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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 4th INFANTRY DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96262

AVDDH-GC-MH

20 November 1970

SUBJECT: Operational Report -- Lessons Learned 4th Infantry Division
Period Ending 31 October 1970, RCS CSFOR-65 (R2) (U)

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. (C) OPERATIONS: SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES:

a. General.

(1) During the period covered by this report, the 4th Infantry Division continued its participation in Operation DAN QUYEN - HINES.

(2) Organizational Structure. Task Organization, Operation HINES, 1 August 1970 to 31 October 1970, is set forth in Inclosure 1.

(3) Commanders and major staff as of the end of the reporting period are listed at Inclosure 2.

(4) Locations, coordinates of bilages, LZ's, and FSB's are listed at Inclosure 5.

(5) Mission. The 4th Infantry Division conducted operations to support CVN pacification programs; to locate, pursue and destroy VC/NVA elements attempting to disrupt pacification; to interdict enemy infiltration corridors; to upgrade security of populated areas and territorial forces through combined operations; to secure the major LOC within its AO; and turnover the security of Highway 19 west of the Mang Giang Pass to ARVN.

(6) Concept of Operation. At the beginning of the period, one brigade was operating to the north of Camp Radcliff to interdict enemy infiltration corridors, and one brigade was operating in the Mui Mieu Mountains in conjunction with the 40th ARVN Regiment. At the end of the period, one brigade was conducting combined operations with territorial forces in the populated areas of An Tuc District and one brigade was preparing to withdraw from combat in preparation for redeployment activities.

(a) Highway Security. Highway 19E was secured by the mechanized

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DOWNGRADE AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS:
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS.
DOD DIR 5200.10 APPLIES

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infantry battalion and the armored cavalry squadron under division control. Other routes were secured when necessitated by division units operating in the area.

(b) Reaction Force. One infantry battalion was stationed at Camp Radcliff, and was engaged in training, security, and patrol activities. This battalion constituted the division reserve and maintained one company on one hour alert, prepared to reinforce division elements, or if directed, relieve or reinforce GVN units.

b. Intelligence.

(1) General. Enemy activity within the division area of operations has consisted of attacks by fire, attacks against lines of communication and sapper attack. The enemy has avoided ground contact and has remained principally in and near Base Areas 226 and 202. At the beginning of the period, the 2nd NVA Regiment and other supporting elements of the 3d NVA Division began to move to the east and north side of Base Area 226. PW reports and captured documents indicate that the 3rd NVA Division Headquarters may be in the process of disbanding and the 400th Sapper Battalion and the 300th Artillery Battalion may now be subordinate to the 2nd NVA Regiment. Both the 2nd and 12th Regiments are reported now to be directly subordinate to Military Region 5. The 90th Sapper Battalion moved from Base Area 226 to positions southeast of An Khe and may now be subordinate to the 12th NVA Regiment. The remainder of the enemy forces in the division area of operations remained in the same general locations throughout the period.

(2) Binh Dinh Province.

(a) Activity in Binh Dinh Province was moderate during August. The most significant incident occurred on 28 August when Bridge 19 and a convoy in that vicinity were attacked by small arms, B-40, and recoilless rifle fire from enemy located south of the highway. Documents captured on an enemy KIA in the area identified the attacking unit as a company of the 6th Battalion, 12th NVA Regiment. Camp Radcliff received a sapper attack on 7 August resulting in one sapper KIA, one friendly KIA and light damage to several buildings. On 13 August, LZ Hardtimes, northeast of An Khe, received 15 mortar rounds with negative effectiveness. On 30 August, the village of Dinh Binh south of LZ Hardtimes was attacked by VC/NVA sappers who killed or wounded 20 villagers. On 31 August, the enemy destroyed a culvert on Highway 19 west of An Khe.

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(b) Activity was light during September in Binh Dinh Province. There were numerous small contacts with enemy elements who would immediately break contact. Three sapper training areas were discovered in the southern portion of Base Area 226. Division elements were attacked by fire on three occasions while operating in Base Area 226. Ten mortar rounds were received on 18 September, 20 B-40 rounds, and small arms fire on 19 September, and eight mortar rounds on 21 September. A small base camp with an ammunition cache consisting of 15 60mm mortar rounds, 14 recoilless rifle rounds, and six B-40 rounds was discovered southeast of An Khe.

(c) Activity during October was light. An enemy high point occurred on 4 to 5 October, LZ Action, on Highway 19 west of An Khe, received seven rounds of 75mm recoilless rifle fire. On the same day, Camp Radcliff received seven rounds of 122mm rocker fire and FSB Schueller received five rounds of B-40 fire. On 5 October, FSB Schueller received 20 to 25 rounds of 82mm mortar fire and an estimate 1500 rounds of small arms fire. Division elements were attacked by fire on three occasions while operating in Base Area 226. Seven 82mm mortar rounds were received on 8 October, 15 60mm mortar rounds on 9 October, and eight 82mm mortar rounds on 10 October.

(3) Pleiku Province.

(a) Enemy activity in the division area of operations in Pleiku Province was light during August. On 30 August, division elements in the vicinity of Bridge 30, west of the Mang Giang Pass, received four B-40 rounds and small arms fire. At the same time, the enemy partially destroyed a culvert on Highway 19.

(b) During September, activity along Highway 19 increased. The enemy attacked division forces in the area with B-40's and small arms on 3, 4, and 5 September. On 6 and 8 September, the same unit received RPG and small arms fire. The division turned over the security of Highway 19 west of the Mang Giang Pass to ARVN forces on 15 September 1970 and withdrew all forces from Pleiku Province.

(4) Phu Bon/Phu Yen Province. During September, elements of the 4th Division operated in the vicinity of the Phu Bon/Phu Yen border. Activity was light during the operation. There were eight ground to air incidents all with negative results. Division forces were attacked by mortar fire on 14 and 19 September. On 23 September five VC were killed and on 28 September an airstrike accounted for eight enemy KIA.

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(5) Estimated enemy composition, disposition, and strength as of 31 October 1970.

