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AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980 ; AGO ltr 29 Apr 1980

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HEADQUARTERS
25TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96225

AVDCDH

31 May 1968

SUBJECT: Combat Operation After Action Report

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

Combat Operation After Action Report for Operation WILDERNESS is forwarded for necessary action and/or information.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

J. D. ZEYLER
2LT, AGC
Asst Adjutant

- 2 Incl
- 1. Incl 1 - COAR 3rd Sqdrn,
17th Cav
- 2. Incl 2 - COAR 1st Brigade

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FOR OT RD
68X022

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**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310**



IN REPLY REFER TO

AGAM-P (M) (10 June 68) FOR OT RD 68X022

13 June 1968

**SUBJECT: Combat After Action Report - Operation WILDERNESS, 25th
Infantry Division, 8 March - 8 April 1968 (U)**

SEE DISTRIBUTION

1. Subject report is forwarded as inclosure for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 5b, AR 525-15.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

BY ORDER OF THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kenneth G. Wickham".

**KENNETH G. WICKHAM
Major General, USA
The Adjutant General**

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HEADQUARTERS
3d Squadron, 17th Cavalry
APO 96216

AVGC-BC

15 April 1968

SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report

See Distribution

1. NAME OF OPERATION: Operation WILDERNESS
2. DATES OF OPERATION: 8 March 1968 thru 7 April 1968
3. LOCATION: Tay Ninh Province
4. COMMAND HEADQUARTERS: 3d Squadron, 17th Cavalry
5. REPORTING OFFICER: WILLIAM W. BRANNON Jr., LTC, Commanding
6. TASK ORGANIZATION:
 - A Troop, Major Robert A. Witcher, Commanding
(OPCON to 199th Light Infantry Brigade)
 - B Troop, Major James T. McManus, Commanding
8 March 1968 thru 23 March 1968; 24 March 1968 OPCON to 1st Brigade,
1st Infantry Division
 - C Troop, Major Gary E. Luck, Commanding
OPCON to 9th Infantry Division until 23 March 1968; 24 March 1968
thru 7 April 1968.
 - D Troop, Captain Russell W. Mengel, Commanding
7. SUPPORTING FORCES: None
8. INTELLIGENCE:
 - A. When the 3d Squadron 17th Cavalry was committed to Operation Wilderness there had been no recent contact with the 271st, 272d and 273d VC Regiments which indicated that elements of these units had possibly moved to supply areas and were deliberately avoiding contact with Free World Forces.

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B. Terrain and Weather:

(1) General: The TACR was bounded generally by Cambodia on the North and West in War Zone C, the 1st Infantry Division boundary on the East and the XT25 East West grid line on the South.

(2) Terrain:

(a) Observation and fields of fire ranged from limited in War Zone C to excellent in the rice paddies near Go Dau Ha.

(b) Obstacles - Throughout the TACR there were no natural or artificial obstacles which impeded the reconnaissance or movement of the squadron.

(c) Concealment - The hours of darkness and early morning fog provided the VC and NVA with natural concealment from air activity.

(d) Key Terrain - Highway 22 was selected as key terrain since this is the route by which convoys move to resupply the Tay Ninh area.

(e) Avenues of approach:

- (1) Fish Hook - Saigon River - Michelin Plantation.
- (2) Highway #1 leading from Cambodia to Go Dau Ha.

(3) Weather:

(a) Visibility - During early morning hours visibility was restricted due to fog and haze.

(b) Temperature - The temperature averaged in the high eighties throughout the operation.

C. Intelligence During the Operation (Annex B Intelligence Overlay):

(1) Lines of communication for the VC/NVA extended from the Fish Hook South toward the Michelin Plantation.

(2) Logistical Bases: Several large bunker complexes were discovered. In the vicinity of XT5271 a possible transfer point was located; several truck tracks (3/4 ton) led into the area from the North but no tracks were discovered leading from the area to the South. There were also two 3/4 ton trucks, type and make unknown, spotted under camouflage. In the area a cache consisting of approximately 4000 lbs of rice was discovered as well as 300 boxes of small arms ammunition.

9. MISSION:

Conduct armed aerial reconnaissance of 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, TACR to locate VC/NVA forces, enemy logistical bases, and interdict enemy lines of communications. Provide counter-mortar aero weapons team for Dau Tieng Base Camp during the hours of darkness. Conduct route reconnaissance and security between Tay Ninh and Trang Bang.

