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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
COMPANY C, 2D BATTALION (MECH) 22D INFANTRY
APO San Francisco 96268

AVDCTB-8-COC

8 October 1968

SUBJECT: Small Unit After Action Report

TO: Commanding Officer
3d Bde, 25th Div
ATTN: S3
APO San Francisco 96268

1. NAME AND TYPE ORGANIZATION: Co C, 2d Bn (Mech) 22d Infantry, 25th Inf Div
2. DATE OF OPERATION: 191400 to 200230 September 1968
3. LOCATION: North-Northwest of Go Dau Ha (4 kilometers) Coordinates XT383285
4. COMMAND & CONTROL HEADQUARTERS: HQ, 2d Bn (Mech) 22d Infantry
5. REPORTING OFFICER: Captain James T Curry, Co C, 2d Bn (Mech) 22d Inf, 25th Inf Div
6. TASK ORGANIZATION:
 - a. Co C, 2d Bn (Mech) 22d Infantry
 - b. Co A, 2d Bn (Mech) 22d Infantry
 - c. Scout Platoon (recon) 2d Bn (Mech) 22d Infantry
 - d. 4.2 Mortar Platoon 2d Bn (Mech) 22d Infantry
7. SUPPORTING FORCES:
 - a. Artillery
 - b. Light Fire Teams
 - c. Bn 4.2 inch mortars 2d Bn (Mech) 22d Infantry
8. INTELLIGENCE: The company was on a sweep operation when the Commanding Officer received the order to move to a blocking position coordinates XT378283. No intelligence estimate was given for the new mission. However, heavy contact was expected from the intelligence estimate given by the Battalion S-2 before the Battalion moved into the AO. Northwest of Trang Bang. This estimate was--2 Regiments (1NVA and 1VC) were in the AO, preparing to move north to Tay Ninh and conducting limited psychological operations. They were leaving delaying forces behind. Contact was made with an estimated NVA company at approximately 1400 hours on 19 September 1968. The terrain was open, flat rice paddies, interspersed hedgerows and a village to the north and west providing good concealment for enemy forces. Weather: overcast with scattered showers. The company received heavy and light machine gun and AK47 fire, RPG's and 82mm mortars.

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9. MISSION: Mission was to set up a blocking force at coordinates XT378283 for Co A, 2d Bn (Mech) 22d Infantry which was conducting a sweep towards that location from the northwest. Our company received this mission via radio while conducting a dismounted sweep in another part of the 2d Bn (Mech) 22d Infantry AO.

10. CONCEPT OF OPERATION: Move back to company laager, pick up only necessary equipment, move northwest on route QL 22 to bridge at XT378283 and set up mobile blocking force occupying both sides of the road.

EXECUTION: The company executed the move to the bridge and the setting up of the blocking force with no complications. At approximately 1330 hours the company received a mission from Battalion to send a recon element on foot northeast on the cart trail that intercepted Route QL 22 approximately 200 meters to the southeast of the mobile blocking position. Their mission was to check an alleged stream crossing on the cart trail approximately 150 meters from the junction of QL22 and the cart trail to see if 110's could cross it. After one squad and PSG Jones from the 1st platoon had move approximately 150 meters down the cart trail, they halted, contacted the Commanding Officer and told him they had found no indications of a stream crossing up to that point. Captain Curry sent another squad from the 1st platoon to follow them for security and told the squad to recon about 100 more meters further down the cart trail. PSG Jones had moved about 75 meters past the 1st hedge-row (see diagram) running out to the left of the road when a light machine gun (1) and AK47's (4)pinned down his squad in the rice paddies on the left side of the road. PSG Jones informed the Commanding Officer of the situation. Captain Curry reacted by sending the 2nd platoon to the ~~left~~ ^{right} to move forward and try to flank the enemy positions. The remainder of the first platoon was left in reserve at the mobile blocking position. The security squad from the 1st platoon was approximately 15 meters past the 1st hedgerow on the left side of the road when the left point man, SP4 Frank Burks spotted movement in the bushes to his left front (4). When he fired, the security squad was fired at from the bushes at (4). Burks and Thompson were wounded. The 3rd point man made it out ok. About the same instant, the 2nd platoon approached the 1st hedgerow and were pinned down in the open paddy by automatic weapon (3), RPG and 82mm mortar fire. The small arms fire came from the hedgerows to their front and left flank. The 3rd platoon and headquarters element were on the right side of the road about 75 meters to the front right of the 2nd platoon when they were pinned down by a machine gun from their front (2). The 1st dustoff called in was shot down at (5) from Machine gun (2). Captain Curry used a light fire team (Diamond Head) to destroy the machine gun position. As the day progressed PSG Jones was able to get his squad across the road moving behind and passed machine gun (2) and linked up with the 3rd platoon and headquarters element. He did not know there were NVA in the bamboo when he went thru it. The security squad also pulled back across the road to the 3rd platoon. Both squads were able to withdraw as a result of the heavy volume of covering fire provided by elements of the 3rd platoon and 2nd platoon. After dark at approximately 2230 hours the 2nd platoon was able to crawl across the road and link up with the rest of the company. The company spent the next 4 hours getting back to their mobile blocking position on the bridge where they laagered for the night. They closed with the laager at approximately 0230 hours 20Sep68. The action had lasted for approximately 12 hours. The next morning they conducted a sweep thru the area of contact.

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11. STATISTICAL SUMMARY:

- a. Enemy Losses: estimate 15 killed; no actual body count.
- b. Friendly Losses: 2KIA, 6 WIA.
- c. Enemy equipment netted: 12 Chicom hand grenades, 15 RPG rounds, 13 82mm Mortar rounds. All were blown in place. Approximately 30 bunkers were destroyed.

Fredrick Young Jr.
FREDERICK YOUNG JR
1LT, Infantry
Executive Officer

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