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Authority **NND 873541**  
By **VR** NARA Date **8/4**

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Hqs, 4th Bn, 31st Inf  
LZ WEST, AT 990251  
022345H June 1970  
Q151Q

OPORD 4-70

Reference: Map, 1:50,000, Series L7014, sheets 6640 III, 6640 II, 6640 IV, and 6640 I.

**Task Organization:**

Co A, 4/31 Inf  
Co B, 4/31 Inf

Phase I  
Co D, 4/31 Inf  
1/A/26 Engrs (DS)  
Plat/81mm Mort/ Co E

Bn Con  
Co C, 4/31 Inf  
Btry C/3-82  
1/B/4-31  
Plat(?) 155mm How  
Recon Plat  
Co E, 4/31(-)

TF DELTA

Concept of Operation Phase II  
Co A conducts counter offensive operations  
Co D, 4/31 Inf Recon Plat  
Co B, 4/31(-) Inf Btry C/3-82  
1/B/4-31

**1. SITUATION:**

- Enemy Forces: Annex B; Intelligence
- Friendly Forces: No change
- Attachments and Detachments: Task Org

**2. MISSION:**

4/31 Infantry continues counter offensive operations in assigned AO against NVA forces in the Hiep Duc area commencing 040600 Jun 70.

**3. EXECUTION:**

**a. Concept of Operation**

(1) Phase I: Battalion conducts counter offensive operations to destroy enemy elements in the AO with Co A conducting saturation ambushes in area A, Co B (-) conducting recon-in-force operations in area B, Co C securing LZ WEST, Co D conducting airmobile assault and patrolling vic LZ MELLON and Btry C, 3/82 Arty securing LZ SIBERIA.

(2) Phase II: Battalion continues counter offensive operations with Co D withdrawing to a LZ secured by Co B(-), forming with Co B (-) TF DELTA and conducting strike operations to destroy enemy elements vic Phuoc Son (8421);

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Recon Platoon screens south of LZ Siberia in Area R. No change Co A, Co C and Btry C, 3/82d Arty.

(3) Fire Support: Div Arty displaces two 155mm Howitzers to LZ Siberia, reinforces fires Btry C, 3/82d Arty. Priority of fires to Co D initially and then to TF DELTA (ANNEX C- Fire Support).

b. Co A

(1) Conducts minimum of six ambushes nightly in sector.

(2) 4 June establish DDP vic a four A/C LZ and secures Co C rucksacks upon departure of Co C for movement to LZ West. Assist in extraction by air.

(3) Be prepared to reinforce Co D on order on LZ MELLON.

c. Co B

(1) Places 3rd Plat OPCON to Btry C, 3/82d Arty to secure 155 Howitzers on LZ Siberia NLT 031400 Jun. On order 5 June relieves Recon Plat in security of LZ Siberia. Platoon will be augmented by 16 EM from LZ WEST on 5 June.

(2) Co (-) NLT 041430 secures LZ vic AT 893211. Prepares for insertion of Co D. Effective on closing of Co D OPCON to TF DELTA.

d. Co C

(1) 040700 commencing at this time on June sweep and search along routes RED and WHITE to LZ WEST.

(2) NLT 041500 Jun close LZ WEST and assume security of LZ WEST.

e. Co D

(1) Conduct local patrols in area D upon closing LZ MELLON.

(2) C/A from LZ MELLON to field LZ secured by Co B commencing 041500 Jun. Effective upon closing from with Co B(-) TF DELTA.

f. Recon Plat

(1) Upon withdrawal of 155mm Howitzer Plat and on order 5 Jun relieved of security of LZ Siberia. Move to and commence screening operations in area R.

g. 3rd Plat, Co B

(1) NLT 031400 Jun close LZ Siberia. Effective upon closing OPCON Btry C, 3/82d Arty for security of the 155mm Howitzer Plat.

(2) Upon withdrawal of the 155mm Howitzer Plat on 5 Jun relieve Recon Plat for security of LZ Siberia. OPCON Btry C, 3/82d Arty. Augmented by 16 EM from LZ WEST.

h. Btry C, 3/82d Arty Secure LZ Siberia. DS 4/31 Infantry.

i. 1st Plat, Btry A, 3/16th Arty. GSR LZ WEST. 155mm Howitzer Plat.

j. Unknown 155mm Howitzer Plat. Airmobile two Howitzers to LZ Siberia 3 Jun 70. Reinforce Btry C, 3/82d Arty. Airmove from LZ Siberia 5 Jun.

k. Co E(-) DS. Attach 1 Plat (two sections and FDG) to Co D effective 040700 Jun 70. C/A to LZ MELLON. Revert to Co E upon closing LZ WEST 4 Jun 70.

