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4-3 Inf
LZ WEST (AT990251) RVN
040400H Jul 1968
MCA

OPORD 7-68

Reference: Maps, S Vietnam; Series L7014, Sheets: 6640 I,II,III,IV; 6540 I,II; 6639 I,IV; 6539 I.

Task Org:

Co A	Co D
Co B	Recon Plat
Co C	Hvy Mort Plat

1. SITUATION

a. Enemy forces:

- (1) Current INTSUM.
- (2) Annex B (Intelligence)

b. Friendly forces:

(1) TR COOKSEY conducts Operation POCOHONTAS FOREST to find, fix, and destroy elements of 2d NVA Div; interdicts Hwy 534; and locates ARC light and TAC Air targets.

(2) 198th Inf Bde continues operations in CHU LAI TAOR and BURLINGTON TRAIL AO, including extension of AO to LZ EAST.

(3) TF ARVN atks to seize OBJ APACHE, vic AT800315; prepares to assume control OBJ CHEYENNE; prepares to continue attack to seize OBJ SIOUX.

- (4) 7th Air Force provides TAC Air spt.
- (5) 14th Avn Bn provides airlift spt.

2. MISSION

4-3 Inf secure engr and arty element enroute LZ ROSS - LZ O'CONNOR commencing 04 Jul 68. Secure GS arty FSBs in HIEP DUC Valley vic AT915240 and AT925238 with not less than one (1) rifle company each. Secure LZ WEST vic AT990251 on 04 Jul 68. Assemble elements of Bn in assigned AO NLT 05 Jul 68. Prepare to assume mission of attacking Bns or reinforce 5 ARVN TF. Prepare to seize OBJ CHEYENNE on order. Prepare to displace Bn CP to LZ O'CONNOR, vic AT933242, on order.

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3. EXECUTION

a. Maneuver.

(1) Co A moves by CH-47B from LZ BALDY and LZ RYDER, commencing 050800H Jul 68, to LZ WEST; conducts combat operations to W and S of LZ RYDER; prepares to reinforce Co D on order; prepares to accomplish any of the 4-3 Inf missions on order.

(2) Co B continues defense of LZ WEST; improves defensive positions; conducts platoon size daylight combat patrol vic LZ WEST; establishes minimum of three (3) night OPs; prepares to accomplish any of the missions assigned to 4-3 Inf on order.

(3) Co C moves by CH-47B from LZ BALDY, commencing 050830H Jul 68, to defend FSB vic AT925238; establishes at least three (3) night OPs; conducts platoon size daylight combat patrol vic FSB; prepares to accomplish any of the missions assigned to 4-3 Inf on order.

(4) Co D continues to secure engr and arty elements enroute LZ ROSS-LZ O'CONNOR; secures GS arty FSB vic BT915240 NLT 05 Jul 68; conducts daylight platoon size combat patrols vic FSB; establishes a minimum of three (3) night OPs; prepares to accomplish any of the missions assigned 4-3 Inf on order.

(5) Co E:

(a) Recon Plat continues defense of OP ROCKY, vic BT003246; conducts daylight recon patrols vic OP; establishes minimum of one (1) night OP; prepares to accomplish any of the missions assigned 4-3 Inf on order.

(b) Hvy Mort Plat remains at LZ WEST; provides indirect fire support for LZ WEST, OP ROCKY & Co A; prepares to displace with 4-3 Inf to new FSB on order.

(6) HHC:

(a) Svc Plat establishes trains at LZ BALDY; establishes Class I, III & V distribution point vic LZ ROSS (BT027340) NLT 05 Jul 68.

(b) Medical Plat establishes Bn Aid Station vic LZ WEST NLT 051800H Jul 68.

b. Fire support: Air and arty prep will be employed on initial objectives. Thereafter, prep fires on request (Annex C, Fire Support).

(1) C/3-82 Arty (105mm) DS.

(2) Hvy Mort Plat priority of fires to Co A initially.

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(3) Air Fire Line: Vertical grid ZC15 south to horizontal grid ZC30, east to horizontal grid ZC20, then south on ZC20 until OJBs MOHAWK and CHEYENNE are secured. Thereafter, vertical grid ZC10.

c. Coordinating instructions.

- (1) LD: East bank of SONG TRANH.
- (2) AO changes effective 051200H Jul 68.
- (3) Report crossing all phase lines.
- (4) If committed to seize OJB CHEYENNE, E, or MOHAWK, 4-3 Inf will patrol no further west than PZ CHOCTAW once obj is seized.
- (5) Coordination between commanders is authorized and directed.
- (6) Reconnaissance flights available.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

196th LIB ADMINNO 5-68

5. COMMAND AND SIGNAL

a. Signal.

