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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters, 1st Battalion, 52d Infantry
198th Infantry Brigade, 23rd Infantry Division
APO 96374

AVTF-RCPC

21 December 1970

SUBJECT: Input Data for OR-LL for period 1-30 November 1970 (U)

Commanding Officer
198th Infantry Brigade
ATTN: AVTF-RCPC
APO 96374

The following is a report of Lessons Learned for period 1-30 November 1970 from this headquarters. This report is submitted for inclusion in the 198th Infantry Brigade Operational Report-Lessons Learned.

1. Section 1. Operations: Significant Activities

Operations for the reporting period were characterized by continuous friendly initiated contact and an increase in the number of detainees and VC/NVA CIA. On 1 Nov E Rcn while on a recon mission killed 1 VC. The day closed with B Co picking up 2 detainees and C Co 1 detainee. On 4 Nov D Co joined the action with 1 VC KIA. 5 Nov was another day for detainees with E Rcn getting 2, 1 with 24, 110 Piasters and C Co getting 1 and a cache of 792 lbs of rice. On 6 Nov D Co added 1 more detainee to the list and C Co and E Rcn had 1 VC/CIA apiece. On 7 Nov B Co came up with 6 KIA and 3 CIA. The following day B Co came through with 1 KIA and 3 CIA. 9 Nov was the right day for D Co whose 26 element had 1 VC/CIA in the early afternoon and D36 picked up 6 detainees in the late afternoon. On 10 Nov C Co found 650 lbs of unpolished rice. E Rcn, on a raid, picked up 3 more detainees on 11 Nov. C Co added another detainee on 12 Nov and A Co joined in with 2 KIA's and 1 VC/CIA from a raid. 13 Nov was A Co's biggest day of the reported period, when on an Eagle Flight they had 10 KIA (3 to gunships), 3 VC/CIA and 1 detainee. B Co was the next to add to the list with 1 KIA and 1 VC/CIA along with 1 M-16 and 1 9mm pistol CIA on 17 Nov. C Co added 2 detainees to complete the action on the 17th. 19 Nov was active with E Rcn starting with 1 detainee, C Co following with 2 KIA, 1 VC/NVA/CIA and 2 detainees and A Co while on an Eagle Flight added 3 KIA, 1 VC/CIA, 3 detainees and 1 AK47 CIA. D26 added 3 more detainees on 20 Nov while searching a ville. On the afternoon of 21 Nov D Co (-) located 7,000 lbs of unpolished rice buried in the ground and in a hoatch. Later that evening B26 on a raid had 2 more KIA's. 22 Nov started with B26 finding an M-1 Carbine in the area of their raid the previous day and turned out to be the biggest day of the reporting period when D Co started off with a Chieu Hoi walking in and turning in an AK47, 1 PRC 25, and other missing equipment. D26 continued the action with 2 detainees and on an Eagle Flight D16 and D36 combined for a total of 12 KIA's (1 to gunships), 7 individual weapons CIA and assorted documents CIA. On 23 Nov C Co added 2,200 lbs of unpolished rice to the list and another 750 lbs on 24 Nov. D Co on a raid on 24 Nov had another VC/CIA. F Co had all the activity on 28 Nov with 3 more detainees. C Co (-) while on patrol on 29 Nov engaged 3 VC with weapons resulting in 1 VC KIA, 1 VC/NVA/CIA, 3 individual weapons CIA. A Co added 1 more detainee to close out the 29th. The reporting period was finished on 30 Nov when A Co had 1 detainee

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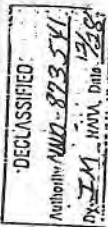
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and 1 VC/MIA/CIA, B Co had 1 VC/MIA with 29,000 Piasters and C Co had the final FFI for the month. Enemy losses for the reporting period were: 43 total KIA (39 to 1/52), 18 VC/CIA, 36 detainees, and 15 individual weapons, and approximately 12,000 lbs of rice.



