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Authority	MD873541
By	G.
NARA Date 4/5/00	

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SUMMARY SHEET

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1 Jan 71

Two heavy machinegun locations were reported to Troop A today. One was at vicinity XD 839241 and the other at vicinity XD 816235. Due to inclement weather, our A/C were unable to work in the AO. The pilots pulled maintenance on the aircraft, thus utilizing the time to the best ability.

2 Jan 71

Below minimum weather conditions, prevailed throughout the day, keeping Troop A A/C grounded. Aircraft maintenance was pulled and preparations for the upcoming inspection were made.

3 Jan 71

Visual recons of route 616 today spotted signs of heavy truck traffic from the border to coordinate XD903239. While on the first UR of 616, two gunships received .51 caliber fire at coordinate XD910243, one aircraft took one hit resulting in only minor damage. From coordinate XD903239, where the truck traffic stopped, a 3rd trail showed signs of heavy foot traffic. On the last UR of route 616, the chase ship, a UH-1H, received .51 caliber from two different positions, one at coordinates XD853239 and one at coordinate XD853244. Last light UR for the 3rd BDE 101st ABN Div reported several trails in vicinity coordinate YD449309 to YD390320 with negative recent activity.

4 Jan 71

Due to inclement weather conditions missions were not completed today except last light UR for 2nd BDE 101st Abn Div special UR box. The last light team reported two small trails in vicinity coordinate YD504246 and YD512245.

5 Jan 71

Aircraft of Troop A were unable to fly today because of bad weather conditions. The day was spent working on aircraft.

6 Jan 71

Visual reconnaissances were conducted throughout the day in the northern sectors of RZ's 2, 3, and 4. Numerous trails were spotted by teams working in these areas. The majority of the trails had negative recent activity, but some were reported with movement within the past 24 hours.

7 Jan 71

Weather was a negative fact today. The only mission that was complete was the last light for 3rd BDE. A bunker, a possible old cache site, and several trails were all that was observed by the pink team. Aircraft maintenance was emphasized during the day.

8 Jan 71

Missions conducted by Troop A today were mainly in RZ's 3, 4, and 5. Last light for 3rd BDE and two leaflet drops were also preformed. Truck traffic was observed along route 616 (within the past 24 hours). Numerous trails, 8 bunkers, three .51 pits, a garden area, and a fresh field were observed near route 616 in these recon zones. At vicinity 9025 these had been an area cleared and from 50 to 100 people

GROUP 4

Downgraded at 3 year intervals;
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had been in the region within 24 to 48 hours.

Two possible mortar positions, fifteen bunkers, and approximately 8 trails were spotted in the 3rd BDE area by the pink team during last light.

Along route 616 in RZ5, numerous trails were once again spotted by A/C in the AO, along with bunkers, a hooch, 3 SI pits, and one .51 caliber pit under construction. A six foot log bridge and a 4' foot bridge, both with negative R/A, were observed in this vicinity also.

The leaflet drops were at vicinity 978342 and vicinity 123175.

9 Jan 71

Activity for Troop A centered mainly along route 616 and the northern region of the 3rd BDE area. A contact mission was enacted at vicinity 304364 when a platoon of NVA were spotted in the open. A LOH took fire in the northern section of the 3rd BDE area today. Numerous reports of trails and bunkers were turned in and most of the spots listed activity as 6 to 12 hours. Several fighting positions, trails, bunkers, a bypass, and truck traffic along route 616 were observed in the area surrounding route 616. Two sky spots were put into this vicinity today. Squadron reported a downed A/C in the DMZ. Our Troop coordinated with Troop C 3/17 in the rescue attempt. There were 2 LOH's receiving fire; one crashed and suffered 3KIA's, and the other returned to Quang Tri. Troop A provided gunship support for the mission to recover the downed A/C and crew.

10 Jan 71

Weather was bad today and missions were cancelled for the most part. A pink team went into the 3rd BDE area and made a weather check, but due to fog and a low ceiling was unable to work. Several trails were spotted with recent activity. Along route 616 in RZ3, two sky spots went in and a BDA was requested but weather kept Troop A teams from completing this mission. Along route 616 some sensors were activated but we were unable to check out the area.

11 Jan 71

Troop A conducted first and last light for 3rd brigade; however, only a few scattered trails were observed. At 08:25, our A/C covered an extraction at vicinity 463302 for "combat 97." Several sky spots went in today, mainly along route 616. BOA's were conducted by our A/C.

