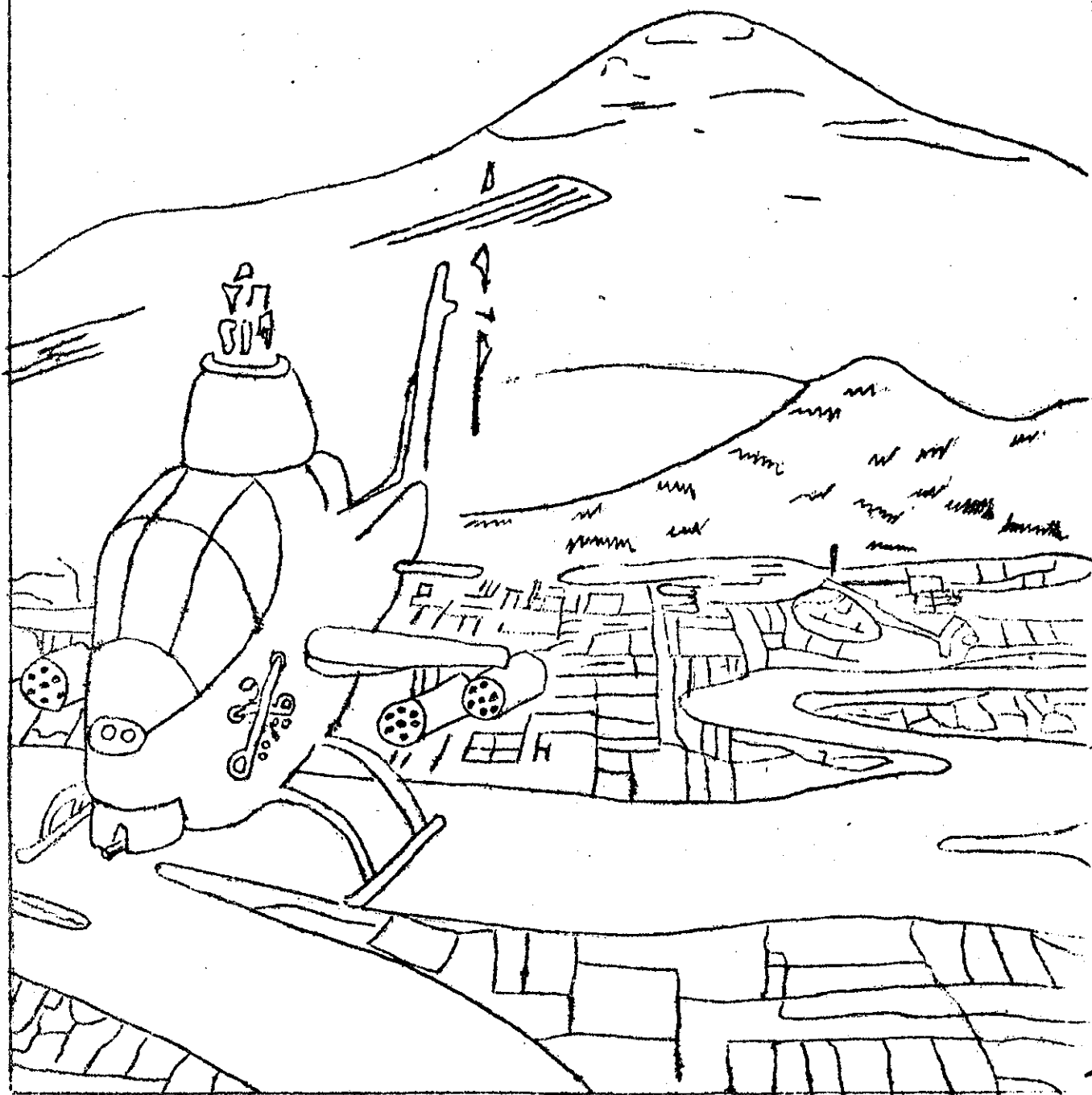


# 1ST SQUADRON



## 3TH CAVALRY QUARTERLY OPERATIONS REPORT



2-15

*2/15/87*

DECLASSIFIED

DAIM-FAR-RR #

19 *mm* DATE: 8 Apr 87

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HEADQUARTERS  
1ST SQUADRON 9TH CAVALRY  
1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)  
APO 96490

AVDARS-3

1 May 1969

SUBJECT: (U) Operational Report of First Squadron, Ninth Cavalry  
for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969. (RCS-CSFOR-65)  
(RL)

TO: Commanding General  
1st Cavalry Division (Airmobile)  
ATTN: AVDAGT-DT  
APO 96490

(U) Under the provisions of AR 525-15, AR 870-5, USARV 525-15,  
and 1ST ACD Reg 525-15, the Quarterly Operational Report is submitted.

