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OPERATIONAL REPORT----LESSONS LEARNED

(RCS CSFOR - 65) (RE)

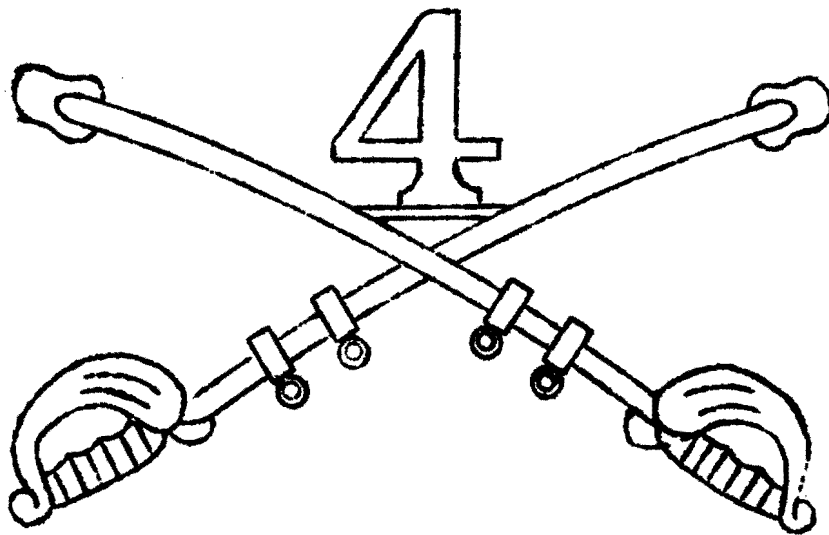
1 NOVEMBER 1968 - 31 JANUARY 1969

1ST SQUADRON, 4TH UNITED STATES CAVALRY

1ST INFANTRY DIVISION

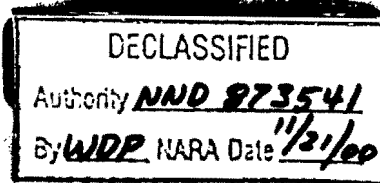
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Department of the Army
Headquarters, United States Army
The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20315

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 1ST AIRBORNE DIVISION, 4TH CAVALRY
APO San Francisco 96345

AVDB-4000

26 January 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of 1st Squadron, 4th United States Cavalry,
for Period Ending 31 January 1969, (ROS USFOR-65) (R1)

Commanding Officer
2d Brigade, 1st Infantry Division
ATTN: S-3
APO 96345

1. Section 1, Operations: Significant Activities

a. Combat Operations:

(1) During the reporting period, 1 November 1968 through 31 January 1969, this organization participated in OPERATION TOAN THANG, Phase II. The Squadron was under operational control of the 2d Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, during the entire period.

(2) The mission during the period was primarily supporting the Accelerated Pacification Campaign (APC) with objectives to provide sustained security, both internal and external, for the target hamlets against local force, guerrillas, terrorists, subversives and VC infrastructure in order to permit local GVN programs of economic, social and political development to expand. Offensive military operations to include reconnaissance in force, area searches, ambush patrols, night roving patrols, and cordon and search operations were conducted to support the APC. The squadron operations were conducted to complement and assist the District Forces and the District Pacification Program. Passive military operations were conducted to gain support of the local populace by a show of force, spending more time in the hamlets and dispatching reaction forces to reduce VC threats or attacks at night. An enthusiastic Psyops and Civic Action program was conducted in conjunction with the military operations. This program consisted of BOCARS to improve health conditions in the APC hamlets, an informative movie program shown in the hamlets at night with band concerts preceding the movie and civic action projects to include road improvement, water well construction and school playground equipment.

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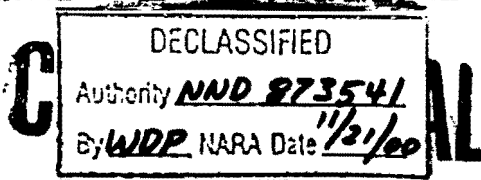
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(3) The Squadron continued with the Ready Reaction Force mission for the 2d Brigade to include 12 critical bridges, four utility plants and five District Province Headquarters. Each of the 21 OPIANS were rehearsed and coordinated with the security units at the site.

