

USA SP PHOTO SET, (PAO)

(15)

TRAN (G)

UNCLASSIFIED

N/A DCS 200-1120/67VN

N/A

OPERATION SHIELD

(approx) 24 km WEST OF SAIGON, RVN.

SP4 CHARLES W. ABBOTT			HORN		21 AUG 67
EX330 2023300	REG 5251	600 ft	HORN	X	X
HORN	DAY/NIGHT	16	SIX (6)	AIR BREATH	AUG 67

SUMMARY

On 19 Aug 67, approx 24 km West of Saigon, where the Kinh Lang and Binh Lang canals intersect, elements of 3rd Bn, 7th Inf, 199th Inf Bde, combined with the 33rd Vietnamese Rangers, ARVN, began construction on a forward base camp.

It was known that the 6th Viet-Cong Bn, has been operating in this region. The VC's, has been operating and using these canals, to bring in men and supplies, from the Cambodia border. The primary purpose of the construction of this camp was to shut-off supplies to the enemy, to prevent the use of this area, not only as a base camp for the enemy, but to break up an infiltration route, into Saigon.

Working in a combined force such as the 3rd Bn, 7th Inf, 199th Inf Bde, and the 33rd Vietnamese Rangers, ARVN. The ARVN Rangers and U.S. Soldiers, are broken down to Sqd level, man per man. The ARVN Rangers benefit by the technical skills of the U.S. Soldier and the U.S. Soldier gains the Rangers knowledge of the Terrain and Viet-Cong tactics.

To complete construction in approx five days, three CH-47, Chinooks, and five UH-1D Helicopters are being used to supply daily, construction material, food and water.

Approx 30 wooden bunkers, prefabricated by the 87th Engineer Co, in Long Khanh, were Heli-lifted in, by CH-47's for perimeter defense. The 87th Engineer Co, is also helping in the construction of the camp. Approx 65,000 sand bags are to be Heli-lifted in, and are to be used around the bunkers in case of a motor attack.

Foot bridges were built of wood platforms, laid over 55 gal barrels, then linked together, not only to make use of crossing the canals, but to stop any Japs moving through the canals.

During the first few days of construction, the 3rd Bn, 7th Inf, 199th Inf Bde, the 33rd Vietnamese Rangers, and the 87th Engineer Co, were assisted in security by the 4th Bn, 7th Inf, 25th Inf Div.

OPERATION SHELBY

(approx) 2km WEST OF SAIGON, RVN.

SP/4 CHARLES W. ABBOTT

INCUB

21 AUG 67

5251

600 ft.

INCUB

X

X

SIX (6)

AUG 67

PAGE - 2 -ROLL # 1

CU - Male shooting flame from portable flame thrower
 RS - Spray of high pressure fuel oil, ignited to burn elephant grass to
 make way for a heli-port
 RS - SGT Leland B. BROWN, (Freeport, Texas), chemical RS, using flame thrower
 LS - Same as above
 RS - Spraying into flames
 CU - Hand pulling fuel trigger
 CU - Hand pulling striker trigger
 LS - Burned out area
 LS - Pontoon foot bridge
 RS - Pontoon support for bridge
 RS - Same as above

ROLL # 2

RS - CH-47 Chinook, dropping a sling full of sand bags
 RS - LTC Dreyer B. BALLARD, (Kille, Nevada) LTC, talking to Chinook pilot
 CU - Same as above
 RS - SGT Eddie L. MAYKILL, (West Minister, Calif) Helicopter controller, signals
 Chinook as it comes in to drop sand bags
 CU - Same as above
 RS - Man empty sling loaded with sand bags
 CU - Hands grabbing sand bags
 LS - Man folding and carrying away sling

ROLL # 3

Ends of camp

Last shot on the roll was a LS-of a CH-47 lifting an empty sling

ROLL # 4

LS - Men preparing barrel bridge
 RS - Men putting barrel under wooden platform
 RS - Same as above
 RS - Same as above
 CU - Wire cable being hooked to wooden platform
 CU - S2/5 Ben Esanugum, (Los Angeles, Calif) Combat Construction Specialist,
 attaching wire cable
 LS - Men setting bridge pila timbers in place

USA SP PHOTO SET, (PAS)

TEAM (C)

UNCLASSIFIED

DGS 200-1120/67W

OPERATION SHELBY

(approx) 21km WEST OF SAIGON, RVN.

SP/4 CHARLES W. ABBOTT

None

21 AUG 67

5251

600 ft.

None

X

X

SIX (6)

21 AUG 67

PAGE - 3 -

ROLL # 5

IS - Men pile sand bags

IS - Men picking up sand bags and placing them around bunker

GU - Stick pounding sand bag

GU - SSG Robert B. NC GALLIX, (Fayetteville, N.C.), Team Leader, pounding sand bags

IS - Men stacking sand bags around bunker

IS

IS - Men building bridge across trench (foot bridge)

GU - Hammering nail

ROLL # 6

GU - SP/4 Natale CIRATTIPO, (Brooklyn, N.Y.) Senior wiremen, building foot bridge

IS - SP/4 CIRATTIPO, checks the railings on the foot bridge

IS - PFC Richard L. PICCIOLO, (Long Island, N.Y.) combat construction specialist, running rope for railing on barrel foot bridge

GU - SP/5 Glen L. BORTNER, (Hanover, Penn.) construction surveyor, feeding rope to PFC PICCIOLO

GU - Rope going through eyelet

IS - PFC PICCIOLO, pulling rope

IS - Same as above

IS - PAN - Men in area and tents made of poncho's

SP/4 ABBOTT

LT GRIFFITH

THEU: CO *OR*

SUBJ: *RE*

OPS SHELBY

FROM: *RE*

SP/4 ABBOTT

DCS-200-1120-67-VN

STORY STAGE 1

600'

CRIBQUE

ROLL ONE COULD HAVE USED MORE FOOTAGE ON FLAME THROWER, THE FIRE ETC. OVERALL CHOPPER SEQUENCE AND AERIALS WERE VERY GOOD, EXPOSURE UNDER IN SOME SHOTS HOWEVER. EFFECTIVE USE OF CLOSE-UPS. I NOTED IN YOU SUMMARY THAT ARVN RANGERS WERE HELPING WITH THE BUILDING OF THE BASE CAMP SHOT. SO WHY NO SHOT OF THESE COMBINED ACTIVITIES, OF THE "RANGERS BENIFITING FROM THE TECHNICL SKILLS OF OUR ARMY TROOPS"?? COULDN'T YOU FIND THEM? IF NOT, WHY MENTIONS IT AND BUILD UP GREAT EXPECTATIONS?

OVERALL RATING:

11 Sept-67

RMB