From: Commanding Officer
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code AO3D)
Via: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF (Attn: ACofS, G-3)
Commanding General, 3d Marine Amphibious Force
Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 November 1967 to 31 December 1967

Ref: (a) NCO 5750.2
(b) FMF PACO 5750.6

Enclosure 1: 3d Reconnaissance Battalion Command Chronology

1. In accordance with references (a) and (b), enclosure (1) is hereby submitted.

2. Unclassified upon removal of enclosure.

W. D. Kent

Page 1 of 2 Pages
DECLASSIFIED

HEADQUARTERS
3d Reconnaissance Battalion
3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF
FPO San Francisco 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 December 1967 to 31 December 1967

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1. DESIGNATION

3d Reconnaissance Battalion

H & S Company
Company A
Company B
Company C
Company D
*Company E

3d Force Reconnaissance Co. (26 April 67 to Present)

2. LOCATION

1-31 dis HUE-PHU BAI, RVN
1-31 dis HA"-HA, RVN
1-31 dis KHE SANH, RVN
*15-31 dis HUE-PHU BAI, RVN

3. STAFF

Executive Officer
Operations Officer
S-2 Officer
Adjutant
S-2 Officer (Forward)
S-3 Officer (Forward)
S-4 Officer

4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH (Includes 3d Force Reconnaissance Company)

**USMC

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Officer</th>
<th>Enlisted</th>
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<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>840</td>
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**USN

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* Company E activated 15 December 1967 and shipped to 9TH MAB on 31 December 1967. Company E was in a training status during period noted.

** Figures include Company E.
PART II

NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Co. A During the reporting period the Company completed 33 patrols averaging 3.25 days with an average of 8.6 men per patrol. The patrols made 75 sightings for a total of 1,205 VC/NVA, which resulted in 17 contacts, 33 fire missions of 2,462 rounds, and 16 air strikes. There were a total of 55 VC/NVA KIA (Conf) and 269 KIA (Prob), 2 VC/NVA (WIA) captured, and one Thompson SMG captured. Patrols sighted several trails, huts and fortified positions not indicated on the map. There was 1 USMC KIA (*), 2 USMC WIA during the reporting period.

Co. B During the reporting period the Company completed 30 patrols averaging 3.33 days with an average of 7.7 men per patrol. The patrols made 2 sightings, totalling 82 VC/NVA which resulted in 9 contacts, 5 fire missions of 65 artillery rounds fired. There was a total of 10 VC/NVA KIA (Conf) and 8 VC/NVA (Prob) and one AK-47 was captured. There were numerous trails, huts and fortified positions observed by the patrols. There were 2 USMC KIA, 1 USMC DOW, 2 USMC WIA, and 1 USN WIA.

Co. C During the reporting period the Company completed 18 patrols averaging 3.45 days with an average of 8.8 men per patrol. The patrols made 42 sightings for a total of 135 VC/NVA, which resulted in 6 contacts, 11 fire missions of 244 artillery rounds, and 3 air strikes. There was a total of 8 VC/NVA KIA (Conf) and 15 VC/NVA KIA (Prob) and one AK-47 was captured. Many trails, huts, and fortified positions not shown on the map were sighted by the patrols. There was 1 USMC WIA.

Co. D During the reporting period the Company completed 28 patrols averaging 3.09 days with an average of 8.8 men per patrol. The patrols made 15 sightings for a total of 265 VC/NVA, which resulted in 5 contacts, with a total of 26 VC/NVA KIA (Conf), 30 VC/NVA KIA (Prob) and 1 NVA captured. Trails, hut complexes, and fighting holes not shown on the map were sighted by patrols. There was 1 USMC KIA, 1 USMC DOW and 1 USMC WIA.

34 Force Recon Co. During the reporting period the Company completed 26 patrols averaging 3.55 days with an average of 8.8 men per patrol. The patrols had 31 sightings for a total of 218 VC/NVA that resulted in 9 contacts, 3 fire missions of 459 artillery rounds and 3 air strikes. There were a total of 26 VC/NVA KIA (Conf), 23 VC/NVA KIA (Prob) and 1 VC/NVA (WIA) captured. In addition 2 AK-47 rifles, one U.S. Carbine, 1 PPS SMG and 2 "8" Mines were captured. Patrols observed trails, huts and fighting holes not shown on the map. There were 8 USMC WIA (**).

H&S Co. During the reporting period personnel from H&S Company participated in three scuba missions of which the primary purpose was to raise sunken portions of bridges, retrieve ordnance, and raise sunken motor vehicles/boats. In addition two scuba missions operated in the Camp Evans area, the primary purpose being to search the shore line and river bottom for enemy materials.

* KIA WAS ATTACHED SCOUT DOG HANDLER.
**ONE WIA WAS ATTACHED SCOUT DOG HANDLER.
PART III

SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

a. Combat Missions Assigned. 3d Reconnaissance Battalion and attached 3d Reconnaissance Company conducted reconnaissance operations, STINGRAY operations and other operations, as directed, within the Division Area of Responsibility. (3d Mar Div LOI # 1-67)

b. Significant Operations Conducted. Units of this Battalion have participated in Operation LANCASTER, OSCODA, KENTUCKY, SCOTLAND, NEOSHO, NAPOLEON, LAM SON # 157 and LAM SON # 157.

c. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy. There has been 125 VC/NVA KIA (Conf), 345 VC/NVA KIA (Prob) and 4 VC/NVA POW inflicted upon the enemy during this reporting period. In addition a total of 7 individual weapons were captured.

d. Casualties Sustained. There has been 4 USMC KIA, 2 USMC DOW, 14 USMC WIA and 1 USN WIA. (See Note # 1)

e. New Techniques Employed. Employment of snipers attached to Bravo Company at Khe Sanh still being evaluated. Present plans call for employment of "bogus" inserts into recon zones coupled with "real" inserts to disrupt enemy reaction. TPQ bombing, in lieu of present fixed wing prep of L W's is being evaluated and will be reported on at a later date. Shorter patrols (2-3 days) and consequently lighter loads are being utilized both as a test basis and necessity, the latter caused by weather/walk in patrols.

f. Command Relations. During the reporting period, representatives from this battalion met with III MAF reps along with personnel from 1st Recon Battalion to discuss scheduling and training of each Battalion's newly activated company (Company E).

During this same period liaison was made with ARVN representatives to train eleven ARVN troops within this battalion. (Discussed in paragraph "p")

Two representatives from the Navy SCUBA School located in the Philippines visited the battalion to discuss scheduling, training and related equipment with this battalion's SCUBA Officer.

g. Equipment. Evaluation continues on certain test items of equipment (e.g. ponchos, sleeping bags). During the later part of December the M16A1 Rifle with modifications (screwed barrel and chamber) was issued to personnel of the battalion.

h. Logistics. Nothing significant to report.

i. Civic Action. All personnel joining the Battalion from CONUS are given a class in the personal response program. Five men from this Battalion attended the Division Personal Response School during this reporting period.

j. Administration. With the activation of a new company (see par "q") and the additional squads assigned to each company the administrative load was exceptionally high.

NOTE # 1: 1 KIA AND 1 WIA WERE ATTACHED DOG HANDLERS FROM SCOUT DOG PLATOON.
k. Personnel.

17 December 67 Capt. J. W. RAYMOND assigned as Commanding Officer of Company E.
12 December 67 1st Lt. R. C. LEWIS assigned additional duty as Battalion Divv Officer vice Capt. KAUGHER.

Additional personnel from CONUS and in-country units were joined and trained within the battalion to comprise the three additional squads authorized for each operating company (less Force Company). Additionally a large single increment was joined to comprise the newly activated Company E.

A platoon from Company D (1 Officer 21 Enlisted) was "chopped" to BLT 2/4 as the recon element of the SLF. (2 December 1967)

1. Weather. The month of December showed a slow transition into the rain season of the monsoon. The average daily temperature was in the high 70's and fell during the evening hours to the mid and low 60's. Some difficulty was encountered with inserts of teams by air due to weather, but not as much as was expected. Generally the weather was "fair" with a few periods of low overcast and rain.

Stream crossing difficulties were encountered during rain spells.

m. Fire Support. The Battalion directed 72 artillery fire missions totalling 4,569 rounds.

n. Air Support. The Battalion utilized 25 fixed wing air strikes on targets of opportunity. This does not include the fixed wing strikes employed for initial insertions in an insecure zone. Helo gunships were utilized on several occasions.

o. Activations/Deactivations/Redesignations.

(1) One platoon from Company D assigned as recon element to SLF. Chopped to BLT 2/4 on 2 December 1967, total personnel is 1 Officer, 21 Enlisted.

(2) Company E activated on 15 December 1967 and assigned to this battalion. Company E was "chopped" to 9th M&B (Okinawa) on 31 December 1967. During the period the company was with this battalion, it was in a training/organization status. It is anticipated the company will remain on Okinawa for a period of six weeks at which time it will return in-country. The primary purpose of the move was to train in-toto on Okinawa.

p. Training. Training is conducted on a continuous basis. Newly joined personnel are instructed via the Battalion Training and Familiarization School in all aspects peculiar to reconnaissance, weapons, demolitions, artillery, etc, and an information/orientation class on Vietnam is conducted by the Division G-5. The M-16 Rifle is fam-faxed and armed during this period.

Company training is conducted along these same lines but on a more
detailed level pursuant with that experience gained in combat.

Key personnel (patrol leaders included) assemble once each month to
discuss and disseminate "Lessons Learned". At this time new tactics and
developments are noted.

A pre-SCUBA school was conducted for three days. Seven personnel are
presently undergoing training in the Philippines.

A continuation of the familiarization program between helicopter
pilots/crews and recon team continues with a noticeable increase in
proficiency of both units.

On two occasions a foreign/enemy weapons class was conducted by this
battalion for newly joined personnel of CAC program. Total personnel in
attendance was approximately 60 men.

River crossing techniques was taught by Company D.

The battalion's S-2 Officer attended the CORDS Advisory School for a
period of one week located in Saigon.

A special program was initiated by higher authority to train for a
period of one month a selected group of ARVN soldiers. The training
consisted of subjects peculiar to Long Range Patrols. The group was
divided between Company's A and D and trained along with Marines from
these units. As the training progressed they were taken on patrols as
observers. The program was completed on 2 January 1968.

In addition the following schools were conducted in-country or else­
where with the number given in attendance.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>PERSONNEL</th>
<th>PLACE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Recondo</td>
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<td>Saigon</td>
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<tr>
<td>S and G</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Phu Bai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jumpmaster (Airborne)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Okinawa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ENSG School</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Phu Bai</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cryptoc Comm Sec</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Japan</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. Communications. Some communications difficulties were encountered during
patrol operations. Some could be positively attributed to deliberate jamming
and "bogus" transmissions.

Radio relay sites remained in place except the site located at Phu Loc
(ZD 06006) was relieved by the 1st Marine Division due to change of operating
zones during the later part of December.
Intelligence Summary. Indecent weather continued to hamper deep helicopter insertions. Subsequently patrols were frequently trucked to the field or were inserted into a radio relay or infantry position.

Enemy activity increased greatly near the KHE SANH area over the level of previous months. Numerous contacts were made NW and W of the base. No large sighting, however, were made.

Enemy activity to the SW of CON THIEN remained high. Contacts were continually made by patrols operating in this area.

Emphasis of the Hai Lang Forest region confirmed reports of heavy activity. The enemy may be using the forest for training and staging. At the Southern end of Hai Lang, in the area SW of MY CHNH, there appeared to be traffic between the coastal area and the deep forest region.

West of HUE a very heavy flow of large units moved generally east toward the coastal area throughout the month. The largest single group was over 400 and was seen during the Christmas Truce period. South of HUE, considerable South to North movement was observed, coming from the deep jungle areas.

Enemy movement decreased to the South and Southeast of the PHU B-1 base.

Reduction of the 3d MARINE DIVISION area of responsibility has eliminated the very Southern portion of the reconnaissance zone,
Sequential Listing of Significant Events.