1. Coordinating Instructions

- (1) ANNEX E and F. Airmovement Plans- Tab
- (2) Command and Control aircraft available to unit Commanders for V/R on request.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS:

a. Current Admin/Log SOP

- b. Class V Mortars displace with 80 rounds HE.

5. COMMAND AND SIGNAL

a. Signal

- (1) Current SOI in effect
- (2) C/A and TF DELTA frequency- Air/Ground.
- (3) Recon Plat LZ Siberia be prepared to act as radio relay for elements on LZ MELLON.

b. Command

- (1) Battalion CP remains LZ WEST
- (2) Forward CP in Command and Control aircraft.
- (3) CO, Co D commands TF DELTA upon link-up.

ACKNOWLEDGE

*SKA*  
SKAER  
LTC

ANNEXES

A  
B  
C  
D1  
E  
F

Distribution: SPECIAL

OFFICIAL

GROUP 4

Downgraded at 3 year intervals  
Declassified after 12 years

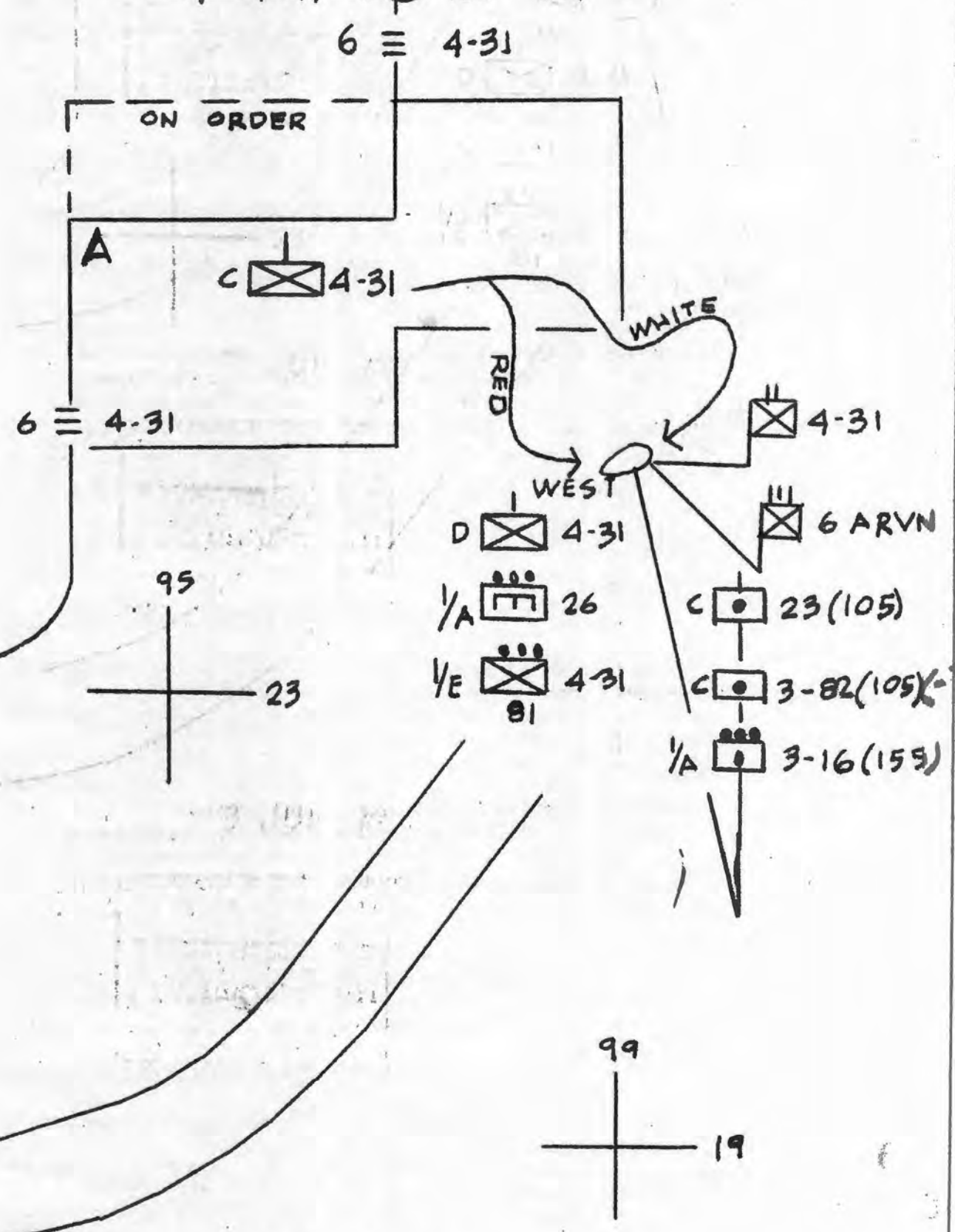
WALTON  
S3



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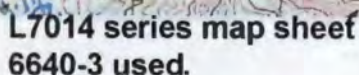
A (Operations Overlay) to OPORD 4-70

# PHASE I



3 JUN 70





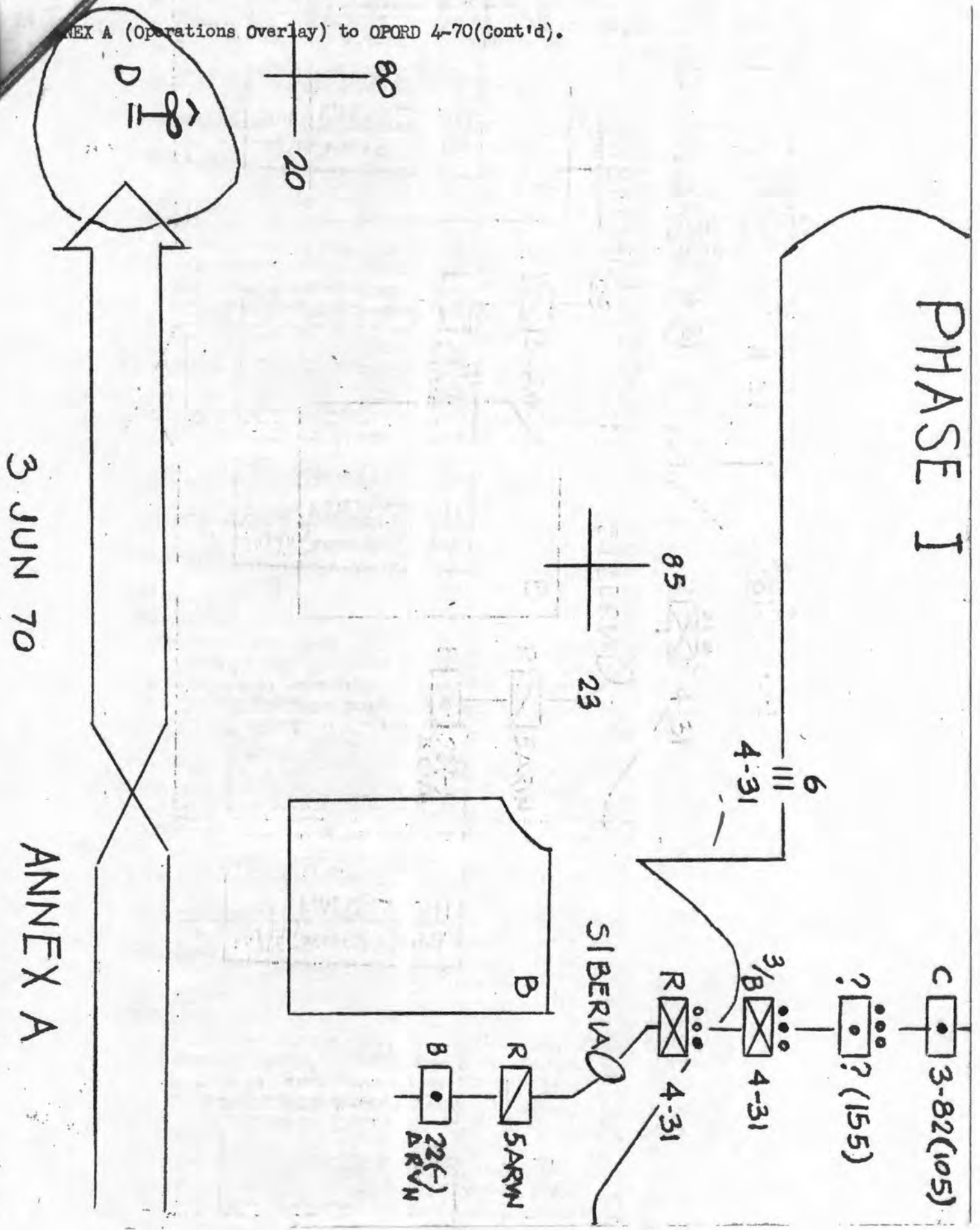
**The Americal Division Veteran's Association's Vietnam era historian prepared a standardized version of the overlay found on the previous page. Then a 1:50,000 scale map was aligned and overprinted as an aid to show terrain and firebases.**





