

1968

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters, 1st Battalion (Airmobile), 502d Infantry
APO San Francisco 96383

AVDG-BD-E

10 March 1969

SUBJECT: Annual Historical Supplement

1. Reference:

- a. AR 870-50
- b. 101st Airborne Division Reg 870-4

2. Inclosed is the annual supplement to the unit history for the 1st Battalion 502d Airborne Infantry. During calendar year 1968.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

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"MIKE KELLY" MACHINE GUN

10 March 1969
Unit History
1st Battalion 502 Airborne Infantry
1968 Chapter

PREFACE

This annual supplement to the unit history of the 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry in a brief narrative description of the units activities during combat operations in Vietnam which took place throughout the calendar year.

The Battalion was just beginning contact operations in Vietnam on 1 January. The Battalion arrived in Vietnam during December 1967. After the Battalion arrived at Dien Hoa on 15 December 1967 it moved to Cu Chi Vietnam where the Battalion was located at the start of this reporting period.

The Battalion had made four separate contacts with the enemy during December 1967 resulting, in 6 friendly wounded by hostile action and 1 killed by hostile action the Battalion killed 4 enemy by body count in these engagements.

The Battalion has numerous news articles and photographs on file at the Battalion which complement this narrative description of the Battalion's activities.

NARRATIVE

The Battalion conducted training and maintenance at the garrison in Cu-Chi for preparation of future contact operations on 1 and 2 January.

Battalion conducted combat assault. 1st lift airborne 0807 last lift complete 0917. Bravo and Alfa discover numerous Booby-Traps and fresh signs. Delta made heavy contact. Battalion set up for night in company (+) NDP's. All NDP's mortored during night casualties: (slight) 23 WIA (Evac) 13 WIA.

4 Jan 1968

Results to date: Friendly: 36 WIA 1 MIA
8 KIA
Enemy: 27 KIA (BC)
2 WIA (POW)

Battalion continued search and destroy missions around Cu Chi. Bravo linked up with a tank unit and returned to area of contact to find MIA. Body found and identified as missing man. Other companies had negative contact and returned to Cu Chi for night. Change: 1 MIA to 1 KIA.

Battalion continued training and remained in perimeter of Cu Chi. During the night hours movement heard around perimeter. At 2130 hrs, a light was shined on a bunker and a sniper shot one man. Results: 1 WIA.

Battalion conducted heli-borne lift to LZ X-Ray and set up for night.

Battalion conducted search and destroy mission vicinity of LZ X-Ray. No contact made.

Battalion conducted movement back to and closed on Cu Chi. No contact.

Battalion conducted training in preparation for upcoming operations.

14. Jan 1968

Battalion heli-lifted to LZ Gold. Choppers recieved ground fire but no contact was made. Perimeter formed.

15. Jan 1968

Battalion conducted search and destroy mission from LZ Gold. Scattered very light contact made. Neg results.

16. Jan 1968

During early morning hours Alfa company's ambush on river fired on sampan. Results 4 NVA KIA (BC). During daylight hours Battalion continued search and destroy operations and captured 3 POW's. Battalion formed into NDP's for night.

Results to date: Friendly: 37 WIA
9 KIA
Enemy: 5 WIA/POW
31 KIA (BC)

17. Jan 1968

Battalion continued with search and destroy mission. Light contact during time period. A bunker and tunnel complex was found and destroyed.

Results: Enemy: 1 VC KIA (BC)
AK - 47 Captured

18. Jan 1968

Flame throwers were used on tunnels as Battalion continued its search and destroy operations.

19. Jan 1968

Battalion returned to Cu Chi and had light contact during the period. Results: 5 WIA.

Results to date: Friendly: 42 WIA
9 KIA
Enemy: 5 WIA/POW
32 KIA (BC)

20. Jan to 4 Feb 1968

Battalion conducted recon in force operations in new A.O. with light contact. Results: 1 WIA Captured, and 1 AK-47 captured.

5. Feb 1968

During the early morning hours the NDP of Alfa and Bravo was heavily engaged by a reinforced NVA company. Heavy contact from 0326 till 0930 when enemy broke contact. Patrols were sent out to assess situation. Contact made with estimated NVA platoon 5 NVA KIA (BC). Company sized swoops sent out resulting in heavy contact and 20 more NVA KIA (BC). Alfa and Bravo extracted. Delta made negative contact. Battalion set up NDP's around Quang Tri for the night.

Results: Friendly: 33 WIA
 1 KIA
 Enemy 0 WIA
 25 KIA (BC)
 100 KIA (Estimated)
Captured: 2 MG's, 2 AK-47, 1-82mm and 1-60MM Mortar.

Results up to date: Friendly: 75 WIA
 10 KIA
 Enemy: 6 WIA/POW
 30 KIA (BC)
 100 KIA (Estimated)

6. Feb 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations southeast of Quang Tri. Very light contact with negative results.

7. Feb 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations SE of Quang Tri with scattered heavy contact throughout the day. Delta reinforced by Recon, and Bravo made contact with estimated NVA reinforced companies. Results: 25 NVA KIA (BC). Friendly 6 WIA and 2 KIA. Companies moved to NDP's by dark. Estimated 100-150 NVA KIA during day.

8. Feb 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations southeast of Quang Tri. Light contact was made during day. Received message from Bde "Aerial observation and other sources give 1/502 credit for 250 NVA KIA (BC) for period 4 thru 8 Feb 1968"

Results to date: Friendly 82 WIA
 12 KIA
 Enemy 6 WIA/POW
 305 KIA (BC)
 100 KIA (Estimated)

During night Alfa and Bravo NDP infiltrated by sappers. Attacks very heavy. Casualties 8 KIA 19 WIA, 11 NVA KIA (BC).

12. Feb 1968

Battalion continues search and destroy operations east of Quang Tri and security LZ Jane. Contact light with 1 WIA by booby trap.

13. Feb 1968

Battalion continues search and destroy operations southeast of Quang Tri and security of LZ Jane. Negative contact made.

14. Feb 1968

During the reporting period the battalion continued S&D operations to the south east of Quang Tri and continued to furnish security along QL #10 northwest to Hai Lang.

15. Feb 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations with moderate contact made. Combat assault by Bravo recieved S/A and A/W fire during 2d lift. Negative contact made after that, Alfa and Charlie made contact while sweeping. Results: 1 WIA Enemy: 14 KIA.

16. Feb 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations with 2 combat assaults by Alfa and Charlie. Heavy contact results in 1 KIA, 13 WIA, 1 MIA, Enemy: 18 KIA (BC).

Results to date: Friendly: 116 WIA 1 MIA
21 KIA
Enemy: 6 WIA/POW
348 KIA (BC)
100 KIA (Estimated)

17. Feb 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations southeast of Quang Tri and conducted one combat assault with Alfa company into same area as contact of yesterday. Heavy contact resulted in 1 KIA and 11 WIA with negative enemy assessment.

18. Feb 1968

Battalion continued operations southeast of Quang Tri with light contact and negative results.

19. Feb 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations with mission of security of QL #1 in A.O. During this time period 3 VC KIA (LC) by ambush and 1 US WIA later KIA by mine on QL #1.

20. Feb 1968

Battalion continued with S&D and security missions. Light contact during day with 1 NVA KIA (BC) by ambush.

21. Feb 1968

Battalion continued with operations and had scattered light to moderate contact by Bravo. Results 1 KIA, 1 WIA and 4 NVA KIA (BC).

22. Feb 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations and security QL #1 southeast of Quang Tri. Operations by Alfa resulted in 2 KIA by grenade attack during security of LZ Janc. Bravo while sweeping made heavy contact with Charlie getting ambushed while moving to Bravo's aid. Delta also in heavy contact during day. Results: 5 KIA 32 WIA and 12 NVA KIA (BC) Estimated NVA battalion in area.

23. Feb 1968

Search and destroy operations continued with security of QL #1. Scattered light contact made with 2 WIA by BBT.

24. Feb 1968

Search and destroy operation continued with security of QL #1. Scattered light contact made with 1 WIA by BBT.

25. Feb 1968

Provided security of QL #1 and bridge (460400) in preparation for 26 Feb operation.

26. Feb 1968

Battalion cleared and secured assigned section of QL #1 and conducted combat assaults with 3 companies. During the period light combat was experienced and Alfa NDP was probed by sappers. Results 7 NVA KIA (BC) and 2 WIA, 2 KIA.

27. Feb 1968

Continued search and destroy operation southeast of Quang Tri and cleared and secured Q.L. #1. Two combat assaults resulted in heavy contact by Bravo and light contact by Charlie. Results: Friendly 12 WIA; 2 NVA KIA (BC).

28. Feb 1968

Battalion moved to FSB NORM 14 km northwest of Hue. Began operation in new AO and Charlie occupied position for preparation of LZ Sally.

29. Feb 1968

Began search and destroy operations in new AO. Alfa and Delta moved northeast from An Lo Bridge. Alfa taken under fire by estimated company of NVA. Results: 5 NVA KIA (BC)

Results to date: Friendly: 1 MIA	Enemy: 6 WIA/POW
177 WIA	377 KIA (BC)
31 KIA	100 KIA (Estimated)

Alfa pulled back and called for and received airstrikes, artillery and gunships.

1. Mar 1968

Battalion began operations in Quang Dien district from FSB Nora An Lo Bridge, and continued construction of FSB Sally. Alfa moved to Ap Lai Xa (YD 638310) where they had made heavy contact on 29 Feb 1968. They found no enemy but villagers stated that there had been approx 200 NVA/VC in the village and that they had been up most of the night dragging off their dead. Delta made light contact in vic YD 642298 and Battalion CO's C&C ship used to kill 16 NVA. Results: 16 NVA KIA (BC) by Strike's C&C.

2. Mar 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations and made light contact throughout the day. Booby Traps caused 3 WIA.

