29 March 1970 and originated by the Security Section, Jo Son (possibly Headquarters, VC Region 6 Party Committee), which was addressed to security sections of subordinate provinces and to the Current Affairs Committee of Jo Son. The circular outlines the organization, mission, and activities of the GVN Phung Huang Intelligence Organization. The document deals primarily with the Phung Huang organization at village level, providing guidance on the intensification of security activities in villages for countering the Phung Huang program.

CAGE OBTAINED: The document was captured on 15 May 1970 in South Vietnam (Z709112-kh 3) by C/37th Inf. 199th US Lt Inf Bde. The document was received at CAGE on 24 July 1970 and was summarized in Bulletin No. 13, dated 28 July 1970, under Item 2 of CAGE Document Log Number 05-33-470. Translation was requested by Phoenix Directorate for use by phoenix – Phung Huang personnel.

GROUP 4
DOWNGRADED AT 3-YEAR INTERVALS; DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
THIS DOCUMENT IS RELEASEABLE TO REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM AND FREE WORLD MILITARY ASSISTANCE FORCES.

DECLASSIFIED ON 8 JUN 1987
BY CDR USASIDCOM/POIFO
Auth Para 1-623 DoD 5200.1j-R
CDEC Doc Log No. 05-334k-70

--- FULL TRANSLATION ---

((Page 1 of Item 2 of O.P.))

ĐÔ BỌ SECURITY SECTION
No. 76/B3

CIRCULAR

ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ENEMY ((GWN)) PHOENIX ROADS ((PHOENIX))
INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION IN VILLAGES

In order to carry out his accelerated pacification program and Viet- namization plan, the enemy has concentrated his forces to operate in villages and hamlets in an attempt to destroy most of the revolutionary organizations in villages and hamlets.

In 1959, the ((GWN)) Phoenix intelligence organization was established in rural areas from village to province and district levels.

In 1967, this organization had already been established in villages and hamlets. This is an intelligence organization consisting of various intelligence centers under the chain of command running from central level down to subordinate agencies.

The US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has sent 500 intelligence advisors ((to SVN)) to directly organize and manage the Phoenix Plan. The mission of the Phoenix intelligence organization is to study information collected from different intelligence agencies and, at the same time, to direct enemy forces to attack our revolutionary movement and agencies.

This organization has also established a wide intelligence network in rural areas to provide intelligence of a tactical value and to attack us after a political solution has been found. Sweep operations, police operations, terrorist activities, capture of our agents, and the pacification program are all parts of the Phoenix Plan.

At present, personnel of the Phoenix intelligence organization are the most dangerous enemies of the Revolution in suburban and rural areas. They have harassed us more than any other group and have caused us many difficulties.

According to the reports made by the provinces of the region, the Phoenix intelligence organization is the same from province to district level; at the village level, there are some differences in titles. In some places, this intelligence organization is called Phoenix village intelligence organization. In other places, it is called Phoenix team or group. In certain places, the name of the Phoenix organization is still unidentified.

Through information and enemy documents that we have exploited, we know that the enemy has focused much attention on this organization and issued a directive on the main mission of the Phoenix organization, ordering his personnel in villages to implement this directive in carrying out the Phoenix Plan.

Following are the main features of the organization, missions, and activities of village Phoenix organizations.
I. ORGANIZATION.

A. Purpose of the Phoenix Plan in Villages.

1. Destroy the revolutionary infrastructure in villages and hamlets.

2. Put an end to our cadre's, soldiers' and personnel's relationship with their families and relatives living in areas temporarily controlled by the enemy.

3. Eliminate all of our sources of supply and all those who trade with us.

4. Concentrate enemy forces and coordinate with other reactionary forces to destroy our infrastructure in villages and hamlets.

5. Spread propaganda to create a favorable influence for the Puppet (RVN) Government.

B. Organization and Mission of the Phoenix Organization.

1. Organization:

- Chairman: Village chief.
- Vice-Chairman: Deputy village chief in charge of security.
- Standing Committee: Local police chief.
- Committee members: Hamlet chief.
- Military Committee members: Chief of the local People's Self-Defense Force.

Chief of the Revolutionary Development Group.

The main office of the Phoenix organization is that of the village Administrative Committee.

2. Structure:

- Village Permanent Office.
- Sub-Committee in charge of investigating the situation.
- Operations Sub-Committee.

In some places, this intelligence organization is called Phoenix Section (comprised of a section chief and a deputy section chief who is also the assistant village chief in charge of security and concurrently a Standing Committee member).

