

DATE 4 Oct 62FROM Kanchanaburi

EC, 1/3, IJ

THRU _____

TO V ThangROAD RECONNAISSANCE REPORT NR 51 Type vehicle(s) utilized 1/4, 3/4MAP: AMS L509, Sheet ND 47-7 Date of reconnaissance 4 Oct 62Time required: From 1000 to 1430 Distance traveled: 31 miles1. Highway Number(s) 8 Grid Coords: From 581502 to 9378282. Type of road base rock & gravel Thickness 2 1/2' Condition good3. Type of surface material gravel Thickness 3-4" Condition good fair4. Shoulder material gravel Width of shoulders 1'-5'5. Average width of road 20' 4" Narrowest width of road 11'6. Curves: (Sharp, moderate, few) few Grades: (Steep, gentle, none) none7. General road surface conditions (Ex, good, fair, poor) fair8. Existence of pot-holes and "washboard areas" (some, many, few) many9. Locations of wash-outs (give grid coordinates) none10. Flooded areas (give grid coordinates) none11. Depth (in inches) and area (in square feet) of flooded areas —12. Average vertical clearance ∞ Minimum vertical clearance ∞13. Average horizontal clearance 20' Minimum horizontal clearance —14. Average height of crown from edge of road 6"15. Location and extent of off-road parking areas (over)

16. Locations of nearby gravel pits, quarries, timber stands, or saw mills.

gravel pits (NR) NR 93181017. Locations of possible bivouac sites —18. Location of water points 62 well19. Other Road ended at rough river with nobridge at 24.4 miles (city). (17)

Mortar Pos	Bivouac areas	Civ. in area	Grid coord.
yes	yes	yes	644 524
	yes		652 528
yes	yes		669 526
yes	yes	yes	684 533
yes			694 549
yes	yes	yes	710 556
yes	yes		715 584
yes	yes		720 590
yes	yes		726 594
	yes		736 603
yes	yes		745 610
	yes		759 621
	yes		770 638
yes			772 648
yes	yes	yes	821 688
yes	yes	yes	824 695
yes	yes		843 714
	yes		895 762
yes	yes	yes	907 772
yes	yes	yes	921 785
yes	yes	yes	930 810

8 Oct 1962

Reconnaissance Report # 1

Organization : Lt Jarrell & 18 men patrol mounted in one 2½ ton truck. Includes medic & driver. Also Lt Cairns, Art. F.O. was attached.

Dates : Patrol left base camp 0730 5 Oct 62 & returned 1700 7 Oct 62.

Destination : Patrol's destination was the village of Bo Phloi & surrounding area.

Mission : To check roads for navigability; to check terrain for military operations; to learn the names & whereabouts of English speaking natives & also police & local officials.

Synopsis :

Patrol arrived location Hin Lap (Coord ⁴⁹⁷⁰ ~~4970~~)
There had to float vehicle across river of approx. 75 yds width & current of 5-8 MPH. A large bamboo raft is located here - incapable of floating anything heavier than a 2½ ton truck unloaded.

Road from Hin Lap to Bo Phloi is

un-navigable during rainy & cool season. Should become navigable to wheeled vehicles in November or December. APC's could make it. Armor would not be able to during this time.

Any vehicle or armor can successfully reach Hin Lap. Halted vehicle approx 5 miles North of Hin Lap, and about 7 miles west Bo Phloi. Took 7 man patrol to Bo Phloi. Approx 12 miles distance with walking time $\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. Proceeded from Bo Phloi South to Ban Kathon (coord 5474) & west back to vehicle. Returned to Hin Lap & back to camp on a different route (see bridge & road reports inclosed)

Military Data: Terrain thickly covered by bamboo & underbrush - much lower ground, rice paddies & swamps - 2 roads lead to Bo Phloi - one from Hin Lap that we tried, & one around South from Hin Lap & up North to East of River. River averages 40' across with current of 2-3 MPH at wider spots. Area North of Hin Lap & West of River is well suited for Armor & Art. These vehicles can proceed North & West into low hills & ridges. There are no bridges across river between Bo Phloi & Hin Lap. Easily fordable in dry

season.

