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A TROOP
1ST SQUADRON 9TH CAVALRY
1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)
APO San Francisco, California 96490

AVDARS-A

1 December 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report - November 1969

Commanding Officer
1st Sqdn 9th Cav
1st Air Cav Div
ATTN: S-3
APO SF 96490

1. Significant Organization and Unit Activities:

a. Principle Operations:

On 4 November 1969, at 0750 hours, at grid coordinates XT 367768, Apache 16 received light AK47 and automatic weapons fire resulting in two hits and slight shrapnel wounds to all three crew members. At 0915 hours, Apache Red and Apache 19 checked out area where 16 received fire and spotted three (3) NVA. They engaged with organics resulting in three (3) NVA KBH. At 0950 hours, Apache 23 and Apache 19 returned again to this location and spotted one (1) .51 caliber machine gun. Engaged with organics, requested air strike and called in artillery. A BDA of the area resulted in eight (8) NVA KBH, three (3) NVA KBRL, and two (2) NVA KBA. At 1005 hours, Apache 23 and Apache 19 spotted one (1) additional .51 caliber machine gun with crew at this same location. Engaged with organics, air strike and artillery resulting in one (1) NVA KBH, one (1) NVA KBA, one (1) NVA KBRL and one (1) .51 caliber machine gun partially destroyed. At 1130 hours, Apache Blues were inserted at grid coordinates XT 369764, the Landing Zone was red. At 1520 hours, at grid coordinates 372775, Apache 23 and Apache 19 spotted six (6) NVA evading to the north. They engaged with organics resulting in two (2) NVA KBH. At 1510 hours, at grid coordinates XT 369769, Apache Blues found three (3) NVA bodies, two (2) packs and other assorted items of equipment. At 1615 hours, at this same location, Apache Blues made contact with two (2) individuals in a bunker. Blues engaged the individuals resulting in two (2) NVA KIA. At 1630 hours, at grid coordinates XT 374778, Apache Red and Apache White spotted eight (8) NVA in a bunker complex. Engaged with organics resulting in four (4) NVA KBH. At 1645 hours, at grid coordinates 372764, Apache Red and Apache 19 spotted one (1) NVA evading to the north. Engaged with organics resulting in one (1) NVA KBH. At 1845 hours, at grid coordinates XT 369764, Apache Blues were extracted PZ green. At 1850 hours, at grid coordinates XT 365732, Apache 28 and Apache 11 spotted one (1) NVA evading to the north. Engaged with organics resulting in one (1) NVA KBH.

2-12

File in

DATE: 8 Apr 87
DAIM-FAR-RR # 19
DECLASSIFIED

1 December 1969

On 8 November 1969, at 0735 hours, at Tay Ninh Base Camp, Apache 27 and Apache 19 spotted One (1) individual off of the green line as they were departing. Apache pulled a snatch mission resulting in one (1) NVA POW and one (1) captured chicom K-45 pistol. Individual was turned over to Stingray.

On 12 November 1969, at 1300 hours, at grid coordinates XT 258852, Apache Blues were inserted to recon a bunker complex. After moving into the complex, they found two (2) pairs of green fatigues, two (2) "GI" type helmets, and two (2) belts. Approximately 1345 hours they came across two (2) NVA in a bunker. While engaging these individuals, they were flanked by an estimated platoon size enemy element. Contact was initiated and lasted for approximately thirty (30) minutes. As a result of the engagement, the Blues killed six (6) NVA and picked up the parts of a .51 caliber machine gun, one (1) AK47, one (1) inch of documents, and approximately seventy-five (75) rounds of .51 caliber ammunition.

On 13 November 1969, at 0745 hours at grid coordinates XT 373777, Apache 11 received heavy AK 47 fire suffering fragment wounds in the neck and chest. He set the aircraft down at FSB Ike. Apache 23 engaged the area with organics resulting in one (1) NVA KBH. Artillery was called into the area and an air strike was requested. At 1000 hours, at grid coordinates XT 342811, Apache White received heavy AK47 fire. Apache 28 engaged the area with organics resulting in five (5) NVA KBH. Individuals were wearing Khaki shorts and green shirts and each carried a weapon. Artillery was called in and an air strike was requested. At 1010 hours, at grid coordinates XT355815, Apache White again received heavy AK47 fire. The pilot took two (2) hits in the right leg. He set the aircraft down at FSB Ike. Apache 28 engaged the area with organics resulting in seven (7) NVA KBH. Artillery was called in and an air strike was requested. Individuals were wearing khaki shorts and green shirts.