10. CONCEPT OF OPERATION:

3d Squadron, 17th Cavalry (-) will conduct armed aerial reconnaissance in the 1st Brigade TACR with one air cavalry troop. B Troop will locate, report,

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and destroy, within its capabilities, VC/NVA forces, enemy logistical bases, and enemy lines of communications. Provide a counter-mortar team for Dau Tieng each evening. D Troop will conduct a daily route reconnaissance of Highway 1 and 22 from Tay Ninh to XT413238. Local patrols will be conducted along route following the initial reconnaissance mission. Secure engineer work parties as necessary.

II. EXECUTION: 8 March 1968 thru 23 March 1968

On 8 March 1968, 3d Squadron, 17th Cavalry (-) was placed OFCON to 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division and given the mission of performing reconnaissance in the 1st Brigade TACR (Annex A), searching for signs of enemy movement and all enemy intelligence. During this period, lines of communication between Cambodia and the Michelin Plantation and several base areas were plotted. On 11 March, B Troop spotted four NVA soldiers dressed in khaki uniforms at XT613312. The enemy troops were taken under fire resulting in 4 KBA (BC). Later in the day, D Troop reported a roadblock and possible enemy ambush site at XT530183. One company of 4th Battalion, 23d Infantry was sent to that location as a reaction force. Due to the distance and time involved for the reaction force, the enemy had abandoned the ambush site just prior to the company deploying. No contact was made during the maneuver. On 16 March, two aero weapons teams from B Troop were sent to XT234300 when an ARVN outpost came under heavy attack by an estimated VC battalion. B Troop received anti-aircraft fire from one position which they immediately engaged and silenced. The aero weapons teams then engaged the VC positions. With the combined fires from the weapons aircraft and the ARVN soldiers, the VC attack subsided and was soon broken. B Troop was credited with 25 KBA (BC). On 18 March, an aero scout team from B Troop was on a reconnaissance vicinity XT565503 when the team received heavy automatic weapons fire. The team leader immediately called artillery on the position. Following the fire mission the team made a low level assessment of the damage and credited the artillery with one automatic weapons position destroyed and two KBA (BC). Between 18 March to 5 April, D Troop was assigned the additional mission of escorting gravel trucks, from the 65th Engineer Battalion, from Tay Ninh to Trang Bang in support of road repair operations. On 20 March, B Troop discovered an enemy storage area at XT481593 containing bunkers and one large tin building. An artillery mission was called on the site, resulting in one secondary explosion producing a 150 foot high mushroom cloud. On 21 March, the aero rifle platoon of B Troop was inserted at XT1646, on a reconnaissance in force operation of a reported VC rendezvous point. Inspection of this area failed to show any signs of recent activity and the platoon was extracted. D Troop, on a route reconnaissance mission, encountered an ARVN popular forces unit which had just been ambushed along the route at XT385285. D Troop assisted the unit by placing 106mm recoilless rifle fire on targets pointed out by an American advisor to the unit. Contact was then broken with unknown results. The aero rifle platoon of B Troop was inserted on 22 March at XT573502, in coordination with 2d Battalion, 22d Infantry (Mechinized). The platoon established a blocking position at that location as the battalion swept toward the platoon from the west. Negative enemy contact was encountered on the operation and the

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platoon was extracted at 1306 hours. On 23 March, C Troop was released from the 9th Infantry Division and returned to squadron control.