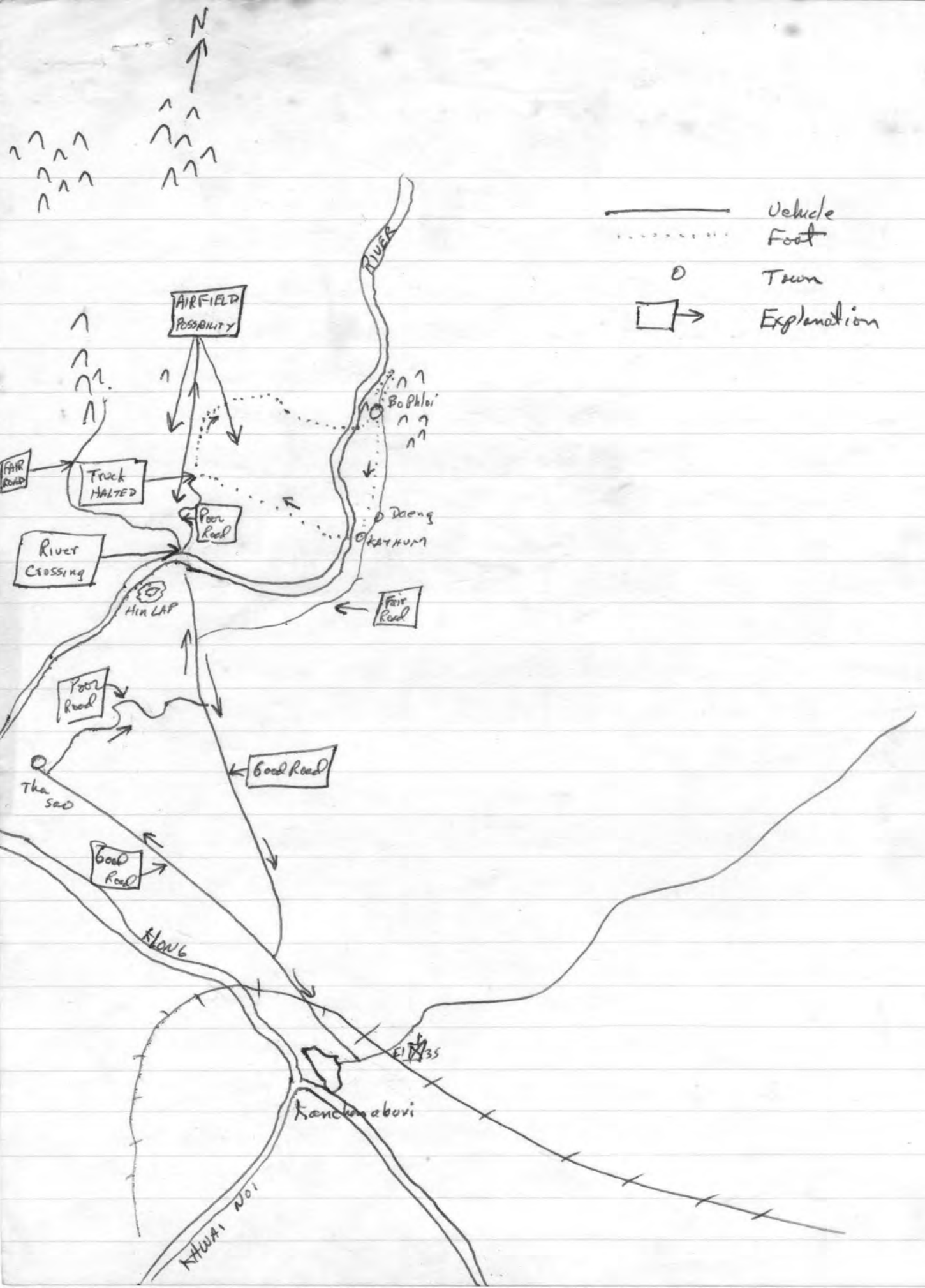
Bo Phloi can be fairly easily defended, as it is nestled between low hills. All other villages in the area (Ban Kathum, Ban Nang Daeng, & Ban Bung Hua Wae) are situated on flat, low ground & are very difficult to defend.

There is no electricity ~~for~~ power in the area. Only fresh water is rain water. Abundant supply of rice in the area. Also there are a few sapphire mines adjacent to Bo Phloi. The area is relatively poor.

There are no English speaking persons in the area. The chief of Police was not there while we were. If the town has a mayor, we were unable to find him.

Airfield can be constructed fairly easily in area west from Bo Phloi.

Sketch of area & operation on next page:



- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| — | Vehicle |
| - - - - - | Foot |
| ○ | Town |
| □ → | Explanation |

AIRFIELD
POSSIBILITY

Truck
HALTED

River
Crossing

HIN LAP

Poor
Road

Good Road

Tha
Sao

Good
Road

KLONG

KANCHANABURI

KHUI NOI

Fair
Road

Poor
Road

BOPHLOI

DONG
KATHUM

EL 35