3. Mar 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations from An Lo Bridge to (YD 671311) Ap Duc Trong. Bravo and Charlie made heavy contact from village and called for all available fire support and pulled back. After heavy contact for 4 hours. B&C were withdrawn by air. During extraction battalion commanders C&C received heavy fire wounding battalion CO, his RTO, battalion S2, and command pilot. Battalion S2 DOA at Evans.

Results: Friendly:	17 WIA	Enemy:	1 WIA/POW
	4 KIA		13 KIA (BC)
			48 KIA (Estimated)

4. Mar 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations and conducted a joint sweep with F2 vic. An Lo Village. Results 2 NVA KIA (BC). Recon made light contact and had 2 men WIA.

5. Mar 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations with light contact. 1 man WIA from punji pit.

6. Mar 1968

Heavy contact made by Delta company at 1343 vic YD692304 (W-shaped vill). Delta broke contact at 1612 and were extracted from hot FZ after using all available fire support on the village. Estimated 2 reinforced companies in the village.

Results: Friendly	5 KIA	Enemy	58 KIA (BC)
	25 WIA		confirmed by aerial observation
	2 MIA		

7. Mar 1968

Battalion continued operations and made 3 company sized C/A's resulting in moderate contact. Bravo recovered the bodies of the 2 MIA from Delta.

Results:	1 KIA	Enemy:	30 KIA (EC)
	1 WIA		
	2 MIA (to 2 KIA)		

8. Mar 1968

Battalion continued operations and Alfa made heavy contact near Ap Dong Lam (YD680318). After 3 hours of heavy fighting Alfa was ordered to pull back leaving 3 KIA behind because of intensive enemy fire.

Results:	4 KIA	Enemy:	35 KIA (EC)
	23 WIA		4 WIA/POW
	3 MIA (KIA)		50 KIA (Estimated)

9. Mar 1968

Battalion conducted joint 3 company assault on village complex center of mass YD 6731. Alfa, Bravo, and Charlie remained in heavy contact from 0900 - 1445. Air Strikes, artillery, naval gunfire, and organic weapons, used against suspected 2 Dms of NVA in villages.

Results:	3 KIA	Enemy:	35 KIA (EC)
	17 WIA		20 KIA (EST)
	2 MIA		WIA/POW

10. Mar 1968

Companies engaged in heavy contact vic YD6731. Charlie and Alfa recovered 5 MIA (KIA). Alfa reported finding 33 more bodies from yesterday's action and killed 10 more.

Results:	5 KIA (MIA)	Enemy:	48 KIA (EC)
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11. Mar 1968

Battalion conducted joint operations and swept Ap Duc Trong with ARVN's. Contact was light and ARVN's found 46 NVA KIA (EC) by artillery and captured 3 more.

Results:	46 NVA KIA (EC)	Artillery
	3 WIA/POW	

12. Mar 1968

Battalion continued operations and made light contact.

Results:	2 VC KIA (EC)	and 1 VC POW.
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13. Mar 1968

Battalion made light contact during day and an ambush from Charlie fired on 70-80 NVA with Artillery.

Results: 3 NVA KIA (BC)
25 WIA (EST)

14. Mar 1968

Continued operations and moved companies to LZ Sally for marshalling and stand-down.

15. Mar 1968

Continued operations and found 1 NVA KIA (BC) by small arms, one day old. Received credit for 48 NVA KIA (BC) by artillery on 11 March.

Results: 49 NVA KIA (BC)

16 & 17 Mar 68

Battalion conducted limited operations and made negative contact.

18. Mar 1968

Battalion conducted full operations but made little contact until Delta spotted 10 VC around a fire at 2130 hrs. vic. 575237. With PF's, the Delta element surrounded and opened fire on V.C.

Results: 6 KIA (BC)
3 WIA/POW
1 KIA (EST)

19. Mar 1968

Alfa, Bravo, and Delta remained at Sally: Charlie moved to 615235 and began preparing FSB Strike. No contact.

20. Mar 1968

Limited search and destroy operations around Sally conducted. Fortification of FSB Strike continued.

21. Mar 1968

Limited search and destroy operations continued. Alfa ambushed 10 VC and later found a small tunnel complex.

Results: Enemy 6 VC KIA (BC)
2 VC WIA/POW

24. Mar 1968

The Battalion made only light contact except for Delta which received heavy fire from village at YD618198. All available fire support was utilized.

Results: 1 KIA Enemy: 3 KIA (BC)
8 WIA 10 KIA (Est)
1 MIA - WIA/POW

28. Mar 1968

Battalion continued search and destroy operations and experienced several changes in command personnel.

MAJ Shachnow went to S3
CPT Greenhouse went from D to S2
CPT Speedy went from C to Asst S3
CPT Justice went from S2 to Delta
1LT Wise went to C as CO
Alfa company OPCON to 3d Marine Div.

29, 30, & 31 Mar 1968

The Battalion continued search and destroy operations in Quang Dien District and defense of An Lo Brigade and LZ Sally. Very light contact was made with negative results.

Results from 19 Dec 1967 to 1 April 1968

Friendly 48 KIA Enemy 613 KIA (BC)
333 WIA 26 WIA/POW
4 MIA 210 KIA (Est)

1. Apr 1968

Company A OPCON 3d Marine Division. The other units conducted normal operation with negative results.

2. Apr 1968

Company A OPCON 3d Marine Division. Company B captured 2 tax collectors in village vic YD5731. They also destroyed 3 bunkers and 3 VC KHA. Company D had 1 man injured by BET.

3. Apr 1968

Company A returned to the battalion from 3rd Marine Division. There was negative enemy contact in the Battalion.

4. Apr 1968

A day of light contact with company B receiving sniper fire vic YD5927. Negative friendly or enemy casualties. Company D had a grenade thrown in their perimeter. They engaged with small arms resulting in 1 VC KHA.

5. Apr 1968

Company A provided mine sweep on QL #1 from An Lo to Camp Evans. 1 platoon moved by truck to vic YD6030 to act as a blocking force in support of company B conducting RIF from vic YD5829 to vic YD6127 they only engaged 1 sniper but had 1 US KHA and 3 WIA from BBT. They did find BBT's, a sub machine gun, 3 B40 rockets and several other small arms.

6. Apr 1968

A day of light contact throughout the battalion. Company D engaging 10 VC vic YD484; resulting in 3 VC KHA.

7. Apr 1968

Company D continued searching area vic YD4864 resulting in 5 VC KHA. The other units conducted search and clear operations and ambushes with negative contact.

8. Apr 1968

Company A found an arms cache while conducting RIF vic YD5325. They found 3 MI rifles, 1 SMG, 160 rounds S/A. Company B received automatic weapons fire vic YD6025, suffering 2 WIA. They returned fire with unknown results. Company C (-) remained at Camp Evans preparing for future operations and conducting training.

9. Apr 1968

Company A received their log vic YD5425. Shortly thereafter they moved approximately 200 meters NE. Early the next morning 50 VC attacked deserted log sight using long cane poles to flip satchel charges. Company A made contact with the enemy suffering 2 KHA and 1 WIA. Enemy losses were 2 VC KHA. Company B found 9 122mm rockets (complete).

10. Apr 1968

Company A NDF vic YD5325 received satchel charges, RPG rounds, and S/A fires. (Negative casualties) they returned fire with unknown results. Company D conducted security of Phong Dien Bridge and local ambushes one of these ambushes vic YD4937 engaged 4 VC with negative results. Recon killed 3 VC vic YD5231.

12. Apr 1968

The only contact was by company B. They engaged 5 VC vic YD5830 with negative results.

13 April is the day that 1-502 Infantry was released from the mission of security of Camp Evans. The CP moved from Camp Evans to LZ Sally.

This day was a day of relaxation for the battle weary troopers of 1-502 as they had stund down at Wunder beach.

A day spent in completing the move to LZ Sally. The units took resupply and prepared for future operations.

The battalion went OPCON to the 1st Brigade until. 30 April. During this operatio. all the records were destroyed in a rocket attack.

Battalion moved back into Quang Dien District by helicopter and began RIF operations and security of An Lo Bridge and clearing of Q.L. #1. "C" sprang ambush at 706348 on 5 NVA, killing 2 (BC). Later 2 VC were captured as they walked into the NDP. After interrogation it was learned they were going to vic 715330 to act as guides for NVA. At 0630 the NDP received SA fire and suffered 1 WIA. At 0635 they moved to the village 715330 and swept it finding a grave approximately 24 hours old with 4 KIA SA.

Alfa returned from OPCON to 1-501 Infantry after 3 day operation (Battle of Phuoc Yen). They recieved credit for 80 NVA KIA (BC)

4. May 1968

Cordon by A, B, & Recon with other 2nd Bde elements at vic 692303. Contact was heavy during the night by elements seeking to escape the Cordon. Artillery was called for and adjusted as well as use of small arms. At first light a sweep of the area revealed.

Enemy: 26 NVA KIA (BC)
2 VC KIA (BC)
3 VC POW

5. May 1968

Battalion continued RIF and security missions. A & B cordoned vill vic 700304 and had 1 WIA from grenade while enemy losses were 1 NVA KIA (BC), 2 NVA WIA/POW.

6. May 1968

Battalion continued it's pacification operations. A company NDP was under sporadic contact from 0335 till 0545 and had 2 WIA from SA fire from est, reinforced squad. First light check revealed 1 NVA KIA (BC). B company established 3 ambushes. At 2140 one ambush fired on 4 NVA across the river from them. No assessment could be made. At 0745 another ambush fired on 5 NVA in a sampan. Results 5 NVA KIA (BC) and sampan sunk. Bravo combat assault vill vic 750291 and encountered heavy fire. Formed a cordon of the vill with Delta and called in airstrikes and artillery. C company ambush killed 2 NVA KIA (BC). Delta combat assault to 748294 and were pinned down by heavy fire. Went into cordon with Bravo suffering 2 KIA, 7 WIA.

Results: 2 KIA Enemy: 8 NVA KIA (BC)
9 WIA 4 NVA WIA (Est)

7. May 1968

Bravo swept vill at first light vic 750290 and made contact. Results 3 WIA: 5 NVA KIA (BC). Charlie made contact at 0600 and remained in contact throughout the day vic 748307. The fire was heavy MG, lightMG, AW & SA. Called in artillery and airstrikes.