080845H/081000H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 9402) conducted 8 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in one enemy sighting and contact. Results of the contact was 3 VC KIA (Conf), 4 VC KIA (Prob), and 1 VC WIA (POW). USMC suffered no casualties. (See supporting document # 1)

171300H/171430H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (XD 7541) conducted 70 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in one contact with 8-10 well equipped, well coordinated enemy troops vicinity XD 755409, two sightings vicinity XD 754410 and the capturing of numerous articles of NVA equipment. Reconnaissance zone revealed signs of moderate enemy activity. (See supporting document # 2)

181100H/211400H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 0657) conducted 76 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in one enemy sighting totaling 2 VC/NVA. The patrol observed a possible Sam missile passing overhead of their position. Area covered by patrol reveals negative enemy activity at this time. (See supporting document # 3)

191400H/231030H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 5523) conducted 96 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in 9 enemy sightings totaling 73 VC. Approximately 359 rounds of artillery, about 39 rounds of 60mm mortar and air strikes conducted resulted in 10 VC KIA (Conf) and 52 VC KIA (Prob). One bunker was destroyed and a VC mine booby trap was discovered. Area revealed heavy enemy activity. (See supporting document # 4)

211100H/221430H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 1364) conducted 77 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in 2 contacts with a total of 20-30 NVA resulting in 4 NVA KIA (Conf), 1 NVA KIA (Prob), 3 USMC WIA (Minor) and 1 scout dog WIA (Minor). Patrol captured 1 AK-47, 1 sketch map and several other documents which were forwarded to higher authorities. (See supporting document # 5)

221250H/271730H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 2744) conducted 126 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in 2 sightings totaling 3 VC/NVA, 1 company-size harbor site and 3 separate contacts totaling 45 VC/NVA resulting in 9 NVA KIA (Conf) and 42 NVA KIA (Prob). Enemy is well entrenched in area and appear to be leaving area rapidly in groups of 10-15 NVA. (See supporting document # 6)

231500H/252330H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 1365) conducted 56 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in three enemy sightings totaling 7 VC/NVA. AO sighted a total of 34-40 VC/NVA. Patrol had one contact which resulted in 2 USAF KIA by ground fire. Area covered by patrol reveals NVA in area and a possible enemy OP site on Hill 94. (See supporting document # 7)
241030H/261030H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 4035) conducted 96 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in 4 enemy sightings totalling 65 VC. One artillery mission of 40 rounds resulted in 7 VC KIA (Prob) and one large flash, probably black powder. Area reveals infiltration of VC to the northwest. (See supporting document # 8)

241125H/141756H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 8344) conducted 65 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in one contact with approximately 25-30 enemy vicinity XD 806471. Reconnaissance zone revealed the movement of a platoon size enemy unit through the area. (See supporting document # 9)

241115H/262045H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 6023) conducted 57½ hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in 8 enemy sightings totalling at least 674 VC, numerous signal fires and light. Five artillery fire missions totalling 1,344 rounds and five air strikes resulted in 5 VC KIA (Conf), 21 VC KIA (Prob) and 22 secondary explosions. Numerous drums were heard as well as one elephant. At least 4 sampans were noted on the Song Bo. The Co Bi Than Tan Valley continues to be used by large groups of well armed, equipped and trained enemy. (See supporting document # 10)

260900H/271430H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 4039) conducted 29½ hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in four enemy sightings totalling 25 VC. Patrol made contact with 9 VC resulting in 2 VC KIA (Conf), 3 VC KIA (Prob), and 2 VC KIA captured. Area reveals recent enemy activity. (See supporting document # 11)

271600H/301520H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 7706) conducted 72 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in two enemy sightings totalling 204 VC with 7 VC KIA (Conf) and 150 KIA (Prob). Area reveals heavy enemy activity. (See supporting document # 12)

271000H/280900H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 7712) conducted 14 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in one enemy sighting on 14 VC and 2 contacts totalling 57 VC/NVA. Enemy suffered 20 KIA (Conf), 26 KIA (Prob) and 2 KIA (Conf) by infantry. Artillery fired 231 rounds, 3 air strikes were conducted, and gunships made 2 strafing runs. Gunships received approximately 20 tracer rounds. One bunker complex and large cave was discovered. Area reveals recent enemy activity. (See supporting document # 13)
The following are the total figures (1 January 1967 - 31 December 1967) of significant events and tallies for the year 1967.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>PATROLS</th>
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<tr>
<td># MEN PATROL</td>
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<td>NVA/VC SIGHTED</td>
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<td>CONTACTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>FIRE MISSIONS</td>
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<td>AIR STRIKES</td>
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<td>NVA/VC-KIA (C)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NVA/VC-KIA (P)</td>
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<tr>
<td>NVA/VC CAPTURED</td>
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<td>USMC KIA</td>
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<tr>
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### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

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<td>506-67</td>
<td>09 December 67</td>
<td>Co. D</td>
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<td>186-67</td>
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<td>Co. B</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>649-67</td>
<td>21 December 67</td>
<td>Co. C</td>
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<td>28 December 67</td>
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<td>191-67</td>
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<td>26 December 67</td>
<td>Co. A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>549-67</td>
<td>30 December 67</td>
<td>Co. D</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PATROL REPORT

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND EQUIPMENT:
   a. COMPOSITION: (1) Officer (7) Enlisted
   b. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
   c. COMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2) AN/ARC 25
   d. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (4) 7.62 (1) Sten (2) Thompson
   e. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (4) Claymore Mine (4) MP Rifle Grenades
      (2) Incendiary Grenades (8) CS Grenades (8) Protective Macks (1) Canoe
   f. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M-79

2. MISSION: Determine the nature of enemy activity developing along the
designated infiltration routes that could be used by VC/NVA, and also check
area for use as VC base camp area. Pay particular attention to size and
direction of enemy movement. Act as a forward observer for artillery on
pull targets of opportunity. Make every attempt to capture a prisoner.

3. TIME OF INSERTION: 080845H Dec 67 HOW: Foot/Truck

4. TIME OF EXTRICATION: 081700H Dec 67 HOW: Air

5. ROUTE: See overlay

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:
   a. SYNOPSIS: 8 1/2 hours of reconnaissance resulted in one enemy
      sighting and contact. Results of the contact: KIA 3 VC (C),
      KIA 1 (C), and WIA 1 (C). USMC suffered no casualties.
      b. ENEMY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:

         (1) (TD 943023) 181615H While at a temporary halt patrol noted
         8 VC at (TD 943022) moving east on a trail. They were
         moving at 5 meter intervals. They were dressed in US
         type clothing, and a gray poncho. Following at 5 meter
         intervals were
         (2) Trail was one meter wide and had been well worn. One
         man had a carbine slung on his shoulder, wore
         US type helmet and a gray poncho. Following at 5 meter
         intervals were
         (3) The rest had increased clothing, some had poncho with hood;
         (4) At least 1 man had a nearly empty light pack. One man had a white tarp
         wrapped around his neck. Men had their carbines at the ready position.
         (5) They moved without observing the terrain around them. Patrol
         ambushed the column resulting in 3 KIA (C), 4 KIA (F), and 1 WIA (C). The
         enemy did not return fire. The enemy was completely surprised and made a head
         long attempt to return back down the trail. Guns all strafed in surge
         and team was extracted at 081700H with VC (C) and captured gear.
c. TERRAIN:

(1) TOPOGRAPHY: Steep hills with grass and scrub growth from ankle to waist high. Hill 121 (Y) 947018 offers a good OP to the south and east towards the SONG THUOI. This OP also has concealment. Numerous civilian cultivation plots were throughout the area covered. The route used by this patrol offers the best way to pass through the area with minimum of civilian observation.

(2) COMMUNICATIONS: Communications was good.

(3) WATER SOURCE: Sufficient this time of year. Two centers should be sufficient for operations in this area at this time.

(4) FORCING SITES: Sites are variable depending on rain. This team at times moved 500 meter upstream to find forcing sites. Patrol feels that the VC move parallel to the west to east and southwest to northeast, following streams.

(5) TRAILS: Trails shown on map do exist. There are many minor west to east trails in this area.

(6) HLZ's: Most hilltops offer potential HLZ's.

d. OTHER INFORMATION: NONE

7. WEATHER: Much rain and wind with moderate cloud ceiling and haze beginning to form.

8. ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

a. VC: (1) KIA(C) (4) KIA(F) (1) POW

b. GUN TURENT EQUIPMENT: NVA type shirt, light pack, short hand written

e. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

(1) Patrols do not move during the VC transit period from 1500 to 1800 when the VC move north and west to villages. This area could provide operating areas for snipers if the cloud ceiling permits.

(2) This is an area in which the STINGRAY mission can be utilized.

b. CONCLUSIONS: The area along the SONG THUOI showed a normal amount of civilian activity. The enemy seemed to move as though they were very familiar with their route and mission.

9. CONDITIONS OF PATROL: Physical: Excellent Morale: Excellent

11. ENQUIRER COMMENTS: Concur with Patrol.
a. BACKGROUND ON CHANGES OF THIS AREA: This area continues to be a transit region for VC traffic. Patrol has been in this area previously and notes little change.

b. PATROL OPINION OF ENEMY ACTIVITY: Patrol believes this was a routine mission for the VC from their secure mountain areas to the village along the SONG THOOG for vice/re-supply/R&R. The enemy was hit hard initially and little about his training could be judged. The enemy employed no camouflage and appeared to be healthy and well fed.

c. OTHER COMMENTS: Patrol had high praise for air (HMN 164, VIC-5) and artillery (4/12-Desert Sand Lima) support. This patrol had stripped to a minimum of gear and weight for this patrol. VC were armed with SK carbines.

SSgt POOL
Company 3rd

LEGEND

- = INSERTION
X = EXTRACTION
- - - = PATROL ROUTE

PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY

(1) Sqd (1) Lt (D) Co
Map: VIETN. M. 1:50,000
Sheet: 6541 I-IV
Series: L-7014
3d Reconnaissance Bn
(S-2)
DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

DEBRIEF OF RECON PATROL 186-67

A. MAP SHEET 642 III, SERIES L-7014, 1:50,000
(1) DEBRIEFER: CPL W. A. MALLAND
(2) REVIEWED BY CAPT. P. F. REYNOLDS
(3) DEBRIEF OF NCON TEAM 291, B CO, THIRD RECON BN, 191226H DEC

1. COMPOSITION: 12E, EQUIPMENT:
   (A) COMPOSITION: 8 USMC EML.
   (B) COMM EQUIP: 1 AN/PRC 25'S.
   (C) OBS EQUIP: 1 PR 7X50'S.
   (D) SPECIAL EQUIP: 2 THERMITE GRENADES.
   (E) SPECIAL WPS: 1 M-79, 1 M-14.

PAGE TWO 32Y6: CONFIDENTIAL

2. MISSION: CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE WITHIN
   THE AREA BOUNDED BY XD7442 (UL) XD7640 (LR) TO DETECT
   NVA/VC MOVEMENT, PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO TRAILS AND LIKELY
   AVENUES OF INFLTRATION. BE ESPECIALLY ALERT FOR POTENTIAL OR
   ACTUAL ENEMY ARTILLERY, ROCKET AND MORTAR SITES. ENGAGE THE
   ENEMY WITH SUPPORTING ARMS AND MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CAPTURE
   A PRISONER, WEAPONS, AND DOCUMENTS.

3. INSERTION: TEAM WALKED TO RECONNAISSANCE ZONE FROM HILL
   881 SOUTH (XD77437) ON 171500H DEC 67.

4. EXTRACTION: XD752428/151120H DEC BY HELO.

5. CONDITION OF PATROL:
   (A) PHYSICAL: ON WIA (MINOR) DUE TO HOSTILE ACTION.
   (B) MORALE: OUTSTANDING.

6. PATROL ROUTE: FROM INSERTION POINT TO XD755409 TO XD754410
   TO XD755412 TO EXTRACTION POINT.

7. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:
   (A) SYNOPT: 70 HOURS OF RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE
   RESULTED IN ONE CONTACT WITH 8-10 WELL EQUIPPED, WELL COORDINATED
   ENEMY TROOPS VIC XD755409, TWO SIGHTINGS VIC XD754410 AND THE
   CAPTURING OF NUMEROUS ARTICLES OF NVA EQUIPMENT. RECONNAISSANCE

3/11/42 D2SS6 9-6-2 6-3/000/15 0 K10 PMQ
ZONE REVEALED SIGNS OF MODERATE ENEMY ACTIVITY.

(A) TERRAIN AND VEGETATION: RELIEF IS CHARACTERIZED BY EXTREMELY
STEep HILLS. VEGETATION CONSISTS OF A 40'-60' HIGH CANOPY WITH
DENSE SECONDARY GROWTH OF VINES AND BRUSH. AVERAGE RATE OF
MOVEMENT TRAVERSING THIS AREA WAS APPROX. 200 METERS PER HOUR.

(C) ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

(1) 190800H/XD754410 TEAM MEMBER OBSERVED 2 NVA UTILIZING
TRAIL REPORTED PARA 7 (D). (1) FOR WEST TO EAST MOVEMENT. APPROX
TWO MINUTES LATER 2 ADDITIONAL NVA WERE OBSERVED ALSO MOVING
WEST TO EAST ON TRAIL. DUE TO EXTREMELY DENSE VEGETATION
BETWEEN PATROL MEMBER AND ENEMY A FULL DESCRIPTION OF ENEMY'S
EQUIPMENT COULD NOT BE ASCERTAINED, HOWEVER THE UTILITIES
WERE LIGHT GREEN IN COLOR. NONE OF THE ENEMY OBSERVED WORE
HATS. TEAM REPORTED SIGHTING AND ESTABLISHED AMBUSH ON TRAIL
VIC XD755409.

(2) 191020H/XD754410 (AMBUSH) 8-10 NVA MOVED INTO KILLING
ZONE OF AMBUSH. TEAM INITIATED SAF RESULTING IN 2 ENEMY KIA
(C). THE REMAINING ENEMY IMMEDIATELY BEGAN TO ENVELOPE TEAMS
POSITION FROM THE EAST. AT THIS TIME 2 PATROL MEMBERS OBSERVED
3 NVA 15-20 METERS EAST. PATROL MEMBERS INITIATED SA AND M-79
FIRE RESULTING IN 3 ENEMY KIA (C). FIRE FIGHT CONTINUED UNTIL
191045H WHEN ENEMY BROKE CONTACT TO THE EAST. WHEN CONTACT
WAS INITIATED THE ENEMY WAS MOVING EAST TO WEST AT 10 METER
INTERVALS. HIS MOVEMENT APPEARED TO BE CASUAL AS WAS INDICATED
BY THE FACT THAT THEY CARRIED THEIR WEAPONS AT SLING ARMS.
WHEN CONTACT WAS INITIATED THE ENEMY OBTAINED A VERY PROFESSIONAL
ATTITUDE AND conduced an EFFECTIVE ENVELOPMENT ON TEAM POSITION.
WHEN ENEMY BROKE CONTACT TEAM WAS ABLE TO CHECK ONE ENEMY
BODY AND CAPTURED NUMEROUS ARTICLES OF NVA EQUIPMENT. WHILE
SEARCHING BODY TEAM BEGAN TO HEAR MOVEMENT FROM THE EAST.
TEAM FINISHED SEARCHING BODY AND MOVED TO XD752420 FOR
EXTRACTION. FROM AMBUSH TO HZ THE REAR SECURITY HEARD MOVEMENT
FOLLOWING TEAM FROM THE SOUTHWEST. 191120H/XD752420 TEAM WAS
EXTRACTED WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT. ALL ENEMY OBSERVED WORE
LIGHT GREEN UTILITIES, BUSH HATS, BROWN BELTS WITH GOLD
BUCKLES, SANDALS, CARTRIDGE BELTS, 2 CANTEENS AND CARRIED AK-47'S.
ENEMY SEARCHED ALSO WORE A CAMOUFLAGED COLORED UNDERSHIRTS AND
HAD A LIGHT GREEN TRIANGULAR PATCH SOWN ON THE INSIDE OF HIS
BUSH HAT. ONE ENEMY WAS OBSERVED CARRYING A MORTAR TUBE AND
FOUNT KAN CARRIED A PAIR OF BINOCULARS (DESTROYED WHEN TEAM
DECLASSIFIED

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THREW AN M-26 GRENADE AT ENEMY. ENEMY'S EQUIPMENT WAS IN GOOD
REPAIR AND CLEAN. ALL UTILITIES APPEARED TO BE NEW. DUE TO
CLEANLINESS OF ENEMY'S UNIFORMS AND BODIES IT IS BELIEVED ENEMY
HAVE JUST MOVED INTO THE AREA. THE ENEMY WAS EXTREMELY WELL
TRAINED AND HIS BATTLE COORDINATION WAS EXCELLENT.

OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) 181700H/XD755409 TEAM DISCOVERED A 2' WIDE, EAST TO
WEST TRAIL. TRAIL IS HARD PACKED AND FREE
OF OVERGROWTH. TRAIL APPEARED TO BE FREQUENTLY USED. TEAM
LEADER ESTIMATES TRAIL HAD BEEN USED WITHIN THE PAST 24 HOURS.
194600H PATROL MEMBERS OBSERVED 4 ENEMY UTILIZING TRAIL AND
AT 191020H TEAM AMBUSHED APPROX 8-10 ENEMY MOVING ON TRAIL.
DUE TO THICK CANOPY TRAIL CANNOT BE OBSERVED FROM THE AIR.

(2) 181330H/XD755415 TO XD 756415 TEAM FOLLOWED A
1 1/2'-2' WIDE WELL DEFINED DIRT TRAIL. TRAIL HAS SOME VEGETATION
GROWING OVER TRAIL. HOWEVER AT XD 756415 TEAM DISCOVERED 8
REST POSITIONS BROKEN IN ELEPHANT GRASS AND A FRESH NW TO SE
TRAIL RUNNING OFF MAIN TRAIL AND THROUGH THE POSITION. TEAM
ALSO NOTED A FISH SMELL IN THE AREA. TEAM ESTIMATES POSITION
AND TRAIL TO BE APPROX 12 HOURS OLD. TRAIL CAN BE OBSERVED FROM

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AIR

(3) 181000H/XD754410 TEAM HEARD POSSIBLE MOVEMENT ON TRAIL
REPORTED IN PARA 7(D) (1). MOVEMENT CONTINUED FOR ONE HALF
HOUR. TEAM AT NO TIME OBSERVED ANYTHING AND STATED MOVEMENT MAY
HAVE BEEN ANIMALS.

(4) COMM WAS POOR DURING PATROL.

(5) NATURAL WATER IN AREA IS PLENTIFUL.

(6) TEAM CROSSED A EAST TO WEST 2"-3" DEEP
1' WIDE STREAM.

(7) TEAM CROSSED A NORTH TO SOUTH, 4" DEEP
2 1/2'-3' WIDE STREAM.

RESULTS OF ENCOUNTER WITH THE ENEMY:

(A) ENEMY CASUALTIES: 5 KIA (C).

(B) FRIENDLY CASUALTIES: 1 VIA (MINOR).

(C) CAPTURED ENEMY EQUIPMENT:
1 AK-47 RIFLE, 67 ROUNDS 7.62MM
1 AMMO, 3 MAGAZINES, 2 CHICOM FRAG GRENADES, 1 CARTRIDGE
BELT, 1 BELT LEATHER W/BUCKLE, 1 KNIFE, 1 FIRST AID PACK, 
1 CANTINE, 3 PACKAGES OF CEREAL BARS, 1 PONCHO, 1 LIGHTER, 2
SMALL WATER PROOF BAGS, (LONG RANGE RATIONS), 1 BINOCULAR
CASE, (ALL ITEMS FORWARD TO TWENTY SIXTH MARINES S-2).
DECLASSIFIED

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S. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

(A) ENEMY ENCOUNTERED WERE WELL TRAINED, WELL EQUIPPED AND AGGRESSIVE.

(B) RECONNAISSANCE ZONE REVEALED SIGNS OF MODERATE ENEMY ACTIVITY.

10. DEBRIEFERS COMMENTS: CONDITION OF ENEMY'S UNIFORMS AND THE LACK OF PACKS INDICATES THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ENEMY BASE CAMP IN THIS AREA.

11. REVIEWING OFFICERS COMMENTS: NONE.

PATROL LEADER: CPL. W. R. MC CREIGHT

GP-A

B1

DECLASSIFIED
ATTN: AC OF S G-2
DEBRIEF OF RECON PATROL: 3C2, THIRD RECON BN, "C" COMPANY
OPERATION ORDER: 649-67 (CPL MC CULEY)

A. MAP SHEET: 1:50,000 AMS SERIES L-7014 SHEET: 63421
   (1) DEBRIEFER: CAPT O'DELL
   1. SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND EQUIPMENT:
      A. COMPOSITION: (1) ENLISTED, (1) USN
      B. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
      C. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2) AN/PRC 25'S
      D. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (1) 7x50'S
      E. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (3) CLAYMORES, (4) WP RIFLE GRENADES
         (7) GAS MASKS (7) CS GRENADES, (2) BLOCKS C-4
      F. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M79 WITH 75 ROUNDS, (1) M14
   2. MISSION: CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE IN ASSIGNED
      ZONE TO DETERMINE ENEMY ACTIVITY. ENGAGE THE ENEMY WITH SUPPORT-
      ING ARMS. MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CAPTURE A PRISONER. PLOT HLZ'S
      FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS. PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO TRAILS AND

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2114/12 Dec 67
THEIR FREQUENCY OF USE IN YOUR RZ, ASCERTAIN IF THE AREA IS BEING USED BY THE ENEMY AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE. PATROL WILL NOT BE EXTRACTED, UNTIL RZ IS SUFFICIENTLY COVERED.

3. TIME OF DEPARTURE/RETURN: 161100H (062577)/WALK/2111150H (YD 062577)/WALK

ROUTE: INSERT PT NORTHWEST TO (YD 058586) SOUTHWEST TO (YD 244586)

5. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:
A. SYNOPSIS: 70 HOURS OF RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE RESULTED IN ONE ENEMY SIGHTING TOTALING 2 VC/NVA. THE PATROL OBSERVED A POSSIBLE SAM MISSLE PASSING OVERHEAD OF THEIR POSITION. AREA COVERED BY PATROL REVEALS NEGATIVE ENEMY ACTIVITY AT THIS TIME.

B. ENEMY:
(1) 191220H (YD 041569) PATROL OBSERVED (1) MAN IN DARK CLOTHING CROSSING RIVER HEADING NORTH. MAN (COULDN'T OBSERVE WEAPONS OR EQUIPMENT) LOOKED UPSTREAM AFTER CROSSING RIVER. SECOND MAN CAME INTO SIGHT ON SOUTH SIDE OF RIVER. SECOND MAN CROSSED RIVER THEN BOTH UNCOVERED A BOAT ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE CANYON RIVER. MEN ENTERED BOAT AND HEADED WEST IN BOAT. PATROL ATTEMPTED TO CALL FIRE MISSION. BUT

RECEIVED CHECK FIRE. PATROL MOVED POSITION TO KEEP BOAT IN SIGHT BUT WERE UNABLE TO LOCATE IT AGAIN. GUNSHIPS CHECKED AREA, SAID INDIVIDUALS HAD NO WEAPONS IN SIGHT, NO ACTION TAKEN.

C. TERRAIN: HILLS, DENSE UNDERGROWTH, TREES UP TO 20' WITH ELEPHANT GRASS 5'. COMMUNICATION WAS GOOD, WATER PLENTIFUL, RATE OF MOVEMENT 200-700 METERS PER HOUR.

D. OTHER INFORMATION:
(1) 212145H (PATROL OBSERVED DLYING OBJECT, SOUNDED LIKE ARTILLERY ROUND PASSING OVERHEAD, NOTICED GLOW LIKE A ROCKET THRUST BEHIND IT. DIRECTION WAS WEST TO EAST.

6. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:
A. ENEMY: NONE
7. CONDITION OF PATROL: GOOD, MORALE GOOD
8. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:
9. HLZ'S
(1) (YD 055855) (1) CH-46, SITE IS TOP OF HILL WITH SHORT-GRASS NO APPROACH OBSTACLES AND A WESTERLY HEADING IS BEST APPROACH. (2) (YD 045585) (1) CH-46, SITE IS HILL TOP, BEST APPROACH IS 360 DEGREES.

10. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS: THREE PATROLS IN THE FIELD OBSERVED
Operation Order: 531-67
Patrol: (2) Sqd. (2) Plt. (A) Co.
Debrief: SSgt. LOPEZ, J.M.
Map Sheet: 6441 I & 6442 II

PATROL REPORT

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND EQUIPMENT:
   a. COMPOSITION: (6) Enlisted (1) USN
   b. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: (None)
   c. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2) AN/PRC 25's
   d. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (1) 7X50's
   e. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (4) Claymore Mines, (2) WP Rifle Grenades,
   f. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M-79, (1) M-60, (2) M-14, (1) XM148

2. MISSION: "TINHAY" Determine the nature of enemy activity developing
   along the natural infiltration routes that could be used by VC/NVA and also
   check area for use as VC base camp area. Pay particular attention to size
   and direction of enemy movement. Act as a forward observer for artillery
   on all targets of opportunity. Make every attempt to capture a prisoner.

3. TIME OF INSERTION: 191400H Dec 67 HOW: AIR
4. TIME OF EXTRACTION: 231000H Dec 67 HOW: AIR
5. ROUTE: (See Overlay)
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

   a. SYNOPSIS: 98 hours of reconnaissance resulted in 9 enemy
      sightings totalling 73 VC. Approximately 399 rounds of artillery,
      about 39 rounds of 81 mm mortar and air strikes conducted resulted in
      10 VC KIA (C) and 52 VC KIA (1). One bunker was destroyed and a VC
      mine booby trap was discovered. Area revealed heavy enemy activity.

   b. ENEMY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:

      (1) 210600H (YD 551233) Patrol observed 3 VC wearing black PJs moving
      south across a ridgeline vicinity (YD 543215). VC disappeared, team continued
      surveillance with negative results.

      (2) 210855H (YD 555211) Patrol called artillery fire on one VC standing
      a bunker vicinity (YD 546224). Four more VC were seen come out of the bunker and
      went back inside. VC wore black PJs's and armed with unknown type of weapons.
      Mortar and artillery mission fired resulted in bunker blown, 13 secondary explo-
      sions for an area approximately 100 meters around bunker and 5 VC KIA (C). Team
      saw 5 more VC approximately 800 meters to the south by a stream bed. Four wore
      wearing black PJs's, and one had on a white tee shirt. Team adjusted artillery
      fire resulting in 1 VC KIA(C) and 4 VC KIA(P).
(3) 211500H (YD 559229) Patrol observed 20 VC wearing black PJ's, packs, well camouflaged and armed with unknown type weapons moving east on road 554 vicinity (YD 569245). 15 more VC wearing khakis, packs and weapons joined the other 20 and moved to a tree line. Team fired 125 rounds of artillery with outstanding coverage, fixed wire VC and gunships strafed area and 16 more rounds of artillery resulted in 35 VC KIA(p).

(4) 211630H (YD 559229) Team observed 5 VC vicinity (YD 569245). VC were heavily camouflaged with leaves and brush, had packs and carried unknown type weapons. VC were moving east on road 554. Artillery mission fired resulted in 5 VC KIA(p).

(5) 221515H (YD 559229) Patrol observed 3 VC moving west on road 554 (YD 569245). VC had on some type of rain gear like a poncho or a tarp (the sun was cut, it was clear and no signs of rain) seemed to carrying packs and weapons. Artillery mission of 49 rounds resulted in 1 VC KIA(c) and 2 VC KIA(p).

(6) 221600H (YD 559229) Team observed 3 VC moving east vicinity (YD 569245) wearing black PJ's and carrying unknown type weapons. Team fired 36 rounds of artillery resulting in 3 VC KIA(p).

(7) 221615H (YD 559229) Patrol observed 5 VC wearing black PJ's and one wearing khaki uniform by a church vicinity (YD 569245). Three VC were inside and 3 VC were VC were outside. Team fired 37 rounds artillery resulting in 3 VC inside church KIA(c) and 3 VC outside KIA(p).

(8) 221700H (YD 559229) Patrol observed 1 VC wearing khaki uniform running and disapearing by the church vicinity (YD 569245). Team kept surveillance.

(9) 220750H (YD 559229) Team observed 7 VC vicinity (YD 572240) move east on road 554. VC were heavy camouflage of leaves and brush and carried weapons. Patrol called 16 rounds artillery with poor coverage and unknown results.

**TERRAIN:**

(1) **TOPOGRAPHY:** Rolling hills, low sparse vegetation about 2-4 feet high and in some places 6-7 feet high. There is no concealment or cover. Rate of movement is unrestrict. There are good gun sites all along the ridgeline vicinity (YD 545232), (YD 555231), and (YD 559229) can observe the whole valley.

(2) **COMMUNICATION:** Communication was excellent throughout the patrol.

(3) **WATER SOURCE:** Plentiful in the valley, none on the ridgeline.

(4) **TRAILS:** One trail runs on top of the ridgeline vicinity (YD 558230) not too well used. Another trail runs parallel with the ridgeline at the bottom on the northeast side. This trail approximately 2 feet wide, hard packed and well used.

(5) **HLZ'S:** Numerous throughout the area. One good HLZ vicinity (YD 559229). Can hold 1 CH-46. No obstacles, best approach from the east and west. Another HLZ is at (YD 555231). Can hold 3 CH-46's at one time, has hard ground, small brush and no obstacles. Best approach is from the west to east.

