

DA SP PHOTO DIV, (PAC)

TEAM (C)

UNCLASSIFIED

Commanding Officer  
US Army Photographic Agency  
Room 5A-470, The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20310

N/A

DCS 200-370/67VN

N/A

OPERATION PHEASANT (ARAS)

90 km NORTHEAST OF AN KHE

PFC. CHARLES W. ABBOTT

NONE

9 JUL 67

EXTD #A16160

5251

800 ft.

NONE

X

X

X

NONE

DAY/SEK

25

8

AIR FREIGHT

10 JUL 67

### PRIMARY

9 JUL 67 - 25 km NORTH OF LANDING ZONE "TWO BITE", APPROX. 90 km NORTHEAST OF THE 1st CAV (AIRMOBILE) DIV BASE CAMP AT AN KHE.

SUPPORTING MEMBERS OF THE 1st CAV (AIRMOBILE) DIV ON "OPERATION PHEASANT", UH-1B AND UH-1C HELICOPTERS, AERIAL ROCKET ARTILLERY SHIPS (ARAS), WENT OUT ON TWO SUPPORTING FIRE MISSIONS. ONE TO DESTROY ENEMY POSITIONS, THE OTHER TO ILLUMINATE A VIET-CONG PLATOON CAUGHT IN AN OPEN FIELD. THE SHIPS (HELICOPTERS) ARE ASSIGNED TO THE 2ND, 20th ARTILLERY, 1st CAV (AIRMOBILE) DIV.

THE CREW, CONSISTING OF A PILOT, AIRCRAFT COMMANDER, AND BRIG CHIEF, ACTING AS A GUNNER. THEY WORK IN TWO SECTIONS. EACH HELICOPTER HAVING A ROCKET LAUNCHER POD ON EACH SIDE HOLDING 24 ROCKETS, A TOTAL OF 48. THE GUNNER, USES THE 7.62mm MACHINE GUN. THE ROCKETS, A ~~107~~ 107mm HEAD TYPE, CAN BE FIRED IN TWO'S, FOUR'S, SIXES, OR TWENTY FOUR AT ONCE.

IF NEEDED, AN SS-11 GUIDED MISSILE CAN BE FIRED FROM EITHER TYPE OF THIS HELICOPTER.

ANSWERING CALLS FROM GROUND UNITS, WHOSE SUSPECTED VIET-CONG ARE BELIEVED TO BE LOCATED, THE CREW CAN BE AIRBORNE IN TWO MINUTES AND AT THE GIVEN AREA IN A MATTER OF MINUTES. BECAUSE OF SPEED, AND BEING ABLE TO SEE WHERE THE ARTILLERY BORDERS LAND, THE (ARAS) IS MORE EFFECTIVE THAN GROUND ARTILLERY.

THE USE OF THE 7.62mm MACHINE GUN IS TO FIRE UPON THE AREA, AS THE AIRCRAFT DIVES TO FIRE ROCKETS, TO KEEP ANY VIET-CONG FROM FIRING UPON THE AIRCRAFT WHILE IT'S IN ITS DIVE.

AFTER RETURNING TO THE HELIPORT, THE CREW GOES THROUGH A SHORT CHECK OF THE AIRCRAFT AND LOADS AMMUNITION AS NEEDED. THE ROCKET PODS ARE THEN LOADED.

ONCE THEY ARE LOADED AND READY, THEY NOTIFY THE FLIGHT OFFICE, AND ARE SOON BACK ON THE TWO MINUTE, STAN-BY BASIS. A 24-HOUR JOB FOR THE 1st CAV (AIRMOBILE) DIV. IF A NIGHT OPERATION IS TO BE USED, THE AREA IS ILLUMINATED WITH FLARES, HAVING 20,000 FOOT CANDLE POWER.