<u>Unit</u>	<u>Estimated Strength</u>	<u>Probable Location</u>
3rd NVA Division HQ	200 - 300	BS 5315
2nd NVA Regiment HQ	100 - 200	BR 8371
1st Battalion	150 - 200	BR 8377
2nd Battalion	150 - 200	BR 9968
3rd Battalion	150 - 200	BR 7877
12th NVA Regiment HQ	100 - 200	BR 6755
4th Battalion	200 - 300	BR 7449
5th Battalion	200 - 300	BR 7254
6th Battalion	200 - 300	BR 6133
90th Sapper Battalion	150 - 200	BR 6035
200th AA Battalion	200 - 300	BR 8664
243rd Trans. Battalion	200 - 250	BR 4392
246th Trans Battalion	150 - 200	BR 4997
551st Signal Battalion	250 - 300	BS 7030
600th Medical Battalion	150 - 200	BR 8369
300th Arty Battalion	200 - 300	BR 8465
400th Sapper Battalion	200 - 250	BR 8367
95B Regiment HQ	50 - 100	BR 1526
K-2 Battalion	200 - 250	BR 0937
X-17 Engineer Co	60 - 70	E of Mang Giang Pass
X-18 Engineer Co	60 - 70	W of Mang Giang Pass
H-15 Local Force Battalion	180 - 200	BR 0824
C-12 Co, 407th Sapper Bn	60 - 75	BR 3569
Infra Structure	3000 - 4000	
Guerilla Forces	600 - 800	
Total Enemy Forces	7160 - 9565	

(6) Significant Enemy Tactics and Techniques. The enemy has not employed any new tactics or techniques during the period. He continues to avoid contact and limits his offensive action to attacks by fire, harassment of convoys and limited terrorist activity against local villages.

(7) Recapitulation of Enemy Battle Losses.

(a) Personnel.	KIA	124
	NVA CIA	4
	VC CIA	0
	Total	128

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(b) Weapons.	S/A	100
	C/S	3
	Total	103
(c) Ammunition.	S/A rds	9,969
	C/S rds	104
	Grenades	199
	Mines	37
(d) Miscellaneous Captured Items.	Rice	10,698 lbs
	Documents	136,400 pages

(8) Enemy Capabilities, Vulnerabilities, and Probable Courses of Action.

(a) Capabilities.

1. Elements of the 3rd NVA Division vicinity of Base Area 226 and southeast of Camp Radcliff are capable of launching battalion size ground attacks supported by weapons up to 140mm rockets.
2. Elements of the 95B Regiment, vicinity Base Area 202, are capable of attacks of multi-company size with supporting fire up to 82mm mortar.
3. Both forces are capable of sapper attacks, attacks by fire, and harassing attacks against Highway 19, populated and military installations.

(b) Vulnerability.

1. Enemy units are subject to airstrikes and artillery fire while moving, in base areas, or when massing for an attack.
2. Enemy munition and food caches are vulnerable to allied search operations.
3. Enemy movement can be detected by a variety of surveillance devices.
4. Enemy base camps can be located by airborne personnel detectors (Snoopy), and red haze (Infra Red) detector devices.
5. Enemy lines of communications are overextended and subject to interdiction by friendly forces.

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6. Low morale, personnel losses and shortages of food and medical supplies provides an excellent climate for psychological warfare operations.

(c) Probable Courses of Action.

1. The enemy will probably avoid ground contact concentrating his offensive on attacks by fire, mining and harassment of lines of communication.

2. The enemy will probably continue to attempt to disrupt the GVN pacification program and probably conduct terrorist activity in local villages.

3. He will probably continue his rice collection activities.

(9) Military Intelligence Activities.

(a) General. During the quarters, intelligence support has been provided to the division in the form of Counterintelligence, Aerial Reconnaissance, Imagery Interpretation, Interrogation of Prisoners of War, and Order of Battle information. A maximum effort was expended in the collection and production of intelligence to support current and future operations.

(b) Counterintelligence. The operations of the CI Section during the quarter included investigations of sabotage reports, increasing the VIP program, providing intelligence to the Order of Battle and Viet Cong Infrastructure Sections, security checks of indigenous personnel, and the further development and exploitation of agent sources within the Camp Radcliff area. In addition, periodic counterintelligence inspections were administered to subordinate division units to assist their intelligence activities.

(c) Aerial Reconnaissance and Imagery Interpretation. Support has been provided the division in the form of visual reconnaissance, airborne personnel detectors, red haze and photo missions. The importance of the airborne personnel detector (Snoopy) has been increased during the period as it was firmly integrated into division operations. It was used to develop and investigate intelligence reports many times in close support of ground forces. The imagery interpretation section has provided numerous aerial photo coverage studies of proposed operational areas. In addition, the hand held photography capability of this section was continually exploited to locate LZ's and potential enemy targets.

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(d) Interrogation, Prisoners of War. Accurate and timely information was provided the division by the effective interrogation of prisoners and the accurate translation of captured documents. The section has provided continual field support to the division's brigades to insure prompt exploitation of tactical information. Interrogation teams have been assigned to interrogate prisoners captured by adjacent units. This has insured a prompt exchange of information between units and it has provided the division with timely, accurate useable intelligence.

(e) Order of Battle. The section has provided timely and accurate analysis of enemy movement, trends, and capabilities. The section has continued to develop the data processing system of storing intelligence data. This system has provided prompt detailed information, covering many categories, to other staff sections and subordinate units. The information provided by the order of battle section has been essential to the development of operational plans and the selection of target areas for future operations.

(f) Ground Surveillance. Project Dufflebag personnel have expanded security around Camp Radcliff and along Highway 19 west of Camp Radcliff. To accomplish this mission 108 sensor devices were emplaced on likely enemy avenues of approach to Camp Radcliff. These devices are monitored from Hon Cong Mountain by means of a newly emplaced BSSL monitor that has an automated monitoring capability that produces a written readout. In addition, 55 new devices were emplaced along Highway 19 to provide increasing coverage against enemy activity along this route. These devices are monitored from Fire Support Bases Schueller and Action, both located on the highway. Ground surveillance radars and ground sensors have been integrated into an accurate system capable of locating and tracking the enemy for either target acquisition or intelligence purposes.

(10) Weather Forecasting.

Support Provided.

1. Hourly weather observations	4,600
2. Special weather observations	400
3. Local weather observations	4,466
4. Routine scheduled forecasts and amendments	301

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5. Planning forecasts issued to staff agencies	184
6. Aircraft accident reports (Summary of weather casting at the time)	13
7. Monthly Climatology Reports for GVN MR 2	3
8. Out of station briefings conducted	92
9. Telephone request for weather information	2,760
10. Area climatology summaries and special area or long range forecasts	6
11. Climatology briefings and safety briefings to aviation companies	2

(11) Radio Research. The 374th Radio Research Company has been continually tasked with the mission of providing the Commanding General, 4th Infantry Division, through the ACoFS, G-2, with timely special intelligence on events in the division area of interest. Though its parent unit is the 313th Radio Research Battalion, located elsewhere, the company was organized as a support unit geared tactically to the ever changing requirements of a combat division. Consequently, detachments and liaison officers have always been deployed with brigade operations, from the South China Sea to Cambodia, to lend direct support to the intelligence requirements of the brigades in the field, and special teams have often been established at battalion fire support bases (FSB) and highway strong points to assist in developing a concise and accurate picture of the battlefield.

c. Operations and Training Activities.

