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

COPY 2 9 Pages

16068

3d Recon Bn S/C No.

136-68

3: JNB:deh  
5750.6  
SerNo. 03A0081968  
8 January 1968

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code A03D)  
Via: Commanding General, 3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF (Attn: ACofS, G-3)  
Commanding General, 3d Marine Amphibious Force  
Commanding General, Fleet Marine Force Pacific

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

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.2  
(b) FMF PACO 5750.8

Encl: (1) 3d Reconnaissance Battalion Command Chronology

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

2. Unclassified upon removal of enclosure.

W. D. KENT

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Dec 67

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

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 December 1967 to 31 December 1967

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GROUP-4  
DOWNGRADE AT 3-YEAR INTERVALS  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

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## PART I

ORGANIZATIONAL DATA1. DESIGNATION

3d Reconnaissance Battalion

COMMANDERLt. Col. W. D. KENT  
10 November 67 to PresentSUBORDINATE UNITSH & S Company  
Company A  
Company B  
Company C  
Company D  
\*Company ECapt. D. E. SEVERANCE 12 September 67 to Present  
Capt. C. R. ARIOLA 12 September 67 to Present  
Capt. P. F. REYNOLDS 14 October 67 to Present  
Capt. S. M. HARTNETT 26 August 67 to Present  
Capt. J. F. RHODES 3 November 67 to Present  
Capt. J. W. RAYMOND 17 December 67 to 31  
December 67ATTACHED UNITS3d Force Reconnaissance Co.  
(26 April 67 to Present)

Major J. E. ANDERSON 29 November 67 to Present

2. LOCATION1-31 Dec HUE-PHU BAI, RVN  
1-31 Dec LOU-NA, RVN  
1-31 Dec KHE SANH, RVN  
\*15-31 Dec HUE-PHU BAI, RVNH & S Company, Company A and Company D  
Company C and 3d Force Recon Company  
Company B (Rein)  
Company E3. STAFFExecutive Officer  
Operations Officer  
S-2 Officer  
Adjutant  
S-2 Officer (Forward)  
S-3 Officer (Forward)  
S-4 OfficerMajor E. F. BAULCH 3 July 67 to Present  
Major R. R. GRIGA 1 August 67 to Present  
1st Lt. J. L. ZEILERS 20 May 67 to Present  
1st Lt. G. E. FOX 31 January 67 to Present  
Capt. G. W. O'DELL 12 December 67 to Present Vice  
Capt. R. L. KLEIN  
Capt. J. L. SHEBEL 20 May 67 to Present  
Capt. R. L. KLEIN 12 December 67 to Present  
Vice Capt. T. W. KAUGHER4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH (Includes 3d Force Reconnaissance Company)

***USMC	
<u>Officer</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
49	840

**USN	
<u>Officer</u>	<u>Enlisted</u>
0	55

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

\*\* Figures include Company E.

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## PART II

## NARRATIVE SUMMARY

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

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

Co. C During the reporting period the Company completed 18 patrols averaging 3.45 days with 7.7 men per patrol. The patrols made 12 sightings for a total of 135 VC/NVA, which resulted in 6 contacts, 11 fire missions of 234 artillery rounds, and 3 air strikes. There was a total of 8 VC/NVA KIA (Conf) and 15 VC/NVA KIA (Prob) and one AK-47 was captured. Many trails, huts, and fortified positions not shown on the map were sighted by the patrols. There was 1 USMC WIA.

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

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

H&S Co. During the reporting period personnel from H&S Company participated in three scuba missions of which the primary purpose was to raise sunken portions of bridges, retrieve ordnance, and raise sunken motor vehicles/boats.

In addition two scuba missions operated in the Camp Evans area, the primary purpose being to search the shore line and river bottom for enemy materials.

\* KIA WAS ATTACHED SCOUT DOG HANDLER.

\*\*ONE WIA WAS ATTACHED SCOUT DOG HANDLER.

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## PART III

## SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- a. Combat Missions Assigned. 3d Reconnaissance Battalion and attached Force Reconnaissance Company conducted reconnaissance operations, STINGRAY operations and other operations, as directed, within the Division Area of Responsibility. (3d Mar Div LOI # 1-67)
- b. Significant Operations Conducted. Units of this Battalion have participated in Operation LANCASTER, OSCEOLA, KENTUCKY, SCOTLAND, NEOSHO, NAPOLEON, LAM SON # 152 and LAM SON # 157.
- c. Casualties Inflicted on the Enemy. There has been 125 VC/NVA KIA (Conf), 345 VC/NVA KIA (Prob) and 4 VC/NVA POW inflicted upon the enemy during this reporting period. In addition a total of 7 individual weapons were captured.
- d. Casualties Sustained. There has been 4 USMC KIA, 2 USMC DOW, 14 USMC WIA and 1 USN WIA. (See Note # 1)
- e. New Techniques Employed. Employment of snipers attached to Bravo Company at Khe Sanh still being evaluated. Present plans call for employment of "bogus" inserts into recon zones coupled with "real" inserts to disrupt enemy reaction. TPQ bombing, in lieu of present fixed wing prep of LZ's is being evaluated and will be reported on at a later date. Shorter patrols (2-3 days) and consequently lightened loads are being utilized both as a test basis and necessity, the latter caused by weather/walk in patrols.
- f. Command Relations. During the reporting period, representatives from this battalion met with III MAF reps along with personnel from 1st Recon Battalion to discuss scheduling and training of each Battalion's newly activated company (Company E).  
During this same period liaison was made with ARVN representatives to train eleven ARVN troops within this battalion. (Discussed in paragraph "p")  
Two representatives from the Navy SCUBA School located in the Philippines visited the battalion to discuss scheduling, training and related equipment with this battalion's SCUBA Officer.
- g. Equipment. Evaluation continues on certain test items of equipment (e.g. ponchos, sleeping bags). During the later part of December the M16A1 Rifle with modifications (shortened barrel and chamber) was issued to personnel of the Battalion.
- h. Logistics. Nothing significant to report.
- i. Civic Action. All personnel joining the Battalion from CONUS are given a class in the personal response program. Five men from this Battalion attended the Division Personal Response School during this reporting period.
- j. Administration. With the activation of a new company (see par "q") and the additional squads assigned to each company the administrative load was exceptionally high.

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

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k. Personnel.

17 December 67 Capt. J. W. RAYMOND assigned as Commanding Officer of Company E.  
 12 December 67 1st Lt. R. C. LEWIS assigned additional duty as Battalion Diving Officer vice Capt. KAUGHER.  
 23 December 67 2nd Lt. R. G. WALLS assigned primary duty as Battalion Asst. S-2.

Additional personnel from CONUS and in-country units were joined and trained within the battalion to comprise the three additional squads authorized for each operating company (less Force Company).

Additionally a large single increment was joined to comprise the newly activated Company E.

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

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

Stream crossing difficulties were encountered during rain spells.

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

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

o. Activations/Deactivations/Redesignations.

- (1) One platoon from Company D assigned as recon element to SLF. Chopped to BLT 2/4 on 2 December 1967, total personnel is 1 Officer, 21 Enlisted.
- (2) Company E activated on 15 December 1967 and assigned to this battalion. Company E was "chopped" to 9th MAB (Okinawa) on 31 December 1967. During the period the company was with this battalion, it was in a training/organization status. It is anticipated the company will remain on Okinawa for a period of six weeks at which time it will return in-country. The primary purpose of the move was to train in toto on Okinawa.

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

Company training is conducted along these same lines but on a more

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detailed level pursuant with that experience gained in combat.

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

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

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

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

River crossing techniques was taught by Company D.

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

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

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

<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>PERSONNEL</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Recondo	2	Saigon
S and C	2	Phu Bai
Jumpmaster (Airborne)	1	Okinawa
SNCO School	2	Phu Bai
Crypto Comm Sec	1	Japan

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

Radio relay sites remained in place except the site located at Phu Loc (ZD 068006) was relieved by the 1st Marine Division due to change of operating zones during the later part of December.

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n. Intelligence Summary. Indement weather continued to hamper deep helicopter insertions. Subsequently patrols were frequently trucked to the field or were inserted into a radio relay or infantry position.

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

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

Reemphasis of the HAI LANG FOREST region confirmed reports of heavy activity. The enemy may be using the forest for training and staging. At the Southern end of HAI LANG, in the area SW of MY CHANH, there appeared to be traffic between the coastal area and the deep forest region.

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

Enemy movement decreased to the South and Southeast of the PHU BAI base.

Reduction of the 3d MARINE DIVISION area of responsibility has eliminated the very Southern portion of the reconnaissance zone.

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s. Sequential Listing of Significant Events.

080845H/081700H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 9402) conducted 8 1/2 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in one enemy sighting and contact. Results of the contact was 3 VC KIA (Conf), 4 VC KIA (Prob), and 1 VC WIA (POW). USMC suffered no casualties. (See supporting document # 1)

171300H/191120H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (XD 7541) conducted 70 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in one contact with 8-10 well equipped, well coordinated enemy troops vicinity XD 755409, two sightings vicinity XD 754410 and the capturing of numerous articles of NVA equipment. Reconnaissance zone revealed signs of moderate enemy activity. (See supporting document # 2)

181100H/211130H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 0657) conducted 70 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in one enemy sighting totalling 2 VC/NVA. The patrol observed a possible Sam missile passing overhead of their position. Area covered by patrol reveals negative enemy activity at this time. (See supporting document # 3)

191430H/231030H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 5523) conducted 98 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in 9 enemy sightings totalling 73 VC. Approximately 389 rounds of artillery, about 39 rounds of 81mm mortar and air strikes conducted resulted in 10 VC KIA (Conf) and 52 VC KIA (Prob). One bunker was destroyed and a VC mine booby trap was discovered. Area revealed heavy enemy activity. (See supporting document # 4)

211100H/221430H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 1364) conducted 27 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in 2 contacts with a total of 20-30 NVA resulting in 4 NVA KIA (Conf), 1 NVA KIA (Prob), 3 USMC WIA (Minor) and 1 scout dog WIA (Minor). Patrol captured 1 AK-47, 1 sketch map and several other documents which were forwarded to higher authorities. (See supporting document # 5)

221125H/271730H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 2744) conducted 126 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in 2 sightings totalling 3 VC/NVA, 1 company size harbor site and 3 separate contacts totalling 45 VC/NVA resulting in 9 NVA KIA (Conf) and 12 NVA KIA (Prob). Enemy is well entrenched in area and appear to be leaving area rapidly in groups of 10-15 NVA. (See supporting document # 6)

231500H/252330H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 1365) conducted 56 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in three enemy sightings totalling 7 VC/NVA. AO sighted a total of 34-40 VC/NVA. Patrol had one contact which resulted in 2 USAF KIA by ground fire. Area covered by patrol reveals NVA in area and a possible enemy OP site on Hill 94. (See supporting document # 7)

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241030H/281030H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 4035) conducted 96 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in 4 enemy sightings totalling 65 VC. One artillery mission of 40 rounds resulted in 7 VC KIA (Prob) and one large flash, probably black powder. Area reveals infiltration of VC to the northwest. (See supporting document # 8)

241125H/141758H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (XD 8344) conducted 6½ hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in one contact with approximately 25-30 enemy vicinity XD 806471. Reconnaissance zone revealed the movement of a platoon size enemy unit through the area. (See supporting document # 9)

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

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

271600H/301530H December. A patrol operating in the vicinity of (YD 7706) conducted 72 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance which resulted in two enemy sightings totalling 204 VC with 7 VC KIA (Conf) and 150 KIA (Prob). Area reveals heavy enemy activity. (See supporting document # 12)

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

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The following are the total figures (1 January 1967 - 31 December 1967) of significant events and tallies for the year 1967.

PATROLS -----	1,327
AVG. DAY PATROLS	N/A.
# MEN PATROL----	N/A
SIGHTING-----	1,257
NVA/VC SIGHTED--	14,121
CONTACTS-----	386
FIRE MISSIONS---	884
ARTY RD's FIRED-	38,574
AIR STRIKES-----	321
NVA/VC-KIA (C)--	882
NVA/VC-KIA (P)--	1,810
NVA/VC CAPTURED-	13/2 DOW
USMC KIA-----	48
USN KIA-----	5
USMC WIA-----	410
USN WIA-----	41
CAPTURED WEAPONS	79

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PART IV

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- ✓(1) Patrol Report 506-67 of 09 December 67 (Co. D)
- ✓(2) Patrol Report 186-67 of 21 December 67 (Co. B)
- ✓(3) Patrol Report 649-67 of 21 December 67 (Co. C)
- ✓(4) Patrol Report 531-67 of 27 December 67 (Co. A)
- ✓(5) Patrol Report 666-67 of 22 December 67 (3d Force)
- ✓(6) Patrol Report 669-67 of 27 December 67 (3d Force)
- ✓(7) Patrol Report 573-67 of 25 December 67 (Co. C)
- ✓(8) Patrol Report 543-67 of 28 December 67 (Co. A)
- ✓(9) Patrol Report 544-67 of 27 December 67 (Co. A)
- ✓(10) Patrol Report 191-67 of 27 December 67 (Co. B)
- ✓(11) Patrol Report 547-67 of 28 December 67 (Co. A)
- ✓(12) Patrol Report 551-67 of 26 December 67 (Co. A)
- ✓(13) Patrol Report 549-67 of 30 December 67 (Co. D)

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Operation Order: 506-67  
Patrol: (1)Sed (1)Plt (3)C  
Debriefed: Lt. J.L. ZETTERS  
Map Sheet: 6541 I-IV

Copy 4 of 31 copies  
3d Reconnaissance Bn  
Phu Bai, RVN RZ 445  
090815H Dec 1967

PATROL REPORT

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND EQUIPMENT:

- a. COMPOSITION: (1)Officer (7)Enlisted
- b. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
- c. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2) AN/PRC 25
- d. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (4) Zx90 (1) Starlight Scope
- e. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (4) Claymore Mines (4) WP Rifle Grenades  
(2) Incendiary Grenades (8) CS Grenades (8) Protective Masks (1) Camera
- f. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M-79

2. MISSION: Determine the nature of enemy activity developing along the natural infiltration routes that could be used by V2/NVA and also check area for use as VC base camp area. Pay particular attention to size and direction of enemy movement. Act as a forward observer for artillery on call targets of opportunity. Make every attempt to capture a prisoner.

