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HQ, 11th Inf Bde
DUC PHO (BS812383) RVN
DATE 140800 March 1969
SP6

OPORD 2-69 (Realignment of 11th Infantry Brigade Forces/Boundaries) (U)
(Operation Iron Mountain)

Reference: Map, VIETNAM, 1:50,000 Series L7014 Sheets 6739, 2&3, 6738
1,2,3 & 4, 6838 3&4, 6639 1&2, 6638 1&2.

Time Zone: HOTEL

TASK ORGANIZATION:

3-1 Inf	Bde Control
4-3 Inf	C/26 Engr
1-20 Inf	E/1-1 Cav
4-21 Inf	6-11 Arty (DS)

1. (C) SITUATION

a. Enemy Forces. Current Intsum

b. Friendly Forces.

(1) Americal Division Continues current operations realigning forces in conjunction with 2d ARVN Division.

(2) Special Forces camps at BATO, GIA VUC, MINH LONG and HA THANH realign boundaries and continues operations in zones of responsibility.

(3) 7th US Air Forces provide tactical air support as requested.

(4) Current SITREPS.

2. (C) MISSION: On D-Day 11th Inf Bde realigns the Bde's boundaries; conducts both unilateral and combined tactical operations with ARVN and provincial forces to find, fix and destroy enemy MF and LF units; and supports the GVN Pacification and Development Plan for 1969 as outlined in previous planning directives.

3. (C) EXECUTION

a. Concept of operation. Annex A, Operation Overlay. During this operation present 11th Inf Bde, 2d ARVN Division and Special Forces AO's

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OPORD 2-69 (Continued)

will be adjusted as shown and establishment of a common AO with Fire Coordination Areas will be established. Realignment of forces will most favorably position ARVN forces in areas of population to facilitate ease of withdrawal of US/FW forces in the event a withdrawal is effected.

(1) Phase I (D-14 to D-5) During phase I CO 11th Bde and CO 4th ARVN Regt will establish Fire Coordination Lines (See Overlay). Preparations will be made to remove US forces from the MD DUC AO and construction of a joint TOC to be established at LZ Dragon. Preparations will be made to establish and 11th Bde S2-S3 liaison party at the joint TOC at LZ Dragon. Advance parties will make arrangements for movement into areas of responsibility. Coordination with District Chiefs concerning the 1969 Pacification Program will be established. Agreements concerning command relationship between units operating in the common operational zone will be resolved.

(2) Phase II (D-5 to D-Day) During this phase units will move to respective areas. Establishment of joint TOC to be complete NLT D Day. Battalion will make arrangements to provide liaison teams to ARVN units bordering their FCA on a need to have basis. Americal/2d ARVN Division boundaries in effect prior to Phase I will remain current through Phase II.

(3) Phase III (D-Day) Phase III will be executed on or about D+1 at 0001 hrs. At this time newly established boundaries will become effective and combined operations will begin.

b. Fires

(1) Air Request for tactical air support for combined operations will be provided through 11th Bde S3 Air Section. Only FAC's from 20th TASS will be used to direct air strikes in support of tactical operations involving US Forces.

(2) Artillery. Artillery assets will be positioned as outlined in Annex B, this OPORD, to support tactical operation.

c. 3-1 Inf:

(1) Assume responsibility for LZ Cork, Radar Hill and the area of responsibility in the vicinity of LZ Cork.

(2) Establish continuous liaison at TU NGUYA District.

(3) Conduct operation in area of responsibility to find, fix and destroy enemy forces.

(4) Be prepared to assume responsibility for Golden Valley as pertains to BATO, MINH LONG, GIA VUC.

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OPORD 2-69 (Continued)

d. 4-3 Inf:

- (1) Assume responsibility for LZ SAN JUAN HILL establish a FSB and assume control of the area of responsibility encompassing the SONG VE river.
- (2) Establish a permanent liaison team at BATO Special Forces Camp.
- (3) Maintain continuous liaison with MD DUC^{1/20} District and NGHIA HANH District.
- (4) Assume responsibility for GOLDEN VALLEY as pertains to BATO and GIA VUC Special Forces Camps.
- (5) Secure Engineer work parties during upgrading of HL 516 and 4/21 HL 517.
- (6) Conduct operations in area of responsibility to find, fix and destroy enemy forces in area.

e. 1-20 Inf:

- (1) Establish a FSB at LZ LIZ and assume control of the southern DUC PHO Area of Responsibility.
- (2) Secure LZ CHARLIE BROWN and LZ THUNDER with one rifle company each.
- (3) Provide one rifle company to conduct day and night operations vicinity LZ BRONCO and DUC PHO. A minimum of one platoon size ambush each night in the vic of LZ BRONCO.
- (4) Establish liaison with DUC PHO District on a continuous basis.
- (5) Conduct operations in area of responsibility to find, fix and destroy enemy units.

f. 4-21 Inf:

- (1) Assume responsibility for LZ AMY and assume control of the area vicinity of LZ AMY.
- (2) Establish a permanent liaison team at MINH LONG Special Forces.
- (3) Conduct operations in area of responsibility to find, fix and destroy enemy forces.

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OPORD 2-69 (Continued)

(4) Assume responsibility for GOLDEN VALLEY as pertains to MINH LONG.

g. Coordinating Instruction:

(1) D-Day is tentatively scheduled for 23 March 1969.

(2) For combined multi company or multi battalion operations within an operational zone, which include portions of several FCA's an operational commander will be designated to control tactical movement and fires within that temporary FCA.