The structure of the Phoenix Section is as follows:

The Steering Committee is composed of a section chief, a deputy section chief, and a permanent administrative clerk (they are respectively the village chief, assistant village chief in charge of security, and local...
police chief).

The Correspondence Section is composed of a technical cadre and a village clerk.

The Information Section is composed of two policemen, one special and one in uniform, two civil affairs agents, two Popular Forces intelligence agents, one civilian informant, and one revolutionary development cadre. Depending on the local situation, the Phoenix Section can be reinforced by field policemen, Regional Forces troops, etc. ((sic)).

The majority of the ((village)) Phoenix intelligence organization members are tyrants (meaning GVN officials) and village or hamlet administrative personnel, policemen, and landowners who are also residents of the local area. The most dangerous ones are the ((Phoenix)) section chief and deputy chief, the Standing Committee members, the chief of the Revolutionary Development Group, key personnel of the People's Self-Defense Force, and members of the Situation Assessment Sub-Committee.


a. Establish a people's intelligence network.

b. Collect information on our activities and revolutionary agents.

c. Evaluate information provided by members of the Phoenix intelligence organization.

d. Draft a plan to attack the revolutionary movement.

e. Exploit information from arrested persons.

f. Keep combat units informed of our activities in villages and hamlets, so that they can attack us effectively.

g. Establish Phoenix organizations in villages and hamlets.

4. Missions of the committee chairman and vice-chairman, the Standing Committee members, and other individuals:

a. Committee chairman: Provides general leadership and works out activity plans.

b. Vice-chairman: Settles affairs and drafts plans for operations to destroy revolutionary agents on a continuous basis.

c. Permanent administrative clerk: Assists the vice-chairman in managing personnel and inspecting administrative work.

d. Situation Assessment Sub-Committee: Administered by special policemen, it is responsible for establishing the informant network and reporting to higher echelons on the elimination of our revolutionary agents.

e. Operations Sub-Committee: (run by Popular Forces personnel who are responsible for)
making an activity plan, determining objectives to be investigated, and providing security for (RWN) agents, documents, and correspondence.

5. Coordination of work and patterns of activities.

The district Phoenix organization is responsible for controlling the village Phoenix organization; implementing the plan; urging the village organization to perform tasks; and providing it with support of all types.

The village Phoenix organization is allowed to use all available forces and facilities in the villages and hamlets to attack the revolutionary movement. The (village) Phoenix intelligence organization is responsible for drafting a plan to coordinate the activities of its members, such as the National Police force, Revolutionary Development teams, Regional and Popular Forces, etc. (sic), and is to coordinate with the Situation Assessment Committee to direct the "people's intelligence" network.

It has to meet every week to review its elements' activities and devise an activity plan for the next week.

It must submit reports to the district every 24 hours.

II. SOME MAIN FEATURES OF THE VILLAGE PHOENIX INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION'S

Through the reports of the local areas, the village Phoenix intelligence organization's activities can be outlined as follows:

In close coordination with the mobilization personnel and intelligence agents, the village Phoenix organization collects information, conducts surveillance of the people, and discovers our revolutionary agents by establishing family cadres, issuing I.D. cards, and classifying the people into many categories (persons who are serving the enemy or non-aligned people; those who support the Revolution, discontent Puppet administrative personnel; families of tyrants who were punished by the Revolution; those who have perished in battles; proletarians and unemployed and disloyal people). It also makes a list of suspected persons and families whose members are serving the Revolution (families whose husbands or children have regrouped to the enemy's ranks; those released from enemy prisons, rallied to the Puppet Government, etc. (sic)).

The Phoenix personnel use the above information to set up a reconnaissance network and launch attacks against the revolutionary movement.

They develop a network of informants whom the enemy calls sympathizers. They also focus attention on the families which were punished by the Revolution and the families of the "Nghia Tho" (national orphan) (families whose members were killed for serving the enemy) in order to exploit them for information and have these families work for them.

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED
ON 3 JUN 1987
BY CDR USAINBSCOM FOIPO
Auth Para 1-603 DoD 5200.1-R
They use ralliers and traitors to attack and destroy our infrastructure.

They use all means to arrest and eliminate our revolutionary agents. The Phoenix personnel in the villages are to kill at least four revolutionary agents every week.

