

TOPICS FOR USACILHI PLUMADORE, ET.AL.

5 OCT 66. DMZ AREA. RETURNED ARVN PWS OBSERVE LCPL RICHARD GORDON BURGESS (REFNO 0470) STAY OVERNIGHT AT A COMMUNIST DETENTION CAMP, ESTIMATED VIC XD 988 639. BURGESS WOUNDED IN RIGHT ARM. BURGESS DEPARTED IN NORTHERLY DIRECTION. [BURGESS CAPTURED ABOUT 1430 HOURS 25 SEP 66 AFTER BEING HIT BY AUTOMATIC RIFLE FIRE WHILE ACTING AS LEAD POINT MAN APPROACHING HILL 400 (XD 997 614; 164700N/1065100E0), WHICH LATER BECAME KNOWN AS LZ FULLER.]

26 APR 67. DMZ AREA. U/I DMZ FRONT (SIC) [B-5 FRONT] ELEMENT REPORTED THAT A K-8 BATTALION (NFI) HAD SCORED A VICTORY OVER U.S. FORCES ON 25 APRIL, KILLING 48 AMERICANS AND CAPTURING ONE AMERICAN. [NOTE: THE CAPTURED AMERICAN WAS USMC CORPORAL ALFONSO RAY RIATE (REFNO 0655), REPORTED MISSING ON 26 APRIL 1967, ABOUT 1 1/2 TO 8 HOURS BEFORE THIS REPORT WAS MADE, WHEN HIS UNIT WAS AMBUSHED WHILE ASSAULTING HIGH POINT 861, VIC XD 804 442 (1642N, 10642E), NEAR KHE SANH. JCRC 55 REPORT AND DIA PMSEA LIST THE LOSS COORDINATES AS 164330N 1065820E, VIC YD 100490, ABOUT 2-3 KM SOUTH OF MAI LOC CAMP, COMMUNIST GIO CAM (GIO LINH-CAM LO) DISTRICT. BASED ON SEVERAL USMC EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS AND REFERENCE TO COMMUNIST AND U.S. MAPS, THE COORDINATE NEAR KHE SANH SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ACCURATE.] IN JUN 71, PAVN ASPIRANT BUI NGOC CHIEU RALLIED AND TOLD U.S. INTERROGATORS THAT THE K-8 BATTALION, KIEN GIANG REGIMENT, 325B DIVISION CAPTURED AN AMERICAN ON/ABOUT 25 APRIL 1967 NEAR KHE SANH, QUANG TRI PROVINCE. CHIEU OBSERVED THE PW BEING ESCORTED IN A NORTHERLY DIRECTION NEAR NATIONAL ROUTE 9 AND PAVN HIGH POINT 832 (US HIGH POINT 378), VIC XD 844 380.

CA. MAR 67. DMZ AREA. IN OCT 70, A PAVN PW REPORTED SEEING TWO U.S. PWS IN THE VICINITY OF THE CENTRAL OR WEST-CENTRAL DMZ IN ABOUT MARCH 1967. THE PWS WERE BEING ESCORTED TO NVN. THE ESCORTS SAID THE PWS WERE TANK DRIVERS AND THE K-8 BATTALION, KIEN GIANG REGT HAD CAPTURED THE PWS THE PREVIOUS DAY SOMEWHERE IN THE AREA OF TAN LAM (I.E., LZ ROCKPILE, VIC XD9855, 164630N/0165200E).

2 JUL 67. CON THIEN [YD 115703], QUANG TRI (P). PAVN 90TH REGT (AKA 3RD REGT, 324B DIV) NOTED THE 8TH BN (K-8) HAD CAPTURED 15 AMERICANS. REGT ENCOURAGED 9TH BN (K-9) TO EMULATE K-8. [THE DATE AND LOCATIONS CITED IN THIS REPORT DO NOT CORRELATE TO ANY AMERICANS WHO REMAIN UNACCOUNTED FOR. HOWEVER, HEAVY ACTION NEAR CON THIEN ON THAT DATE RESULTED IN A LARGE NUMBER OF USMC CASUALTIES--SOME OF WHOM MAY HAVE BEEN RETRIEVED SOMETIME AFTER PAVN TROOPS OVERRAN THEIR POSITIONS. IN OTHER WORDS, THE WORD CAPTURED MIGHT HAVE BEEN MORE ACCURATELY TRANSLATED AS "GOT" (BODY COUNT).]