CONTINUED ON BACK
a. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) 19 Dec 67 (YD 543231) Patrol discovered one 250lb bomb half buried in the ground.

(2) 191500H (YD 543232) Patrol discovered a VC fragmentation mine lying on the ground by a bomb crater. Team buried the mine in the crater.

(3) 192000H (YD 545231) Patrol observed 4 lights that seemed like flash lights in different locations moving up hill vicinity Hill 400 (YD 525231). Team could not shoot artillery because of other patrol in area.

(4) 192130H (YD 545231) Team heard voices, bamboo tapping and 3 dim lights vicinity (YD 543225). Fired artillery mission of 23 rounds resulting in one secondary explosion. One rifle shot was also heard from this direction.

(5) 217300H (YD 555231) Team observed 1 bunker vicinity (YD 546225) Bunker was 6 feet high, 5 feet wide, built on side of a ridge and had 1x2 feet slit in the center. Artillery mission of 75 rounds destroyed bunker.

(6) 22 Dec 67 (YD 555231) Team observed 3 camp fires vicinity (YD 562218). Artillery fired 28 rounds with good coverage. Lights went out.

(7) 220330H (YD 551233) Patrol saw a light and heard movement vicinity (YD 541232). Shot 15 rounds of mortars with good coverage making light going out and movement stopped.

7. WEATHER: Sunny, clear, cool nights, bright moonlight and good visibility.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

a. VC: 1 KIA (c), 52 KIA(p)

9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS: (None)

10. CONDITION OF PATROL: Physical: good/Morale: excellent

Cpl MUSZALKI
"A" Company

11. DRAFTIER COMMENTS: (None)

a. PATROL OPINION: The enemy seemed to have good discipline. Kept sending 3 man points of their main body. Also changed movement to early in the morning and also started running when moving from one place to another.

b. EXTENDED OpOrd: 531-67
ATTN: AC? & 2
DEBRIEF OF RECON PATROL: A-1 THIRD FORCE RECON CO.
OPERATION ORDER: 666-67 (SHT OVEN)
A. MAP SHEET: 1:50,000 AMS SERIES L-72014 SHEET: 63421
(1) DEBRIEFER: SGT GIBERON/CAPT J.L. SHEEL DATE: 22 DEC 67
B. SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND EQUIPMENT:
C. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS:
D. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT:
E. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT:
F. SPECIAL WEAPONS:
MISSION CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE IN AREA AND
TO DETERMINE ANY ACTIVITY OR ENEMY WITH IN OR AROUND
FUTURE OPERATIONS, PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO TAILS AND THEIR FREQUENCY OF USE IN YOUR RZ. ASCERTAIN IF THE AREA IS BEING USED, UNTIL RZ IS SUFICIENTLY COVERED.

2. TIME OF DEPARTURE/RETURN: 211100h (YD109645) WALK/021112h (YD109850/150).

3. ROUTE: INSERT PT SOUTHWEST TO (yd290620) NORTHEAST TO (yd108628)

4. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

5. SYNOPSIS: 21 HOURS OF RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE RESULTED KIA (C). (1) NVA KIA (T), (5) USING VIA GUN (X) AND (1) SCOUT DOG VIA OTHER DOCUMENTS WHICH WERE FORWARD TO HIGHER AUTHORITIES.

6. ENEMY:

(1) 211100h (YD109645) PATROL OBSERVED (2) NVA FIRING (1) MORTAR GROO. NVA WORE GREEN UTILITIES. ENEMY FIRED (5) RDS FROM THIS POSTION. AND THEN MOVED TO (YD109260) WHERE THEY FIRED APPROXIMATELY (15) ROUNDS. PATROL BELIEVES ROUNDS WERE IMPACTING IN OR NEAR C-2. MORTAR WAS APPROX 3000 METERS NORTHEAST OF PATROLS POSITION. PATROL ATTEMPTED TO CALL ARTY MISSION BUT COULDN'T GET IT CLEARED. ENEMY MOVED OFF TO WEST, PATROL LOST SIGHT OF THEM.

(2) 222910h (YD0801625) DOG ALERTED (50) METERS PRIOR TO MAKING CONTACT WHEN POINT OBSERVED (1) NVA MOVING SOUTH. NVA WORE BLACK PJ'S UNDER DARK GREEN UTILITIES AND CARRIED A CARTRIDGE BELT. AK-47 (1), HELMET, MAP OR OVERLAY AND SEVERAL DOCUMENTS.

7. PATROL HALTED. NVA OBSERVED PATROL AND OPENED FIRE RESULTING IN (1) NVA KIA (T). PATROL WAS STRIFIING ENEMY OFXMARKGEAR & DOCUMENTS WHEN AN AUTOMATIC WEAPON OPENED UP 10-15° FROM PATROLS POSITION.

PATROL RETURNED FIRE AND THREW SEVERAL GRENADES. FIRING STOPPED AND PATROL MOVED OUT TO THE EAST AND CONTINUED MISSION.

8. 231300h (YD109628) PATROL WAS RESTING WHEN THEY HEARD VOICES FROM 25-30 METERS NORTH OF PATROLS POSITION. PATROL BELIEVES ENEMY WERE ON LINE LOOKING FOR PATROL. POINT MAN STOOD UP TO TRY AND LOCATE ENEMY WHEN HE SAW NVA. NVA WORE GREEN UTILITIES WITH WITH HELMET AND NVA KIA (C). IMMEDIATELY PATROL BEGAN RECEIVING S/A AND OPENED FIRE 10-15° FROM 30 METERS NORTH OF PATROL'S POSITION. PATROL RETURNED FIRE AND TRIED TO BREAK CONTACT. PATROL MAINTAINED CONTACT FOR 10 MINUTES. PATROL COULDN'T
STILL KEEPING UP A HIGH VOLUME OF FIRE AND WERE THROWING CHI CON
SURROUND PATROL. A/F AND GUNSHIPS CAME ON STATION. PATROL WAS STILL
RECEIVING SPORADIC S/A FIRE FROM THEIR EAST AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS
POSITION WHEN ENEMY THREW (1) GRENADES RESULTING IN (2) NVA KIA (C),
PRIOR TO GRENADE GOING OFF PATROL RETURNED FIRE
RUNS AND ALL FIRING CEASED. SEVERAL MINUTES LATER ENEMY OPENED
FIRE AGAIN FROM THE EAST. PATROL RETURNED FIRE. FIRING CEASED;
PATROL WAS LOADING ONTO CHOPPER. FIXED WING AND GUNSHIPS CONTINUED
TO STRAFF AND BOMB AREA AS PATROL LEFT AREA.
C. TERRAIN: LOW ROLLING HILLS WITH THICK SECONDARY GROWTH AND
ELEPHANT GRASS 10' HIGH. COMM WAS GOOD, WATER WAS PLENTIFUL
RATE OF MOVEMENT WAS 500-600 METERS PER HOUR.
D. OTHER INFORMATION: NONE
G. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:
A. ENEMY: (4) NVA KIA (C), (1) NVA KIA (P)
B. FRIENDLY: (3) U.S. WIA (MINOR), (1) SCOUT DOG WIA (MINOR)

7. CONDITION OF PATROL: GOOD, MORALE GOOD.
8. RECOMMENDATIONS: THE CONCLUSIONS:
1. HAVE TEAMS USE DOG IN AREA
2. HAVE INFANTRY RUN A SWEET THROUGH AREA.
CONCLUSIONS:
1. AREA COVERED BY PATROL REVEALS PATROL MADE CONTACT WITH 20-25
NVA WHO APPEARED TO BE LOOKING FOR PATROL.
2. GENERAL CONCLUSIONS: NVA MAY BE SETTING UP DEFENSIVE
POSITIONS ALONG GRID 0630 TO 0906.
9. HLZ'S:
(1) COY/9/00530 SITE WILL ACCOMODATE (1) CH46, SITE IS BOTTOM OF
VALLEY WITH 4-5' HIGH ELEPHANT GRASS, WITH SECONDARY GROWTH 12-15'
TO THE EAST OF HLZ. BEST APPROACH IS HEADING EAST TO WEST.
10. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS: CONCUIR WITH (SST OWENS) PL.
GP-4
BT
DECEMBER 1965

FIRST RECON BN
SECOND BN FIRST MAR
THIRD MAR
THIRD BN THIRD MAR
SECOND BN HINTY FOURTH ARTY
SECOND BN TWELFTH MAR
FIRST BN FOURTIETH ARTY
EIGHTH BN FORTY ARTY
TWENTY SIXTH MAR
WOMEN
MAG THREE SIX ALPHA
HMM ONE SIX THREE
HMM ONE SIX FIVE

PAGE TWO

ZEN/PROVINCE ADVISOR QUANG TRI
SECOND BN FOURTH MAR
DT

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ATTN: AC OF GB-2
DEBRIEF OF RECON PATROL: 4-2 THIRD FORCE RECON CO.
OPERATION ORDER: 69-67 (Sgt. Pierce).
A. MAP SHEETS: 1:50,000 AMS SERIES L-7044 SHEET: 6442 II
(1) DEBRIEF IN: CAPT. O'DELL/BGT. GIBERSON DATED: 27 DEC 67
1. SIZE, COMPOSITION AND EQUIPMENT:
A. COMPOSITION: (7) ENLISTED
B. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
C. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2) NAV/PRC 25's
D. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (1) 7X50
E. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (2) CLAYMORE MINES, (3) WP RIFLE
GRENADES, (7) GAS MASKS, (2) CS GRENADES.
F. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M-79 WITH 53 ROUNDS, (3) M14's
(1) M-60 WITH 800 ROUNDS.
2. MISSION: CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE IN
ASSIGNED ZONE TO DETERMINE ENEMY ACTIVITY. ENGAGE THE ENEMY WITH SUPPORTING ARMS. MAKE
271715Z DEC 67 A 6-2 COO/SS/6-3/050
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COMM CNTR THIRD MARDIV

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EVERY EFFORT TO CAPTURE A PRISONER. PLOT BLZ'S FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS. PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO TRAILS AND THEIR FREQUENCY OF USE IN YOUR RZ. ASCERTAIN IF THE AREA IS BEING USED BY THE ENEMY AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE. PATROL WILL NOT BE EXTRACTED UNTIL RZ IS SUFICIENTLY COVERED.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE/RETURN: 221125H (YD 279442) HELO/27876H (YD 286286) HELO
4. ROUTE: INSERT PT SOUTH-SOUTHEAST TO (YD 281429), NORTHEAST TO (YD 299451), NORTHEAST TO EXTRACTION PT.
5. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:
A. SYNOPSIS: 126 HOURS OF RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE RESULTED IN (2) SIGHTINGS TOTALING (3) VC/NVA, (1) COMPANY SIZE HARBOR SITE AND (3) SEPARATE CONTACTS TOTALING 45 VC/NVA RESULTING IN (5) NVA KIA (C) AND 12 NVA KIA (P). ENEMY IS WELL ENTRENCHED IN AREA AND APPEAR TO BE LEAVING AREA RAPIDLY IN GROUPS OF 10-15 NVA.
B. ENEMY:
(1) 25113OH (YD 299437) PATROL WAS MOVING NORTHWEST ON TRAIL AFTER CHECKING AREA OF A FIRE MISSION WHEN THEY OBSERVED (5) NVA RECONNAISSANCE AREA. NVA WORE BLACK PJ'S AND KHAKIS, CARTRIDGE BELTS AND CARRIED (2) AK-47'S AND (3) SKS'S. NVA WERE 400 METERS TO THE SOUTHEAST OF PATROLS POSITION. NVA SPOTTED PATROL AND STARTED MOVING OUT TO THE NORTHEAST. PATROL CALLED FIRE MISSION WITH GOOD COVERAGE OF TARGET. PATROL WAS CHECKING OUT AREA WHEN THEY OBSERVED (2) NVA MOVING NORTH TO TOP OF HILL. ONE MAN WAS DRAGGING OTHER. PATROL OPENED FIRE WITH SAFETY RETURN. PATROL CALLED ARTILLERY MISSION AGAIN AND BROKE CONTACT. PATROL FIRED 127 ROUNDS IN SUPPORT RESULTING IN (1) NVA KIA (C) AND (2) NVA KIA (P).
(2) 25132OH (YD 285429) PATROL WAS MOVING SOUTHEAST ON TRAIL WHEN THEY OBSERVED (19) NVA TO THEIR EAST MOVING IN A NORTH-WESTERLY DIRECTION, 520 METERS FROM PATROLS POSITION. NVA WORE KHAKIS, BLACK PJ'S, HEAVY PACKS, CARTRIDGE BELTS, EACH MAN CARRIED WEAPONS. PATROL COULD NOT CALL FIRE MISSION DUE TO TRUCE. PATROL THEN OBSERVED 15 OR MORE NVA 75 METERS TO THEIR SOUTH COMING OUT OF THE TREELINE. NVA WORE BLACK PJ'S, KHAKIS, HEAVY PACKS, CARTRIDGE BELTS, EACH MAN CARRIED A WEAPON. PATROL SET UP DEFENSE IN BOMB CRATER. ENEMY OPENED FIRE ON PATROL
AND PATROL RETURNED FIRE RESULTING IN (2) NVA KIA (C).

AND (6) NVA KIA (P). ENEMY AND PATROL BROKE CONTACT AT
SAME TIME. ENEMY MOVED DIRECTLY SOUTH AND PATROL CONTINUED
MISSION. AO AND GUNSHIPS WERE ON STATION BUT DID NOT MAKE
ANY PASSES SINCE PATROL WAS ABLE TO BREAK CONTACT AND TRUCE
WAS STILL IN EFFECT.