2. Section 2. Lessons Learned

When conducting a village raid, the unit should move out with the intent of arriving at their objective between 0200 and 0300 hours. (This has been shown to be the most effective time period for raids in our AO.) Upon arriving at the village, the unit should split into groups of 3 or 4 men. These groups then move into the village and set up outside each hut and await a prearranged signal (generally an illumination round) to start searching their respective areas. Should the initial search yield negative results, the patrol may remain until daylight to conduct a more thorough sweep of the area. During the initial raid, effective noise discipline is the most important factor in the success of the mission.

VC evading US troops in this AO will stay ahead of friendly troops so as not to be captured or to run into the blocking fires. The evading enemy personnel will stay out of the village for 2 or 3 days after the raid has been conducted.

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1/52d INF, 196th INF
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Reference: Map, VIETNAM, Series 6739 I-IV

Task Organization: Current Task Organization.

1. (C) SITUATION.

a. Enemy forces: Current THUSIPS.

b. Friendly forces:

(1) 1/6-5/46-3/1 and 8th ARVN Regt conduct operation in current TADR.

c. Attachments and detachments. Task Organization.

2. (C) MISSION: 1/52d Inf will conduct operation of interdiction of routes of movement, rice denial, location of rice caches and destruction of enemy forces in current TADR.

3. (C) EXECUTION.

a. Concept of Operation:

(1) Co A: 3-8 Jan, will be on Stinson for training, base development and security, to act as a reaction forces in the 1/52 AO; and to conduct Eagle Flights, raids, and ambushes on a mission basis. 9 Jan, will conduct operation of rice denial, interdiction of routes of movement, and to locate and destroy enemy forces through the use of saturation patrolling and multiple manned and mechanical ambushes in AO Box, UL4981 to 5461 to 540775 West along Song Tra Khue excluding ARVN AO's C-7 & C-8 to 470777 to 4778 to 4976 to start

(2) Co B: 3-9 Jan, will continue to conduct operation of rice denial, interdiction of routes of movement, and to locate and destroy enemy forces through the use of saturation patrolling and multiple manned and mechanical ambushes in AO Box UL4696, UR 5196, south to Tra Bong River.

(3) Co C: 3-8 Jan, will continue operations of rice denial, interdiction of routes of movement and to locate and destroy enemy forces through the use of saturation patrolling and multiple manned and mechanical ambushes in AO Box UL 5487 East to 1/52d AO Boundary South along AO boundary to 5880 West to 5480 North to start. 9 Jan, will be on Stinson for base development & security, and to act as a reaction forces in the 1/52d AO.

(4) Co D: 3-9 Jan, will continue to conduct operations to interdict routes of movement and to locate and destroy enemy forces through the use of saturation patrolling and multiple manned and mechanical ambushes in AP Box 360959 to 3600 to 317000, SW along stream to 288943 to 290924, east along stream to 303920 to 315920 to 320927 to 336940 west to Province boundary, northeast along province boundary to start.

(5) E Ren: 3-5 Jan, will remain on Stinson for training and to act as a reaction force for intelligence and operation in the 1/52d AO. 5-9 Jan, will conduct reconnaissance operations in AO Box, UL4396, LR4692.

(6) Co E(-): 3-9 Jan, will provide general support on 12 Stinson.

(7) hv Mort Plt(-): 3-9 Jan, will provide fire support of Southern Rocket pocket and security of 198 on 12 Chippewa.

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b. Coordinating Instructions:

(1) Effective for planning on receipt; for execution on order.

(2) Unit CO will make maximum use of night raids to locate and capture or destroy VC/VCI in AO.

(3) All maneuver units will be prepared to conduct Eagle Flights on a mission basis.

4. (U) ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS.

a. Current SOP.

b. Unit CO will insure strict enforcement of wet weather SOP.

5. (C) COMMAND AND SIGNAL.

a. Command: CP at LZ Stinson.

b. Signal: Current SOI in Effect.

ACKNOWLEDGE.

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