(1) Operations.

(a) The 4th Infantry Division was disposed as shown on Map 1, Inclosure 4, at the beginning of this reporting period.

(b) 1st Brigade. Operation WAYNE SPAN II which commenced on 28 July, continued with the 3-8 Infantry and the 3-12 Infantry conducting operations in the northern Nui Mieu Mountains, to locate and destroy enemy forces and installations, in cooperation with elements of the 173rd Airborne Brigade and four battalions of the 22nd ARVN Division. On 30 July, the 2-35

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Infantry had combat assaulted into the Fishhook area of the northern An Lao River Valley to conduct reconnaissance operations and to locate enemy forces and installations. Operation WAYNE SPAN terminated on 6 August as operations in the Nui Mieu Mountains were not productive.

1. On 6 August, the 1-14 Infantry chopped to 1st Brigade and Operation WAYNE PIERCE, with 1-14 Infantry and 2-35 Infantry, was initiated in the Fishhook area of the An Lao Valley to locate and destroy enemy forces, installations and resources of the 3rd NVA Division. On 9 August, the 3-8 Infantry chopped to division control for training standdown. On 14 August, the 1st Brigade conducted a redistribution of forces as the 1-14 Infantry airlifted into Camp Radcliff to conduct a training standdown and the 3-12 Infantry moved overland from Camp Radcliff to LZ Beaver. On 15 August, the 3-12 Infantry conducted multiple combat assaults into the north, northwestern area of An Lao Valley. Operation WAYNE PIERCE continued with the 2-35 Infantry and the 3-12 Infantry conducting search, destroy, and ambush operations throughout the Fishhook and An Lao Valley region. In addition to their assigned missions, the 1st Brigade elements also served as a blocking force for the Americal Division, which was operating to the north. On 27 August, Operation WAYNE PIERCE terminated and all elements withdrew from the area of operation utilizing a combination of airlift and overland movements, and returned to Camp Radcliff. The 22 day operation resulted in 10 enemy killed and 12 small arms captured.

2. On 28 August, in response to a contact on Highway 19, the 1-22 Infantry chopped to the 1st Brigade and was combat assaulted into an area of operation south of Camp Radcliff, thus initiating Operation WAYNE FORGE. Operation WAYNE FORGE was initiated to deploy the 1st Brigade against suspected elements of the 6th Battalion, 12th NVA Regiment working along the ROK/US boundary. The following day, the 3-12 Infantry moved overland into the area of operation and initiated search and ambush operations. On 8 September, 2-35 Infantry moved overland to Phu Yen and Phu Bon Province. 2-35 Infantry combat assaulted into their objective area in the vicinity of BQ 670706 on 9 September. On the following day, two RF companies from Phu Tuc District were combat assaulted into the 2-35 Infantry area of operation. During the three week operation, a total of five RF companies from Phu Ben Province were rotated in the combined operations with 2-35 Infantry. Only two RF companies were in the area at one time. On 20 September, 3-12 Infantry airlifted to Camp Radcliff, chopped to division control, and began a standdown to train and prepare for future operations. On 30 September, the final two RF companies airlifted from the 2-35 Infantry area of operation as 1st Brigade terminated

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operations in Phu Bon and Phu Yen Province. 2-35 Infantry airlifted to Phu Xuan on 1 October and moved to Camp Radcliff on 2 October. The results of the three week combined operation were 16 enemy KIA, one POW, and five small arms captured. On 4 October, 1-14 Infantry began operations northwest of Base Area 226 along the Song Con River (BR 6080). On 14 October, 1-22 Infantry airlifted to Camp Radcliff terminating Operation WAYNE FORGE.

3. On 10 October, 3-8 Infantry chopped to 1st Brigade and moved into an area of operation 15 kilometers southwest of Camp Radcliff, beginning Operation WAYNE SABRE. Operation WAYNE SABRE was designed to increase the security of populated areas in the An Khe area, prevent enemy interdiction of Highway 19, and upgrade the operational capabilities of territorial forces. On 14 October, 3-12 Infantry began operations northeast of Camp Radcliff in the vicinity of BR 5252. The operation was designed to upgrade security of the populated area and conduct combined operations between US Forces and local RF/PF forces. Company K, 75th Rangers joined 1st Brigade operations on 15 October with the insertion of four teams southwest of Camp Radcliff to locate and destroy elements of the 95B NVA Regiment. On 18 October, the 1-14 Infantry terminated operations along the Song Con River and airlifted to Camp Radcliff for a three day standdown before conveying to LZ Hardtimes to begin combined operations with local RF/PF forces.

4. On 30 October, Company K, 75th Rangers reverted to division control and the 3-8 Infantry moved to Camp Radcliff to standdown. At the close of the reporting period, 1st Brigade was continuing combined operations in the An Tuc District with 1-14 Infantry and 3-12 Infantry.

(c) 2nd Brigade. Operation PUTNAM PARAGON, which commenced on 19 May, continued throughout August with the 1-12 Infantry, 1-22 Infantry, and 1-14 Infantry conducting search and destroy operations against the 3rd NVA Division in the vicinity of BR 3570, BR 5282, and BS 4807. On 6 August, the 2nd Brigade released operational control of the 1-14 Infantry and was joined by the 3-8 Infantry. On 9 August, the 2nd Brigade initiated operations in cooperation and coordination with three battalions of the 22nd ARVN Division in the vicinity of the Suoi Kon Valley to disrupt the enemy's infiltration corridor. As the 3-8 Infantry conducted multiple combat assaults for surveillance and interdiction, the 1-12 Infantry airlifted to Camp Radcliff to conduct a training standdown and to prepare for future operations. Continued operations by the 2nd Brigade in the Suoi Kon River Valley (BR 6075), restricted the freedom of movement by enemy elements in that area. Reacting to intelligence reports and sightings in and around Base Area 226, the 2nd Brigade employed three

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3. On 10 October, 3-8 Infantry chopped to 1st Brigade and moved into an area of operation 15 kilometers southwest of Camp Radcliff, beginning Operation WAYNE SABRE. Operation WAYNE SABRE was designed to increase the security of populated areas in the An Khe area, prevent enemy interdiction of Highway 19, and upgrade the operational capabilities of territorial forces. On 14 October, 3-12 Infantry began operations northeast of Camp Radcliff in the vicinity of BR 5252. The operation was designed to upgrade security of the populated area and conduct combined operations between US Forces and local RF/PF forces. Company K, 75th Rangers joined 1st Brigade operations on 15 October with the insertion of four teams southwest of Camp Radcliff to locate and destroy elements of the 95B NVA Regiment. On 18 October, the 1-14 Infantry terminated operations along the Song Con River and airlifted to Camp Radcliff for a three day standdown before convoying to LZ Hardtimes to begin combined operations with local RF/PF forces.