ANNEX A (Operations Overlay) to OPORD 4-70(Cont'd).

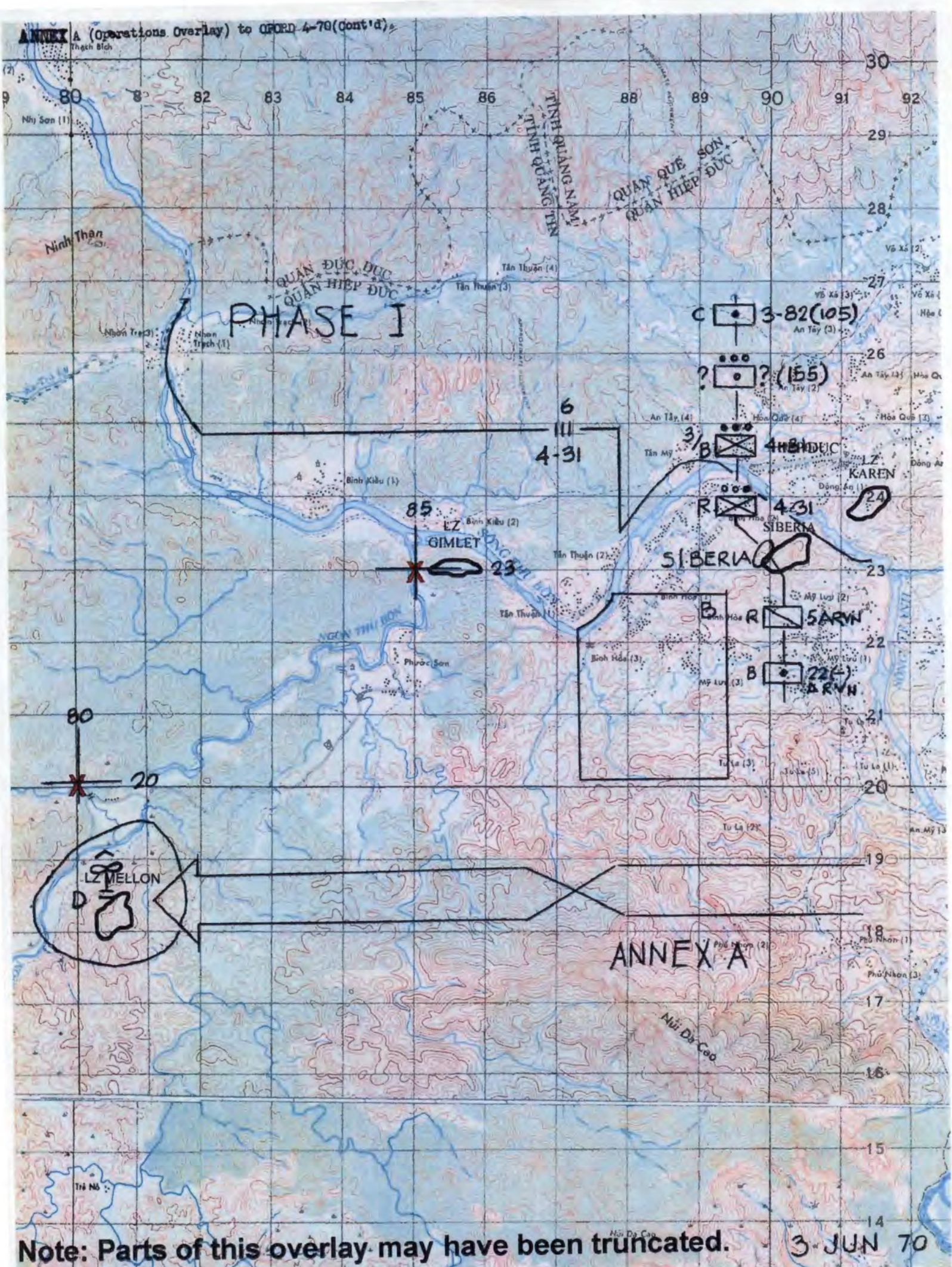
# PHASE I



3 JUN 70

ANNEX A





L7014 series map sheet  
6640-3 used. a 6639-4



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# PHASE II

83  
24

C 3-82

1/8 4-31

R 5 JUN 70 SIBERIA

R 5 JUN 70

LZ

DELTA

90  
19

D 4-31

PZ 26

1/8 4-31

LZ WEST

NO CHANGE  
6TH ARVN REG  
Co A  
Co C

ANNEX B

3 JUN 70

B (Operation Overlay) to OPORD 4-70.

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ANNEX C (Intell) to OPORD 5-70.

1. The Area of Operation

A. Weather

(1) Existing Situation- 3 June 70- Partly cloudy skies with evening rain showers and thunder storms over the mountains. Temperature- Low of 79, and high of 98. Winds-Southeast 5-15 knots. Visibility- 7 miles.

(2) Seven Day Weather Outlook- Thunderstorm activity expected to increase over the mountains. Except for thunderstorms, the weather pattern will consist of partly cloudy skies. Winds- Easterly and southeasterly at 5-15 knots, and maximum temperatures in the middle 90's with minimum temperatures in the upper 70's.

(3) Light Data:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>BMNT</u>	<u>SR</u>	<u>SS</u>	<u>EENT</u>	<u>MR</u>	<u>MS</u>	<u>% ILL</u>
3 June	0522	0613	1913	2004	0408	1735	02
4 June	0522	0613	1913	2005	0459	1832	00
5 June	0522	0613	1914	2005	0553	1927	01
6 June	0522	0613	1914	2005	0648	2018	04
7 June	0522	0613	1914	2006	0743	2105	08
8 June	0522	0614	1915	2006	0835	2148	14
9 June	0522	0614	1915	2006	0926	2226	22
10 June	0522	0614	1915	2007	1014	2301	30

2. Terrain

The terrain south of the Song Thu Bon river is relatively flat and open for 100 to 300 meters south of the river bank. The area consists mainly of well cultivated fields. The terrain both east and west of the Ngon Thu Bon river is flat and sparsely vegetated for 25 to 50 meters on either side. At the present time the Ngon Thu Bon river is fordable at any location where the vegetation along the bank permits. The Song