DURING THE HOURS OF 0600 AND 0700, THE VIET-CONG, AT TIMES, MOUNT THE HELIPORT. A MOTOR PATROL, EQUIPPED WITH THE SAME AS MENTIONED ABOVE, PATROLS THE AIR. IF NOVAR IS FIRED, THE AIR PATROL CAN SPOT THE MOTOR FLARES, AND IMMEDIATELY MOVES TO THE AREA AND DESTROY'S THE ENEMY.

A GROUND SUPPORT CREW, KEEPS THE HELIPADS IN THE HELIPORT AREA, WELL SUPPLIED WITH ROCKETS AND AMMUNITION.

DA SP PHOTO, TEAM (C)

UNCLASSIFIED

Commanding Officer  
US Army Photographic Agency  
Room 5A-470, The Pentagon  
Washington, D.C. 20310

DCS 200-870/67VN

OPERATION PERSHING (ARAS)

90 km NORTHEAST OF AN KHE

PTC. CHARLES W. ABBOTT

5251

800 ft.

NONE

XX

9 JUL 67

XX

XX

10 JUL 67

ROLL BREAKDOWN

ROLL # 1

SHOWS AIR TO GROUND SHOTS, CU'S OF MACHINE GUNNER FIRING WEAPON, AREA AFTER ROCKETS WERE FIRED.

ROLL # 2

SHOWS MORE AIR TO GROUND SHOTS, MACHINE GUNNER FIRING WEAPON, ROCKETS BEING FIRED, PILOTS IN COCKPIT FIRING ROCKETS, AREA AFTER ROCKETS HAVE BEEN FIRED.

ROLL # 3

MORE AIR TO GROUND SHOTS, ROCKETS FIRING, SECOND HELICOPTER GOING INTO DIVE AND FIRING ROCKETS, AREA AFTER ROCKETS HAVE BEEN FIRED.

ROLL # 4

CREW CHECKING THE AIRCRAFT AFTER FLIGHT MISSION, LOADING ROCKETS AND AMMUNITION.

ROLL # 5

CREW LOADING AMMUNITION, AIRCRAFT STARTING, AIRCRAFT LIFTING OFF.

ROLL # 6

AIR CRAFT LIFTING OFF HELIPAD, AIR CRAFT MOVING ONTO RUNWAY AREA, AIRCRAFT MOVING DOWN RUNWAY AND INTO THE SKY.

ROLL # 7

SHOTS SHOWING GROUND CREW OPENING ROCKET BOXES, DUMPING ROCKETS AND WAR HEADS ONTO GROUND FROM BOXES, MEN PICKING UP SEALED TUBES, MEN TAKING ROCKET MOTORS FROM TUBES AND WAR HEADS FROM TUBES.

ROLL # 8

SHOTS OF MEN TAKING ROCKET MOTORS AND SCREWING WAR HEADS TO THEM, PAN SHOT OF THE HELIPORT, SHOT OF SIGN, SHOT OF FLIGHT OFFICE AREA.

DCS: 200-87C-67

DATE SHOT: 9 JUL 67

LOCATION: VIET-NAM

DATE SCREENED: 20 JUL 67

PHOTOGRAPHER: ABBOTT

REMARKS:

Underexposed throughout, indications of lost loop again, check camera.  
No slates in shipment understandable during aeriels, but not on ground.  
This requires immediate correction. Aeriels okey.

John H. O'Connor, MAJ, SIGC,  
CHIEF, DASPO

SCREENED BY:

DCS 200-87C-67

Date Shot 9 Jul 67

Location Vietnam

Date Screened 20 July 1967

Photographer Abbott

**REMARKS:**

Underexposed throughout, indications of lost loop again, check camera.  
No slates in shipment understandable during aerials, but not on ground.  
This requires immediate correction. Aerials okay.

US Army Special Photo Det, Pacific	Act Info							
	Act	Info						
			2	CO				
				XO				
			1	1st SGT				
			3	OPN				
				SUP				
			4	FILE				

Screened 7 Aug 67- Agree with above critique.  
Not very much continuity for a complete  
story. *AD*

*John H. O'Connor*  
JOHN H. O'CONNOR, MAJ, SIGC, CHIEF, DASPO

(SCREENED BY)