

BATTALION After Action

Aug 69 - Dec 70

DECLASSIFIED
Authority: AWD 873541
By: 52 NARA Date: 03-30-12

DEPARTMENT OF
Headquarters, 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry
Medical Division
APO San Francisco 96217

AFDP 00-2-2

15 February 1970

SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report

Commanding Officer
1st Infantry Division
Medical Division
APO San Francisco 96217

- (BY FROM MEMORANDUM: 12-2-11.)
- (1) DATE OF OPERATION: 11 August 1969 - 31 December 1969.
- (2) LOCATION OF COMMAND POST: FSB Debbie (BS 875325).
- (3) COMMAND HEADQUARTERS: 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry.
- (4) REPORTING OFFICER: Lieutenant Colonel George R. Evey Johnson.
- (5) TASK ORGANIZATION:
- | | | |
|--------|-------------------|----------------------|
| A/4-21 | E/4-21 | A/3-1 (OPCON) |
| B/4-21 | HHC/4-21 | Sqd/C/26 Sqr (OPCON) |
| C/4-21 | E/1st Cav (OPCON) | |
| D/4-21 | A/1/1 Cav (OPCON) | |
- (6) SUPPORTING FORCES:
- A Btry 6-11 Arty (GS)
 - C Co 26th Engr
 - C Btry (-) 1-82 Arty (GS)
 - 174th Assault Helicopter Company provided Command and Control ship, helicopter airlift and gunship support.

Group - 4
Downgraded at 3 year intervals
Declassified after 12 years

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(C) Annex A (Intelligence) to Combat Operations After Action Report - IRON MOUNTAIN PHASE II (U).

(C) Reference: Maps, 1:50,000; Vietnam, Sheets 6738 I, II, 6838 III, IV.

1. (C) While engaged in Operation Iron Mountain Phase II, during the period 11 August - 31 December 1969, this battalion was targeted primarily against local VC forces. The emphasis was on road security, with primary concern directed toward forces in the vicinity of QL #1, and adjacent areas.
2. (C) Terrain: The Battalion TAOR consists of the southern DUC PHO District, an irregular shaped area encompassing the southern tip of I Corps Tactical Zone. Generally it is bounded on the north by a line, south of DUC PHO, between Nui Cua (Hill 163) and Nui Trung Trum (Hill 238), on the east by the South China Sea, on the south and southwest by the I/II Corps boundary, and on the west by NS grid line 80. The western and southwestern portions of the area are covered by low mountains with dense vegetation consisting primarily of scrub brush. The lowlands are farmed by a dense population which varies from neutral to friendly in their loyalties.
3. (C) Enemy: The principal enemy in this area is one VC Local Force Company, (C-120 Sapper), approximately 200 hamlet guerrillas, and frequent NVA forces of battalion size, which move toward the coastal area for specific missions. They return to their base camp area further west. The primary objectives of the enemy in this area are interdiction of QL #1, by ambush and mines, attack of US and GVN fire bases, and attacks on GVN pacification villages in an attempt to discredit the government of South Viet Nam. The local VC are very active and aggressive, and are quick to react to US weaknesses and patterns. They are well equipped with both US and communist weapons, to include M-16, M-79, M-60 Machine Guns, Hand Grenades (US and Chicom), AK-47 rifles, RPG-2 Launchers, B-40 Rockets, 60mm and 82mm mortars, and various demolitions.
4. (C) Enemy losses during the period 11 August - 31 December 1969 were:

CD	22
NVA KIA	55
VC KIA	56
NVA CIA	5
VC CIA	15
VC I CIA	46 (Hamlet level and above)
CHIEU HOI	5
DETAINEES	119
INDIV WPNS CIA	33
C/S WPNS CIA	2
SMALL ARMS RDS CIA	200

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(C) Annex B (Civil Affairs) to Combat Operations After Action Report -
IRON MOUNTAIN: PHASE II (U)

1. (C) During the period 11 August to 31 December 1969, numerous civic action projects were completed and psychological operations stressed. Listed below are civic action projects completed:

- a. Playgrounds equipment donated to DUC PHO Orphanage.
- b. Drainage ditch constructed in hamlet of BS 925223.
- c. 3 Public Wells constructed in hamlet located BS 925223.
- d. Shoring for market street to prevent washout at BS 925223.
- e. Rice drying floor constructed in hamlet located BS 866315.
- f. Roof of dispensary repaired in village located at BS 925223.
- g. Approximately 7,000 pounds of unpolished rice donated to needy refugees in intensific pacification hamlets.