(4) Units under operational control of the Squadron during the period were:

- (a) Company A, 1st Battalion, 2d Infantry: 1 Nov 1968 to 31 Jan 1969.
 - (b) Company B, 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry: 21 Nov 1968 to 12 Dec 1968 and 17 Dec 1968 to 4 Jan 1969.
 - (c) Company A, 2d Battalion, 20th Infantry: 10 Jan to 13 Jan 1969.
 - (d) Company C, 2d Battalion, 20th Infantry: 7 Jan 1969.
 - (e) Company D, 2d Battalion, 20th Infantry: 8 Jan to 9 Jan 1969.
 - (f) Company A, 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry: 13 Jan to 19 Jan 1969.
 - (g) Company B, 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry: 22 Jan 69.
 - (h) Company C, 1st Battalion, 10th Infantry: 14 Nov to 15 Nov 1968.
 - (i) Company B, 2d Battalion, 10th Infantry: 17 Nov to 18 Nov 1968.
 - (j) Division LRP's: 3 Jan to 13 Jan 1969
- (5) Significant activity and special operations during period 1 November 1968 to 31 January 1969 were as follows:
- (a) On 4 November, 1-4 Cav elements conducted a cordon and search of Dong Ba (XT079048). Results were three confirmed VCI, ten draft dodgers and five male and two female detainees. A medcap in the same village treated 63 patients.
 - (b) Troop C on 5 November was ambushed by an unknown size enemy force (12916109). Results were three VCI, one AR47 rifle, one GUMOCK SRS



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rifle and one .45 Cal pistol. US casualties were three WIA and one CS gas inhalation. Troop A on a RIF later in the afternoon captured a 2Qmm Anti-Aircraft gun.

(c) On 6-7 November, Troop C with 3/A/1-4 Cavalry, B/2-18 Infantry and elements of the 1st ARVN Cavalry conducted a cordon and search of THUAN GIAO (XT671121). Company B reported sighting 20 VC moving into the village early in the evening. As the seal was being completed, Company B engaged an unknown number of VC attempting to leave the village. Sporadic contact continued throughout the night. Results of the search were two VC captured, one Chieu Hoa, 12 on black list, four VCS, eight craft dodgers and one without ID card.

(d) 1/B/1-4 Cavalry on 20 November found four VC bodies, one ARVN rifle, one .45 Caliber pistol, two US hand grenades, one CHICOL hand grenade, one US canteen, one CHICOL canteen and four sandals. One of the VC bodies was later identified as a VC sub-sector chief.

(e) On 2 December, 2/A/1-2 Infantry AP made contact with an unknown size enemy force. Results were one VC WIA and one bolt action rifle captured.

(f) On 4 December, Troop B, A/1-2 Infantry, B/2-16 Infantry and B/1-26 Infantry conducted a cordon and search of TAN HIEP (XT910105). Results were seven detainees.

(g) On 5 December, Troop B, A/1-2 Infantry and B/1-26 Infantry conducted a cordon and search of TAN LONG HIEP (XT930075). Results were seven detainees and two craft dodgers.

(h) 1/A/1-2 Infantry on 6 December captured 600 lbs of rice at XT92110.

(i) On 13 December, 3/B/1-4 Cavalry at XT697072 captured one 15 lb shaped charge, 17 61mm HE rounds, nine 61mm WP rounds, one 61mm illumination round, 100 7.62 rounds, 100 caliber 30 rounds, six 37mm rounds, one smoke grenade, one CHICOL hand grenade and two M16 magazines. Troop B at XT920063 had a tank hit a pressure type homemade mine. There were negative casualties or damage.

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(j) On 14 December, 3/A/1-2 Infantry AP engaged five to 10 personnel to their front. The personnel engaged were identified as RD cadre working in the hamlet near the AP site. One of the personnel was critically wounded and died a short time later. Cause of the incident was lack of coordination at District level between the RD and District personnel and the misorientation of the AP. The incident was investigated and a report was forwarded through channels.

(k) On 22 December, the VCI platoon made contact at XT920105 with three VC. Results were one VC KIA, one VC KIA possible and one VC captured. The VCI platoon had two scouts wounded. One M16 rifle and one M-2 Carbine were captured during the action.

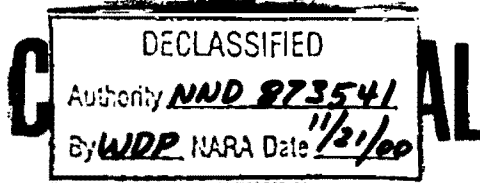
(l) On 23 December, 3/A/1-2 Infantry found and destroyed a 12 lb anti-tank mine at XT942077.