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

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

5. ROUTE: See overlay

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

a. SYNOPSIS: 8 1/2 hours of reconnaissance resulted in one enemy sighting and contact. Results of the contact was 3 VC KIA(C), 3 VC KIA(P), and 1 VC WIA(POW). USMC suffered no casualties.

b. ENEMY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:

(1) (ID 943023) 181615H While at a temporary halt patrol noted 8 VC at (YD 943022) moving east on a trail. Trail was one meter wide and had been well worn. Point man had a carbine slung on his shoulder, wore a US type helmet and a gray poncho. Following at 5 meters intervals were the remaining 7. The rest had mixed clothing, some had ponchos with hood. At least 1 man had a nearly empty light pack. One man had a white scarf wrapped around his neck. Many had their carbines at the ready position. They moved without observing the terrain around them. Patrol ambushed the column resulting in 3 VC KIA(C), 4 VC KIA(P), and 1 VC WIA(POW). The enemy did not return fire. The enemy was completely surprised and made a half hearted attempt to return back down the trail. Gunships strafed in surge and team was extracted at 081700H with VC(POW) and captured gear.

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c. TERRAIN:

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

(2) COMMUNICATIONS: Communications was good.

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

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

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

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

d. OTHER INFORMATION: NONE

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

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY.

a. VC: (3) KIA(C) (4) KIA(P) (1) POW

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

9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

a. RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) Patrols do not move during the VC transit period from 1600 to 1800 when the VC move north and east to villes. This area could provide operating areas for snipers if the cloud ceiling permits.

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

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

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

11. DESIREYER COMMENTS: Concur with Patrol.

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

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

c. OTHER COMMENTS: Patrol had high praise for air (HHN 164, VMO-3) and artillery (4/12-Desert Sand Lima) support. This patrol had stripped to a minimum of gear and weight for this patrol. VC were armed with US carbines.

SSgt POOL  
Company 300

98

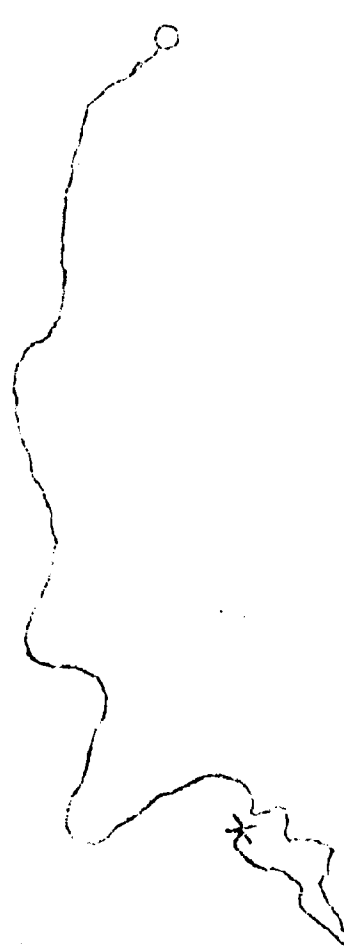
07-+

LEGEND

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

PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY

(1)Sqd (1)Plt (D)Co  
Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000  
Sheet: 6541 I-IV  
Series: L-7014  
3d Reconnaissance Bn  
(S-2)



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COMM CNTR

THIRD MARDIV

NY CCCCC  
 A 210140Z DEC 67  
 FM TWENTY SIXTH MARINES  
 TO CG THIRD MARDIV  
 INFO THIRD RECON BN  
 THIRD MARINES  
 ZEN/THIRD BN TWO SIX MARINES  
 ZEN/FIRST BN TWO SIX MARINES  
 BT

3d Recon Bn S/C No. 66 67 -67  
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 DEBRIEF OF RECON PATROL 186-67  
 A. MAP SHEET 6142 III, SERIES L-7214, 1:50,000  
 (1) DEBRIEFER: CPL W. A. MALLAND  
 (2) REVIEWED BY: CAPT. P. F. REYNOLDS  
 (3) DEBRIEF OF PICON TEAM 281, B CO, THIRD RECON BN, 191200H DEC  
 1. COMPOSITION, SIZE, EQUIPMENT:  
 (A) COMPOSITION: 8 USMC ENL.  
 (B) COMM EQUIP: 1 AN/PRC 25'S.  
 (C) OBS EQUIP: 1 PR 7X50'S.  
 (D) SPECIAL EQUIP: 2 THERMITE GRENADES.  
 (E) SPECIAL WPNS: 1 M-79, 1 M-14.

PAGE TWO 32Y6 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
 2. MISSION: CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE WITHIN  
 THE AREA BOUNDED BY XD7442 (UL) XD7642 (LR) TO DETECT  
 NVA/VC MOVEMENT. PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO TRAILS AND LIKELY  
 AVENUES OF INFILTRATION. BE ESPECIALLY ALERT FOR POTENTIAL OR  
 ACTUAL ENEMY ARTILLERY, ROCKET AND MORTAR SITES. ENGAGE THE  
 ENEMY WITH SUPPORTING ARMS AND MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CAPTURE  
 A PRISONER, WEAPONS, AND DOCUMENTS.  
 3. INSERTION: TEAM WALKED TO RECONNAISSANCE ZONE FROM HILL  
 881 SOUTH (XD777437) ON 171300H DEC 67.  
 4. EXTRACTION: XD752420/191120H DEC BY HELO.  
 5. CONDITION OF PATROL:  
 (A) PHYSICAL: ON WIA (MINOR) DUE TO HOSTILE ACTION.  
 (B) MORALE: OUTSTANDING.  
 6. PATROL ROUTE: FROM INSERTION POINT TO XD755409 TO XD754410  
 TO XD755412 TO EXTRACTION POINT.  
 7. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:  
 (A) SYNOPSIS: 70 HOURS OF RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE  
 RESULTED IN ONE CONTACT WITH 8-10 WELL EQUIPPED, WELL COORDINATED  
 ENEMY TROOPS VIC XD755409, TWO SIGHTINGS VIC XD754410 AND THE  
 CAPTURING OF NUMEROUS ARTICLES OF NVA EQUIPMENT. RECONNAISSANCE

214140Z DEC 67

A-6-2

6-3/COC/sis/cio RHO

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PAGE THREE 32Y6 C O N F I D E N T I A L

ZONE REVEALED SIGNS OF MODERATE ENEMY ACTIVITY.

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

(C) ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

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

(2) 191020H/XD754410 (AMBUSH) 8-10 NVA MOVED INTO KILLING ZONE OF AMBUSH. TEAM INITIATED SAF RESULTING IN 2 ENEMY KIA

(C). THE REMAINING ENEMY IMMEDIATELY BEGAN TO ENVELOPE TEAM'S POSITION FROM THE EAST. AT THIS TIME 2 PATROL MEMBERS OBSERVED 3 NVA 15-20 METERS EAST. PATROL MEMBERS INITIATED SA AND M-79

PAGE FOUR 32Y6 C O N F I D E N T I A L

FIRE RESULTING IN 3 ENEMY KIA (C). FIRE FIGHT CONTINUED UNTIL 191045H WHEN ENEMY BROKE CONTACT TO THE EAST. WHEN CONTACT WAS INITIATED THE ENEMY WAS MOVING EAST TO WEST AT 10 METER INTERVALS. HIS MOVEMENT APPEARED TO BE CASUAL AS WAS INDICATED BY THE FACT THAT THEY CARRIED THEIR WEAPONS AT SLING ARMS.

WHEN CONTACT WAS INITIATED THE ENEMY OBTAINED A VERY PROFESSIONAL ATTITUDE AND CONDUCTED AN EFFECTIVE ENVELOPMENT ON TEAM POSITION.

WHEN ENEMY BROKE CONTACT TEAM WAS ABLE TO CHECK ONE ENEMY BODY AND CAPTURED NUMEROUS ARTICLES OF NVA EQUIPMENT. WHILE SEARCHING BODY TEAM BEGAN TO HEAR MOVEMENT FROM THE EAST.

TEAM FINISHED SEARCHING BODY AND MOVED TO XD752420 FOR EXTRACTION. FROM AMBUSH TO HLZ THE REAR SECURITY HEARD MOVEMENT FOLLOWING TEAM FROM THE SOUTHWEST. 191120H /XD752420 TEAM WAS

EXTRACTED WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT. ALL ENEMY OBSERVED WORE LIGHT GREEN UTILITIES, BUSH HATS, BROWN BELTS WITH GOLD

BUCKLES, SANDALS, CARTRIDGE BELTS, 2 CANTEENS AND CARRIED AK-47'S. ENEMY SEARCHED ALSO WORE A CAMOUFLAGED COLORED UNDERSHIRT AND

HAD A LIGHT GREEN TRIANGULAR PATCH SOWN ON THE INSIDE OF HIS BUSH HAT. ONE ENEMY WAS OBSERVED CARRYING A MORTAR TUBE AND

POINT MAN CARRIED A PAIR OF BINOCULARS (DESTROYED WHEN TEAM

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PAGE FIVE 32Y6 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
THREW AN M-26 GRENADE AT ENEMY). ENEMY'S EQUIPMENT WAS IN GOOD REPAIR AND CLEAN. ALL UTILITIES APPEARED TO BE NEW. DUE TO CLEANLINESS OF ENEMY'S UNIFORMS AND BODIES IT IS BELIEVED ENEMY HAVE JUST MOVED INTO THE AREA. THE ENEMY WAS EXTREMELY WELL TRAINED AND HIS BATTLE COORDINATION WAS EXCELLENT.

(D) OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) 181700H/XD755409 TEAM DISCOVERED A 2' WIDE, EAST TO WEST TRAIL. TRAIL IS HARD PACKED AND FREE OF OVERGROWTH. TRAIL APPEARED TO BE FREQUENTLY USED. TEAM LEADER ESTIMATED TRAIL HAD BEEN USED WITHIN THE PAST 24 HOURS. 190800H PATROL MEMBERS OBSERVED 4 ENEMY UTILIZING TRAIL AND AT 191020H TEAM AMBUSHED APPROX 8-10 ENEMY MOVING ON TRAIL. DUE TO THICK CANOPY TRAIL CANNOT BE OBSERVED FROM THE AIR.

(2) 181330H/XD 755415 TO XD 756415 TEAM FOLLOWED A 1 1/2'-2' WIDE WELL DEFINED DIRT TRAIL. TRAIL HAS SOME VEGETATION GROWING OVER TRAIL, HOWEVER AT XD 756415 TEAM DISCOVERED 8 REST POSITIONS BROKEN IN ELEPHANT GRASS AND A FRESH NW TO SE TRAIL RUNNING OFF MAIN TRAIL AND THROUGH THE POSITION. TEAM ALSO NOTED A FISH SMELL IN THE AREA. TEAM ESTIMATES POSITION AND TRAIL TO BE APPROX 12 HOURS OLD. TRAIL CAN BE OBSERVED FROM

PAGE SIX 32Y6 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
AIR

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

(4) COMM WAS POOR DURING PATROL.

(5) NATURAL WATER IN AREA IS PLENTIFUL.

(A) XD765425 TEAM CROSSED A EAST TO WEST 2"-3" DEEP 1' WIDE STREAM.

(B) XD763425 TEAM CROSSED A NORTH TO SOUTH, 4" DEEP 2 1/2'-3' WIDE STREAM.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTER WITH THE ENEMY:

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

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

(C) CAPTURED ENEMY EQUIPMENT: 1 AK-47 RIFLE, 87 ROUNDS 7.62MM AK-47 AMMO, 3 MAGAZINES, 2 CHICOM FRAG GRENADES, 1 CARTRIDGE BELT, 1 BELT LEATHER W/BUCKLE, 1 KNIFE, 1 FIRST AID PACKET, 1 CANTEEN, 3 PACKAGES OF CEREAL BARS, 1 PONCHO, 1 LIGHTER, 2 SMALL WATER PROOF BAGS, (LONG RANGE RATIONS), 1 BINOCULAR CASE, (ALL ITEMS FORWARDED TO TWENTY SIXTH MARINES S-2).