- (1) TF COOKSEY SOL/SSI in effect on order.
- (2) Annex D (Signal).

b. Command: 4-3 Inf CP initially at LZ WEST. Bn Fwd CP displace to LZ O'CONNOR on order.

c. Reports.

- (1) SITREP to Bn Hq every hour.
- (2) CP location and proposed and actual displacements.

Acknowledge.

Annexes: A, Operations Overlay
B, Intelligence
C, Fire Support
D, Signal

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Annex B (Intelligence) to OPORD 7-68

1. AREA OF OPERATIONS.

A. WEATHER.

The area from KHAM DUC east to ZC 1210 is presently in the rainy season. At night and early morning hours there will be low cloud ceilings below 1000 ft. For and occasional drizzle will prevail throughout the area and visibility will be limited to 1-3 miles. East of the mountains (ZC1210) skies will be generally good from 0700H to midafternoon with scattered clouds at 1500 to 2500 feet with visibility up to 7 miles. Afternoon thunderstorms and rainshowers can be expected. The rivers in the objective area are fairly high and will not cause flooding or damage unless heavy rainfall occurs.

B. TERRAIN.

(1) EXISTING SITUATION.

(a) The major portion of the objective area is made up of rugged mountains which are covered mainly by dense undergrowth and multicanopied forest. This vegetation necessarily limits foot and vehicular movement primarily to known trails and roads.

(b) Routes of communication are primarily limited to the rivers, valleys, and stream beds. Vehicular traffic is limited to the existing roads. Foot traffic throughout the objective area will be severely restricted. With the exception of known trails, roads, and the valley floors, foot traffic will be poor.

(2) EFFECTS ON ENEMY COURSES OF ACTION.

(a) The terrain affords the enemy numerous areas for the staging of troops and the storage of supplies. The canopy and dense undergrowth affords the enemy a measure of protection from aerial surveillance and tactical air and arty. The terrain lends itself to an extensive enemy ambush capability. In addition, well concealed anti-aircraft positions may be abundant. In the jungle area the enemy is capable of moving virtually free from detection.

(3) EFFECTS ON OUR COURSE OF ACTION.

(a) The terrain generally denies the friendly forces airmobile operations except at prepared LZ's. Aerial reconnaissance will be restricted in the canopied areas, but good along established trails, roads, and rivers. The nature of the terrain will make infantry movement slow and difficult.

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3. ENEMY SITUATION

1. GENERAL: The area of operation must be regarded as an enemy sanctuary. The terrain throughout the area of concern provides the enemy with natural cover and concealment. The general lack of friendly operations in the area, combined with the natural protection of the terrain, has afforded the enemy the opportunity to establish logistical and headquarters complexes free from friendly interference.

2. HIEP DUC. Friendly combat sweeps southeast of Hiep Duc (AT9024) have resulted in the discovery of battalion size base camps and various sized hospitals/aid stations. Caches of moderate size have been found along the Song Chang River. Due south of Hiep Duc there have been no previous combat sweep operations. The recent development of an improved trail leading southeast from highway 534 at AT8119 to AT9306 points towards this area as the possible heart of the enemy's forward logistical base. The 3rd NVA Regiment, 2nd NVA division has been identified in the AT9318 area.

3. Easter highway 534/North from Kham Duc to Hiep Duc has been the subject of considerable development and use by the enemy in the past 30 days. Air-strikes have done considerable damage to the bridges and culverts but by-passes have been established and movement continues along this route. Aerial photography, aerial reconnaissance, and secondary explosions resulting from air strikes indicate the area vicinity ZC1512 as a principal logistical area. The terrain and the total lack of friendly activity lends credence to such a possibility.

4. DISPOSITION, COMPOSITION, AND STRENGTH

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>STRENGTH</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
2nd NVA Division	3,500	AT 7920
1st MF Regiment	1,000	AT 8738
3rd NVA Regiment	700	AT 9317
74th MF Bn	250	BT 1426
70th MF Bn	200	BT 1522
409th MF Bn	250	BT 3311
105th MF Bn	250	BT 0539
R-20 LF Bn	300	AT 9959

5. Reinforcement capability.

- (a) One rocket artillery regiment.
- (b) Elements of at least two NVA Divisions.