*James M. Peterson*  
JAMES M. PETERSON  
LTC ARMOR  
Commanding

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED  
WHEN SEPARATED FROM  
CLASSIFIED ENCLOSURES

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HEADQUARTERS  
1ST SQUADRON 9TH CAVALRY  
1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)  
APO 96490

AVDARS-3

1 May 1969

SUBJECT: (U) Operational Report of First Squadron, Ninth Cavalry,  
for Quarterly Period Ending 30 April 1969. (RCS-CSFOR-65)  
(RL)

## I. (C) Section I, Operations: Significant Activities

A. There were no changes or additions to the unit mission.

## B. Organization:

ASSIGNED UNITSUNIT LOCATION

1st Sqdn, 9th Cav

Phouc Vinh

Headquarters Troop

Phouc Vinh

A Troop (Air)

Tay Ninh

B Troop (Air)

Quan Loi 1 Feb - 17 Mar

Long Binh 17 Mar - 19 Apr

Quan Loi 19 Apr - Present

C Troop (Air)

Phouc Vinh

D Troop (Ground)

Quan Loi 1 Feb - 12 Mar

Phouc Vinh 12 Mar - Present

ATTACHED UNITS

H Company (Rangers), 75th Inf

Phouc Vinh

62nd Inf Platoon (CTT)

Phouc Vinh

## C. COMMAND:

The following are personnel occupying major command and staff positions:

(a) LTC James M. Peterson Squadron Commander

(b) MAJ Frank S. Stewart, Jr. Squadron Executive Officer

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5200.10 DOD DIR 5200.00

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19 mmDATE: 8 Apr 87~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(c)	CPT Eduardo Yates	Adjutant
(d)	1LT John B. Ramsaur	S-2
(e)	MAJ Peter M. Noyes	S-3
(f)	CPT Michael J. Havrilla	S-4
(g)	MAJ Allen F. Pulber	Maintenance Officer
(h)	CPT Charles Blanco	Signal Officer
(i)	CPT Michael J. Flannery	Safety Officer
(j)	CPT James J. LaNasa, Jr.	Flight Surgeon
(k)	CPT James R. Roberson	Chaplain
(l)	1LT Robert M. Hanson	CO, Headquarters Troop
(m)	MAJ Frederick N. Olson	CO, Troop A
(n)	MAJ John M. Toolson, Jr.	CO, Troop B
(o)	MAJ Thomas M. Felton	CO, Troop C
(p)	CPT Norman E. Lorsung	CO, Troop D
(q)	CPT George Paccarelli	CO, Co H, 75th Inf.
(r)	1LT Richard K. Baumer	CO, 62nd Inf Plat (CTT)

D. Unit Strength as of 30 April 1969:

## 1. Military:

	OFF		WO		EM		TOTAL	
UNIT	AUTH	O/H	AUTH	O/H	AUTH	O/H	AUTH	O/H
HHT	19	18	6	6	186	184	211	208
A	18	24	30	31	110	110	158	165
B	18	20	30	26	110	99	158	145
C	18	19	30	28	110	119	158	166
D	5	6	0	0	132	121	137	127
H Co	3	2	0	0	138	98	141	100
62 Inf	1	1	0	0	22	18	23	19
1/9	82	90	96	91	808	749	986	930

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(c) CPT Eduardo Yates Adjutant  
 (d) 1LT John B. Ramsdell S-2  
 (e) MAJ Peter M. Noyes S-3  
 (f) CPT Michael J. Havrilla S-4  
 (g) MAJ Allen F. Pulver Maintenance Officer  
 (h) CPT Charles Blanco Signal Officer  
 (i) CPT Michael J. Flannery Safety Officer  
 (j) CPT James J. LaNasa, Jr. Flight Surgeon  
 (k) CPT James R. Roberson Chaplain  
 (l) 1LT Robert M. Hanson CO, Headquarters Troop  
 (m) MAJ Frederick N. Olson CO, Troop A  
 (n) MAJ John M. Toolson, Jr. CO, Troop B  
 (o) MAJ Thomas M. Felton CO, Troop C  
 (p) CPT Norman E. Lorsung CO, Troop D  
 (q) CPT George Paccerali CO, Co H, 75th Inf.  
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D	5	6	0	0	132	121	137	127
H Co	3	2	0	0	138	98	141	100
62 Inf	1	1	0	0	22	18	23	19
1/9	82	90	96	91	808	749	986	930