4. On 30 October, Company K, 75th Rangers reverted to division control and the 3-8 Infantry moved to Camp Radcliff to standdown. At the close of the reporting period, 1st Brigade was continuing combined operations in the An Tuc District with 1-14 Infantry and 3-12 Infantry.

(c) 2nd Brigade. Operation PUTNAM PARAGON, which commenced on 19 May, continued throughout August with the 1-12 Infantry, 1-22 Infantry, and 1-14 Infantry conducting search and destroy operations against the 3rd NVA Division in the vicinity of BR 3570, BR 5282, and BS 4807. On 6 August, the 2nd Brigade released operational control of the 1-14 Infantry and was joined by the 3-8 Infantry. On 9 August, the 2nd Brigade initiated operations in cooperation and coordination with three battalions of the 22nd ARVN Division in the vicinity of the Suoi Kon Valley to disrupt the enemy's infiltration corridor. As the 3-8 Infantry conducted multiple combat assaults for surveillance and interdiction, the 1-12 Infantry airlifted to Camp Radcliff to conduct a training standdown and to prepare for future operations. Continued operations by the 2nd Brigade in the Suoi Kon River Valley (BR 6075), restricted the freedom of movement by enemy elements in that area. Reacting to intelligence reports and sightings in and around Base Area 226, the 2nd Brigade employed three

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battalions to locate and destroy enemy forces in that area. The employment of the 3-8 Infantry, 1-12 Infantry and the 1-14 Infantry caused enemy elements to relocate their units to prevent contact with US Forces. Other small unit contacts accounted for 14 enemy soldiers killed during August.

1. Operation PUTNAM PARAGON continued during September with three maneuver battalions in the vicinity of Base Area 226. 1-12 Infantry, 1-14 Infantry, and 3-8 Infantry conducted search and ambush operations in the area with platoon and squad patrols and mechanical ambushes. On 5 September, the 3-8 Infantry was chopped to division control and airlifted to Camp Radcliff to begin a standdown. The same day the 2nd Brigade moved its command post from Camp Radcliff to LZ Uplift. On 6 September, 1-12 Infantry and 1-14 Infantry combat assaulted and airlifted eight company sized units to new locations in Base Area 226, as the 2nd Brigade continued to restrict the enemy's freedom of movement in that area. On 13 September, 3-8 Infantry was chopped back to 2nd Brigade and airlifted into Base Area 226. 1-14 Infantry airlifted to Camp Radcliff on 27 September to begin a standdown to train and prepare for future operations. 3-12 Infantry was chopped to 2nd Brigade on 27 September and airlifted into Base Area 226. The successful employment of squad and platoon size patrols and mechanical ambushes accounted for 24 enemy killed and the capture of 12 small arms in Base Area 226 during September.

2. In conjunction with Operation PUTNAM PARAGON, the 2nd Brigade conducted Operation TIGER MOUNTAIN with one Ranger company (K-75) and a direct support 155 SP Howitzer Battery (A/5-16 Artillery). This operation was aimed at locating and capturing enemy forces, equipment and documents in the Tiger Mountain area (BR 9393). Operations commenced on 26 September and terminated on 10 October with the Ranger company reverting to division control.

3. 2nd Brigade continued Operation PUTNAM PARAGON into October with three infantry battalions in Base Area 226. On 5 October, 2-35 Infantry replaced 1-12 Infantry in Base Area 226. On 10 October, 3-12 Infantry replaced 1-12 Infantry in Base Area 226. On 10 October, 3-12 Infantry airlifted out of Base Area 226. On 12 October, 2-35 Infantry left Base Area 226 and 2nd Brigade CP moved to Camp Radcliff from LZ Uplift terminating Operation PUTNAM PARAGON.

4. Operation PUTNAM VALLEY commenced on 13 October when 1-12 Infantry began operations in the Vinh Thanh Valley to strengthen security of populated areas and upgrade local territorial forces. The termination of Operation PUTNAM VALLEY on 24 October terminated 2nd Brigade tactical operations.

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5. On 24 October, the 1-22 Infantry ceased combat operations with the 4th Infantry Division. On 26 October, the 2-35 Infantry ceased combat operations with the 4th Infantry Division. At the close of the reporting period, the 2nd Brigade had control of the 1-12 Infantry and was conducting standdown operations.

(d) Armored Cavalry Operations. The 1-10 Cavalry continued Operation PARK SILVER which commenced on 2 March 1970 with primary responsibility of convoy security along the assigned area of operation of Highway 19. This mission was accomplished by establishing a series of observation points located on key terrain features north and south of the highway. Selection of these observation points was based upon maximum observation of the highway, fields of fire and likely enemy avenues of approach. Each observation point was manned by a track vehicle with a series of platoon (minus) bases being established at critical bridges requiring 24 hour security. During the hours of darkness, all bridge sites were physically manned or ambushed to prevent enemy destruction. Night ambushes were employed utilizing night observation devices. In addition, mechanical ambushes were utilized to the maximum in an offensive role. Enemy interdiction of the highway was reduced by conducting troop size area and zone reconnaissance of suspected enemy locations.

1. The squadron air cavalry troop (OPCON to division) assisted in the highway security mission by conducting aerial reconnaissance of suspected enemy locations. The air cavalry troop also countered enemy interdiction by conducting limited offensive operations.

2. On 15 September 1970, the squadron was relieved of the western portion of their area of operation by the 3rd ARVN Cavalry Regiment from coordinates BR 245490 west to vicinity Bridge 34 (AR 9348). This released A/1-10 Cavalry of their highway responsibility and allowed them to initiate operations northwest of Camp Radcliff to locate and destroy enemy installations and prevent interdiction of Highway 19.

