

16 January was the day appointed day for 1/11 to begin its move from FSB Marge to FSB Dennis, which is about six kilometers to the west of Marge. The move was to be made by only B Troop, and Headquarters Troops and 2 Platoon of the 919th Engineer Company. The other company sized elements in the squadron were ^{under the} OPCON to other central of other units (A Troop OPCON to 1st Bde, 1st Cav Div; D Company OPCON to 199th LIB). With this reduced force, the 1/11 was to move to CP, but still remain within their same operational area and continue their same general mission, which was to operate around Loc Ninh and also to be able to reinforce 2/11th.

B Troop had one platoon secure Dennis on the 16th. With them was 2/919th. The engineers were hard at work constructing the new fire support base. About two kilometers west of Dennis, the remainder of B Troop conducted ground reconnaissance ~~the~~ through the heavy jungle that typifies that area beyond the rubber plantations around Loc Ninh.

At ~~the~~ Marge, the Headquarters element of First Squadron was prepared for them.

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NARA Date 4/10/01

move on the following day. One platoon of C Troop was there also, securing the perimeter. Much farther to the northeast, C Troop (-) reconnected with the 196 RF Company. These two units moved through the rubber just to the south of QL 14A.

On the next day, B Troop (-) reconned the area within one kilometer of Dennis, while one of its platoons escorted two 8" guns from Marge to Quan Loi. Another platoon accompanied the headquarters element from Marge to Dennis. C Troop, working with 213 RF Company, moved north of QL 14A and began operations in that area.

~~After~~ leaving one platoon to take a LRRP to its area and then to return to secure Dennis, ~~the~~ B Troop rumbled up QL 13 and began reconnoitering north of QL 14 A, ^{with the 294 RF Company} ~~just north of~~ ~~the~~ ~~troop~~ ~~headquarters~~ ~~troop~~ to the southwest. C Troop pressed on through the rubber hunting the elusive enemy. Headquarters troop, returned to Marge and ^{captured} ~~finished~~ "closing" the old base.

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NARA Date 1/10/01

B Troop pushed further to the north on the 19th. The one platoon of B Troop that had remained at Dennis had a hectic day. Half the platoon secured the fire base, while the other half guarded the supply convey from Dennis to Loc Ninh. C Troop ~~and~~ moved to within three kilometers of Loc Ninh for their reconnaissance. One platoon, C Troop, secured the headquarters element in their final day of cleaning up FSB Marge.

On 20 January, Headquarters Troop began a pattern that they followed with slight variations until the Squadron moved to a new AO. The Troop escorted the resupply convey from FSB Dennis to Loc Ninh and returned. Part of B Troop swept QL 13 from FSB Marge north to the junction with QL 14A and then swept QL 13 ^{to the south of Loc Ninh} for about 12 kilometers. ~~and~~ C Troop moved ^{5 kilometers} into the northwest in their search of the enemy.

The search was finally rewarded the next day. C Troop crossed QL 13 near Ap Loc Thanh (1) and began reconning. Just as they crossed the Suoi Nue they came under fire by two NVA battalions.

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Authority NND 873541

Date 11/10/01

They were quickly reinforced by B Troop. ^{After} ~~During~~ the ^{bitter} fighting was finished, 1 US trooper was dead and 7 were wounded. The enemy lost 35 KIA. We also lost two ACAVs and 2 M551 Shermans. B and C Troop were supported in the contact by TAC Air, Air Cavalry Troop helicopters from the 11th ACR, and Blue Max helicopters.

The next day B Troop, with the 294 RF Company, moved to the north of the yesterday's contact while C Troop moved a little to the east of the contact area. ~~Then~~ They had made contact.

On 23 January, both Troops shifted south of QL 14A. B Troop was just east of QL 13, near Ap Loc Thanh (F2). One of its platoons secured QL 13 from FSB Denny to LZ 17 and provided escort vehicles to An Loc. C Troop worked just south of B(-) with the ~~293~~ 293 RF Company.

