

RG472

912 ID

Cmd Rpt G-3

1967-69

Box 4

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, 2D SQUADRON, 11TH ARMORED CAVALRY REGIMENT
APO San Francisco 96257

AVIC-YT

22 September 1969

SUBJECT: Quarterly Evaluation (QUARTERVAL) (RCS: AVIC-CA-Q-3)

Commanding Officer
11th Armored Cavalry Regiment
ATTN: S-3
APO San Francisco 96257

1. GENERAL:

a. Operations: KENTUCKY COUGAR (Previous Quarter - 7 September)

TOAN THANG Phase III (September 7 - Present)

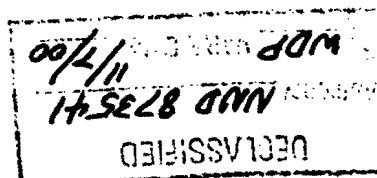
b. For the 2nd Squadron Operation KENTUCKY COUGAR continued from the previous quarter through 7 September. One of the missions was to conduct combined operations with elements of the 9th Infantry Regiment, ARVN, in the area of Loc Ninh and An Loc. For greater coordination of ARVN and US forces a joint Tactical Operations Center was employed. This facilitated the coordination of combat personnel, fire, and supporting fires. It also allowed the combined use of tactical and PsyOps aircraft, artillery and mortars, night vision devices, etc. Also it placed both the US Command and ARVN Command in the same Command and Control aircraft, which improved communication capabilities. The joint Tactical Operations Center improved the efficiency of ARVN and US combined operations.

2. SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS:

GROUP 4 AUTOMATICALLY DECLASSIFIED
AFTER THREE YEARS

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1. Operation KENTUCKY COUGAR was conducted in the following two phases: Loc Ninh Phase and the An Loc Phase.

(1) The Loc Ninh Phase continued from the previous quarter to 27 July. The mission was to continue combined US and ARVN operations, support the pacification effort, conduct reconnaissance in the AO and be RRF to villages within the Loc Ninh area.

(a) Location of Operations:

Loc Ninh District of the Binh Long Province.

(b) Task Organizations:

From 1 July - 15 July

Tm E (-)
E/2/11 ACR (-plat)

Tm F
F/2/11 ACR
CIDG Co

Tm G
G/2/11 ACR
1 Plat Tk H/2/11 ACR
2 Plat ACAV

Tm H
2 Plat Tk H/2/11 ACR
1 Plat ACAV G/2/11 ACR

Squad Control
B/1/21 Arty 1st ACD
GHT/2/11 ACR
219th Engr
AVLB Sect
AVN Sect

How Btry 2/11 ACR
GS 2/11 ACR

From 15 July - 27 July

CG B
B/1/8 Cav

Tm E
E/2/11 ACR (- Mtrs)

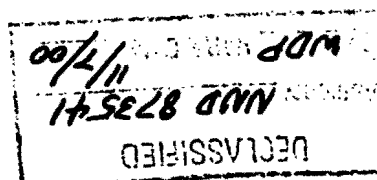
Tm F
F/2/11 ACR

Tm H
H/2/11 ACR
Sapper
Grd Surv
2/919th Engr

Squad Control
How Btry
AVN Sect
AVLB Sect

(c) Intelligence:

The Loc Ninh Phase of Operation KENTUCKY COUGAR for the 2nd Squadron was characterized by small isolated VC attacks by fire,