b. 24 March 1968 thru 7 April 1968

On 24 March 1968 B Troop was placed OPCON to 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division and G Troop assumed B Troop's missions in operation WILDERNESS. On 25 March D Troop encountered an ARVN Mechanized Company which had been ambushed at XT299361. D Troop approached the rear of the ARVN unit and deployed to the south, west and east of the village of Can An (XT292361). D Troop supported the ARVN advance by placing 106mm recoilless rifle fire on the enemy locations. Twenty (20) VC were spotted at XT299361, attempting to envelop the ARVN from the south and were immediately engaged. The VC then withdrew in the direction they had come. Approximately one hour and thirty minutes later, the VC broke contact with the ARVN unit. D Troop had negative casualties or damage and inflicted three (3) VC KIA (Possible). The aero rifle platoon of C Troop was inserted at XT528553 in a coordinated operation with 2d Battalion, 22d Infantry (Mechanized). C Troop set up a blocking position with the battalion sweeping toward the platoon. Negative contact was established and the platoon was extracted at 1300 hours vicinity XT519556. On 26 March, an Air Force Forward Air Controller, assigned to the squadron, spotted 40 VC at XT120947, walking along a road. The FAC contacted one of C Troops aero scout teams and vectored them to the target area. By using forward air controlling procedures, the team was vectored to the enemy location, made the first firing pass, and caught the VC still on the road. The team was credited with ten (10) VC KBA (BC). On 30 March, C Troop was performing an aerial reconnaissance south of Tay Ninh between the Oriental River and the Cambodian border. An estimated VC company was sighted occupying a base camp at XT301301. Three airstrikes were put into the target area, however the strikes were relatively ineffective. On 3 April, C Troop spotted an enemy base camp at XT539721 and marked the target for a FAC. Results of the airstrike were 30-40 bunkers destroyed with two KBA (BC). On 5 April, C Troop discovered recent vehicle tracks leading from Cambodia toward Dau Tieng. Similar tracks had been spotted and reported in the past, however, no trucks were ever found. On this occasion, C Troop followed the vehicle tracks to a storage area, XT527713, and found two 3/4 ton trucks, type unknown, and 300 boxes of ammunition. An air strike on the area destroyed 1 truck and more than half the ammunition and damaged the other truck. Artillery fire was placed on the target area throughout that night. On 7 April, D Troop stopped a Vietnamese vehicle along with several suspicious personnel, at XT352334. The vehicle was filled with contraband including whiskey, cigarettes, C-Rations, and beer. The vehicle and personnel were turned over to the Vietnamese National Police. This period confirmed that VC/NVA forces were rebuilding and reoccupying old base areas in War Zone C and were moving large amounts of supplies from Cambodia, by truck, toward the Dau Tieng area.

12. RESULTS:

a. Friendly

	KHA	WHA
Officers	0	0
Warrant Officers	0	0
Enlisted Men	0	0

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b. Enemy:

- (1) VC/NVA KIA (BC) - 82
- (2) VC/NVA KIA (Poss) - 109
- (3) Military Structures Destroyed - 107
- (4) Military Structures Damaged - 23
- (5) Sampans Destroyed - 37
- (6) Sampans Damaged - 4
- (7) Miscellaneous Destroyed:
 1-3/4 Ton Truck
 150-Boxes of Small Arms Ammunition

c. All Bomb Damage Assessments were conducted by aerial reconnaissance.

13. ADMINISTRATIVE ACTIVITY

a. Supply

- (1) No difficulties were experienced in either Class I, II, III, IV, V.
- (2) Total ammunition expenditures by the squadron during this operations:

2.75 Rockets	1,376
7.62mm Linked	164,550
5.56mm	4,022
40mm (M-79)	393
40mm (M-5)	1,684
Smoke (All Colors)	193
Frag Grenades	10
White Phosphorous Grenades	240
106mm (Recoilless Rifle)	29
81mm (Mortar)	4
MK-24 (Flare)	192

b. Maintenance:

Daily road reconnaissance missions are very demanding on equipment and vehicles in D Troop. Each vehicle averaged 125 miles per day during this operation. Although numerous parts were replaced, particularly suspension items and tires, equipment readiness averaged 99% throughout the period. A concrete preventive maintenance program, actively supervised before, during, and after operations, forestalled major problems. Aircraft maintenance was greatly improved enabling all air cavalry troops to increase their availability approximately 10% over that available during the last operation.

14. COMMANDER'S ANALYSIS

a. ITEM: Local Intelligence

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DISCUSSION: ~~USARV troops should bring~~ The unit in constant contact with local civilians, Popular Forces, and ARVN troops. These people live and work in their specific areas and know not only the terrain but also enemy locations and movements

OBSERVATION: It is highly desirable to cultivate these local intelligence sources. By daily contact, these sources can give an exceptionally clear picture of local VC activity, many times pin-pointing numbers and locations. The time involved in seeking out this type intelligence is well spent.

b. ITEM: Operational Control

DISCUSSION: When a cavalry troop becomes OFCON to a battalion size unit, there has been a tendency to fragment the assets of the troop, using the sections to augment the reconnaissance platoon or rifle companies.

OBSERVATION: Commanders must be briefed on the missions, capabilities, and limitations of the cavalry troop. Particular emphasis must be placed on the necessity for maintaining platoon integrity as all sections are dependent upon each other for the cavalry platoon to operate as it is designed.

c. ITEM: Maintenance

DISCUSSION: When performing daily route reconnaissance and security missions, with wheeled vehicles, the maintenance requirement increases drastically. Parts wear faster, more maintenance is required, and minor assemblies, i.e. ball joints, shock absorbers, universal joints, break with increasing frequency.

