

U.S.A. SPEC PHOTO DET. PAC

WASH

TEAM CHARLIE

UNCLASSIFIED

COMMANDING OFFICER					
6 USA APA SPEC DET COMUS			N/A		DCB-200-42-C-67-VN
35-11 35th AVE					
LONG ISLAND CITY, N.Y. 11106					
9th Div 3rd Brigade RECON PATROL			N/A		
Sp5 Foulke					
TIME	0200	1500 FT	N/A		17-20 FEB
N/A	DAY PAT	ASA 25	NONE	X	X
			FIFTEEN	PAN	AM

SUMMARY

The Dong Tam Base Camp of the 3rd Bgde, 9th Inf Div., Located on the My Tho River approximately 40 miles south-southwest of Saigon, Vietnam, is in the middle of a large expansion operation. The site, personally selected by Gen William C. Westmoreland, Commander of U.S. Forces, in Viet Nam, is being constructed on a large field of rice paddies. Two dredges are working constantly sucking sand from the river bottom and depositing it around the perimeter of the camp. This process, used since the initial construction, is necessary to raise the camp above flood level during the rainy season. Construction began in Oct. 66 and the 3rd Bgde moved in and became operational on 7 Jan. 67. The camp, a supply and HQs area, contains two infantry battalions, field hospital, a mobile water purification plant and various support units.

From 18-20 Feb. 1967, The 5th Battalion, 60th Mechanized Infantry, 9th Inf Division maintained a series of daylight reconnaissance patrols in the area surrounding their forward base camp at the Tan Hiep Airstrip approximately 10 miles north of the Dong Tam Base Camp.

On 18 Feb. 1967 elements of "C" Co. 5th Bn., 60th Inf. with an attached section from the battalion medical platoon inspected the condition of the bridge entering the village of Ap Tinh Thoi and held a " MEDCAP" for the villagers.

On 19 and 20 Feb. 1967 "A" Co. 5th Bn., of the 60th Inf. conducted a reconnaissance patrol thru the southern tip of the Plain of Reeds area, approximately four miles northwest of the Tan Hiep Airstrip. The mission of the patrol was to test the maneuverability of their M-113 Armored Personnel Carriers in a swampy area. After nearly completing their mission the patrol became bogged down in a deep, swampy area. Forcing the men of "A" Co. to spend a wet, cold night and all of the following day freeing their vehicles from the muck.

This material should be considered for SPX-67-3

ROLL 1

1. LS. Two water purification trucks sitting along the My Tho River at Dong Tam base camp.
2. PAN From hose in river to mobile water purification unit mounted on a 2 1/2 ton truck.
3. MS. Inside truck showing containers capable of purifying 3000 gal of water per hour

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35-11 35th AVE
LONG ISLAND CITY, N.Y. 11106

N/A

DCS-200-42-C-67-VN

N/A

9th DIV 3rd Brigade Recon Patrol

BINH THUONG PROV.

Sp5 FOULKE

N/A

17-20 FEB 67

X

X

SYNCO EON 5251 1500FT

HOME

X

X

N/A

DAY XT

ASA 25

FIFTEEN

PAN AM

ROLL 1 CONT

4. CU. water leak from hose of water that has been thru the purification and filtration process of the mobile unit.
 5. MS. Rubber water storage tank which hold part of the combined units 2500 gal a day capacity
 6. LS. Open side of truck showing filtering system.

ROLL 2

1. LS. Pipe line coming from dredger
 2. LS. Pipe line going thru Viet Namee village adjacent to 3rd Brigade Hqs.
 3. LS. Low angle of pipe line running out to the dredger in the My The River
 4. MS. Muck on the beach; the kind being sucked up by the dredger

ROLL 3

1. LS. Muck from the dredger in the nearby rice paddies , that are being uplifted
 2. LS. Same area as above
 3. LS. Low Altitude aerials of Dong Tam, 3rd brigade hqs

ROLL 4

1. SLS. High Aerials of Dong Tam 3rd brigade hqs that was uplifted from rice paddy level.
 2. SLS. Muck from the dredger in the rice paddies adjacent to the present camp area
 3. LS. Shots of Dong Tam base camp as the helicopter lands.

ROLL 5

1. LS. Men on a H-113 going thru a Viet Namee Village near the Tan Kiep Airstrip
 2. LS. Buses and trucks passing the H-113 convoy on the road My Tho and Saigon
 3. MS. H-113 crossing a bridge at the entrance to Ap Tinh Thi village low angle
 4. CU. Low angle H-113 APC coming across wooden bridge at ApThin Thi enter.
 5. MS. Broken and rotten wooden planks laying across the bridge
 6. MS. Other rotten wooden planks laying across the bridge
 7. LS. Men looking at the supports for the bridge,

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35-1135th AVE
LONG ISLAND CITY, N.Y. 11106

N/A

DCS-300-42-C-67-VN

N/A

9th DIV 3rd Brigade RECON PATROL

DA NANG THOUNG PROV.