(e) Division Controlled Operations. During August, the 2-8 Mechanized Infantry conducted operations south of Highway 19 and east of the Dak Payou River. The battalion conducted operations west of the Mang Giang Pass and south of Highway 19 during the first half of September. The battalion also conducted operations north of Camp Radcliff for the period 25 September to 11 October 1970.

1. Operation BRANDIES BLUE, which commenced on 2 July, continued with the 2-8 Mechanized Infantry conducting search and clear operations south

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and southwest of Camp Radcliff to locate and destroy enemy forces, facilities, and supplies of the 95B NVA Regiment. Extensive mounted operations were conducted to destroy crops within the area and to establish trails that could be used by reaction forces operating in the area. Operation BRANDIES BLUE terminated on 25 August and the 2-8 Mechanized Infantry moved overland to Camp Radcliff to conduct a maintenance standdown.

2. 2-8 Mechanized Infantry began the month of September operating west of Camp Radcliff (BR 2050) to prevent enemy interdiction of Highway 19 with its command post at LZ Blackhawk. Two companies and the Flame Platoon conducted extensive mounted and dismounted patrols, saturation ambushes and mechanical ambushes at night. On 16 September, the battalion moved to Camp Radcliff and began a standdown to train and prepare for future operations.

3. On 25 September, 2-8 Mechanized Infantry moved overland into an area of operation 15 kilometers north of Camp Radcliff (BR 4600) and initiated Operation MURRAY BLUE. Two companies conducted mounted and dismounted operations to locate and destroy enemy forces, supplies, and installations. Operation MURRAY BLUE terminated on 11 October and the 2-8 Mechanized Infantry moved overland to Camp Radcliff for a maintenance standdown.

(f) Division Artillery.

1. 1st Brigade. At the start of the reporting period, the 1st Brigade supported by 6th Battalion, 29th Artillery was participating in Operation WAYNE SPAN II with B/6-29 Artillery and C/6-29 Artillery positioned at FSB Uplift in support of operations in the Nui Mieu Mountains, while A/4-42 Artillery and 1A/1-92 Artillery were located at FSB Powder supporting elements in the Fishhook area. On termination of this operation, B and C/6-29 Artillery moved overland to Camp Radcliff and were placed OPCON to 4-42 Artillery. The two units in the Fishhook area remained in position as Operation WAYNE PIERCE commenced on 6 August. During Operation WAYNE FORGE, 6-29 Artillery supported the 1st Brigade with A/6-29 Artillery, A and C/4-42 Artillery. Initially, A/6-29 Artillery and C/4-42 Artillery supported the operation from firing positions at Camp Radcliff. On 6 September, A/6-29 Artillery and C/4-42 Artillery moved to Fire Support Bases Lincoln and Winnie respectively. A/4-42 Artillery moved to FSB Washington on 9 September. On 3 October, A/4-42 Artillery moved to Camp Radcliff and reverted to control of its parent organization. On 14 October, the final phase of Operation WAYNE FORGE terminated and C/4-42 Artillery airlifted to Camp Radcliff and reverted to the control of its parent

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organization. Operation WAYNE SABRE commenced on 4 October with A/6-29 Artillery airlifting to FSB Challenge to support the initial phase of the operation. On 10 October, C/6-29 Artillery moved overland to FSB Schueller to support 3-8 Infantry. B/6-29 Artillery closed Camp Radcliff on 10 October and reverted to control of 6-29 Artillery. C/6-29 Artillery returned to Camp Radcliff on 15 October 1970. At the close of the reporting period, Operation WAYNE SABRE continued with A/6-29 Artillery furnishing support from FSB Hardtimes.

2. 2nd Brigade. The 2nd Brigade supported by the 4-42 Artillery began the reporting period with Operation PUTNAM PARAGON in process, continuing the mission of interdiction of enemy routes of resupply in Binh Dinh Province. The 4-42 Artillery was composed of B/4-42 Artillery at FSB Ute, C/4-42 Artillery at FSB Terrace, and A/6-29 Artillery at FSB Hooper. On 6 August, A/6-29 Artillery airlifted to Camp Radcliff and reverted to control of 6-29 Artillery. On 9 August, the TAC command post 4-42 Artillery and C/6-29 Artillery occupies FSB Toughie. Also on 9 August, B/4-42 Artillery and 1-12 Infantry closed out FSB Ute and airlifted to Camp Radcliff for a training standdown. On 19 August, the 2nd Brigade reacted to heavy enemy activity in northern Base Area 226 by sending B/4-42 Artillery and 1-12 Infantry to FSB Augusta. B/6-29 Artillery became OPCON to 4-42 Artillery on 31 August and moved from Camp Radcliff to FSB John Henry. Also on 21 August, C/4-42 Artillery moved to Camp Radcliff for augmentation to base camp defense. During the period 1 August through 21 August, C/4-42 Artillery at FSB Terrace was in direct support of 1-22 Infantry and fired 24 contact missions. A/4-42 Artillery returned to 4-42 Artillery control on 27 August and moved to Camp Radcliff for augmentation to base camp defense. On 5 September, 2nd Brigade moved its command post from Camp Radcliff to FSB Uplift and closed FSB Toughie, the 4-42 Artillery TAC command post airlifted to FSB Crystal. C/6-29 Artillery returned to Camp Radcliff to assume the mission of augmenting the base camp defense. On 6 September, 1-14 Infantry closed out FSB John Henry and combat assaulted into FSB Digger and was followed by B/6-29 Artillery. On 13 September, C/6-29 Artillery became OPCON to 4-42 Artillery and moved by air from Camp Radcliff to FSB Football in direct support of 3-8 Infantry. On 21 September, a platoon of 8 inch Howitzers from D/5-16 Artillery moved into position in the vicinity of BR 645485 to engage a bunker complex discovered by B/3-8 Infantry. Ninety-six HE rounds were expended, severely damaging the bunker/cave complex. On 26 September, A/5-16 Artillery road marched from FSB Crystal to FSB Two Bits to support a K-75 Ranger operation under 2nd Brigade control in the Tiger Mountain area. A/4-42 Artillery moved from FSB Washington to Camp Radcliff on 2 October to augment the base camp defense. Also on 2 October, D/5-16 Artillery moved into position to fire

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organization. Operation WAYNE SABRE commenced on 4 October with A/6-29 Artillery airlifting to FSB Challenge to support the initial phase of the operation. On 10 October, C/6-29 Artillery moved overland to FSB Schueller to support 3-8 Infantry. B/6-29 Artillery closed Camp Radcliff on 10 October and reverted to control of 6-29 Artillery. C/6-29 Artillery returned to Camp Radcliff on 15 October 1970. At the close of the reporting period, Operation WAYNE SABRE continued with A/6-29 Artillery furnishing support from FSB Hardtimes.