2. (C) We have used "Early Word" and ground broadcasts as often as possible, however, use of "Early Word" was greatly hampered during November and December because of rainy weather.

3. (C) A successful joint "County Fair" Operation was conducted with DUC PHO District Officials and "LIEN DOI" RF Group 1/B. The Operation included a 3 day cordon of TAN DIEM Hamlet (BS 919237). While the hamlet underwent a thorough search, residents were moved by truck to LONG TRAM Outpost where shelter and food was provided. The District Medical Team, combined with members of 4-21 Medical Staff, rendered treatment to approximately 180 people with injuries ranging from headaches, cuts or scratches to ear infections, diarrhea and skin diseases. During the day the Vietnamese PSYOPS Team played music, told stories, and passed out literature promoting good will toward the GVN. At night American Division Movie Team, showed films. ID Cards were issued or replaced as necessary.

4. (C) 4-21 Battalion Surgeon with staff treated over 1500 people during MEDCAPS at 6 different hamlets. Of these, 23 persons were evacuated to medical facilities at DUC PHO, CHU LAI, and QUANG NGAI respectively.

5. (C) The VIP Program has achieved excellent results as far as procuring munitions ranging from small arms to rockets, but has not aided in finding caches of food, weapons or producing enemy intelligence.

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AVMP-BAT.CO

15 February 1970

SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report

- a. 7th United States Air Force provided close air support.
- b. 7th Fleet provided Naval support.
- c. 7th Psychological Operations Battalion provided psychological operational support.
- d. 4th Psychological Operations Squadron provided Psychological Operations support to 4-21st containing broadcasting facilities.
- e. 4th Light Infantry Platoon provided sentry, scout, tracker, tunnel, and mine logs for special operations.
- f. Regional Force and Popular Force Units.
- g. Provincial Revolutionary Unit.
- h. National Police Field Forces.
- (C) INTELLIGENCE: See Annex A.

9. (C) MISSION: 4-21st Infantry conducted operations in assigned AO to secure GVN controlled population centers, support the US/GVN pacification effort, and fix and destroy NVA/VC units and VC Infrastructures.

10. (C) CONCEPT OF OPERATIONS:

a. Maneuver: 4-21st Infantry conducted extensive search and clear operations to find and destroy the enemy, interdict his supply routes in the coastal plains, and to destroy his military structures and fortifications.

b. A/6-11 Arty (DS) provided 155mm support from FSB Debbie, 7th USAF provided preplanned and on call air strikes on known and suspected enemy targets throughout the operation. The 4.2 Mortar Platoon Organic to 4-21st Infantry provided general support to the units in the field from FSB Charlie Brown. C (-) 1-82 Arty provided 155mm support from FSB Debbie.

11. (C) EXECUTION.

11 Aug 69: B Co received 30 to 45 rounds of S/A fire, negative casualties. B Co, C Co, and PRU's had 1 NVA KIA. Recon spotted 2 NVAs, negative contact. FSB Debbie received S/A fire, negative casualties. Aero Scouts working in 4-21 AO, found bunker complex and spotted 5 to 6 NVAs; engaged, results 2 NVA KIA.

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1700-3.13-00

15 February 1970

3001.02: Combat Operations After Action Report

12 Aug 69: C Co found 3 VC KIA, estimated dead less than 12 hours and detained 1 female w/documents. LRP working in 4-21 10 spotted 6 VC, called in arty with unknown results. RF's at Bridge 95 received 6/A fire, returned fire, resulting in 3 VC KIA.

13 Aug 69: Recon had 1 VC male walk into their perimeter, detained and taken to MI. RF's at Bridge 103 received 6/A fire and approx 5 rounds of mortar fire, negative casualties or damage.