4. ENEMY CAPABILITIES.

(a) ENUMERATION

- (1) Conduct defense from prepared fortified positions.

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(2) Conduct a mobile defense.

(3) Conduct delaying actions.

(4) Counter attack.

(5) Conduct attacks by fire against key logistical installations (LZ ROSS and LZ BALDY) and interdict essential friendly lines of communications.

(6) Attack friendly installations.

5. CONCLUSIONS.

A. EFFECTS OF AREA OF OPERATIONS.

(1) The terrain restricts or reduces the effectiveness of aerial reconnaissance, tactical air, airmobile operations and artillery.

(2) The weather will restrict tactical air, airmobile, and aerial reconnaissance capabilities.

(3) LZ's must be carefully selected. In addition they will be small and highly susceptible to ambush.

(4) The terrain lends itself to an extensive ambush capability for both friendly and enemy forces though a superior knowledge of the terrain will give the enemy force the advantage initially.

B. VULNERABILITIES

(1) The enemy is not believed to be in a fighting posture at present as many of his troops are recent replacement undergoing training.

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Annex D (Signal) to OPORD 7-68

1. SITUATION

a. Enemy forces and capabilities: The enemy has the capability to jam FM radio nets.

b. Friendly forces: Communication Platoon, HHC, 4-3 Inf, will operate Net Control Station for Bn Headquarters; will install and operate necessary wire and radio equipment for communications with higher, adjacent, and subordinate units. All other units establish and maintain normal communications.

c. Attachments and detachments: VHF Tm from 11th Signal Co, 11th LIB, will install and operate 12 channel VHF system as directed by 196th LIB Signal Officer.

2. MISSION

Install, operate and maintain required communications with higher, adjacent, and subordinate units.

3. EXECUTION

Omitted.

4. COORDINATING INSTRUCTIONS

a. Radio nets will consist of the following and be established with priority to command communications.

- (1) Battalion Command Net (FM).
- (2) Company Command Nets (FM).
- (3) Fire Control Nets (FM).
- (4) Air/Ground Net (FM).
- (5) Admin/Log Net (FM).

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b. Apparent intentional radio or radar jamming will be reported immediately to the Bn Net Control Station, giving the following information:

- (1) Frequency being jammed.
- (2) Type of jamming signal.
- (3) Time and direction of jamming.
- (4) Relative strength of jamming signal.

c. Frequency interference problems that cannot be resolved locally will be reported to the Bn Communications Officer, who will obtain new frequencies. When interference is experienced on any net, units should attempt to transmit through the interfering signal or between the transmissions of interfering station.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

Standard procedures for resupply of batteries to units and evacuation of inoperable or damaged communication equipment will be followed.

5. COMMAND AND SIGNAL

Current SOI in effect (TF COOKSEY and 196th LIB). KAC Code QY 279/TSEC for July in effect.

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Annex C (Fire Support Plan) to OPORD 7-68

References: Maps, S Vietnam; Series L7014; Sheets 6640 I,II,III,& IV.

1. SITUATION.

a. Enemy forces: Annex B (Intel).

b. Friendly forces.

(1) Task Org.

(2) Btry A, 1-14 Arty (DS) located LZ O'CONNOR (AT933243). Btry C, 3-16 Arty (GS) located LZ CHARLIE (AT921239). Btry B, 3-18 Arty (GS) located LZ KAREN (AT914240).

c. Attachments and detachments: None.

2. MISSION.

Btry C, 3-16 Arty supports Btry A, 1-14 Arty; Btry B, 3-18 Arty supports 4-3 Inf attack to seize OBJ CHEYENNE.

3. EXECUTION.

a. Concept of operation: Btry A, 1-14 Arty provides arty fire support to 4-3 Inf. Supporting fires available from Btry C, 3-16 Arty and Btry B, 3-18 Arty.

b. All calls for fire will be sent to Btry A, 1-14 Arty FDC on the Arty FD Net.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS: Omitted.

5. COMMAND AND SIGNAL.

a. Signal: Annex D

b. Command: Omitted.