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## 2. CIVILIANS:

	TECH REPS		US CIV		"KIT CARSON"		3rd NAT	
UNIT	AUTH	O/H	AUTH	O/H	AUTH	O/H	AUTH	O/H
HHT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
B	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
C	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
D	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	0
H Co	0	0	0	0	6	3	0	0
62nd	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1/9	0	0	0	0	12	8	0	0

## E. Aircraft Authorized/On Hand

	UH-1B/C		UH-1H		AH-1G		OH-6A	
UNIT	AUTH	O/H	AUTH	O/H	AUTH	O/H	AUTH	O/H
HHT	2	2	5	5	0	0	0	0
A	2	2	6	6	9	8	10	10
B	2	1	6	6	9	9	10	10
C	2	2	6	6	9	9	10	10
1/9	8	7	23	23	27	26	30	30

## F. Cumulative Totals

UNIT	ENEMY NVA/VC KIA	POW	INDIV WEAPONS	C/S WEAPONS	RICE
A.	100	0	26	0	30 Ton
B	168	0	5	0	0
C	348	1	17	10	3070 lbs
D	5	0	1	10	85 lbs
H Co	59	2	19	3	2400 lbs
62 Inf.	0	0	0	0	0
1/9	722	3	68	13	32 3/4 Tons

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## 3. Friendly

UNIT	KIA	WIA	MIA	A/C HIT	A/C DESTROY	VEH DESTROY
A	10	22	0	23	5	0
B	11	15	0	14	7	0
C	4	29	0	30	5	0
D	12	27	0	N/A	N/A	3
H	4	18	0	N/A	N/A	0
62 Inf	0	0	0	0	0	0
1/9	41	111	0	67	17	3

## G. Personnel

1. Personnel has functioned normally throughout this Quarterly Period. They have not experienced any real problem areas, however, the Squadron is having difficulty obtaining a personnel NCO. *flight records clerk.*

2. The Squadron gained a total of 286 personnel and lost a total of 247 for a net gain of 39 personnel for the quarter.

MONTH	GAIN	LOSSES	LOSSES (CASUALTY)
FEBRUARY	Off-3 WO-9 EM-81	Off-7 WO-9 EM-52	Off-3 WO-3 EM-32
MARCH	Off-14 WO-21 EM-78	Off-5 WO-9 EM-35	Off-0 WO-3 EM-8
APRIL	Off-13 WO-13 EM-54	Off-4 WO-6 EM-44	Off-3 WO-6 EM-18
TOTAL	Off-30 WO-43 EM-213	Off-16 WO-24 EM-131	Off-6 WO-12 EM-58

3. The Squadron used 165 promotion allocations during the quarter, of which 59 were impact promotions without regard to time in grade or time in service.

MONTH		E-4	E-5	E-6
FEBRUARY	Impact	11	10	3
	Regular	8	20	2

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<u>MONTH</u>		<u>E-4</u>	<u>E-5</u>	<u>E-6</u>
MARCH	Impact	5	9	1
	Regular	25	28	1
APRIL	Impact	8	9	3
	Regular	5	14	3
TOTAL	Impact	24	28	7
	Regular	38	62	6

4. The members of this Command received 586 awards for this Quarterly period broken down as follows:

SS.....9	BS.....99
DFC.....29	AM.....148
BS/V....25	ACM.....49
AM/V....40	PH.....116
ACM/V...71	

5. The Squadron received a total of 206 out-of-country R&R allocations, of which 25 were not used.

Bangkok.....25	Penang.....6
Hawaii.....45	Singapore.....6
Hong Kong.....29	Sydney.....31
Kuala Lumpur.....5	Taipei.....22
Manila.....0	Tokyo.....12

In addition, the Squadron received a total of 46 in-country R&R allocations of which 10 were for officers and 36 for EM. Four officers and 6 EM allocations were not used.

6. The following Courts Martials were completed during this Quarterly Period.

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>GENERAL</u>	<u>SPECIAL</u>	<u>SUMMARY</u>
February	0	2	0
March	0	2	0
April	1	1	2

#### H. Intelligence

The S-2 section continued to receive and compile daily intelligence gathered by the line troops. During the past quarter one Kit Carson Scout was processed into the Squadron. Physical security control was reviewed and updated with a view towards standardization of control measures throughout the Squadron.

