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Hqs, 196th Inf Bde

HAWK HILL (BT226319), RVN

041800H Sep 70

ELK

OPORD 8-70 (OPERATION ROCK CRUSHER) (U)

References: a. Map, Vietnam, 1:50,000, Series L7014, Sheets 6640 I, II, III, IV.

b. Americal OPORD 8-70 (Operation Rock Crusher), DTG 021800H Sep 70.

Task Organization:

2-1 InfTF RockTF Crusher

3-21 Inf (-)

A/1-1 Cav

D/4-31 Inf

3-21 Inf4-31 Inf (-)TF 1-46 Inf

D/3-21 Inf

1-46 Inf

Recon

C/4-31 Inf

Bde Control

A/26th Engrs

48th IPSP

1. (C) SITUATION:

a. Enemy Forces:

(1) Current INTSUMS.

(2) Annex B, Intelligence.

b. Friendly Forces. Current SITREPS.

c. Attachments and Detachments. Task Organization.

2. (C) MISSION

196th Brigade supported by elements from 1-1 Cav, and 7th Marine Regt conduct detailed search and clear operations along common boundary to locate and destroy enemy forces, locate and extract caches, and disrupt enemy LOC's. Divisional engineers, in coordination with marine engineers, assists 2d ARVN Division in opening highway 535/534 from QL 1 to Hiep Duc in preparation for GVN Convoy operations.

3. (C) EXECUTION:

a. Concept of Operation.

(1) Maneuver. 196th Inf Bde establishes forward TAC CP at FSB CENTER and exercises command and control of TF ROCK (Inf Bn(-)) and TF CRUSHER (armored cav troop reinf). Direct communication between 196th TAC CP and 7th Marine Regt is established and maintained for duration of operation. D-Day, H-Hour TF CRUSHER and TF ROCK initiate operations in assigned AO's from D-Day to D+2 and D+3 to D+4 respectively using detailed, deliberate search and clear techniques. On D-2, ARVN engineers, assisted by elements of Americal and Marine engineer units, commence operations to secure and upgrade HL535 from ROSS to junction with HL534, then to Hiep Duc in preparation for a GVN convoy to be run on 7 Sep 70. Annex A, Operations Overlay.

GROUP 4

Downgraded at 3 year intervals;
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CO 1 (a) D-2: Engineers begin upgrade of HL535/534 from FSB ROSS to Hiep Duc.

(b) D-1: 196th Bde and 1-1 Cav preposition forces and prepare for operation.

(c) D-Day - D+2: At 0630 hrs TF ROCK and TF CRUSHER cross PL BLUE and PL YELLOW respectively and begin detailed search and clear operations in assigned AO's. Operations are conducted so as to reach phase lines RED and WHITE NLT 1900 hrs on D+2. Simultaneously, elements of 7th Marine Regt conduct search and clear operations in adjacent AO's. ARVN engineers, with Americal assistance, continue upgrading of HL535/534 on D-Day and D+1. On D+2 convoy operations to Hiep Duc are conducted.

(d) D+3 - D+4: At 0630 hrs on D+3 TF ROCK and TF CRUSHER cross phase lines RED and WHITE and conduct search and clear operations toward PL GREEN. Marine elements conduct search and clear operations in adjacent AO's.

(e) D+4: At 1700 hrs on D+4 operation is terminated.

(2) Fire Support: Annex C, Fire Support.

b. 2-1 Inf: Continue current operations.

c. 3-21 Inf(-): Maintain one company conducting RIF operations via old OP Legionnaire area.

d. TF ROCK:

(1) Provide one platoon for security of IOS on OP JULIET NLT 1200 hrs D-1.

(2) Coordinate with NUI IAC SON hamlet chief for coordination/cooperation of RF/PF forces in assigned AO.

(3) Maintain contact with 7th Regt forces on the north.

e. 4-31 Inf(-):

(1) Continue current operations.

(2) Be prepared to provide one company for security of highway 534 from NUI IAC SON to Hiep Duc.

f. 1-46 Inf: Continue current operations.

g. TF CRUSHER:

(1) Maintain contact with 7th Regt forces on the north.

(2) Report all activities to CP 1-1 Cav, HAWK HILL.

h. A/26th Engrs: Continue current operations.

i. 48th IPSD: Continue current operations.

j. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) Direct coordination between Task Force and 7th Marines is authorized and directed.

(2) All personnel committed to Operation ROCK CRUSHER will be thoroughly briefed on the rules of engagement with particular attention given to fires in populated areas. Extreme caution will be exercised near and

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in No Fire Areas and RD areas. Detailed coordination with District Chiefs of No Fire Areas and RD areas is directed.

(3) Fire control measures between Americal and Marine elements will be established. As a minimum, positive identification of targets to be engaged will be accomplished when operating in the area between FCL's (Annex A, Operations Overlay). All fires in vicinity of FCL depicted on Operations Overlay will be coordinated with adjacent units.

(4) Reconnaissance by fire during this operation is prohibited.

(5) Operations will be characterized by a slow, deliberate and thorough search within assigned AO's. All units will be briefed on the necessity for use of deliberate searching techniques with emphasis on detection of caches, tunnels, etc.

(6) Area of operation has in the past been heavily mined and booby trapped. Refresher training on detection and neutralization of mines and booby traps will be conducted prior to commencement of operation.

(7) D-Day, H-Hour: 050630H Sep 70.

(8) Psychological operations will be conducted in accordance with Annex E, Psychological Operations.

(9) Units report crossing of phase lines.

4. (U) SERVICE SUPPORT: Current SOP.

5. (U) COMMAND AND SIGNAL:

a. Signal: Current SOI Index in effect.

b. Command. Brigade CP at HAWK HILL. Bde CP Fwd established LZ CENTER D-1.

Acknowledge.

Kennedy
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Annexes: A - Operations Overlay (Div OPORD 8-70)
B - Intelligence (Div OPORD 8-70)
C - Fire Support (Div OPORD 8-70)
E - Psychological Operations (Div OPORD 8-70)

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