(m) On 24 December, the Division Route Plows became OPCON to 1-4 Cav. A/1-2 Infantry was given the route plow mission in the TAN HIEP area (XT920105). During the day, A/1-2 Infantry located a cache containing a printing board, bayonet and several lbs of propaganda.

(n) Operations on 25 December were reduced to defensive measures only. OP's were established at critical areas throughout the cease fire period.

(o) On 26 December, Troop A, OPCON to 2-16 Infantry, as a result of an ambush had one man killed due to enemy fire at XT936113. A/1-2 Infantry with the route plows found 10 81mm mortar rounds in metal containers at XT919112. Later in the day, 3/A/1-4 Cavalry found a tunnel containing five lbs of documents, one US pistol belt, one US grenade, two C ICOM grenades, 100 rounds of AM47, three M-1 Carbine magazines, 100 rounds of 50 Caliber, five AM magazines, 11 M16 magazines, 180 rounds of 7.62mm, 25 lbs of white powder, one M16 rifle, one AM 47 rifle and one US claymore.

(p) On 6 January, intelligence was received about a VC meeting that would take place at 1400 hours at XT926004. DI AN District forces planned to place a seal on the north, east and west flanks while Troop B



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secured the south side. At 1350 hours as the district forces were moving in, contact was made with an unknown size enemy force. One wounded PW was captured. It was later learned that the district force commander was wounded and was hidden in one of the houses. The PW was later identified as the Chief of Staff of SR-5.

(q) On 7 January, the LRP's spotted a flashlight and engaged with small arms and grenades. A sweep of the contact area resulted in a pool of blood and a pair of pants.

(r) On 9 January, D/2-26 Infantry found at XT975065 one pair of black pajamas, one GI shirt with blood stains and one set of ID tags. Later in the day, 3/D/2-26 popped an ambush XT02050 resulting in two VC KIA, one RPG 2 launcher, one AK47 rifle, one RPG 7 launcher, one bolt action rifle and assorted NVA web gear captured.

(s) On 10 January, A/1-4 Cavalry at XT092126 found two 5 gal cans, one M20 grenade, one holster, three pistol belts, 30 rounds 9mm pistol, one ID card and one birth certificate. The LRP's at XT920104 spotted movement but did not engage.

(t) On 12 January, the LRP's on a snatch operation made contact with five VC. The LRP patrol leader and interpreter were missing until morning. This contact was later credited with three VC KIA possible.

(u) On 13 January, A/2-26 Infantry made contact with an undetermined size VC force. Company A had one US KIA and eight US MIA on the initial contact. Troop B and A/1-2 Infantry were called in to reinforce the contact. LFT and H/K teams supported the contact. Results were three VC KIA and one PW. The PW capture eventually led the DM AN District forces in the capture of 10 other VC. The LRP's later in the evening spotted movement 75 meters from their position. The movement was engaged and a sweep of the area revealed blood trails.

(v) A/1-16 Infantry, on 16 January at XT972062 found 15 lbs of documents of negative tactical value.

(w) A/1-2 Infantry, on 17 January at XT969063 found 10 vials of penicillin.

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(x) Troop B on 22 January at XT901119 located inside a 10' x 20' x 4' bunker, one RPG round, four M16 grenades, one AK magazine, 30 M47 rounds, seven M79 rounds, 75 feet of dem cord, rice, fish and 1/2 lb of antibiotics. A cordon and search of BINH NHA was conducted due to an intelligence report of 150 VC moving in the village. Results were two VC captured.

(y) A cordon and search of BINH TRI LAM (XT925067) was conducted on 23 January with negative results.

(z) A cordon and search of TAN HIEP I and BINH PHU (XT935095) was conducted on 27 January with negative results.

(6) Enemy initiated activity during the period were as follows:

- (a) Number of enemy contacts: 8
- (b) Number of mines encountered: 4
- (c) Number of booby traps encountered: 15
- (d) Number of vehicles combat loss: 9
- (e) VC/NVA losses:

KIA: 10

Possible: 6

PW: 5

Detainees: 66

b. Personnel and Administrative actions.

(1) Personalities:

(a) Commander: At the close of this reporting period, the Squadron Commander is Lieutenant Colonel William C. Hapson, 03713, Armor.