Sp5 FOULKE			N/A		17-20 FEB 67
EWMO	ECM 5251	1500ft	NONE	X	X
N/A	DAY SAT	ASA 25	FIFTEEN	PAN AM	22 FEB 67

R O L L 6

1. MS. SSG Junior L. Water of Terrel Tex. and SGT Lloyd D. Tomilson of Winnipag, Canada looking at the bridge supports.
2. MS. SSG Water inspecting the bridge supports.
3. CU. SSG Water's as he looks at the bridge supports.
4. MS. Medics Sp6 Roland Spearbacker of Marchfield, Wis. with the Vietnamese interpreter and patients.
5. CU. Sp6 Spearbacker ,with interpreter talking to patients.
6. CU. Sp6 Spearbacker and Viet village patient.
7. LS. MEDCAP area and patients in the village of Ap tinh Thi

R O L L 7

1. MS. Spearbacker and SSG Gilchrist , Harry of McKeesrook, Pa; giving aid to the Ap tinh Thi village people
2. CU. Sp6 Spearbacker checking the heart beat of a patient
3. MS. Spearbacker taking the heart beat of the patient.
4. MS. Children of the village waiting to see the medics.
5. CU. Kids of the village looking on.
6. EIS. Of MEDCAP area in the village of Ap tinh Thi

R O L L 8

1. LS. M-113 track coming thru rice paddy on the way to the Plain of Reeds.
2. MS. PFC Clifton Tom hooking up tow cable between tracks.
3. MS. Track stuck in a canal it was trying to cross.
4. CU. SSG Billy Hammontree of Rosebind, La. looking on at stuck track.

R O L L 9

1. MS. M-113 track getting stuck in a creek on the way to Plain of Reeds.
2. LS. Track coming thru a tree line
3. CU. Man from 1st platoon hooking the tow cable to a track.
4. LS. One track pulling the other out of the creek it was stuck in.

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35-11 35th AVE
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N/A

DCS-200-42-C-67-VH

N/A

9th DIV 3rd Brigade recon patrol

DIAKI THOURI PROV.

Sp5 FOULKE			N/A		17-20 FEB
SYEMO	ECM 5251	1500ft	None	X	XX
N/A	DAY	N/A 25	FIFTEEN	PAN AM	22 FEB 67

ROLL 10

1. LS. M-113 track speed through pond of water in Plain of Reeds.
2. LS. Four M-113 APC's stuck in one location in the Plain of Reeds
3. MS. Seven tracks stuck in the swampy Plain of Reeds.

ROLL 11

1. LS. Track stuck in a swampy area.
2. LS. Reverse angle of track sunk in the swampy area of Plain of Reeds.
3. MS. Men of "A" Co. trying to push the track out of the swamp.
4. CU. A detail of men carrying a steel beam
5. MS. Men turning the steel beam
6. LS. Two men dragging off the steel beam to be used to lay under the track for traction ^{1. 10}
7. MS. Men in ditch behind track up chest in water.

ROLL 12

1. LS. Men digging out front of stuck track
2. MS. Men digging out in front of track
3. CU. Sp4 Billy Pitts of Miami Fla. driver of track waiting for men to finish dig.
4. MS. Men digging out of track
5. CU. Sp4 Sam Thomas of Queens N.Y.C. shoveling in front of M-113
6. MS. Sam Thomas shoveling in front of track
7. MS. NCO's and officers watching the pull out operation.

ROLL 13

1. LS. Detail men carrying steel plank used for traction on pulling out the M-113
2. MS. same as above.
3. CU. SG Lee Smith of Martinsville, Va. instr acting the men where to put the beam behind the track.
4. MS. Men placing the beam behind the track.
5. LS. Three tracks trying to pull out one stuck vehicle
6. CU. PFC Ron Norris of Independence, Mo., watching the pull out operation.

USA SPEC PHOTO DET PAG

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USA AFM SPEC DET COMUS
35-11 35th AVB
LONG ISLAND CITY, N.Y. 11106

N/A

DCS-200-42-C-67-VN

N/A

9th DIV 3rd BRIGADE RECON PATROL

PLAIN THRUONG PLATEAU.

SP5 FOULKE

N/A

17-20 FEB 67

SP4

BCN 5251

1500FT.

NONE

X

X

N/A

DAY EXIT

ASA 25

FIFTEEN

PAN AM

22 FEB 67

ROLL 14

1. LS. Track pulling out stuck track with use of a 100ft cable
2. MS. Logs on a track used to help give traction to stuck vehicles under the tracks
3. MS. Track with logs on it departing the safe dry ground for the swampy area where the logs are needed.
4. CU. CPT Richard L. Weber commanding officer of "A" Co. from Sharron, Pa. watching the log track head for the soft swampy area.

ROLL 15

1. LS. Helicopter landing on Plain of Reeds near the dry area with several 100ft lengths of cable to help pull out the few remaining stuck tracks.
2. CU. Men of "A" Co. unloading the cables off the helicopter as it lands.
3. LS. Aerials of Plain of Reeds as Helicopter takes off. (60 ft exposed this re