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PAGE SEVEN 32Y6 C O N F I D E N T I A L

9. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

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

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

11. REVIEWING OFFICERS COMMENTS: NONE.

PATROL LEADER: CPL. W. R. MC CREIGHT

GP-4

B1

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THIRD MARDIV

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ATTN: AC OF S G-2

DEBRIEF OF RECON PATROL: 302, THIRD RECON BN, "C" COMPANY  
OPERATION ORDER: 649-67 (CPL MC CULEY)

A. MAP SHEET: 1:50,000 AMS SERIES L-7014 SHEET: 6342I

(1) DEBRIEFER: CAPT O'DELL

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND EQUIPMENT:

A. COMPOSITION: (1) ENLISTED, (1) USN

B. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE

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

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

E. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (3) CLAYMORES, (4) WP RIFLE GRENADES

(7) GAS MASKS (7) CS GRENADES, (2) BLOCKS C-4

F. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M79 WITH 75 ROUNDS, (1) M14

2. MISSION: CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE IN ASSIGNED ZONE TO DETERMINE ENEMY ACTIVITY. ENGAGE THE ENEMY WITH SUPPORTING ARMS. MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CAPTURE A PRISONER. PLOT HLZ'S FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS. PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO TRAILS AND

2114412 Doc 67

A-G-2

6-3/COE/SIS/CEO RNS

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PAGE THREE 001A 1042 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
 THEIR FREQUENCY OF USE IN YOUR RZ. ASCERTAIN IF THE AREA IS BEING USED BY THE ENEMY AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE. PATROL WILL NOT BE EXTRACTED, UNTIL RZ IS SUFFICIENTLY COVERED.

3. TIME OF DEPARTURE/RETURN: 181100H(062577)/WALK/2111130H (YD062577)/WALK

ROUTE: INSERT PT NORTHWEST TO (YD058588) SOUTHWEST TO (YD044586)

5. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

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

B. ENEMY:

(1) 191220H(YD041569) PATROL OBSERVED (1) MAN IN DARK CLOTHING CROSSING RIVER HEADING NORTH. MAN (COULDN'T OBSERVE WEAPONS OR EQUIPMENT) LOOKED UPSTREAM AFTER CROSSING RIVER, THE SECOND MAN CAME INTO SIGHT ON SOUTH SIDE OF RIVER. SECOND MAN CROSSED RIVER THEN BOTH UNCOVERED A BOAT ON THE NORTH SIDE OF THE CAM LO RIVER. MEN ENTERED BOAT AND HEADED WEST IN BOAT. PATROL ATTEMPTED TO CALL FIRE MISSION. BUT

PAGE FOUR 001A 1042 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
 RECEIVED CHECK FIRE. PATROL MOVED POSITION TO KEEP BOAT IN SIGHT BUT WERE UNABLE TO LOCATE IT AGAIN. GUNSHIPS CHECKED AREA, SAID INDIVIDUALS HAD NO WEAPONS IN SIGHT, NO ACTION TAKEN.

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

D. OTHER INFORMATION:

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

6. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

A. ENEMY: NONE

7. CONDITION OF PATROL: GOOD, MORALE GOOD

8. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

9. HLZ'S

(1) (YD 056585) (1) CH-46, SITE IS TOP OF HILL WITH SHORT-GRASS NO APPROACH OBSTACLES AND A WESTERLY HEADING IS BEST APPROACH. (2) (YD 045585) (1) CH-46, SITE IS HILL TOP, BEST APPROACH IS 360 DEGREES.

10. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS: THREE PATROLS IN THE FIELD OBSERVED

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 WHAT'S BELIEVED TO BE A SAM MISSILE AT 212200H DEC 67. ALL REMARKED ON THE SLOW SPEED OF FLIGHT AND GLOW WHICH COULD HAVE BEEN FROM THE THRUST.

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Operation Order: 531-67  
 Patrol: (2) Sqd. (2) Plt. (A) Co.  
 Debriefing: SSgt. LOPEZ, J.M.I.  
 Map Sheet: 6441 I & 6442 II

Copy 4 of 34 Copies  
 3d Reconnaissance Bn  
 Phu Bai, RVN--RZ  
 271030H Dec 1967

PATROL REPORT

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND EQUIPMENT:

- a. a. COMPOSITION: (8) Enlisted (1) USN
- b. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: (None)
- c. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2) AN/PRC 25's
- d. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (1) 7X50's
- e. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (4) Claymore Mines, (2) WP Rifle Grenades, (1) WP Hand Grenade, (1) Incendiary Grenade.
- f. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M-79, (1) M-60, (2) M-14, (1) XM148

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

3. TIME OF INSERTION: 191430H Dec 67 HOW: AIR

4. TIME OF EXTRACTION: 231030H Dec 67 HOW: AIR

5. ROUTE: (See Overlay)

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

a. SYNOPSIS: 98 hours of reconnaissance resulted in 9 enemy sightings totalling 73 VC. Approximately 389 rounds of artillery, about 39 rounds of 81 mm mortar and air strikes conducted resulted in 10 VC KIA (C) and 52 VC KIA (P). One bunker was destroyed and a VC mine booby trap was discovered. Area revealed heavy enemy activity.

b. ENEMY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:

(1) 210800H (YD 551233) Patrol observed 3 VC wearing black PJ's moving south across a ridgeline vicinity (YD 543215). VC disappeared, team continued surveillance with negative results.

(2) 210855H (YD 555231) Patrol called artillery fire on one VC standing a bunker vicinity (YD 546224). Four more VC were seen come out of the bunker and went back inside. VC wore black PJ's and armed with unknown type of weapons. Mortar and artillery mission fired resulted in bunker blown, 13 secondary explosions for an area approximately 100 meters around bunker and 5 VC KIA (C). Team saw 5 more VC approximately 800 meters to the south by a stream bed. Four were wearing black PJ's, and one had on a white tee shirt. Team adjusted artillery fire resulting in 1 VC KIA (C) and 4 VC KIA (P).

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 OpO 531-67

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(3) 211500H (YD 559229) Patrol observed 20 VC wearing black PJ's, packs, well camouflaged and armed with unknown type weapons moving east on road 554 vicinity (YD 569245). 15 more VC wearing khakis, packs and weapons joined the other 20 and moved to a tree line. Team fired 125 rounds of artillery with outstanding coverage, fixed wing A/C and gunships strafed area and 18 more rounds of artillery resulted in 35 VC KIA(P).

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

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

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

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

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

(9) 230735H (YD 559229) Team observed 7 VC vicinity (YD 572246) move east on road 554. VC wore heavy camouflage of leaves and brush and carried weapons. Patrol called 16 rounds artillery with poor coverage and unknown results.

c. TERRAIN:

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

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

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

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

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

--CONTINUED ON BACK--

OpOrd. 531-67

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d. OTHER INFORMATION:

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

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

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

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

(5) 201730H (YD 555231) Team observed 1 bunker vicinity (YD 546225) Bunker was 6 feet high, 5 feet wide, built on side of a ridge and had 1x2 feet slit in the center. Artillery mission of 75 rounds destroyed bunker.

(6) 22 Dec 67 (YD 555231) Team observed 3 camp fires vicinity (YD 562248). Artillery fired 28 rounds with good coverage. Lights went out.

(7) 220330H (YD 551233) Patrol saw a light and heard movement vicinity (YD 544232). Shot 15 rounds of mortars with good coverage resulting in light going out and movement stopped.

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

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

a. VC: 16 KIA (C), 52 KIA(P)

9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS: (None)

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

Cpl MUSZALSKI  
"A" Company

11. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS: (None)

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

b. EXTENDED

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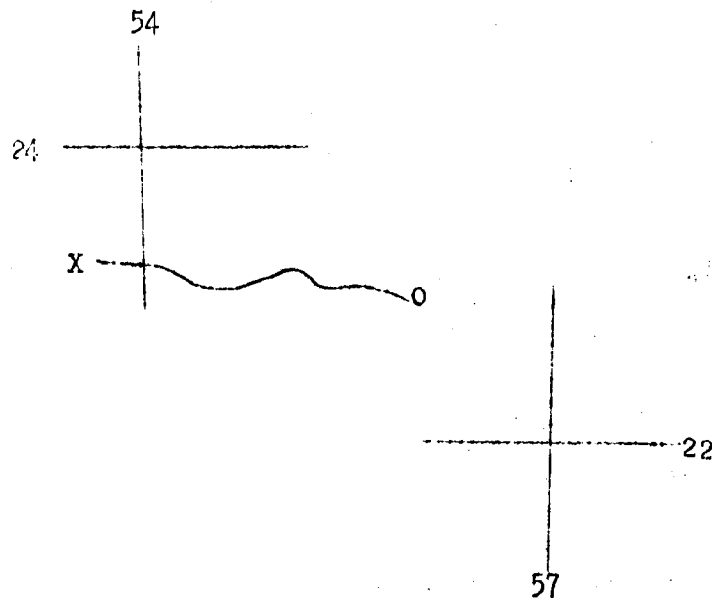
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LEGEND

O = INSERTION  
X = EXTRACTION  
— = PATROL ROUTE

PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY

(2) Sqd. (2) Plt. (A) Co.  
Map: VIETNAM: 1:50,000  
Sheet: 6441 I & 6442 II  
Series: L-7014  
3d Reconnaissance Bn  
(S-2)



OpOrd: 531-67

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THIRD MARDIV

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3d Recon Bn S/C No.

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A  
 ZNY CCCCC  
 P 221505Z DEC 67  
 FM DET THIRD RECON BN  
 TO CG THIRD MARDIV  
 INFO ZEN/THIRD MARDIV (FWD) D.H.C.B.  
 THIRD RECON BN  
 FIRST MAR  
 SECOND BN FIRST MAR  
 THIRD MAR  
 ZEN/THIRD BN THIRD MAR  
 ZEN/NINTH MAR  
 TWELFTH MAR  
 SECOND BN NINTY FOURTH ARTILLERY  
 SECOND BN TWELFTH MAR  
 FIRST BN FOURTIETH ARTILLERY  
 EIGHTH BN FOURTH ARTILLERY  
 TWENTY SIXTH MAR  
 VMO SIX  
 MAG THREE SIX ALPHA  
 HMM ONE SIX THREE  
 HMM ONE SIX FIVE

TO RECON/118153/OWENS

621

PAGE TWO 001A 1089 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
 ZEN/PROVINCE ADVISOR QUANG TRI  
 SECOND BN FOURTH MAR

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ATTN: AC? 1 &amp;-2

DEBRIEF OF RECON PATROL: 4-1 THIRD FORCE RECON CO.

OPERATION ORDER: 666-67 (SGT OWENS)

A. MAP SHEET: 1:50,000 AMS SERIES L-7014 SHEET: 63421

(1) DEBRIEFER: SGT GIBERSON/CAPT J.L. SNEBEL DATE: 22 DEC 67

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND EQUIPMENT:

A. COMPOSITION: (1) OFFICER (7) ENLISTED

B. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: (1) USMC SCOUT DOG WITH HANDLER (MATSU)

C. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2) AN/PRC 2913

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

E. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (4) CLAYMORES (4) WP RIFLE GRENADES, (3) GAS MASKS, (8) CS GRENADES

F. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M79 WITH (50) (2) M14

MISSION CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE IN ASSIGNED AREA TO DETERMINE ENEMY ACTIVITY. ENGAGE THE ENEMY WITH S&amp;W AND IF NECESSARY MAKE FULL USE OF ALL AVAILABLE WEAPONS.

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THIRD MARDIV

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PAGE THREE 001A 1000 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
 FUTURE OPERATIONS. PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO TAILS AND THEIR  
 FREQUENCY OF USE IN YOUR RZ. ASCERTAIN IF THE AREA IS BEING USED  
 BY THE ENEMY AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE. PATROL WILL NOT BE EXTRACTED,  
 UNTIL RZ IS SUFFICIENTLY COVERED.

1. TIME OF DEPARTURE/RETURN: 211100H (YD135645)/WALK/221430H  
 (YD100630)/HELO.

2. ROUTE: INSERT PT SOUTHWEST TO (YD090620) NORTHEAST TO (YD100628)  
 3. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN;  
 4. SYNOPSIS: 27 HOURS OF RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE RESULTED

IN (2) CONTACTS WITH A TOTAL OF (22-30) NVA RESULTING IN (4) NVA  
 KIA (C) (1) NVA KIA (P), (3) USMC WIA (MINOR) AND (1) SCOUT DOG WIA  
 (MINOR). PATROL CAPTURED (1) AK-47, (1) SKETCH MAP AND SEVERAL  
 OTHER DOCUMENTS WHICH WERE FORWARDED TO HIGHER AUTHORITIES.

5. ENEMY:  
 (1) 211800H (YD108520) PATROL OBSERVED (2) NVA FIRING (1) MORTAR  
 (GREEN). NVA WORE GREEN UTILITIES. ENEMY FIRED (5) RDS FROM THIS  
 POSITION. AND THEN MOVED TO (YD109269) WHERE THEY FIRED  
 APPROXIMATELY (15) ROUNDS. PATROL BELIEVES ROUNDS WERE IMPACTING  
 IN OR NEAR C-2. MORTAR WAS APPROX (300) METERS NORTHEAST OF  
 PATROL'S POSITION. PATROL ATTEMPTED TO CALL ARTY MISSION BUT  
 COULDN'T GET IT CLEARED. ENEMY MOVED OFF TO WEST, PATROL LOST

PAGE FOUR 001A 1000 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
 SIGHT OF THEM.

