

12 March 1967 Journal Entries.(partial – only contact entries noted, though that is most of them)

0706 Co A departed its night location (658480)
0830 Co B ambushes closed CP location
0900 Co A in contact at 658486. Receiving SA and returning SA with unknown size enemy force
0915 1A in contact, 3 WIA's. Req gunships
0930 Gunships on station
0935 Bn CO over contact area. Fighter support leaving – low on fuel. Contact sporadic at this time.
0950 Enemy attempting to withdraw West, Co A massing, pushing forward, 1/A receiving mortar fire from W side of river, firing counter mortar fire on possible mortar positions on E side of river, Dustoff in area.
1000 Bn CO marking enemy positions with WP, gunships shooting on target.
1005 3/A in contact
1030 Arty blocking fires on river, friendlies moving forward, gunships withdrawing, snipers holding Co from advancing. Enemy all around, Co A withdrawing 100m so fighters can come in, indications are enemy force is larger than a Company.
1045 3/A platoon Ldr WIA.
1055 Arty fires cut, fighters dropping napalm on target.
1106 Div arty CO arrived at firebase
1115 Div CO enroute to firebase
1125 2/B closed firebase
1130 CO Co A: need more men, 1/A completely surrounded, 6 WIA, 1 KIA, 3/A under heavy ground fire.
1145 Co C committed to CA at loc YA 655477. Ships enroute to CP 15 to pick up Co C.
1200 1st lift of C airborne
1220 Request dustoff 663487 (Co A)
1239 1st element of C touchdown.
1301 Final TD of Co C. Request dustoff for 4 men injured in CA, 1 head, 1 kidney, 2 ankle injuries.
1330 Co B being committed; Co A: 1/A and 2/A closed. 3/A separated and receiving SA fire.
1345 (someone) req a psyops team
1345 Co C location 648478
1350 Bdc: Psyops plane on station
1350 Co B first lift departed CP for LZ at 646482. 1435H this was corrected to 648495
1435 B/1/8 will assume security for 2/35 firebase
1435 Co A: Ammo resupply enroute your location.
1450 B/2/8 location 727490
1450 Air Force receiving AW fire from SE corner of Co B LZ
1500 Co B first lift completed
1515 Lt Blankenship sent to replace Lt Karopczyk as 3/A Platoon Leader.
1530 Co B closed LZ location.
1530 Co A: Pinned down by MG and 60mm mortars at least Company size, trying to evac. WIA's
1530 (To) Co C: move to 648482 and attack to East.
1600 Co A: 1/A surrounded and 2/A, 3/A almost surrounded taking SA and mortar fire. Total casualties for Co A, 11 WIA and 3 KIA
1610 Div CO directing airstrike at 615460

1545

1615 B/1/8 arriving at firebase (for security)
 1620 Co C at 648480; B/2/8 at 728482
 1645 B/2/8 at 732471; Co C loc 651482
 1700 Co B loc 756494
 1703 Dustoff enroute to Co A loc
 1720 All elements of B/1/8 closed firebase for security.
 1735 Co B loc 659490; Co C loc 655482
 1733 Co B engaged 1 NVA at 659491
 1805 Arty lifted for airstrike (no location given)
 1810 Co A still has contact in LZ
 1818 Co C loc 659484
 1830 Co B contact at 661488, sniper fire.
 1830 Co C contact 200m from their position 660486
 1840 2/C and 3/C assaulting on line →
 1845 Co B still in contact NW of Co A location
 1850 Mini TOC operational at Co A location
 1855 All elements still in contact
 1905 Co B surrounded and taking casualties from indirect fire .
 1910 Airstrikes at 646481 — bank of River A1's
 1915 Bn CO enroute to Co A loc ————— Granger
 1921 Co B consolidating and looking for an LZ —
 1925 Bn Co. (S3) Arty LNO at Co A location
 1930 Co B forward element pinned down trying to evacuate WIA's
 1936 Bn CO cleared airstrike at 646481, Spooky on station
 1945 Co B req dustoff at 659489
 2005 Bn CO req illumination
 2006 Spooky dropping maximum illumination
 2006 Gunships on station to patrol along river
 2008 Co B report 5 serious WIA
 2025 dustoff going in to Co B loc
 2051 dustoff extracted 4 WIA's from Co B loc
 2054 From Bn CO to Gambler (gunships) fire 500m E side of river
 2057 Co B still have more WIA's to be evacuated
 2134 dustoff extracted 4 more WIA's from Co B loc
 2130 To Bde: Co A location is 658488 with negative contact at this time, 8 WIA evacuated with 6 WIA to be evacuated. Co B located at 659489, evacuated 8 WIA with 2 WIA to be evacuated. Co C 200m South of Co A and closing with Co A. Co C will pick up 3/A enroute. It appears enemy is trying to disengage. Arty blocking fires being conducted
 2138 Co C in contact 150m South of Co A, are pinned down at this time.
 2145 Magpie 18 to move immediately to 728515 and secure LZ prior to first light.
 2146 Co C request Spooky; reply, Roger
 2206 dustoff making 3rd trip to Co B
 2210 Co C in small firefight with 1 WIA
 2215 Spooky and A1E's shooting W side of river
 2225 Co B has 10 more WIA's to be evacuated. Will remain in location for the night and sweep in the morning. Have 6 MIA possibly KIA
 2230 Bn CO observes increase of fire between Co A and Co C. Estimate 6 AK-47's and heavier firing.
 2253 Co C reports negative contact at this time
 2300 Co C in small firefight S of Co A location. SA and one 60mm mortar round