Thu Bon river is fordable at the mouth of the Ngon Thu Bon, also at vic AT 825240. The current of the Song Thu Bon river is swift but other fording spots are possible. As you move away from the river, the land rises steeply consisting of rolling hills and steep ridgelines, most of which are densely vegetated. The ridges are cut by numerous streams running throughout the area. Major trails in the area are the French Road (534), running east to west from Hiep Duc through Phuoc Son the the Ngon Thu Bon river. The bridge at the Ngon Thu Bon River (vic 811199) has been destroyed. There is a major trail running north and south along the banks of the Ngon Thu Bon. There is another



main train running east to west. It runs southwest from My Luu (3) then cutting due west along the southern edge of Hill 143 into Phuoc Son and runs into the French Road (534). The Phuoc Son area is fairly open and thinly vegetated.

### 3. Enemy Situation

A. During the month of May enemy activity throughout the 4/31 area of operation has increased greatly. The 1st M.F. Regt and parts of the 31st Regt along with supporting units (GK-31, A.A., GK-32 R.R., GK-33 M.M., GK-35 Sapper) all part of the 2nd NVA Division, are believed to be operating in the A.O. As of the 20th May, the 40 Battalion, 1 MF Regt is believed to be located at vic AT 840240. The 60 Battalion, 1 MF Regt at AT 830280, the 90 Battalion, 1 MF Regt at AT 900290, the 7th Battalion, 31 Regt at AT 970285 and the 9 Battalion, 31st Regt vic 875218. During the past week contact with the enemy has been light and sporadic. All enemy elements are believed to be evading to the west and northwest. LZ Siberia has been receiving R.R. fire from vic AT 890230 and 82mm fire from vic AT 879234. Bunkers and fortified positions have been spotted in vic AT 843209 also AT 845206. Several Blue Ghosts gunships FAC have received fire from these areas. Since then arty and airstrikes have been processed in the area and they are believed to be destroyed.

