

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 1ST SQUADRON (AIRMOBILE) 9TH CAVALRY
1ST CAVALRY DIVISION (AIRMOBILE)
APO 96490

AVDARS-3

12 October 1969

SUBJECT: Lesson Learned

TO: HQ, A, B, C, Troops
1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry (AM) -
1st Cavalry Division (AM)
APO San Francisco 96490

1. During the afternoon of 4 Oct 69, the Saber Blues were inserted for general reconnaissance at XU 875 205. At 1455 the Blues found a NW-SE trail showing use by 2 individuals, 2 bicycles, and a motorcycle. Exploration of the area continued Blues moving NE an estimated NVA company engaged the Blue platoon with 30 cal machinegun fire, claymore mines, and automatic weapons. The devastating fire power employed by Blue caused contact to break at 1620. There were no U.S. casualty's. Throughout the area there were bandages and other medical items that indicated a NVA hospital was in the immediate vicinity. A QRF from General Motors was inserted to support Saber Blues and continued to search the area. A search of the area revealed six NVA KIA, six NVA KBH and one NVA KBA. Due to darkness and the desire to establish an ambush position, Saber Blues were not extracted. During the last light check of the area, the pink team received heavy 30 caliber machine gun fire from four positions. The team could not engage due to the location of friendly elements. Saber Blues remained in the ambush position until 1530 5 Oct. A Friendly element moving in front of and to the west was ambushed by an estimated reinforced NVA company. Saber blues immediately reinforced the friendly element preventing excessive U.S. casualties. Results of the engagement three NVA KIA, and four U.S. WIA. Saber blues had one WIA in the engagement. Saber Blues moved to PZ and was extracted at 1705 5 Oct 69.
2. The Blue Platoon when inserted, must be capable of remaining over night. Through proper training this can be accomplished with a high degree of safety. It is felt that our Blues are well trained and fully capable of remaining on the ground until the mission is complete. The best way to defeat the enemy is to find him and use all the combined arms firepower to destroy him in place. The Blue platoon is ideal for locating the enemy on the ground as the scout is in the air.

3. Congratulations Saber, your personnel did another outstanding feat

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

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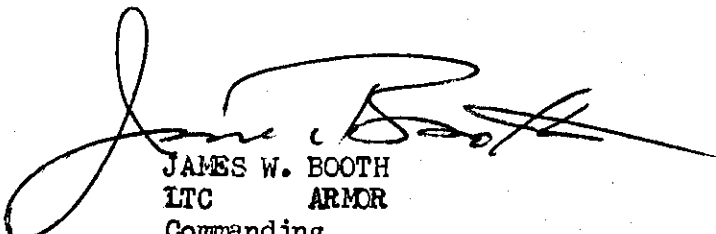
DECLASSIFIED

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

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of destroying the enemy.

12 October 1969


JAMES W. BOOTH
LTC ARMOR
Commanding