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on a bunker complex discovered by D/3-12 Infantry in the vicinity of BR 764564. Thirty HE rounds were expended, destroying some of the bunkers. On 3 October, D/5-16 Artillery engaged a bunker complex discovered by D/3-12 Infantry in the vicinity of BR 751654 destroying the complex with 39 HE rounds. On 7 October, C/6-29 Artillery moved from FSB Football to Camp Radcliff for augmentation to base camp defense. On 10 October, B/6-29 Artillery moved from FSB Digger to Camp Radcliff for augmentation to base camp defense. On 12 October, B/4-42 Artillery moved by air from FSB Augusta to Camp Radcliff to augment base camp defense. Operation PUTNAM PARAGON terminated on 12 October. On 13 October, the 4-42 Artillery TAC command post closed back into Camp Radcliff as did A/5-16 Artillery. Also on 13 October, A/4-42 Artillery moved from Camp Radcliff to FSB Hardtimes in direct support of the 1-12 Infantry to begin Operation PUTNAM VALLEY. Operation PUTNAM VALLEY terminated on 24 October with all 2nd Brigade units moving to Camp Radcliff for standdown operations.

3. 1-10 Cavalry, under division control, had the mission of securing Highway 19 and conducting operations in the vicinity of the highway. The 5-16 Artillery, in addition to general support mission, provided a liaison section and one 155mm SP battery in direct support. In early August, B/5-16 Artillery was in direct support of the 1-10 Cavalry, with three tubes at LZ Blackhawk and three tubes at FSB Action. In addition, divisional artillery at Camp Radcliff and FSB Schueller fired in support of operations along Highway 19. On 25 August, C/5-16 Artillery occupied FSB Action and assumed the direct support mission. The three tubes of B/5-16 Artillery at FSB Action moved to the south end of Camp Radcliff and on 1 September joined the remainder of the battery at FSB Blackhawk to support 2-8 Mechanized Infantry operations south of the highway. On 18 September, B/5-16 Artillery returned to Camp Radcliff as the ARVN 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment assumed responsibility for Highway 19 from the Mang Giang Pass to Pleiku.

4. 2-8 Mechanized Infantry performed a number of operations under division control during the reporting period. The 5-16 Artillery provided a liaison section, forward observation parties and one 155mm SP battery in direct support. 2-8 Mechanized Infantry started the reporting period conducting sweep operations south of Highway 19 with C/5-16 Artillery at FSB Frustration in direct support. On 25 August, 2-8 Mechanized Infantry returned to Camp Radcliff for standdown and C/5-16 Artillery assumed a direct support mission for the 1-10 Cavalry. On 1 September, 2-8 Mechanized Infantry initiated screening operations south of Highway 19 with B/5-16 Artillery. These operations lasted until 16 September with B/5-16 Artillery returning to Camp Radcliff on 18 September. During

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the period 25 September through 11 October, 2-8 Mechanized Infantry conducted search and destroy operations north of Camp Radcliff with B/5-16 Artillery in direct support. At the end of the reporting period, 2-8 Mechanized Infantry was conducting standdown and B/5-16 Artillery had reverted to its battalion's general support mission.

(g) The 4th Infantry Division was disposed as shown on Map 2, Inclosure 4, at the end of the reporting period.

(2) Summary of OPLANS and OPORDS published.

(a) Background Information. Toward the end of July, the division was well dispersed over Binh Dinh Province. 1st Brigade was conducting Operation WAYNE SPAN with two infantry battalions, 3-8 Infantry and 3-12 Infantry, in the northern Nui Mieu's in conjunction with two battalions of the 40th ARVN Regiment operating in the southern Nui Mieu's, and two battalions of the 41st Regiment and one battalion of the 173rd Airborne Brigade operating along the base of the Nui Mieu's. This operation was the second in a series of combined operations with 22nd ARVN Division, the first having been conducted in the "Crows Foot" area early in the month. In addition to the two battalions in the Nui Mieu's, one battalion of the 1st Brigade, 2-35 Infantry, was conducting reconnaissance operations in the upper An Lao River Valley area, known as the "Fishhook," in an effort to locate the rear headquarters and service elements of 3rd NVA Division. This operation was also being conducted with a view towards developing another target for joint operations with 22nd ARVN Division. The 2nd Brigade continued Operation PUTNAM PARAGON north and northeast of An Khe, with 1-12 Infantry, 1-14 Infantry, and 1-22 Infantry. This was a continuing operation begun at the end of May originally targeted against the Gia Lai Provincial Unit. Since that time, the brigade's battalions had moved north and northeast with their current mission being to interdict the two major enemy infiltration corridors, the Song Ba River Valley and the Song Con River Valley. To accomplish this mission, the brigade had 1-12 Infantry targeted against the Song Ba and 1-22 Infantry and 1-14 Infantry targeted against the Song Con. The 1-22 Infantry was also positioned to compliment a CRID operation being conducted in Base Area 226. Throughout the month, intelligence had indicated the enemy was moving to the northwest out of Base Area 226 and it was hoped that 1-22 Infantry could prevent the enemy's exfiltration from that area by interdicting one of his major corridors. 2-8 Mechanized Infantry (-) was continuing Operation BRANDIES BLUE targeted against the 95B NVA Regiment and Base Area 202. This was an attempt at conducting mounted type operations against an enemy force that had traditionally avoided contact except for harassing type

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actions of short duration. The object of conducting this mounted operation was to cross the Song Ba River as expeditiously as possible, and conduct a mounted attack along two axes of advance towards the enemy's base area in an attempt to catch the enemy off balance and engage him before he had time to withdraw from the area. 2-8 Mechanized Infantry at this time had only two of its organic mechanized companies, since one company was OPCON to 1-10 Cavalry, which in turn had one troop supporting the CRID operation. 1-10 Cavalry (-) with one mechanized company from 2-8 Mechanized Infantry continued Operation PARK SILVER designed to secure Highway 19 and its critical bridges from the Pleiku Defense Sector to the 4th Infantry Division/CRID boundary in the vicinity of the An Khe Pass. At the end of the month the cavalry's third troop (-) had just completed operations in the mouth of the Suoi Ca Valley in support of CRID operations in Base Area 226. It would return to Camp Radcliff on 1 August and undergo a two day maintenance standdown and then CHOP to 2-8 Mechanized Infantry for operations with that unit against 95B NVA Regiment.