B(-) moved to ~~the~~ south east on 24 January, ~~working~~ and worked with the 294 RF Company and a MAT Team. C Troop moved north along QL 13 to its junction with QL 14A. They reconnected this general area.

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NARA Date 11/10/01

On 25 January, one platoon from B Troop swept QL13 from Marge to the south (for about 12 kilometers). The B Troop (-) and C Troop combined their forces to recon ~~an~~ area 6 kilometers east of the junction of QL13 and QL14A. At XU810140, they engaged an enemy force, killing two NVA soldiers.

Again on the next day the two Troops ~~recon~~ walked together. This time, they moved about one kilometer to the west of the 25th contact.

On 27 January, the two troops worked separate areas — B Troop worked about 5 kilometers northwest of Loc Ninh and C Troop worked near Dennis with the 294 RF Company.

In preparation of 2/11th move from BuDop and the 1/11th move out of the AO, B Troop picked up the 196 RF Company and swept about 10 kilometers of QL14A. After this, the two units established strong points to secure the road for the convey of "low boys" moving ^{up} to 2/11th CP to pick up the Home Plans. C Troop swept QL13 to the south for about 10 kilometers, ~~as~~

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NARA Date 1/10/01

On 29 January, B Troop ~~for~~ repeated the previous day's action. After the Rome Plow convey ~~moving from~~ (which was now moving back from the 2/11th CP) passed them they ~~did not move with it and moved~~ moved south to FSB Thunder III. ¹⁰ C Troop swept QL13 from Marge to ~~about~~ ^{the south for} 12 kilometers (XT 718980). One platoon of C Troop escorted two 155 Howitzers to FSB Marge. Then when they were at Marge, the remainder of the squadron CP began moving. When the Headquarters element, four 155's, 2/9/9th Engineers all reached Marge, the platoon of C Troop with the ~~two~~ 155's, joined them and the squadron moved ^{south} to Thunder III. A platoon of C Troop remained north of Loc Ninh to act as a blocking force during the move and then also drove to Thunder III. (Notes:

1/11th did not move down QL 13 until after the Rome Plows from 2/11th had passed on their way south.

The next day all the squadron moved from Thunder III to FSB Carolyn and to come under the operational control of 1st Bde, 1st ACD.

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NARA Date 1/10/01

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A Troop along with B/2-7 and D/2-8 Cav. had to delay their operations until two B-52 strikes were completed nearby, within the area. After the strikes at about 1145 hours after the strikes, A Troop with D/2-8 Cav and the Home Plans moved from south of Katum, across the highway 290, to an area about 5 kilometers east of Katum. ^{with afternoon} the element soon entered began cutting in an area of bunker complex. At 1555 hours they received RPG and small arms fire. They returned the fire and were supported by artillery and Blue Max. At 1745 hours the intense fighting ended, 14 NVA were dead. US WIA were 16, but only 9 had to be evacuated.

B Troop reacted to the contact, moving from Rhondo (XT 376844) to help secure the Home Plans and act as a blocking force at XT 411868. They made negative contact. M Company worked with B/2-8 Cav in searching a bunker area near Rhondo - but also made no contact.

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NARA Date 1/10/01

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Team A (A/1/11 and D/2-8 Cav) moved from their NDP (XT 388887) into the bunker complex at ~~the~~ where the contact of the 7th occurred. A tracker team from the 1st Cavalry Division aided them but they made no contact. Before night fall, they moved south to XT 395849 and established a new NDP. They set out an Ambush position near Bo Tue that night.

Team B provided security for the Rome Plaw Company in their move from FSB Ronda to FSB Eric (XT 408840). Then they assisted in building and securing the base.

M Company moved north from their NDP to pick up the Rome Plaw that was damaged by RPG fire on 7 February. They hauled it back to Ronda where they left it. ~~The Plaw~~ continued to Christine where they became the bases ready reaction force.

2/19 Engineers swept the roads from FSB Christine to FSB Ronda and then returned. On their sweep, they found 4 mines.

