

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

May-1968

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96225

AVDMH

1 August 1968

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 25th Infantry Division for Period
Ending 31 July 1968, RCS CGFOR - 45 (R1).

SEE DISTRIBUTION

Location: Vicinity of CU CHI Base Camp (MT 647153), CU CHI, RVN.

Reporting Officer: Major General F. K. Mearns.

Prepared By: Major Richard A. Baum, Commanding Officer, 18th Military History Detachment.

Map References: Map, Vietnam, 1:50,000, Series: L7014, Sheets:
6132 II, 6131 I, II; 6232 II - IV, 6231 I - IV; 6230 I - IV; 6331 III;
6330 I, III, IV.

1. (C) Section 1, Operations: Significant Activities.

A. General. The "Tropic Lightning" Division continued its participation in Operation TOAN THANG throughout the reporting period. (See TAB B for the Division Operations Plan 1-68.) All divisional resources and assets were committed to this operation which had commenced on 8 April 1968. — 31 May - ToanThang, II begin

(6) Operation TOAN THANG (COMPLETE VICTORY) (7 April 1968 - continuing). On 7 April 1968, the 25th Infantry Division commenced participation in Operation TOAN THANG. 25th Infantry Division Operations Order 1-68 (TAB F) established the mission of the division as follows:

a. Within assigned operational area of QD, complete destruction of enemy battalions and company sized units, prevent infiltration of major forces from the western zone and support 2nd ARVN ABN TT as required.

b. Conduct combined offensive operations in conjunction with 25th and 5th ARVN Infantry Divisions throughout TAI to destroy enemy forces with priority to elements of 7th NVA and 9th VC Divisions.

The concept of operations for all elements of the division, intelligence information, etc., are contained in the copy of the operations order appended as TAB F.

The 1st Brigade began TOAN THANG on 7 April 1968 with two maneuver battalions (4th Battalion, 9th Infantry and 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry). The 2nd Brigade commenced the operation with four maneuver battalions (1st Battalion, 27th Infantry; 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry; 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry (Mech) and 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry). The 3rd Brigade operated with four battalions (2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry (Mech); 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry (Mech); 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor; and 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry). The 199th Light Infantry Brigade continued under the operational control of the 25th Infantry Division beginning activities in TOAN THANG with three maneuver battalions (3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry; 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry and 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry).

On 7 April the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry conducted a reconnaissance in force (RIF) from XT1829 to XT175293. At 1105 hours at the vicinity of XT178295, Company C received small arms, automatic weapon and RPG fire. The company returned fire with organic weapons and called in artillery and helicopter gunships. Nine enemy bodies were discovered following the action together with one AK-47 rifle and one carbine. The company received three wounded who were evacuated. At 1305, Company C located and destroyed 21,200 pounds of rice at XT175293.