#### I. Operations

1. During the reporting period A, B, and C Troops remained under 1/9 Cav control, co-located and in support of the 1st, 3rd and 2nd Brigade areas of operations respectively. The Squadron remained

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in general support of the FIRST TEAM.

2. During the reporting period 1/9 Cav conducted extensive reconnaissance and surveillance operations throughout the Divisions AC on a daily basis. Extensive first and last light reconnaissance was performed on a daily basis around Quan Loi and Phuoc Vinh.

3. Routine missions for the Squadron for this reporting period were: locating targets for airstrikes, bomb damage assessment, "sniffer" missions, visual reconnaissance, rocket and mortar position reconnaissance, insertion of the Troop's Aero Rifle Platoons to conduct ground reconnaissance and to secure downed aircraft, insertion and extraction of Long Range Reconnaissance Patrols, providing combat support for the Combat Tracker Teams to and from the area of contact, and the insertion of special detection devices.

4. Many of the FIRST TEAMS successful engagements were initiated by sightings or contacts by units of the Squadron.

#### A. February:

1. One of the most significant contacts for the 1/9 during this quarterly period occurred on 12 February. The action was initiated when a B Troop Aero Scout helicopter was shot down and destroyed by 50 Caliber and automatic weapons fire from an estimated NVA battalion moving through a rubber plantation just east of Song Be Province. Another scout helicopter assisting in the effort to extract the downed crew received fire from three sides, taking numerous hits, and eventually crashed one kilometer to the north of the first downed aircraft. One squad from the Aero Rifle Platoon was inserted at each downed aircraft to secure the crew and aircraft. Both squads encountered intense machine gun and automatic weapons fire; upon returning fire they killed 3 NVA while suffering five wounded. Both rifle squads were immediately extracted as was the crew of the scout helicopter that landed to the north. The whole operation was supported by C Troop, ARA, Tac Air, and Artillery. Continuous fire was placed on the enemy until dark. A bomb damage assessment confirmed 66 enemy KIA while B Troop suffered three KIA, the crew of the first helicopter hit, and five WIA.

2. On 15 February in an area 1 kilometers east of Nui Ba Dien Mountain, A Troop encountered heavy enemy contact when an LOH was shot down. The Aero Rifle Platoon was inserted to extract the crew and secure the aircraft. During the extraction of the rifle platoon, the lift helicopters encountered heavy small arms and RPGS or B-40 fire. Two lift ships were shot down, crashed, and burned. A Troop suffered five KIA and 13 WIA during the brief encounter, which was followed by an immediate B-52 strike and ground raid. Enemy casualties could not be assessed.

3. On 19 February C Troop located an enemy base camp at YT238368. While waiting for artillery, eight enemy were killed by helicopter, weapons and severed by artillery. Following the barrage

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of artillery the C Troop Aero Rifle Platoon was inserted and destroyed the enemy base camp. Their efforts led to the death of 6 NVA soldiers and the seizure of numerous small items of equipment.

4. On 22 February a Scout Helicopter from C Troop spotted a suspected enemy cache site at YT122568. The Aero Weapons Platoon immediately engaged the area with organic weapons. Their expert marksmanship led to 12 NVA killed, the destruction of 12 bicycles, 1000 pounds of rice, an 8 by 10 foot hut and destruction of over a ton of rice throughout the area.

5. At YT100279 C Troop spotted 30 individuals wearing black and green clothing. Some were resting along the bank of a stream while others were washing clothing in the stream. The troop commander called for artillery and an airstrike while his troop fixed the enemy with organic weapons. The coordinated effort caused numerous secondary explosions. The combined fire power killed 23 NVA plus an additional possible 10.

**B. March:**

1. On 10 March at XT545883 to XT545885 B Troop spotted approximately 30 NVA in new uniforms, new web gear, and new AK-47 rifles in what appeared to be a resting area. Aerial Rocket Artillery (ARA) and an airstrike were called to inflict maximum casualties. The final results were 7 NVA killed by helicopter, 7 killed by the air strike, 4 killed by ARA and several blood trails leaving the area.