Along route 616 in RZ3, an old unserviceable truck was spotted. In RZ's 4,5, and 6 along route 616, numerous trails, a bamboo constructed bridge, and five 55 gal drums were observed. Engineer stakes were also located along the road. Tractor tire tracks were noticed by an A/C in this vicinity. At vicinity 910241, 6 NVA were sighted and engaged with unknown results.

Along route 616, Troop A A/C received AK-47 fire and .51 caliber fire today; negative hits were received.

12 Jan 71

The major part of the activity of Troop A for today centered along route 616 in RZ3. A/C received AK-47 fire and .51 caliber fire. Spots included the following items: numerous bunkers, five bridges of various sizes, red and white metal markers (vicinity 815233), tractor tracks and blade markings, a possible cache site, 2 possible .51 caliber sites, two bunkers complexes, and indications of traffic along the road. At vicinity 902229, there is a short extension of route 616. At vicinity 815234, ARA and our gunships engaged and there were four secondaries; A/S were employed and there were 8 secondaries.

In the vicinity of Barbara, a pink team observed some tracks, a NDP, and about 30 fighting positions.

Just to the north of Lakkapur, a pink team spotted several trails, a NDP and a bunker. Activity in this area had been 24 to 48 hours for the most part.

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13 Jan 71

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Troop A sent a pink team to the vicinity of Sord today for 1st light for 3rd BDE. Little activity was noted besides a couple of trails and a possible cache site. In RZ's 5, 6, and 7, numerous trails, an old hootch, two old .51 caliber site, two spider holes, and several old bunkers were sited. A/C received .51 caliber and AK-47 fire today. Three separate sets of tracks for large numbers of personnel were sited.

The ranger relay team was inserted on hill 950 at 15:50. At vicinity 850245, there was a leaflet drop.

A long route 616 in RZ3, ARA and A/S were employed today. Numerous shot reports were received today, mainly reported as AK-47 fire. Three NVA were spotted; they were engaged and one confirm kill was registered. Parts of route 616 had been graded for road improvements. Activity in the vicinity of RZ3 along route 616 was observed as fairly heavy and recent.

14 Jan 71

Troop A worked heavy teams with chase throughout the entire day in RZ3 along route 616. Heavy activity was noted in this vicinity. A/C received heavy AK-47 fire during the day and occasionally .51 caliber or .30 caliber fire was reported. The area was infested with recent activity along trails, in bunkers, hootches, and fighting positions. Road improvement of route 616 and an extension of the route were also sited. Truck traffic, a tractor turn-around, two stone staircases, built up areas, a possible PCL point, a cache site, 55 gallon drums, and a 5' bamboo fence, all showed recent signs of activity. At vicinity 923234, 40-50 bunkers were observed and an estimated 80 dinks were spotted by a LOH pilot.

Troop A teams worked with ARA during the day and also helped employ air strikes. Numerous bunkers were destroyed, five secondary explosions were observed, and pilots from our troop were accredited with 2 KBA's.

15 Jan 71

Troop A worked in RZ's 3 and 4 the entire day along route 616. TAC air was on station and artillery was employed, both through collaboration with Alpha Troop teams. A/C in the area of interest today received AK-47, .51 caliber, and 12.7 caliber fire. One AH-1G was hit and the blues were alerted for standby. The A/C made it back to Quang Tri. An active .51 caliber was reported at vicinity 912238.

An extremely large number of bunkers were reported in this general region. Thirty to forty bunkers were sited in one area and twenty to thirty in another. Trails and three possible cache sites were also observed.

Artillery destroyed forty to fifty bunkers and set a POZ point on fire. Air strikes made route 616 impassable in three areas, destroyed a large trench, and caused two secondary fire. In all, 3 KBA's were confirmed today.

16 Jan 71

Activity of Troop A centered again today along route 616 in reconnaissance zones 3 and 4. A/C still received AK-47, .51 caliber, and .30 caliber fire. Bunkers, trails, fighting positions, and .51 pits with recent activity were sited in this vicinity. At vicinity 945289, a 300 meter long extension of route 616 was observed. BILK and ARA were both employed by Troop A. A total of nineteen bunkers, a trench, and five .51 caliber pits were destroyed. BILK had 1KBA and a Troop A Cobra inflicted one KBA.

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17 Jan 71

Troop A worked along route 616 with ARA teams and coordinated with TAC air putting in air strikes. From vicinity 8122, up to grids and over six grids, was the area of interest today. Three air strikes were put in this area. BDA's were conducted by Troop A teams. One .51 caliber gun was damaged and one was destroyed. Two .51 caliber pits were destroyed along with ten bunkers. ARA, TAC Air, and Troop A gunships had a total of eight KBA's. Throughout the day, teams received .51 caliber fire.