B. The enemy is capable in conducting counter attacks within the area with elements as large as a reinforced Company. Delaying tactics using snipers and small ambushes have been used frequently by the enemy.

C. There have been no reported incidents of mining and booby trapping in the area in the past 60 days. Although the enemy still has this capability.

### 4. Coordinating Instructions

A. All buildings identified as military structures will be destroyed. Civilian dwellings of the indigenous population will be thoroughly searched, but will not be destroyed except as an unavoidable consequence of combat actions. Food caches over and above the needs of the local population will be reported to this Headquarters and extracted if feasible. Captured or abandoned medical supplies will also be extracted if feasible. They will not be destroyed.

#### B. Reports

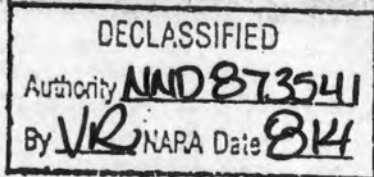
(1) Report all contacts by location of enemy force size of unit, type of weapons, uniform activity, results of contact and direction of withdrawal.

(2) Report all recently used areas and trails.

#### C. POS's and Detainees

(1) All military age males and females, and suspicious individuals will





be detained and extracted on the first available aircraft.

(2) Detainees and POW's will not be exploited in the field without permission from this Headquarters. Returnees (Hoi Chans) may be exploited.

(3) Interrogate all detainees for information of immediate tactical value.

1 LT WILLIAM R. ROBINSON  
 Infantry, S-2



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EX D (Fire Support) to OPORD 4-70.

A. Air Support

1. Three immediate air strikes (Snake and Napalm) will be processed on:  
AT 805184, 804181, 817179 (031400-031600).
2. Preplans
  - a. Beacon Drop (040200-040400) will be processed on: AT 803184 and 788192.
3. LZ Preparation (040700 Jun 70)
  - a. M-82 High Drag with M-1 Fuze Extender on AT 804183.

B. Artillery Fires

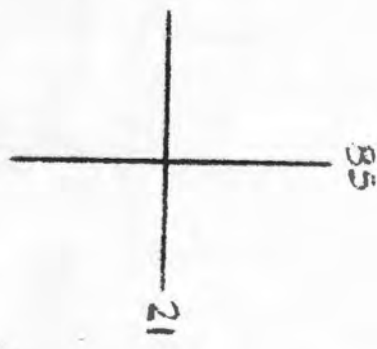
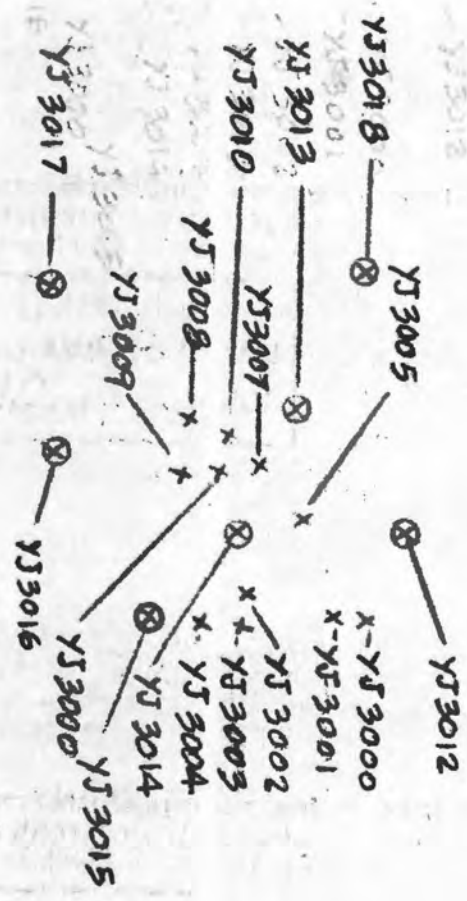
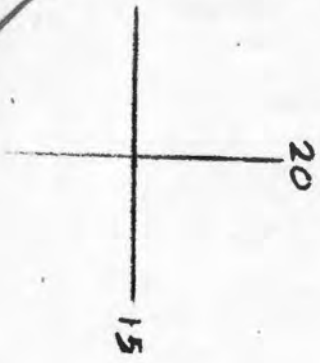
1. A 15 minute LZ preparation will be fired commencing at H-17 to H-2. On call fires have been planned on routes of approach and possible enemy locations. Preparation and on call targets can be found at Tab A (Target Overlay) and Tab B (Target List). The last round fired in the preparation will be WP quick to signal the end of the preparation.
2. Calls for fire for target locations west of the 80 grid line or south of the 18 grid line will be engaged by a platoon of 3/16 Artillery (155) which will be OPCON to C Btry 3/82 Artillery and located at LZ Siberia.
3. Target locations east of the 80 grid line and north of the 18 grid line will normally be engaged by C Btry, 3/82 Artillery (105). 155's from 3/16 Artillery will be utilized if deemed necessary by the tactical situation.

