

SUBJECT: After Action Report

At approximately 1000 hours on 1 July, a platoon of A Company, 1-8 Cav with a platoon of tanks from A Company, 1-69th Armor and two bulldozers left LZ GERONIMO to join D Company, 1-8 Cav at BS 8810. The platoon was to move down the west side of the valley crossing a stream at BS 865134 reconnoitering as they made their way toward D Company.

Shortly before noon the platoon reached the creek. The bulldozers spent approximately 20 minutes improving the crossing for the tanks. At this time no enemy activity had been noted.

After crossing the creek, personnel in khaki uniforms were noticed in the southern edge of the village of TUY AN (1). One tank and an infantry squad were left with the bulldozers at the crossing site and the remaining tanks and the platoon (-) deployed moving to the southern edge of the village to investigate the sighting. Upon approaching the hedgerow at the edge of the village, the platoon (-) received a high volume of automatic weapons fire from enemy units defending along the hedgerow. The encounter was at close range with the infantry and tanks engaging the enemy with grenades, small arms, and the tanks major caliber weapons, with only the hedgerow separating the forces. The enemy forces along the hedgerow broke and retreated into the village with the infantry and tanks firing as they retreated. During this initial encounter the U.S. Forces sustained three (3) KIA and ten (10) WIA. Approximately twenty (20) enemy were killed. The encounter was brief and vicious, lasting approximately 20 minutes.

After the initial engagement, the tank-infantry team was moved through the open area to the east of the village to the northeastern edge of the village where the TF linked up with D Company, 1-8 Cav which had been moved from its location at BS 8810 to the northern part of the village. The remainder of A Company, 1-8 Cav was also moved by foot from LZ GERONIMO to the northern part of the village. The movement of the tank-infantry team and the other two companies to the area of contact was supported by 1-9 Cav weaponships, aerial rocket artillery (ARA), and tube artillery.

By approximately 1400 hours the U.S. forces in the contact area were disposed as shown on sketch map #1. A tank refueling and ammo resupply point had been established at BS 869138. This area was also utilized as a medevac point. At this time another heavy section of tanks were enroute to the contact area from LZ ENGLISH.

During the afternoon, air strikes, ARA, gunships, GO-GO, and artillery were employed in the contact area. CS gas was also used to harass the enemy.

The main enemy force was concentrated in the area south of hill ZEBRA in the contact area. Some casualties were sustained by A and C Companies while attacking to seize the hill, which was used as the M for

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the tank-infantry attack on the main enemy positions. The company commander of A Company was killed in this area.

The village itself was not inhabited, however it did contain a well developed trench system, spider holes, and numerous heavily constructed bunkers. The terrain was rolling and contained three different levels sloping down from hill ZEBRA to the north. There are many large rock formations throughout the area, which inhibited the tank movement and limited their operation to the southern half of the village. Many small fighting tunnels had been constructed by the NVA, which were dug into the southern slopes of hill ZEBRA. Although the U.S. forces were attacking downhill, and advancing on many occasions after taking out bunkers to their front, they had to turn and fight the tunnels to their rear.

At 1630 hours CS gas was employed by helicopter and a coordinated tank-infantry attack was launched with A Company on the west and D Company on the east. The attack with the tanks leading progressed well for about 15 minutes. Approximately 1645 hours the tanks went through a heavily fortified bunker complex on the western side of the village. The tanks believed they had eliminated resistance in the area. However, as the infantry approached, it developed that the enemy had let the tanks pass and were fighting from a well developed strong point. This stopped the attack for about an hour as the tanks and infantry destroyed the strong point. At 1800 hours the attack was resumed and by 1900 hours had progressed to the southern end of the village and all enemy resistance had been overcome. The area was then traversed from south to north a second time to reconfirm the elimination of the enemy force.

At this time fifty-four (54) enemy bodies had been counted and thirteen (13) weapons, including three (3) machine guns, had been recovered.

At 1815 hours B Company, 1-8 Cav was air assaulted to block egress routes to the south. See sketch map #2.

Night dispositions to block the escape of stragglers from the area are shown at sketch map #3.

Search of the contact area on 3 and 4 July resulted in the finding of many packs and other items of equipment, 5 additional weapons including a machine gun, a pistol, and documents indicating the NVA unit had been elements of the 8th Bn, 22d Regt. Also 32 more enemy bodies were discovered in bunkers and along the creek. Three local VC prisoners were found in a hole and stated that the NVA unit had moved into the area the night of 1 July, however, the area had been stocked with ammunition several nights before.

The total enemy casualties were 86 NVA KIA and 3 VC POW. Total U.S. casualties were 15 KIA and 39 WIA.

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AFDABR-SC

TMV AN (1)

Commanding General
1st Air Cav Div
ATTN: G-3
APO 96490

Commanding Officer
1st Bde, 1st Cav Div
APO 96490

5 July 1967

Per your request, attached narrative is submitted.

Robert W. Riscassi
ROBERT W. RISCASSI
Major, Infantry
S-3

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REPRODUCED AT GOVERNMENT EXPENSE

Annex A

Artillery in support of contact at TUY AN (1)

1. Requested Missions:

HE	WP	<u>105</u>	
368	68	ILL	SMK
		4	8

HE	WP	<u>155</u>	
164	12	ILL	SMK
		4	4

2. Blocking Fires and Routes of Egress:

HE	WP	<u>105</u>	
325	20	ILL	SMK
		0	2

HE	WP	<u>155</u>	
27	3	ILL	SMK
		0	1

3. Special Interdiction:

HE	WP	<u>105</u>	
226	0	ILL	SMK
		0	0

HE	WP	<u>155</u>	
404	0	ILL	SMK
		0	0

4. Total by Type:

HE	WP	<u>105</u>	
226	68	ILL	SMK
		4	10

HE	WP	<u>155</u>	
535	15	ILL	SMK
		4	5

Total 105 Rds: 621 Total 155 Rds: 559

Total Rds Fired: 1380

Artillery in support of contact at TUY AN (1)

3. Special Interdiction:

HE	WP	<u>105</u>	
325	20	ILL	SMK
		0	2

HE	WP	<u>155</u>	
404	0	ILL	SMK
		0	0

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