14 Aug 69: A Co detained 2 VC's taken to MI. Recon received 6/A and 6-79 fire, returned fire resulting in 2 VC and 1 KIA KIA, 1 male detained, 2 Chain Mo's and 1 U.S. '5 Cal pistol and documents CIA.

15 Aug 69: C Co had 1 VC KIA and detained 3 VC's, one with documents. 6-79 lorde working in 4-21 10 destroyed 1 hootch and had 1 VC KIA.

16 Aug 69: B Co spotted 6 VC, called in arty with unknown results. LRP working in 4-21 10 reported sighting 5 VC and 8 VC at different locations and found 5 VC KIA.

17 Aug 69: Convoy from C Co 19th Linc was ambushed on PL 4 resulting in 14 US KIA and two LRC's damaged. A Co with Plat of RF's reacting to the ambush engaged the enemy with 6/A and 6-79 fire resulting in 4 79 and 2 VC KIA, 3 9mm pistols, 1 AK-47, and 1 RPG 7 CIA. Later while moving into NDL A Co spotted 20 VC, called in 4.2 mortars with unknown results.

18 Aug 69: The only action in 4-21 10 this day was LRP received fire from 6 VC, called in gunships, resulting in 1 VC KIA.

19 Aug 69: C Co spotted 4 VC, engaged, VC evaded. C Co 19th Linc working on PL 4 received 6/A, RPG and 6-79 fire resulting in 1 US KIA, 2 US KIA, and 5 vehicles damaged. LRP spotted 3 VC, called in arty, with unknown results.

20 Aug 69: C Co found a bunker and tunnel complex which was the a target site from 19 Aug. C Co received sniper fire, called in 81mm mortar fire with unknown results. Recon received heavy 6/A and 6-79 fire resulting in 2 US KIA.

21 Aug 69: A Co moving to their UH made contact with a VC unit, checked out area with negative findings. C Co received 6/A fire, returned fire, checked out area with negative findings. B Co spotted 4 VC at old NDL, called arty with unknown results. LRP received 6/A fire from 6 VC, returned fire, checked out area with negative findings.

22 Aug 69: 1st Debbia received mortar, 6/A and 2.3 fire and satchel charge, resulting in 1 US KIA and 15 VC KIA, captured enemy, resulting in 2 VC/VIA KIA, 1 81mm 7 and 21 Chain grenades CIA. Recon team from 39th now receive 6 heavy 6/A fire, negative casualties or damage. 19th now working on PL 4 received 6/A, 6-79 and 6-79 fire resulting in 5 US KIA and 3 vehicles destroyed. Recon was engaged resulting in 2 VC KIA.

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Fig. 1. 100.

1997: 01-03

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26. 11-504 10-06 with 2 1/2 seeds of bird 2775. I. 427 2775 1/2 (valued).

25. Jan 18. 1 Co received letter from A. & Steve from Dec 27, called in
"Mr." off Stam Worker file with unknown results. 1 Co received / 1. The
resulting in 1 Co AM, returned file with negative results. 2 Co were ad-
mitted & 3 TO with no active salts.

9 May 58: 1 Co changed unknown into VC force. Assaulted 2 V. H.,
7 May 7, 1-15, 17 Chicon granade, Locusts CL, 1 US - L. Detach
in 7 air VC Co received 6 shot mortar rounds from 1 US - Co. CO
killed 2 VC, VC evaded, no positive casualties or capture. B Co sent info.
from Co 105 plotted VC, called in arty and .0 Cal 3 with unknown
results. A. Above 1st Div of track hit 150 yards north of road,
located in 5 Up H. and 1 down track.

27. m. 59: 1 Do a check of W3-6th - 1 one, call in 26 - the unknown
no. 106. 2 Do in the W3 - as vol 1 - 6 - 1 - 100 10 / 1. results,
called in 26 with unknown results.

7/20/68 - Co started 1 MG, called in 4.2 another with no down profile.
Co captured 1 MV, calling in 1 M. MI., 1 M. II. MI., and 1 -19 MI.
1 M-7 MI. Call 31 reported 6 hours distance off by aircraft in 4-21
0.