*John S. Bennett*  
JOHN BENNETT  
CPT, Artillery



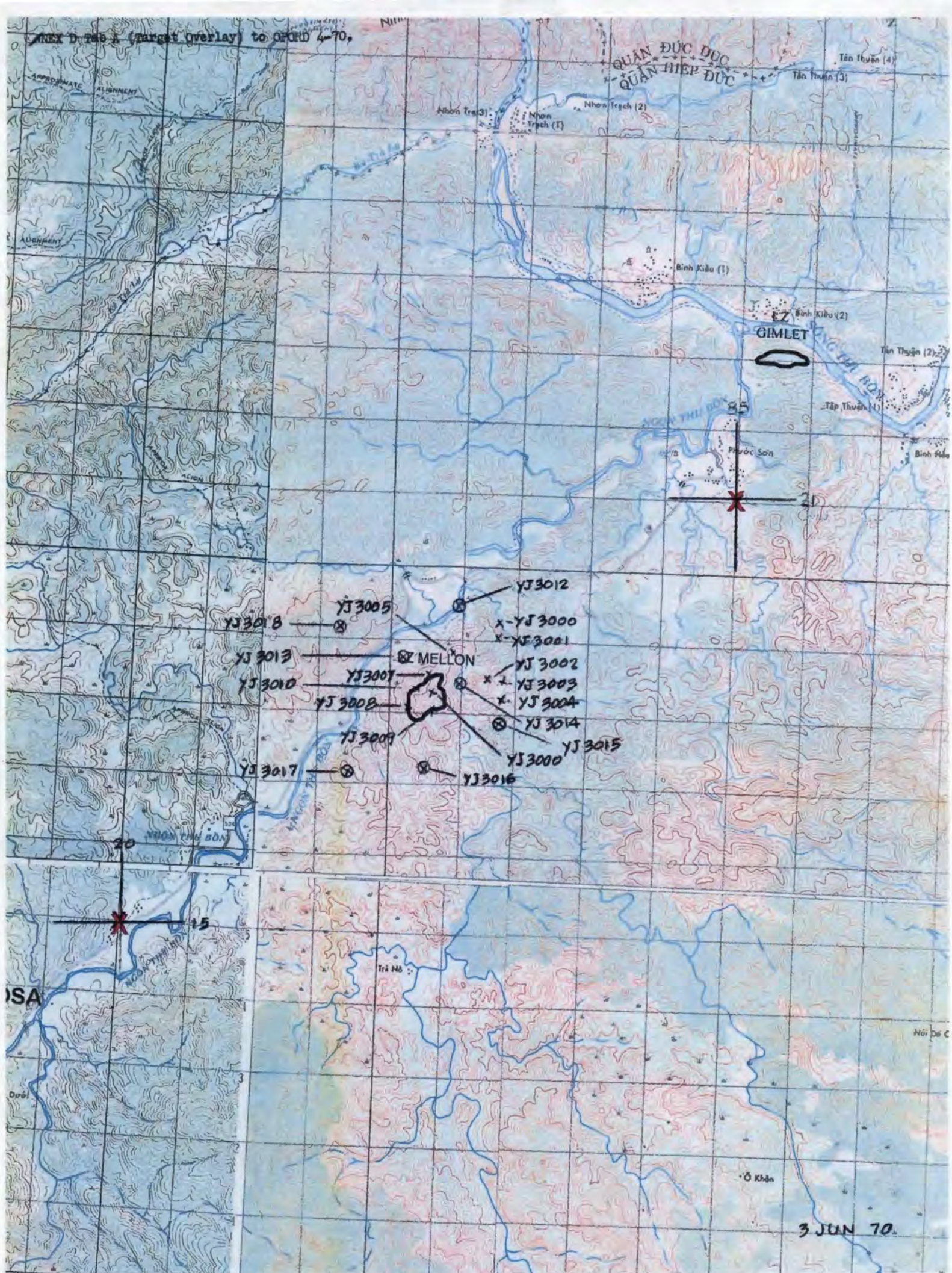
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ANNEX D Tab A (Target Overlay) to OPORD 4-70.