(b) Staff: At the close of this reporting period, the Squadron principle staff officers are:

1. Executive Officer: Major Robert C. Reid, 072641, Armor
2. S1: CPT Robert H. Gordon, 05017606, Armor
3. S2: CPT Kenneth Costich, 0F106140, Armor
4. S3: Major Paul A. Lucas, 0F110326, Armor
5. S4: CPT Raymond Ludwig, 0F104878, Armor

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for Period Ending 31 January 1969, (MSG GSFOR-65) (R1)

(c) Unit Commanders: At the close of the reporting period, the unit commanders of the subordinate units are:

1. Headquarters Troop: CPT Theodore C. Edwards, 05531021, Armor
2. Troop A: CPT George G. Poole, 0F113006, Armor
3. Troop B: CPT Carroll W. Dennis, 05317707, Armor
4. Troop C: CPT James L. Selsor, 0F107955, Armor
5. Troop D: Major Willie E. Cummings, 04063259, Armor

(2) Personnel changes within the command group and principle staff:

(a) Squadron Commander: Effective 5 January 1969

1. Outgoing: LTC John C. Faith, 050590, Armor
2. Incoming: LTC William C. Haponski, 073713, Armor

(b) Executive Officer: 6 November 1968

1. Outgoing: LTC John T. Murchison Jr., 075722, Armor
2. Incoming: Major Robert C. Reid, 072641, Armor

(c) Troop C Commander: Effective 23 January 1969

1. Outgoing: CPT Robert L. Gordon, 05017606, Armor
2. Incoming: CPT James L. Selsor, 0F107955, Armor

(d) Troop D Commander: Effective 24 December 1968

1. Outgoing: Major Robert E. Haley, 0F113650, Armor
2. Incoming: Major Willie E. Cummings, 04063259, Armor

(e) S1: 23 January 1969

1. Outgoing: CPT Robert L. Wantland, 05330516, Armor
2. Incoming: CPT Robert E. Gordon, 05017606, Armor

(f) S4: 30 November 1968

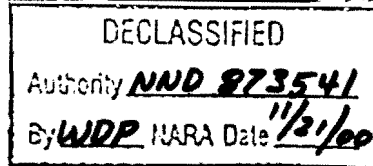
1. Outgoing: CPT Raymond N. Rosenberg, 02314563, Armor
2. Incoming: CPT Raymond Ludwig, 0F104670, Armor

(3) Personnel and Administration.

(a) Maintenance of unit strength:

1. Squadron strength as of 31 January 1969: (See inclosure 1)
2. Summary of projected gains and losses for the next 90

days: (See inclosure 2).



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for Period Ending 31 Jan 69, 1969, (AFR 63FOR-65) (R1)

3. Personnel reports: Personnel reports are submitted in accordance with AR 600-17 and implementing 1st Infantry Division directives.

4. Replacements: Replacements are requisitioned in accordance with USARV Regulation 614-165 for Officer personnel (6 months prior to DEROS for non-aviators and 11 months for aviators) and USARV Regulation 614-202 for enlisted personnel (6 months prior to DEROS for senior enlisted personnel and 6 months for personnel grades E1 thru E6).

5. Reenlistment program:

(a) There were four reenlistments during the quarter.

(b) The reenlistment program makes use of additional duty reenlistment Officers and reenlistment NCO's.

(b) Personnel Management:

1. Personnel procedures:

(a) Assignments: Personnel assigned during the quarter were as follows:

Officers	Warrant Officers	Enlisted
8	11	96

(b) Rotation to COMUS during the quarter:

Officers	Warrant Officers	Enlisted
5	10	74

(c) Casualties during the quarter; returned to duty:

Officers	Warrant Officers	Enlisted
5	0	18

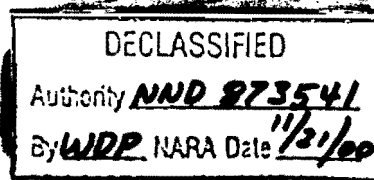
Evacuated from Combat Zone

Officers	Warrant Officers	Enlisted
2	0	6

Killed in Action

Officers	Warrant Officers	Enlisted
1	1	4

(d) Promotions: Promotions during the reporting period were as follows:



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OFFICERS

LTC	MAJ	CPT	1LT	2LT	CW
0	1	3	0	0	6

ENLISTED

E-9	E-8	E-7	E-6	E-5	E-4
0	1	2	3	39	170

(e) Reclassifications: Administrative MOS reclassifications during the quarter: 67

(c) Morale and Personnel Services:

1. Leaves during the quarter were as follows:

	Officers	Warrant Officers	Enlisted
Emergency	1	1	0
Compassionate	1	0	5
Special	0	0	5
Ordinary	0	0	8

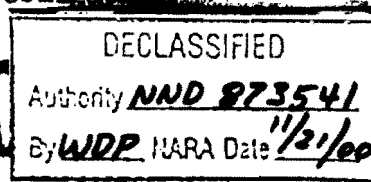
2. R & R for the quarter: During the reporting period 151 R & R allocations were used.