Results: 2 KIA Enemy: 5 NVA KIA (BC).
11 WIA
4 MIA later confirmed and recovered as KIA

8. May 1968

Battalion continued RIF and security missions of An Lo and QL #1. A made contact at 715294 cordoned the village and called in airstrikes. B company sprung an ambush on 30 NVA with organic weapons. First light check revealed 16 NVA KIA (BC). C 2 KIA and 2 WIA from sniper fire.

Results: 2 KIA 16 NVA KIA (BC)
 2 WIA
 2 MIA (KIA) found by C 1/501 also 2 NVA KIA from airstrike

9. May 1968

Bravo found 15 NVA KIA (BC) from airstrike at 724294. Charlie CA to 715302 made heavy contact and had 2 KIA and 3 WIA. Established ambushes around the area of contact and captured 1 NVA who crawled up to one of the positions while trying to escape. Delta made moderate scattered contact during the day and killed 8 NVA (BC). Recon found 3 NVA KIA (BC) in a grave at 723311

Results: 2 KIA 26 NVA KIA (BC)
 2 WIA 1 POW

10. May 1968

Battalion continued RIF and security missions in AO and made moderate to heavy contact. Charlie had a running fight with 2 NVA snipers that led into a village at 729333 where they received heavy fire that killed their point man and prevented his recovery. Airstrikes were called in and caused 10 NVA to leave their bunkers and run into Charlie's positions. Results: 1 KIA, 1 WIA, and 1 MIA (KIA), 11 NVA KIA (BC). Delta made contact at 715328 and called for an airstrike after the strike a sweep of the area revealed 13 NVA KIA (BC). Recon found 8 NVA KIA (BC) at 720296 killed by airstrike the day before.

Results for day: 1 KIA 32 NVA KIA (BC)
 1 WIA
 1 MIA Later recovered as KIA

11. May 1968

Light contact was made during the day and Charlie recovered their MIA (KIA) and found 1 NVA KIA (BC).

12, 13, and 14 May 1968

Light contact made during this time as the battalion continued the RIF and security missions in the AO. On the 14th Recon and Bravo operating with PF's from Quang Dien killed 1 NVA (BC), 2 VC (BC).

15, 16, and 17 May 1968

Light contact made as the battalion was credited with 6 VC KIA (BC) and 2 VC POW.

18, 19 May 1968

Light contact and the Battalion received 2 WIA from snipers.

20, 21 May 1968

The Battalion continued RIF operations and security mission of An Lo and QL #1. During those 2 days only light contact was made.

Results: 1 WIA
4 VC KIA BC
1 VC WIA (Escaped)

Delta while conducting the road sweep from An Lo to Evans spotted a mine but before they could remove it a civilian bus ran over it. Results no one injured but the bus was heavily damaged.

22. May 1968

Bravo company while on a RIF vic of 694305 recieved fire from the vill. After returning fire and artillery they swept the area and found 2 NVA KIA (BC) and captured 3 NVA/VC POW's in their bunkers. Delta fired artillery on suspected enemy positions then swept thru the area and found 3 VC KIA and 1 NVA KIA.

Results: 3 NVA KIA (BC)
5 POW

23, 24, 25 May 1968

Battalion made light contact throughout the period while conducting RIF and security missions throughout the AO.

Results from these operations were:
1 WIA BBT 8 VC KIA (BC).

26. May 1968

As the battalion continued operations in the AO Charlie suffered 6 WIA from a BBT 105 and Delta made heavy contact vic 691312. They returned fire and called in artillery and estimated the enemy element as an NVA company (-). 14 WIA.

Results: 20 WIA.

27. May 1968

The Battalion made light contact during the day's operations.

Results: 1 WIA BBT 1 VC KIA (BC)
1 KIA BBT 1 VC POW

28, 29, 30, and 31 May 1968

The Battalion continued RIF operations in the AO and security mission of An Lo and QL #1. During this period contact was very light and resulted in 7 VC captured with weapons.

Results from 19 December 1967 to 1 June 1968
Friendly: 59 KIA
393 WIA
Enemy: 852 KIA (BC)
250 KIA (Est)
129 WIA/POW

1. June 1968

Light contact Bravo company caught 2 VC coming out of bunkers 2 VC KIA (BC). Delta company ambushed 6 VC, 1 VC KIA later found 2 more trying to run away 2 VC KIA.

2. June 1968

Battalion RIF with PF, Bravo joint RIF with PF vic YD7140 and found that almost all of the gates entering the vill were BBT with grenades. These grenades were blown in place. As they swept thru the village they received light contact and returned fire wounding 1 VC who fled. They also blew several BBT's in place but 1 PF was killed when he stepped on a 105 BBT.

3. June 1968

Battalion continued operations. Alfa secured An Lo and conducted RIF with 1 Platoon of PF's. At vic YD6231 PF's attach and killed 3 VC and had 3 WIA. Bravo combined operations. Sweep resulted in 1 WIA from fire at vic YD7132 and 3 NVA KIA in bunkers at vic YD7131 by H/C. Recon 1 KIA 105 BBT.

4. June 1968

Battalion continued operation and road sweep. Co B conducted a C/A to vic 699288 and conducted S&C operations with negative contact.

5. June 1968

Contact was light with 2 Hoi Chanhs coming into Co A NDP. They had 1 AK47 and 1 SKS.

6. June 1968

Battalion continued operations with Delta working with some plow. Contact was light capturing 1 VC, and 10,000 pounds of rice, 1 SKS and 2 VC KIA, and wounding 1 more who escaped.

7. June 1968

Battalion continued search of villages in the AO capturing 1 VC, 10,000 pounds of rice, 1 SKS, and 2 VC KIA and wounding one more who escaped.

8. June 1968

Was a day of heavy activity with all units reporting at least light contact. The Bn killed 4 VC, captured 4 VC and 2 M-16, 1 AK47, 1 Czech M/G and ammo. US troops had three slightly wounded from shrapnel. Two of the VC captured were in a sampan hauling rice down the river. They said VC used this method quite often.

9. June 1968

Co "C" and Co "A" combined for a cordon search of an area vic YD7030. The cordon resulted in 2 VC KIA and a large cache containing weapons, ammo, clothing and food. There were 23 bunkers in the area, 15 had been used recently, (all destroyed). In vic YD7133 numerous punji pits were encountered. Co C found 5 tons of rice. Co D and PF continued operating with Rome plow. Their progress report showed, 200 meters hedgerow, 45 bunkers destroyed. During the day 8 VC KIA, 6 VC captured, 1 of these was a messenger who had document from his commander stating his men could not fight due to lack of food, weapons, and ammo. There were 5 friendly WIA from BBT.

10. June 1968

Co "C" and Co "A" continued sweep of cordon established 9 June while D Co continued Rome plow operations. They requested and received an airstrike vic YD6931. Co "C" and "A" had light contact capturing 7 VC, 5 tons of rice while they had 1 friendly KIA and 4 WIA. The Rome plow destroyed another 36 bunkers. The PSYOPS plane flew over the AO making leaflet drops and loud speaker broadcasts.

11. June 1968

The cordon operation was completed with 6 more VC KIA 1 Hoi Chanh, 9½ tons of rice were discovered. Also a directive came out on this day from Brigade that said all elements operating independently would have compass, map, radio, and strobe light. Co "A" had one friendly WIA (US).

12. June 1968

Very light contact 2 VC KIA. Co "C" found 19 tons of rice 1 PF was WIA by a BBT.

13. June 1968

The PF joined Co A and B in a joint operation resulting in 5 VC KIA, 5 VC captured, VC Hoi Chanh, 2 AK47, 1 M-16, and 1 B40, were captured 1 PF and 1 US were WIA. Co D continued to support Rome plow which destroyed 5 acres of village. 75 bunkers and 300 meters of hedgerow.

14. June 1968

Battalion continued search and clear operations in AO and security of An Lo Bridge. Light contact with 1 VC KIA, 8 VC's and 1 NVA captured 1 VC captain. The VC KIA was a Lieutenant. The Rome plow continued operation destroy 100 meters hedgerow and 20 bunkers. Alfa also destroyed 20 bunkers and small cache.

15. June 1968

A cordon and sweep of the village vic YD6432 was conducted the area was heavily BBT. As a result 1 man was WIA, and 2 KIA an airstrike was request to destroy BBT in the village. Bravo company was in contact being under mortar fire and S/A most of the day. They killed 5 VC and captured 3 Hoi Chanh. Rome plow continued, destroying 450 meters of hedgerow 5 acres village and 70 bunkers.

16. June 1968

Co "A" initiated ambush, killed 3 VC, captured 2 VC (WIA) and 2 AK47. Co "D" was released from Rome plow and "A" assumed Rome plow security. Rome plow destroyed 500 meters hedgerow and 88 bunkers. PF conducted patrols and had light contact 2 friendly WIA. Co "B" had 2 WIA.

17. June 1968

Co "C" combined with tanks for RIF vic YD6233 W/Negative contact. Co "A" W/Rome plow destroyed 93 bunkers, 400 meters of hedgerow and uncovered 3 bodies. One VC was detained. Co "A" had 1 US WIA.

18. June 1968

Co "C" and tanks conducted RIF. Tanks were utilized to recon by fire and fired canister rounds at suspected BET. A company continued Rome plow security Rome plow destroyed 650 meters hedgerow and 120 bunkers. D company and PF conducted joint operation at vic YD6930 finding 5 VC bodies and 1 SKS, vic YD6930. PF with "D" killed 1 VC.

19. June 1968

Battalion continued operations with very light contact, killed 1 VC. Rome plow destroyed 80 bunkers.

20. June 1968

Battalion continued search and clear operations, KIA 6 VC (one of these was the district economic chief, captured 3 AK44, 1 Czech machine gun, and 1 SKS. "A" security for Rome plow. Rome plow destroyed 400 meters of hedgerow, 90 bunkers.