(2) 220910H (YD091623) DOG ALERTED (30) METERS PRIOR TO MAKING  
 CONTACT WHEN POINT OBSERVED (1) NVA MOVING SOUTH. NVA WORE  
 BLACK PJ'S UNDER DARK GREEN UTILITIES AND CARRIED A CRATRIDGEZ  
 BELT, AK-47 (1), PITH HELMET, MAP OR OVERLAY AND SEVERAL DOCUMENTS.  
 PATROL HALTED. NVA OBSERVED PATROL AND POINT OPENED FIRE RESULTING  
 IN (1) NVA KIA (C). PATROL WAS STRIPPING ENEMY OF XMHRKGear & DOCUMENTS  
 WHEN AN AUTOMATIC WEAPON OPENED UP 10-15° FROM PATROL'S POSITION.  
 PATROL RETURNED FIRE AND TOSSED SEVERAL GRENADES. FIRING STOPPED  
 AND PATROL MOVED OUT TO THE EAST AND CONTINUED MISSION.  
 (3) 221300H (YD100630) PATROL WAS RESTING WHEN THEY HEARD VOICES  
 FROM 20-25 PEOPLE COMING FROM APPROXIMATELY 25-30 METERS NORTH OF  
 PATROL'S POSITION. PATROL BELIEVES ENEMY WERE ON LINE LOOKING FOR  
 PATROL. POINT MAN STOOD UP TO TRY AND LOCATE ENEMY WHEN HE  
 OBSERVED (1) NVA. NVA WORE GREEN UTILITIES WITH PITH HELMET  
 & UNKNOWN NVA AUTOMATIC WEAPON. POINT MAN OPENED FIRE RESULTING  
 IN (1) NVA KIA (C). IMMEDIATELY PATROL BEGAN RECEIVING S/A AND  
 AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE FROM 15-20 METERS NORTH OF PATROL'S  
 POSITION. PATROL RETURNED FIRE AND TRIED TO BREAK CONTACT. PATROL  
 LOST (2) NVA (MINOR) AND (1) SCOUT DOG WIA (MINOR). PATROL COULDN'T  
 BREAK CONTACT SO THEY WERE FORWARDED TO HIGHER AUTHORITIES.

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PAGE FIVE 201A 1209 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
STILL KEEPING UP A HIGH VOLUME OF FIRE AND WERE THROWING CHI COM  
GRENADES. FIRING SLACKED OFF FOR A FEW MINUTES AS ENEMY TRIED TO  
SURROUND PATROL. A/C AND GUNSHIPS CAME ON STATION. PATROL WAS STILL  
RECEIVING SPORADIC S/A FIRE FROM THEIR EAST AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS  
FIRE FROM THEIR SOUTH. PATROL OBSERVED (2) NVA MOVING TOWARDS THEIR  
POSITION WHEN ENEMY THREW (1) GRENADE RESULTING IN (1) USMC KIA  
(MINOR). PRIOR TO GRENADE GOING OFF PATROL RETURNED FIRE  
RESULTING IN (2) NVA KIA (C). GUNSHIPS MADE SEVERAL STRAFING  
RUNS AND ALL FIRING CEASED. SEVERAL MINUTES LATER ENEMY OPENED  
FIRE AGAIN FROM THE EAST. PATROL RETURNED FIRE. FIRING CEASED:  
EXTRACTION HELO CAME INTO PICK UP TEAM WHEN A GRENADE WZNT OF AS  
PATROL WAS LOADING ONTO CHOPPER. FIXED WING AND GUNSHIPS CONTINUED  
TO STRAFF AND BOMB AREA AS PATROL LEFT AREA.  
C. TERRAIN: LOW ROLLING HILLS WITH THICK SECONDARY GROWTH AND  
ELEPHANT GRASS 10' HIGH. COMM WAS GOOD, WATER WAS PLENTIFUL  
RATE OF MOVEMENT WAS 500-600 METERS PER HOUR.  
D. OTHER INFORMATION: NONE  
6. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:  
A. ENEMY: (4) NVA KIA (C), (1) NVA KIA (P)  
B. FRIENDLY: (3) USMC KIA (MINOR), (1) SCOUT DOG KIA (MINOR)

PAGE SIX 201A 1209 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
C. CAPTURED/EQUIPMENT: (1) AK-47 W/4 MAGAZINES, (1) CARTRIDGE BELT  
(1) MAP OVERLAY, (1) NOTEBOOK AND MISC. DOCUMENTS, (FORWARDED  
TO ITT)  
7. CONDITION OF PATROL: GOOD, MORALE GOOD.  
8. RECOMMENDATIONS: ONE CONCLUSIONS:  
1. HAVE TEAMS USE DOG IN AREA  
2. HAVE INFANTRY RUN A SWEEP THROUGH AREA.  
CONCLUSIONS:  
1. AREA COVERED BY PATROL REVEALS: PATROL MADE CONTACT WITH 20-25  
NVA WHO APPEARED TO BE LOOKING FOR PATROL.  
2. GENERAL CONCLUSIONS: NVA MAY BE SETTING UP DEFENSIVE  
POSITIONS ALONG GRID 0962 TO 0965.  
9. HLZ'S:  
(1) (YD100630) SITE WILL ACCOMMODATE (1) CH46, SITE IS BOTTOM OF  
VALLEY WITH 4-5' HIGH ELEPHANT GRASS. WITH SECONDARY GROWTH 12-15'  
TO THE EAST OF HLZ. BEST APPROACH IS HEADING EAST TO WEST.  
10. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS: CONCUR WITH (SGT OWENS) PL.  
GP-4  
BT

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O 271715Z DEC 67  
FM DET THIRD RECON BN  
TO CG THIRD MARDIV  
INFO ZEN/THIRD MARDIV FWD DHCB  
THIRD RECON BN  
FIRST MAR  
SECOND BN FIRST MAR  
THIRD MAR  
ZEN/THIRD BN THIRD MAR  
ZEN/NINTH MAR  
ZEN/TWELFTH MAR  
SECOND BN NINTY FOURTH ARTY  
SECOND BN TWELFTH MAR  
FIRST BN FOURTIETH ARTY  
EIGHTH BN FORTH ARTY  
TWENTY SIXTH MAR  
VMO SIX  
MAG THREE SIX ALPHA  
HMM ONE SIX THREE  
HMM ONE SIX FIVE

FOR 2720Z-5 DHCB

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G-2

PAGE TWO 001A 1343 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
ZEN/PROVINCE ADVISOR QUANG TRI  
SECOND BN FOURTH MAR  
BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ATTN: AC OF S G-2

DEBRIEF OF RECON PATROL: 4-2 THIRD FORCE RECON CO.

OPERATION ORDER: 669-67 (SGT PIERCE)

A. MAP SHEET: 1:50,000 AMS SERIES L-7014 SHEET: 6442 111

(1) DEBRIEFER: CAPT O'DELL/SGT GIBERSON DATE: 27 DEC 67

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION AND EQUIPMENT:

A. COMPOSITION: (7) ENLISTED

B. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE

C. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2) VHF/PRC 25'S

D. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (1) 7X50

E. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (2) CLAYMORE MINES, (3) WP RIFLE  
GRENADES, (7) GAS MASKS, (2) CS GRENADES.

F. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M-79 WITH 53 ROUNDS, (3) M14'S  
(1) M-60 WITH 800 ROUNDS.

2. MISSION: CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE IN  
ASSIGNED ZONE TO DETERMINE ENEMY  
ACTIVITY. ENGAGE THE ENEMY WITH SUPPORTING ARMS. MAKE

271715Z DEC 67

A G-2

COC/SS/6-3/CSO

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PAGE THREE 001A 1343 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
EVERY EFFORT TO CAPTURE A PRISONER. PLOT HLZ'S FOR FUTURE  
OPERATIONS. PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO TRAILS AND THEIR  
FREQUENCY OF USE IN YOUR RZ. ASCERTAIN IF THE AREA IS  
BEING USED BY THE ENEMY AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE. PATROL  
WILL NOT BE EXTRACTED UNTIL RZ IS SUFFICIENTLY COVERED.  
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE/RETURN: 221125H (YD 279442) HELO/  
271730H (YD 286436) HELO  
4. ROUTE: INSERT PT SOUTH-SOUTHEAST TO (YD 281429),  
NORTHEAST TO (YD 299431), NORTHEAST TO EXTRACTION PT.  
5. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:  
A. SYNOPSIS: 126 HOURS OF RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE  
RESULTED IN (2) SIGHTINGS TOTALING (3) VC/NVA, (1)  
COMPANY SIZE HARBOR SITE AND (3) SEPARATE CONTACTS  
TOTALING 45 VC/NVA RESULTING IN (9) NVA KIA (C) AND 12  
NVA KIA (P). ENEMY IS WELL ENTRENCHED IN AREA AND APPEAR  
TO BE LEAVING AREA RAPIDLY IN GROUPS OF 10-15 NVA.  
B. ENEMY:  
(1) 231130H (YD 299437) PATROL WAS MOVING NORTHWEST ON  
TRAIL AFTER CHECKING AREA OF A FIRE MISSION WHEN THEY  
OBSERVED (9) NVA RECONNING AREA. NVA WORE BLACK PJ'S

PAGE FOUR 001A 1343 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
AND KHAKIS, CARTRIDGE BELTS AND CARRIED (2) AK-47'S AND  
(3) SKS'S. NVA WERE 400 METERS TO THE SOUTHEAST OF  
PATROL'S POSITION. NVA SPOTTED PATROL AND STARTED MOVING  
OUT TO THE NORTHEAST. PATROL CALLED FIRE MISSION WITH  
WITH GOOD COVERAGE OF TARGET. PATROL WAS CHECKING OUT AREA  
WHEN THEY OBSERVED (2) NVA MOVING NORTH TO TOP OF HILL.  
ONE MAN WAS DRAGGING OTHER. PATROL OPENED FIRE WITH SAF  
IN RETURN. PATROL CALLED ARTILLERY MISSION A GAIN AND  
BROKE CONTACT. PATROL FIRED 127 ROUNDS IN SUPPORT RESULTING  
IN (1) NVA KIA (C) AND (2) NVA KIA (P).  
(2) 251320H (YD 289429) PATROL WAS MOVING SOUTHEAST ON  
TRAIL WHEN THEY OBSERVED (19) NVA TO THEIR EAST MOVING  
IN A NORTHWESTERLY DIRECTION, 500 METERS FROM PATROL'S  
POSITION. NVA WORE KHAKIS, BLACK PJ'S HEAVY PACKS,  
CARTRIDGE BELTS. EACH MAN CARRIED WEAPONS. PATROL COULD  
NOT CALL FIRE MISSION DUE TO TRUCE. PATROL THEN OBSERVED  
15 OR MORE NVA 75 METERS TO THEIR SOUTH COMING OUT OF  
THE TREELINE. NVA WORE BLACK PJ'S KHAKIS, HEAVY PACKS,  
CARTRIDGE BELTS, EACH MAN CARRIED A WEAPON. PATROL SET  
UP DEFENSE IN BOMB CRATER. ENEMY OPENED FIRE ON PATROL

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PAGE FIVE 001A 1343 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
 AND PATROL RETURNED FIRE RESULTING IN (2) NVA KIA (C),  
 AND (6) NVA KIA (P). ENEMY AND PATROL BROKE CONTACT AT  
 SAME TIME. ENEMY MOVED DIRECTLY SOUTH AND PATROL CONTINUED  
 MISSION. AO AND GUNSHIPS WERE ON STATION BUT DID NOT MAKE  
 ANY PASSES SINCE PATROL WAS ABLE TO BREAK CONTACT AND TRUCE  
 WAS STILL IN EFFECT  
 (3) 261600H (YD 282436) PATROL WAS SET UP IN OP WHEN THEY  
 OBSERVED (15) NVA MOVING NORTH-NORTHEAST ON A TRAIL 200  
 METERS DUE WEST OF PATROLS POSITION. NVA WORE BLACK PJ'S  
 KHAKIS, A COUPLE WORE CIVILIAN CLOTHES, HEAVY PACKS,  
 CARTRIDGE BELTS. ALL CARRIED WEAPONS. NVA STOPPED TO  
 CHANGE OUT OF UNIFORMS TO CIVILIAN CLOTHES. PATROL  
 OBSERVED (1) WOMAN AMONG GROUP, AT (YD282446). PATROL  
 CALLED ARTILLERY MISSION OF (50) ROUNDS RESULTING IN (1)  
 NVA KIA (C), (1) NVA KIA (P). PATROL OBSERVED (8) NVA  
 MOVING OUT OF AREA CARRYING THEIR PACKS BUT NO WEAPONS.  
 PATROL AGAIN CALLED ARTILLERY MISSION OF 200 ROUNDS. AT  
 (YD 285455) RESULTING IN (5) KIA (C) AND (3) KIA (P).  
 AO CALLED ON STATION BUT DID NOT OBSERVE ANYTHING.  
 C. TERRAIN: STEEP ROLLING HILLS WITH CANOPY VARYING  
 FROM SPARSE TO DENSE. CANOPY 20-50 FEET HIGH WITH SENSE

PAGE SIX 001A 1343 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
 SECONDARY GROWTH. AREA IS HONEY COMBED WITH WELL USED  
 TRAILS. COMMUNICATION GOOD TO FAIR (EXCELLENT WITH  
 WHIP ANTENNA). NATURAL WATER SOURCES PLENTIFUL IN LOW-  
 LANDS. RATE OF MOVEMENT 100-200 METERS PER HOUR.  
 D. OTHER INFORMATION:  
 (1) 221500H (YD 283437) OBSERVED (1) VC / NVA 300 METERS  
 NORTHEAST OF PATROLS POSITION. VC/NVA WORE BLACK PJ'S  
 AND CARRIED (1) SKS, VC/NVA WAS MOVING TO THE NORTHEAST  
 ON A TRAIL. PATROL CALLED ARTILLERY MISSION WITH  
 UNOBSERVED RESULTS.  
 (2) 231030H (YD 295432) TO 300428) ENTIRE RIDGE IS OPEN  
 AND COVERED WITH FIGHTING HOLES 3-4 MONTHS OLD.  
 (3) 241630H (YD 290437) PATROL FOUND 3-6 MANX HARBOR SITES  
 WHICH HAD BEEN USED WITHIN PAST 24 HOURS.  
 (4) 251245H (YD 286431) FOUND COMPANY SIZE HARBOR SITE  
 WHICH HAD BEEN USED WITHIN PAST WEEK.  
 (5) 251400H (YD 280437) OBSERVED (2) NVA 1100 METERS  
 NORTH OF PATROLS POSITION MOVING SOUTH. NVA HAD WEAPONS  
 AND CARTRIDGE BELTS. NO ACTION TAKEN.  
 (6) 252200H (YD 313425) PATROL WAS SET IN NIGHT HARBOR

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PAGE SEVEN 001A 1343 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
SITE WHEN THEY HEARD DRUMS BEATING FROM THESE COORD.

6. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

A. ENEMY (9) KIA (C), (12) KIA (P).

B. FRIENDLY: NONE

C. CAPTURED/ EQUIPMENT: PATROL FOUND FRAGMENTS OF CEMENT  
BAGS AT (YD 283434)

7. CONDITION OF PATROL: GOOD, MORALE OUTSTANDING

8. RECOMMENDATIONS; AND CONCLUSIONS:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

(1) USE MORE PATROLS TO SCREEN AREA.

(2) PATROLS CANNOT MOVE WEST OF EAST WEST GRIDLINE (YD  
43) DUE TO CANOPY AND LACK OF HLZ'S AND BAD COMMUNICATION.

(3) ARE LIGHT AREA BOUNDED BY (YD-2843) AND (YD 3141).

CONCLUSIONS:

(1) ENEMY HAS (3) BASE CAMPS SET UP IN VICINITY OF FOLLOWING  
GRIDS: (YD 281416), (YD 292424), (YD 306423).

(2) AREA IS USED EXTENSIVELY BY VC/NVA.

(3) VC/NVA IN AREA ARE LEAVING AREA IN GROUPS OF 10-15  
PEOPLE HEAVILY LOADED DOWN WITH EQUIPMENT. ENEMY ARE

PAGE EIGHT 001A 1343 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
MOVING TO THE NORTHWEST TO BA LONG VALLEY TO AREA  
BOUNDED BY (YD 2445 AND (YD 2643).

(4) ALL CONTACT WITH THE ENEMY WAS BY CHANCE. ALL ENEMY  
SIGHTED SEEMED TO KNOW PATROL WAS IN AREA AND WENT TO  
EXTENSIVE PAIN TO AVOID CONTACT AT ALL COSTS.

(5) ENEMY SEEMS TO BE LOW ON AMMO OR IS SAVING AMMO.  
ENEMY WOULD FIRE A SHORT BURST AT PATROL AND THEN BREAK  
CONTACT.

(6) ENEMY APPEARS TO BE HURTING FROM CONTACTS WITH FRIENDLY  
FORCES AND IS IN A HURRY TO MOVE OUT OF AREA.

(7) THERE IS NO SOUNDS OF BIRDS OR OTHER ANIMAL LIFE IN  
AREA.

(8) PATROL HEARD CONSTANT SOUND OF METAL POUNDING ON METAL  
THROUGHOUT ENTIRE PATROL. POUNDING SOUNDED LIKE A SORT  
OF CODE AND CAME FROM DIFFERENT PLACES DURING THE NIGHT.

9. HLZ'S: (YD 279446) AND (YD 283436) AREAS ARE TOP OF  
HILL WITH SHRUBS AND BRUSH 3 FEET HIGH. NO APPROACH  
OBSTACLES AND BEST APPROACH IS HEADING SOUTH.

10. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS: CONCUR WITH PATROL LEADERS  
RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS.

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ON  
 ENY CCCCC  
 O 252000Z DEC 67  
 FM 3RD THIRD RECON BN  
 TO CG THIRD MARDIV  
 INFO 3RD THIRD MARDIV (C) DRCB  
 THIRD RECON BN  
 FIRST MAR  
 SECOND BN FIRST MAR  
 ZEN/THIRD MAR  
 TWELTH MAR  
 SECOND BN NINT FOURTH ARTY  
 SECOND BN TWELTH MAR  
 FIRST BN FOURTH ARTY  
 THIRD BN FOURTH ARTY  
 FOURTH BN FOURTH ARTY  
 FIVE SIX  
 NINE SEVEN SIX PHA  
 NINE ONE SIX THREE  
 NINE ONE SIX FIVE  
 ZEN/DOVINCE AL DIAO QUANG TRI  
 SECOND BN FOURTH MAR

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PAGE TWO 0014 1250 C O N F I D E N T I A L

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ATTN: AC OF S G-2

DEBRIEF OF RECON PATROL; 102, THIRD RECON BN "C" COMPANY  
OPERATION ORDER: 573-67 (LT. MATOCHA)

A. MAP SHEET: 1:50,000, AMS SERIES L-7014, SHEET: 6342 I

(1) DEBRIEFER: APT. D. O'DELL, 260200H DECEMBER 1967

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND EQUIPMENT:

- A. COMPOSITION: (1) OFFICER, (7) ENLISTED.
  - B. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
  - C. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2) AN/RPC 25'S.
  - D. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (1) 7X50'S
  - E. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (4) CLAYMORE MINES, (4) WP RIFLE  
GRENADES, (4) WP HAND GRENADES, (8) GAS MASKS, (8) CS GRENADES  
(5) BLOCKS OF C-4
  - F. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1) M-79 WITH 77 ROUNDS, (1) M-14
2. MISSION: CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE IN  
ASSIGNED ZONE TO DETERMINE ENEMY ACTIVITY. ENGAGE THE ENEMY  
WITH SUPPORTING ARMS. MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CAPTURE A PRISONER  
PLOT HL2'S FOR FUTURE OPERATIONS. PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION

252000Z DEC 67

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93,000,000/10-576

PAGE THREE 001A 160 C O N F I D E N T I A L

TO TRAILS AND THEIR FREQUENCY OF USE IN YOUR AREA. ACCENTUATE IF THE AREA IS BEING USED BY THE ENEMY AND FOR WHAT PURPOSE. PATROL WILL NOT BE EXTRACTED UNTIL BZ IS SUFFICIENTLY COVERED.

3. TIME OF DEPARTURE/RETURN: 251500H (YD 080653) UPLI/ 251630H (YD 080670) HELO.

4. ROUTE: INSERT PT NORTHWEST TO EXTRACT PT.

5. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

A. SYNOPSIS: 56 HOURS OF RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE RESULTED IN THREE ENEMY SIGHTINGS TOTALLING (7) VC/NVA. AO SIGHTED A TOTAL OF 24-48 VC/NVA. PATROL HAD ONE CONTACT WHICH RESULTED IN (2) LSAP KIA BY GROUND FIRE. AREA COVERED BY PATROL REVEALS NVA IN AREA AND A POSSIBLE ENEMY OF SITE TO HILL 94.

B. ENEMY:

(1) 251430H (YD 080653) PATROL SAW (1) NVA 300 METERS AWAY. PATROL COULD NOT OBSERVE WEAPONS OR EQUIPMENT ON HILL 94. NO ACTION TAKEN.

(2) 251612H (YD 080653) PATROL OBSERVED (2) NVA AT THESE COORDINATES. ENEMY WERE 300 METERS AWAY FROM PATROL. PATROL OBSERVED GREEN UTILITIES AND A PAIR OF 750° S. CARTRIDGE BELTS.

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PAGE FOUR 001A 1260 C O N F I D E N T I A L

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

(3) 251630H (YD 082653) PATROL SAW 4 NVA 300 METERS AWAY WITH GREEN UTILITIES, CARTRIDGE BELTS, BUSH COERS, LARGE PACKS WITH BUSHES TIED ON THEM, (1) AK-47, AND (1) THOMPSON SUBMACHINE GUN. NVA MOVED OFF HILL TO THE NORTH TOWARD THE PATROL BUT ABOUT 15 METERS AFTER LEAVING HILLTOP NVA DISAPPEARED BEHIND SOME BUSHES. PATROL FEELS THEY ENTERED BUNKER COMPLEX. AO (AMERICAN BEAUTY CHARLIE) CAME ON STATION AT THIS TIME. AO OBSERVED BUNKERS (2) ON HILL AND (4) NVA AT (YD 085655).

(4) 251700H (YD 082653) PATROL WAS PREPARING TO MOVE OFF HILL WHEN THEY SAW (4) NVA, GREEN UTILITIES, CARTRIDGE BELTS AND WEAPONS (TYPE UNKNOWN) 700 METERS SOUTHWEST OF THEM. THEY APPEARED TO BE OBSERVING PATROL. PATROL RELAYED THIS TO AO AND AO INFORMED PATROL THAT NVA WERE MOVING NE TOWARD PATROL'S POSITION. AO ADVISED PATROL TO STAY WHERE THEY WERE AND TO START FIRE MISSION. WHILE PATROL WAS PREPARING FIRE MISSION AO REPORTED (4) NVA WERE AT (YD 089653) APPROXIMATELY 75 METERS FROM PATROL. AO ADVISED PATROL THAT NVA WOULD DUCK DOWN WHEN

PAGE FIVE 001A 1250 C O N F I D E N T I A L *CONFIDENTIAL*  
 HE PASSED OVER THEM AND THEN CONTINUE MOVING TOWARD PATROL.  
 (5) 251730H (YD 092653) AO ADVISED PATROL OF 12 NVA MOVING  
 NORTH TOWARD PATROL, APPROXIMATELY 100 METERS FROM PATROL. AO  
 ADVISED PATROL TO LEAVE HILL AND MOVE NORTH AS FAST AS POSSIBLE.  
 AO SAID HE WOULD HANDLE FIRE MISSION. AS PATROL LEFT THEY COULD  
 HEAR MOVEMENT 100 METERS SOUTH OF THEM AND 75 METERS WEST OF  
 THEM. PATROL OPENED FIRE ON THESE PLACES, WITH THREE MAGAZINES  
 OF M-6, (54 ROUNDS), (1) GRENADE, AND 10 M-79. ROUNDS. RECEIVED  
 NO RETURN FIRE. AT 1800H PATROL MOVED NORTH APPROXIMATELY  
 420 METERS TO (YD 091655) AND TOOK UP POSITION IN BOMB CARATER.  
 AS PATROL REACHED THIS POINT AO BEGAN DIRECTION OF FIRE MISSION  
 ON ENEMY. ARTILLERY MISSION LASTED FOR APPROXIMATELY 20 MINUTES.  
 AT 1830H AO SAW 10-15 NVA AT (YD 098654) ATTEMPTING TO  
 GET ON EAST FLANK OF PATROL. NVA WERE APPROXIMATELY 200 METERS  
 FROM PATROL. AO ADVISED PATROL HE WOULD TRY TO GET FIXED WING  
 FOR STRIKES. AT 1840H AO ADVISED PATROL THEY WERE BEING SUR-  
 ROUNDED BY 10-15 NVA AND TO MOVE NORTH AS FAST AS POSSIBLE.  
 FIXED WING WERE ON STATION AT THIS TIME AND AS PATROL STARTED  
 TO MOVE OUT THEY BEGAN RUNS. PATROL, AO AND JETIS BEGAN RE-  
 CEIVING SA/AMF. PATROL RECEIVED APPROXIMATELY (4) ROUNDS.

PAGE SIX 001A 1260 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
 ENEMY WAS APPROXIMATELY 150 METERS SOUTH EAST OF PATROL.  
 AT 1910H PATROL MOVED TO (YD 092667) AND TOOK UP DEFENSIVE  
 POSITION. FIXED WING WAS STILL BEING PLACED AT THIS TIME.  
 EACH TIME AREA WAS LIT BY NAPALM STRIKES AO REPORTED 1-2 NVA  
 MOVING NORTH APPROXIMATELY 150 METERS EAST OF PATROL'S POSITION.  
 AO REPORTED THIS ON THREE TO FOUR SEPERATE NAPALM RUNS. 2000  
 FIXED WING WENT OFF STATION. 2030H SPOOKY 13 ARRIVED ON STATION  
 AT THIS TIME, AND BEGAN TO FIRE IN 360 DEGREE CIRCLE AROUND  
 PATROL'S POSITION. SPOOKY FIRED FOR APPROXIMATELY 30 MINUTES.  
 AT 2100H SPOOKY ADVISED PATROL OF MOVEMENT 200 METERS EAST OF  
 PATROL. FIRED IN AREA. AMERICAN BEAUTY CHARLIE WAS  
 RELIEVED BY AMERICAN BEAUTY SIERRA AT 2130. AB CHARLIE ADVISED  
 PATROL HE WOULD REFUEL AND RETURN WITH TWO MORE FLIGHTS OF  
 FIXED WING. PATROL RECEIVED NEGATIVE SAF WHILE IN THIS POSITION  
 AT (YD 092667). 2150H (1) FLIGHT OF FIXED WING CAME ON  
 STATION AND MADE RUNS ON (YD 095655). ALL WERE NAPALM RUNS.  
 FIXED WING REPORTED TAKING SAF ON EACH PASS ALL NIGHT. AB  
 CHARLIE WAS DIRECTING FIXED WING AND SPOOKY 14 AT THIS TIME.

