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Summary of Recommendation for Award of Presidential Unit Citation

Company A, 1st Battalion, 95th Infantry, 3rd Brigade Task Force, 25th Infantry Division, U.S. Army

MISSION:

Company A was to follow Company B into Landing Zone TEN ALPHA in Phalen Province, Republic of Vietnam, for the purpose of occupying and securing the immediate area.

CONCEPT OF OPERATION:

Company B was to be heli-lifted into the landing zone, followed immediately by Company A.

SITUATION:

Company A conducted a helicopter lift into Landing Zone TEN ALPHA on 28 May 1968 to reinforce Company B, 2nd Battalion, 95th Infantry which was in contact with a superior and well equipped North Vietnamese Army force. Company B, 2nd Battalion, 95th Infantry had a total strength of 150 personnel at that time. At 1700 hours Company A, consisting of 150 personnel and supporting weapons, began landing in TEN ALPHA and closed shortly thereafter. Upon its closure the perimeter was reorganized. The enemy launched an estimated multi-battalion night offensive against the 250 personnel of the two units 270115 Zay, with the main effort directed against the Third Platoon, Company A. The enemy operation was well coordinated and controlled. At 0115 hours the defenders were issued an ultimatum, "You have ten and a half hours to surrender." The ultimatum was answered by the besieged friendly force with intensified firing. The fighting spread along the eastern portion of the perimeter. The NVA forces assaulted in waves demonstrating a pattern of attacking, withdrawing, reorganizing and attacking again. Between 0212 and 0250 hours a second enemy force attacked the artillery supporting the besieged forces at TEN ALPHA. Battery A, 2d Battalion, 9th Artillery was collocated with 2d Battalion, 95th Infantry about approximately ten kilometers to the east in Landing Zone ELEVEN ALPHA. This was an obvious attempt by the enemy to silence or at least divert the defensive fires needed by the besieged force at Landing Zone TEN ALPHA.

At approximately 0330 hours the enemy broke contact with the friendly force at Landing Zone TEN ALPHA and withdrew to the north. Throughout the action, during the hours of darkness, the men of Company A performed with cool pro-

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The flooding continued with a slow rising of water pressure. At 1715 hours the flooding had subsided to a degree which permitted continuing to work with additional reinforcements. The 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry went to sleep in Landing Zone FOT 110A. The personnel who remained and those who were ordered to push out to about 120 meters. This provided reasonable security for the landing zone. During this period weather and increasing activities continued. At 1745 hours the enemy raised their water flag, but counter-water fire effectively silenced them. At 1800 hours Landing Zone FOT 110A was reported secure.

Company 1 suffered 9 KIA and 11 VIB out of a total strength of 6 officers and 150 enlisted men. Navy losses as of 30 May 1966 included 243 KIA, and a sizeable quantity of weapons and other materials were captured.

This action, in effect, uncovered a large enemy force (two separate regiments and divisional troops) which had apparently moved into the area to attack the U.S. Special Forces Camps at Huey Lo and Viet Nhon. For twenty-four hours, Company 4, 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry courageously and with great professional skill defended landing zone LZ 117 against on-ly elements of the North Vietnamese Army's 6th Regiment. The casualties suffered by the enemy were so great, he was soon forced to withdraw from the area.

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