They keep abreast of the situation of our organizations and make a list of our cadre to be eliminated when the ceasefire takes place. Their prescribed criteria are to kill five (VC) cadre in each village in order to change the balance between enemy and friendly forces in the villages.

They organize and manage the People's Self-Defense Force and use it to destroy our agents. They assign Phoenix Intelligence organization members (hamlet chiefs) and security assistant chiefs to develop and take charge of the People's Self-Defense Force. They also select a number of tyrants in this force to activate "invisible" (secret) armed teams which are composed of three to six well-trained members each. These teams are to assassinate our key cadre (as in Vinh Long Province). In T3, enemy agents penetrated our organization and assassinated two (VC) province cadre.

They also participate in the Phoenix campaign operations (conducted by the Phoenix intelligence organization at district level) or conduct operations and ambushes to destroy our cadre and agents.

The most wicked maneuvers of the Phoenix personnel and other enemy spies during the past have been to seek out every means by which to terrorize revolutionary families and force the people to disclose the locations of our agents and join the People's Self-Defense Force and the local (RVN) administration. They also spread false rumors among the people, encouraged and awarded their henchmen who successfully detected our agents, and made love with our cadre's and troops' wives and daughters. Their main purpose was to jeopardize the prestige of the revolutionary families, create dissension between them and the people, and destroy the people's confidence in the Revolution. In addition, they also tried to bribe poor and miserable revolutionary families into working for them.

At the same time, they intensified their Open-Arms activities. If we are not careful, if we fail to assess the enemy situation and take appropriate actions, and if we have no specific plan to frustrate their wicked plots, we will encounter many difficulties.

If we suspect the people and alienate ourselves from them, they will be oppressed by the enemy and will gradually become engaged in activities detrimental to the Revolution.

This will badly affect the morale of our cadre and troops.

The majority of the Phoenix intelligence members are local inhabitants who know the situation in the local areas perfectly. They are the main support of the enemy spies, pacification personnel, and (RVN) high-ranking policemen.
During the past, the enemy has caused us a lot of difficulties and casualties. However, as a result of the victories of the Revolution, the enemy has been forced to accept serious failures and to de-escalate the war. In the face of this situation, the US imperialists have been forced into withdrawing their troops ((from SVN)).

This fact has caused great confusion and dissension within the enemy ranks. The people have displayed deep hatred for the enemy.

Furthermore, as a result of our activities in eliminating traitors and annihilating tyrants, the enemy has become confused

and dares not operate in the hamlets.

In addition, there is dissension among the Phoenix intelligence members, pacification personnel, policemen, and espionage agents due to internal conflict. This has restricted their activities.

III. SUGGESTIONS FOR COUNTERING THE ACTIVITIES OF THE PHOENIX INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION.

Our task of frustrating the enemy's "accelerated pacification plan" and his plan of "Vietnamizing the war" as well as the destruction of his village Phoenix intelligence organization, has the most vital significance. If we successfully perform these tasks, high-level enemy espionage agents will lose their support and the enemy oppressive machinery will break down completely.

The Security Section of B6 Sơn (possibly Headquarters, VC MR 6 Party Committee) provides the following instructions for the local agencies to study and implement:

- Improve our task of inquiring and investigating in villages in order to determine which villages already have or are going to have a Phoenix intelligence organization and which have not, in order to work out a specific plan to deal with them.

- Collect information on the enemy, establish files and records on tyrants and on their messengers, billeting, and working places, and determine their movements and activities in order to capitalize on their shortcomings and provide favorable conditions for our revolutionary forces to liquidate them completely. We should also increase political activities in order to disorganize their organizations and persuade and win over those enemy agents who are demoralized and those who want to make contact with the Revolution.

At present, the enemy has many weaknesses in the suburban and rural areas; so, our security forces in the local areas should take advantage of this opportunity to stay close to the people and hold their areas of operations. We should have security forces wherever there are people. Thus, we should establish our security network in local areas (A1, A2, and A3) in order to detect the enemy plots and annihilate all key tyrants in (GVN) village Phoenix intelligence organizations. We must try to plant our A1 agents in the village.
Phoenix intelligence organization, especially in the Situation Assessment Sub-Committee, the Standing Committee, etc. ((sic)), in order to observe their activities in villages and detect the plan and intelligence system of their higher echelons at present, as well as in the future.

We must also try to plant agents in the local ((RVN)) village administrative machinery and in the People's Self-Defense Force in order to frustrate their plan and disrupt their organizations.

