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

AVIC-CA

30 January 1970

SUBJECT: Quarterly Evaluation (QUARTERVAL) (RCS: AVIC-CA-Q-4)

Commanding Officer
11th Armored Cavalry Regiment
ATTN: S-3
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1. GENERAL:

- a. Operations: TOAN THANG PHASE III (Previous Quarter-10 October)
KENTUCKY COUGAR (10 October-4 December)
LONG REACH II (4 December-25 December)

b. For the 2d Squadron Operation KENTUCKY COUGAR commenced on 10 October and continued through 4 December. During KENTUCKY COUGAR, the Squadron completed an interesting and unique two-fold operation. Due to increased pressure in the Bo Duc area by the 7th NVA Division, the Squadron was given the mission of airlifting Troop F to Bo Duc/Bu Dop. On 9 November the troop was airlifted by C130 aircraft from Loc Ninh to the airstrip at Bu Dop and placed OPCON to the 3rd Bde, 1st Cavalry Division (AM). In conjunction with the airlift of Troop F, the Squadron conducted an aggressive armored cavalry demonstration from Loc Ninh to Bu Dop and at the half-way point set-up a forward artillery support base in the middle of dense jungle. This provided the much needed support for allied troops in contact at Bu Dop. The air landing of Troop F in conjunction with the aggressive demonstration was one of the decisive factors in preventing the enemy from accomplishing their aims in the Bo Duc/Bu Dop area.

GP-4. DOWNGRADED AT THREE YEAR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER TWELVE YEARS

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By: RAN, N33A, D13, 11/1/87

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2. SIGNIFICANT OPERATIONS:

a. Operation TOAN THANG PHASE III continued from the previous quarter and ended on 10 October when the Squadron road marched from Di An Base Camp to Loc Ninh district. Before leaving Di An, the 2d Squadron completed the M551 Sheridan training and passed the Command Maintenance Management Inspection.

b. Operation KENTUCKY COUGAR commenced on 10 October and continued through 4 December. The missions were to assume responsibility for the security of the district capital of Loc Ninh, locate and interdict major enemy infiltration routes from Base Area 350, gain contact with and destroy NVA/VC forces in the AO and conduct DONG TIEN Operations.

(1) Location of Operations:

Loc Ninh District of the Ninh Long Province.

(2) Task Organization:

<u>Troop E</u>	<u>Troop F</u>	<u>Troop G</u>
3 Recon Plts	3 Recon Plts	3 Recon Plts
H Co	How Btry	<u>Sqdn Control</u>
3 Tank Plts		Gnd Surv
		4/919 Engrs
		Flame Sect
		HQ Acav
		AVLB Sect

(3) Intelligence:

Since the 2d Squadron arrived in the Loc Ninh area in October, enemy activity has consisted only of reconnaissance activity and mining of roads. In the main, enemy activity reflected the adoption of COSVN

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Resolution Number 9. He maintained his presence in the area but did not commit large troop elements. Rather he remained in base areas and attempted to protect his logistical bases and supply routes. The main enemy unit confronting the Squadron initially was the 209th NVA Regiment. Located to the west of FSB MARGE in the FLAT IRON area (vic XU5807), the 209th conducted some reconnaissance in the Loc Ninh AO prior to its relocation to the BU DOP area in late Nov. On two occasions the Squadron contacted elements of the 209th. On 12 October 1969, F Trp engaged a platoon (+) of NVA at XU677087 resulting in 10 enemy KIA. On 03 November 1969, a G Trp AP ambushed 4 enemy. The contact resulted in 4 NVA KIA and documents that identified the 209th Regt.

Other contacts in the Squadron AO involved elements of the Loc Ninh District Force. C31-and possibly elements of the D368 LF BN.

In early November the Squadron moved from FSB MARGE to FSB DEB (vic XU840135) in a show of force designed to take some of the pressure off the Bo Duc/Bu Dop area. It seems likely that two of the Regiments of the 7th Division were applying this pressure, the 165th and 141st Regiments.

The move to FSB Deb resulted in sporadic contact with elements of the 70th RSG AKA 85 RSG and one attack by fire on the part of the enemy on 12 November 1969 at FSB Deb. Squadron Headquarters received 15 x 82mm and 6 x 60mm mortars and 1 x 107 rkt. Return fire resulted in 1 enemy KIA. Documents taken from this KIA demonstrate the willingness of Rear Service elements to fight to secure supply routes. The 70th RSG was also identified by documents captured at XU867173 on 9 December 1969.