2. Following the winter-spring NVA offensive of 1969 numerous NVA were spotted maneuvering, almost daily, in small groups. This led to the destruction of a large number of NVA/VC over a period of time, an example of which action follows, for the day of 11 March 1969. At 0820 hours at XT565701 three NVA were spotted moving to the North, all three were killed by helicopter weapons. At 0850 hours at 569708 three individuals one being carried on a stretcher, were observed evading to the north; again all three were killed by helicopter weapons. At 0930 at 562717, eight NVA were spotted moving to the north; they were engaged by helicopter organic weapons killing all eight. At 1116 hours at 567721 three individuals were observed hiding in the bushes by a LOH; all three were killed by helicopter weapons. At 1442 two more NVA were spotted evading to the north at XT548798, they were engaged with organic weapons killing one and wounding the other. These small, relatively insignificant contacts, gave C Troop a significant day with eighteen kills.

**C. April;**

1. On 2 April at XT233774 A Troop Aero Rifle Platoon was inserted to conduct ground reconnaissance of an area where a helicopter had recently been shot down. At YT238794 the Aero Rifle Platoon destroyed a 25 foot long bridge crossing a stream. At 1120 they entered an enemy base camp area of numerous well concealed bunkers with overhead cover and cook stoves. At 1130 hours, in the

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

same area, they destroyed two 15X20 foot long structures. And found several new graves. Eight tons of rice were destroyed by C-4 and burning. At 1400 hours in the vicinity of 223792 the Aero Rifle Platoon was pinned down by heavy enemy fire. With the aid of an airstrike and Aerial Rocket Artillery contact was broken with one may wounded while four NVA were killed. The mortar rounds and bunkers. At XT221791 another bunker complex with clothing, food, hand grenades, and documents scattered about was located. Documents and notebooks were confiscated and the platoon was extracted at 1625. The efforts of A Troop's Aero Rifle Platoon led to the discovery of a large NVA base camp and cache area along with valuable information found in the documents.

2. On 10 April in the vicinity of XT167796 a Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol encountered an overwhelming enemy force. The five man patrol was surrounded, and by 0930 the team, suffered 2 KIA and 2 WIA in the action. The extraction helicopters were unable to pick up the patrol until 1030 due to the heavy enemy action. Throughout this Quarterly Period the LRRP'S have provided the FIRST TEAM WITH irreplaceable information.

3. On 13 April A Troop assisted the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment, which was attached to the 1st Cav Div on 12 April, by providing aerial reconnaissance. A Troop flew extensive visual reconnaissance and secured two downed aircraft organic to the 11th ACR. This operation lasted through the 20th of April and the coordinated results were over 150 NVA killed, several POW's captured, documents confiscated, and a large quantity of material captured.

4. At 1000 on the morning of 18 April A Troop called for an air strike at XT407760. The air strike caused one large secondary explosion, opened two underground mess halls 20X30 feet with 12 wooden tables in each mess hall, one office type building containing desks and filing cabinets, 9 billets with bunk beds, several other buildings and numerous bunkers throughout the area. The A Troop Aero Rifle Platoon was inserted at 1500. The complex was so extensive that assistance was required to fully exploit the complex. At 1535 hours they realized they had hit a large NVA hospital complex. After finding 31 tons of rice and numerous medical supplies the decision was made to remain in the position over night. By late afternoon the Aero Rifle Platoon and the reaction force (B 2/5) had gathered two laundry bags of documents, numerous chicom grenades, claymores, books, propaganda, and medical supplies. The remainder of the afternoon was spent making an LZ so the equipment could be evacuated. The Aero Rifle Platoon was extracted at 1711 on 19 April.

5. On the 22nd of April the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment moved to Quan Loi. B Troop, which had moved from Long Binh to Quan Loi on 19 April was assigned the mission of augmenting the 11th ACR Air Cavalry Support along with supporting the third Brigade. B Troop, reinforced by A and C Troops, provided two "Pink Teams" daily for the 11th ACR performing extensive visual reconnaissance and secured two of the 11th ACR's LOH's that were shot down by NVA anti-aircraft emplacements. On the 27th of April at XT474731 the

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11th ACR located a large weapons cache containing 171 SKS rifles, mortars, machine guns, and a large quantity of ammunition previously located by C Troop on 17 April.

6. On 25 April a Vietnamese unit was in contact with an NVA Regiment in the vicinity of YU447403, well out of the FIRST TEAM's AO. At 1715 Squadron received a call that a medevac helicopter had been shot down by heavy anti aircraft weapons and that the crew and patients were pinned in the helicopter. B Troop immediately dispatched their Aero Rifle Platoon to the location to provide assistance. With complete disregard for their personal safety, a lift ship hovered over the downed helicopter while the riflemen repelled into the wreckage. They freed the crew and passengers and saw all lifted out safely except one who was dead on their arrival.