The enemy is trying to find any way to destroy us; thus, we must take the initiative to defeat him. We must be determined to annihilate all key and dangerous members in the ((RVN)) village Phoenix intelligence organization. We must deploy our troops to attack and capture all vital files and records of the above intelligence organizations, the police service, and other enemy agencies in the villages.

Increase our security maintenance measures among the people, in our key positions, in mess and billeting areas, in stepping-stone areas, and in task force units. Avoid shortcomings and increase our vigilance in order to prevent enemy attacks. All organizations, armed forces, and agencies should observe security regulations. Party Committees are requested to expeditiously designate security agents to take care of the security task in village agencies.

Along with the strengthening of political indoctrination, improvement of cadre and troops' ideology, and consolidation of the ((revolutionary)) movement and the area of operations,

((Page 6 of Item 2 of C.T.))

the Party Committees are also requested to increase political indoctrination of the people, especially the revolutionary families, in order to increase their patriotic spirit and revolutionary pride; arouse their deep hatred of the enemy; strengthen the movement to eliminate traitors and kill tyrants, break the enemy's oppressive control of the population, and counter his scheme of disturbing the revolutionary families and his deceptive Open-Arms activities.

Reports on the results of progress and the collection of information about the above enemy intelligence organization should be forwarded to the Security Section of BS S2n for study and guidance.

29 Mar 70
/S/ Chi

The circular was addressed to the Current Affairs Committee, BS S2n, for information; to the security sections of the provinces and B2 and B3 for study; and B3 for file.
This report contains information obtained from a report, dated 5 November 1970, from 935 to 120 ((possibly element of VC Phong 84 Special Zone Party Committee)). The document states that on 21 October 1970, a member of 24 Phong Military Interrogation Center, escaped from an army arrest for being in liaison with the ((VCP)), and that Phan Van, student of Phan Thanh Dinh, a resident of Than Ha Village, was also arrested, suggested that Than Ha Police force observe the activity of Hoa Truong.
The report contains information obtained from an enemy document and concerns a report prepared by Nghi of an unidentified unit. The report, dated May 1970, reveals that members of the Phong Hoa organization in Dak Nong Province recently organized a one-month indoctrination training course which was called "The Hoa People's Training Course for Destructive Communist Crimes." This training course was attended by 380 local residents, attached to the document in the form of releases ordered by the Phong Hoa organization in Dak Nong Province.

DISTRIBUTION IS AUTHORIZED ONLY IN ESSENTIAL TO MISSION PERFORMANCE. This document was captured on 6 November 1970 in South Vietnam (RVN HR 11) by lst ESCN Div, PGF. The document was received at CHDC on 26 November 1970. Copies of original document furnished addresses as indicated in blocks 16 and 18, this report.

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification.
THIS DOCUMENT IS RELASABLE TO REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM, FREE WORLD MILITARY ASSISTANCE FORCES.

DISTRIBUTION: (Continued).
PAC COORD, QUANG NAM PROV: 2 cy w/code.
DIA, ARVN ENS; CHDC - 1 cy.

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED
ON 3 JUN 1987
BY CDR USAINSEC SPOT
Auth Para 1-603 DoD 8200.1-R

DD #71396
This report concerns a report, dated 1 October 1969, from Quoc Huy to Cao and Bong, which reveals that since September 1969, the Phong Hoang Committee in Hoi An City intensified activities and conducted an operational phase entitled "Destroy Communist Infrastructure." (GVN) village officials were instructed to persuade (VC) guerrillas to respond to the Chieu Hoi appeal and serve in the Phong Hoang organization. (VC) returnees were to be assigned to densely populated areas and along lines of communication to observe friendly (VC) activities and investigate personnel who sympathized with the (VC) revolution. All (VC) returnees in Hoi An City were ordered to attend a (RVN) political indoctrination course on the strength of the RVNAF and the meaning of US withdrawal. The enemy (GVN) attempted to plant well-trained (VC) returnees in local areas to stage political struggles against the friendly (VC) side when a political solution (to the war) is possible.

CDEC COMMENT: THIS REPORT IS RESTRICTIVE IN NATURE AND NO FURTHER DISSEMINATION IS AUTHORIZED UNLESS ESSENTIAL TO MISSION PERFORMANCE. Copies of original document furnished addresses as indicated in blocks 16 and 18, this report. This document was captured on 6 November 1970 in South Vietnam (RVN MR 1) by 1st USMC Div, FMF. It was received at CDEC on 25 November 1970.