28. May 59: C Co contacted G. from 33 954125 to 33 992207. C Co
contacted G. from 33 957279 to 33 976256. C Co in the area received
reports of 62mm, some of which had been hit by the enemy and some
by the enemy. Later, C Co contacted VC/IV, crossing 1, 1, and with the
enemy. C Co 1st Lt. and 1st Lt. crossed vehicle hit one on 1, 1
and 1, 1, 1, and vehicle with 1st Lt. 1, 1.

~~CHENP~~

25 Oct 60: 3 Co in Viet. TR = c/v'd all F-7's, and 5th time
in time, would, unusual. Distinct to 8 from G Co. Unknown 1/1/1
- VI reported receiving 9 SGMs northwards, between G & VC/V, ,
arrived with 1/1 and 5th entering time with following action.

27 Oct 69: 1 Co had 1 UH-1H and 1 OH-6A. The OH-6A was a search
and 1 returned for call. In search of an unarmed vehicle.
Both casualties were from 3 Battery 3-11 Arty. 3 Co had 2 OH-6A.
One badly injured 2nd was found as the OH-6A was in contact
with the OH-6A. The OH-6A was found in 1 OH-6A. 3 Co
was also in contact with 1 OH-6A. The OH-6A was found in 1 OH-6A.
The OH-6A was found in 1 OH-6A. The OH-6A was found in 1 OH-6A.

29 Oct 69: Liaison team from 2 Co working with 1/11, 10TH ABN Co, 1st
Lt. 1/11, sent in their M4, returned fire with 6/1 and 11-70, a 100 lb
mortar and guerrillas with unknown results. 1st Charlie Brown
reported a killing of 10 by 15 rounds 6/1 fire. 1st Lt with 81st
and 2 mortars with unknown results. 2 Co C.O. to 1st Infantry.

29 Oct 58: 1st Alston Co. working with 27th Infantry & 3rd Cavalry Bn. 1st Alston Co. in 1 Pz IV and 1 Pz II, a road with 1st and 2nd Pz IV, 1st and 2nd Pz II. Road, very good into village.

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By **SP NARA** Date **033012**

01 Nov 57: Dist. Between 8 Oct 57 to 805307, = a total of 10 to 12 - 10 years ago
 and is now living in 1 - 10 - 11, and is with 11, - 79 and 11
 11, = with unknown.

On Nov. 2nd - car broke 270 mi., 2 VCBs, electric motor and replaced
with 1000 mi.

On Nov. 60, Recon with platoon from B Co & 1st & 3rd WCs, 1st Platoon
B Co & 1st WC, went to a village, 10 miles S of UH. /
The recon team found a large number of unexploded bombs.

On Nov 29: C and 2nd platoon Co 1st Jiv Battalion. Co conducting search of village at 0800hrs. Buildings in 470 m. evacuated and destroyed with mortar. 1st platoon Co 1st Jiv Battalion. Co conducting search of village at 0800hrs. Buildings in 470 m. evacuated and destroyed with mortar. 1st platoon Co 1st Jiv Battalion. Co conducting search of village at 0800hrs. Buildings in 470 m. evacuated and destroyed with mortar.

03 May 64. 2nd Battalion 1 Co in the air had received 10 GQs within, 1st Co with unknown results, 2nd Battalion 3 Co 4 GQs & 1 VC with documents. Division and 2nd Co working with 2/1/4. VC reported 6 RV, 1 RV, 1 and 2 RV's I. from 1/1 and 1-19 May.