21. June 1968

Co "C", Co "D", and 1 ARVN Co combined for search and clear operations vic YD7232. Results: 1 VC KIA, 3 VC captured, 7 weapons captured.

22. June 1968

The 4/3 ARVN Battalion operated in our AO vic while moving into position they were ambushed and later mortared receiving 6 KIA and 10 WIA. PF killed 6 VC, captured 1 AK47, 1 AK44, 1 SKS, and 1-90mmrr. In this operation the PF platoon leader was KIA.

23. June 1968

23 June Joint Operations were conducted with ARVN and PF, light contact. PF captured 7 VC in sampan. A captured 1 VC in NDP. He was Hoi Chan. He then helped "A" and PF look for the rest of his unit. ARVN had 2 men WIA by BET, 1 by S/A.

24. June 1968

Battalion continued search and clear operations. Very light contact, enemy is becoming evasive. Results 1 VC KIA, 5 ton rice seized.

25. June 1968

25 June very light contact. A NDP was probed on ground and mortared 2 friendly WIA. 3 VC were captured and 2 Hoi Chanh.

26. June 1968

26 June a joint operation by A&B was conducted with B blocking vic YD7132 and A sweeping from south towards their blocking position. Results B killed 6 VC and captured 2, "A" killed 2 captured 1 several weapons were also captured.

27. June 1968

The Battalion continued defense of An Lo, RP security, and search and clear operations. Very light contact. US captured 2 VC PF received 6 Hoi Chanh. They said all their leaders had been killed by airborne. There were 2 US WIA from BBT.

28. June 1968

Company B set up blocking position while PF conducted eagle flight. Resulting in B killed 6 VC. The PF killed 4 VC, captured 3 VC. Delta company had 1 KIA and 6 WIA as result of BBT.

29. June 1968

Company A conducted RIF vic with PF captured 1 VC and SKS found 2 ton rice and 1 VC KIA by artillery. Company B continued working with RP destroyed 500 meters of hedgerow 400 meters and 100 meters village and 83 bunkers.

30. June 1968

Company A set up blocking position on NW of village vic YD6832 while PF swept through from SE resulting in 3 VC KIA 5 VC captured. Company C had 1 KIA and 1 WIA by BBT.

1. July 1968

Battalion continued search and clear operation, elements from Pistol Pete (Sweet Fanner 65), PF Recon and A combined in a joint operation vic YD6338. Results: Sweet Fanner killing 6 VC, 1 friendly WIA, PF killed 8 VC, 2 captured. "A" report 2 VC KIA. Later 1 NVA and 1 VC Hoi Chanh to "A". PF with "A" killed 3 VC captured 3 VC.

2. July 1968

Battalion continued operation with 5 tanks attached to "D", 4 dozers (RP) to B contact light with 1 VC KIA (stay behind ambush) 1 US and 1 PF WIA BBT.

3. July 1968

Because of heavy BBT in vic YD6129 and YD6129 artillery preps followed by air strikes were used prior to troops entering the area. Company C got 1 VC KIA, had one WIA from sniper fire. Company A had 3 WIA by Chi Com grenade, A captured 3 VCS.

4. July 1968

Battalion continued operations with security for An Lo mine sweep and search and clear operations. One eagle flight was flown. An air strike was called in on vic YD6029 contact was light. Gunships KIA 3 VC, 3 bodies (2 VC and 1 NVA) KIA by artillery were discovered buried. The Battalion encountered many BBT suffering 4 WIA, and fifteen tons of rice were recovered from cache.

5. July 1968

Battalion continued search and clear, and some plow operation. Resulting in 3 VC KIA and 4 VC captured. A Hoi Chanh was taken up in a chopper for PSYOPS purposes. 1 US KIA by BBT and 1 WIA.

6. July 1968

Light contact was made. "B" had 1 WIA from BBT and PF had 1 KIA from BBT. Several weapons and small caches were found and 1 VC KIA.

7. July 1968

A busy day with company A working to resettle refugees. The Battalion flew eagle flights and one C/A vic YD6930. Total results were 10 VC captured/WIA, 4 VC KIA and 1 NVA captured. One eagle flight observed cache, with 10 SKS and 60mm tube. Numerous other S/A were captured by Battalion.

8. July 1968

Very light activity in AO refugees still being moved. 1 VC captured PF got 3 Hoi Chanh.

9. July 1968

Light sporadic contact throughout the AO. PF combined with US in joint operation including 2 separate C/A. The results were 3 VC KIA, 10 VC captured, 3 Hoi Chanh and numerous caches and equipment discovered.

10. July 1968

10 July although Battalion conducted full scale operation with PF making 2 C/A the enemy was elusive. Several weapons were found, 4 NVA KIA, and 1 VC KIA.

11. July 1968

11 July operations continued with Company "D" securing An Lo and working with dozer. C searching in vic YD6530 for caches. Other units conducted search and clear operations. Light contact with 1 VC KIA and 2 Hoi Chanh. The Hoi Chanh said they had given up because of the some plows and eagle flights. They said 20 other VC fled to mountains that day.

12. July 1968

Company D continued rice plow operation south of An Lo on the west side of river. They continued to destroy bunkers, buildings, and found small caches. A, B, and C continued search and clear operation with light contact. Company A had 2 US WIA by BBT. Company B found in excess of a ton of rice and captured 1 VC vic YD7132. One Hoi Chanh turned himself into company B.

13. July 1968

Company "B", Recon and PF established cordon around village in vic YD6438, with Sweet Banner 65 to sweep from the south. The totals were company B 4 VC KIA, 4 weapons, PF, 19 VC KIA, 16 weapons, 4VC captured, 2 VCS. Company "D" continued rice plow work. Company C found 5 ton of rice.

14. July 1968

Company A continued RIF vic YD6026 to YD6128, they had 2 US WIA by BBT. Company B, and Recon C/A assault to YD6929, and YD7029. and continued search and clear operation. Company C search and clear vic YD6630. Sweet Banner 65 vic YD6334 had contact, killed 7 VC, and captured 2 VC. They also found 12 AK44 in one cache.

15. July 1968

The Battalion continued operation in same location. The enemy is becoming more evasive and less willing to fight. The day had very little enemy activity. 2 Hoi Chanh turned themselves into P.F.

16. July 1968

Company A security of An Lo and RP. Company "B" Recon and PF are still working in the fish hook area center of mass YD6928. They found 9 VC KIA, 2 NVA KIA discovered 20 KIA NVA in plastic bags in river vic YD7029. This is further evidence of the blows dealt to VC/NVA.

17. July 1968

Company B continued search and clear in Phouc Yen village discovered 6 SKS, 3 AK-47, 1 Chicom 9mm pistol 1-82mm mortar various ammo and commo equipment and 7 NVA KIA. They also killed 2 VC by ambush. Recon conducted C/A vic 6129. LZ was Red and door gunner on gunship WIA, enemy broke contact and fled.

18. July 1968

Company "A" security of An Lo and M/S. Company B continued search and clear in fish hook finding, several weapons and misc gear. Company C and 2 platoon PF conducted RIF vic YD6528. Co D RIF in vic YD6530. An airstrike was called in vic YD6332. Later assessment 5 VC KIA PF had 3 Hoi Chanh. Gun ships killed 9 VC YD6434.

19. July 1968

Battalion continued to secure An Lo and conduct search and clear operations with light contact. Company C found 4 ton rice vic YD6630. Company D had sniper fire (ineffective) enemy broke contact and fled. Recon received 3-60mm mortar rounds negative casualties.

20. July 1968

Company D sprung an ambush on 2 VC killed 1 VC. Company A secured An Lo Bridge. B, C, and D, continued search and clear operation with negative contact

21. July 1968

Company A, C, and Recon cordon village vic YD6432 and searched resulting in 2 NVA KIA and 1 NVA captured also captured weapons and destroyed BBTs in the areas. CS was dropped from a helicopter after the cordon set up. Company B RIF in vic YD-7231, wounded 1 VC. Company D sprung ambush vic YD6129 on 1 VC, negative assessment

22. July 1968

Battalion continued search and clear operations. Company A made contact with 2 VC vic YD6132 with negative results. Company B sprung an ambush vic YD7132 resulting in 1 VC KIA, 2 VC WIA, 10 VC captured. B killed 1 VC earlier vic YD7233.

23. July 1968

Company A secured An Lo and RIF in vic of Bridge. They killed 2 VC vic YD6132 They also captured 1 VC vic YD6132. Company B continued RIF operations vic YD7332 and YD7133. Resulting in 3 VC KIA, 2 VC POW and 2 VCS. They also captured several weapons. Company D was security for RP. The RP hit 250 lb bomb vic 6128 destroyin the dozer. The driver was not injured.!! RP = Rome Flow

24. July 1968

Very light contact with Battalion continuing search and clear operations. Company A defense of An Lo Bridge. Company B detained 11 VCS vic YD7233 (Later classified IC). Company C had 1 US WIA and killed 1 VC in operation vic YD6323.

25. July 1968

Company A secured An Lo Bridge assisted in security of RP. Company "C" with 1 platoon PF found 1 VC KIA by artillery. Company B and D continued search and clear operation with negative contact.

26. July 1968

Battalion continued search and clear operation with all companies receiving at least sniper fire. When fire was returned enemy fled. The VC are now in smaller groups. 1 US from Company C WIA by BBT.

27. Jul 1968

Company A secured An Lo and M/S. Company B conducted joint operations with 7 platoons of PF. RIF to village C/M YD6830 with blocking positions YD6729, and YD6631. Then 4 platoon PF C/A vic YD6629. Totals for the day, PF: 1 VC KIA, 7 VC captured and numerous weapons. "B" 9 VC KIA one of these was C114 Company Commander and later a female VC (Quang Dien LNO) was killed. Company C RIF vic YD6132 and YD6333, they hit 250 lb BBT results 4 WIA (scout dog KIA) at vic YD6232 they captured 4 VCS.