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Appendix 1 (Target List) TRP

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Annex C (FIRE SUPPORT OVERLAY) to OPORD 7-68

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ON CALL TGTS FOR OBJ CHEYENNE

1. 840259	13. 805254
2. 838250	14. 799249
3. 834241	15. 796270
4. 831259	16. 808272
5. 823272	17. 822269
6. 825257	18. 822276
7. 823244	19. 823282
8. 817258	20. 818280
9. 812263	21. 814285
10. 818237	22. 812270
11. 809239	23. 806267
12. 805248	24. 824256

TGTS 1.-4. (AB0001 - AB0004): DE 99

TGTS 5.-24. (AB0005 - AB0024): MONARC 59

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Annex C (FIRE SUPPORT OVERLAY) to OPORD 7-68

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ON CALL TGES FOR OBJ CHEYENNE

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ADMINO 2-68 to OPORD 7-68

1. GENERAL.

This ADMINO provides for the administrative and logistical support of the 4th Bn 3d Inf and attached units.

2. MATERIALS AND SERVICES.

a. All requirements and coordination of materials (except engineer class IV) and services will be directed to the Battalion S-4.

b. Supply.

(1) Class I.

(a) Unit distribution from Bn Forward Trains located vic LZ ROSS (BT027341).

(b) Ration Cycle: SBD.

(c) Ration supplement, sundry packs, issue factor: one case per one hundred. Present for duty strengths will be used as the computing factor.

(d) Ice, potable.

1 Authorization: Six lbs per man per day w/o refrigeration. Three lbs per man per day with refrigeration when available.

2 Issue factor: Pro-rated based on unit strength and amount of ice received.

(2) Class II and IV.

(a) Unit distribution from Bn Trains located vic LZ BALDY (BT132453).

(b) Class II (Medical) C Co, 8th Support.

(c) Class II (Repair parts) B Co, 8th Support.

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(d) Requests for barrier materials submitted to Bn S-4, LZ ROSS.

(e) Construction materials request thru CO DS Engr Company for bill of materials. All request will be accompanied by a letter of justification thru Commanding Officer 196th LIB for recommended approval.

(3) Class III.

(a) Unit distribution from Bn Forward Trains located vic LZ ROSS.

(b) Supply point distribution from 8th Support Class III points located vic LZ ROSS and LZ BALDY for organic and attached vehicles. Vehicles will be kept filled to the maximum capacity at all times.

(4) Class V.

(a) Unit distribution from Bn Forward Trains located vic LZ ROSS.

(b) Units maintain basic load.

(c) Units will not stockpile in excess of basic load.

(5) Water.

(a) All water sources considered contaminated unless approved by the 196th LIB Surgeon.

(b) Approved potable water sources:

1 Hawk Hill (BT227320).

2 Hill 10 (BT199290).

3 LZ BALDY (BT132453).

4 LZ ROSS (BT024342).

(c) Unit distribution from Bn Forward Trains located vic LZ ROSS.

(6) Captured material: Evacuation and disposition as announced by the 196th Bde S-2.

(7) Air resupply.

(a) 196th Bde TAC SOP.

(b) Requests for resupply sorties will be submitted to the Bn S-4 NLT 1400 hrs on the day prior to requirements. All requests will designate the number of sorties and type of aircraft.

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c. Transportation: All transportation requests will be submitted at least 24 hours in advance to S-3, 8th Spt Bn.

d. Services.

(1) Quartermaster.

(a) Bath.

1 One (1) shower point located vic LZ BALDY; non-potable water.

2 One (1) shower point located vic LZ ROSS.

3 Hours of operation as required.

(b) Laundry.

1 Location vic LZ BALDY.

2 Schedule turn-in 0800-1200 hrs. Daily pickup until 1800 hrs.

3 Commercial laundry - None.

(2) Graves registration point.

(a) Provided and operated by 23d S&T Bn, Americal Support Command, Americal Division, vic LZ BALDY.

(b) The following forms must be completed and accompany remains to the collecting point when possible.

1 Statement of recognition (DD Form 565) in five copies executed by two individuals who were acquainted with the deceased for a period of thirty days or more, when possible.

2 Personal data of deceased, (USARV Form 6) in five copies by the agency having custody of the deceased's personnel records.

(3) Medical. Medical company located at LZ BALDY provided and operated by C Co 8th Spt, forward support element.

3. MEDICAL EVACUATION AND HOSPITALIZATION.

a. Evacuation.

(1) Routine patients who must be evacuated from the field or aid station go directly to the forward clearing station vic LZ BALDY.

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(2) Emergency surgical cases will be evacuated by DUSTOFF. Units request DUSTOFF on Bn command frequency; Bn forwards request to 196th LIB on Bde command frequency.

b. Medical records and reports. Field medical records must be maintained by all functioning medical treatment facilities.

c. Personal effects of medical evacuees to accompany evacuee.

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