(3) 261600H (YD 282436) PATROL WAS SET UP IN OP WHEN THEY
OBSERVED (15) NVA MOVING NORTH-NORTHEAST ON A TRAIL 200
METERS DUE WEST OF PATROLS POSITION. NVA WORE BLACK PJ'S,
KHAKIS, A COUPLE WORE CIVILIAN CLOTHES, HEAVY PACKS,
CARTRIDGE BELTS. ALL CARRIED WEAPONS. NVA STOPPED TO
CHANGE OUT OF UNIFORMS TO CIVILIAN CLOTHES. PATROL
OBSERVED (1) WOMAN AMONG GROUP. AT (YD 282446), PATROL
CALLED ARTILLERY MISSION OF (50) ROUNDS RESULTING IN (1)
NVA KIA (C), (1) NVA KIA (P). PATROL OBSERVED (5) NVA
MOVING OUT OF AREA CARRYING THEIR PACKS BUT NO WEAPONS.
PATROL AGAIN CALLED ARTILLERY MISSION OF 200 ROUNDS. AT
(YD 285455) RESULTING IN (5) KIA (C) AND (3) KIA (P).
AO CALLED ON STATION BUT DID NOT OBSERVE ANYTHING.
C. TERRAIN: STEEP ROLLING HILLS WITH CANOPY VARYING
FROM SPARSE TO DENSE. CANOPY 20-50 FEET HIGH WITH SENSE

SECONDARY GROWTH. AREA IS HONEY COMBED WITH WELL USED
TRAILS. COMMUNICATION GOOD TO FAIR (EXCELLENT WITH
WHIP ANTENNA). NATURAL WATER SOURCES PLENTIFUL IN LOW-
LANDS. RATE OF MOVEMENT 100-200 METERS PER HOUR.
D. OTHER INFORMATION:
(1) 221500H (YD 285437) OBSERVED (1) VC / NVA 300 METERS
NORTHEAST OF PATROLS POSITION. VC/NVA WORE BLACK PJ'S
AND CARRIED (1) SKS, VC/NVA WAS MOVING TO THE NORTHEAST
ON A TRAIL. PATROL CALLED ARTILLERY MISSION WITH
UNOBSERVED RESULTS.
(2) 231030H (YD 295432) TO 300428) ENTIRE RIDGE IS OPEN
AND COVERED WITH FIGHTING HOLES 3-4 MONTHS OLD.
(3) 241630H (YD 290437) PATROL FOUND 3-5 MAN HARBOR SITES
WHICH HAD BEEN USED WITHIN PAST 24 HOURS.
(4) 251245H (YD 285431) FOUND COMPANY SIZE HARBOR SITE
WHICH HAD BEEN USED WITHIN PAST WEEK.
(5) 251400H (YD 280437) OBSERVED (2) NVA 1100 METERS
NORTH OF PATROLS POSITION MOVING SOUTH. NVA HAD WEAPONS
AND CARTRIDGE BELTS. NO ACTION TAKEN.
(6) 252200H (YD 31425) PATROL WAS SET IN NIGHT HARBOR
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SITE WHEN THEY HEARD DRUMS BEATING FROM THESE COORD.

C. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:
   A. ENEMY (9) KIA (C), (12) KIA (P).
   B. FRIENDLY: NONE.

C. CAPTURED/ EQUIPMENT: PATROL FOUND FRAGMENTS OF CEMENT
   BAGS AT (YD 28344)

D. CONDITION OF PATROL: GOOD, MORALE OUTSTANDING

E. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS
   RECOMMENDATIONS:
   (1) USE MORE PATROLS TO SCREEN AREA.
   (2) PATROLS CANNOT MOVE WEST OF EAST WEST GRIDLINE (YD
   25) DUE TO CANOPY AND LACK OF BLZ'S AND BAD COMMUNICATION.
   (3) AREA IS LIGHT AREA BOUNDED BY (YD 3243) AND (YD 3141).

CONCLUSIONS:
   (1) ENEMY HAS (3) BASE CAMPS SET UP IN VICINITY OF FOLLOWING
   GRID: (YD 28141), (YD 29242), (YD 386423).
   (2) AREA IS USED EXTENSIVELY BY VC/VOA.
   (3) VC/VOA IN AREA ARE LEAVING AREA IN GROUPS OF 10-15
   PEOPLE HEAVILY LOADED DOWN WITH EQUIPMENT. ENEMY ARE
   MOVING TO THE NORTHWEST TO BA LONG VALLEY TO AREA
   BOUNDED BY (YD 2445 AND (YD 2843).
   (4) ALL CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY WAS BY CHANCE. ALL ENEMY
   SIGHTED SEEMED TO KNOW PATROL WAS IN AREA AND WENT TO
   EXTENSIVE PAIN TO AVOID CONTACT AT ANY COSTS.
   (5) ENEMY SEEMS TO BE LOW ON AMMO OR IS SAVING AMMO.
   ENEMY WOULD FIRE A SHORT BURST AT PATROL AND THEN BREAK
   CONTACT.
   (6) ENEMY APPEARS TO BE HURTING FROM CONTACTS WITH FRIENDLY
   FORCES AND IS IN A HURRY TO MOVE OUT OF AREA.
   (7) THERE IS NO SOUNDS OF BIRDS OR OTHER ANIMAL LIFE IN
   AREA.
   (8) PATROL HEARD CONSTANT SOUND OF METAL POUNDING ON METAL
   THROUGHOUT ENTIRE PATROL. POUNDING SOUNDED LIKE A SORT
   OF CODE AND CAME FROM DIFFERENT PLACES DURING THE NIGHT.
   (9) BLZ'S (YD 379446) AND (YD 265456) AREAS ARE TOP OF
   HILL WITH SHRUBS AND BRUSH 3 FEET HIGH. NO APPROACH
   OBSTACLES AND BEST APPROACH IS HEADING SOUTH.

F. DECLASSIFIED COMMENTS: CONCUT WITH PATROL LEADERS
   RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS.

G. A
H.
3d Recon BN S/C No. 6741-67

DECLASSIFIED

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CLASSIFICATION: AC OF S 6-2

DEBRIEF OF RECON PATROL 1C2, THIRD RECON BN "C" COMPANY

OPERATION ORDER: 575-67 (LT. MATOCHA).

A. MAP SHEET: 1:50,000, AMS SERIES L-7614, SHEET: 6342 I

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND EQUIPMENT:

A. COMPOSITION:
   (1) OFFICER
   (2) ENLISTED

B. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS Z: NONE

C. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT:
   (2) AN/WPC 25 S.

D. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT:
   (1) 7X50 S.

E. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT:
   (4) CLAYMORE MINES
   (4) WP RIFLE
   (4) WP HAND GRENADES
   (6) GAS MASKS
   (8) CS GRENADES
   (5) BLOCKS OF G-4

F. SPECIAL WEAPONS:
   (1) M-19 WITH 77 ROUNDS
   (1) N-14

2. MISSION: CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE IN
   ASSIGNED ZONE TO DETERMINE ENEMY ACTIVITY, ENGAGE THE ENEMY
   WITH SUPPORTING ARMS, MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CAPTURE A PRISONER
   FLOT 6LZ S FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS. PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION
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TO NAILS AND THEIR FREQUENCY OF USE IN YOUR EZ. RECEIPT IF
THE AREA IS BEING USED BY U.S. MILITARY AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE. PATROL
WILL NOT BE EXTRACTED UNTIL EZ IS SUFICIENTLY COVERED.

3. TIME OF DEPARTURE/RETURN: 251500H (YD 092653) (YD 25)
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4. ROUTE: INSERT PT NORTHWEST TO EXTRACT PT.

5. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

A. 2400 0215H 03 HOURS OF RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEY ANOE
RESULTED IN THREE ENEMY SITIATIONS TOTALING (7) VERA,
AND TREATED A TOTAL OF 24-48 TOWNS. PATROL MADE ONE CONTACT
WHICH RESULTED IN (2) SAWS AT GROUND FIRE. AREA COVERED
BY PATROL REALIZED NVA IN AREA AND A POSSIBLE ENTRAPMENT OBSERVED
ON HILL 962.

5. EVENT:

1. 092653H (YD 092653) PATROL OBSERVED NVA AT 92653H.
2. ACHIEVED OBSCURE WEAPONS OR EQUIPMENT ON HILL 962.
3. NO ACTION ADVISED.

6. 92653H (YD 092653) PATROL OBSERVED (2) NVA AT THESE
COORDINATES. THEY WERE 300 METERS AWAY FROM PATROL. PATROL
OBSERVED GRENADERS AT (2) PAIR OF TM50'S. CARTRIDGE BELTS.

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PATROL COULD NOT OBSERVE WEAPONS. NVA WERE STANDING ON TOP OF
HILL. NVA MOVED OFF HILL TO SOUTH.

(3) 251500H (YD 092653) PATROL SAW 4 NVA 300 METERS AWAY WITH
GRENADE WEAPONS, CARTRIDGE BELTS, BUSH COLUMNS, LARGE PACKS
WITH BUSHES TIED ON THEM. (1) ACH-47 AND (1) THOMPSON
SUBACHINE GUN. NVA MOVED OFF HILL TO THE NORTH TOWARDS THE
PATROL BUT ABOUT 15 METERS AFTER LEAVING HILLTOP NVA
DISSAPEARED BEHIND SOME BUSHES. PATROL FEELS THEY ENTERED
BUNKER COMPLEX. AO (AMERICAN BEAUTY CHARLIE) CALLED ON STATION
AT THIS TIME. AO OBSERVED BUNKERS (2) ON HILL AND (4) NVA
AT (YD 092653).

(4) 251700H (YD 092653) PATROL WAS PREPARING TO MOVE OFF HILL
WHEN THEY SAW (4) NVA, GRENADE WEAPONS, CARTRIDGE BELTS AND
WEAPONS (TYPE UNKNOWN) 700 METERS SOUTHWEST OF THEM. THEY
APPEARED TO BE OBSERVING PATROL. PATROL RELAYED THIS TO AO
AND AO INFORMED PATROL THAT NVA WERE MOVING NE TOWARDS PATROLS
POSITION. AO ADVISED PATROL TO STAY WHERE THEY WERE AND TO
START FIRE MISSION. WHILE PATROL WAS PREPARING FIRE MISSION
AO REPORTED (4) NVA WERE AT (YD 092653) APPROXIMATELY 75 METERS
FROM PATROL. AO ADVISED PATROL THAT NVA WOULD DUCK DOWN WHEN
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HE PASSED OVER THEM AND THEN CONTINUE MOVING TOWARD PATROL.
(5) 251730h (YD 092653) ADVISED PATROL OF 12 NVA MOVING
NORTH TOWARD PATROL, APPROXIMATELY 100 METERS FROM PATROL. AD
ADVISED PATROL TO LEAVE MOUNTAIN TOP AND MOVE NORTH AS FAST AS POSSIBLE.
AO SAID HE WOULD HANDLE FIRE MISSION AS PATROL LEFT. THEY COULD
HEAR MOVEMENT 150 METERS SOUTH OF THEM AND 75 METERS WEST OF
THEM. PATROL OPENED FIRE ON THESE PLACES, WITH THREE MAGAZINES
OF M-60, (54 ROUNDS), (1) GRENADES, AND 16 M-79, ROUNDS. RECEIVED
NO RETURN FIRE. AT 1800h PATROL MOVED NORTH APPROXIMATELY
400 METERS TO (YD 091855) AND TOOK UP POSITION IN BOMB CRATER.
AS PATROL REACHED THIS POINT, AO OPENED DIRECTION OF FIRE MISSION
ON ENEMY. ARTILLERY MISSION LASTED FOR APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES.
AT 1830h AO SAW 10-15 NVA AT (YD 095654) ATTEMPTING TO
GET ON EAST FLANK OF PATROL. 2 NVA WERE APPROXIMATELY 200 METERS
FROM PATROL. AO ADVISED PATROL HE WOULD TRY TO GET FIXED WING
FOR STRIKES. AT 1840h AO ADVISED PATROL THEY WERE SUR-
OUNDED BY 10-15 NVA AND TO MOVE NORTH AS FAST AS POSSIBLE.
FIXED WING WERE ON STATION AT THIS TIME AND AS PATROL STARTED
TO MOVE OUT TO BEGIN RUNS. PATROL, AO AND JETS BEGAN RE-
IEVING SAF/SAF. PATROL RECEIVED APPROXIMATELY (4) ROUNDS.

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ENEMY WAS APPROXIMATELY 150 METERS SOUTH EAST OF PATROL.
AT 1910h PATROL MOVED TO (YD 092667) AND TOOK UP DEFENSIVE
POSITION. FIXED WING WAS STILL BEING PLACED AT THIS TIME.
EACH TIME AREA WAS LIT BY NAPALM STRIKES AO REPORTED 1-2 NVA
MOVING NORTH APPROXIMATELY 150 METERS EAST OF PATROLS POSITION.
AO REPORTED THIS ON THREE TO FOUR SEPERATE NAPALM RUNS. 2000
FIXED WING WENT OFF STATION. 2030h SPOOKY 13 ARRIVED ON STATION
AT THIS TIME, AND BEGAN TO FIRE IN 360 DEGREE CIRCLE AROUND
PATROLS POSITION. SPOOKY FIRED FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES.
AT 2100h SPOOKY ADVISED PATROL TO MOVE 200 METERS EAST OF
PATROL. FIRED IN AREA. AMERICAN BEAUTY CHARLIE WAS
RECEIVED BY AMERICAN BEAUTY SIERRA AT 2130, AB CHARLIE ADVISED
PATROL HE WOULD REFUEL AND RETURN WITH TWO MORE FLIGHTS OF
FIXED WING. PATROL RECEIVED NEGATIVE SAF WHILE IN THIS POSITION
AT (YD 092667). 2150h (1) FLIGHT OF FIXED WING CAME ON
STATION AND MADE RUNS ON (YD 095655). ALL WERE NAPALM RUNS.
FIXED WING REPORTED TAKING SAF ON EACH PASS ALL NIGHT. AB
CHARLIE WAS DIRECTING FIXED WING AND SPOOKY 14 AT THIS TIME.