3. Postal Services: The postal services have continued to be excellent, thereby enhancing morale within the Squadron.

4. Religious Services: Religious services of the three major faiths are available to all personnel within the command. In addition, certain denominational services are available.

(a) Catholic: Services for catholic personnel are provided by Catholic Chaplains from adjacent units. A mass is scheduled each Sunday at 1100 hours in the 2d Bde Chapel. The schedule of other masses in Di AN Base Camp is likewise distributed within the command. Catholic services are held in the field each week.

(b) Jewish: Jewish services are scheduled when the Chaplain is in Di AN Base Camp at 1st Infantry Division Memorial Chapel. Arrangements are made to allow Jewish personnel to attend services commemorating special days of obligation.



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(c) Protestant: The Squadron Chaplain conducts Protestant services according to the following schedule.

0900 Sunday - 2d Bde Chapel

1000 Sunday - 2d Bde Chapel

1830 Sunday - 2d Bde Chapel

Field Services once a week.

(d) Protestant Denominational: LDS services are conducted in III AN Base Camp at 1330 hours each Sunday. A continuously updated schedule of these services is published by the Division Chaplain's office.

(e) Memorial Services: Memorial ceremonies and services are conducted by the Squadron Chaplain for those personnel in the command who lose their lives. When a service is conducted for several personnel jointly, the Squadron Chaplain is usually joined by other chaplains in the conduct of such services.

(d) Discipline, Law and Order.

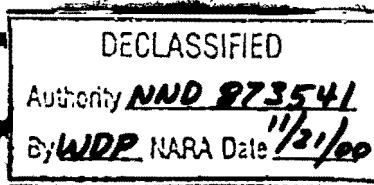
1. During the last quarter, there were no cases tried by General Court Martial.
2. There were seven cases tried by Special Court Martial.
3. There were no cases tried by Summary Court Martial.
4. There were five cases of confinement which were suspended.

(e) Headquarters Management.

1. Administrative Support. There has been considerable improvement in receiving regulations. The constant checking and rechecking of requisitions has alleviated most of the problems.
2. During the quarter, the Squadron has experienced reproducing difficulties. Our maintenance support on office machinery is very slow due to non-availability of repair parts.

(f) Miscellaneous:

1. There were three motor vehicle accidents during the reporting period.



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2. General Education development facilities are adequate and available at DI AN base camp.

3. There were no marriages to foreign nationals during the period.

4. The PX facilities are marginally adequate. Many essential supplies are not carried regularly.

c. Operations and Training.

(1) Operations:

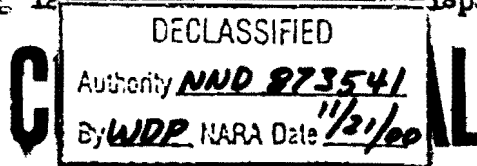
(a) Daily FRAGO's: Due to the increased and varied type operations the Squadron conducted during the period, the daily written fragmentary order (FRAGO) has been the basis of issuing orders to the units. The complexity of the Pacification Program has caused the units primarily to conduct platoon size operations. Missions based on intelligence with short notice are given in a verbal frag order by the commander.

(b) Squadron Tactical Operations Center: During the reporting period, the TOC fluctuated from periods of stable activity to extensive periods of high activity. This placed heavy demands on the personnel operating in the TOC to keep abreast of fast changing situations and continued operations on a 24-hour basis. The Squadron moved into their base camp at DI AN with no permanent type TOC. Construction was started immediately while operations continued out of the F577 command track. The new TOC is now 80% completed. The move into the new TOC will facilitate a smoother operation while in base camp.