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L7014 series map sheet  
6640-3 used. α6540-2  
α 6539-1 & 6639-4



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ANNEX D (Fire Support) Tab B to OPORD 4-70 Target List

		<u>105's Siberia</u>	<u>155's Siberia</u>
		<u>PLAT 5</u>	<u>PLAT 2 (VT)</u>
YJ	3000	81551925	
"	3001	81551900	"
"	3002	81391845	"
"	3003	81571845	"
"	3004	81591813	"
"	3005	80881885	"
"	3006	80621826	"
"	3007	80591855	"
"	3008	80301808	"
"	3009	80661795	"
"	3010	80441832	"
"	3011	80401839	
"	3012	81001948	
"	3013	80221874	
"	3014	81041841	
"	3015	81581783	
"	3016	80511713	
"	3017	79421707	
"	3018	79371918	

¶ Gun 1 WPQ

¶ 55's Only

*John Bennett*  
 JOHN BENNETT  
 CPT, Artillery



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ANNEX E (Aviation) Phase I to OPORD 4-70.

4/31 Infantry request 8 UH1D and C and C to C/A Co D, 1sqd Engineers, and 2 sqd of 81mm mortars from PZ vic AT 990251 (LZ West) to LZ vic AT 804183 on 4 Jun 70. Time Frame: 040726 to 040853 June 70. Request two teams of gunships to escort lift and one smoke ship. PZ is secure, LZ is not secure.

<u>LIFT</u>	<u>A/C</u>	<u>PZ TIME</u>	<u>LZ TIME</u>	<u>UNIT/PAX</u>
1	4 UH1D	0726	0745	Co D/20
2	"	0730	0749	Co D/10, Engineers/ 10
3	"	0800	0819	Co D/18, " / 02
4	"	0804	0823	Co D/20,
5	"	0834	0853	2 Tubes 40 81mm rds 14 Pax /14

ACL 5 PAX/AC

Ground Contact at PZ Tango 28A. Ground Contact at LZ (after 1st lift) Tango 28B.  
 Frequency: A/G- 46.85  
 PZ 2 A/C Penprime; LZ 4 A/C.

JOSEPH A. WALTON  
 MAJ, Infantry  
 S3



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ANNEX E (Aviation) Phase II to OPORD 4-70.

4/31 Infantry request 8 UH1D and Command and Control aircraft to C/A Co D, 1st sqd Engineers, and 2 sqds of Mortars. The two sqds of mortars and the one sqd of engineers will be lifted from AT 804183 to 990251 (LZ West). Co D will be lifted from AT 804183 to 893211. Time Frame: 041500 to 041542 June 70. Request two teams of gunships and one smoke ship to escort lift. PZ is secure, LZ is secure.

<u>LIFT</u>	<u>A/C</u>	<u>PZ TIME</u>	<u>LZ TIME</u>	<u>UNIT/PAX</u>
1	4 UH1D	1500	1517	2 81mm tubes 23 Pax /23
2	"	1502	1511	Co D/20
3	"	1518	1527	Co D/20
4	"	1532	1541	Co D/20
5	"	1534	1542	Co D/11

ACL 5 PAX/AC

Ground Contact at PZ- Tango 28A.  
 Ground Contact at LZ (990251) Regard 71.  
 Ground Contact at LZ (893211) November 28A.

Frequency: A/G- 46.85  
 PZ 4 A/C LZ (990251) 2 A/C LZ (893211) 4 A/C.

JOSEPH A. WALTON  
 MAJ, Infantry  
 S3