(3) Standing contingency plans and current operations orders will remain in effect for units concerned until Bde recapitulates mission based upon redistribution of units and issues superseding directives.

(4) The Brigade/Regimental Operational Zone will comprise a named operation. Both US and ARVN names will be utilized. Procedures and reports required for named operations will be adhered to by battalions concerned.

4. (C) ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS: See Annex C (Logistics)

5. (C) COMMAND AND SIGNAL:

a. Signal. Current Division SOI Index in effect.

b. Command.

(1) 11th Bde Main CP remains at LZ BRONCO with an alternate CP at LZ DRAGON.

(2) Fire Control Area Commanders will be those commanders whose units occupy the forwarding operating base within the area and in the case of colocation, the commands of the Major unit on the fire base.

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Annexes:

- A- Operation Overlay
- B- Fire Support
- C- Logistics

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ANNEX C (Logistics) to OPORD 2-69

Reference: Map. VIETNAM, 1:50,000 Series L7014 Sheets, 6739 243, 6738 1, 2, 3 64, 6838 314, 6639 142, 6638 142.

Time Zone: HOTEL

1. (C) GENERAL. Logistics support will be provided through the existing separate channels for ARVN and US Forces except where a change is required by operational necessity. ARVN has a functioning logistics system which must be fostered and developed. In all cases the aim must be to make the ARVN system function; however, where US Forces can assist ARVN to preclude interference with operations, they should do so.

2. (C) MATERIEL AND SERVICES

a. Supply.

(1) Class I

(a) Supply point distribution at LZ Bronco, BS 815385; Quang Ngai FSE, BS 605722; Minh Long SF Camp, BS 534514 (emergency).

(b) ARVN - unit distribution controlled by ARVN Regiment from Regimental supply dumps.

(c) ARVN Special Operational rations available at 23d S&T Battalion (limited quantity) for issue through cooperating US units when required for extended operations.

(d) Coordinate to reduce dual transportation requirements.

(e) US MCI and IRD rations may be diverted to ARVN in emergencies.

(2) Class II

(a) US - Supply point distribution at LZ Bronco, BS 815385.

(b) ARVN - Normal resupply is through division by Regiment, unit distribution. Diversion of US Class II assets unauthorized. US may assist in expediting and may make temporary loans.

C-1

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(3) Class III and III a.

(a) Supply Point distribution at LZ Bronco, BS 815385; Quang Ngai FSE, BS 605722 (emergency); Minh Long SF Camp, BS 534514 (emergency).

(b) ARVN - supplied by ARVN Regiment from Regimental supply dumps. US may assist at retail level to alleviate shortage.

(4) Class IV

(a) US - Supply Point distribution at LZ Bronco, BS 815385.

(b) ARVN - Unit distribution controlled by Regiment. Limited construction materials available.

(c) Request for construction materials to be used in support of combined US/ARVN goals will be processed through G4 for issue from war materials.

(5) Class V

(a) US - Supply Point distribution at LZ Bronco, BS 815385; Quang Ngai FSE, BS 605722; Minh Long SF Camp (helicopter rearm, only).

(b) ARVN - normal supply from 2d ARVN Division ASP's at Regiment trains level. Combat emergency requirements may be drawn from nearest US ASP upon presentation of DA Form 581 with advisor certificate of CE.

(c) Unit stocks on firebases being transferred to ARVN will be retained by US unit.

(6) Class VII and IX

(a) US - Supply Point distribution, LZ Bronco, BS 815385.

(b) ARVN - no change from normal supply through Division by Regiment.

(7) Class VIII - no change, US or ARVN. Normal medical supply through national systems. Emergency requests to nearest medical facility.

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(8) Water

(a) US - Supply Point distribution, LZ Bronco.

(b) ARVN - local water supply or nearest US Supply Points, as desired by ARVN.

(9) Captured Material

(a) US - ammunition items to ASP, weapons to Maintenance Battalion. Items captured on combined operations must be evacuated thru US channels.

(b) ARVN - ARVN SOP.

b. Transportation

(1) US - no change from tactical SOP.

(2) ARVN - limited capability centralized at Regiment. US counterparts coordinate and supplement, particularly air.

c. Services - no change from tactical SOP.

d. Construction - all non-accountable construction, at bases transferred to ARVN or facilities vacated for use of ARVN at jointly occupied bases, will be left intact for gaining unit. Unused material remains the responsibility of US unit and will be retained by US unit.

e. ARVN Logistics System

(1) Regiment is the logistics operator in the ARVN Division. This unit is set up to support all subordinates with needed supplies and required maintenance. The maneuver Battalion has a very limited support capability.

(2) Equipment utilized by ARVN is increasing in compatibility with US. The basic equipment used is:

(a) Weapons - M16, 105mm Howitzer.

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(b) Radios - AN/PRC-25 Series.

(c) Vehicles - M151, M35A2.

(3) Cooperative assistance is encouraged when it does not impair the capability of the US counterpart to perform his mission. The following are areas where ARVN may request or need assistance on combined operations in order to maintain the pace set by US units:

(a) Transportation - helicopter support, including rigging equipment.

(b) Communications - batteries may present problems, as ARVN are not accustomed to requirement for continuous operations; therefore, usage factors will probably increase.

(c) Construction - the ARVN normal mode of operation provides for no significant timbers for use in construction. Pickets, sandbags, concertina wire, and barbed wire are furnished. Necessary structures for ARVN to attain US standards at cooperative tactical operations bases will usually require US assistance.

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