(c) Squadron Task Organization: At the close of the period, Troop B was the only troop under Squadron control. Troop A minus two platoons was OPCON to 3d Brigade. Troop C and two platoons from Troop A were OPCON to various units under 2d Brigade. Troop D (Air) was under Division control during the entire period.

(2) Training:

(a) General: The training of all personnel in the Squadron has continued on a decentralized basis with the exception of Special Training. Decentralized training is the dispersion of the units.



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for Period Ending 31 December 1968, (RCS, CEFOR 65) (R1)

(b) Mandatory Training: Training programs are being established on mandatory subjects to be presented at platoon level as operational requirements allow. ATP 17-105, USARV Training Directive 350-1 and 1st Div Reg 350-1 will be used as a guide in establishing this program.

(c) Transition Training: All newly assigned personnel attend a one week school conducted by 2d Brigade prior to going on combat operations. Subjects covered during this week assist in preparing arrivals for local combat situations. The school is programmed for infantry type replacements, hence, troops of the squadron still have the responsibility for conducting specialized training.

(d) Special Training: Special Training conducted during the quarter included instruction on mine detectors, track mounted flame thrower service unit operation and maintenance training on the XE3/1 track vehicle.

a. Logistics.

(1) General: This summary will cover logistical operations at DI AN base camp. Units operating from a base other than DI AN were generally OPCON to another organization, and the squadron's logistical support of them consisted mostly of support which the OPCON headquarters could not provide.

(2) Supplies.

(a) Class I: Support in this area is satisfactory.

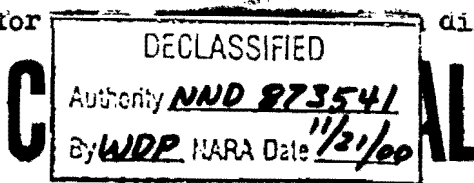
(b) Class II & IV: Stock levels of SSSC items are poor.

There are many requests for SSSC items which have not been filled. Most of these are for tools required for organizational maintenance tool kits, and for replacement of worn out, broken or lost B. II. Construction materials are difficult to acquire.

(c) Class III: Stoddard solvent is occasionally in short supply.

(d) Class V: (Ammunition) The critical items were: M79 canister, M79 illumination, and hand-held flares. In regard to these items the unit's AR greatly exceeds the ASR. Continual night operations as well as RIF missions require far greater amounts of these rounds than available. Also, M4 thickener for

difficult to obtain.



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(e) Class VI: PX stockage of necessities is generally sufficient. Many desirable items are available on order but require excessive order and shipment times.

(f) Class VII: (Major end items) Tank and Armored personnel carrier losses are replaced very quickly, while wheeled vehicle replacements have been almost nonexistent. The squadron is currently short one mortar carrier, M106A1; two flamethrower carriers, M132A1; two trucks, utility, 1/2 ton, M51A1; one truck, cargo, 3/4 ton, M37B1; two out of three wreckers, 5 ton, M54A2; and five trucks cargo, 5 ton, M54A2. The flamethrower, wrecker, and 5 ton cargo truck shortages are critical.

(g) Class VIII: (Medical Material): Medical supply is excellent.

(h) Class IX: (Repair Parts): Maintenance has continued to be of prime importance during the last quarter. There are no major problem areas in the area of repair parts supply. The average zero balance in PII has been 23%. Recovery and lift capabilities have been seriously hampered by the loss of two wreckers which causes an undue load on the one wrecker remaining, hampering the overall squadron maintenance program.

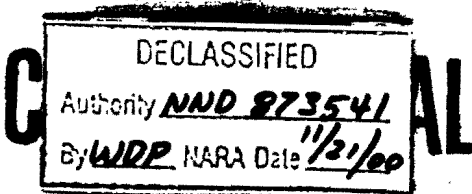
(i) Class X: (Material to support Non-military Programs): Adequate.