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CUBBY CAME ON STATION, ASKED PATROL TO DIRECT HIM IN. PLANE WAS
FLYING EAST TO NORTH, HAD NAVIGATION LIGHTS ON SO PATROL COULD

DECLASSIFIED
SEE HIM. PLANE BROKE THROUGH CLOUDS COVER AT THIS TIME. AMERICAN BEAUTY CHARLIE DIRECTED PATROL TO GET AIRCRAFT OUT OF AREA, THAT HE WAS RECEIVING HEAVY VOLUME OF GROUND FIRE. AT THIS TIME PLANE CUBBY BANKED AND BEGAN TO LOSE ALTITUDE RAPIDLY. PLANE CRASHED AT (YD 035670) APPROXIMATELY 700 METERS NORTHWEST OF PATROL. PATROL IMMEDIATELY MOVED OUT TOWARD PLANE IN ATTEMPT TO RESCUE ANY SURVIVORS. AO HAD NOT REPORTED ANY NVA IN THE AREA DURING NIGHT. PATROL REQUESTED FLARES SHIP TO LIGHT AREA AS THE MOVED OUT. PATROL REACHED PLANE AND SEARCHED FOR BODIES. PILOT AND AO WERE DEAD WHEN PATROL FOUND THEM. PATROL TOOK LOG BOOK, MAP AND WEAPONS FROM WRECK ALONG WITH BODIES. PATROL HEARD NO GUNFIRE DURING MOVEMENT TO PLANE. PATROL REQUESTED EXTRACTION. CHOPPERS DID NOT RECEIVE GROUND FIRE WHEN THEY LANDED OR TOOK OFF.

C. TERRAIN: LOW ROLLING HILLS, CANOPY 5-12 FEET HIGH. SOME PARTS OF EZ ARE BARE DUE TO INTENSE BOMBING. COMMUNICATION FAIR, GOOD ON HIGH GROUND; POOR TO NONE IN DRAWS. NATURAL WATER SOURCES SPARSE. RATE OF MOVEMENT 300-350 METERS PER HOUR.

D. OTHER INFORMATION: XX

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(1) 241300H (YD 102650) PATROL FOUND 254 LB BOMB. PATROL WAS ADVISED NOT TO ATTEMPT TO DESTROY AS THEY HAD NO TIME FUSE FOR C-4. AREA IS FAIRLY CLEAR WITH NO CRATERS.

6. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

(1) ENEMY: NONE
(2) FRIENDLY: (2) USAF KIA, AO AND PILOT OF CUBBY
(3) CAPTURED EQUIPMENT: NONE

7. CONDITION OF PATROL: GOOD, MORALE GOOD

8. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) FUTURE PATROL STAY CLOSE TO EXTRACTION LZ'S AT ALL TIMES.

CONCLUSIONS:

(1) AREA COVERED BY PATROL REVEALS NVA IN AREA IN FORCE, A POSSIBLE ENEMY OP ON HILL 94. ENEMY HAS BUNKER COMPLEXES ON HILL 94.
(2) PATROL LEADER FEELS ENEMY USED HILL 94 AS AN OP TO OBSERVE FRIENDLY MOVEMENT IN AREA.

9. HLZ'S: (YD 035670) SITE WILL ACCOMODATE (1) CH-46. SITE IS FLAT AREA BETWEEN TWO HILLS. APPROACH OBSTACLES: STUMPS AROUND ZONE, WOOD TO EAST. BEST APPROACH NORTH TO SOUTH.

10. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS:

(1) CONCUR WITH PATROL LEADER'S RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS.
(2) TOP REQUEST HAS BEEN SUBMITTED FOR HILL 94 AT (YD 090653).

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NOTE PAGE EIGHT CONTAINS TWENTY-FOUR LINES.
 Operation Order 543-67

Patrol Report

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION AND EQUIPMENT:
   a. COMPOSITION: (6) Enlisted (1) USN
   b. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
   c. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (1) 7x50
   d. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (2) N/PRO 25
   e. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (2) Claymore Mines (2) Hand Grenades (1) Incendiary Grenade
   f. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M-79 (1) M-60

2. MISSION: Determine the nature of enemy activity developing along the natural infiltration routes that could be used by VC/NVA and also check area for use as VC base camp area. Pay particular attention to size and direction of enemy movement. Act as a forward observer for artillery on call targets of opportunity. Make every attempt to capture a prisoner. From 241800H to 251600H the Christmas truce is in effect. All fire missions must be cleared through COC. Only fire in self-defense during this period.

3. TIME OF INSERTION: 241800H Dec 67 HOW: air
4. TIME OF EXTRICATION: 281000H Dec 67 HOW: Foot/Truck

5. NOTES: See overlay

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:
   a. SYNOPSIS: 96 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance resulted in enemy sightings totaling 65 VC. One artillery mission of 40 rounds resulted in 7 VC KIA and one large flash, probably black powder, area reveals infiltration of VC to the northeast.
   b. ENEMY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:

      (1) 251100H (YD 410352) Team observed 6 enemy vicinity (YD 415363) moving east on ridgeline, wearing white shirt, black trousers and white cap. One had an unknown type of rifle slung over his shoulder no other weapons were observed. Patrol called in report and continued surveillance.
(2) 251130H (YD 410352) Patrol observed VC vicinity (YD 420353) wearing mixed clothing of black and white PJs and most had on coolie hats. Some unknown type weapons were observed. VC were moving west to east along a trocline toward a large hooch. Some went inside of the hooch while others just milled around talking. VC stayed there until 1430H and then went north-east. Team called in report and continued surveillance.

(3) 271710H (YD 412356) Team observed 3 enemy breaking brush moving northwest vicinity (YD 415356) wearing black PJs and white coolie hats, armed with unknown type of weapons. Called artillery but was denied because of friendly's in the area. Patrol continued surveillance and VC disappeared to the northwest.

(4) 271930H (YD 428352) Patrol observed 12 VC moving north on the vicinity (YD 428367). Could not distinguish clothing or weapon because of the darkness. Called 40 rounds of artillery with outstanding coverage resulting in 7 VC KIA (1) and one secondary flash like black powder which burned for about approximately 12-15 minutes. Sparks were seen shooting up to 10 feet high. Patrol called in report and continued surveillance.

c. TERRAIN:

(1) TOPOGRAPHY: Characterized by rolling hills with low brush approximately 3-6 feet high. Rate of movement is unrestricted. Two OP sites offer good observation of the area. One at hill 101 (YD 409352) and the other at (YD 425332). This area offers no cover and concealment.

(2) COMMUNICATION: Communication was excellent throughout the patrol.

(3) WATER SOURCE: No water in area except rice paddies.

(4) TRAILS: All significant trails are on the map.

(5) HLZ: Whole area can be used as an HLZ.

d. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) 242130H (YD 410352) Team heard drums beat approximately 1500 meters to the northwest for about 15 minutes. Team called in report and continued surveillance.

(2) 252330H (YD 412356) Patrol heard drums beat approximately 1500 meters to the northwest for about 15 minutes. Team called in report and continued surveillance.

7. WEATHER: Weather was clear with warm days and cool nights.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

a. VC: 7 KIA

9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

a. RECOMMENDATIONS: More patrols to the northwest of the SONG TLC line and investigate the activity seemed to be heading this way.

DECLASSIFIED
b. CONCLUSIONS: Area reveals heavy enemy infiltration.

10. CONDITION OF PATROL: Physical: Good Morale: Excellent

Cpl A. LIBERT
Company "A"

11. LIBRIFER CONTENTS: NONE

   a. PATROL OPINION: Team feels that the enemy was VC and just moving through. The VC were not too cautious probably because of the truce.

---

LEGEND

O = INSERTION
X = EXTRACTION
--- = PATROL ROUTE

PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY

(1) 83d (2): Lt (A) Co
Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000
Shoot: 6442 II
Series: L-7014
3d Reconnaissance Fm
(S-2)
Operation Order: 544-67
Debrief: Lt ZELLIERS
Patrol: (3)Sqd (3)Plt (4)Co
Map Sheet: 6441 I

Copy of 32 copies
3d Reconnaissance Bn
Phu Bai, RVN FZ 2
271500H Dec 67

PATROL REPORT

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND EQUIPMENT:
   a. COMPOSITION: (10)Enlisted (1)USN
   b. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
   c. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2)AN/PRC 25
   d. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (1)7x50 (1)Starlight Scope
   e. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (4)Claymore Mines (11)WP Hand Grenades (1)Inconderary Grenades
   f. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1)M-79 (1)M-60 (1)M-14

2. MISSION: Determine the nature of enemy activity developing along the natural infiltration routes that could be used by VC/NVA and also check area for use as VC base camp area. Pay particular attention to size and direction of enemy movement. Act as a forward observer for artillery on call targets of opportunity. Make every attempt to capture a prisoner. From 241600H to 251800H the Christmas truce is in effect. All fire missions must be cleared through COC. Only fire in self-defense during this period.

3. TIME OF INSERTION: 241115H Dec 67 HOW: Air
   Sheet 6441 I

4. TIME OF EXTRACTION: 262045H Dec 67 HOW: Air

5. ROUTE: See overlay

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:
   a. SYNOPTIC: 57% hours of reconnaissance resulted in 8 enemy sightings totaling at least 874 VC, numerous signal fires and light. Five artillery fire missions totaling 1,344 rounds and five air strikes resulted in 5 VC KIA, 21 VC KIA (P), and 22 secondary explosions. Numerous drums were heard as well as one elephant. At least 4 sampans were noted on the SONG DO. The CO BI THAN TAN Valley continues to be used by large groups of well armed, equipped and trained enemy.
   b. ENEMY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:
      (1) 241500H (YD 595236) From this location patrol observed 10 VC at (YD 567745) moving east in column on a well used trail. The enemy was black PJs and wide hats. They all carried large packs, small arms, and cartridge belts. Interval was 5 meters between men and they had a two man point. Patrol fired mission of 15 rounds which resulted in excellent coverage and 3 VC KIA (C) and 2 VC KIA (P). No movement was noted after the fire mission.

   EARLY EXTRACTION
(2) 24143CH (YD 595236) Patrol again noted 10 VC at the same location (YD 584245). The enemy were dressed, armed and equipped as previously. They were traveling in the same direction as the last unit. Patrol fired one mission of 15 rounds with excellent coverage resulting in 10 VC KIA(p). No movement was noted after the first mission.

(3) 241757H (YD 595236) While in this OP patrol noted at least 440 VC in groups of 25 to 76, from 1800H to 1835H. These VC were noted moving to vicinity (YD 587245), an area about 300 meters square. The groups had mixed black PJ's, green uniforms, khakis, shorts, blue tops, camouflage uniforms (US type), helmets, bush hats, coolie hats and most carried heavy packs. All were in column, about 5 meters apart. The first group had small arms. The second group had 5 mortars possibly 82mm, and approximately 2 rounds per man. This group wore green uniforms with helmets and also had small arms. This group moved in a double column. The third group carried what appeared to be satchel charges and Bangalore torpedoes. This group also had 2 mortars which appeared to be of the PRG-25 type/size. The east group appeared to be goose-stepping and carried 6 possible Browning MG's with belted ammunition. The entire group appeared well disciplined and presented a military appearance. They rushed across open/danger area. These groups converged from the west, southwest, and south upon (YD 587245). VC also appeared to come from bunkers or trenches, vicinity (YD 597233). Fire mission was denied because of the Christmas truce. 40 and gunships arrived and drew .50 caliber fire from (YD 602236), a known base camp location on the SONG BO. An artillery mission was finally cleared and an unknown number of rounds was fired for several hours under illumination causing 6 secondary explosions. A green star cluster was fired from the area of the sighting at (YD 587233) during the mission. The enemy also fired at the illumination flares. During the night movement through the brush was heard south east of the patrol position. Movement ceased. Drums were heard approaching from (YD 582212) and (YD 602247). Drums continued throughout the night. Lights were noted in the village at (YD 602255).

(4) 251040H (YD 595236) Two men were seen at (YD 604254) moving north carrying an object 30 feet long and about 12 inches in diameter. The object was unidentified.

(5) 252040H (YD 595236) Four sampans were seen moving from west to east across the SONG BO. Four men were in each boat. Upon reaching the east side two men from each boat disembarked and ran into the treeline. Boats appeared to be ferrying people across the river. People wore black PJ's and coolie hats.

(6) 251100H (YD 595236) As patrol watched the infantry sweep in the valley where the large sighting was made they noted signal firering at (YD 596247), (YD 602252), (YD 593256) and (YD 583263). Fires were accompanied by large columns of smoke.

(7) 251740H (YD 595236) Patrol heard an elephant at (YD 583230). Patrol fired one mission of five rounds with unknown results.

(8) During the night of 25-26 December several lights were seen moving on both sides of the SONG BO in the vicinity of (YD 606254) and (YD 602244). No action was taken.

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(9) 261530H (YD 595236) Two VC were seen at (YD 537219) moving east in
the open. The enemy wore helmets, black PJ's, cartridge belts, Mk.144's, and
heavy packs. The enemy moved into a treelined area and were fired on by gunships,
resulting in 2 VC KIA (G).

(10) 261600H (YD 595236) Four VC moved east wearing bush covers, black
PJ's, heavy packs and small arms at (YD 595244). Fire mission with good coverage
resulted in 4 VC KIA (P). This group was extremely well camouflaged with natural
vegetation and practiced good movement techniques indicating a well trained unit.

(11) 261750H (YD 595234) A total of 120 VC moved rapidly in a column from
the west on a trail into the area of the large sighting on 24 December (YD 537241).
This group was well camouflaged with natural vegetation, wore green uniforms,
heavy packs, some type of helmet, and carried small arms. At (YD 537243) another
group totaling 40 dressed and armed as above was also seen moving east on a trail
at a destroyed church vicinity (YD 537243), a large but unknown size unit was ni-
milling about and appeared to waiting to move east. Two fire missions were direc-
ted on the enemy positions resulting in 16 secondary explosions, some of which were
quite large. Five air strikes were also run. Failing light prevented an enemy
casualty assessment. Although the VC movement appeared well trained, when the
fire mission began they scattered. The patrol location was discovered by the
enemy and the team was extracted without further incident.

c. TERRAIN:

(1) TOPOGRAPHY: Steep hills with low scrub brush. Position at (YD
595236) affords excellent observation of the CO BI THANH TAN Valley.