On 16 November 1969, at 1535 hours, at grid coordinates XT 466847, Apache 19, spotted a .51 caliber machine gun in a pit. He engaged with organics and put an air strike in which missed the target. Apache 34 landed at the sight of the .51 caliber machine gun. The crew jumped from the aircraft and captured the .51 caliber machine gun.

On 18 November 1969, at 1450 hours, at grid coordinates XT 509791, Apache 14 received light AK47 fire with negative hits or injuries. Apache 5 engaged the area resulting in five (5) NVA KBH. Individuals were wearing light green uniforms. They could not determine the number of weapons.

On 21 November 1969, at 0840 hours, at grid coordinates XT 440785, Apache Red and Apache 11 spotted four (4) NVA wearing green uniforms. One (1) was carrying a weapon. Engaged with organics resulting in four (4) NVA KBH.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 8 Dec 87
DAIM-FAR-RR # 19
DECLASSIFIED

On 26 November 1969, at 0710 hours, at grid coordinates XT 267856, Apache 15 received one (1) round of SKS fire. Apache 3A engaged the area with organics and received heavy AK47 fire and .51 caliber machine gun fire with negative hits or injuries. Engaged with artillery and requested an air strike. At 0900 hours, a BDA of the GTAF resulted in eleven (11) KBH, two (2) KBRL, and four (4) killed by Blue Max. At 0940 hours at grid coordinates XT 267856, Apache 15 again received heavy AK47 fire receiving two (2) hits and negative injuries. Apache 3A and Apache 15 engaged with organics resulting in two (2) NVA KBH. At 1800 hours, at grid coordinates XT 228884, Apache 11 received moderate AK47 fire with negative hits or injuries. Apache 3A engaged with organics resulting in three (3) NVA KBH.

On 27 November 1969, at 0610 hours, at grid coordinates XT 223935, Apache 28 and Apache 12 discovered ten (10), one hundred (100) pound bags of rice, Engaged with an airstrike resulting in the discovery of forty (40) one hundred and fifty (150) pound bags of rice. At 1830 hours, at grid coordinates XT 376760, Apache 19 received heavy AK47 fire with negative hits or injuries. Apache 21 and Apache 19 engaged the area with organics resulting in five (5) NVA KBH.

On 28 November 1969, at 1305 hours at grid coordinates XT 373774, Apache 26 and Apache 15 spotted three (3) NVA. Engaged with organics resulting in three (3) NVA KBH. Individuals were wearing green clothing and had negative weapons. At 1430 hours at grid coordinates 257830, Apache 24 and Apache 19 spotted three (3) NVA. Engaged with organics resulting in three (3) NVA KBH. Individuals were wearing black clothing and one individual was carrying an SKS.

b. Base Defense:

- (1) There has not been any incoming rounds in the Troop area.
- (2) "A" Troop supplied sixteen (16) men per night for guard and a Sergeant of the Guard on a regularly scheduled roster for the month of November 1969.
- (3) During the month of November reconstruction of the supplementary bunkers was put into progress. The grass forward of the green line has been burnt.

c. Base Improvement:

- (1) Work on the mess hall continues. A new kitchen has been added and includes a concrete floor. A concrete slab has been laid outside the mess hall to facilitate safe lighting and cleaning of burner units. The dining room is being refinished utilizing lumber from ammo boxes. A new serving line is being built. Several tables have been built for the larger dining room.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 8 Dec 87
DAIM-FAR-RR # 19
DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

AVDARS-A

SUBJECT: Operational Report - November 1969

1 December 1969

(2) Several bunkers (personnel) have been re-built or newly built.

(3) A new grease trap for the mess hall has been installed by PA&E.

d. Training and Organization:

(1) On 4 November 1969, a class on Aviation Safety was conducted. There was one hundred (100) percent attendance.

(2) On 11 November 1969, an exercise of zeroing of individual weapons was conducted. There was one hundred (100) percent attendance.

(3) On 13 November 1969, a class and an exercise of fire control procedures was conducted. There was one hundred (100) percent attendance.

(4) On 18 November 1969, a class on assembly and disassembly of the M-60 machine gun was conducted. There was ninety-five (95) percent attendance.

(5) On 23 November 1969, a class on Mines and Booby Traps was conducted. There was ninety (90) percent attendance.