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

PAGE SEVEN 001A 1200 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
 SEE HIM. PLANE BROKE THROUGH CLOUDS COVER AT THIS TIME.  
 AMERICAN BEAUTY CHARLIE DIRECTED PATROL TO GET AIRCRAFT OUT OF  
 AREA, THAT HE WAS RECEIVING HEAVY VOLUME OF GROUND FIRE. AT  
 THIS TIME PLANE CUBBY BANKED AND BEGAN TO LOSE ALTITUDE RAPIDLY.  
 PLANE CRASHED AT (YD 085670) APPROXIMATELY 700 METERS NORTH-  
 WEST OF PATROL. PATROL IMMEDIATELY MOVED OUT TOWARD PLANE IN  
 ATTEMPT TO RESCUE ANY SURVIVERS. AO HAD NOT REPORTED  
 ANY NVA IN THE AREA DURING NIGHT. PATROL REQUESTED FLARE SHIP  
 TO LIGHT AREA AS THE MOVED OUT. PATROL REACHED PLANE AND  
 SEARCHED FOR BODIES. PILOT AND AO WERE DEAD WHEN PATROL FOUND  
 THEM. PATROL TOOK LOG BOOK, MAP AND WEAPONS FROM WRECK ALONG  
 WITH BODIES. PATROL HEARD NO GUCFIRE DURING MOVEMENT TO PLANE.  
 PATROL REQUESTED EXTRACTION. CHOPERS DID NOT RECEIVE GROUND  
 FIRE WHEN THEY LANDED OR TOOK OFF.  
 C. TERRAIN: LOW ROLLING HILLS, CANOPY 6-12 FEET HIGH, SOME  
 PARTS OF RZ ARE BARE DUE TO INTENSE BOMBING. COMMUNICATION  
 FAIR, GOOD ON HIGH GROUND, POOR TO NONE IN DRAWS. NATURAL  
 WATER SOURCES SPARSE. RATE OF MOVEMENT 300-350 METERS PER  
 HOUR.  
 D. OTHER INFORMATION. XXAC

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PAGE EIGHT 001A 1200 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
 (1) 241800H (YD 102660) PATROL FOUND 254 LB BOMB, PATROL WAS  
 ADVISED NOT TO ATTEMPT TO DESTROY AS THEY HAD NO TIME FUSE FOR  
 C-4. AREA IS FAIRLY CLEAR WITH NO CRATERS.  
 6. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:  
 (1) ENEMY: NONE  
 (2) FRIENDLY: (2) USAF KIA, AO AND PILOT OF CUBBY.  
 (3) CAPTURED EQUIPMENT: NONE.  
 7. CONDITION OF PATROL; GOOD, MORALE GOOD.  
 8. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS;  
 RECOMMENDATIONS:  
 (1) FUTURE PATROL STAY CLOSE TO EXTRACTION LZ'S AT ALL TIMES.  
 CONCLUSIONS:  
 (1) AREA COVERED BY PATROL REVEALS NVA IN AREA IN FORCE, A  
 POSSIBLE ENEMY OP ON HILL 94. ENEMY HAS BUNKER COMPLEXES  
 ON HILL 94.  
 (2) PATROL LEADER FEELS ENEMY USED HILL 94 AS AN OP TO OBSERVE  
 FRIENDLY MOVEMENT IN AREA.  
 9. HLZ'S: (YD 085670) SITE WILL ACCOMODATE (1) CH-46. SITE IS  
 FLAT AREA BETWEEN TWO HILLS. APPROACH OBSTACLES:  
 STUMPS AROUND ZONE, WOOD TO EAST. BEST APPROACH NORTH TO SOUTH.  
 10. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS:  
 (1) CONCUR WITH PATROL LEADERS RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS.  
 (2) TOP REQUEST HAS BEEN SUBMITTED FOR HILL 94 AT (YD 090653).  
 GP-4  
 BT

*CONFIDENTIAL*

NOTE PAGE EIGHT CONTAINS TWENTY-FOUR LINES

Operation Order: 543-67  
 Patrol: (1)Sqd (2)Flt (4)Co  
 Debriefer: SSgt J.M.I. LOPEZ  
 Map Sheet: 6442 II

Copy 4 of 32 copies  
 3d Reconnaissance Bn  
 Phu Bai, RVN RZ 1  
 281530H Dec 67

PATROL REPORT

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION AND EQUIPMENT:

- a. COMPOSITION: (8)Enlisted (1)USN
- b. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
- c. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (1)7x50
- d. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (2)AN/PIC 25
- e. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (2)Claymore Mines (2)W Hand Grenades (1)Incendiary Grenade
- f. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1)M-79 (1)M-60

2. MISSION: Determine the nature of enemy activity developing along the natural infiltration routes that could be used by VC/NVA and also check area for use as VC base camp area. Pay particular attention to size and direction of enemy movement. Act as a forward observer for artillery on call targets of opportunity. Make every attempt to capture a prisoner. From 241800H to 251800H the Christmas truce is in effect. All fire missions must be cleared through COC. Only fire in self-defense during this period.

3. TIME OF INSERTION: 241030H Dec 67 HOW: Air

4. TIME OF EXTRACTION: 281030H Dec 67 HOW: Foot/Truck

5. NOTE: See overlay

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

a. SYNOPSIS: 96 hours of reconnaissance and surveillance resulted in 4 enemy sightings totaling 65 VC. One artillery mission of 40 rounds resulted in 7 VC KIA(1) and one large flash, probably black powder. Area reveals infiltration of VC to the northwest.

b. ENEMY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:

(1) 251100H (YD 410352) Team observed 6 enemy vicinity (YD 415363) moving east on ridgeline, wearing white shirt, black trousers and white coolie hat. One had an unknown type of rifle slung over his shoulder no other weapons were observed. Patrol called in report and continued surveillance.

EXTENDED OpO 543-67

DECLASSIFIED

(2) 251130H (YD 410352) Patrol observed 44 VC vicinity (YD 420363) wearing mixed clothing of black and white PJ's and most had on coolie hats. Some unknown type weapons were observed. VC were moving west to east along a trocline toward a large hooch. Some went inside of the hooch while others just milled around talking. VC stayed there until 1430H and then went north-east. Team called in report and continued surveillance.

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

(4) 271930H (YD 428362) Patrol observed 12 VC moving north on trail vicinity (YD 428367). Could not distinguish clothing or weapons because of the darkness. Called 40 rounds of artillery with outstanding coverage result in 7 VC KIA (1) and one secondary flash like black powder which burned for about approximately 12-13 minutes. Sparks were seen shooting up to 10 feet high. Patrol called in report and continued surveillance.

c. TERRAIN:

(1) TOPOGRAPHY: Characterized by rolling hills with low brush approximately 3-6 feet high. Rate of movement is unrestricted. Two OP sites offer good observation of the area. One at hill 101 (YD 409332) and the other at (YD 425333). This area offers no cover and concealment.

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

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

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

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

d. OTHER INFORMATION:

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

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

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

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

a. VC: 7 KIA

9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

a. RECOMMENDATIONS: More patrols to the northwest of the SONG THAC M. R. the activity seemed to be heading this way.

b. CONCLUSIONS: Area reveals heavy enemy infiltration.

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

Cpl H. L. BERT  
Company "A"

11. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS: NONE

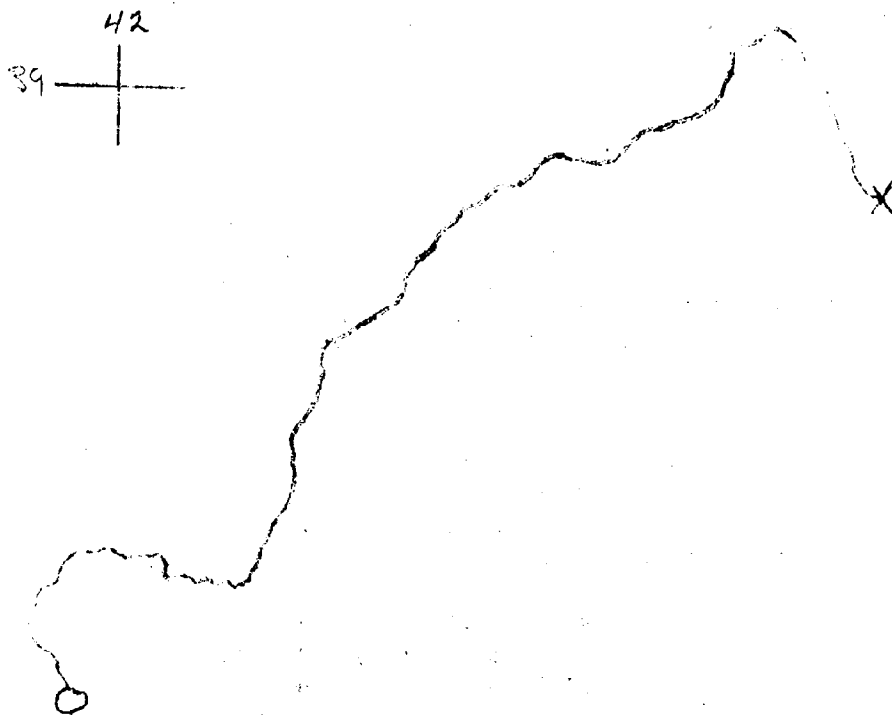
a. PATROL OPINION: Team feels that the enemy was VC and just moving through. The VC were not too cautious probably because of the truce.

LEGEND

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

PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY

(1)Sqd (2)Plt (4)Co  
Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000  
Sheet: 6442 II  
Series: L-7014  
3d Reconnaissance Bn  
(S-2)



Operation Order: 544-67  
 Debriefing: Lt ZELLERS  
 Patrol: (3)Sqd (3)Plt (4)Co  
 Map Sheet: 6441 I

Copy 6 of 32 copies  
 3d Reconnaissance Bn  
 Phu Bai, RVN RZ 2  
 271500H Dec 67

# PATROL REPORT

## 1. SIZE, COMPOSITION, AND EQUIPMENT:

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

2. MISSION: Determine the nature of enemy activity developing along the natural infiltration routes that could be used by VC/NVA and also check area for use as VC base camp area. Pay particular attention to size and direction of enemy movement. Act as a forward observer for artillery on call targets of opportunity. Make every attempt to capture a prisoner. From 241800H to 251800H the Christmas truce is in effect. All fire missions must be cleared through COG. Only fire in self-defense during this period.

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

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

5. ROUTE: See overlay

## 6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

a. SYNOPSIS: 57 1/2 hours of reconnaissance resulted in 8 enemy sightings totaling at least 674 VC; numerous signal fires and light. Five artillery fire missions totalling 1,344 rounds and five air strikes resulted in 5 VC KIA (C), 21 VC KIA (P) and 22 secondary explosions. Numerous drums were heard as well as one elephant. At least 4 sampans were noted on the SONG BO. The CO BI THAN TAN Valley continues to be used by large groups of well armed, equipped and trained enemy.

b. ENEMY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:

(1) 241300H (YD 595236) From this location patrol observed 10 VC at (YD 587745) moving east in column on a well used trail. The enemy wore black PJs and coolie hats. They all carried large packs, small arms and cartridge belts. Interval was 5 meters between men and they had a two man point. Patrol fired mission of 15 rounds which resulted in excellent coverage and 3 VC KIA (C) and 7 VC KIA (P). No movement was noted after the fire mission.

EARLY EXTRACTION



(2) 241430H (YD 595236) Patrol again noted 10 VC at the same location (YD 584245). The enemy were dressed, armed and equipped as previously. They were traveling in the same direction as the last unit. Patrol fired one mission of 15 rounds with excellent coverage resulting in 10 VC KIA(P). No movement was noted after the first mission.

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

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

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

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

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

(8) During the night of 25-26 December several lights were seen moving on both sides of the SONG BO in the vicinity of (YD 606254) and (YD 602254). No action was taken.

(9) 261530H (YD 595236) Two VC were seen at (YD 537249) moving east in the open. The enemy wore helmets, black PJ's, cartridge belts, AK-47's, and heavy packs. The enemy moved into a treeline and were fired on by gunships, resulting in 2 VC KIA(C).

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

(11) 261750H (YD 595234) A total of 120 VC moved rapidly in a column from the west on a trail into the area of the large sighting on 24 December (YD 58724). This group was well camouflaged with natural vegetation, wore green uniforms, heavy packs, some type of helmet, and carried small arms. At (YD 575243) another group totalling 40 dressed and armed as above was also seen moving east on a trail. At a destroyed church vicinity (YD 573243), a large but unknown size unit was milling about and appeared to waiting to move east. Two fire missions were directed on the enemy positions resulting in 16 secondary explosions, some of which were quite large. Five air strikes were also run. Fading light prevented an enemy casualty assessment. Although the VC movement appeared well trained, when the fire mission began they scattered. The patrol location was discovered by the enemy and the team was extracted without further incident.

c. TERRAIN:

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

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

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

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

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

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

7. WEATHER: Generally fair with moderate temperatures.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: NONE

9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

a. RECOMMENDATIONS:

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

(2) The Starlight Scope was useful although marginal light conditions possibly prevented long range observation.

b. CONCLUSIONS: This area shows considerable persistent enemy traffic. The vicinity of (YD 587245) appears to be an assembly area and may have tunnel or bunker protection for the enemy.