*Batters etc.
 + Arty LNO
 Blocking fires*

*S-3?
 Hollie came out?*

2301 Co C reports snipers in trees shooting and throwing grenades. 1 US KIA from 3/A was booby trapped and as a result Co C took 3 WIA's and now have 4 WIA's total. Fire coming from West from trees and ground
2302 Co B consolidating at this time
2320 Arty sealing E bank of Nam Sathay. Spooky shooting up W side of river
2324 Co B has all casualties out and consolidating now. Co A is negative on contact at this time but receiving 60mm mortar fire periodically. Co C perimeter is now tied in all the way around. Co C still has snipers in trees and still throwing grenades. Co C returning fire, enemy MG firing into Co C perimeter.
2330 Co C closed into night perimeter approx. 250 meters S of Co A tonight due to action. 3/A located with Co C.
2345 B/1/8 sitrep NC
2347 Cider's HoBo's expending ordnance 400m E of Nam Sathay river (junction and stream) in case enemy tries to withdraw or reinforce. YA645481 to N 1400m N and 400m to the East
2400 Journal closed

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0005 Hob will expend ordnance in approx 30 minutes.
0030 Co A no movement in last 45 min.
0050 Co C sending out sweep to try to make contact with 3/A
0055 B/2/8 approx loc 731476
0131 Co C sweep returned to their perimeter.
0202 B/2/8 approx loc 729484
0204 All Companies neg contact. Co C is working on making an LZ
0250 Co B casualty report 22 WIA, 6 MIA, 1 KIA
0256 B/1/8 sitrep NC (at firebase)
0312 Casualty report: Co A 3 KIA 11 WIA; Co C 5 WIA
0359 B/2/8 approx loc 728487
0440 Co A, B, C neg contact
0445 B/2/8 approx loc 726492
0625 Cider: A1E's, Spooky and F-100's ready to prep LZ Boston
0650 Recon: move and secure LZ at 728515
0655 BN CO returned to firebase
0707 Co C req dustoff at 07 Tango
0710 Co C recovered 3 KIA's from Co B.
0745 LRRP spotted 15 NVA heading Southwest. They will contact in 3-4 hours.
0800 B/2/8 closed objective at 728508
0801 Co C found 4 NVA KIA
0813 Co A observed NVA in area between A and B; 2 hootches NW 150m from Co A LZ
0845 Co B and C moving toward Co A. Neg contact
0849 Co C encountered sniper in tree. 1 NVA KIA
0905 3/A dustoff for their 10 WIA's
0925 dustoff for 5 of Co A's WIA's
0937 Co B reentered area of 12 contact and found 4 MIA's to be KIA's
1050 LRRP spotted 1 NVA coord 723550
1015 3 KIA evacuated to 3T leaving 2 KIA
1025 Co B found 5 KIA searching for 1 MIA
1027 Co C found and destroyed hootches est to be 6 months old