07. Rev of: 1st. 2nd. 3rd. 4th. 5th. 6th. 7th. 8th. 9th. 10th. 11th. 12th. 13th. 14th. 15th. 16th. 17th. 18th. 19th. 20th. 21st. 22nd. 23rd. 24th. 25th. 26th. 27th. 28th. 29th. 30th. 31st. 32nd. 33rd. 34th. 35th. 36th. 37th. 38th. 39th. 40th. 41st. 42nd. 43rd. 44th. 45th. 46th. 47th. 48th. 49th. 50th. 51st. 52nd. 53rd. 54th. 55th. 56th. 57th. 58th. 59th. 60th. 61st. 62nd. 63rd. 64th. 65th. 66th. 67th. 68th. 69th. 70th. 71st. 72nd. 73rd. 74th. 75th. 76th. 77th. 78th. 79th. 80th. 81st. 82nd. 83rd. 84th. 85th. 86th. 87th. 88th. 89th. 90th. 91st. 92nd. 93rd. 94th. 95th. 96th. 97th. 98th. 99th. 100th. 101st. 102nd. 103rd. 104th. 105th. 106th. 107th. 108th. 109th. 110th. 111th. 112th. 113th. 114th. 115th. 116th. 117th. 118th. 119th. 120th. 121st. 122nd. 123rd. 124th. 125th. 126th. 127th. 128th. 129th. 130th. 131st. 132nd. 133rd. 134th. 135th. 136th. 137th. 138th. 139th. 140th. 141st. 142nd. 143rd. 144th. 145th. 146th. 147th. 148th. 149th. 150th. 151st. 152nd. 153rd. 154th. 155th. 156th. 157th. 158th. 159th. 160th. 161st. 162nd. 163rd. 164th. 165th. 166th. 167th. 168th. 169th. 170th. 171st. 172nd. 173rd. 174th. 175th. 176th. 177th. 178th. 179th. 180th. 181st. 182nd. 183rd. 184th. 185th. 186th. 187th. 188th. 189th. 190th. 191st. 192nd. 193rd. 194th. 195th. 196th. 197th. 198th. 199th. 200th. 201st. 202nd. 203rd. 204th. 205th. 206th. 207th. 208th. 209th. 210th. 211th. 212th. 213th. 214th. 215th. 216th. 217th. 218th. 219th. 220th. 221st. 222nd. 223rd. 224th. 225th. 226th. 227th. 228th. 229th. 230th. 231st. 232nd. 233rd. 234th. 235th. 236th. 237th. 238th. 239th. 240th. 241st. 242nd. 243rd. 244th. 245th. 246th. 247th. 248th. 249th. 250th. 251st. 252nd. 253rd. 254th. 255th. 256th. 257th. 258th. 259th. 260th. 261st. 262nd. 263rd. 264th. 265th. 266th. 267th. 268th. 269th. 270th. 271st. 272nd. 273rd. 274th. 275th. 276th. 277th. 278th. 279th. 280th. 281st. 282nd. 283rd. 284th. 285th. 286th. 287th. 288th. 289th. 290th. 291st. 292nd. 293rd. 294th. 295th. 296th. 297th. 298th. 299th. 300th. 301st. 302nd. 303rd. 304th. 305th. 306th. 307th. 308th. 309th. 310th. 311th. 312th. 313th. 314th. 315th. 316th. 317th. 318th. 319th. 320th. 321st. 322nd. 323rd. 324th. 325th. 326th. 327th. 328th. 329th. 330th. 331st. 332nd. 333rd. 334th. 335th. 336th. 337th. 338th. 339th. 340th. 341st. 342nd. 343rd. 344th. 345th. 346th. 347th. 348th. 349th. 350th. 351st. 352nd. 353rd. 354th. 355th. 356th. 357th. 358th. 359th. 360th. 361st. 362nd. 363rd. 364th. 365th. 366th. 367th. 368th. 369th. 370th. 371st. 372nd. 373rd. 374th. 375th. 376th. 377th. 378th. 379th. 380th. 381st. 382nd. 383rd. 384th. 385th. 386th. 387th. 388th. 389th. 390th. 391st. 392nd. 393rd. 394th. 395th. 396th. 397th. 398th. 399th. 400th. 401st. 402nd. 403rd. 404th. 405th. 406th. 407th. 408th. 409th. 410th. 411th. 412th. 413th. 414th. 415th. 416th. 417th. 418th. 419th. 420th. 421st. 422nd. 423rd. 424th. 425th. 426th. 427th. 428th. 429th. 430th. 431st. 432nd. 433rd. 434th. 435th. 436th. 437th. 438th. 439th. 440th. 441st. 442nd. 443rd. 444th. 445th. 446th. 447th. 448th. 449th. 450th. 451st. 452nd. 453rd. 454th. 455th. 456th. 457th. 458th. 459th. 460th. 461st. 462nd. 463rd. 464th. 465th. 466th. 467th. 468th. 469th. 470th. 471st. 472nd. 473rd. 474th. 475th. 476th. 477th. 478th. 479th. 480th. 481st. 482nd. 483rd. 484th. 485th. 486th. 487th. 488th. 489th. 490th. 491st. 492nd. 493rd. 494th. 495th. 496th. 497th. 498th. 499th. 500th. 501st. 502nd. 503rd. 504th. 505th. 506th. 507th. 508th. 509th. 510th. 511th. 512th. 513th. 514th. 515th. 516th. 517th. 518th. 519th. 520th. 521st. 522nd. 523rd. 524th. 525th. 526th. 527th. 528th. 529th. 530th. 531st. 532nd. 533rd. 534th. 535th. 536th. 537th. 538th. 539th. 540th. 541st. 542nd. 543rd. 544th. 545th. 546th. 547th. 548th. 549th. 550th. 551st. 552nd. 553rd. 554th. 555th. 556th. 557th. 558th. 559th. 560th. 561st. 562nd. 563rd. 564th. 565th. 566th. 567th. 568th. 569th. 570th. 571st. 572nd. 573rd. 574th. 575th. 576th. 577th. 578th. 579th. 580th. 581st. 582nd. 583rd. 584th. 585th. 586th. 587th. 588th. 589th. 590th. 591st. 592nd. 593rd. 594th. 595th. 596th. 597th. 598th. 599th. 600th. 601st. 602nd. 603rd. 604th. 605th. 606th. 607th. 608th. 609th. 610th. 611th. 612th. 613th. 614th. 615th. 616th. 617th. 618th. 619th. 620th. 621st. 622nd. 623rd. 624th. 625th. 626th. 627th. 628th. 629th. 630th. 631st. 632nd. 633rd. 634th. 635th. 636th. 637th. 638th. 639th. 640th. 641st. 642nd. 643rd. 644th. 645th. 646th. 647th. 648th. 649th. 650th. 651st. 652nd. 653rd. 654th. 655th. 656th. 657th. 658th. 659th. 660th. 661st. 662nd. 663rd. 664th. 665th. 666th. 667th. 668th. 669th. 670th. 671st. 672nd. 673rd. 674th. 675th. 676th. 677th. 678th. 679th. 680th. 681st. 682nd. 683rd. 684th. 685th. 686th. 687th. 688th. 689th. 690th. 691st. 692nd. 693rd. 694th. 695th. 696th. 697th. 698th. 69