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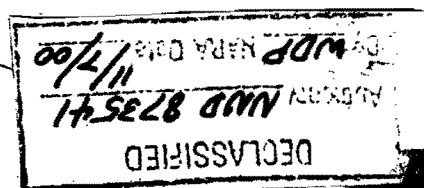
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often followed by light ground probes against hamlet defense forces and by reconnaissance activities by NVA units. Due to the lull in the An Loc Quan Loi area during the latter part of July, it was suspected that the 7th NVA Division Headquarters and its three maneuver regiments, 141, 165, and 209, had moved north to assume the mission of attacking Loc Ninh in conjunction with the Summer Offensive. Limited attacks on RF/PF hamlet defense units and our own reconnaissance activities did identify elements of the Loc Ninh District Local Force and the Loc Ninh District Party Committee. Two local VC rallied to GVN forces during the period and further substantiated the fact that it was local force guerilla units that were attacking the hamlet defense outposts. Numerous and consistent agent reports from CIDG and Sub-Sector agents indicated that the NVA were conducting large scale reconnaissance missions in and around Loc Ninh and that elements of the 7th NVA Div were located to the north and west of Loc Ninh. Our own reconnaissance activities led to contact with NVA elements on two occasions in the rubber to the north of Loc Ninh, but no unit identifications were made. A wounded NVA soldier who rallied to GVN forces on 28 July identified C21 Recon Company of the 7th NVA Div. He had been involved in a recon of FMB 142 on 26 July when his element was detected, and he was wounded. The reconnaissance stage of the preparation for the 7th Division's attack on Loc Ninh was almost finished by 26 July when the 2nd Squadron left the area.

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(d) Results from the Loc Ninh Phase of Operation KENTUCKY

COUGAR:

<u>Weapons & Material Destroyed/Captured</u>		<u>Bunkers Destroyed</u>
1 SKS	1 RPG-7 Rd	203
2 AK47	6 RPG Boosters	
1 RPG-2	1 Ammo drum	
2 RPG-7	1 Table	
1 CHICOM Radio	2 Machetes	
7 Rifle Grenades	100 lbs rice	
2 US Claymores	3 Water cans	
1 CHICOM Claymore	2 Knives	
11 CHICOM Grenades	5 lbs med supplies	
4 RPG-2 Rds	250 ft commo wire	
	3 shovels	

ENEMY LOSSES

KIA: 28 POW: 4

FRIENDLY LOSSES

KIA: 6 WIA: 23

VEHICLE LOSSES

M113A1 - 2

All operations of the Loc Ninh Phase were successful: the pacification effort which will be discussed later was highly successful.

(2) The An Loc Phase commenced on 27 July and continued through the 7th of September. The mission was to conduct combined operations with the 9th Infantry Regiment, ARVN, to the west of An Loc for the purpose of locating and destroying NVA/VC forces believed moving into the area for an attack on An Loc, continue pacification effort and secure convoys on QL13 in AO.

(a) Location of Operations:

An Loc District of the Binh Long Province.

(b) Task Organization:

27 July - 9 Aug

Co C

C/5/71 Cav

Tro C

C/1/71 ACR

Tro E

E/2/71 ACR

Tro F

F/2/71 ACR

Co H

H/2/71 ACR

Socn Control

How Btry
AVN Sect
AVLB Sect
4/9190 Btry

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9 Aug - 31 Aug

Trp F
E/2/11 ACR

Trp F
F/2/11 ACR

Co H
H/2/11 ACR

Sodn Control
C/2/33 Arty
AVN Sect
AVLB Sect
4/919th Engr

31 Aug - 7 Sept

Tn E
2 ACAV Plat
1 Tk plat M/3/11 ACR

Tn F
2 ACAV Plat
1 Tk plat H/2/11 ACR

Tn H
2 Tk Plats
1 ACAV Plat F/2/11 ACR
4/919th Engr
Grd Surv Sect

Tn M
2 Tk Plat
1 ACAV Plat E/2/11 ACR

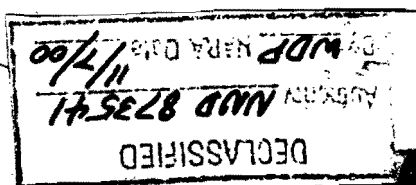
Sodn Control
C/2/33 Arty
AVN Sect
AVLB Sect

(c) Intelligence:

At the beginning of the An Loc Phase, intelligence indicated that the enemy in the area was the 101d Regiment of the 1st NVA Div, who's mission was believed to be one of ambushing logistical convoys on QL 13. The intelligence proved to be correct, as elements of 101d did attack the convoy on 12 August. On 4 August, an aspirant platoon leader for the sapper recon company of the 9th VC Div rallied at Binh (v) coordinates XT720863, and described in detail the attack plan to be used by the 271st and 272nd Regiments of the 9th VC Div in conjunction with the D368 Local Force Battalion against the An Loc area between the 6th and the 15th of August. Low level aerial reconnaissance and BDA's of numerous B-52 strikes in the jungle area between the rubber west of An Loc and the Cambodian border discovered large scale movement toward An Loc and produced POW's and Hoi Chan's who identified elements of the 101d Regiment, 1st NVA Div and elements of the 9th VC Div, thus substantiating the intelligence gained from the recon platoon leader on 4 August. The attack on FSB Sidewinder and on FSB Aspen and ensuing

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battles on 12 August identified the 271st Regiment, one battalion at each fire support base. Furthermore, it is believed that the Regt HQ of the 271st was involved in the contact on the afternoon of 12 August to the west of Minh Duc (V). Documents found in continuing searches throughout the southwestern portion of the rubber continued to turn up indications that the entire 271st Regt was in the area. On the 6th and 7th of September documents taken off NVA KIA from an attack on F Troops FOB identified K7 and K8 Battalions of 101d and also indicated that elements of 101d may have been involved in the attack on FSB Sidewinder on 12 August. This is significant as it tended to substantiate intelligence information in other areas that the 101d had been put under operational control of the 9th VC Div for the attack on the An Loc - Quan Lai area.

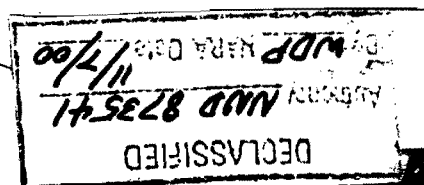
(d) Significant Contacts:

At 0140 hours on 12 August, a battalion size element of the 271st Regiment attacked FSB Aspen with RPG's, 60mm mortar and small arms. Defending the FSB was H Company 2/11 ACR and C/2/33 Artillery. The perimeter consisted of a dirt berm. During the attack, artillery, Blue Max, and Spooky aircraft supported. Initial contact was broken in 20 minutes with the enemy withdrawing to the south and southwest; intermittent fires continued throughout the night. A sweep of the area at first light showed 32 NVA KIA and 1 NVA POW.

Shortly after FSB Aspen received fire, FSB Sidewinder, 1.5 km to the north, was attacked by a similar force. At 0230 hours

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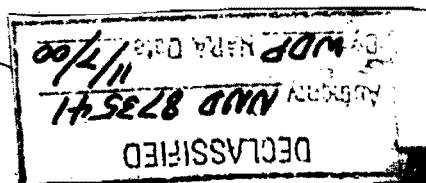
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it was determined by a report from the 2nd Squadron Liaison party in Sidewinder that the 15th ARVN Cavalry was being overrun. E Troop was directed to pull in its three platoon size ambush patrols to reinforce Sidewinder. At 0400 hours E Troop closed on the FSB and engaged the NVA to the west of the perimeter. At 0500 hours the enemy attack was suppressed. Helicopter gunships and Shadow supported. E Troop was credited with 22 NVA KIA.

On 12 August, E Troop and Team H were pursuing the 271st Regt which attacked the FSB's Sidewinder and Aspen earlier in the day. Initial contact was established by E Troop at 1210 hours at coordinates XT710830 when they received fire from a bunker complex (200 meters long and 75 meters wide). The complex was in small rubber which provided the enemy with good cover and concealment. E Troop closed in line from North to South and immediately received heavy RPG, automatic weapons, and small arms fire. E Troop continued to close with and destroy the enemy until it was reported that E Troop suffered numerous casualties. The troop was directed to move to the rear so artillery and Tas Air could be placed on the objective. Team H moved from its route to cover the movement. The S-3 directed four airstrikes and 105mm and 8 inch artillery into the area. Also a total of eight Cobra gunships expended in the target area. The next day a sweep of the area showed 88 NVA KIA by E Troop and Team H. US casualties were four KIA, 38 WIA, and 1 MIA. Also seven ACAV's suffered moderate damage to combat loss. Unit identification was the 271st Regiment.