3 JUL 67. CON THIEN. SOURCE REPORTED PAVN 90TH REGT SHELLED CON THIEN ON 2 JUL 67. CLAIMED 27TH BN (SIC) [PROBABLY 27TH INDEPENDENT BATTALION--POSSIBLY AAA OR ARTILLERY] AND 90TH REGT ANNIHILATED 3 U.S COMPANIES OF 1ST BN, 5TH U.S. MARINE REGT, AND CAPTURED (SIC) 35 AMERICANS. C-20 RECONNOITERING THE BATTLEFRONT. C-12 TO RECONNOITER AND MORTAR CAM LO. [C-20 AND C-12 PROBABLY SAPPER AND HEAVY WEAPONS COMPANIES SUBORDINATE TO HQ 90TH REGT. AT LEAST FOUR POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS FOR CLAIM TO HAVE 'CAPTURED' 35 AMERICANS: (1)

FICTION--BUT, UNLIKELY; (2) APPROXIMATELY CORRECT BODY COUNT, BUT TEXT SHOULD HAVE BEEN TRANSLATED AS 'GOT,' I.E., KILLED, 35 AMERICANS; (3)

CORRECT OR SLIGHTLY INFLATED BODY COUNT, BUT PAVN EXECUTED THE PRISONERS; (4) CORRECT OR SLIGHTLY INFLATED BODY COUNT, BUT SOME DIED OF WOUNDS, SOME KILLED BY U.S. AIR, AND SOME EXECUTED BY PAVN TROOPS. REPORT BY D-7 (BELOW) SUGGESTS (4) MAY BE CORRECT. USACILHI RECORDS COULD PROVIDE SOME INSIGHT; I.E., CONFIRM HOW MANY USMC KIA WERE LEFT ON BATTLEFIELD, FOR HOW LONG, AND CAUSE OF DEATH.]

3 JUL 67. CON THIEN. D-7 [PROBABLY 7TH BN, 90TH PAVN REGT, 324B DIV] REPORTED TO 90TH REGT HQ THAT AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF "T/BINH" (SIC) [WOUNDED PAVN--THUONG BINH; OR, ENEMY PWS--TU BINH] HAD BEEN HIT BY ALLIED INCENDIARY [NAPALM?] BOMBS. THE UNIT MOVED 40 METERS. D-7 REPORTED IT HAD DISPATCHED A DETAIL TO RECOVER K-8'S DEAD. ALSO SENT A DETAIL TO RECOVER K-8'S AND K-9'S WEAPONS [PROBABLY WEAPONS OF THE PAVN KIAs]. D-7 ALSO INFORMED 90TH REGT THAT ANY PRISONERS THAT ARE UNABLE TO MOVE WOULD BE KILLED. D-7 STATED WHEN THE PRISONERS AND DEAD ARE TAKEN CARE OF, IT WOULD CONTINUE TO STRIKE THE AMERICANS.