28. Jul 1968

Company A secured An Lo Bridge. Company B conducted RIF to village C/M YD6828 where a few small caches were found and numerous BBT, but negative contact. Company C no caps. Company D OPCON 1st Bde. PF C/A to YD7029 RIF to village C/M YD7030 results, 3 VC KIA (1 was platoon leader and another assistant platoon leader of Tan Taun Lai).

29. Jul 1968

Company A secured An Lo and mine sweep. Company B conduct RIF operations to village C/M vic YD6829 Results 11 VC KIA (gunships killed 3 more vic YD6530) 3 VC POW and 1 Chieu Hoi. Company C RF security. Company D OPCON 1st Bde. PF C/A to vic YD6631 and YD6530 and conducted sweep and block for company B results 2 VC KIA 4 VC and 1 AK47 captured.

30. Jul 1968

Battalion continued search and clear operations with negative contact. Battalion concentrated on caches and BBT. A total of 6 Chieu Hoi's surrendered.

31. Jul 1968

A company secured An Lo Bridge. "B" continued RIF. "C" had contact vic YD6431 but enemy fled. Company D OPCON 1st Bde. Recon received 2 RPG rounds vic 6432 but never saw the enemy.

1. Aug 1968

Company A secured An Lo and established local ambushes. Company B RIF vic YD6529. Company C RP security. Company D sprung ambush vic YD6830 on 2 VC, 1 VC KIA. Log bird fired on 3 NVA vic YD2331. Recon moved into the area finding 1 NVA KIA and 2 NVA WIA.

2. Aug 1968

Battalion continued normal operation with company A securing An Lo M/S and local patrols. One ambush killed 1 VC vic YD6339 patrols killed 2 VC vic YD6833 and captured 2 VC vic YD6334. Company B conducted C/A to vic YD6928 negative contact. Company C PF secured. Company D OPCON 1/327 1st Bde.

3. Aug 1968

Battalion continued normal operation with company B killing 1 VC in spider hole.

4. Aug 1968

Company A secured An Lo, RIF of vill vic YD6432, they encountered DBT but no VC. Company B RIF C/M 6630. They killed 1 VC and captured 3 VC, 1 VCS vic 6432. Company C received S/A from vill vic 6232, called artillery negative assessment. Company D OPCON 1/327 Recon RIF 6836.

5. Aug 1968

Company A secured An Lo and conducted Eagle flights to the north into the "Street" area. Company B killed 3 VC and captured 2 while on RIF operation vic YD6630.

6. Aug 1968

Battalion continued RIF operations and secured An Lo Bridge. Several small caches were discovered and Charlie company killed 1 VC.

7. Aug 1968

Battalion conducted RIF operations. Company C conducted C/A and engaged 1 VC with negative assessment.

8. Aug 1968

Battalion continued with RIF operations. Company C conducted C/A and Recon had established ambushes. Recon had light contact with 3 VC, negative assessment.

9. Aug 1968

Intensive operations including eagle flights by Bravo C/A by Recon. Total for the day were 2 VC captured by Bravo. Bravo also came under mortar attack and had 3 WIA.

10. Aug 1968

Company A secured An Lo Bridge and established ambushes. They sprang ambush vic YD6131 resulting in 2 NVA captured. The NVA said they were from 9th NVA regiment. Alpha encountered many BBT resulting 2 KIA and 2 WIA. Bravo RIF vic YD6534. Company B killed 1 VC and captured 2 while conducting RIF operation vic YD6334. They continued RIF to the south finding a base camp. Resulting in 5 VC KIA, 5 VC captured and 3 VCS several weapons were also captured. Later while in NDP Bravo was mortared, hit with RPG and S/A. Bravo had 1 KIA and 11 WIA.

11 - 16 Aug 1968

Battalion continued RIF, security of An Lo Bridge, and some plow operations with very light contact. Company A was taken off of An Lo security and Bravo replaced them. Company D is at FSB Georgia.

17. Aug 1968

Company A received 60mm mortar fire vic YD6133. They called artillery but first light check proved negative assesment. Company B secured An Lo Bridge and worked with rome plow.

18. Aug 1968

Contact was light with company B capturing 2 VCS, 1 VC WIA was brought into CP by his parents. He was evacuated to 221 Surgical.

19. Aug 1968

Company C detained 3 VCS while conducting RIF operation vic YD6334. While moving VCS to an LZ one VCS detonated a BBT injuring all 3 VCS and 2 US. Company D received several mortar rounds at FSB Georgia 1 US WIA.

20. Aug 1968

Company A conducted RIF vic 6131 with negative contact. Company B secured An Lo and security of rome plow. Company C discovered 3 VC bodies vic YD6333 that had been result of company A the 27 July. Company C also captured 1 VC WIA vic YD6433.

21 -- 22 Aug 1968

Contact extremely light. Company D was sent to LZ Sally for RRF duty. They utilized this time to get new equipment and resupply.

23. Aug 1968

Company A RIF vic YD6133. They were utilizing local sampans to search river and one capsized one US drowned Company B security of An Lo and rome plow operation. Company C conducted C/A vic 6031. Results were 3 VC KIA, 1VC captured and 2 Cheiu Hoi's. Company D killed 2 VC vic YD6729 in bunkers.

24. Aug 1968

Company A engaged small VC force vic YD6133 with S/A, negative assesment. They also engaged 6 sampans resulting in 2 VC KIA. Company B secured An Lo. The enemy tried a small scale ground attack which was repelled. Negative casualties. Company C conducted RIF vic 6333 killed 2 VC vic YD6729 in bunkers.

25. Aug 1968

Received a report that the C114 LF VC company was located in a village vic YD6830. Company D was sent to Cordon the area. Early that morning 7 VC tried to swim the river. Results 7 VC KIA. 1 other VC KIA in river later. A search of the village the next day resulted in no enemy being found.

26. Aug 1968

Company A RIF operation and rome plow security. They found 2 VC in bunker. They had been dead about 1 week. No other contact.

18. Sep 1968

Company A sprung ambush vic 6729 on 1 VC, resulting in 1 VC KIA. Company B provided security for route. Company C still opcon to 1/501.

19. Sep 1968

Company D had light contact with 2 VC vic 6630 with negative results. Recon engaged 5 VC vic 7130 with negative results. They later engaged 1 VC from ambush in the same area resulting in 1 VC KIA.

20. Sep 1968

Company A security of An Lo. Company B opcon to 1/501. Company C RIF vic 6530, they had 2 light contacts with 3 VC vic 6628 and 4 VC vic 7029 with negative assessment. Company D engaged 1 VC from ambush with grenade negative assessment.

21 - 23 Sep 1968

Normal activities continued with no contact. Company B found 1 ammo cache vic YD6029.

24. Sep 1968

Battalion continued RIF operation. Company B OPCON to 1-501. Company D killed 2 VC vic YD6234. Recon engaged 2 VC vic YD6913 resulting 1 VC captured.

25. Sep 1968

Company A security of An Lo and local patrols and ambushes. Company B on operation at Phu Vang. Company C and D continued RIF operation. Recon captured 1 VC vic YD6930.

26. Sep 1968

A day of very light contact the only unit to make contact was company D. They ambushed 2 VC resulting in two VC KIA.

27 - 28 Sep 1968

The Battalion continued normal combat operations, but there was no enemy contact in these two days.

29. Sep 1968

Company A security of An Lo and mine sweep. Company B had movement near one of their ambushes vic YD6532. They engaged with S/A with negative results. A look out on the tower at An Lo spotted 15 individuals digging in. Artillery was called in results unknown.

30. Sep 1968

Company C replaced company A on An Lo Bridge security. Company C conducted RIF operation vic YD6731. Company B detained 7 VC vic YD6135.

27. Aug 1968

Company A sprung ambush on 2 VC vic 6132 resulting in 1 VC KIA. Received 3 RPG rounds vic YD6131, 3 US WIA. There was light contact with 2 other groups of VC (2-3). 1 VC KIA vic YD6134. Company B continued security of An Lo. They captured 1 VC female vic 6334. Company's C, and D continued RIF operation with negative contact.

28. Aug 1968

Battalion continued normal operation the only contact was by ambushes. Company C called artillery on approximately 9 VC 400 - 500 meter Northeast of vic YD6033, negative results. Company D observed movement in front of their ambush. They fired S/A and threw grenades resulting in 1 VC KIA.

29. Aug 1968

Very light contact one VC was captured in a bunker by company A working with RF.

30. Aug 1968

Company A conducted RIF vic YD5132 resulting in 1 VC KIA and 6 VCS captured. Recon made contact vic YD6830. They engaged 2 VC but they fled. Company B killed 2 VC, wounded 2 VC, while operation vic 6438.

31. Aug 1968

Company A was the only unit to have contact they killed 1 VC vic 6830.

1. Sep 1968

An ambush by company D engaged 1 VC vic 6730 resulting 1 VC KIA and weapon. Recon was sent to vic 7231 where log bird had fired on 3 NVA Recon got 1 NVA KIA, 1 NVA and 1 VC captured.

2. Sep 1968

No significant contact but the battalion continued to encounter many BBT.

3. Sep 1968

Company A found 2 VC bodies in a bunker vic 6232. Company B found about 3000 lb of rice. Recon found 2 VC in graves.

4 - 5 Sep 1968

No contact was made. Company C replaced company A on An Lo Bridge security.

7. Sep 1968

Company A killed 1 VC and captured 2 vic 7030. Company found a weapons cache with 26 weapons vic 6234. Company C secured An Lo Bridge established and local ambushes. Recon killed 2 VC and captured 1 VC vic 7334.

8. Sep 1968

Company A captured 2 female VC vic 7030. They killed 2 VC and captured two vic 65 the VC fled dropping two weapons. Blood trails were found but no bodies. Company B killed 1 VC and discovered 18 individual weapons, and 8 M/G vic 6234. Recon killed 2 VC vic 7333.

9. Sep 1968

Vary light contact. Company B sprang an ambush on 2 VC vic 6035. Resulting in 2 VC KIA.