For the most part, the enemy carried on his effort through an economy of force measure in the form of harassment: Mining. When the Squadron

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First arrived in Loc Ninh, the enemy, probably elements of C31 LF Co, were heavily mining Hwy 13 from XU756140 to XU750155 to include the road junction of Hwy 14A and this road East several clicks. This mining activity all but ceased after the C31 LF Co was driven from its base area near Son Tay (vic XU820125) in mid Oct. The second concentrated effort of mining came on Hwy 14A from its junction with Hwy 13 East to FSB Joel (vic XU855161) in early November. It is likely that this mining was conducted by NVA troops, some of it long before the Squadron move was initiated. NVA troops were definitely in the area on 14 November 1969 when an NVA Hoi Chanh from C3 Co/Unk Bn/Unk Regiment turned himself in to G Trp in the vicinity of the junction of Hwy 13 and 14A. The prevalence of the 23d GC PD mine also supports this view.

A third area of concentration was along Hwy 13 South of Loc Ninh from Khanh Hung south to the XU99 E/W grid line. Statements from a Hoi Chanh on 26 November 1969 indicate that LF elements were planting these mines. However, an NVA PW captured at XU730034 on 17 December stated that the mining of Hwy 13 was being conducted by the K25 NVA Engr Bn subordinate directly to COSVN. The earlier professional blowing of a culvert on Hwy 13 further north also tends to support this idea.

(4) Significant Contacts:

(a) 12 October 1969, vic XU682083, F/2/11 a reconnaissance engaged an unknown size force. Supported by air strikes and light fire teams. Results were 13 NVA KIA.

(b) 15 October 1969, vic XU755117, E/2/11 NAF received RPG fire. Engaged with organic weapons. Results were 6 NVA KIA.

(c) 23 October 1969, vic XU838139, G/2/11 received

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small arms fire. Engaged with organic weapons. Results were 1 NVA KIA.

(d) 03 November 1969, vic XU677087, G/2/11 NAP engaged 4 NVA with organic weapons. Results were 4 NVA KIA.

(e) 13 November 1969, vic XU677087, G/2/11 on reconnaissance engaged an estimated NVA platoon with organic weapons. Results were 5 NVA KIA.

(f) Another significant activity was the mining activities of the enemy. The Squadron encountered a total of 108 mines. Eighty-six mines were destroyed or evacuated by the Squadron for a percentage found of 79.6. Methods that were used to harass enemy mining or provide detection of mines were: NAP's, Radar, and use of organic mine sweep.

(5) Results of Operation KENTUCKY COUGAR:

Weapons and Material Destroyed/Captured Bunkers Destroyed

89 Chicom AT mines 392

6 AK 47

2 RPG-2 Inchr

495 AK 47 rds

32 RPG-2 rds

15 Chicom Hand Grenades

1 Rifle Grenade

2 RPG Boosters

40 60mm Mtr rds

3 82mm Mtr rds

1 107 rkt

1 57 mm rd

Fighting Positions Destroyed

27

Enemy Losses

KIA: 31

Hoi Chanh: 1

Friendly Losses

WIA: 7

Vehicle Losses

M48A3-4 M113-13 Zippo-1

M551-5 M578-2

ALL operations of Operation KENTUCKY COUGAR were successful. Due to

the light enemy activity in the Loc Ninh area, the Squadron made im-

mense gains in the pacification program by DONG TIEA operations.

These operations will be discussed later.

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c. On 4 December, the 2d Squadron initiated Operation LONG REACH II. The mission was to conduct a deliberate road opening of QL14A from Loc Ninh to Bu Dop and destroy any NVA/VC forces enroute.

(1) Location of Operation:

On QL14A from XU803136 to XU957214 between Loc Ninh and Bo Duc/Bu Dop.

(2) Task Organization:

<u>Team E</u>	<u>Troop G</u>	<u>Co H</u>
Troop E	2 Recon plts	3 Tank Plts
984 Land Clearing Co		
<u>Team Inf</u>	<u>Team 919</u>	<u>How Btry</u>
B 1/12 Co (AM)	919(-) Engr Co	
D 1/12 Co (AM)	1 Plt G Tro	
<u>Sdn Control</u>		
AVLB Sect		
Flame Sect		
Grnd Surv		
Hq acav		

The missions of each unit were as follows: B 1/12 and D 1/12 Infantry Companies-screen to the front and flanks of the land clearing operation, and be prepared to combat assault into suspected areas of enemy activity; Troop E-secure the 984 Land Clearing Co.; Troop G-conduct reconnaissance to flanks of QL14A and provide platoon OPCON to 919(-) Engr Co.; Company H-secure Squadron Fire Support Base and be ready reaction force; 919(-) Engr Co.-conduct daily mine sweep of QL14A and make limited repairs of QL14A; 984 Land Clearing Co-strip jungle 200 meters on each side of QL14A from XU803136 to XU957214; How Btry-provide supporting fires and aggressive artillery preparation before daily land clearing operation. The Battery fired 7513 rounds of HE and 75 WP for the operation.