27 JULY 67. VARIOUS REPORTS. ELEMENTS OF THE 90TH, 803RD, 812TH, AND 29TH REGTS OF THE 324B DIV, THE 270TH REGT, THE 27TH INDEPENDENT BATTALION, UNSPECIFIED REAR SERVICE ELEMENTS, AND THE 2ND BN OF THE 31ST REGT, 341ST PAVN INFANTRY DIVISION WERE DEPLOYED AROUND CON THIEN AND CAM LO AND DMZ AREA NORTH AND EAST OF CON THIEN IN EARLY JULY 1967. REFERENCES TO A 1530G MEETING, 3 OR 4 JULY TO DISCUSS UNSPECIFIED BATTLE PLAN. ON 7 JULY THE 7TH BN, 29TH REGT WAS ORDERED TO DEPLOY TO POSITION 88 (YD 093659). 29TH REGT ALSO PLANNED MORTAR ATTACK ON POSITION 135 (YD 075625) AND TO PLANT MINES VIC OF DINH HUONG (YD109624). 3RD BN, 803RD REGT DEPLOYED VICINITY HIGH POINT NINETH (SIC) [YD096668], SSW OF CON THIEN. 2ND BN, 803RD REGT DEPLOYED NORTH OF CON THIEN. AN U/I ELEMENT OF THE 90TH REGT REQUESTED TRANSPORTERS TO EVACUATE WOUNDED--REPORTED OVER 100 DEAD AND WOUNDED AT AN UNSPECIFIED LOCATION. 6TH BN, 812TH REGT CONDUCTED RECON ON ROUTE 74 (YD143692 TO YD219698) AND ROUTE 76 (YD150607 TO YD192782) AND VIC HA TRUNG (YD 224716) AND HA THUONG (YD225723).

7 JUL 67. DMZ AREA. MORNING OF 7 JULY, 29TH REGT REPORTED THAT AN ELEMENT OF 7TH BN, 29TH REGT [RECENTLY] HAD ENCOUNTERED FOUR AMERICANS "RETREATING IN THE TRENCHES" [HIDING IN A BUNKER?]. PAVN TROOPS KILLED TWO AND CAPTURED TWO. 7TH BATTALION ORDERED TO INVESTIGATE AND REPORT TO "BA NA" [POSSIBLE COVER DESIGNATOR FOR STAFF ELEMENT OF 29TH REGT]. [ONLY AMERICAN WHO BECAME UNACCOUNTED FOR AT THIS APPROXIMATE DATE/LOCATION IS RAYFORD; BUT, IF THE 7TH BN WAS DEPLOYED IN THE DMZ AREA, NORTH OF QL 9, RAYFORD WAS CAPTURED TOO FAR SOUTH--HE WAS EVACUATED THROUGH MILITARY REGION TRI-THIEN-HUE TO NORTH VIETNAM. ALSO, USACILHI RECORDS MIGHT SUPPLY SOME INSIGHT.]

8-14 JULY 67. DMZ AREA. ONE UNSPECIFIED TACTICAL REPORT CONTAINED INFORMATION ABOUT THE CAPTURE OF ALLIED TROOPS (NFI). [BASED ON ABSENCE OF FORMAL U.S. REPORT AND THE FACT THAT NO AMERICAN BECAME UNACCOUNTED FOR IN THIS AREA DURING THIS PERIOD, IT SEEMS SAFE TO CONCLUDE THAT ARVN TROOPS WERE THE SUBJECT OF THE TACTICAL REPORT.]

3 AUG 67. DMZ AREA. 2ND BN, 803RD REGT, 324B DIV REPORTED IT ANNIHILATED AN ENEMY RECONNAISSANCE TEAM AND MADE REFERENCE TO "WAR BOOTY" AND AN UNSPECIFIED NUMBER OF PWS. REGT HQS INSTRUCTED 2ND BN TO "LET US KNOW HOW YOU WILL HANDLE THE PRISONERS AND WAR BOOTY." 2ND BN WAS OPERATING NORTH OF PHUONG XUAN [1656N 10659E]. [POSS REFNO 0775, BENNEFELD AND JOHNSON, ON 29 JULY 67, AND/OR REFNO 0777, THE 4-MAN CREW OF A CH46A DOWN A FEW METERS FROM 0775 ON 30 JULY 67.]