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The E Troop contact occurred simultaneously with another major action. The resupply convoy moving North on Highway 13 to Quan Loi escorted by F Troop was ambushed from both sides of the road at coordinates XT765740 with RPG, small arms, and mortar fire. The road was effectively blocked by a culvert being blown at coordinates XT766761. Troop F moved off the road to engage the hostile force while a light fire team, Blue Max, and artillery was used to block the enemies withdrawal. Contact was maintained until 1600 hours when the enemy withdrew to the east and west. Following the emplacement of an AVLB bridge, the convoy proceeded to Quan Loi. In the engagement 55 NVA were killed while F Troop suffered 2 KIA and 1 WIA.

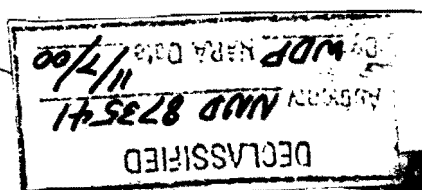
Another significant activity of this phase was the mining activities of the enemy. The Squadron encountered a total of 46 mines. Twenty-nine mines were destroyed or evacuated by the Squadron. Methods that were used to harass mining parties or provide early detection of mines follow:

- (1) Night AP's.
- (2) Radar equipment.
- (3) Mortar H & I fires.
- (4) Use of organic mine sweep equipment.

The last significant contact occurred on 6 September. At 2050 hours the forward operating base of F Troop received RPG and small arms fire from a reinforced NVA Company. The perimeter engaged the enemy with organic weapons. Also they were supported by a Light

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Fire Team and artillery. Contact was broken at 2110 hours with the enemy withdrawing to the northwest and south. A sweep of the area at first light showed 26 NVA KIA. Unit identification was 101d Regiment.

(e) Results from An Loc Phase of Operation KENTUCKY COUGAR:

Weapons and Material Destroyed/Captured

3 SKS	890 AK47 rds	1 Rifle grnd
32 AK47	6 M-16 mag	26 82mm mtr fuses
1 Rifle Grnd Lncr	99 CHICOM Grnds	8 82mm marking rds
2 LMG	3 75mm RR rds	1 butterfly bomb
1 60mm mortar	7 105mm rds	1 field phone
2 51 cal HMG	6 Bang torpedoes	1 first aid pouch
24 RPG-2 Lncrs	1 US frag grnd	1 NVA canteen
11 RPG-7 Lncrs	13 AK47 mag	3 NCA back packs
1 US M-16	80 RPG-2 rds	130 lbs rice
1 107mm Rkt	89 RPG-7 rds	100 ft commo wire
30 AT mines	40 60mm mtr rds	10 lbs TNT
21 M-2 Carbine mag	21 81mm mtr rds	Misc cooking utensils
4 9mm mag	24 RPG boosters	Pioneer tools
250 51 cal rds	3 CHICOM Claymores	

Bunkers Destroyed 174

Enemy Losses

KIA: 288 POW: 2

Friendly Losses

KIA: 9 WIA: 97 MIA: 1

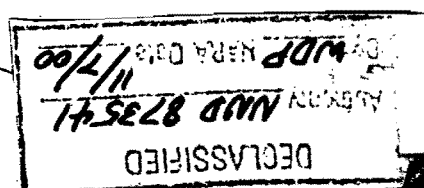
Vehicle Losses

M113A1 - 13
 M48A3 - 4
 M577A1 - 1
 M106A1 - 1

All operations conducted during the An Loc Phase were immensely successful. The location of the 271st Regiment was determined before it could mount a sustained attack on An Loc. Reconnaissance based on current intelligence resulted in heavy contact on 12 August. Casualties taken by 101d Regt and 271st Regt were heavy. Both units failed to accomplish their mission. The 101d failed to destroy the resupply convoy and the 271st Regt failed in its mission to put the NVA flag up in An Loc.

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b. TOAN THANG Phase III commenced on 7 September and continues through this date. The 2nd Squadron is OPCON to the 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division located at Di An. The mission is three-fold:

(1) Each troop is to receive eight days of training on the M551 Sheridan. One week will be devoted to make-up training.