(6) On 29 November 1969, a class on Rules of Engagement was conducted. There was one hundred (100) percent attendance.

e. Administration and Logistics:

1. Troop Strength:

Authorized			Assigned			Present for Duty		
OFF	WO	EM	OFF	WO	EM	OFF	WO	EM
18	30	110	18	33	141	18	30	133

2. Organization for Combat

CO	MAJ Hardin
XO	CPT Funk
Opns Off	CPT Anderson
Wpns Plt Ldr	CPT Bowen
Scout Plt Ldr	CPT Brannon (1 Nov 69 - 15 Nov 69)
	CPT Dagnon (16 Nov 69 - 30 Nov 69)
Lift Plt Ldr	CPT Ball
Maint Plt Off	CPT Stiver
Rifle Plt Ldr	1LT Qualley

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DATE: 8 Apr 87
 DAIM-FAR-RR # 19
 DECLASSIFIED

1 December 1969

3. Awards and Decorations:

6 Bronze Stars "V"	7 Army Commendation Medals with "V"
5 Bronze Stars	9 Distinguished Flying Cross
7 Air Medals "V"	9 Oakleaf Clusters to the Air Medal
9 Air Medals	5 Army Commendation Medals
6 Purple Hearts	

4. Losses:

Programmed			Unprogrammed		
OFF	WO	EM	OFF	WO	EM
1	0	9	2	1	2

5. Promotions:

0 1LT to CPT	2 SSG to SFC
0 WO1 to CW2	4 SP4 to SP5
1 SP4 to SGT	1 E-5 to E-6
7 PFC to SP4	

6. R & R

0 In-country
14 Out-of-country

7. Replacements:

OFF	WO	EM
3	0	8

8. Logistics:

a. Class I - Class A - 21,650
Class B - 9,975
Class C - 0

b. Class II - Trousers (combat) - 50
Jackets (combat) - 50
Boots (combat) - 25
Socks - 60
Shorts - 40
T-shirts - 40

c. Class III - JP-4 - 89,760
MOGAS - 1,970 (9 vehicles plus generators)
DIESEL - 2,300 (1 POL truck; Generators)

d. Class IV - None

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e. Class V	- 5.56	- 11,760	.45	- 300
	7.62	- 48,400	WP Gren	- 0
	40mm link	- 7,440	Incen Gren	- 432
	40mm M-79	- 240	60mm	- 0
	2.75	- 3,161	81mm	- 0
	.38	- 200	90mm	- 0
	Smoke	- 797	106mm	- 0

2. Losses:

a. Enemy

Month

NVA KBH	180	
NVA KBA	18	
NVA KBRL	8	
NVA KIA	10	
Detainees	0	
NVA Captured	1	
VC Captured	0	
Indiv Wpns Dest	12	
C/S Wpns Captured	1	
Ammo	10	Magazines of AK47 ammo - 75 rnds of .51 cal.
Packs	0	
Rice	600	lbs
Salt	0	
Documents	2	inches

b. Friendly

Month

US KIA	0
US WIA	9
US MIA	0
A/C Firing	26
A/C Hit	6
A/C Hit (No Fly)	1
A/C Fly	4
A/C Dest (Combat)	1
A/C Dest (No Combat)	0
C/S Wpns Lost	0
Indiv Wpns Lost	8
Vehicles Dest (Combat)	0
Vehicles Dest (No Combat)	0
Vehicles turned in	0

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED
 DAIM-FAR-RR # 19
 DATE: 8 Apr 87

1 December 1969

3. Commanders Comments:

a. Armament parts for Cobras such as minigun drive cables, feeder de-linkers and intervalometers continue to be difficult to procure.

b. Movement throughout the A.O. was nearly continuous during the month and varied from very light to heavy. Some rice was found. Virtually no rice had been found by this unit in the two previous months.

4. Recommendations:

a. That a survey be made to determine the reason for the dearth of armament parts for Cobras.

b. That the engineer unit now responsible for completing the construction of this unit's DS Facilities be reminded that the project has not been completed.

c. That further billets be provided to take care of the expanding D.S. detachment. 2/7th Cav will be vacating their buildings in December so space should be available.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

Ronald A Whitesides
RONALD A. WHITESIDES
1LT, ARM
Asst Operations Officer

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DAIM-FAR-RR # 19
DATE: 8 Apr 87