1052 2 KIA's and 3 WIA's evac from Co C
1055 Co B: all bodies found, 1 NVA digging grave
1056 Co B instructed to send in Chinese body after their KIA's
1100 Co B moving bodies to their night location and sweeping along the way
1101 Co A req fighters stop. They are dropping their bombs too close. Co A moved N
1105 Recon closed firebase assuming security
1110 Co B moving to 657491
1110 B/2/8 setting up blocking positions along E bank of river W of BN CO position
1132 Co A loc 659488
1152 Co B loc 660487
1159 Co B warned of friendlies to the N
1202 Co A loc 675489
1205 3/A remaining at Co C loc securing empties
1232 Co B extraction of 6 US KIA's and 1 NVA KIA
1235 LRRP to be extracted but 1/8 made contact
1246 Co C at loc 658486 found a bunker complex and 2000 lbs of rice; bunkers being destroyed, 30-40 bunkers, 1 well, 1 mess hall, NVA gear clothing, a GI's wallet
1330 Co C loc 656484
1335 Co A loc 664479
1340 Co B loc 657479
1410 LRRP extraction complete
1413 1/8 loc: A 655487; B 662498; C 651484
1443 Bn CO: plan for A,B and C to link up for the night
1445 Co C (-) loc 663481, 1/C loc 655483
1505 Co C on W side of Co A loc
1515 Recon 3/8 closed CP (firebase)
1520 Co A found possible sniper
1537 Bn CO req count of weapons to be sure non were lost.
1600 Co C (-) closed with A
1615 3/C closed with A
1625 B enroute to A
1700 B closed A loc
1920 Bn Firebase under mortar attack, have received approx 40-50 rounds
1935 counter fire ceased in order to observe enemy flashes
1950 attack ceased, have spooky observing
2000 damage only to one 8" artillery gun, damaged sight and hydraulic line
2017 Co C has movement to their front
2135 to close - all sitreps negative
2400 journal closed

14 March 1967

0000-0400 All sitreps negative
0430 (Firebase) receiving incoming mortar rounds
0443 Bde sending FAC
0450 Rcn reports 3 WIA (at the firebase as security)
0514 Spooky and FAC on station
0515 A,B,C sitrep neg
0637 Req EOD team from Bde.
0638 Bde is checking on sending a doctor and medical team to this loc (firebase)

0639 Bn CO: Situation is still fluid – (he) feels this was a deviation (diversion), feels (we) still have enemy trapped
0705 airstrike completed at 682548, Rcn going in to check.
0730 EOD team enroute this loc
0732 Informed Bde of receiving incoming mortar rounds for second time
0733 Rcn; observed rounds coming from direction of airstrike
0737 convoy enroute this loc
0743 Mortaring ended, Charger element (3/8th?) took a few casualties
0815 dustoff arrived, all WIA's evacuated
0832 Enemy tube loc vic 660525
0847 Co B depart night loc
0901 Cider on station
0930 airstrike on 660525 with gunships
0950 Bde sitrep: Received two mortar attacks; 1 at 0430 estimated 80 rounds, 2nd attack at 0730 estimate 25-30 rounds. Casualties: Co A weapons (platoon) 4 WIA; HHC medics 2 serious WIA; D/5/16 7 WIA; C/2/9 8 WIA, including battery CO and Exec; one 2 ½ ton demolished with load of 105 ammo; one ¾ ton
1000 A/1/8 reports receiving 8 rounds of recoilless rifle fire from northerly direction
1008 Co B found documents at 664479
1012 Co C at 656485 found bunker complex and equipment, will send in list ASAP
1019 Shovel (LRRP's?) moved out on patrol
1019 Co C in contact with a sniper, AW fire
1032 Co A loc 663487
1045 Co C KIA one sniper
1100 Shovel found E-W trail loc 675550. Fresh
1115 Co A found 2 NVA KIA, 1 weapon and equipment for one man at 663488
1130 Rcn loc 679549 found N-S trail, well used
1135 Co B loc 660484
1220 Personnel carrier hit mine at CP 12 at 684530
1237 Co A loc bunker/tunnel complex at 663488
1230 Rcn departed for CP 12
1235 Co A found tunnel which turned out to be just a small depression
1310 Rcn found 2 land mines on road between CP 13 and CP 12, YA 679532
1335 Rcn closed CP 12
1345 Bde CO departed, arrived at 1300H
1355 Co A found six additional bodies on sweep at 664480
1500 Rcn 1/8 at 685553
1530 A,B,C location 664479, night location
1531 Co C req dutoff for man with 103.8 temp, will use H-23
1545 Rcn 1/8 loc 682544
1600 ¼ ton hit mine at 687530, 3 WIA serious, APC and medivac on way
1620 Recon: reference last item, 1 KIA and 2 WIA
1630 Co B sitrep n/c
1650 Recon cannot find M-60 on jeep
1710 Rcn 1/8 loc 676544
1726 K-9 team arrived this loc
1745 Co C heard siren 300m from their loc
2400 All sitreps neg – journal closed (Companies A, B and C will continue to sweep to N and E to return to FSB and Bn CP)

15 March 1967

All companies continue to sweep N and E toward FSB. Body count is set at Co A 34; Co B 2; Co C 17; total 53. All companies closed night loc at 664502

16 March 1967 All Companies closed CP by 1720 hours for 24 hours rest and resupply. Co A at 662488 found 2 NVA bodies buried.