OBSERVATION: In order to maintain an acceptable degree of combat readiness, both a strong maintenance program and management of assets are necessary. A good preventative maintenance program stressing operator maintenance, timely requisitioning of parts, and timely replacement of parts is a must. Secondly, the available assets must be managed so each piece of equipment gets necessary maintenance time. This may require standing down individual vehicles if a platoon cannot be released for maintenance. With careful management the former can be an effective program.

d. ITEM: Dust

DISCUSSION: Dust continues to be a major problem in many helicopter parking and landing areas throughout the Corps. Dust causes many extra hours of maintenance and presents a major safety hazard for helicopters taking off and landing. At night, dust can cause pilots to lose ground reference with serious consequences.

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OBSERVATION: All commanders must realize the hazards of dusty conditions in areas where rotary wing aircraft operate and take such action as necessary to eliminate these conditions.



WILLIAM W. BRANNON Jr.
LTC, Armor
Commanding

ANNEXES: A - Operations Overlay
B - Intelligence Overlay

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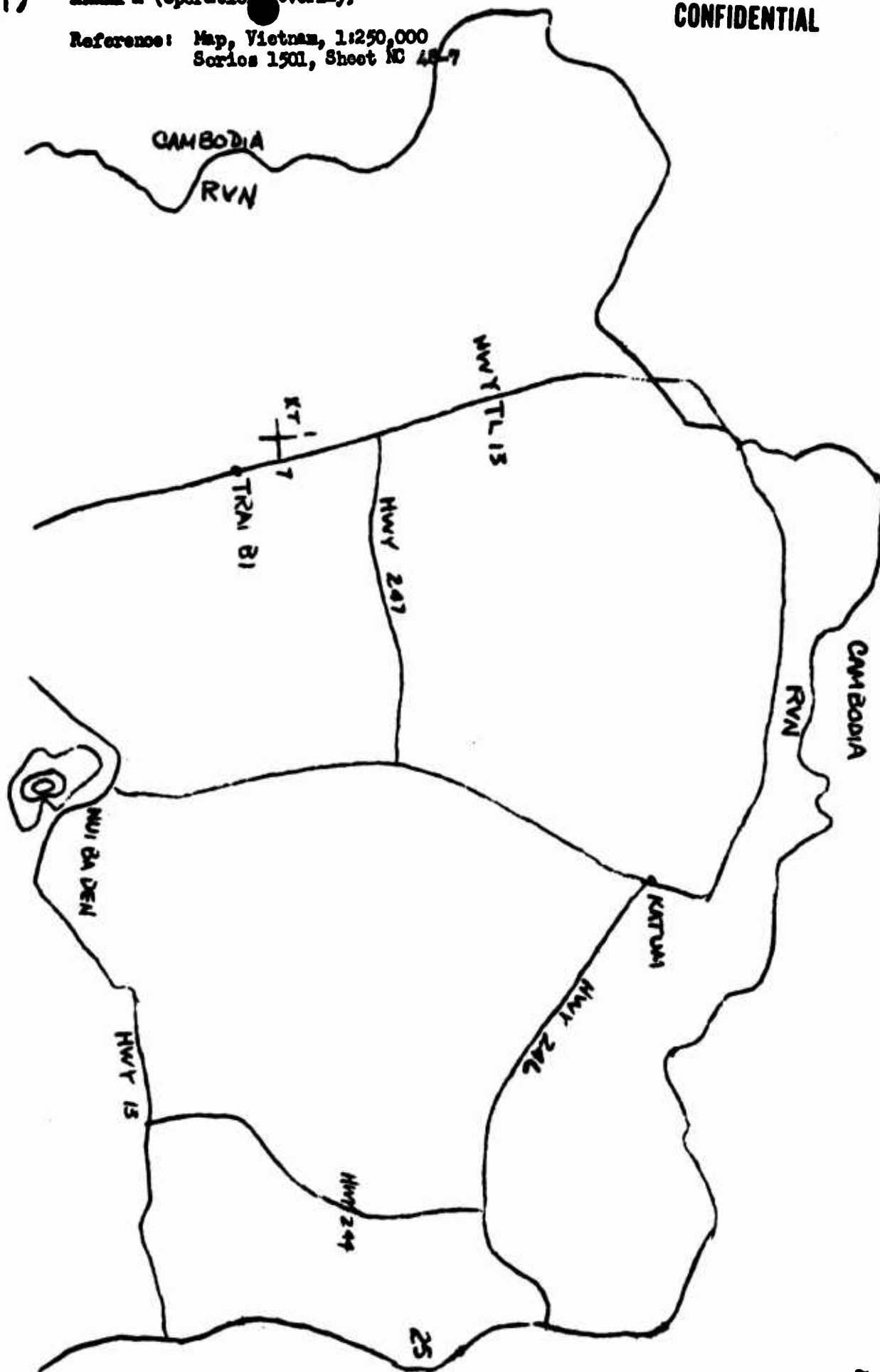
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ANNEX A (Operation Overlay)