10. Sep 1968

Company A continued RIF vic 6630 finding 5 ton of rice, killed 1 VC in a bunker, and capturing 2 VCS. Alpha engaged 5 VC vic 6730 from ambush negative results. Company C moved to FSB Mongoose opcon to 1/501. Company D moved to An Lo to assume bridge security.

11. Sep 1968

Company A conducted RIF vic 6631. Company B sprang an ambush vic 6133 on 2 VC resulting in 1 VC KIA. This VC was a tax collector. Bravo also has security of some plow. Company C opcon to 1/501. Company A secured An Lo, local patrols around bridge. They detained 1 VCS. Recon ambushed 3 VC, killing 1 vic 7031.

12. Sep 1968

Company A engaged 2 VC in bunker vic 6729. 1 VC killed and 1 VC captured. They had contact with 2 or 3 VC twice more but negative assessment. Company B continued some plow security and RIF operation with negative contact. Company C opcon 1/501 company D security of An Lo Recon captured 1 VC vic 7233.

13. Sep 1968

Company A continued RIF operation vic 6731 capturing 1 VC. While on some plow security Bravo received S/A fire vic 6332. A cordon was formed around the village and artillery called in. A sweep of the area resulted in 9 VC KIA and 10 VC POW, and several weapons. One of the POW's was the CO of the H319 and another cadre finance officer was captured.

14. Sep 1968

Company B continued cordon calling in artillery and air strikes final results for the day were 8 VC KIA, 11 VC POW, 4 VCS. The other units continued normal activity with negative contact.

15 - 17 Sep 1968

Battalion continued RIF operation, some plow operation, and security of An Lo Bridge. The enemy was evasive and there were only two light sniper contacts with negative assessment. The units continued to encounter BBT and find small caches.

1. Oct 1968

Company A conducted RIF vic YD6530, they engaged 2 VC with S/A resulting in 1 VC KIA. One of their day ambushes KIA 1 VC vic YD6928. Company B engaged 3 VC with S/A and claymores vic YD6031 with negative assessment.

2 - 3 Oct 1968

No enemy activity or contact during this period.

4. Oct 1968

Company A set up blocking positions vic YD6729 for 2 PF platoons sweeping from South East. Company B had 2 Cheiu Hois lead them to an arms cache containing 2 60mm mortar 18 individual weapons, 1000 rounds of ammo, 8 claymores (Chi Com) 10 rifle grenades, and 2 RPG rounds. Company C received 2 mortar rounds at An Lo negative casualties. Recon had standown at LZ Sally.

5. Oct 1968

Company A conducted RIF and ambushes vic YD6730 with negative contact. Company B found 1 SKS, ammo and other equipment vic YD6538. At vic YD6130 company B engaged 1 VC with negative assessment. Company D at Phu Vang.

6 - 8 Oct 1968

The Battalion (L) (with exception of company D at Phu Vang) continued normal operations with negative contact. We did provide 4 EM to NP on a check point to look for VC and draft dodgers. The EM worked with elements from Pistol Pete from vic YD7529 to vic YD8332. They detained 183 people who were classified as follows:

IC	131
VCS	9
ARVN deserters	1
Military age males	41
VC	1

10. Oct 1968

Negative contact.

11. Oct 1968

Company A is at Phu Vang they have security for one/S on highway 551 and occupied strong points along POL pipeline, security of pumping station, Hue Bridge and LCU ramp. Company B RIF vic YD6929 and night ambushes. Company C security of An Lo and local patrols and ambushes. Company D RIF vic YD6629 killed 1 NVA in a bunker and captured 1 VCS. Recon had negative contact.

12. Oct 1968

Company A still at Phu Vang with the same missions. Company B and C continued RIF operation and ambushes with negative contact. Company D captured 4 VC in vic YD-6629 in bunkers. They also captured 2 M-16, 1-45 pistol and a light M/G, Recon continued RIF and night ambushes with negative contact.

13. Oct 1968

Company A operating Phu Vang. Company A operating Phu Vang. Company B had one man WIA vic YD6930 by sniper. They returned fire but had negative assessment. Company C security of An Lo, M/S, and local patrols and ambushes. Company D received S/A fire vic YD6325, they returned fire with S/A, M/G and M-79. A sweep of area produced 4 VC KIA. Recon captured documents from a sampan vic YD7233. The VCS in sampan escaped.

14. Oct 1968

The Battalion continued RIF and ambushes with negative contact. The documents found on one of company D KIA's of 13 Oct showed that one of them was a Company CO Hoang Van Trung of K300B.

15. Oct 1968

Company B the only unit to have contact. They engaged two VC in sampans vic YD-7129 resulting in 2 VC KIA.

16. Oct 1968

The Battalion had negative enemy contact on this day. It was however an important day as it was the day we assumed security of FSB T-Bone. Company C was lifted to T-Bone 1600 hours.

17 - 18 Oct 1968

RIF missions, ambushes and eagle flights failed to develop contact.

19. Oct 1968

Battalion continued RIF operation security of An Lo, T-Bone and company A at Phu Vang. No contact made, company C found small cache vic YD7230.

20. Oct 1968

Company A at Phu Vang company B security of An Lo and M/S. The 1-3 ARVN regiment working in our AO vic YD6529 found 2 VC bodies attributed to company D 8 days earlier. Company D engaged 3 VC vic YD6438 with S/A negative assessment. Company C 26 element at T-Bone.

21. Oct 1968

Negative enemy contact. PSYOPS personnel, led by a Chieu Hoi, captured 60mm mortar. Two PACV's from Pistol Pete started operating in North East part of our AO bounded by Song Bo and Jung Rivers. They picked up 1 VCS. Our S-3 acted as aerial observers for this operation.

22. Oct 1968

Company A Phu Vang. Company B security An Lo and M/S. Company C worked with PACV's from Pistol Pete. Company D the only unit to make contact engaged 3 VC wounding 1. The other 2 fled carrying the WIA with them.

23. Oct 1968

Company B while on An Lo Bridge security engaged 1 VC with small arms negative assessment. The S-3 air sighted 2 VC from log bird and engaged resulting in 2 VC KIA and 2 weapons captured.

24. Oct 1968

Company A lifted from Phu Vang to vic YD8130. Company B security of An Lo. Company C lifted to Phu Vang to assume security mission of company A.

25. Oct 1968

The only unit making contact was company D they engaged two VC with negative assessment. They found 3 cases RPG rounds and other ammo vic YD64537.

26. Oct 1968

Company A detained 1 VCS vic YD7132. Company B security of An Lo Bridge. Company C (-) Phu Vang, company D opcon 1/501, C26 T-Bone, Recon FSB Apache.

27. Oct 1968

The Battalion had negative enemy contact. The last light recon flight engaged 1 VC, unknown results, but capturing 10 grenades, 1 .45 pistol, 4 rucksacks and some documents.

28. Oct 1968

Company A ambushes vic YD7233 received S/A engaged 2 VC with negative results. 1 IS WIA. Company B security of An Lo, company C (-) at Phu Vang, company D OPCON 1/501. C26 T-Bone security.

29 - 31 Oct 1968

No contact made.

1. Nov 1968

Company A conducted RIF operation vic YD6630. Company B security of An Lo, M/S, local patrols and ambushes. Company C (-) Phu Vang providing security for M/S of Highway 551, occupied strong points on POL pipeline, security of pump station and LCU ramp. Company D OPCON 1/501 Recon at Apache. C26 at T-Bone. Negative contact

2. Nov 1968

The units continued operations in same vic except company D returned to An Lo and company B went OPCON to 1/501 there was negative contact.

3. Nov 1968

Battalion continued normal operation with negative contact.

4. Nov 1968

Company A RIF vic YD6630, company B OPCON to 1/501. Company C at Phu Vang, company D security of An Lo Bridge, and Recon security FSB T-Bone there was negative contact.

5. Nov 1968

Company A was lifted by Hook to FSB T-Bone. Their mission to provide security and conduct local patrols and ambushes. Company B OPCON 1/501. Company C (-) Phu Vang. Company D security of An Lo, M/S, local patrols and ambushes no contact.

6 - 7 Nov 1968

Battalion continued normal operations with negative contact. Company B returned to LZ Sally. Company C returned to from Phu Vang and lifted to vic YD5815 for RIF operations.

8. Nov 1968

This day marks another important day in the history of the Battalion. On 8 Nov an AO extension into the sands area referred to as the street. Company B and 4 platoons PF conducted a C/A vic YD5840 and YD6040 and set up CORDON with 1 platoon tanks from which saturation patrols could be run. Naval River Patrol boats were used as a blocking force vic YD6041 and YD5942. The C&C drew S/A fire, returned fire on suspected enemy locations with negative results. Company B hit 105 BBT injuring 2 patrol boats detained 5 VCS but they were later classified IC and released.

9. Nov 1968

Company A continued security of T-Bone company B continued CORDON with PF and tanks. They received S/A fire vic YD6039 with negative casualties, they returned fire with negative results. They had 1 KIA and 1 WIA from 105 BBT. Company C conducted RIF operation vic YD5717. Company D security of An Lo Bridge.

10. Nov 1968

Company B was the only unit to have contact engaging 2 VC with S/A vic YD6140 resulting in 2 VC POW. They tripped 60mm EBT resulting in 3 WIA. The 1/502 received a new "First Strike" LTC Davis replaced LTC Carter as the Battalion Commander. General Zais, General Trung, several other generals and numerous Division VIP's attended the ceremony held at LZ Sally.

11. Nov 1968

Company A security of T-Bone local patrols and ambushes in the area. Company B continued operation in Street area, they had light contact with estimated 2 VC but there were negative casualties. Company C RIF from vic YD5818 S/E to vic YD5717. Company D security of An Lo Bridge Recon RIF from Sally to YD6124.

12. Nov 1968

Company A switched security missions with company D. Company A lifted via Hook from An Lo to T-Bone. Company D lifted via hook from T-Bone, to An Lo. Company B engaged 2 VC from ambush with claymore and S/A negative results. Company C with ambushes vic YD5817 observed some movement, threw hand grenades with negative assessment.