(2) COMMUNICATION: Communication was excellent throughout the patrol.

(3) WATER SOURCE: None noted in this area.

(4) TRAILS: Trails shown on the map in the CO BI THANH TAN Valley do
exist and appear well used.

(5) HLZ's: No new or uncharted HLZ's were noted.

d. OTHER INFORMATION: (YD 593233) Patrol discovered an 81/82 mm mortar
round in a plastic bag. The round was possibly a booby trap and was buried and
 camouflaged. Device was not detonated.

7. WEATHER: Generally fair with moderate temperatures.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: NONE

9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

a. RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) Continued surveillance of the route 554 vicinity in the CO BI THANH
T.N Valley should be maintained.

(2) The Starlight Scope was useful although marginal light conditions
possibly prevented long range observation.
b. CONCLUSIONS: This area shows considerable persistent enemy traffic.
The vicinity of (YD 507,245) appears to be an assembly area and may have tunnel
or bunker protection for the enemy.

10. CONDITION OF PATROL: Physical: Good   Morale: Excellent

SSgt ZIMISTOSKI
Company "P"

11. BRIEFER COMMENTS: Concur with patrol:

a. BACKGROUND OR CHANGES IN THIS AREA: Over the past three months well
over 2,000 VC/NVA have been noted by reconnaissance patrols moving east and
northeast through this region in large groups. During the truce periods last
year approximately 1,000 VC were seen under similar circumstances in this general
area. This is the first time that elephants have been noted in this region. The
drumming signals and lights have been reported previously in the SONG FO area
however, the use of fires/smoke signals have not been reported previously in this
area. An effective communications system seems to exits. The .50 caliber fire
from vicinity (YD 602236) came from a known base camp area which was discovered
some months ago and was reported to have been hit by air/artillery. The use of
green star cluster while under artillery fire was a new gimmick noted the patrol.
The enemy has used colored smoke on occasion as a deceptive means, but this is
the first reported use of a green star cluster.

b. PATROL OPINION: Team members who have been on the ridge and observed
large groups previously, thought this was the best trained and disciplined of
all groups. They described the enemy as being highly professional. Excellent
movement and use of camouflage were noted.

LEGEND

0 = INSERTION
X = EXTRACTION
--- = PATROL ROUTE

PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY

(3)Sqd (3)Plt (A)Co
Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000
Sheet: 6441 I
Series: L-7014
3d Reconnaissance Bn
(S-2)
AND NOW MAKE MY NR 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AREA BOUNDED BY XD 90570 (UL) XD 92480 (LR) TO DETECT NVA'S MOVEMENT, PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO TRAILS AND LIVELY AREAS OF INFILTRATION. BE ESPECIALLY ALERT FOR POTENTIAL OR ACTUAL ENEMY ROCKET, MORTAR, AND ARTILLERY SITES. ENGAGE THE ENEMY WITH SUPPORTING ARMS AND MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CAPTURE A PRISONER.

3. INSERTION: 241125H/XD 931443 BY TRUCK.
4. EXTRACTION: 241758H/XD 906471 BY HELO.
5. PATROL ROUTE: FROM INSERTION POINT TO XD 905470 TO EXTRACTION POINT.

6. CONDITION OF PATROL: PHYSICAL/GOOD MORAL/GOOD.

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

(A) SYNOPSIS: 5 1/2 HOURS OF RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE RESULTED IN CONTACT WITH APPROX 25-30 ENEMY UFC XD 906471. RECONNAISSANCE ZONE REVEALED THE MOVENT OF A PLT SIZE ENEMY UNIT THROUGH THE AREA.

(B) TERRAIN AND VEGETATION: RELIEF IS CHARACTERIZED GENTLE ROLLING HILLS. VEGETATION CONSISTS OF EXTREMELY THICK 3'-5' HIGH ELEPHANT GRASS, BRUSH AND INTERWOVEN VINES. AVERAGE RATE OF MOVEMENT WAS APPROX 200 METERS PER HOUR.

(C) OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) 241559H/XD 905470 TEAM DISCOVERED A 50' BY 50' HARP SITE. POSITION IS CLEARLY UNDER A 35' HIGH CANOPY CANNOT BE OBSERVED FROM THE AIR. A 1'-2' WIDE OVERGROWN TRAIL RUNS NORTH TO SOUTH THROUGH THE POSITION. NEITHER TRAIL NOR HARP SITE APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN USED WITHIN THE LAST 4 WEEKS.

(2) NATURAL WATER SOURCES WITHIN THE AREA ARE IDENTIFIED.

(3) COMM WAS GOOD DURING PATROL.

(D) ENCOUNTER WITH THE ENEMY:

(G) 241605H/XD 905470 TEAM BEGAN HEARING MOVEMENT APPROX 30 METERS BEHIND THEIR POSITION. DIRECTION OF MOVEMENT WAS TOWARD TEAM. TEAM IMMEDIATELY ESTABLISHED A 360 DEGREE DEFENSIVE PERIMETER. TEAM COULD NOT HEAR MOVEMENT OF AN INDETERMINED SIZE FORCE MOVING ON LINE TOWARDS TEAM FROM THE EAST. WHEN MOVEMENT WAS WITHIN 20 METERS OF TEAM TWO PATROL MEMBERS OBSERVED ONE PERSON TO THE EAST AND ONE PERSON TO THE NORTHEAST OF PATROL'S POSITION. BOTH ENEMY OBSERVED WERE WEARING KHAKIS AND NO HATS. DUE TO EXTREMELY THICK VEGETATION NO OTHER EQUIPMENT COULD BE OBSERVED. AT THIS TIME TEAM ESTIMATED A TOTAL OF 15 ENEMY WERE ATTEMPTING TO ENVELOPE TEAM FROM THE EAST. 241605H TEAM MOVED.
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North to high ground at XD 904471 and reestablished a 350 degree perimeter. While moving to high ground team heard continuous movement following team at a distance of approx 100 meters. When 360 had been completed one enemy was observed approx 25 meters to the west and one enemy approx 95 meters to the southeast. Both were moving to the west at quick pace. At this time team also detected heavy movement approx 95-35 meters to their west. Team at this time requested air support. Between this time and 241540 team heard continued movement surrounding their position. 241540 UNITS CAME ON STATION. At this time team was taken under heavy air fire from the NE, SE, and SW. Numerous grenades were also received from 40 meters out in the same directions. Team immediately began direct 11-1F STRIKES and continued to do so throughout the fire fight. Patrol member then observed an enemy moving towards team from the SE. Enemy's movement was being covered by a heavy volume of air fire from 100 meters to the SE. Patrol member fired on enemy hitting one. The remaining enemy began to move south firing 11-1F as he moved. By this time the enemy had complete fire superiority over team and team was completely surrounded. The enemy's strongest point

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At this time was to the southeast and his heaviest was to the north. Small enemy units of approx fire team size continued to move within 50 meters of team under cover of heavy air fire. 100 meters to their rear. Utilizing 160, team was able to suppress enemy's movement near team to 50 meters. UN-1F's using MG and rockets continued to strike area keeping enemy from completely over running teams position. During strafing runs UN-1F's not only received a heavy volume of fire from around teams position, but also received heavy MG fire from west of river to XD 904473. Enemy firing from this position, at times, was utilizing red tracers and ammunition which enabled team to plot position. Entire fire fight lasted from 241540 until 241755 when team was extracted. During this time team received a heavy volume of fire from all sides. Each patrol member appointed by patrol leader, a field of fire from team's 360 and patrol leader himself directed air strikes and utilized his own MG. As a result it is impossible to ascertain a chronological sequence of events. Team leader estimated strength of enemy encountered was approx 25-30 men. Patrol estimates total enemy strength was reduced by 15 percent as a result of enemy's own MG and ordnance utilized in conjunction with UN-1F rocket and 11-1F strikes. Patrol can physically account for an enemy killed and a enemy killed or confirmed as result of fire.
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I CONFIRMED AS A RESULT OF HAND GRENADE AND 1 CONFIRMED AS A RESULT OF M-79 FIRE. 2 PROBABLY AS A RESULT OF M-79 FIRE, 1 PROBABLY A RESULT OF HAND GRENADE AND 4 PROBABLY AS A RESULT OF UN-ITE STRIKES, UNIFORMS OF ENEMY ENCOUNTERED WERE DIRTY. HOWEVER, APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD REPORT, MAJORITY OF ENEMY OBSERVED WORE LIGHT GREEN UTILITIES AND RUSH HATS, AND THE MINORITY WORE DARK OLIVE GREEN UTILITIES. TWO OF THE ENEMY OBSERVED WORE KHAKI UNIFORMS AND NO COVERS. 2 ENEMY WORE USMC STEEL HELMETS WITH CAMOUFLAGE COVER, I HOPE A USMC CARTRIDGE BELT WITH A CANTER OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN, 9 M-9 CARBINES WERE OBSERVED. AND ONE WEAPON WHICH RESEMBLED A U.S. SUB-MACHINE GUN WAS OBSERVED. NO EMPLS, PATCHES OR SCARFS WERE OBSERVED ON ANY OF THE ENEMY ENCOUNTERED. ALL ENEMY OBSERVED WERE OF AVERAGE HEIGHT, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ONE PATROL MEMBER ONE ENEMY WEARING DARK OLIVE GREEN UTILITIES AND A USMC HELMET, HIS WEAPON WAS UNOBSERVED, ENEMY WAS APPROX 5' TALL AND WAS WELL BUILT. ENEMY ENCOUNTERED UTILIZED INFANTRY TACTICS AGAINST TEAM. WHEN FIRST ENCOUNTERED TEAM ESTIMATED ENEMY'S STRENGTH TO BE APPROX 15 MEN. THIS UNIT ATTEMPTED TO PUSH TEAM WEST INTO AN ALREADY ESTABLISHED POSITION LOCATED ON RIVER VIC GPS-4 RT
CONFIDENTIAL
COMM CNTR THIRD MARDIV

DENY DD666
R 270095Z DEC 67
FM TWO SIX MARINES
TO CB THIRD MARDIV
INFO THIRD RECON BN
THIRD MARINES
ZEN/THIRD BN TWO SIX MARINES
ZEN/FIRST BN TWO SIX MARINES

COORDINATE FINAL SECTION OF TWO
YD 365473. HOWEVER TEAM WOUND NORTH AND ESTABLISHED A DEFENSIVE
POSITION ON HIGH GROUND. WHEN THIS WAS ACHIEVED THE ENEMY
IMMEDIATELY ENVELOPED TEAM FROM THE WEST AND EAST. AT THIS TIME
THE ENEMY ENGAGED THE TEAM WITH HEAVY AMMUNITION AND EMPLOYED FIRE
TEAM SIZE UNITS TO PROBE FOR TEAM. AFTER APPROX 50 MINUTES OF
EXCHANGING FIRE TEAM HAD EXPENDED ALL BUT 20 ROUNDS OF 50 CAL AMMUNITION
AND 2 M.25 HAND GRENADES. HOWEVER THE ENEMY'S FIRE INDICATED
NO AMMUNITION SUPPLY PROBLEMS. TEAM CONTINUED TO RECEIVE HEAVY
FIRE UNTIL EXTRACTED AT 241755Z DEC 67.

5. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:
(A) FRIENDLY CASUALTIES: NONE
(B) ENEMY CASUALTIES: 1 KIA, 1 KIA
(C) CAPTURED ENEMY EQUIPMENT: NONE

9. HLS:
(A) YD 365473 SITE WILL ACCOMMODATE ONE CH-46. VEGETATION
CONSISTS OF 3'-4' HIGH ELEPHANT GRASS. AND RELIEF IS FLAT. BEST
APPROACH IS FROM THE EAST.

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
(A) TEAM MADE CONTACT WITH AN ESTIMATED 25-30 MAN, WELL SUPPLIED
ENEMY UNIT, ENEMY WAS AGGRESSIVE AND USED INFANTRY TACTICS. WITHOUT
AIR SUPPORT ENEMY WOULD HAVE RUN OVER TEAM POSITION.

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PATROL LEADER: CPL MP MOOREIGHT

11. DEPENDENT OFFICERS: NONE

12. REVIEWING OFFICERS COMMENTS:
(A) RECOMMEND UN IF'S CARRY EXTRA 5.56MM AMMUNITION FOR ALL
INSERTS AND EXTRACTS AS A READY MEAN OF RE-SUPPLY.

SP-4
RT 27/j2/67 A-6-Z
1/1/66/100 RND

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Operation Order: 547-67
Patrol: (2)Sqd (2)Plt (1)Co
Debriefer: SSgt. J.W.I.lopez
Map Sheet: 6442 II

PATROL REPORT

1. COMPOSITION, SIZE, AND EQUIPMENT:
   a. COMPOSITION: (1) Officer (7) Enlisted
   b. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: (1) ScoutDog/Handler
   c. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2) N/TAC 25
   d. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (1) 7x50 (1) Stalight Scope
   e. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (3) Claymore Mines (6) 7.62 Rifle Grenades (9) 90 Hand Grenades (1) Incendiary Grenade
   f. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M-79 (1) M-60 (1) M-14 (1) XM148

2. MISSION: Determine the nature of enemy activity developing along the natural infiltration routes that could be used by VC/NVA and also check area for use as VC base camp area. Pay particular attention to size and direction of enemy movement. Act as a forward observer for artillery on call targets of opportunity. Make every attempt to capture a prisoner.

3. TIME OF INSERTION: 2609000 Dec 67 HOW: Air

4. TIME OF EXTRATION: 2714300 Dec 67 HOW: Air

5. ROUTE: See overlay

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

   a. SYNOPSIS: 29 hours of reconnaissance resulted in four enemy sightings involving 25 VC. Patrol made contact with 9 VC resulting in 2 VC KIA (1), 3 VC WIA, and 2 VC WIA captured. Area reveals enemy activity.

   b. ENEMY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:

      (1) 261400H (YD 419365) Patrol observed 2 VC moving east vicinity (YD 419365). VC were wearing black bottoms, white tops and coolie hats. The VC were just milling around the area. Team called in report and continued surveillance.

