

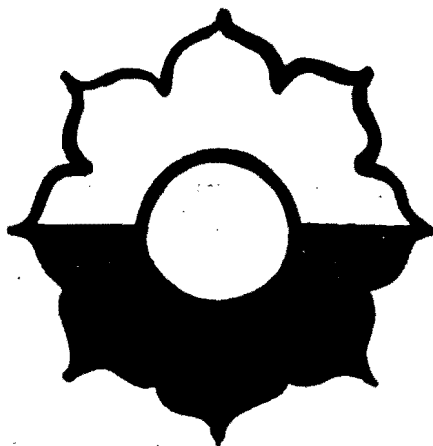
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Authority NND 873541
By TJ NARA Date 6/8/99

#9 4/2/270/30/8/3

Box #5

9th Division G-3 ORLL'S

CONFIDENTIAL 9TH INF DIV



ORLL

1 MAY 69

THRU

30 JUNE 69

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to the aircraft proved inadequate for this purpose. Of note is the fact that, while being demonstrated to the Division Commander, the console was used to commit combat troops. Needless to say, the demonstration was successful.

(3) During this reporting period two new types of antennas were tested for possible use within the division. Experiments were conducted to investigate the theory that a double antenna, oriented "exactly" North and South, would exhibit omni-directional characteristics. Results were encouraging, but inconclusive, and further testing was interrupted by redeployment. Tests were also conducted with the Mark III field expedient antenna for use with portable FM equipment. Performance was excellent and compared favorably with the RC 292 ground plane. The principal drawback of the antenna, which uses a doublet configuration, is the lack of trees or other supports for installation in the flat terrain of the Delta. Use in fixed facilities has proved very successful.

(4) Phase out of division communications, pursuant to redeployment, required extensive coordination and detailed planning. The necessity to maintain adequate and responsive communications while releasing assets for shipment or turn-in, was accomplished with minimum confusion and no loss of essential command and control.

2. (C) Army Aviation

(1) The 9th Infantry Division, in supporting two Corps Tactical Areas, obtains its aviation assets from both II FFORCEV and IV Corps Tactical Zone (CTZ). During the past quarter the 9th Infantry Division has been supported by the 214th Combat Aviation Battalion (CAB) with two Assault Helicopter Companies (AHC) per day in direct support of the 1st and 2d Brigades operating in Kien Hoa and Dinh Tuong Provinces. The 3d Brigade has been supported by II FFORCEV with an AHC on a mission basis operating in Long An Province.

(2) The division lift requirement has been supported by IV CTZ with the 147th Assault Support Helicopter Company (ASHC). Daily requirements involve three CH-47s flying an average of 18 hours and 36 sorties per day. Heavy lift requirements for the 3d Brigade have been supported by II FFORCEV with a CH-47 flying an average of 4.5 hours and nine sorties per day.

(3) The division CH-54 requirements are supplied by II FFORCEV. Division requirements for CH-54 arise two or three times a week for an average of three sorties per day and two hours blade time. A recapitulation of heavy lift support shows that 10,789 tons of cargo and 21,605 passengers were lifted for a total of 2,091.7 flying hours in support of the division.

(4) Cavalry troop support for the division consists of D/3-5 cavalry which is organic to the division and B/3-17 Cavalry which is in direct support. Additional cavalry troops are supplied to the division by both II FFORCEV and IV CTZ

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on a mission basis as required.

1. (C) Chemical Operations

(1) Personnel detectors (People Sniffer) - XM3 Airborne Personnel Detector (APD) and XM2 Manpack Personnel Detector (MPD).

(a) During the reporting period there were 1234 missions flown for a total flying time of 915.07 hours. All missions were flown utilizing the UH-1. Results of these missions were reported to G2 and to brigade and/or air cavalry units for inclusion in their compilation of intelligence reports. With the arrival of the fourth APD, the MPD has been completely phased out of 9th Infantry Division operations.

(b) During the reporting period sniffing results have shown considerable improvement. This is due largely to the improved synoptic weather conditions; high winds have subsided and ideal sniffing conditions often occur during the inversion condition which follows rains.

(2) Riot Control Agent Operations

(a) During the reporting period there were no missions flown utilizing bulk CS due to the lack of suitable targets.