(b) Operations 1-31 August 1970.

1. At the beginning of August, it became obvious that 1st Brigade's operation in the Nui Mieu was not going to be productive. While the battalion operating in the "Fishhook" area had not had any major contacts, the area looked more lucrative. This, combined with an impending Americal Division operation to reevaluate its current disposition of 1st Brigade forces. ARVN had also taken a good hard look at the Nui Mieu and decided that the effort was not worth it. Coordination was initiated with 22nd ARVN Division and it was mutually agreed upon to terminate operations in the Nui Mieu on or about 5 August 1970. The task organization for combat of the division at the beginning of August was as follows:

<u>1st Brigade</u>	<u>2nd Brigade</u>	<u>Division Troops</u>
3-8 Infantry	1-12 Infantry	2-8 Mech (-)
3-12 Infantry	1-14 Infantry	G (-)/1-10 Cav
2-35 Infantry	1-22 Infantry	1-10 Cav (-)
		4/2-8 Mech (-)
		K-75 Rangers

2. Also affecting the termination of operations in the Nui Mieu was the increasing contacts being made by 2nd Brigade along the Song Con River and on the periphery of western Base Area 226, especially with 1-22 Infantry. Since it was desirable to continue combined operations with 22nd ARVN Division, an analysis of various target areas was conducted. The three areas given consideration were Base Area 226, An Lao Valley

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(Fishhook), and Phu Cat Mountains. The Phu Cat Mountains fell within the CRID area of operation, and based on the past experience of the division in attempting to get the CRID to relinquish an area of operation to the division for operations, it was almost immediately disregarded. The An Lao Valley looked like a lucrative area; however, it was doubtful that the employment of more than two or three battalions would be worth it. This then left Base Area 226. 1-22 Infantry had been having numerous contacts in the area and the Intelligence Reports indicated the possibility of a substantial enemy force operating in the area. This was also tied with the recent CRID operation in that the enemy had apparently moved to the northwest to avoid the CRID sweeps and was currently straddling the boundary between the division and the CRID. With the completion of the CRID operation on 1 August, the temporary area of operation given to the CRID terminated, thereby giving the division access to the area.

3. Taking all of the factors stated above into consideration, the division took the following action: On 4 August FRAGO 53-70 was published terminating operations in the Nui Mieu and orienting the 1st Brigade forces towards the Fishhook area. Actually, this only constituted a change of one battalion since the division had organized a seven day training standdown program in which each battalion would participate, with the 3-12 Infantry being chosen as the first unit. To compensate for the loss of the 3-12 Infantry, division placed 1-14 Infantry a second Brigade battalion, OPCON to 1st Brigade. The location of the 1-14 Infantry at the beginning of August was such that it only required a short move to the north to be in position to participate in operations with the 1st Brigade. Also, 3-8 Infantry, a 1st Brigade unit, was placed OPCON to 2nd Brigade because of the division's desire to weight the operation in Base Area 226 with at least two battalions.

4. On 6 August 1970, FRAGO 54-70 was published. This FRAGO actually complemented FRAGO 52-70 in that it was directed towards getting 2nd Brigade invested into Base Area 226 with 22nd ARVN Division, while FRAGO 52-70 was designed to get 1st Brigade invested into the Fishhook area. The tactical plan for 2nd Brigade had been coordinated with 22nd ARVN Division and basically called for the ARVN to work the east side, and for the division to work the west side of a mutually agreed upon area of operation. Since this was the third combined operation with 22nd ARVN Division within the last month, coordination at division level was done quickly and efficiently. Whereas with the last two combined operations a number of long and detailed coordination sessions were required, this one was dispensed with in a short period of time with all sides reaching agreement quickly. Because of the possibility of establishing a decent

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contact with the enemy, the division placed a number of its resources behind the operation. The rangers were given an area in which to operate that complimented the combined area of operations. D Troop, 1-10 Cavalry was given a recon zone to operate in which also complimented the combined area of operations. 2nd Brigade was instructed to establish liaison and coordination with the RF's in Vinh Thanh Valley, at FSB Hardtimes, and attempt to have them operate with our forces in an area that the enemy would likely try to exfiltrate. The operation commenced on 9 August with the two battalions of 2nd Brigade, 3-8 Infantry and 1-22 Infantry, moving into position and the ARVN's initiating their operation on 10 August. The task organization for combat of the division was as follows:

<u>1st Brigade</u>	<u>2nd Brigade</u>	<u>Division Troops</u>
1-14 Infantry	3-8 Infantry	2-8 Mech (-)
2-35 Infantry	1-12 Infantry	C (-)/1-10 Cav
	1-22 Infantry	3-12 Infantry
		1-10 Cav (-)
		A/2-8 Mech
		D/1-10 Cavalry
		K-75 Rangers

On 6 August, the 1st Brigade with its new mission in the Fishhook terminated Operation WAYNE SPAN and initiated Operation WAYNE PIERCE. This was the only operational name change effected at this time.

5. At the beginning of August, with the close out of 1st Brigade operations in the Nui Mieu, I Field Force directed the division to deploy one battalion to Tuy An District, Phu Yen Province. The mission of the battalion would be to upgrade the territorial forces through combined operations. It was envisioned that the battalion would operate in one district for about two months and then move on to another district. The 1-12 Infantry was selected for this mission and, in order to properly prepare and reorient the battalion, it was moved to Camp Radcliff on 9 August. It was envisioned that the battalion would conduct training and personnel services for approximately 5-6 days then move to Phu Yen. One problem that had not been solved was that of obtaining an area of operation for the battalion to operate in. Phu Yen Province was part of the GRID area of operation and they were reluctant to allow a US unit into their area. However, I Field Force had hopes that by 15 August this problem could be resolved. The move of 1-12 Infantry to Camp Radcliff was also covered in FRAGO 54-70.

6. On 12 August 1970, division published FRAGO 55-70. The main

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purpose of this FRAGO was to switch the training standdown battalion and reorient the 1st Brigade operation in the Fishhook area more to the east to take advantage of the Americal Division operation across the I/II Corps boundary and 173rd Airborne Brigade one company operated along the coast. Consequently, 1-14 Infantry was airlifted out of the field west of the Fishhook and 3-12 Infantry was inserted into an area of operation east of the Fishhook. All other operations and units remained the same.