13. Nov 1968

Company A security of An Lo Bridge. Company B had 1 platoon PF lifted in via log bird to YD5939. The tanks attached to Company B continued work with Bravo on RIF missions. Company E found 1 BBT (homemade) vic YD6139 resulting in 4 VC KIA and 1 VC POW. Later, vic YD6238 2 VC KIA in bunker. Company D operation in mountains near T-Bone spotted 4 VC, they called in AAA and artillery with negative assessment. Recon sighted a "red filtered light" vic YD6121 and called artillery, negative assessment.

14. Nov 1968

Company A while on security mission at An Lo received 6 rounds 60mm mortar fire. Negative casualties. Company B continued operation in "Street" area vic YD614 KIA 3 VC and captured 4 VC, and 1 AK47. The VC were all hiding in bunkers. Company D found a cave vic 6219 with 1000ft of det cord, (1) mine and ammo.

15. Nov 1968

The Battalion continued normal combat operations with negative contact all units are conducting classes in spare time as the Battalion is experiencing a large turnover of personnel returning to CONURC.

16. Nov 1968

Company A security of An Lo Bridge. Company B conducted C/A from vic YD6337 to YD6023, negative contact company C lifted via hook from T-Bone to Sally for stand-down and resupply. Company D lifted via hook to T-Bone and assumed security FSB T-Bone Recon engaged 3 VC in sampan resulting in 2 VC KIA and capturing 1 AK47 and 1 .38 Pistol Recon lifted via log bird to Omaha.

17. Nov 1968

Recon departed Omaha to vic YD6038, to establish blocking position they were joined there by 1 tank platoon and 1 PF platoon. Company C C/A vic YD6040 and started sweeping towards blocking force. At vic YD6038 recon killed 1 VC.

18. Nov 1968

Battalion continued normal operations with negative contact. One of the tanks opcon to company C hit an A/P mine with negative damage. Company C released Recon and tank platoon from opcon and was lifted via hook to FSB Birmingham. They became

Birmingham

19. Nov 1968

Company A security of An Lo Bridge. Company B conducted RIF operation vic YD6321 with negative contact. Company C opcon 2/501. Company D security of FSB T-Bone. 1 platoon to 1 RF company conducted joint saturation patrols vic YD6724. Recon destroyed 2 bouncing betty mines captured 4 VC vic YD6140.

20. Nov 1968

Company A security of An Lo Bridge, M/S and local patrols and ambushes. They found 1 bouncing betty mine vic YD6132 and destroyed in place, company B found a 250 lb bomb while conducting RIF operation vic YD6231, they destroyed it in place company C opcon 2/501. Company D security of T-Bone, 1 PF platoon was lifted via log bird to work jointly with recon vic YD6040.

21. Nov 1968

Company A sent their 26 element to FSB Panther OPCON 2/501. Company B conducted RIF to FSB T-Bone and assumed security mission of T-Bone. Company C opcon 2/501. Company D conducted RIF to vic YD6418. Recon killed 6 VC captured 4 VC, 1 French M/G, 2 AK47, and 1 M-79, documents and ammo vic YD6630.

22. Nov 1968

Company A lifted from An Lo via hook to vic 7133. Recon and D36 security of An Lo Bridge. Company B received two platoons of PF to assist in RIF operation vic YD6125.

23. Nov 1968

Company D found Battalion size base camp vic YD6318, with 60 bunkers, 20% of which had overhead cover. The area looked like a platoon size element had used bunkers in last 48 hours. Recon and PF's captured 2 VC vic YD6630. He identified 12 VC supply personnel. They are being checked now.

24 - 25 Nov 1968

Company D was the only unit to have contact. They engaged 3 VC vic YD6218 resulting in 3 VC KIA.

26. Nov 1968

Company A lifted via hook to FSB T-Bone and conducted RIF to vic YD6219. Company B security of T-Bone with local patrols and ambushes company C released from opcon 2/501 lifted via hook from FSB Birmingham to LZ Sally. Company D had contact at 6120 with 1 VC negative assessment. Delta later moved via hook to An Lo Bridge and assume mission of securing bridge.

27. Nov 1968

Company D engaged one VC vic YD6213 while on RIF operation. Resulting 1 VC KIA. Later in the same day they found 5 graves (results of earlier contact in the area) Recon and PF KIA 4 VC and captured 1 VC, and 5 weapons vic YD6536. Company C opcon 2/501.

28. Nov 1968

Company A security of An Lo Bridge. Company B security of T-Bone with B16 opcon 2/501 company C opcon 2/501. Company D killed 1 NVA captured 1 AK47 and 3 magazines and found 5 graves vic YD6218. Recon conducted RIF from vic YD6433 to An Lo.

29. Nov 1968

The only contact was company D had 1 man KIA by a sniper. Company D search the area thoroughly but the enemy had fled.

30. Nov 1968

Company D was the only unit to make contact. They engaged 3 VC vic YD5640. The enemy fled leaving their rifles and equipment. They sighted 5 more VC but all were out of S/A range.

1. Dec 1968

Company A conducted RIF vic YD6220. They engaged 3 NVA, resulting 2 NVA KIA and 1 NVA captured, 2 AK47, and one French machine gun a 26 opcon 2/501. Company B security of T-Bone with B-16 opcon to 2/501. Company C moved by vehicle from LZ Sally to secure An Lo Bridge. First Strike while flying over AO saw VC. The VC turned out to be wounded and First Strike captured him and evacuated via log to 326 med. (This POW furnished intelligence very useful in future mountain operations)

2. Dec 1968

Company A engaged two VC vic YD6220 resulting in 2 VC KIA, 2 AK47, 2 rucksacks and equipment and documents captured. Company B security of T-Bone with local patrols and ambushes. A26 and B16 opcon 2/501. Company C(-) security of An Lo. Company D, C16, Recon, 1 tank platoon and 2 PF platoons (OPCON to D) established CORDON center of mass vic YD595390. Several BBT were encountered resulting in C16 platoon leader KIA and 4 PF WIA, 2 VC were KIA, 1 VC captured with 2 AK47. The cordon also found 1-60mm mortar, 1 RPG machine gun and approximately 700 lb rice.

3. Dec 1968

Company A conducted RIF vic YD6220. They received sniper fire from North West, the fire was returned with negative assessment. A 26 opcon 2/501. Company B security of T-Bone. Company C security of An Lo Bridge. Company D, with Recon, platoon of tanks, and PF continued cordon operations. They found 1 fresh VC grave (KIA by artillery) and 1 bouncing betty mine. PF killed 2 VC and captured 1 weapon vic YD6338.

4. Dec 1968

The only significant activities were by company D as the cordon continued, they found 2 RPG rounds and 2 A/P mines. Shortly after noon the cordon was terminated Recon conducted move via hook from vic YD6040 to Omaha, from Omaha they conducted C/A to vic YD6928.

5. Dec 1968

The Battalion continued normal combat operations the only unit to make contact was company D, they engaged 2 VC vic YD5934 resulting in 1 VC KIA and 1 AK47 captured. Recon was lifted back to LZ Sally from vic YD6829 by log bird.

6. Dec 1968

Company A (-) moved from vic YD6120 to FSB T-Bone. A 36 was lifted via hook from LZ Sally to T-Bone. Company A replaced company B as T-Bone security company B RIF from T-Bone to vic YD6519. While moving into their NDP company B observed movement vic YD6417 and called in artillery. A first light assessment proved negative. Company C security of An Lo Bridge. C 16 with 1 platoon of PF conducted RIF to vic YD6132 where they set up a blocking position for 2 platoons of PF that conducted C/A to vic YD6134 then swept towards blocking positions. There was negative contact. Company D conducted RIF operations vic YD6437. Recon at LZ Sally as RRF for Bde.

7. Dec 1968

Company A secured FSB T-Bone and conducted local patrols and ambushes. Company B conducted day and night ambushes vic YD6518. Company C secured An Lo Bridge provided security for M/S and conducted local patrols and ambushes. Company D conducted RIF vic YD6040. They engaged 2 VC resulting in 1 VC KIA and 1 M-16 and 1 rucksack captured. Recon remained at LZ Sally.

8. Dec 1968

Although Recon was the only unit to make contact (they engaged 1 VC at their NDP with negative results), the Battalion conducted several unit moves by hook. Company C moved from An Lo to vic YD6922. Company D moved from vic YD6139 to An Lo. Recon moved to vic YD6139 from LZ Sally.

9. Dec 1968

The only unit to have contact was the Recon platoon they sprung an ambush on 1 VC at vic YD6139 resulting in 1 VC KIA. Another ambush at vic YD5939 killed 2 VC with small arms.

10. Dec 1968

On this day we lost the "Street" section of our AO to the 3/5 cav for on 8 day operation Recon and C26 went opcon to 3/5 cav for 4 days (10-13). The only contact made was by company D when they engaged 3 VC vic YD6124 with negative results.

11 -- 12 Dec 1968

Company A secured T-Bone company B conducted RIF operations vic YD6118. They engaged 5 VC while operating in this area, but the VC fled with negative assessment. company C (-) opcon 1/501 C 26 opcon to 3/5 Cav company D secured An Lo Bridge. Recon opcon 3/5 Cav.

13. Dec 1968

Company A secured T-Bone with platoon RIF vic YD6222. This RIF utilized 2 scout dog teams, a hook was utilized 2 move 1-4,2 and 1-31mm mortar and crew to Apache for practice firing and was then lifted vic hook to T-Bone. Company B RIF operations, day and night ambushes vic YD6218. Company C (-) opcon 1/501. Company D secured An Lo Bridge. Recon opcon to 3/5 cav.

14. Dec 1968

Company A secured T-Bone with 1 platoon on local RIF operations. The unit concentrated rebuilding and improving fortifications of T-Bone, and unit training. Unit training is being stressed in all units as the turbulence of personnel has been a point of concern for the Battalion Commander. Company B conducted RIF vic YD6118. They found a bunker complex (negative signs of recent use) vic YD6117 and destroyed it. Company C (-) released from 3/5 and returned via hook to LZ Sally. Company D secured An Lo Bridge. Recon released from opcon 3/5 returned to LZ Sally via hook to be RRF.