(b) There were 22 E-158 Tactical CS Clusters expended during the reporting period. These were used by the 3d Brigade on point type targets developed from sniffer readings.

(3) Defoliation

(a) During the two-month period of this report one defoliation request was forwarded through channels. Long An Province has been the most active in providing potential targets. All base camp areas have been adequately sprayed and all approved projects in this area have been completed.

(b) In May and June seven ground spray targets were completed expending 2765 gallons of water soluble agents representing a coverage of 137.5 hectares. Helispray operations totaled 2170 gallons of herbicide dispersed covering an area of 287 hectares. Total coverage for air and ground operations were 424.5 hectares coverage with 4935 gallons expended.

(c) Allocation of aircraft for herbicide operations was given a relatively low priority during most of the reporting period. Short blade time allotments combined with the time required for preparation of the first mission of each day, have caused a low rate of gallons sprayed per blade time allocated.

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(4) Flame Expedients

(a) A flame expedient known as the "Flame Bath" has been employed and improved during the reporting period. The expedient air-dropped from a UH-1H aircraft at an altitude of 1500 ft, is assembled from 55 gallons of Diesel Fuel, 55 gallons of pinaprime, and 55 gallons of JP4. The three barrels are stacked on their sides in a triangular configuration, and held together with two 20 foot cargo straps. Ignition is obtained by wiring two M49A1 surface flares to the cargo straps and rigging them for pin pull ignition initiated by lanyard pull upon release of the cargo by the pilot.

(b) Results from using this weapon have been excellent. Infantry units favor its usage on booby trapped areas, and have reported burned off areas as large as 100 meters in diameter resulting from the drop of a single munition.

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(2) HELICOPTER GUNSHIP SUPPORT: During the reporting period the following air cavalry troops provided helicopter gunship support to the 1st Reconno Brigade: B Troop-3/17 Cav, A and C Troops-7/1 Cav, and D Troop-3/5 Cav. The Air Cavalry, working in harmony with the air mobile infantry elements, have greatly reduced the enemy force within Dinh Tuong Province.

(3) TACTICAL AIR SUPPORT:

(a) Pre-planned Air Strikes:

1	Strikes Requested	unk
2	Strikes Approved	388
2	Diverted Away	14
4	Diverted To	48
5	Strikes Delivered	387
6	Ground Aborts	6
7	Air Aborts	4
8	Aircraft Utilized	
	F 100	552
	A 37	68
	B 57	15
	F4C	31
	A1E	40
9	Ordnance Expended	
	1000 LB Bomb	None
	750 LB Bomb	655
	500 LB Bomb	1724
	250 LB Bomb	156
	Napalm	608
	Rocket Pads	4
	CMU Pods	42
	20mm	unk
10	Targets Engaged	
	Troops in contact	29
	VC in open	10
	Base Camps & Troop Areas	304
	River Traffic	unk
(b)	Immediate Air Strikes	27
	Total Strikes Requested	unk
	Total Strikes Approved	388
	Total Strikes Delivered	387
	Total Air Aborts	4
	Total Ground Aborts	6
	Diverted Away	14
	Diverted To	48

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(c) Total Bomb Damage Assessment:

1	Bunkers	1514
	Destroyed	354
	Damaged	
2	Sampans	
	Destroyed	36
	Damaged	8
3	Structures	
	Destroyed	192
	Damaged	78
4	Confirmed KBA	23
5	Secondary Explosions	9
6	Secondary Fires	2

(4) NAVLA FIRE SUPPORT: N/A

(5) CHEMICAL SUPPORT: Although almost daily use was made of the airborne personnel detector (People Sniffer), no use of tactical CS was reported. (Quite often small amounts of CS were dropped by supporting air cavalry elements).

6. (C) TRAINING: Operational commitments have restricted training in the maneuver battalions to a great extent. Refresher training was conducted on a weekly basis and inspected by commanders and staff representatives to insure that emphasis was being placed on combat techniques as directed by the Brigade Commander. Lack of formal training schedules and reports have increased the amount of beneficial training and eliminated the previous false reporting system.

