

1. During 1969, the 541st Military Intelligence Detachment continued to support the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment's operations against VC/NVA forces throughout III Corps Tactical Zone. Successful operations such as Atlas Wedge (March 1969), Montana Raider (April-May 1969), and Kentucky Cougar (June-December 1969) were the result of timely and accurate intelligence exploitation.
2. The production and dissemination of intelligence is the mission of the S2 and the 541st MID. As originally organized, the 541st was designed to support an armored cavalry regiment in a conventional role. The counter-insurgency war, however, demanded that changes be made and a more tactically responsive organization be formed.
3. In July 1968, the 541st MID responded to this need by reorganizing itself into Battlefield Intelligence Collection Centers. A BICC was assigned to advise and assist both the Squadron and Regimental S2's with the collection collation, and dissemination of intelligence to higher, lower, and adjacent units.
4. As first conceived, the Regimental BICC was composed of two officers, one order of battle specialist, two interrogators, and two ARVN interpreters. The Squadron BICC's on the other hand, consisted of one officer, one order of battle specialist, one interrogator, and one ARVN interpreter. This arrangement provided the respective S2's with sufficient assets to accomplish their mission. This arrangement, however, was and continues to be very fluid and its composition is dictated both by the particular needs of the supported unit and the surplus of intelligence personnel being sent to the 541st MID. For example, the Regimental BICC is presently composed of two order of battle specialists, three interrogators, one imagery interpretation specialist, three ARVN interpreters, two officers, and a four man counterintelligence team.
5. The remainder of the detachment is located with other elements of the regiment at the rear base camp. Their mission is to collect, process, and store intelligence information which the tactically oriented BICC's with their limited storage facilities do not have the time or capability to deal with. The Order of Battle Section at the rear maintains an intelligence data bank not only dealing with areas of immediate interest to the 11th ACR but on any region of III CTZ which the regiment ~~is interested in~~ ~~is interested in~~ might be operating in at a future date. The Imagery Interpretation Section is also located with the rear detachment and provides, upon request, specialized photo coverage and interpretation of particular areas of interest, as well as current updates of tactical terrain analysis.
6. Experience gained thus far indicates that the BICC concept is one of the best methods of placing intelligence personnel where they can be most responsive to the needs of a highly mobile unit such as the 11th ACR. This concept is flexible enough to give the Regiment the continued high level of expertise which it has grown to depend.
7. Commanders: November 1968— February 1969 Major Robert D. Foley  
February 1969— November 1969 Captain Gary R. Ostrander  
November 1969— Major Harold H. Nicholas, Jr.

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