(3) Contonment Area: Steady progress has been made in improving the squadron area at the base camp. However, there is still a requirement for more summer and latrine construction. The effort is hampered by difficulty in getting materials for self-help construction.

e. Communications: The communications section has operated very smoothly during the last three months. No unusual problems were encountered.

f. Squadron Surgeon's Activities:

(1) Organization of Medical Platoon: The Medical Platoon is organic to Headquarters and Headquarters Troop of the Squadron. It is organized in such a manner that the majority of the medics are attached to the line troops. Each line troop has four aidmen and one senior medic. These men are highly



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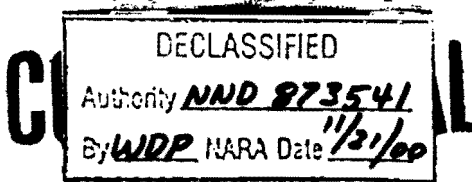
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trained and very proficient in their job and require exact medical standards from each aidman under them. Before an aidman is sent to a line troop, he is given a brief period of training in the aid station. This training consists of a ten-day period of working with the 91C20 (Med. Asst), during the regular sick call, and a course in the use of drugs by the Squadron Surgeon. After each aidman is assigned to a troop, he is further trained by the senior aidman until he feels he is proficient enough to service a platoon. The aid station is the basic element of the medical platoon. Sick call is held each day from 0730 to 1000 hours for those personnel working in rear areas and any time for all field troopers. It is operational 24 hours a day and all others on call. The aid station has the capability of handling all medical matters up to and including most minor surgery cases.

(2) Preventive Medicine: During the period from 1 Nov 1968 to 31 Jan 1969, a special effort was made to bring the Squadron up to the 100% level in immunizations. This has been accomplished by requiring each headquarters section to bring their personnel into the aid station for a check of each man's individual shot record, and also by making special trips to the various line troops to insure that shot records were brought up to date. Senior aidmen were instructed to conduct personal hygiene classes with their respective troops and instill in their men the importance of keeping their bodies as clean as possible, changing clothes as often as once a day if possible and reporting any rashes to their medic. All malaria pill rosters are checked each week to insure that everyone in the Squadron is taking his anti-malaria pill.

(3) Medical Supplies and Equipment: The Medical Platoon draws medical supplies from Company A, 1st Medical Battalion. Most of the equipment and supplies needed are available.

(4) Medical Civic Action Program: The Squadron has conducted two to three MEDCAP's a week during the reporting period, treating over 1000 Vietnamese. These MEDCAP's are scheduled in such a way that each village is revisited about every ten days, thus follow-up work can be accomplished.



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In addition to the normal MEDCAP's each week, there are several unusual cases treated extensively by the Squadron. There are cases especially noteworthy. One child, age 10 years, had a double cleft lip at birth. She was taken to the 3rd Field in SAIGON for two operations in which this was completely eradicated. The second case involved a little girl with congenital heart disease who was taken to LONG BINH for extensive life saving surgery. Another important project conducted by the Medical Platoon was the training of seventeen RPFV medics from the DI AN and LAI TRIEU Districts. These medics were brought into the squadron for a fourteen day period, and with the assistance of the 1st Medical Bn, they were given extensive courses in how to be a medical man for their respective units.

(5) Health of the Command: The health of the command is extremely good with only minor medical problems such as dermatological conditions, upper respiratory infection and digestive tract infections.

(6) Environmental Sanitation: The sanitation conditions of the Squadron area remains in good condition. Once a week the mess halls and surrounding areas are inspected and all deficiencies are reported directly to the Squadron executive officer.

2. Section II, Lessons Learned:

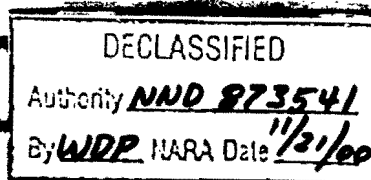
a. Personnel: None

b. Operations:

(1) Mass Mobile Resources Control Teams.

(a) Observation: With recent intelligence on the VC moving toward SAIGON in commercial vehicles, a method of control was needed to check out civilians along MSR's and secondary roads.

(b) Evaluation: The Squadron has had a Mobile Resources Control Team consisting of two Military Police and two National Police under operational control since the beginning of the period. This team established two or three control points daily throughout the AO and has maintained an average of four to six detainees per week. The Mass Mobile Resources Control operation was organized using the same technique and establishing a total of



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33 control points daily. The entire AO can be thoroughly checked in a minimum of two or three days.

(c) Recommendation: This method of operation was very successful as far as covering the entire AO and checking out maximum number of personnel and vehicles. However, a two day mass RCT conducted on 16 - 19 January 1969 did not achieve desired results. During this operation, 25,701 personnel and 10,101 vehicles were screened resulting in 20 detainees. The detainees were found to be either draft dodgers, ARVN A-OL's or they had ID card discrepancies and were later released.

(2) Snatch Operations.

(a) Observation: In order to reduce the VCI in the APC hamlets, it was necessary to establish a technique to operate in populated areas at night.