18 Jan 71

Troop A teams coordinated with ARA teams, artillery, and TAC Air to complete their missions today, which pealt with route 616 in RZ's 3 and 4. VR in the RZ disclosed five .51 caliber pits, numerous bunkers, fighting positions, and trails. A/C received .30 caliber and .51 caliber fire; one A/C received 30-40 pds of 7.62 Russian machinegun fire. Troop A A/C provided security for three sensor drops by a squadron slick. A possible truck parking area was spotted. At vicinity 924403, 2 NVA were engaged by Cobras, but results were unknown. BDA's were conducted and resulted were as follows: 16 bunkers destroyed, 2 bunkers damaged, 5 secondary explosions, 15 fighting positions destroyed, and one .51 caliber pit destroyed.

19 Jan 71

Troop A conducted VR's along 616 again today. Also, coordination with TAC Air, ARA teams, and artillery was enacted to comply with mission requirements. A large amount of route 616 showed heavy foot traffic with recent activity. Other observations for today included a garage, spider holes, bunkers, a .30 caliber pit, several .55 gallon drums, a .51 caliber pit, poles that were possible trail markers, and two rafts. A bunker complex that had an overall "L-shaped" bunker was spotted. A/C in the AO received .51 and AK-47 fire, one NVA was spotted by the river; he was engaged but results were unknown. BDA's conducted by Troop A A/C revealed the following items: forty-six bunkers destroyed and two "L-shaped" bunkers damaged; fourteen fighting positions destroyed; 3 tunnels exposed along with 1 parking area and nineteen bunkers; two secondary fires; one cache site destroyed; and, two cache sites exposed.

20 Jan 71

Troop A is still working primarily along route 616. Two A/S were put in today with our teams assisting the fixed-wing A/C. A/C received AK-47 fire again today. Observations included a .51 caliber pit, a .30 caliber pit, three tunnels, bunkers, trails, spider holes, and some drums along route 616. A possible POL point was also spotted. Troop A gunships engaged an ammo cache at vicinity 898262; a large secondary occurred as a result. Two bunkers were destroyed at the same location. The BDA from the 1st A/S revealed the following items: five bunkers destroyed, one bunker damaged, and one .51 caliber damaged. The second A/S missed the target and negative damage was inflicted.

21 Jan 71

The primary mission of Troop A was to VR along route 616. Two KBA's were inflicted by our pilots today. At vicinity 997303, the white bird spotted 8 NVA in the open; the red bird engaged and got one confirmed kill. Recent road repairs had

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had been made along route 616. Spot reports for the day revealed the same general observations as the past few days. Bunkers, fighting positions, a bridge, .51 caliber pits, hootches, and some fish baskets were observed. Three to four fields were observed burning; possibly they were left-over harvest and the fires were started by the NVA. A bunker complex of 30 bunkers, along with one pit, one hootch, and two caves were observed at vicinity 149214. A/C received .30 caliber and AK-47 fire today, but negative hit were received.

22 Jan 71

Inclement weather prevented Troop A from accomplishing VR's to as great an extent as it has been during the past few days. Only one shot was reported today and the type of fire was AK-47. Some activity was noted along route 616 and a few fighting positions, along with a bunker and a pit were observed. Two A/S were put in a Troop A A/C conducted BDA's. The first BDA revealed the following: 4 bunkers destroyed, and two secondary explosions. The second BDA disclosed the following: eleven ammo boxes destroyed, twenty feet of trench line destroyed, six bunkers destroyed, and one bunker uncovered.

23 Jan 71

Due to bad weather, Troop A was unable to conduct any missions today. Maintenance of aircraft was emphasized; combat ready effectiveness of troop A/C was increased as a result of today's work.

24 Jan 71

Visual reconnaissance of route 616 was the main mission of Troop A again today. Numerous trails, bunkers, three garden plots, and a raft were sited. The road showed signs of recent use at several locations. TAC Air and artillery were not employed today. One KBH was inflicted by one of Troop A's gunships today. In grid box 7826, heavy activity was observed including bunkers, a fireplace, a juncture of 3 trails, and food cans in sleeping areas.

25 Jan 71

Weather in Troop A's RZ's was bad today but some VR's were conducted by our A/C. Several sensor strings were activated and our A/C checked those out that they could reach. VR's showed signs of R/A around bunkers, trails, a foot bridge, and an extension of route 616. At vicinity 771262, the trees had been cleared in an "L-shaped" manner with recent activity listed as 48 hours.

