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Authority NND 927648
By AB NARA Date 11/27/02

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2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile) began operation BIG TOP, a search and destroy operation in the vicinity of KANNACK (BR 4365) in Binh Province, on 15 July 66. The following is the task force organization as of 0001H 15 July 66:

2nd Bde

2/5 (-)

C 1/77 Arty (105) (DS)

B 2/20

*Declassified 7 July 1972
by TAG action 762824*

15 JULY 66

2/5 began operation BIG TOP by air assulting two companies into the vicinity of KANNACK (BR4365) and conducted a sweep to the southwest with negative results.

RESULTS: No friendly or enemy casualties.

16 JULY 66

2/5 conducted search and destroy operations in the vicinity of KANNACK (BR 4565) with negative enemy contact. One CIDG company vicinity VINH THANH VALLEY (BR 656526) established contact with estimated 2 VC Platoons at 1015H vic BR 657528. ARA fired in support and contact was broken at 1630H.

RESULTS: Enemy casualties unknown. No friendly casualties.

17 JULY 66

2/5 continued operations in the TAOR with B and C 2/5 conducting a sweep southwest toward LZ RINGLING (BR 421649) closing there at 1530H, extracted at 1830H with negative results. Two recon teams were air assulted to LZ JENKINS (BR376666) at 0800 with negative enemy contact. D 2/5 conducted recon operations north to PZ HARV (BR 434730) but with negative enemy contact.

RESULTS: No friendly or enemy casualties.

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18 JULY 66

2/5 continued operation BIG TOP. B 2/5 air assaulted into LZ JENKINS (BR 376666) at 0830H and conducted search and destroy operations to the east and west with negative enemy contact. C 2/5 air assaulted into LZ RUEBEN (BR 303644) at 0945 and conducted search and destroy operations north of RUEBEN. At 1342 C 2/5 received 8 rounds of 60 mm mortar vic BR 304664. Fire was returned with negative results. At 1740 2/5 received automatic weapons fire vic BR 312648. At 1950 C 2/5 received automatic weapons fire vic BR 305661, and engaged fire with negative results. 1/77 reported C 2/5 received 2 WIA from approximately 8 mortar rounds vic BR 335644. At 2015 C 2/5 heard small arms fire vic BR 306653.. In ground to air activity 2/5 gunship received one round of small arms fire vic BQ 381672 at an altitude of 50 feet, but was not hit. *2/5 remained at LZ Ringling (BR 421649)*

RESULTS: ENEMY LOSSES FRIENDLY LOSSES

KIA 0
 WIA 0

KIA 0
 WIA 2

19 JULY 66

2/5 continued search and destroy operations in the TAOR. C 2/5 conducted local patrols north of LZ RUEBEN (BR 303644) with negative enemy contact. CP and D 2/5 closed Camp Radcliff at 1500H. Operation BIG TOP officially terminated 191600 July 66 although B 2/5 closed Camp Radcliff at 2045H, A 2/5 closed LZ GEORGIA BR 359568 at 1900H and recon 2/5 closed LZ CAROLINA (BR 412532) at 1215H.

RESULTS No friendly or enemy casualties

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Copy Nr. 18
 2/5 Cav 1st Cav Div (Air)
 An Khe (BR 460487)
 141800 July 1966
 GGG

OFORD 27-66 (BIG TOP)

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Reference: Map Scale 1:50,000 Sheet 6753 IV

Task Organization: 2/5 Cav (-)
 C Btry 1/77 F.A. Bn (D.S.)

1. (C) SITUATION:

- a. Enemy Forces: Current LMSUM
- b. Friendly Forces: 2nd Bde continues to secure Camp Radcliff and Hwy 19 from Dao Mang Pass to Pleiku, conducts operation in TACR.
- c. Attachments & Detachments: AT Platoon, Co D, remains attached to 2/12.

2. (C) MISSION: 2nd Bn, 5th Cav (-) conducts search and destroy operations in assigned A.O. vic Kannack (BR 422646).

3. (C) EXECUTION:

a. Concept of Operation: TF 2/5 (-) conducts aggressive search and destroy operation vic Kannack for approximately two days commencing 150800 July 66 utilizing airborne assault, ground sweeps, patrols and ambushes.

(1) Maneuver: Commencing 150800 July 2/5 Cav (-) conducts air assault into LZ Bailey (BR 442641), LZ Barnum (BR 437664), LZ Ringling (BR 422646) utilizes one company as blocking force vic BR 429645, sweeps to south along Dak Lope River, destroys enemy personnel facilities and equipment in zone.

(2) Fire Support: See Fire Support Plan Annex B

b. Co B:
 (1) Attached 1 rifle platoon to Co D, effective 141600 July 1966.
 (2) Conduct motor march Camp Radcliff to LZ Circus, departing IF (BR 491456) at 150600H July 66.

