

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
AIR CAVALRY TROOP, 11TH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT  
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96257

AVIC-YJ

23 JANUARY 1972

SUBJECT: UNIT HISTORY FOR NOVEMBER 1971.

THE AIR CAVALRY TROOP CONTINUED IN NOVEMBER TO SUPPORT ARVN GROUND UNITS WORKING IN TAY NINH PROVINCE AND NEARBY DAU TIENG. SUPPORT WAS ALSO CONTINUED FOR 2D SQUADRON 11TH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT OPERATING OUT OF FIRE SUPPORT BASE ANDREWS IN THE BOI LOI WOODS.

SUPPORT OF ARVN GROUND ELEMENTS CONSISTED PRIMARILY OF VISUAL RECONNAISSANCE TO SUPPLEMENT INTELLIGENCE AVAILABLE ON THEIR AREAS, AND ENEMY ACTIVITY IN THEM. THE TROOP WAS ALSO ABLE TO PROVIDE IMMEDIATE FIRE SUPPORT FOR FRIENDLY TROOPS INVOLVED IN CONTACTS.

THE MONTH PROCEEDED RATHER QUIETLY TO BE MARRED BY TWO CONTACTS SOUTH-EAST OF DAU TIENG, WHERE AN ENTRENCHED ENEMY FORCE WAS LOCATED. THE AREA HAD LONG BEEN SUSPECTED AS AN ENEMY STRONG HOLD WHICH WAS CONFIRMED. IT WAS HERE THAT THE TROOP SUFFERED ITS FIRST LOSS IN 11 MONTHS OF COMBAT OPERATIONS. AN OH-6A LIGHT OBSERVATION HELICOPTER WAS SHOT DOWN KILLING THE OBSERVER, SGT GARNES. A SAD LOSS FOR THE TROOP SGT GARNES HAD A LONG AND DISTINGUISHED RECORD AS A SCOUT OBSERVER ON PREVIOUS TOURS IN VIETNAM. A SPECIAL MEMORIAL SERVICE WAS HELD AND THE FLAG FLOWN AT HALF STAFF IN HIS HONOR.

DURING THE LATTER PART OF NOVEMBER THE TROOP WAS ALERTED TO SUPPORT A RENEWED ARVN DRIVE INTO CAMBODIA, PARTICULARLY THE LONG ESTABLISHED BASE CAMP AREA OF THE CHUP RUBBER PLANTATION. INITIALLY THE TROOP WOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT 25TH ARVN DIVISION AROUND KREK, AND REMAIN IN READINESS AS GENERAL SUPPORT FOR THE ENTIRE OPERATION.

NOVEMBER CLOSED WITH THE TROOP CONTINUING ITS SUPPORT OF 25TH ARVN DIVISION AND SCREENING THE FLANK AND REAR OF THE MAIN OPERATION.

SECOND SQUADRON 11TH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT WAS CONTINUING ITS CONDUCT OF PATROLS AND RECONNAISSANCE IN FORCE OPERATIONS IN AND AROUND THE BOI LOI WOODS IN NOVEMBER. THE AREA HAD BEEN FORMERLY A VIET CONG STRONG HOLD. PRIOR TO ROME PLOW OPERATIONS CONDUCTED EARLIER BY SQUADRON TO DENY THEM THE COVER AND CONCEALMENT OF THE ABUNDANT FOLIAGE. AIR CAVALRY TROOP ELEMENTS SUPPORTED THESE OPERATIONS WITH PINK TEAMS FOR FIRST AND LAST LIGHTS OF THE AREA OF OPERATIONS, AND ON CALL ASSISTANCE BOTH FOR RECONNAISSANCE AND GUN SUPPORT. IN ADDITION MEMBERS OF THE TROOP'S AERIAL RIFLE PLATOON WERE EMPLOYED ON PATROL AND AS A DISMOUNTED ELEMENT FOR THE CONDUCT OF RECONNAISSANCE IN FACE OPERATIONS. TROOP ELEMENTS ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE CONDUCT OF SNATCH MISSIONS OF SUSPICIOUS LOCALS. SQUADRON'S AREA REMAINED QUIET WITH ONLY OCCASIONAL SPOTTINGS OF ISOLATED INDIVIDUALS AND SOME MINOR CACHES.

LTC STOKES AGAIN RECOGNIZED TROOP ACHIEVEMENTS IN AN AWARDS AND DECORATIONS CEREMONY FOR OFFICERS AND MEN OF THE TROOP.

NOVEMBER ALSO SAW THE ARRIVAL OF OUR NEW COMMANDING OFFICER CPT. SAMUEL R. SLAUGHTER.

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