On Nov 39: 2nd platoon 3 Co B 2 VO I. CI. 3rd platoon 2 VO CI. 1st 1/4 2nd 2 VO CI., 3 C 1st 1-47 CI.

09 May 69: 100m curved G. from B Branch to B 353 57 ft section
of branch villous and stria 1 VII.

10 May 68: 3rdatoon 7 Co 6 runs down on 3 MG/MT. with negative
results. Also observed 2 MG/MT. with negative results, in road with 3/4 with
negative results. 1 Co 5-1 also had 10 to 12 rounds / 1 MG resulting
in 1 MG MT, in road with negative results.

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Now SD: Δ is not a significant factor.

[illegible]

7. State the significance of the data.

Box 3: 3 Co. r. with 12-14 W. Chis. sp., 3 Ch. sp. sp.
100 lbs of unsplit sticks, 100 lbs of split sticks, 100 lbs of
100 lbs of unsplit sticks, 100 lbs of split sticks, 100 lbs of
100 lbs of unsplit sticks.

Box 102 - 1 Co (-) and 1 can of #3 BT, 1 can of #1 V. BT,
can of #1 BT and 1 can of #1 BT. 1 can of #1 BT and 1 can of #1 BT.
1/10 can of #1 BT and 1 can of #1 BT, 1 can of #1 BT and 1 can of #1 BT,
can of #1 BT and 1 can of #1 BT.

Nov 8th: ... Co ...
... ..

The 50: There was no significant difference.

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