

CE9

CDEC LOG NO.
11-1711-70

SUBJ: Heavy Losses Suffered by VC/NVA Units during Cross-Border Operations, and Planned Attack on the 7/11th Artillery Battalion, 25th US Infantry Division, by the 9th Sapper Battalion, Sapper Command, Headquarters, SVNLA. (U)

- (C-Apr 71) Items 1-5: (63 pages, handwritten and printed; B-3) Personal papers of Kieu The Quang, Platoon Leader in B3-C3 ((possibly 3rd Platoon, 3rd Company)), HT.86590YK-D9((possibly 9th Sapper Battalion, Sapper Command, Headquarters, SVNLA)), consist of the following:
1. Letter of appreciation, dated 25 Apr 69, signed by Tran Xuan Hoa, Commanding Officer of an unspecified unit, was awarded to Kieu The Quang, Combatant in the 1st Company, for achievements in the 1969 Spring Campaign. This letter was awarded in compliance with Order 76, dated 25 Apr 69, from the 5th ((Transportation)) Battalion ((possibly of B3 Front)).
 2. Military identification card, number 33, dated 25 Jun 69, signed by Tran M. Khai, Commanding Officer of C1 ((Company)), and Nguyen Ngon, Commanding Officer of the 5th ((Transportation)) Battalion on 26 Jun 69, reveals that CPL Quang, Assistant Squad Leader in C1-D5 ((1st Company, 5th Transportation Battalion)) was born in 1946 in Son Hung Village, Thanh Son District, Vinh Phu Province, NVN; enlisted ((NVA)) on 13 Sep 65; and infiltrated SVN with Đoàn 543 ((possibly Infiltration Group 543)) on 27 Nov 65. Quang was admitted to the Youth Group in May 64 and to the Party on 21 Feb 69.
 3. Letter of introduction for Party activities, dated 25 Jun 69, signed by Tran Minh Khai for Party Chapter 1, authenticated by Pham Dinh Cai for the Party Committee of D5 on 26 Jun 69, reveals that 4/1 ((CPL)) Quang, Assistant Squad Leader in C1-D5 Transportation Battalion, Rear Service Staff, B3 ((Front)), was introduced to an unspecified dispensary. He was then assigned to the Party Chapter of an unspecified unit by Hoang Dong, Secretary, for the Party Committee of Đoàn ((Group)) 2150, on 9 Aug 60.
 4. Envelope, undated, bears the following addresses: ((From)); Kieu ((The)) Quang of HT.86590YK-D9, to Hoang Thi Tinh in Son Hung Village, Thanh Son District, Vinh Phu Province, (NVN)).
- I Incl

5 Nov 70
XT524438,
Binh Duong Prov
RVN MR 3
C/1/27th Inf,
3/25th US Inf
Div.
Batch No.
0848-70
Body
Received CDEC:
13 Nov 70
Category: A

5. Notebook, with entries dated from 30 Mar to 25 Oct 70, contains political lessons ((9 pages)); and notes on combat achievements ((13 pages)), weapons and personnel of B3 ((13 pages)), food supply and financial accounts ((7 pages)), meetings ((2 pages)), and routine activities ((19 pages)). According to the reorganization chart, dated 7 Apr 70, B3 ((3rd Platoon, 3rd Company, 9th Sapper Battalion)) had 15 sappers who were organized into three cells and a command committee. Ranking personnel noted were: Kiêu Thế Quang, Platoon Leader; Bui, political cadre; Bé, Assistant Platoon Leader and Leader of the 1st cell; Phai, Assistant Platoon Leader and Leader of the 2nd cell; and Pham Văn Dũng, Assistant Platoon Leader and Leader of the 3rd cell. B3 was equipped with nine AK's, one B-40, one mortar ((caliber unspecified)) with 12 rounds, three offensive/defensive hand grenades, 100 fuses, 150 primers, 20 kilograms of C4 ((explosive)), and 10 Chicom stick-type defensive hand grenades.

An entry, dated 6 Apr 70, reveals that the author's unit underwent an airstrike in an unspecified area. The author's unit operated in Hòn Quan District, Binh Long Province, from Apr to Aug 70; and was assigned to transport rice from Cambodia ((to an unspecified area)) on 18 Aug 70. C3-D9 participated in attacks on the Cay Cay area and Chon Thành District ((Seat)) in Aug 70.

08.01.09
60.10.80

Notes taken during a political reorientation course, dated 16 Aug 70, indicate that the attacks by enemy ((US/RVNAF)) forces on friendly ((VC/NVA)) agencies in Cambodia in Apr 70 were not expected. Enemy operations caused heavy losses to friendly rear service units. A large amount of equipment was destroyed or evacuated by enemy vehicles during many consecutive days and nights. Thousands of nylon hammocks of the Office ((possibly Sapper Command, Headquarters, SVNLA)) were lost. After the enemy sweep operation ((in Cambodia)), friendly units were short of provisions and medicine.

On 26 Sep 70, the author was assigned to reconnoiter Point E ((possibly VC code for a FWMAF/RVNAF position)). Due to intensive activities of elements of the 25th ((US Infantry)) Division, he had to halt in Hòn Quan District ((Binh Long Province)). He arrived in Dau Tieng Village, Ben Cát District, on 20 Oct 70. He began reconnoitering the enemy position on 21 Oct 70, rested on 23 Oct 70, and moved 150 meters into the objective and pinpointed the emplacements of ((US)) artillery pieces, storage areas, power plants, motor pools, and an artillery command post in that area. The subsequent entry contains a sketch, dated 23 Oct 70, which depicts the defensive system and various installations in the Ben Tranh area ((vic XT520415, possibly objectives for VC attacks)).

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CDEC COMMENT: (C) 1. Correlation with another notebook which was captured under the same circumstance indicates that the author's unit is very determined to carry out the planned attack on a US Battalion in the Ben Tranh area, which appears to be the 7/11th Arty Bn, 25th US Inf Div.