7. (U) LOGISTICS

a. General: During the period 1 May through 30 Jun, the First Recondo Brigade continued operations mainly in Dinh Tuong, and Kien Phong Province, with one operation in Noc Hoa, Kien Tuong Province. The battalion base camps were located at Fire Support Base Moore, Fire Support Base Schroeder, Fire Support Base Duke and Fire Support Base Danger. The Brigade Headquarters and Staff were located at Fire Support Base Moore, with the Logistic Support coming from Dong Tam Base Camp. Resupply and Logistic Support was accomplished through the use of battalion organic vehicles and division vehicular, air and riverine assets from the Division Army Aircraft Element and Division on Support Command.

b. Supply: While in these three provinces, the supporting units were located in Dong Tam Base. When an operation was taking place in Kien Tuong Province, the air support and class I, III, and V was airlifted to the center of operations at

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Loc Hoa. Available class II and IV supplies were also utilized. Fire Support Base Moore in Cai Lay District. Fire Support Base Danger in Giao Duc District, and Fire Support Base Duke in Vinh Kim Sub-Sector all utilized aerial and logistical support from Dong Tam. Aerial Operations also used class III and V support from supply bases at Kim Vinh and My Phuoc Tay. Class I, II, III and IV were provided by 9th S&T Battalion and class V from Division Ammunition Office.

Direct Support units were Alpha Company, 15th Engineer Battalion; Bravo Company, 9th S&T Battalion; Headquarters and Alpha Company, 9th Medical Battalion; Charlie Company, 709th Maintenance Battalion; Alpha Company, 86th Engineer Battalion; and Bravo Company, 93rd Engineer Battalion; all of which are based in Dong Tam.

c. Maintenance: The quality of maintenance increased with the addition of highly trained personnel and command emphasis in equipment serviceability. All of the units had their annual GHI and passed. The serviceability profile in all units was C-1 rating and a serviceability profile 85 05 10.

d. Base Development: During the last two months several buildings have been completed in the rear areas. The 6th Battalion 31st Infantry completed a mess hall and 2nd Battalion, 30th Infantry is building revatments around all its billets for added personnel protection.

Most of the construction took place at Fire Support Base Moore with the construction of a mess hall, a chapel, a theater, a communication bunker, a briefing room, an S-1, S-5 building, and a Headquarters Company bunker. This was all built by Alpha Company, 15th Engineer Battalion.

8. (C) PSYOPS AND CIVIL AFFAIRS

a. PSYOPS

(1) PSYOPS during the reporting period were increased significantly due to maximum utilization of all resources available, to include, ground troops, air assets and all milcap operations.

(2) More emphasis has been placed on maximum aerial delivered PSYOPS coverage on all intelligence targets, as well as PSYOPS included in all tactical operations. Using hand held loudspeakers and hand dissemination of leaflets by ground troops.

(3) A joint operations center, with the 7th ARVN Division and Dinh Tuong Province was established in My Tho in support of an accelerated Chien Hoi Campaign.

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ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

1. (C) Organic/Assigned Units:

- a. IREC, 1st Bde
- b. 2nd Bn 39th Inf
- c. 3rd Bn 39th Inf
- d. 4th Bn 39th Inf
- e. 6th Bn 31st Inf

2. (C) Direct Support Units:

- a. 1st Bn 11th Arty
- b. Co A, 15th Engr Bn
- c. Co A, 9th Med Bn
- d. Co C, 709th Maint Bn
- e. 6th Plat, 9th MP Co
- f. 1st Plat, 335 HRC

3. (U) Attached Units: N/A

4. (C) Units Occasionally under Operational Control:

- a. B Troop, 3/17 Cav
- b. A Troop, 7/1
- c. C Troop, 7/1
- d. D Troop, 3/5

Inclosure 1

1st Brigade
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YR INTERVALS
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YRS
DOD DIR 5200.10

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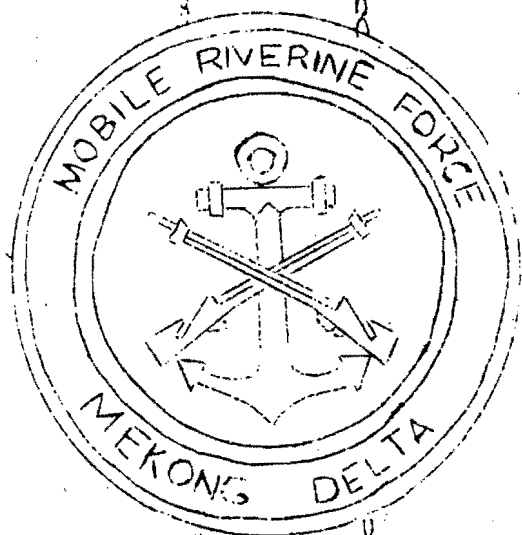
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HEADQUARTERS