8 SEP 67. CON THIEN. K-9 BN, 90TH REGT LOCATED 1654N 10702E (YD 178 695).

11 SEP 67. DMZ AREA. K-9 BN, 90TH REGT REPORTED IT CAPTURED ONE U.S. PW. LATER THE SAME DAY, AN ELEMENT OF THE 90TH REGT HQS LOCATED WITHIN 700 METERS OF YD 135 734 INFORMED THE K-8 BN THAT K-9 HAD CAPTURED ONE AMERICAN ON 11 SEP AND WAS SENDING HIM UP. 90TH REGT INSTRUCTED K-8 BN TO SEND PEOPLE TO "BEN DO" TO PICK UP THE PRISONER. ABOUT FOUR AND A HALF HOURS LATER, AN ELEMENT OF THE K-8 BN, LOCATED WITHIN 600 METERS OF YD 160 839, REPORTED "THE AMERICAN PRISONERS (SIC) HAVE BEEN RECEIVED AND TURNED OVER TO LOCAL FORCES ALREADY." [NOTE: IN 1967, AN ANALYST NOTED THAT "BEN DO" WAS UNLOCATED, BUT HAD BEEN SEEN IN CONJUNCTION WITH KINH THI, YD 183 771; THUS, THE ANALYST CONCLUDED, POSSIBLY INDICATING BEN DO IS IN VICINITY OF KINH THI. WE NOTE THAT BEN DO COULD BE TRANSLATED AS THE "DO FERRY LANDING." WE ALSO NOTE THE K-9 BN WAS LOCATED SOUTH OF THE BEN HAI RIVER, IN SVN, AND WAS SENDING THE PW TO THE K-8 BN LOCATED NORTH OF THE RIVER, IN NVN. IN VIEW OF THE RELATIVE LOCATIONS OF THE TWO UNITS, AND THE 1967 ANALYST'S NOTE ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN BEN DO AND KINH THI, IT APPEARS THAT BEN DO WAS THE FERRY ACROSS THE BEN HAI RIVER NEAR KINH THI, DEPICTED ON U.S. MAPS AT YD174773. THIS WOULD PLACE K-9 BN ABOUT 7-8 KM SW OF THE BEN DO FERRY AND K-8 BN ABOUT 6-7 KM NORTH OF THE FERRY. THE DATE, LOCATION, AND CIRCUMSTANCES CORRESPOND TO THE RECAPTURE OF RETURNEE GEORGE EVERETTE DAY, MAJOR, USAF. MAJOR DAY WAS CAPTURED NEAR VINH LINH, NVN, ON 26 AUG 67 AND ESCAPED A FEW DAYS LATER. HE EVADED RECAPTURE FOR ABOUT TWO WEEKS AND MADE HIS WAY SOUTH ACCROSS THE BEN HAI RIVER AND THROUGH THE DMZ INTO SVN. HE ESTIMATED HE WAS RECAPTURED APPROXIMATELY 12 OR 13 SEP 67 AT A LOCATION EAST OF CON THIEN, WEST OF NATIONAL ROUTE ONE, AND NORTH OF NATIONAL ROUTE 9--I.E., THE APPROXIMATE LOCATION OF THE K-9 BN. COMBAT FORCES OPERATING IN THE DMZ AREA WERE SUBORDINATE TO B-5 FRONT, WHICH HAD ITS HEADQUARTERS ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE DMZ. THE REFERENCE TO LOCAL FORCES COULD HAVE BEEN A REFERENCE TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE VINH LINH SPECIAL ZONE, WHICH APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR POLITICAL, SECURITY, AND LOGISTICS-RELATED OPERATIONS IN THE EASTERN DMZ REGION OF SVN, INCLUDING THE INITIAL PROCESSING AND EVACUATION OF PWS CAPTURED BY PAVN FORCES IN THE AREA.]

12 SEPT 67. DMZ AREA. STATUS REPORT ADDRESSED TO "FRONT FORWARD" [POSSIBLY B-5 FRONT FORWARD COMMAND] NOTED THE 8TH COMPANY OF THE 27TH INDEPENDENT BATTALION AND AN UNSPECIFIED REAR SERVICE DETACHMENT STILL WERE TRANSPORTING SUPPLIES FROM AND TO UNSPECIFIED LOCATIONS. THE 5TH COMPANY, 27TH BN, WAS OPERATING NORTH OF PHU THO AT 1654N 01703E (YD 173697). UNSPECIFIED ELEMENTS ALSO BEING SENT TO ESTABLISH ENEMY VEHICLE MOVEMENT PATTERNS AND TO ATTACK CONVOYS ON THE TRANG DINH ROAD, AT VINH DAI (1648N 10702E, YD 178590), AND AT NINH XA (1654N 10703E, YD 185695).