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J. Supply

1. The Squadron continued to send two to four 2½ ton trucks every three weeks to the 15th S&S at Bien Hoa to procure Class II and IV bulk items. This was supplimented by UH-1H missions as necessary.

5-4/ 2. The Squadron used over <sup>4,257</sup> 650,000 rounds of 7.62MM, <sup>995,300</sup> 7,500 2.75 rockets, and 1500 WP grenades this quarter. WP grenades were unavailable from the middle of March to the middle of April seriously curtailing the Squadron's firebug missions.

3. A shortage of flight safety equipment still existed through this quarter. Items in demand were nomex flight suits and gloves, ballistic helmets, and armor body breast plates. There is also a shortage of 1/4 and 3/4 ton vehicles. The forementioned items are arriving in country, however, in insufficient quantity to alleviate the shortages.

4. A shortage of radio sets <sup>is still existing</sup> and the Squadron is attempting to procure them.

K. Aviation Maintenance

1. Working long and arduous hours under the expert guidance of a new Squadron Maintenance Officer, the Squadron aircraft availability has increased to over 70 percent without subtracting from overall flight time.

2. ~~During the last three months a total of 65 aircraft were either gained or lost.~~

2 3. The following was accomplished by Squadron during this Quarter:

- a. Coordinated retro fit of AH-1G TAT 102 on 5 A/C.
- b. Gave a class on TAERS to pertinent personnel within the Squadron.
- c. Conducted inspections of Troop motor pools and aircraft maintenance.
- d. Made several technical assistance visits to B Troop.
- e. Started a maintenance news letter.
- f. Initiated a Squadron OJT program.
- g. Held monthly maintenance meetings.
- h. Coordinated DS maintenance assistance visits.
- i. Member of study group for detachment concept.
- j. Established a seperate motor pool for C Troop.
- k. Assisted Troops in establishing PLL.

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#### L. Safety

The Squadron results in safety should improve considerably in the next Quarterly Period with the recent addition of a school trained Squadron Safety Officer. Currently maximum effort is being placed on updating the Squadron Safety SOP and flight standardization.

2. One of the difficulties being experienced in aviation safety has been the influence of new relatively inexperienced personnel while the more experienced personnel, IP's and SIP's are rotating. This problem should be reduced with the recent addition of a well qualified IP who is the Squadron SIP. The Squadron is now in the process of instituting what should prove to be most effective flight standardization program.

#### 3. Aircraft Accidents

	<u>February</u>	<u>March</u>	<u>April</u>	<u>Total</u>
HHT	0	0	0	0
A Troop	0	2	1	3
B Troop	0	0	3	3
C Troop	0	0	1	1
1/9	0	2	5	7

#### 4. Vehicle Accidents

	<u>Feb</u>	<u>Mar</u>	<u>Apr</u>	<u>Total</u>
HHT	0	0	0	0
A	0	0	0	0
B	0	0	0	0
C	0	0	0	0
D	0	0	0	0
H Co	0	0	0	0
62 Inf	0	0	0	0
1/9	0	0	0	0

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Annex A To Operations

SUBJECT: Name of Operations in which involved and Area of Operations.

1. First Squadron, Ninth Cavalry was involved in Toan Thang II from 1 February through 17 February. From 18 February through 30 April the unit was involved in Toan Thang III.

2. Listed below are the areas of operations that the Troops of the Squadron worked in throughout this Quarterly Period.

A Troop

- |                       |                          |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. AO Navajo Warhorse | 1 February - 13 February |
| 2. AO Sheridan Saber  | 1 February - 12 March    |
| 3. AO Montana Scout   | 13 March - 30 April      |

B Troop

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. AO Sheridan Saber | 1 February - 12 March |
| 2. AO Cheynne Saber  | 13 March - 20 April   |
| 3. AO Montana Scout  | 21 April - 30 April   |

C Troop

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. AO Wolfe          | 1 February - 30 April   |
| 2. AO Sheridan Saber | 1 February - 4 February |
| 3. AO Cheynne Saber  | 4 February - 12 March   |
| 4. AO Montana Scout  | 13 March - 30 April     |

D Troop

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. AO Sheridan Saber | 1 February - 12 March |
| 2. AO Wolfe          | 13 March - 30 April   |

Both H Company and the Combat Tracker Team, 62nd Infantry, conducted operations in all of the above AO's.

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