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Authority NND 873 541

Date 11/10/01

In 9 February the work continued and the missions remained generally unchanged. The engineers swept the road north from Christine and then along 246 from Katum to Ponda. A Troop reconnoitered about 5 kilometers north of Bo Tuc. B Troop secured the Rome Plains.

(10) There was ~~little activity~~ no enemy activity contact on the 10th. The ~~most~~ most significant action was the move of the command post from ~~Christine~~ Christine to Cindy. ^(YT 382815) The move took almost four hours, beginning at 1010 hours and ending at 1355 hours. B Troop secured the Rome Plains as they cut near Eric. A Troop ^{and A/2/8} continued its reconnaissance to the north of Ponda, and returned to its NDP east of Bo Tuc (YT 394849). ~~B Troop~~

(11) A Troop left their NDP at 0705 hours to set up strong points along the road between Katum and FSB Carolyn. This was to secure the road for the 1st Brigade convoy. B Troop secured the Rome Plains as they cut along 246, south east of Eric. A/2/8 conducted a reconnaissance to the south west of Eric, but made no contact.

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NARA Date 1/10/01

Company moved north east of Cindy to reconnoiter that area. 2/9/69 swept the road from Roncha to Beverly. During the day, a headquarters troop M-88 hit a mine at XT 371 864. There were no casualties but the vehicle was a combat loss.

(12)

During the day, A Troop made no enemy contact, although they reconnoitered through the heavy jungle north east of Roncha all day. B Troop secured the Rome Plains as they pushed to the south near FSB Ted. ~~At Ted~~ At Ted, the 2/9/69 Engineers spent the day building and improving the base. M Company conducted reconnaissance operations south of Cindy. Near Cindy they found old trench lines and bunkers which they destroyed.

Later in the day, Brigade radioed that B Troop would use FSB ERIC would be used "on an active basis". ~~This message~~ This meant that B Troop would return to ERIC at night rather than ~~staying~~ staying at Ted. The message stated further that the Plains would cut in this triangular area for 2 or 3 more days only.

While the headquarters ACAVs were returning from their water point to Christine, they spotted an NVA soldier who jumped into a bomb crater to hide. He was captured by the Squadron CO, who landed his helicopter after seeing the enemy, landed his helicopter and captured the man.

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Authority NND 873341

DATE 4/10/01

There was no enemy contact on 13 February, and the missions were basically the same as on 12 February.

A Troop returned ~~to~~ northeast of Ronda. B Troop left Eric to secure the Rose Plains, cutting south of Ted. M Company was operating around Cindy.

- (14) A Troop returned in the northern portion of the Squachai's AO again. B Troop secured the Rose Plains as they continued to cut south of 246. M Company reconnoitered north of Cindy ~~with~~, but found no enemy.

- (15) M Company stopped in Cindy and ~~repacked~~ overhauled their vehicles. ^{One platoon secured the water points.} B Troop secured the Rose Plains. ^{One} of their ~~vehicles~~ ^{ACV's} hit a mine at XT 411833, but there were no casualties. A Troop left Cindy in the morning and headed for Carolyn where they were to become OPCON to ~~A~~ 2/8 Cav. On the way, a vehicle hit a mine at XT 296830, wounding two.

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Date 1/10/01

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M Company conducted reconnaissance south east of Cindy. B Troop secured the Rose Plains near Ted. During the late afternoon, 2/9/19's Engineers had an ACAU ~~hit~~ hit a mine at XT 397847. Two men were wounded.

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at 0025 ~~at Cindy~~, the radar at Cindy picked up movement, ~~at 290 meters~~ located 290 meters from the perimeter and ^{heading in a direction of} 13140 miles. The "busters" fired into the area and the movement stopped. The 1st brigade notified at 0610, to ensure that 1/11 remove all vehicles that were destroyed in combat so the enemy could not use them for propaganda purposes.

2/9/19 left at 0830 to sweep the road ~~for~~ ^{for} mines ~~by~~ north of Cindy.

B Troop, with the Rose Plains, ~~and~~ ^{and} worked and cut south of ~~296~~ Cindy, M Company remained in Cindy as a ready reaction force.

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Date 1/10/01