(b) Evaluation: Early in the Pacification Program, a VCI Platoon was organized. This platoon was composed of a reinforced US rifle squad and six to eight Kit Carson Scouts under the leadership of a US Platoon Leader. The mission was intelligence gathering, operating in the hamlets during the day and questioning the local villagers on recent VC activity. It was determined that most VC activity occurred at night. This prompted the development of the "snatch" operation. Several techniques have been tried. However, the most sound method is to establish a patrol base and dispatch a snatch squad. This squad, consisting of about 5 - 10 personnel to include Kit Carson scouts and an interpreter, moves throughout the hamlet on a planned route, listens in at doors and windows to gain intelligence, and snatch VC.

(c) Recommendation: This type of operation has been used on three occasions. Two out of the three attempts resulted in contact. On one snatch operation involving the IRPs, contact was made with an estimated five VC. It was later learned from three sources that three of the VC were killed and two wounded. No confirmation was possible.

(3) Flush Operations.

(a) Observation: In order to interrupt VC movement in and around the target hamlet, a technique can be used to channelize the VC.

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Authority NND 873541

By WDP NARA Date 11/21/00

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This would result in flushing them into strategically placed ambushes.

(b) Evaluation: Intelligence indicates that small groups of VC mass in and out of the hamlets at night. Extensive ambushing in these areas has for the most part been negative. The careful placement of squad size ambushes and channeling the VC by use of track vehicles moving through the area, should produce greater results.

(c) Recommendation: No evaluation of this method is possible at this time.

e. Training: None

a. Intelligence:

(1) Viet Cong Infrastructure Platoon (VCIIP).

(a) Observation: In order to support the Squadron's role in the APC, it was necessary to develop a unit with the sole mission of seeking intelligence on VC infrastructure, enemy hiding places and enemy caches.

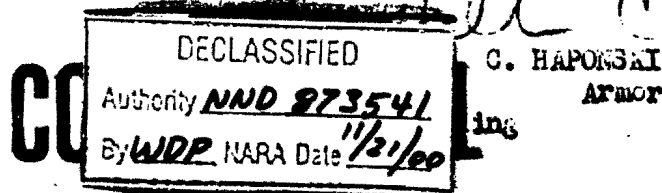
(b) Evaluation: At the start of the APC, the Squadron's VCI Platoon was organized consisting of 12 US Infantrymen, 10 Kit Carson Scouts, (former VC), 1 US Cavalman and a US Platoon Sergeant and Platoon Leader. When available, a team of National Police was attached to the platoon. The VCIIP accomplished its mission by establishing a security base with one US Infantry team. After the security was established, another US team searched the area looking for physical signs of VC activity while the Kit Carson Scouts broke down into two (2) man teams and talked to the villagers in their homes and in the fields.

(c) Recommendation: This type of operation be continued since it has been extremely successful. The VCI Platoon has been credited with 2 VC KIA, 1 VC CIA. It has located one large weapons cache, a lucrative medical cache, and has destroyed 20 tunnels, and 10 enemy bunkers since 15 Nov 69.

e. Logistics: None

f. Organization: None

g. Other: None



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SQUADRON STRENGTH AS OF 31 JANUARY 1969

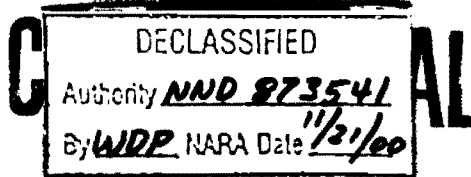
AUTHORIZED STRENGTH:

	Officer	Warrant Officer	Enlisted
HHT	18	3	199
Troop A	5	0	159
Troop B	5	0	159
Troop C	5	0	159
Troop D	16	27	115
Totals	49	30	791

ASSIGNED STRENGTH:

HHT	19	3	216
Troop A	5	0	164
Troop B	4	0	163
Troop C	6	0	150
Troop D	14	24	139
Totals	48	27	832

Inclosure 1



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ABDB-CHOO

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SUMMARY OF PROJECTED GAINS AND LOSSES FOR THE NEXT NINETY DAYS

	(LOSSES)		
	30 days	60 days	90 days
Officers	2	2	5
Warrant Officers	1	3	1
Enlisted	64	61	78

(GAINS)

Assignments are made by the Replacement Company in cooperation with
the Division Adjutant General.

Inclosure 2