2ND BRIGADE

9TH INFANTRY DIVISION

OPERATIONAL REPORT

FOR PERIOD ENDING

30 JUNE 1969

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11 July 1969
Period

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c. The effective use and employment of snipers organic to each of the maneuver battalions reinforced the potential and increased the night-kill ratio of night combat operations.

d. The Mobile Riverine Force (MRF) and 2nd Brigade continued to conduct watermobile, airmobile, and footmobile operations predominantly in Kien Hoa Province with emphasis in Giong Trom, Truc Giang, Ham Long, Mo Cay, and Don Nhon Districts.

e. Units participating in brigade operations were HHC 2nd Brigade, 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry, 4th Battalion 47th Infantry, 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry, 3rd Battalion 34th Artillery, D Troop 3rd Squadron 5th Cavalry, Co D 15th Engineer Battalion, 162 Assault Helicopter Company, and 1097 Transport Company (Medium Boat), and Task Group 117, United States Navy.

f. Summary of Enemy Losses:

<u>KIA</u>	<u>PW</u>	<u>CD</u>	<u>DET</u>	<u>HC</u>	<u>IND WPN</u>	<u>CS WPN</u>
1565	77	159	335	49	140	16

g. Summary of Friendly Losses:

<u>US KIA</u>	<u>US WIA</u>
37	332

h. Combat Support Activities:

(1) Artillery: The 3rd Battalion, 34th Artillery continued to provide support to MRF combat operations.

(2) Army Aviation: From the period 1 May 1969 - 30 June 1969, the units of the 2nd Brigade conducted 144 company sized airmobile operations.

(3) Tactical Air Support: Preplanned and immediate airstrikes continued to be provided by the 7th USAF during the reporting period.

(4) Naval Fire Support: The Navy River Divisions continued to provide direct and indirect fire support for water movements. Organic weapons of River Assault Flotilla One were used extensively to engaged targets sighted by radar and DUFFEL BAG sensors.

i. Tactics and Techniques:

(1) Tactics and Techniques employed by the River Raiders basically did not change. The focus of effort was on establishing and holding contact with

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the enemy by aggressive thrusts deep into his base areas.

(2) The efficiency of force employment was also enhanced by resisting the tendency to over-react. A rapid assessment of enemy capabilities followed by insertion of only the minimum force necessary to meet and successfully engage him conserved US human assets and produced a VC kill rate higher than that which normally attained when the presence of excessive friendly units inhibited the application of adequate supporting fires.

6. (C) Training: Individual and unit training continued to be conducted to meet combat operational requirements.

7. (C) Logistics:

a. The system of resupply utilizing the support LST of the Mobile Riverine Base and the 9th Infantry Division logistical base at Dong Tam continued. On 14 June 1969 alert notification to redeploy to CONUS was received. Logistical operations were scaled down to meet the lessened demands of subordinate units. Immediate action was initiated to turn-in equipment. As of 29 June 1969 the 3rd Battalion 60th Infantry completed their equipment turn-in. No major difficulties were encountered.

b. Material and Services:

(1) Class I: There was a decrease in this class of supply. Over 287,000 meals (Combat, Individual and LRRP) were issued from the support LST. In addition, over 270 tons of Class I were required for the brigade headquarters field mess and the 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry. These figures do not include rations drawn and served by the Navy messes aboard ship.

(2) Class II: There was a decrease in this class of supply. An estimated 30 tons of Class II was utilized.

(3) Class III: An estimated 400 tons of Class III was required by the brigade.

(4) Class IV: There was a sharp decrease in the requirements of Class IV materials. An estimated 90 tons was issued for the improvement of the Brigade Forward C.P. at Ben Tre, 3rd Battalion 47th Infantry base camp, and a new 4.2in mortar site for 4th Battalion 47th Infantry.

(5) Class V: There was a marked increase in the requirement of Class V materials. Over 760 tons of Class V were issued as compared to 350 tons during the last quarter.

(6) Class VII: Certain shortages of equipment continued to exist, included Antenna RC-292; Mortar, 4.2 inch.

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