7. On 18 August 1970, FRAGO 56-70 was published. The purpose of this FRAGO was to terminate 2-8 Mechanized Infantry operations against 95B NVA Regiment and Base Area 202. The mechanized battalion had been operating in the area under Phase II of BRANDIES BLUE since 27 July 1970. During the first week of August the weather in the area began to worsen and by 18 August 1970 it became apparent that the 2-8 Mechanized Infantry operation would have to be terminated soon in order to avoid the possibility of having the weather interfere with their extraction.

8. During the interim time between 9 August and 19 August, 2nd Brigade and elements of the 22nd ARVN Division continued their operation in western Base Area 226. ARVN had been fairly successful and had shifted their emphasis to the northeast towards the Cross Foot, and, in fact, were in the process of withdrawing from the area. The 1st Brigade continued their operation in the Fishhook and 2-8 Mechanized Infantry was still in the process of withdrawing from their operational area. The disposition of 1-10 Cavalry along the highway remained the same. Also during this period, 1-12 Infantry continued their preparation for operations in Tuy An District. However, by 15 August it became apparent that the CRID was not going to give the division an area of operation within which to operate. The ROK Field Command had developed its own plans for increasing the security of the populated areas and for upgrading the territorial forces, and literally did not want any US Forces interfering with their plans. Therefore, I Field Force identified two additional target areas for the division. One was the border area of Phu Bon/Phu Yen Province and the other, Cam Lam District in Khanh Hoa Province. The division mission in Phu Bon/Phu Yen would be to locate and destroy the Phu Yen Provincial unit and also conduct operations in conjunction with the RF of Phu Bon Province. The mission in Cam Lam District would be relatively the same as that given the division for Tuy An District, i.e., combined operations with territorial forces and upgrade the security of the populated areas. In addition, it was envisioned that the division, with C-75 Ranger, would also engage and destroy the Khanh Hoa Provincial unit. To accomplish these missions, coordination and planning was conducted with both the Phu Bon and Khanh Hoa Province GVN officials and US advisors. There was one major

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problem that had not been resolved and that was an area of operation for the units to operate in. The majority of the area in which I Field Force desired the division to operate in belonged to the ROK's, and as we had learned with the Tuy An operation, the ROK's were reluctant to give up any of their territory. The proposed plan for accomplishing this mission was to have one battalion operate in each area, and to this end both 1-12 Infantry and 1-14 Infantry were being held on a string pending clearance of the areas. However, on 19 August 1970 the requirements for these two operations were overridden by events in Base Area 226.

2. On 17 August 1970, the 173rd Airborne Brigade operating in eastern Base Area 226 had discovered a cache and suspected enemy headquarters complex. To take advantage of the find, without having the 173rd Airborne Brigade deploy more forces into the area and possibly detract from its mission in support of pacification in eastern Binh Dinh Province, I Field Force ordered the division to take over the area and exploit the find. This order was received on the morning of the 19th and, by the afternoon, elements of 1-12 Infantry, under control of 2nd Brigade, had been airlifted into the area and established a fire support base. The division had been considering making some changes in both 1st and 2nd Brigades operations and this action provided the necessary impetus. It also temporarily relieved the division of its requirement for Phu Bon/Phu Yen and Khanh Hoa. On 20 August 1970, FRAGO 57-70 was published. This FRAGO outlined new objective areas for 2nd Brigade in northeastern Base Area 226, where the 1-12 Infantry was already situated, gave 2nd Brigade 1-14 Infantry to conduct operations to the west of 1-12 Infantry, and brought 1-22 Infantry back to Camp Radcliff for a training standdown under division control. This action firmly placed the 2nd Brigade into Base Area 226, an action the division was considering anyway. The mission of the 2nd Brigade was to locate and destroy the 2nd NVA Regiment which recent intelligence had as operating in that area. The division also received OPCON C-75 Ranger (-) to assist it in performing its mission. The 1st Brigade had been continuing operations in the Fishhook area and along the I/II Corps boundary. The Americal Division elements had conducted a west to east sweep along the border and other than a few minor contacts, no significant activity had developed. Therefore, 1st Brigade was ordered to begin moving their elements south down the An Lao Valley into objective areas that had been previously designated. The object was to make a relatively clean sweep of the An Lao Valley area to include the high ground both to the east and west of the valley. The 1st Brigade was ordered to commence these operations on 21 August 1970. The addition of 1-14 Infantry to 2nd Brigade and the movement of 1-22 Infantry to Camp Radcliff was also effective on 21 August 1970. As of 21 August 1970, the division

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task organization for combat was as follows:

<u>1st Brigade</u>	<u>2nd Brigade</u>	<u>Division Troops</u>
3-12 Infantry	3-8 Infantry	1-22 Infantry
2-35 Infantry	1-12 Infantry	2-8 Mech (-)
	1-14 Infantry	C (-)/1-10 Cav
		1-10 Cav (-)
		A/2-8 Mech
		K-75 Rangers
		C-75 Rangers (-)

10. On 22 August 1970, FRAGO 58-70 was published. It terminated C-75 Ranger (-) operations in Base Area 226 effective 24 August, and effective 25 August released OPCON of C-75 Ranger (-) to I Field Force.

11. On 25 August 1970, division published FRAGO 59-70. This order terminated 1st Brigade operations in the Fishhook area and ordered the 1st Bde to return to Camp Radcliff. Effective dates were 26 August for termination and 28 August for completion of the move to Camp Radcliff. It also gave 1st Brigade OPCON of 1-22 Infantry effective 29 August and placed 2-35 Infantry under division control the same day. 2-35 Infantry would replace 1-22 Infantry as the training standdown battalion. The FRAGO also gave 1st Brigade a warning order to be prepared to conduct operations south of Camp Radcliff on or about 30 August 1970. Plans were in the mill to initiate operations southeast of An Khe targeted against the 6th Battalion, 12th NVA Regiment.

12. On 26 August 1970, FRAGO 60-70 was published outlining the division plan for providing non-visible security support for the upcoming GVN elections on 30 August 1970. It basically called for elements of the division to conduct screening operations around the populated areas of An Tuc District and Vinh Thanh Sub-District.

13. On 27 August 1970, OPLAN 24-70 was published by the division. This plan outlined the concept for operations against the 7th Battalion, 12th NVA Regiment and the 90th Sapper Battalion, both reported to be operating southeast of An Khe. The 90th Sapper Battalion had recently moved from Base Area 226 across Highway 19 and was reported to be joining the 6th Battalion, 12th NVA Regiment with the mission of interdicting Highway 19. The plan envisioned a two battalion operation under 1st Brigade control. The tentative implementation date was 30 August 1970, a date chosen because it coincided with the elections and would serve to disrupt enemy attempts to move into the populated area from the southeast.

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