26 Jan 71

Weather prevented Troop A from conducting missions today. The lift and weapons sections were alerted at 16:25 for support of a ranger element in contact, but the mission was cancelled. Pilots and crew pulled aircraft maintenance and accomplished a good deal.

27 Jan 71:

A Trp did not fly due to bad weather in the A/O. Log runs were made as necessary.

28 Jan 71

A Troop did not fly due to bad weather in the A/O. An attempt was made to pull last light. The only activity reported was a farming by S-10 personnel at 444276 and

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moved west.

29 Jan 71

The weather lifted enough to allow teams in to the A/O by 08:00 the first team reported a large fire at 863425 and 3 new turn-around points at 903267 and 902242. The trail system in the area showed no significant signs of activity but at 902267 a bridge was being repaired. The afternoon began to show increasing signs of activity in the vicinity of XD7629. Approximately 50 personnel had moved generally northeast in the last 6-12 hours. At 1320, 65 finished firing 14 rds of 175mm at targets in the A/O. 1/5 Mech inserted 4 ranger teams in the A/O with no contact.

30 Jan 71

A Troop mission was to provide flank security for 1/5 Mech's Khe Sanh operation along with F/8 and B 2/17. The first team in the A/O received fire from 5-8 AK's at XD782342 and 782342.65 dropped 3 C/S canisters and 20 rds on the area, with unknown results.

The team continued to VR the area from the VC QL-9 west to the border. The team reported light activity on QL-9 within the last 6-12 hours. In the vicinity of XD7833, 4 sleeping areas were reported for approximately 25 personnel within the last 12-24 hours. The first team continued to report light activity in vicinity 7836.

Fox Troops first team pulled VR along the Blue and reported a 1s' Sampan at XD709366. The team engaged and destroyed the Sampan, F troop reported heavy foot traffic within the last week.

At 10:30, 72 preorted a F/8 LOH down on a sandbar in the Ba Long valley with a mechanical failure. Two loads of blues and a LOH rigging crew were loaded and inserted to secure the aircraft. The aircraft was slung out and the infantry extracted at 440; the LZ was green.

Teams continued to VR from Khe Sanh Southwest toward the border in the afternoon. In the vicinity 898278, 75 took fire from approximately 4 AKs, but did not sustain any hits. In the same area several trails running north and south with recent activity of 3-24 hours. In vicinity 867234 a tripod road marker was spotted with recent activity in 24 hours in vicinity 898278.

At 1455 vicinity 895278, 84 took fire from 4 AKs but didn't take any hits. In the same area 2 NVA were spotted (vicinity 884232) and engaged with unknown results.

The remainder of the day was spent on VR of the area in vicinity grid 7535. The trails in this area showed very recent activity by approximately 50 personnel moving east in the last day.

Log runs were made in the afternoon as necessary.

31 Jan 71

The Troops mission for today was to provide security for friendly units in vicinity of Khe Sanh and Sheppard.

At 1115 an airstrike was places on the area where a team had taken heavy AK fire (vicinity 790314) and reported several bunkers. A Troops teams working in the vicinity 811189 and took fire from an unknown number and caliber weapon. The team sustained no hits and continued to fly the mission. The team also reported light activity on the trails in the area and around several bunkers.

F Troop 8th Cavalry also provided 3 teams to the A/O and pulled VR in vicinity 7439 along the Laotian border.

The first team reported a cave opening and 10 bunkers in vicinity 746399 with activity in the last 2 weeks and a partially built bunker 100 meters least of there. In vicinity 709364 a rocket pod was reported and at 710364 a partially destroyed Sampan 8' long. In the vicinity 715406 a trail was reported along with 6 hootches and 15 bunkers. The aircraft in the area to fire from 8-10 AK-47s and engaged one NVA wearing white. The NVA was wounded and the team had to break station.

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In the early afternoon teams from A Troop continued to use A/R strikes in the A/0 to destroy bunker complexes and areas with heavy recent activity.

A BDA in vicinity 724402 showed 10 bunker, 8 destroyers, 2 hootcher destroyers and a knapsack burning. The entire area turned up a large number of bunkers and hootches, and showed signs of being built up and improved.

Another BDA of a airstrike in vicinity 7240 showed 10 bunkers and an enemy storage site destroyed. VR of the 616 extension showed heavy traffic in both directions with minor repairs to road being made.

The last VR of the day was made by A Troop in vicinity 6854 and it turned up several bunkers and hootches with a large number of fighting positions at 688548.

At 1430 the last BDA was pulled on an airstrike at 724402 with 5 bunkers being destroyed

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