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(3) Intelligence:

On 04 December 1969 the Squadron began the Rome Flow operation from FSB Deb to FSB Jerri. During this operation infantry elements on the flanks of Hwy 14A contacted small enemy units on several occasions. Documents captured identified the 70th RSG. The Squadron met with some mining on Hwy 14A, mostly in the vicinity of FSB Joel (vic XU855161). On the whole the Rome Flow operation met with negligible resistance on the part of the enemy. In the course of the operation NVA Regiments subordinate to the 7th Division shifted AOs with the 209th NVA Regiment moving north to Bu Dop and the relocation of the 165th Regiment to the 209th's old base area in the FLAT IRON west of Loc Ninh. During this period the 141st Regiment also relocated to the area Northwest of Loc Ninh where their elements were involved in a large contact at XU6921 on 27 December 1969.

(4) Significant Contacts:

(a) 7 Dec 69, vic XU868174, B 1/12 received small arms fire from an estimated platoon of NVA. Artillery and light fire team supported. Results were 5 NVA KIA, 1 U.S. KIA and 1 U.S. WIA.

(b) 7 Dec 69, vic XU876190, D 1/12 received RPG and small arms fire from an unknown size force. Artillery and light fire team supported. Results were 1 U.S. KIA and 1 U.S. WIA.

(c) 10 Dec 69, vic XU874192, B 1/12 engaged 7-8 individuals from an ambush position. Blue Max and light fire team supported. Results were 1 NVA KIA and 4 U.S. WIA.

(5) Results of Operation LONG BEACH II:

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<u>Weapons and Material Destroyed/Captured</u>	<u>Bunkers Destroyed</u>
32 Chicom AT mines	31
1 RPG-2 Launcher	
2 AK 47	<u>Fighting Positions Destroyed</u>
1 RPG-2 round	8
273 AK 47 rounds	
21 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb TNT	
1 Chicom claymore	

<u>Enemy Losses</u>	<u>Friendly Losses</u>	<u>Vehicle Losses</u>
KIA: 6	KIA: 3	M551-1 Bulldozer-1
	WIA: 14	M113-7 Rome Flow-2
		10 Ton Tractor-1

Light enemy resistance was encountered during the land clearing operations with enemy mining the most prominent activity. The squadron encountered 46 mines with a percentage found of 69.5. Operation LONG REACH II was successfully completed on Christmas Day with 2265 acres of jungle cut.

3. SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES OR OCCURRENCES:

When the Squadron returned to Loc Ninh, the DONG TIEN program was introduced.

a. The 2d Squadron conducted joint ICAPS with RF/PF medical personnel in the area. Forty ICAPS were conducted treating 2751 of the local populace.

b. The Squadron aided the local officials in the construction of a RF compound and two culverts along QL13. Also a bridge was repaired on QL13.

c. Troops E and G conducted combined military operations with the RF/PF/CIDG in the Loc Ninh district.

d. In addition to the above, the Squadron initiated another DONG TIEN Operation. As the Popular Self Defense Force received new weapons, they needed to be taught how to use them. The Squadron conducted M-16 marksmanship training and mine detection training with the Popular Forces.

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4. ASSESSMENT:

a. Total results for the Quarter:

Material Captured/Destroyed

121 Chicom AT mines	2 RPG boosters
3 RPG-2 Launchers	40 60mm mortar rounds
8 AK-47	3 82mm mortar rounds
33 RPG-2 rounds	1 107 rocket
6 RPG-7 rounds	1 57 mm round
768 AK-47 rounds	21 1/4 lb TNT
15 Chicom hand grenades	1 Chicom claymore
1 rifle grenade	

Bunkers Destroyed

423

Fighting Positions Destroyed

35

Enemy Losses

KIA: 37
Hoi Chanh: 1

Friendly Losses

KIA: 3
WIA: 21

Vehicle Losses

M551-6 M48A3-4 10 Ton Tractor-1
M113-20 Zippo-1 Rome Flow-2
M578-2 Bulldozer-1

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

Operation KENTUCKY COUGAR's major gain was in DONG TIEN Operations. With combined operations, joint ICAPS and construction projects, the 2d Squadron increased the local official's and RF/PF troop's ability to protect and provide for themselves.

In Operation LONG REACH II, due to extensive staff planning and coordination, and excellent cooperation among the units, the 2d Squadron encountered few problem areas and minor enemy resistance, and successfully opened a road, QL14A, that had been closed for more than two years

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LTC, Armor,
Commanding