

13 JUNE

1. General Situation:

A. The situation remains basically the same. Elements of the 23rd Div continued moving out from the city in their respective AO's without meeting too much resistance. Very light ABF's were reported by the Div. The QL 14 operation continues with no significant progress reported. There have been unconfirmed reports of some enemy units withdrawing from the pass area and moving to the NE.

There were several minor contacts in Binh Dinh prov. Today, however, no enemy initiated activity was reported.

B. KTM was quiet again today. Units are still reporting finding enemy bodies KBA. Light contact was reported by the 4145th NW of the city. A small ammo dump in the vic. of the 44th CP was touched off during an ABF this afternoon. The ammunition was destroyed in the ensuing fire. Last night 19 C130's landed without incident. This morning there was a total of 12,000 gals of 504 at the airfield, however, some difficulty with the pumps temporarily put the system out of commission. The problem appears to be minor and we expect the POL point to be fully operational tomorrow. Our CH-47's continued to fly tonight. The intent is to get as much work

done during this lull in activity and good wx as possible. A.F. Tac air blew a bridge on QL 14 South of VO Binh in close proximity to our CH-47 sitting on the highway. Unfortunately some of the ordnance landed on our Chinook and it is completely destroyed. We plan to present the 7th AF. representatives here, Col Amenholt, with a Bill tomorrow morning.

C. The QL 14 operation is taking on the same general complexion as the first venture into the pass. Progress has been reported but the enemy is still there and the road is still closed. The engineers are still working on trying to open the road between Plei Mrong and KTM. The 3rd Cav providing security for the engineers was attacked by an unknown size enemy force. The friendly suffered 14 KIA and 3 AP's damaged. There were reports of ABF's against FSB's 41 and 41A no serious damage was reported.

2. Synopsis of ops - 41/1418

West 16/8/5

CH-47	sorties	PAX	Tons	Hours
East	25	37	35.0	5.5
West	80	364	97.5	24.0

3. Air Cav Ops:

A. H/17th: The troop conducted reconnaissance mission SE of KTM city. A large bunker complex was observed about 5KM East of the city near the river. Some of the bunkers were large and reinforced with steel. The LOH A/C received intense small arms fire from the area. The air was very responsive and was on target within 15 min. A BDA conducted by the LOH revealed that the large bunkers were destroyed and several enemy dead were observed. The A/C did not receive any more fire. The CAV commander believes there is a build up in the area SE of KTM however, the river is high and should present an obstacle to enemy movement further North. A VR of the high ground SE of Vo Dinh revealed more fighting positions and bunkers. There is evidence of recent enemy movement in the area however, there were no troops observed.

B. H/10: The unit investigated yesterday's reports of vehicle traffic NE of PUA. After extensive VR's nothing of significance could be found. There is some evidence of troop movement from N to S. The troop worked the area around Plei Djereng in the afternoon. Several small bridges were found and

there are indications of recent vehicle traffic on the road running north and South, west of the river. These same area will be looked at again tomorrow.

4. Misc:

A. Low clouds & fog hampered ops this morning but this afternoon and evening we had the best wx that we have had in a long time. Even the usual afternoon and evening thunder showers failed to materialize and our A/C were able to operate without hindrance from the wx. The hooks continued to operate until 2200 hrs this evening.

B. Nothing really serious occurred but a series of minor problems plagued our ops at KTM today.

Broken down vehicles, fuel pumps that wouldn't pump, generators that didn't gen, and the weirdest of all, 10,000 missing gallons of JP-4, all combined to hamper operations. It appears that last night the AF C130's dropped the JP4 blunts off at a different location on the airfield from that normally used. ARVN then picked up the fuel and moved it away not realizing what it was. It was announced by the 64 this morning that the A.F. had delivered 10,000 gals to the airfield last night but that it

could not now be located. This resulted in the missing JPY cager and it was early afternoon before the blivets were finally located and moved to a position on the airfield from which the fuel could be pumped into the storage tanks. Temporary fixes were made today to solve the other problems and actions taken which should provide longer range solutions.

C. General Healy was gone most of the day on a visit to the coast with Gen Hoan. They returned about 1530 hrs this afternoon and nothing significant was reported. This fitted the tenor of today's overall operations - nothing significant.