21 SEP 67. CON THIEN. SOURCES CONFIRM AT LEAST TWO BATTALIONS [K-7 AND K-8] OF 90TH PAVN REGT ATTACKED CON THIEN. K-7 WAS IN 'DECISIVE COMBAT' WITH ENEMY WEST OF PHU OC [YD138701]. SUBSEQUENT TO ATTACKS, TACTICAL REPORTS REVEALED PAVN LEFT BEHIND 40 DEAD, AND A SUBORDINATE ELEMENT OF 90TH REGT WAS ORDERED

TO BURY 60 DEAD. TACTICAL REPORTS INDICATED 90TH REGT HAD TAKEN PRISONERS AND THAT PRISONERS WERE BEING MOVED NORTH OF THE "NEW ROAD" [PROBABLY ROAD LEADING SE FROM CON THIEN TO PHU AN [1653N10700E, YD 134673]].

22 SEP 67. CON THIEN. 90TH REGT REPORTED ALL ITS WOUNDED HAD BEEN MOVED TO KINH MON [1658N10704E, YD 174773] ON THE NIGHT OF THE 21ST. 90TH REGT ELEMENTS SUFFERED 57 SERIOUSLY WOUNDED, 9 MODERATELY WOUNDED, AND 29 SLIGHTLY WOUNDED. 90TH REGT ALSO STATED THAT ONE OF THE AMERICAN PRISONERS WAS BADLY WOUNDED. ALLIED REPORTS INDICATED ATTACKS ON CON THIEN ON 21 SEP 67 WERE HEAVIEST TO DATE, WITH OVER 500 ROUNDS OF PAVN ARTILLERY AND MORTAR FIRE.

23 SEP 67. CON THIEN. 90TH REGT REPORTS HEAVY CASUALTIES. K-8 BN PREPARING FOR COMBAT. A PLATOON HEADED BY A PERSON NAMED MO [MOW] HAD BEEN CONCERNED FOR TWO DAYS [21-22 SEP 67] WITH MOVING THE WOUNDED AND 'THE AMERICAN PRISONER' TO "48-C." [THE SOURCE OF THE INFO ABOUT MO AND THE U.S. PW WAS LOCATED WITHIN 1,000 METERS OF YD161721. 48-C IS AN UNKNOWN UNIT OR LOCATION DESIGNATOR.]

24 SEP 67. CON THIEN. K-8 BN, 90TH REGT REPORTS THAT A WOUNDED AMERICAN HAD ARRIVED AND WOULD LIVE. K-8 ALSO REPORTED CASUALTIES TOTALED 82 DEAD AND 205 WOUNDED (POSSIBLY REGT RATHER THAN BN CASUALTY FIGURES). 90TH REGT 700 UNDER STRENGTH. K-7 BN AND U/I NGHE AN MORTAR UNIT PREPARED TO WITHDRAW ACROSS THE BEN HAI RIVER ON THE NIGHT OF 24 SEP 67 AND WERE ORDERED TO CROSS AT KINH THI [1658N/10703E, YD183771] RATHER THAN KINH MON [1658N/10702E, YD170765], DUE TO MANY DELAYED ACTION BOMBS IN THE AREA. K-8 PROBABLY REMAINED IN TACTICAL AREA; IT MAINTAINED COORDINATION WITH THE 803RD REGT AND ORDERED AN U/I ARTY UNIT TO CONTINUE REPORTING ON THE SITUATION IN THE DONG HA [1649N/10708E, YD 245605] AREA.