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

SSgt ZAWISTOSKI  
Company "A"

11. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS: Concur with patrol.

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

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


#### LEGEND

O = INSERTION  
X = EXTRACTION  
— = PATROL ROUTE

#### PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY

(3)Sqd (3)Plt (4)Co  
Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000  
Sheet: 6441 I  
Series: L-7014  
3d Reconnaissance Bn  
(S-2)

56  
24



13



60

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COMM CNTR

THIRD MARDIV

3d Recon Bn S/C No. 68 14

Copy 3 of 4

AND NOW MAKE MY NR 06.....06.....06.....06.....06.....06.....  
ZNY CCCCC  
R 270626Z DEC 67  
FM TWO SIX MARINES  
TO CG THIRD MARDIV  
INFO THIRD RECON BN  
THIRD MARINES  
ZEN/THIRD BN TWO SIX MARINES  
ZEN/FIRST BN TWO SIX MARINES  
BT  
C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION ONE OF TWO

DEBRIEF OF RECON PATROL 191-67  
A. MAP SHEET 6341 III, SERIES L-7014, 1:50,000  
(1) DEBRIEFER: LCPL W.A. WALLAND  
(2) REVIEWED BY: CAPT. P.F. REYNOLDS  
(3) DEBRIEF OF RECON TM 281, R CO, THIRD RECON BN, 242000H DEC  
1. COMPOSITION, SIZE, EQUIPMENT.  
(A) COMPOSITION: 9 USMC FTL.  
(B) COMM EQUIP: 2 AN/PRC 25'S.  
(C) OBS EQUIP: 1 PR 7X50'S.  
(D) SPECIAL EQUIP: 2 THERMITE GRENADES.  
(E) SPECIAL WPNS: 1 M-14, 1 M-79  
2. MISSION: CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE WITHIN THE  
270626Z DEC 67 4-0-2/COG/S/S/COO HED

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THIRD MARDIV

PAGE TWO 32Y6 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
 AREA BOUNDED BY XD 8050(UL) XD 8248(UR) TO DETECT NVA/VC MOVEMENT. PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO TRAILS AND LIKELY AVENUES OF INFILTRATION. BE ESPECIALLY ALERT FOR POTENTIAL OR ACTUAL ENEMY ROCKET MORTAR AND ARTILLERY SITES. ENGAGE THE ENEMY WITH SUPPORTING ARMS AND MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO CAPTURE A PRISONER, WEAPONS AND DOCUMENTS.

3. INSERTION: 241125H/XD 831443 BY TRUCK.

4. EXTRACTION: 241758H/XD 806471 BY HELO.

5. PATROL ROUTE: FROM INSERTION POINT TO XD 805470 TO EXTRACTION POINT.

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

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

(A) SYNOPSIS: 6 1/2 HOURS OF RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE RESULTED IN ONE CONTACT WITH APPROX 25-30 ENEMY UIC XD 806471. RECONNAISSANCE ZONE REVEALED THE MOVEMENT OF A PLT SIZE ENEMY UNIT THROUGH THE AREA.

(B) TERRAIN AND VEGETATION: RELIEF IS CHARACTERIZED GENTLE ROLLING HILLS. VEGETATION CONSISTS OF EXTREMELY THICK 3'-4' HIGH ELEPHANT GRASS, BRUSH AND INTERWOVEN VINES. AVERAGE RATE OF MOVEMENT WAS APPROX 200 METERS PER HOUR.

(C) OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) 241550H/XD 805470 TEAM DISCOVERED A 50' BY 50' HARPOR SITE. POSITION IS CLEARED UNDER A 35' HIGH CANOPY CANNOT BE OBSERVED FROM AIR. A 1'-2' WIDE OVERGROWN TRAIL RUNS NORTH TO SOUTH THROUGH THE POSITION. NEITHER TRAIL NOR HARPOR SITE APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN USED WITHIN THE PAST 4 WEEKS.

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

(3) COMM WAS GOOD DURING PATROL.

(D) ENCOUNTER WITH THE ENEMY:

(A) 241605H/XD 805470 TEAM BEGAN HEARING MOVEMENT APPROX 30 METERS NE OF THEIR POSITION. DIRECTION OF MOVEMENT WAS TOWARDS TEAM. TEAM IMMEDIATELY ESTABLISHED A 360 DEGREE DEFENSIVE PERIMETER. TEAM COULD NOW HEAR MOVEMENT OF AN UNDETERMINED SIZED FORCE MOVING ON LINE TOWARDS TEAM FROM THE EAST. WHEN MOVEMENT WAS WITHIN 20 METERS OF TEAM TWO PATROL MEMBERS OBSERVED ONE PERSON TO THE EAST AND ONE PERSON TO THE NORTHEAST OF PATROL'S POSITION. BOTH ENEMY OBSERVED WERE WEARING KHAKIS AND NO HATS. DUE TO EXTREMELY THICK VEGETATION NO OTHER EQUIPMENT COULD BE OBSERVED. AT THIS TIME TEAM ESTIMATED A TOTAL OF 15 ENEMY WERE ATTEMPTING TO ENVELOPE TEAM FROM THE EAST. 241620H TEAM MOVED

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THIRD MARDIV

PAGE FOUR 32Y6 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
 NORTH TO HIGH GROUND AT XD 303471 AND REESTABLISHED A 350 DEGREE PERIMETER. WHILE MOVING TO HIGH GROUND TEAM HEARD CONTINUOUS MOVEMENT FOLLOWING TEAM AT A DISTANCE OF APPROX 100 METERS. WHEN 360 HAD BEEN COMPLETED ONE ENEMY WAS OBSERVED APPROX 25 METERS TO THE WEST AND ONE ENEMY APPROX 25 METERS TO THE SOUTHEAST. BOTH WERE MOVING TO THE WEST AT QUICK PACE. AT THIS TIME TEAM ALSO DETECTED HEAVY MOVEMENT APPROX 25-35 METERS TO THEIR WEST. TEAM AT THIS TIME REQUESTED AIR SUPPORT. BETWEEN THIS TIME AND 241645H TEAM HEARD CONTINUED MOVEMENT SURROUNDING THEIR POSITION. 241645H UH-1S CAME ON STATION. AT THIS TIME TEAM WAS TAKEN UNDER HEAVY A/W FIRE FROM THE NE, E, SE, AND SW. NUMEROUS GRENADES WERE ALSO RECEIVED FROM 40 METERS OUT IN THE SAME DIRECTIONS. TEAM IMMEDIATELY BEGAN DIRECTION UH-1F STRIKES AND CONTINUED TO DO SO THROUGHOUT THE FIRE FIGHT. PATROL MEMBER THEN OBSERVED 2 ENEMY MOVING TOWARDS TEAM FROM THE SE. ENEMY'S MOVEMENT WAS BEING COVERED BY A HEAVY VOLUME OF A/W FIRE FROM

100 METERS TO THE SE. PATROL MEMBER FIRED ON ENEMY HITTING ONE. THE REMAINING ENEMY BEGAN TO MOVE SOUTH FIRING A/W AS HE MOVED. BY THIS TIME THE ENEMY HAD COMPLETE FIRE SUPERIORITY OVER TEAM AND TEAM WAS COMPLETELY SURROUNDED. THE ENEMY'S STRONGEST POINT

PAGE FIVE 32Y6 C O N F I D E N T I A L  
 AT THIS TIME WAS TO THE SOUTHEAST AND HIS WEAKEST WAS TO THE NORTH. SMALL ENEMY UNITS OF APPROX FIRE TEAM SIZE CONTINUED TO MOVE WITHIN 30 METERS OF TEAM UNDER COVER OF HEAVY A/W FIRE 100 METERS TO THEIR REAR. UTILIZING SA, TEAM WAS ABLE TO SUPPRESS ENEMY'S MOVEMENT NEAR TEAM TO 30 METERS. UH-1S USING MG AND ROCKETS CONTINUED TO STRAFEE AREA KEEPING ENEMY FROM COMPLETELY OVER RUNNING TEAM'S POSITION. DURING STRAFING RUNS UH-1S NOT ONLY RECEIVED A HEAVY VOLUME OFFIRE FROM AROUND TEAM'S POSITION, BUT ALSO RECEIVED HEAVY MG FIRE FROM WEST OF RIVER VIC XD 303473. ENEMY FIRING FROM THIS POSITION, AT TIMES, WAS UTILIZING RED TRACER AMMUNITION WHICH ENABLED TEAM TO PLOT POSITION. ENTIRE FIRE FIGHT LASTED FROM 241645H UNTIL 241758 WHEN TEAM WAS EXTRACTED. DURING THIS TIME TEAM RECEIVED A HEAVY VOLUME OF FIRE FROM ALL SIDES. EACH PATROL MEMBER APPOINTED, BY PATROL LEADER, A FIELD OF FIRE FROM TEAM'S 360, AND PATROL LEADER HIMSELF DIRECTED AIR STRIKES AND UTILIZED HIS OWN SA. AS A RESULT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO ASCERTAIN A CHRONOLOGICAL SEQUENCE OF EVENTS. TEAM LEADER ESTIMATED STRENGTH OF ENEMY ENCOUNTERED WAS APPROX 25-30 MEN. PATROL ESTIMATES TOTAL ENEMY STRENGTH WAS REDUCED BY 35 PERCENT AS A RESULT TEAM'S OWN SAF AD ORPDANCE UTILIZED IN CONJUNCTION WITH UH-1F ROCKET AND MG STRIKES. PATROL CAN PHYSICALLY ACCOUNT FOR A ENEMY KIA(1) AND 6 ENEMY KIA(2): 2 CONFIRMED AS RESULT SAF,

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THIRD MARDIV

PAGE SIX 32Y6 C O N F I D E N T I A L

1 CONFIRMED AS A RESULT OF HAND GRENADE AND 1 CONFIRMED AS A RESULT OF M-79 FIRE, 1 PROBABLE AS A RESULT OF M-79 FIRE, 1 PROBABLE AS A RESULT OF HAND GRENADE AND 4 PROBABLES AS A RESULT OF UN-1E STRIKES. UNIFORMS OF ENEMY ENCOUNTERED WERE DIRTY, HOWEVER APPEARED TO BE IN GOOD REPORT. MAJORITY OF ENEMY OBSERVED WORE LIGHT GREEN UTILITIES AND RUSH HATS, AND THE MINORITY WORE DARK OLIVE GREEN UTILITIES. TWO OF THE ENEMY OBSERVED WORE KHAKI UNIFORMS AND NO COVERS. 2 ENEMY WORE USMC STEEL HELMETS WITH CAMOUFLAGE COVER, 1 WORE A USMC CARTRIDGE BELT WITH A CANTEEN OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN, 2 M-2 CARBINES WERE OBSERVED AND ONE WEAPON WHICH RESEMBLED A U.S. M3A1 SUB- MACHINE GUN WAS OBSERVED. NO EMBLEMS, PATCHES OR SCARFS WERE OBSERVED ON ANY OF THE ENEMY ENCOUNTERED. ALL ENEMY OBSERVED WERE OF AVERAGE HEIGHT WITH THE EXCEPTION OF ONE. PATROL MEMBER ONE ENEMY WEARING DARK OLIVE GREEN UTILITIES AND A USMC HELMET. HIS WEAPON WAS UNOBSERVED. ENEMY WAS APPROX 5' TALL AND WAS WELL BUILT. ENEMY ENCOUNTERED UTILIZED INFANTRY TACTICS AGAINST TEAM. WHEN FIRST ENCOUNTERED TEAM ESTIMATED ENEMY'S STRENGTH TO BE APPROX 15 MEN. THIS UNIT ATTEMPTED TO PUSH TEAM WEST INTO AN ALREADY ESTABLISHED POSITION LOCATED ON RIVER VIC

GP-4

RT

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COMM CNTR

THIRD MARDIV

FOA/290040Z/2614AA

ZNY 00000  
 R 270625Z DEC67  
 FM TWO SIX MARINES  
 TO CG THIRD MARDIV  
 INFO THIRD RECON BN  
 THIRD MARINES  
 ZEN/THIRD BN TWO SIX MARINES  
 ZEN/FIRST BN TWO SIX MARINES  
 RT

C O N F I D E N T I A L FINAL SECTION OF TWO  
 XD305473. HOWEVER TEAM MOVED NORTH AND ESTABLISHED A DEFENSIVE  
 POSITION ON HIGH GROUND. WHEN THIS WAS ACCOMPLISHED THE ENEMY  
 IMMEDIATELY ENVELOPED TEAM FROM THE WEST AND EAST. AT THIS TIME  
 THE ENEMY ENGAGED THE TEAM WITH HEAVY AA FIRE AND EMPLOYED FIRE  
 TEAM SIZE UNITS TO PROBE FOR TEAM. AFTER APPROX 50 MINUTES OF  
 EXCHANGING FIRE TEAM HAD EXPENDED ALL BUT 30 ROUNDS OF 50 AMMUNITION  
 AND 2 M-26 HAND GRENADES, HOWEVER THE ENEMY'S FIRE INDICATED  
 NO AMMUNITION SUPPLY PROBLEMS. TEAM CONTINUED TO RECEIVE HEAVY  
 FIRE UNTIL EXTRACTED AT 241753H DEC67.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

- (A) FRIENDLY CASUALTIES: NONE
- (B) ENEMY CASUALTIES: 4 KIA (C) 5 KIA (P)
- (C) CAPTURED ENEMY EQUIPMENT: NONE

9. HLZ'S:

- (A) XD 305471- SITE WILL ACCOMMODATE ONE CH-46. VEGETATION  
 CONSISTS OF 3'-4' HIGH ELEPHANT GRASS AND RELIEF IS FLAT. BEST  
 APPROACH IS FROM THE EAST.