      (2) 261530H (YD 417365) Team observed 18 VC, one of which seemed to be in charge vicinity (YD 419365). The man in charge wore black PJ's, white shirt and a plastic pith helmet. Some of these people seemed to be women. They were dressed in mixed clothing with purple and some turquoise scarf. Six of these had black PJ's. One had khakis and one had camouflage type uniform. The VC were moving towards the patrol's position in groups of 4's and 6's and about 40 to 50 meters apart. One of the VC in the center had what seemed like a pistol. Team kept surveillance.

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(3) 25183OH (YD 419385) Patrol observed 2 VC approximately 10 meters to the northeast. They were moving southeast, were dressed in black PJ's, armed with one AK-47 and one U.S. .30 caliber carbine. They were walking around, were moving into the northeast vicinity.

(4) 27124SH (YD 419385) Patrol observed 3 men that looked like woodcutters moving southeast vicinity (YD 419394). They wore white PJ's, coolie hats and one had a sickle.

(5) 2714OH (YD 419385) Patrol observed 2 VC approximately 300 meters to the northwest moving towards the teams position. They were wearing black PJ's, and coolie hat and the other wore green utilities. The one in black was armed with an unknown type weapon. Four more VC's were seen moving about 20 meters behind the first 2. The first was a woman carrying a bag. The others wore black PJ's, one had a purple sweater, all wore coolie hat and 2 men carried bags of rice. Trailing behind approximately 20 meters the team saw 3 more VC. The first one was dressed in a camouflaged type top and green bottoms and had a grenade. The other 2 were dressed in green utilities. one was armed with 2 grenades and the other was armed with U.S. type THOMPSON submachine gun. Team let the enemy pass and when the last 3 VC were approximately 60 meters away, part of the team opened fire resulting in 1 VC KIA(C), 1 VC KIA(P) and one VC WIA, who waved at the helicopters and was picked up. The team used reconnaissance by fire to the center resulting in 2 VC KIA(P). Team was extracted at 1435H.

d. TERRAIN:

(1) TOPOGRAPHY: Characterized by rolling hills with waist high brush. Rate of movement is unrestricted. There is not any good OP sites and very little cover and concealment.

(2) COMMUNICATION: Communication was good throughout the patrol.

(3) WATER SOURCE: No streams were crossed and very little water was seen.

(4) TRAILS: Numerous well used trails throughout the area.

(5) HLZ's: The whole area can be used as an HLZ.

e. OTHER INFORMATION: NONE

7. WEATHER: Drizzle at night and warm. Hot during the day and good visibility.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

a. VC: (2)KIA-C (5)KIA-P (2)WIA

9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:
   a. RECOMMENDATIONS: Run more reconnaissance patrols in this area.
   b. CONCLUSIONS: VC are using this area as a commuting route to and from the HAI LANG FOREST.

10. CONDITIONS: Physical: Good Morale: Excellent

11. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS: CONCUR WITH PATROL
   a. PATROL OPINION: The enemy had very poor discipline. Some type of an attempt to camouflage was done but not very well. The enemy was not alert, and did not seem to suspect that a team would be operating near there.
   b. COMMENTS:
      (1) The night of the 26th there seemed to have been a large party in the village of THOU Tan LUONG. This party lasted most of the night. The VC observed by the patrol seemed to be moving towards the village.
      (2) The village is well kept. Three large buildings and several small ones were seen in real good condition.
      (3) During the day, one man in black PJ's would supervise a working detail. These people acted almost military in the manner that every thing was conducted.
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Operation Order: 551-67
Patrol: (2) Sqd (3) P; (3) Co
Debrief: LOP 14/R8/Sgt LOP12
Map Sheet: 6541 IV

PATROL REPORT

1. COMPOSITION, SIZE AND EQUIPMENT:
   a. COMPOSITION: (8) Enlisted (1) USN
   b. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
   c. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2) W/F HC 25
   d. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (1) 7x50
   e. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (2) Claymore Mines (3) WP Rifle Grenades (7) HP and Grenades (2) Incendiary Grenades (2) CS Grenades
   f. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M-79 (1) M-14

2. MISSION: Determine the nature of enemy activity developing along the natural infiltration routes that could be used by VC/NVA and also check area for use as VC base camp areas. Pay particular attention to size and direction of enemy movement. Act as a forward observer for artillery on all targets of opportunity. Make every attempt to capture a prisoner.

3. TIME OF INSERTION: 271000H Dec 67 HOW: Foot/Truck
4. TIME OF EXTRACTION: 301530H Dec 67 HOW: Foot/Truck
5. ROUTE: see overlay
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

   a. SYNOPSIS: 72 hours of reconnaissance resulted in two enemy sightings totaling 204 VC with 7 KIA(C) and 150 KIA(F). Area reveals heavy enemy activity.
   b. DAILY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:

      (1) 281400H (YD 773097) Team observed 4 VC setting up an OP site. The VC were wearing black PJ's, plastic rain coats, one had a black pack, one had a beret, and other three had on bush hats, no weapons were observed. VC were setting up a tripod, about 5 feet high with some sort of single lens on it. Team called in 7 rounds of artillery with fair coverage and negative results. VC then left the hill after the rounds were fired. Team continued mission.

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Op 551-67

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DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

(2) 281600H (YD 777095) Patrol spotted 200 VC on well used trail moving from south to north. The VC were wearing black PJ’s, green utilities, rain coats, camouflage utilities, khaki pants, blue pants, berets and bush hats. The VC were carrying large packs, fire wood, rice and other food, small arms, automatic weapons, and mortars. There were also some women observed in the group. The VC were somewhat tactical, they had 5 men with camouflaged utilities as front security, the main body, and about 15 men as the rear security. Team called whiskey relay and one artillery round was fired then the 50 cone on the aim. A0 marked their position, and as he came over he received about five bursts of automatic weapons fire. Fixed wing men about seven strikes on the position. The VC moved into the treeline and the team could not observe, but the A0 reported some of the VC moving south towards the hills and some of the VC moving north towards the river. Coverage from the fixed wing was outstanding resulting in 7 VC KIA (C) and 150 VC KIA (P). Team then called in artillery to try to explode two 500 pound bombs that did not go off, coverage was good but bombs did not explode. Darkness prevented any further observation. Team continued mission.

c. TERRAIN:

(1) TOPOGRAPHY: Characterized by low rolling hills with scrubby about three foot high. Low lands was swamps and rice paddies. Rate of movement was about 300 meters per hour. Cover and concealment was good throughout most of the area covered. It (YD 777095) is an excellent OP site can see very well in all directions.

(2) COMMUNICATIONS: Communication was good throughout the patrol.

(3) WATER SOURCES: Water was plentiful throughout the area.

(4) TRAILS: (YD 778104) Trail is about two feet wide recently and well used, running from north to south.

(5) HLZ’s: Whole area can be used as an HLZ.

d. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) 281200H (YD 774103) Team sighted one reused signal fire of dried up elephant grass about 3 feet high and 5 feet wide. When lit it could be observed from the whole valley.

(2) 301300H (YD 778104) In and around some old royal tombs are many well used trails and fire places. Also found a tunnel under the floor of one of the tombs. Area is probably a rally point for the VC.

7. WEATHER: First day was sunny and warm, the last two days was rainy and cold with fair visibility.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

a. VC: (7) KIA (C) (150) KIA (P)

9. RECOMMENDATIONS: CONCLUSIONS: CONFIDENTIAL
a. RECOMMENDATIONS: Keep away from the wooline near the river because you can be observed to easily.

b. CONCLUSIONS: There is heavy enemy activity in the area on both sides of the river.

10. CONDITION OF PTHOL: Physical: Good Morale: Good

Cpl GUSTAFSON
Company "A"

11. BRIEFER COMMENTS: NONE

LINED

0 = INSERTION
X = EXTRICATION
___ = PTHOL ROUTE

PTHOL ROUTE OVERLAY

(2) Sqd (3) Plt (.)Co
Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000
Sheet: 6541 IV
Series: L-7014
3d Reconnaissance Bn
(S-2)
Operation Order: 549-67  
Patrol: (1)Scd (2)Pit (D)Co  
Embriefer: SSgt J.M.I. Lopez  
Map Sheet: 6541 IV

PATROL REPORT

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION AND EQUIPMENT:
   a. COMPOSITION: (9)Enlisted (1)USN
   b. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
   c. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2)AN/TAC 25
   d. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (4)Claymore Mines (2)M7 Rifle Grenades  
      (1)grenade (1)Hand Grenades (2)Incendiary Grenades (2)CS Grenades (6)Protective
      Masks
   e. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (1)7x50
   f. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1)M-19

2. MISSION: Determine the nature of enemy activity developing along the natural
   infiltration routes that could be used by VC/NV, and also check
   area for use as VC base camp area. Pay particular attention to size and
   direction of enemy movement. Act as a forward observer for artillery on
   cell targets of opportunity. Make every attempt to capture a prisoner.

3. TIME OF INSERTION: 270000 Dec 67 HOW: Foot/Truck

4. TIME OF EXTRACTION: 280000 Dec 67 HOW: Foot/Truck

5. HAPPENS: See overlay

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:
   a. SYNOPSIS: 14 hours of reconnaissance resulted in one enemy sighting
      of 14 VC and 2 contacts totaling 57 VC/NV. Enemy suffered 20 KI.(C), 26
      KIA.(C) by infantry. Artillery fired 231 rounds, 3 air strikes
      were conducted, and gunships made 8 strafing runs. Gunships received
      approximately 20 tracer rounds. One bunker complex and large cave was discovered.
      Area reveals enemy activity.

   b. ENEMY SIG.TACTS/CONT.CTS:
      (1) 272525H (YD 779126) Patrol observed 5 VC moving towards the river
      vicinity (YD 778122) wearing black T.J's, packs and unknown type rifles. Team
      called for artillery and then spotted 9 more VC wearing black T.J's and unknown
      type weapons moving in the same direction as the first 5 VC. These VC were
      moving spread out approximately 30-40 meters apart. Several had white cloth
      huts, artillery fired VC moved into heavy canopy by the river. Team adjusted
      artillery and VC moved in a group into a ravine. Team called for a fire for
      effect with outstanding coverage resulting in 10 VC KI.(F). Numerous sounds
      were heard. Team kept surveillance and walked out to Whiskey Station

EARLY EXTRACTION Op 549-67
(2) 281130H (YD 789122) Patrol saw movement approximately 30-40 meters to the west. Team moved west to the top of the hill and continued surveillance. Patrol observed 3 VC approximately 100 meters to the west observing the team. Patrol fired 8 rounds of M-79 resulting in 1 VC KIA (F). Team attempted to break contact but saw 15 NVs wearing khaki uniforms two of which had camouflage utilities and pack, all armed with unknown type weapons approximately 150-200 meters south. NVs were moving north towards the team. Patrol fired with M-16's and NVs ran into the brush to the west out of sight. Team called artillery. When artillery landed patrol observed approximately 40 more NVs all around their position approximately 150-200 meters moving fast towards the team. Team fired, called artillery, fixed wing and gunships. Team was receiving sporadic SA/fim. Artillery fired 174 rounds, fixed wing made 3 strikes and the gunships made 2 straffing runs resulting 20 NVs KIA (C) and 15 NVs KIA (T). Team could observe pieces of bodies, clothing, weapons and other items fly through the air. A body was seen by a rice paddy and another one on a tree. Reactionary Force linked up with team at 1500H. Reactionary Force observed 2 NVs approximately 150 meters to the northeast and fired an AW resulting in 2 NVs KIA (C). Reactionary Force discovered a bunker complex including a large cave. Numerous remains of bodies, clothing and equipment were seen in the bunker and on trees. Gunships were observed to have received approximately 20 tracer rounds. Team was extracted at 1500H.

c. TERRAIN:

(1) TOPOGRAPHY: Characterized by low rolling hills, shrub brush from 2-6 feet high. Rate of movement is approximately 1,000 meters per hour. This terrain offers no cover and concealment.

(2) COMMUNICATION: Communication was excellent throughout the patrol.

(3) WATER SOURCE: Plenty in the river. Most of the water is in rice paddies.

(4) TRAILS: Numerous trails throughout the area.

(5) HLZ's: This whole area can be used as an HLZ.

d. OTHER INFORMATION: 281115H (YD 789122) Team observed 2 people vicinity (YD 767126). They were observing team 342 moving vicinity (YD 764114). People were wearing blue shirts and white coolie hats. No weapons were seen. They seemed to be signaling someone and pointing at the team (342). Patrol informed (342) about this incident. (342) was at (YD 764114).

7. WEATHER: Weather was warm and clear with unrestricted visibility.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

   a. VC/NVAs: (20) KIA-C (26) KIA-P (0) KIA-M By infantry

9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

   a. RECOMMENDATIONS: Patrols going into this area should be inserted by air because of the civilian population. Take a machine gun, L/W, and a stel-light scope.
b. CONCLUSIONS: Heavy enemy activity in the area.

10. CONDITION OF PATROL: Physical: Excellent Morale: High
   Cpl Cox
   Company "D"

11. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS: Patrol received report from Whiskey Relay at Nah Hau, before insertion about a NVA Company operating vicinity (YD 784116) and another vicinity (YD 787097). Source was ARVN unit at Nah Hau.

   c. Patrol Opinion: Patrol feels that the enemy was well disciplined, had good concealment and used good maneuver in moving towards the town.

   b. Other Comments: ARVN artillery unit located at Nah Hau gave the patrol rapid, accurate and outstanding support.

LEGEND

PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY

(1)Sd (2)Plt (D)Co
Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000
Sheet: 6541 IV
3d Reconnaissance Ln
(S-2)