(3) Co B (-) conduct air assault into LZ Barnum, move overland to Sarasota.

(4) On order sweep south and southwest to vic Kannack.

(5) Occupy assy area north of Kannack (See Overlay).

(6) Be prepared on order to conduct air assault to the west on D&I.

c. Co C:

(1) Conduct motor march Camp Radcliff to LZ Circus, departing Bn area 141500H July 1966.

(2) Co C (-) conduct air assault 150800H July 1966 into LZ Bailey, move overland to Trapeze

(3) On order sweep southwest to vic Kannack.

(4) Occupy assy area south of Kannack (See Overlay). Be prepared on order to conduct air assault to the west on order.

(5) Detach 1 Platoon GCON C 1/77 as security force, effective 141630H July 1966.

d. Co D:

(1) Move by helicopter Black Knight Pod to LZ Circus 141730 July 66.

(2) Co D (-) conduct tactical foot march from LZ Circus to Kannack to arrive Kannack NLT 150600H July 66.

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(3) Secure LZ Ringling, detach 2 rifle squads C.I. security via LZ Ringling.

(4) On order occupy designated blocking positions (See Overlay).

(5) Prepare on order to conduct and support airborne search and destroy operations to west on order.

e. Co A:

(1) Bde reaction force. Maintain one platoon on 10 minute alert Black Knight Pad, Co (-) on 30 minute alert. Secure trucks returning from Circus with one platoon be prepared to react on Hwy 19 and Big Top operational area.

f. Coordinating Instructions:

(1) Co's be prepared to illuminate perimeters at night.

(2) Mortar platoons Co's D, C, B move to Kanneck by helicopter prior to air assault LZ Bailey.

(3) Alternate LZ's Highwire BR 438634, Tight rope BR 438669.

(4) Downed aircraft will be secured immediately. Wingman will orbit area and vector lift ships on ground troops into area.

(5) H-Hour 150800 July 66.

4. (c) ADMINISTRATION & LOGISTICS:

a. Supply:

(1) Class I: Individuals carry 2 C-rations meal. Supper A-Rations.

(2) Class II & IV: Companies carry two (2) day supply of expendables

(3) Class III

(4) Class V: All mortar ammo position will be protected from elements and inspected prior to firing.

(5) Water: Individuals carry 2 (2) canteens of water and all available water purification tablets.

(6) Captured Material: SCF

b. Medical Evacuation:

(1) B Co 15th Med Bn

(2) Med Evac Freq 40.50

c. Administration:

(1) Past operations experienced 5 - 10 jungle stakes injuries/Bn/day.

(2) Mail delivered with rations.

5. (c) COMMAND & SIGNAL:

a. Command - CP airborne initially in TOC ship, opens via Kanneck (BR 420650) effective 151200H July 1966.

b. Signal - Current SOI in effect.

ACKNOWLEDGE:

Annexes: A - Air Movement Table
B - Fire Support

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 2/5 Cav 1st Cav Div (Air)
 An Khe (BR 450487)
 141000 July 1966
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Annex A (Air Movement Table) to FRAG 0 27-66 (Operation Big Top)

ACFT Available

5 Sorties	0630	Report BK	Aztec 6	LZ Circus
00	0600	Report BK	Chickasaw 5	LZ Circus
12 Sorties	TBA	Circus	Cobra, Deadly Mortar's	LZ Ringling
12 Sorties	0745	Circus	Deadly 6	LZ Bailey
15 Sorties	TBA	Circus	Tiger 6	LZ Barnum
4 Sorties	TBA	Circus	Tiger Mort's	LZ Ringling
5 Sorties	TBA	BK	Chickasaw 03	LZ Ringling
2 Slings				
10 Sorties	1600	BK	Chickasaw 4	LZ Ringling

ACKNOWLEDGE:

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2/5 Cav 1st Cav Div (Air)
An Khe (BR 460437)
141300 July 1966
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Annex B (Fire Support Plan) to FRAG O 27-66 (Operation Big Top)

TARGET LIST

<u>CONC NO</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>COORD</u>
KA 370	LZ	420647
371	LZ	442642
372	LZ	440665
373	ROAD	408661
374	Trail Jet	414662
375	Stream	422663
376	Trail Jet	446666
377	Stream Jet	464669
378	Open Area	439631
379	Stream	457661
380	Stream Jet	442652
381	Stream	435648
382	Trail Jet	415646
383	Stream Jet	423642
384	Stream	419633
385	Road	425618
386	Open Area	448639
387	Open Area	450647
388	Stream	460639

1. SITUATION:

a. Enemy Forces: See FRAG O 27 - 66

b. Friendly Forces:

(1) Air Support: PACKF

(2) Arty Support:

(a) C 1/77 Arty D.S. (105MM)

(b) B 2/20 Arty ARA

2. MISSION: 2/5 Cav (-) conduct search and destroy mission in the area of Kannack
(1) 420647.

3. EXECUTION:

a. C 1/77 Arty support operation from position 492506.

b. At 1600 15 May move to position 420647 to give fire support west of Kannack

4. Administration and Logistics: See FRAG O 27 - 66

5. Command and Signal: N/A

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3 (FIRE SUPPORT PLAN) TO
OPERATION BY TOP 5 (AYG)

10/10/2014

RECEIVED
JAN 10 1968

AKA 776

JKA 571

INDEX

LA 380

1991

WATER

2021

2000

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436

4431

62.

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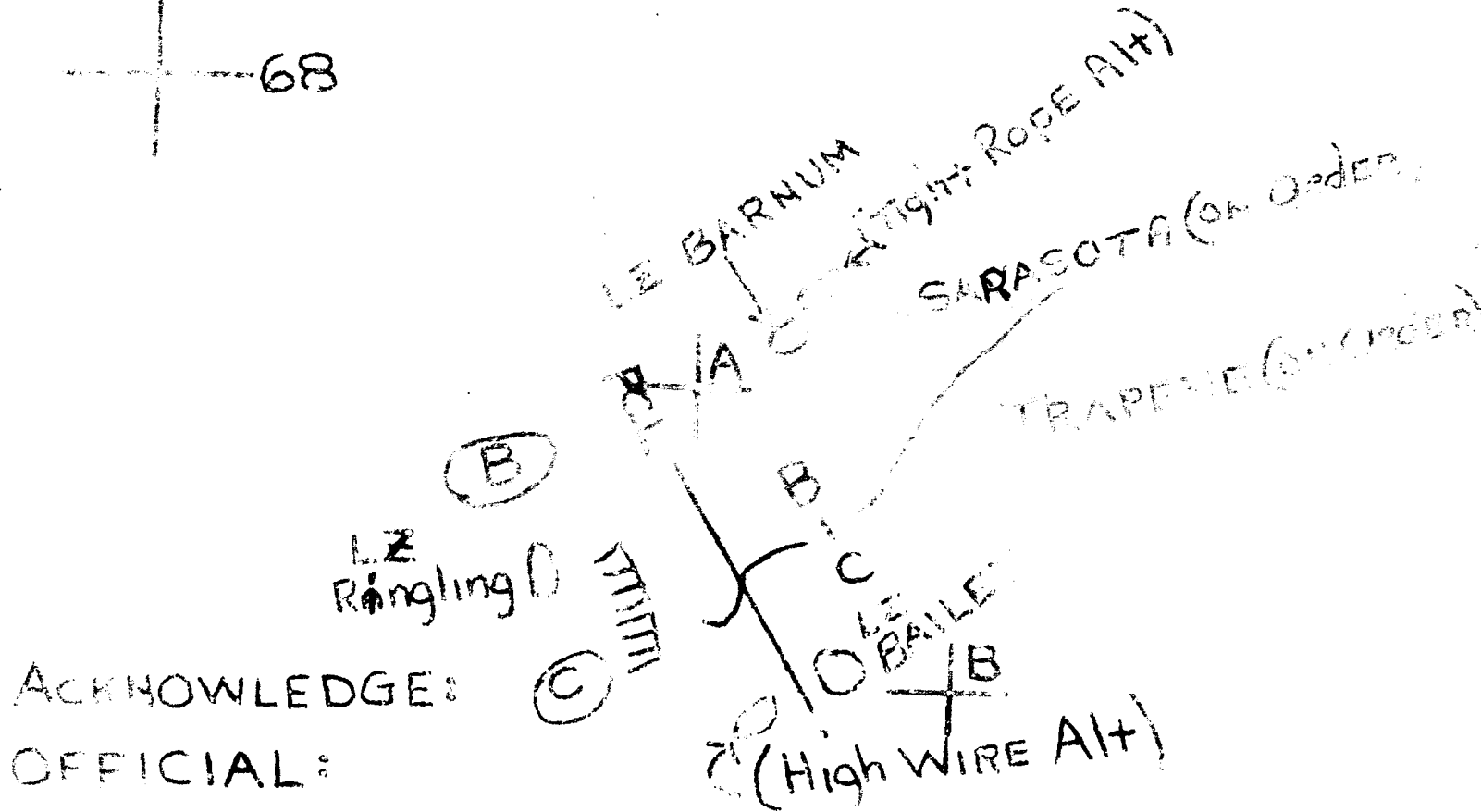
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ANNEX A (OPN CLAY) TO

39 OPERATION Big Top 2/5 CAY (-)

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