

MONTHLY REPORT OF SCOUT DOG OPERATIONS

RCS: AVHGC-7

DATE 3 Nov 69

THRU: Commanding General
173d Abn Bde
ATTN: S-3
APO 96250

TO: Commanding General
HQ USARV
ATTN: AVHGC-OS
APO 96375

FROM:
CO, 39th Inf Plt (SD)
173d Abn Bde
APO 96250

1. MONTH Oct	2. SDT AVAL 20	3. SDT OP 10	4. AUTH STR PERS <u>28</u> DOG <u>28</u>	5. ACTUAL STR: PERS <u>31</u> DOG <u>20</u>
6. HANDLER KIA <u>1</u> WIA <u>1</u> HOSP <u>1</u> LIM DY <u>1</u> TNG <u>3</u> NO DOG <u>1</u> REPL ROR <u>1</u>		7. DOG KIA <u>1</u> WIA <u>1</u> SICK <u>3</u> BAD <u>1</u> TNG <u>3</u> NO HANDLER <u>1</u> REPL ROR <u>1</u>		

8. MISSIONS

SEARCH <u>36</u>	AMBUSH <u>1</u>	RECON <u>70</u>	OUTPOST <u>3</u>	FERI PTL <u>1</u>
ROAD CLEARING <u>1</u>		OTHER <u>1</u>		TOTAL <u>108</u>

9. SCOUT DOG TEAM SUPPORT DAYS
110

10. SCOUT DOG ALERTS:

- a. Warning of enemy ambush 3, occupied base camp 2, occupied bunker 4, cave 2, sniper 1, tunnel 1, other trail 5, water hole 3.
- b. Warning of enemy booby traps 10, caches 1, mines 2, unoccupied base camp 3, unoccupied bunker 7, unoccupied cave 7, unoccupied tunnel 5, other sleeping position 4.
- c. Warning of enemy movement toward friendly ambush 1, friendly outpost 2, other 1.

11. DIRECT RESULT OF SCOUT DOG TEAM ALERT: EN KIA 7 PW 12 WPNS 300 lbs explosives, 5x426, 200 AK rds, 5XR49 SUPPLIES 2x fully equipped Base Camps.

12. REMARKS OF PLAT COMMANDER:

1. On 30 Sep 69, PFC Louis Morales, E, was supporting a six man recon team of the 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry. The unit stopped late in the afternoon for a break period. While the unit was eating, PFC Morales observed his dog alert. He motioned the patrol to silence and indicated to the team leader the direction of the approaching element. The patrol leader saw the element approaching 25 meters away. He engaged with M-79 fire, killing the point man. The patrol split up to pursue the remainder of the enemy element. The team leader directed PFC Morales to remain in position with the NTO, when he had told to turn in a sit-rep.

PFC Morales discovered that the NTO was in a panicked state and unable to call in the sit-rep. With the pursuing patrol still receiving enemy fire, PFC Morales

13. REMARKS OF REVIEWING OFFICER:

14. NAME AND GRADE PLATOON COMMANDER:

15. SIGNATURE:

16. NAME AND GRADE OF REVIEWING OFFICER:

17. SIGNATURE:

JOHN J JOHNSON JR, CPT, INF, Asst S-3

took over the radio calling in the sit-rep and responding to questions from HQ.

When the patrol had been reformed, the team leader requested PFC Morales to lead the team back to their parent element, "C" Company, 2/503d. Using his dog's ability to find the path of least resistance during a period of darkness, PFC Morales led the patrol back to the major unit's position.

On the return route, PFC Morales called three separate alerts. His actions resulted in the apprehending of three VC's.

2. SP4 Horne working for the first time with a new dog, Astro, gave a 150 meters alert on enemy out post. From the out post, the team called a 150 meter alert on an enemy base camp. The team so defined the base camp area and its defensive position that the friendly element was able to overwhelm the enemy location while sustaining no friendly casualties. Results 2 VC KIA (BC), 5 VC WIA and CIA: 5x426, 200x AK rds, documents, 200 lbs rice, medical supplies, cooking gear, 5 hootches.

3. SP4 Taras and Crestel discovered a Battalion sized headquarters. Moving off a hot LZ in the direction of the strongest alert, the friendly element discovered 3 buildings 30 ft by 12 ft, several bunkers, 5 tunnels, and numerous firing positions. From the HQ, the SGT gave a 200 meter alert on a demolition training area. 50 meters from the training area, the SGT gave a 100 meter alert on a CP. The position had 2 buildings, several underground living huts, one temple, and numerous tunnels and bunkers. The advancing element had moved quickly and accurately thereby forcing the VC to abandon most of their equipment to include: 4x B41 rockets, w/ boosters, 300 x lbs of explosive devices, 500 x rds, 2 x M16, 2 x Thompson sub MG, 50 x Magazines, food, clothing, documents, radio, binoculars.

With another unit 8 days later, SP4 Taras called an alert 60 meters off the trail. A search of the area produced a hastily evacuated hospital: 3 buildings 30 x 15 and 3 x caves 9x9x9.

14. NAME AND GRADE PLATOON COMMANDER:	15. SIGNATURE: <i>[Signature]</i>
16. NAME AND GRADE OF REVIEWING OFFICER: JGILS J JOHNSON JR, CPT, INF, Asst S-3	17. SIGNATURE: <i>[Signature]</i>