

Mass DTD 29 APR

1. general: The overall situation in the Kontum area remains fluid and confused. The 22nd Div is being moved to Camp Enore to refit and reorganize. The 23rd Div is preparing for the defense of Kontum city. Friendly elements still occupy Ben Hat, Dak Pek, and Dak Haeng. Overall assessment is that the coming 48 hours will be especially critical for Kontum city. Defensive lines and positions have not been established, although an area defense plan for an encircled Kontum city has been prepared. Traffic on QL 14 has been stopped at the Kontum Pass.
2. Synopsis of operations:
 - a. In MAR 82 the 17th CAG is committed for every available Cobra (varies from 10 to 16) usually 40 sticks, and 6 to 7 hooks per day.
 - b. Eagle units: committed sticks are being used almost without exception in the Kontum - Pleiku area on C+I missions. Excluding the car guns the Cobras have been placed on standby. Today the hooks carried rice from Pleiku to Kontum city. On the back haul they carried casualties, 22nd Div Personnel, U.S. evacuees & families of senior

GVN officials to the Pleiku - Enari area. In addition, one us slick and two VNAF ships were beackhauled.

The boats moved 662 Pax from Kontum to Pleiku from 1700 to 2030 hours for a total of 1037 for the day.

c. Eagle East: Today all personnel (30) were extracted under fire from the MACV compound at Bong Son. One ship from 201st CAC was hit and forced to land at Lane AAF.

d. Eagle East commitment for 30 April will be 18 ships 6 cobras.

The daily commitment for 201 CAC is 6 OH 58 and 7 ships (this is not included in the Eagle East total) to eight coastal and southern provinces.

3. Air CAV Operations

The normal cav package consists of 4/4/4. B/7/17 is being employed in Kontum province. Today the troop conducted VR's West + North West of Kontum city. considerable activity was observed in the BECC zone. Several groups of enemy personnel was observed + engaged. a double barrel 14.5 MM at ZB 182992 was sited. a friendly firing incident occurred at ZB 180015 at 1600 hours resulting in 4 ARVN KIA. Positive clearance to fire was

received from the ARVN backseat. no
repercussions anticipated.

4. Vulnerability Data:

A. The Hook shot down at ZA 190187 on
28 April is still intact and does not appear
to have been damaged by NVA. The two
oboes assigned to B/T/171 that were
shot down at ZB 095174 on 24 April
are still intact. Indications are that
the enemy was apparently been in the
downed aircraft.

b. Information available at SRAG
to C indicates following VNAT
damages: 16 guns damaged and
6 destroyed, 51 ships damaged
and 5 destroyed.

5. TOW DATA: The flight of two UH-1B's
arrived at Holloway at 1600 hours.
Aircraft 554 + 553 are the
B models.