(2) Prepare for a Command Maintenance Management Inspection.

(3) Conduct reconnaissance and ambush patrols around Di An. Also, secure Fire Support Bases in the 2nd Brigade AO and provide RRF. There has been negative enemy contact to this date.

3. SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES OR OCCURRENCES:

a. Loc Ninh Phase of KENTUCKY COUGAR.

(1) The 2nd Squadron conducted a total of 21 Medcap Operations treating a total of 1427 of the local populace with favorable reaction.

(2) The squadron aided and assisted in the construction of four compounds for the Regional/Popular Forces in order to increase the security measures in the Loc Ninh District. The villages were:

(a) Loc Than

(b) Mang Chi

(c) Minh Than

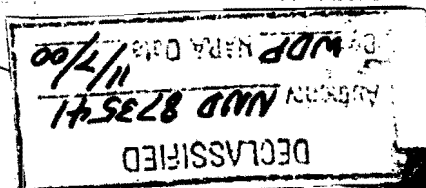
(d) Loc Ninh District Compound

(3) In addition to the above, the squadron placed AP's around the local villages in conjunction with the villages and district thus increasing the security of the local village personnel.

b. An Loc Phase of KENTUCKY COUGAR.

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(1) In this phase the squadron conducted 17 Medcaps treating a total of 1680 of the populace.

(2) Engineer projects were conducted at Duc Vinh III and An Loc. At Duc Vinh III, fire lanes were cleared for a Regional Forces outpost. At An Loc, a rifle range was constructed.

4. ASSESSMENT:

a. Total results for the Quarter:

Material Captured/Destroyed

4 SKS	250 51 cal rds	1 Butterfly bomb
34 AK47	890 AK47 rds	1 CHICOM radio
25 RPG-2 Inchrs	200 7.62 rds	1 field phone
13 RPG-7 Inchrs	84 RPG-2 rds	230 lbs rice
1 60mm Mtr	90 RPG-7 rds	5 lbs med supplies
2 51 cal HMG	30 RPG boosters	2 Machetes
2 LMG	1 ammo drum	3 water cans
1 Rifle Grnd Inchr	3 RR rds	1 NVA canteen
1 US M-16	7 105mm rds	350 ft commo wire
1 107mm Rkt	40 60mm mtr rds	10 lbs TNT
30 AT mines	21 81mm mtr rds	2 knives
21 M-2 Carbine mag	26 82mm mtr fuses	3 shovels
4 9mm mag	6 M-16 mag	1 table
8 Rifle grnds	6 bang torpedoes	3 NVA back packs
2 US claymores	1 US frag grnd	Misc cooking utensils
4 CHICOM claymores	13 AK47 mag	Pioneer tools
110 CHICOM grnds	8 82mm mrkng rds	

Bunkers Destroyed

377

Enemy Losses

KIA: 316 POW: 6

Friendly Losses

KIA: 15 WIA: 120 MIA: 1

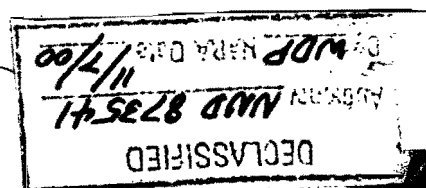
Vehicle Losses

Combat Loss
 M113A1 - 15
 M48A3 - 4
 M577A1 - 1
 M106A1 - 1

b. All operations conducted during the quarter were successful in slowing the infiltration rate and continued progress in the counter-

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insurgency effort. Also all operations made advancements in the combined operations of US and ARVN forces.

The Loc Ninh Phase resulted in a satisfactory body count, but the major gain was in gaining the confidence of the local populace. It was felt that assisting the local populace in erecting barriers and providing security for the village at night assisted in accomplishing the mission at hand.

The An Loc Phase showed a large body count and the destruction of many fortifications and material. The phase was immensely successful in that it prevented the 101d and 271st Regiment from accomplishing their missions to destroy the convoy and capture An Loc, respectively.


GRAIL L. BROOKSHIRE
LTC, Armor
Commanding

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