15. Dec 1968

Company A secured F3B T-Bone and conducted local patrols and ambushes. C26 was opcon to company A, they conducted RIF operation from LZ Sally to vic YD6020. While conducting RIF they heard S/A shot on investigation they found freshly cooked rice along side of trail vic YD6121 and later 3 VC the three VC fired on Bravo. (Negative casualties) fire was returned and VC fled. Gunships were called in on suspected locations. Upon searching the area negative bodies were found but 3 hooches which contained various gear, ammo propaganda material and personnel effects. Two blood trails were found. Bravo folled the blood trails with negative results. Company C opcon 1/501 company D secured An Lo Bridge D16 C/A to vic YD6019 and became opcon to company B. Recon moved by vehicle from LZ Sally to An Lo where they utilized a super contact team.

16. Dec 1968

Company B had light contact vic YD6119. They engaged 3 VC, resulting 1 VC KIA and 2 VC KIA. Bravo had 1 US slightly wounded. Company C (-) returned to LZ Sally (from opcon 1/501) via hook from FSB Sandy. Recon platoon (with 2 platoons of PF) departed An Lo to RIF vic YD6131. C26 conducted eagle flight from LZ Sally. To vic YD6238. Gunship escort engaged to VC with negative results.

17. Dec 1968

Company A security T-Bone with A16 RIF to LZ Sally. Company A (-) was lifted via hook from T-Bone to LZ Sally. Company B continued RIF operations vic YD6121. Bravo sprung ambush vic YD6120 against unknown size enemy element. Illumination an artillery was called in with negative results. Company C (-) was lifted from LZ Sally to FSB T-Bone C26 and 2 PF platoons conducted search and clear operation vic YD6139. The area had just been swept by 3-5 task force, but C26 and PF killed 3 VC and captured 2 weapons. Company D secured An Lo Bridge.

18. Dec 1968

On this day there was no enemy contact. Company B was lifted via hook from vic YD 6221 to An Lo Bridge and replaced company D on Bridge security. Company D moved via hook from An Lo to vic YD6321.

19. Dec 1968

Another day of light contact. One of company D ambushes received S/A fire. They called in artillery with negative results B16, Company A (-) and Recon established cordon around villages to the South East of An Lo along Song Bo. Center of mass vic YD6429. The road QL #1 was blocked off by MP and all traffic checked. The Vietnamese National Police and local PF swept through cordon. The results were

Detained	180	
Classified	156	- IC
	14	- Draft age men
	4	- Deserters
	6	- VC

20. Dec 1968

Cordon operations were continued the next day with the following results:

Detained	43	
Classified	31	- IC
	10	- Draft age
	1	- Deserters
	1	- Civil Offender

there was negative enemy contact on this day.

21. Dec 1968

Company A had no actual contact but found one NVA/VC base camp. The bunkers contained 3 rifles various cooking utensils, food and ammo. They also found 2 fresh graves (VC KIA by artillery). Recon and 2 PF platoons conducted search and clear operations vic YD6028. They killed 7 VC and captured 3 VC. The VC were all hiding in spider holes and bunkers. Also captured were 3 weapons, ammo, and some documents.

22. Dec 1968

The Battalion continued to conduct extensive RIF throughout the AO. Company D however was the only unit to make contact. They engaged 2 VC vic YD6119 resulting in 1 VC KIA and 1 US WIA. Delta captured 1 AK47, ammo, and gear. Later in the same area they discovered cache, with S/A ammo, RPG round, 25 lb salt and 2 SKS bayonets.

23. Dec 1968

The only contact was by Delta company as they killed 1 VC with small arms vic YD5921

24. Dec 1968

Very little activity as the Battalion returned to static positions in observance of the Christmas truce to start at 1800H. Early in the morning company D killed 1 from ambush with a claymore.

25. Dec 1968

Christmas day found company A at LZ Sally, company B at An Lo, company C at T-Bone, company D at LZ Sally, and Recon at An Lo. The Battalion observed the Christmas truce and enjoyed a Holiday meal.

26. Dec 1968

Company A conducted C/A to vic YD6040, and conducted search and clear operation in vic of LZ. The results were 1 VC KIA, 1 VC POW, 3 weapons, 750 lb rice, uniforms, gear, ammo and some documents were captured. The other units resumed offensive combat operations but had negative contact.

27. Dec 1968

Company A had 7 people WIA by BBT they encountered many BBT in vic YD6140. Company C operation vic YD6218 found 4 bodies, KIA about 3 or 4 days earlier. They also found 2 M-72 laws and 1 RPG round. They engaged 2 VC with S/A vic YD-6219 with negative assessment.

28. Dec 1968

Company A continued RIF operation vic YD6140 finding 300 lb spoiled rice and 1 ton of polished rice. Company B had 1 US WIA by BBT vic YD6128. They detained to VCS vic YD6326.

29. Dec 1968

Company A had 2 WIA from A/P mines vic YD6334. Company B and 2 PF platoons conducted C/A to vic YD5940. They found and destroyed a BBT vic YD5940. In the same area they found a bunker, with ammo, magazine, and Vietnamese water purification tablets. Later they found a graveyard vic YD5939 with signs stating in Vietnamese, "Stay out Booby Trapped Area".

30. Dec 1968

Company A secured An Lo. Company B conducted RIF operation vic YD6040. They destroyed 105 round and 8 in round, and found small (200 lb) cache of rice. At vic YD5841 they engaged 1 VC resulting in 1 US WIA negative enemy assessment. Company D secured T-Bone with 1 platoon (D-26) conducting RIF around T-Bone. Recon LZ Sally as RRF.

31. Dec 1968

The Battalion continued combat operations but had negative contact, Company B found 2000 lb of rice, 2 VC in graves (result of Recon's previous contact) and found 5 A/P mines.

At the close of the year the Battalion was operating in a semi-permanent area of operations in Quang Dien, Houg Tra and Nam Hoa districts. The Battalion was continuing operations in support of 101st Airborne Division Operation NEVADA EAGLE which was still in progress.

The Battalion command post was co-located with the Quang Dien District Headquarters (YD687341) the Battalion had two static defensive positions at FSB T-Bone (YD6520) and An Lo Bridge (YD6230). The pattern of operations was rotation of one company (-) for defense of FSB T-Bone with a platoon located at LZ Sally (Bn Rear) for a ready - reaction force; one company (-) at An Lo Bridge with one platoon operating in Houg Tra District; one company operating on the plains in Quang Dien District; and one company operating in the mountains of Nam Hoa District. The Battalion Reconnaissance platoon and mortar platoon were moved around the area of operations as situations developed.

The end of the year was also a period in which intensive training was conducted by all companies. This requirement resulted from the large number of replacements received during December. (258 personnel rotated to CONUS during Dec training was conducted mainly at An Lo Bridge and FSB T-Bone. Highlights of the training were practical application of medivac technique and "Signs of VC/NVA Activity" presented by a team from the 1st ARVN Division.

Part of the history during the month of April is missing because the daily journals for 14 days were burned with the Battalion TOC at FSB Eastogne during an enemy rocket attack. Attempts to recover the information from 1st Bde, 101st Airborne Division (which had OPCON of this Battalion at the time) have been unsuccessful.

The Battalion proved itself on the administrative and logistical front as well as the battlefield. The Battalion was inspected by the Division Inspector General during 20-22 May 1968 with an overall rating of satisfactory with no unsatisfactory areas. Companies of the Battalion received inspections by the Division Command Maintenance Management Inspector during July, August, and November. In each case the company received an overall rating of satisfactory with no unsatisfactory areas.

RECAPITULATION

Results of combat operations by 1st Battalion, 502d Infantry during 1968 are shown to some degree by the following statistics: 1279 VC/NVA killed (by body count) 330 VC/NVA captured, 28 Gien Hoi. These results did not come easy. During the year this Battalion lost 144 Screaming Eagles killed by hostile action and had 769 others wounded by hostile action. Many of the individuals of the battalion were recognized by presentation of combat decorations. The following decorations had been approved by 101st Airborne Division Headquarters at the end of the year:

Distinguished Service Cross	1
Silver Star	35
Distinguished Flying Cross	4
Legion of Merit	1
Bronze Star with V Device	122
Bronze Star	523
Army Commendation Medal with V Device	71
Army Commendation	141
Air Medal	30
Purple Heart	913

not shown in the statistics are the numerous civic action projects conducted for the Vietnamese people.

One of the most important aspects of the Battalion's accomplishments was the development of the regional and popular forces in Quang Dien District. The measure of accomplishment in a training mission is generally intangible. However, the results obtained by this battalion through working with the PF/RF forces have been quite obvious. The PF and RF were confined to the limits of their compounds when the battalion arrived in the AO. The battalion made special efforts to work with these forces by presenting classes to them, moving them by air, and supporting them with both fire support and logistical support. The normal operation on the plains was to have a platoon of PF/RF attached to each company of this battalion.

By December the RF/PF had progressed to the point that they conducted on a regular basis independent operations and conducted airmobile assaults. The PF and RF in Quang Dien District have compiled, since this Battalion's arrival, an outstanding record of victories over the VC and VC Infrastructure in Quang Dien District. By 31 December the district was one of the few areas in Vietnam which was safe for the district chief to travel throughout unescorted. This is especially significant when considering there were 3 NVA regiments and a strong VC Infrastructure located in the area when 1st Battalion 502d Infantry began operations in March.

Throughout 1968 the First Strike Battalion established ambitious objectives and accomplished them promptly and completely. Each mission was attacked aggressively and professionally. Everyone, both friendly and enemy, who had contact with the First Strike Battalion immediately recognized its professionalism and esprit. The Vietnamese appropriately refer to the First Strike Battalion as "The Airborne!" 1968 was indeed another glorious chapter in the history of the Battalion in its Rendezvous with Destiny.

AIRBORNE ALL THE WAY