26 SEP 67. CON THIEN. K-9 BN, 90TH REGT IS DEPLOYED 6KM NE OF CON THIEN [VIC YD1776]. THE K-8 BN WAS DEPLOYING TO THE AREA 6KM EAST OF CON THIEN [YD1769].  
26 SEP 67. GIO LINH. 4KM EAST OF GIO LINH [YD2273] U/I ELEMENT OF 90TH REGT FIRED APPROXIMATELY 725 ROUNDS OF ARTY, MORTAR AND RR FIRE OVER A 9 HOUR PERIOD INTO ARVN 6TH AIRBORNE BN [1 KIA; 20 WIA].

26 SEP 67. DMZ AREA. U/I ELEMENT OF 90TH REGT STATED "THE AMERICAN PW DIED ON 23 SEP OF STOMACH WOUNDS."

28 SEP 67. DMZ AREA. 6TH COMPANY OF 27TH INDEPENDENT BN SHOT DOWN ONE HELICOPTER ON 27 SEP, KILLING 3 PARATROOPERS. [PROBABLY AN ARVN HELICOPTER CARRYING MEMBERS OF ARVN 6TH ABN BN--NOT RECORDED IN ALL ACFT LOSS LISTING.]

670430	163706N	1064404E	_____	BROTZ, DANNY REAY	E3 BR 0664	670508
				MC APHEE, RANDY NEAL	M E2 BB	
670509	163706N	1064404E	_____	TODD, ROBERT LACEY	M E1 BB	0675
670510	163706N	1064404E	_____	AHLMAYER, HEINZ JR	M 01 BB	0676
				SHARP, SAMUEL ARTHUR JR	M E3 BB	
				TYCZ, JAMES NEIL	M E5 BB	
				MILLER, MALCOLM THOMAS	N E4 BB	
670519	170403N	1070255E	_____	HELBACH, HAROLD JAMES	M 03 BB	
670520	164500N	1071200E	_____	FRITS, ORVILLE B.	A E7 BR	0698 670522
670520	164500N	1071200E	_____	GRAMMAR, WILLIAM M	M 02 BR	670522
670520	164017N	1063956E	_____	KEEFE, DOUGLAS ONEIL	M E2 BB	0699
670605	163800N	1064700E	_____	IBANEZ, DI REYES	M E5 XX	0723
670611	165454N	1065530E	_____	BOHLSCHIED, CURTIS R	M 03 BB	0734
				CHOMEL, CHARLES DENNIS	M E2 BB	
				CHRISTIE, DENNIS RAY	M E3 BB	
				FOLEY, JOHN JOSEPH III	M E3 BB	
				GONZALEZ, JOSE JESUS	M E3 BB	
				HANRATTY, THOMAS MICHAEL	M E2 BB	
				HAVRANEK, MICHAEL WILLIAM	M E3 BB	
				KOOI, JAMES WILLARD	M E3 BB	
				MOSHIER, JIM EDWIN	M E4 BB	
				OLDHAM, JOHN SANDERS	M 04 BB	
				WIDENER, JAMES EDWARD	M E2 BB	
670702	162521N	1073942E	_____	RAYFORD, KING DAVID JR	A E2 RR	0749
670729	165647N	1065736E	_____	BENNEFELD, STEVEN HENRY	M E3 BB	0775
				JOHNSON, RICHARD HERMAN	M E3 BB	
670730	165607N	1065753E	_____	BISCAILUZ, ROBERT LYNN	M E3 BB	0777
				BYARS, EARNEST RAY	M E3 BB	
				FREDERICK, DAVID ADDISON	M 03 BB	
				WATERMAN, CRAIG HOUSTON	M 02 BB	
670821	164300N	1065100E	_____	BUDD, LEONARD R. JR	M E3 RR	0799 (TRUCK)
670905	164000N	1070000E	_____	PRATHER, MARTIN WILLIAM	M E3 BB	0827
670911	173900N	1062900E	_____	OVERLY, NORRIS M	F 04 RR	0823
				PETERSEN, GAYLORD D	F 03 NR	
670921	165500N	1070000E	_____	PLUMADORE, KENNETH LEO	M E3 BB	0839