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (A) TEAM MADE CONTACT WITH AN ESTIMATED 25-30 MAN, WELL SUPPLIED

ENEMY UNIT. ENEMY WAS AGGRESSIVE AND USED INFANTRY TACTICS. WITHOUT  
 AIR SUPPORT ENEMY WOULD HAVE RUN OVER TEAM POSITION.

PAGE TWO 32Y6 C O N F I D E N T I A L

PATROL LEADER: CPL WP MCCRIEHT

11. DERPIEPPERS COMMENTS: NONE

12. REVIEWING OFFICERS COMMENTS:

- (A) RECOMMEND UH-1F'S CARRY EXTRA 5.56MM AMMUNITION FOR ALL  
 INSERTS AND EXTRACTS AS A READY MEANS OF RESUPPLY.

GP-4

RT

270625Z DEC67

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RHS

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Operation Order: 547-67  
 Patrol: (2)Sqd (2)Plt (4)Co  
 Debriefer: SSgt. J.M.I. LOPEZ  
 Map Sheet: 6442 II

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 3d Reconnaissance Bn  
 Phu Bai, RVN RZ 1  
 281330H Dec 67

PATROL REPORT

1. COMPOSITION, SIZE, AND EQUIPMENT:

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

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

3. TIME OF INSERTION: 260900H Dec 67 HOW: Air

4. TIME OF EXTRACTION: 271430H Dec 67 HOW: Air

5. ROUTE: See overlay

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

a. SYNOPSIS: 29½ hours of reconnaissance resulted in four enemy sightings totaling 25 VC. Patrol made contact with 9 VC resulting in 2 VC KIA(C), 3 VC WIA(C), and 2 VC WIA Captured. Area reveals enemy activity.

b. ENEMY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:

(1) 261400H (YD 419385) Patrol observed 2 VC moving east vicinity (YD 419385). VC were wearing black bottoms, white tops and coolie hats. The VC were just milling around the area. Team called in report and continued surveillance.

(2) 261530H (YD 417385) Team observed 18 VC, one of which seemed to be in charge vicinity (YD 419385). The man in charge wore black PJ's, white shirt and a plastic pith helmet. Some of these people seemed to be women. They were dressed in mixed clothing with purple and some turquoise scarf. Six of these had black PJ's. One had khakis and one had camouflage type uniform. The VC were moving towards the patrol's position in groups of 4's and 6's and about 40 to 50 meters apart. One of the VC in the center had what seemed like a pistol. Team kept surveillance.

EARLY EXTRACTION

060 547-67

(3) 261830H (YD 419385) Patrol observed 2 VC approximately 10 meters to the northeast. They were moving southeast, were dressed in black PJ's, armed with one AK-47 and one U.S. .30 caliber carbine. They were walking around, talking and laughing. Team for reconnaissance.

(4) 271245H (YD 419385) Patrol observed 3 men that looked like woodcutters moving southeast vicinity (YD 419394). They wore white PJ's, coolie hats and one had a sickle.

(5) 271400H (YD 419385) Patrol observed 2 VC approximately 3000 meters to the northwest moving towards the team's position. They were wearing PJ's, and coolie hat and the other wore green utilities. The one in black was armed with an unknown type weapon. Four more VC's were seen moving approximately 20 meters behind the first 2. The first was a woman carrying a baby. The others wore black PJ's, one had a purple sweater, all wore coolie hats. The 3 men carried bags of rice. Trailing behind approximately 20 meters the team saw 3 more VC. The first one was dressed in a camouflaged type top and black bottoms and had a grenade. The other 2 were dressed in green utilities. One was armed with 2 grenades and the other was armed with U.S. type THOMPSON submachine gun. Team let the enemy pass and when the last 3 VC were approximately 60 meters away, part of the team opened fire resulting in 1 VC KIA(C), 1 VC KIA(P) and one VC WIA, who waved at the helicopters and was picked up. The team used reconnaissance by fire to the center resulting in 2 VC KIA(P). Team was extracted at 1435H.

#### c. TERRAIN:

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

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

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

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

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

#### d. OTHER INFORMATION: NONE

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

#### 8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

VC: (2)KIA-C (3)KIA-P (2)POW

b. CAPTURED EQUIPMENT AND DOCUMENTS: 1-Machine gun, 1-radio, 1-cartridge belt with M-26 grenade, and plastic bag, 1-pair sandals, 1-blue sweat shirt, 1-bag of rice, 2-bags of medical supplies, 1-white shirt, 1-magazine pouch w/ bandage, 1-jacket, 1-camouflaged cape, 1-coolie hat, 2 billfolds, 1-lighter, 1-pens, 1-notebook with documents and 1-pack of cigarettes.

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## 9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

a. RECOMMENDATIONS: Run more reconnaissance patrols in this area.

b. CONCLUSIONS: VC are using this area as a commuting route to and from the HAI LANG FOREST.

10. CONDITIONS: Physical: Good Morale: Excellent

2ndLt LATIMER  
Company "A"

## 11. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS: CONCUR WITH PATROL

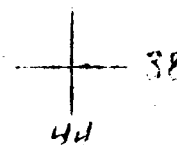
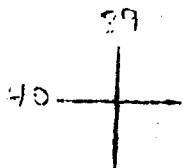
a. PATROL OPINION: The enemy had very poor discipline. Some type of an attempt to camouflage was done but not very well. The enemy was not alert, and did not seem to suspect that a team would be operating near there.

## b. COMMENTS:

(1) The night of the 26th there seemed to have been a large party in the village of THOU TAN LUONG. This party lasted most of the night. The VC observed by the patrol seemed to be moving towards the village.

(2) The village is well kept. Three large buildings and several small ones were seen in real good condition.

(3) During the day, one man in black pjs would supervise a working detail. These people acted almost military in the manner that every thing was conducted.

LEGENDO - INSERTION  
X - EXTRACTION  
- PATROL ROUTEPATROL ROUTE OVERLAY(2)Sqd (2)Plt (1)Co  
Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000  
Sheet: 6442 II  
Series: I-7014  
3d Reconnaissance Bn  
(S-2)~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

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Operation Order: 551-67  
 Patrol: (2)Sqd (3)Plt (1)Co  
 Debriefor: LCol REID/SSgt LOPEZ  
 Map Sheet: 6541 IV

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 3d Reconnaissance Bn  
 Phu Bai, RVN RZ 3  
 301900H Dec 67

PATROL REPORT

## 1. COMPOSITION, SIZE AND EQUIPMENT:

- a. COMPOSITION: (8)Enlisted (1)USN
- b. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
- c. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2)AN/PRC 25
- d. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (1)7x50
- e. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: (2)Claymore Mines (3)WP Rifle Grenades (7)WP Hand Grenades (2)Incendiary Grenades (2)CS Grenades
- f. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1)M-79 (1)M-14

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

3. TIME OF INSERTION: 271600H Dec 67 HOW: Foot/Truck

4. TIME OF EXTRACTION: 301530H Dec 67 HOW: Foot/Truck

5. ROUTES: See overlay

## 6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

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

## b. ENEMY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:

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

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OpO 551-67

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

## c. TERRAIN:

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

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

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

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

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

## d. OTHER INFORMATION:

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

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

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

## 8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

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

## 9. RECOMMENDATIONS CONCLUSIONS:

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a. RECOMMENDATIONS: Keep away from the woodline near the river because you can be observed to easily.

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

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

Cpl GUSTAFSON  
Company "A"

11. DEBRIEFER COMMENTS: NONE

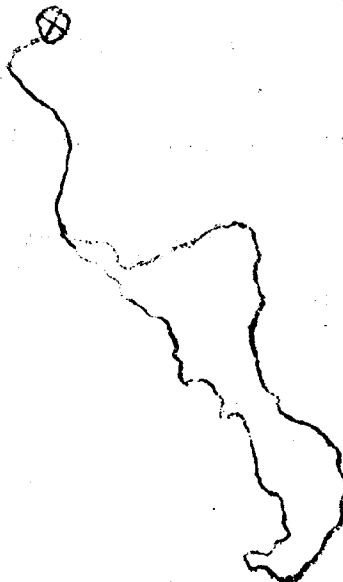
LEGEND

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

PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY

(2)Sqd (3)Plt (1)Co  
Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000  
Sheet: 6541 IV  
Series: L-7014  
3d Reconnaissance Bn  
(S-2)

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08  
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S-3

Operation Order: 549-67  
 Patrol: (1)Sqd (2)Plt (D)Co  
 Bobriefer: SSgt J.M.I. LOPEZ  
 Map Sheet: 6541 IV

Copy 4 of 33 Copies  
 3d Reconnaissance Bn  
 Thu Bai, RVN RZ 3  
 300900H Dec 67

PATROL REPORT

## 1. SIZE, COMPOSITION AND EQUIPMENT:

- a. COMPOSITION: (9)Enlisted (1)USN
- b. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
- c. COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT: (2)AN/PRC 25
- d. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (4)Claymore Mines (2)WT Rifle Grenades  
 (1)WT Hand Grenades (2)Incendiary Grenades (2)CS Grenades (8)Protective  
 Masks
- e. OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: (1)7x50
- f. SPECIAL WEAPONS: (1)M-79

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

3. TIME OF INSERTION: 271000H Dec 67 HOW: Foot/Truck

4. TIME OF EXTRACTION: 280900H Dec 67 HOW: Foot/Truck

5. ROUTE: See overlay

## 6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

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

## b. ENEMY SIGHTINGS/CONTACTS:

(1) 272525H (YD 779126) Patrol observed 5 VC moving towards the river vicinity (YD 778122) wearing black PJs, packs and unknown type rifles. Team called for artillery and then spotted 9 more VC wearing black PJs and unknown type weapons moving in the same direction as the first 5 VC. These VC were moving spread out approximately 30-40 meters apart. Several had white coolie hats. Artillery fired VC moved into heavy canopy by the river. Team adjusted artillery and VC moved in a group into a ravine. Team called for a fire for effect with outstanding coverage resulting in 10 VC KIA(P). Numerous screams were heard. Team kept surveillance and walked out to Whiskey Ridge. ~~DECLASSIFIED~~

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(2) 281130H (YD 789122) Patrol saw movement approximately 30-40 meters to the west. Team moved west to the top of the hill and continued surveillance. Patrol observed 3 VC approximately 100 meters to the west observing the team. Patrol fired 8 rounds of M-79 resulting in 1 VC KIA(F). Team attempted to break contact but saw 15 NVA wearing khaki uniforms two of which had camouflage utilities and pack, all armed with unknown type weapons approximately 150-200 meters south. NVAs were moving north towards the team. Patrol fired with M-16's and NVA ran into the brush to the west out of sight. Team called artillery. When artillery landed patrol observed approximately 40 more NVA all around their position approximately 150-200 meters moving fast towards the team. Team fired, called artillery, fixed wing and gunships. Team was receiving sporadic SA/fire. Artillery fired 174 rounds, fixed wing made 3 strikes and the gunships made 2 strafing runs resulting 20NVA KIA(C) and 15 NVA KIA(F). Team could observe pieces of bodies, clothing, weapons and other items fly through the air. A body was seen by a rice paddy and another one on a tree. Reactionary force linked up with team at 1500H. Reactionary Force observed 2 NVA approximately 150 meters to the northeast and fired an AW resulting in 2 NVA KIA(C). Reactionary Force discovered a bunker complex including a large cave. Numerous remains of bodies, clothing and equipment were seen in the bunker and on trees. Gunships were observed to have received approximately 20 tracer rounds. Team was extracted at 1500G.

c. TERRAIN:

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

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

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

(4) TRAILS: Numerous trails throughout the area.

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

d. OTHER INFORMATION: 281115H (YD 789122) Team observed 2 people vicinity (MD 767126). They were observing team 3A2 moving vicinity (YD 764114). People were wearing blue shirts and white coolie hats. No weapons were seen. They seemed to signaling someone and pointing at the team (3A2). Patrol informed (3A2) about this incident. (3A2) was at (YD 764114).

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

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY:

a. VC/NVA: (20)KIA-C (26)KIA-P (2)KIA-C By infantry

9. RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCLUSIONS:

a. RECOMMENDATIONS: Patrols going into this area should be inserted by air because of the civilian population. Take a machine gun, LAW, and a starlight scope.

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b. CONCLUSIONS: Heavy enemy activity in the area.

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

Cpl COX  
Company "D"

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

a. PATROL OPINION: Patrol feels that the enemy was well disciplined, had good camouflage and used good maneuver in moving towards the team.

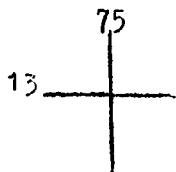
b. OTHER COMMENTS: ARVN artillery unit located at NAM HOA gave the patrol rapid, accurate and outstanding support.

LEGEND

O = INSERTION  
X = EXTRACTION  
\_\_\_ = PATROL ROUTE

PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY

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



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