Reference: Map, Vietnam, 1:250,000
Series 1501, Sheet NG 48-7

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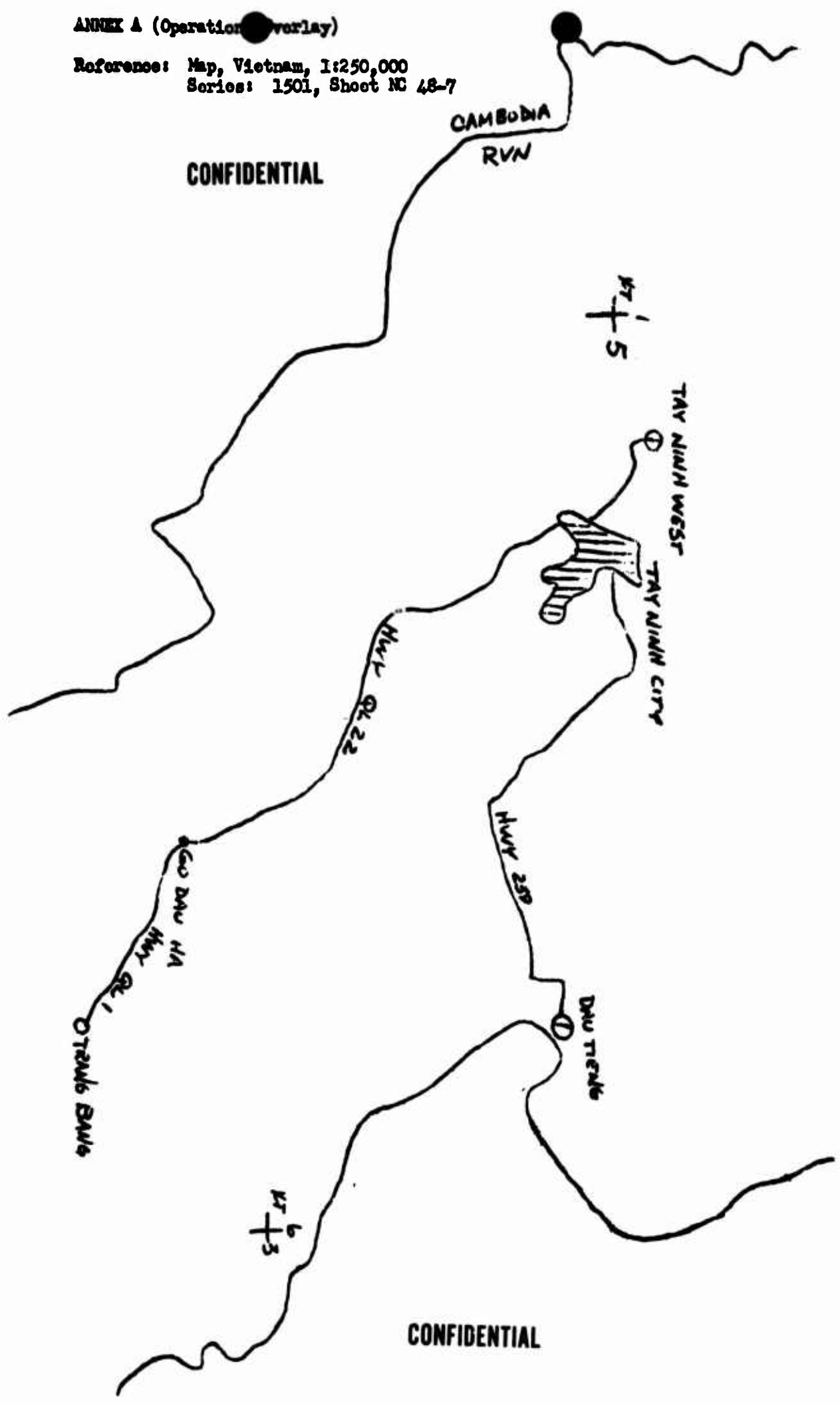
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ANNEX A (Operation Overlay)

Reference: Map, Vietnam, 1:250,000
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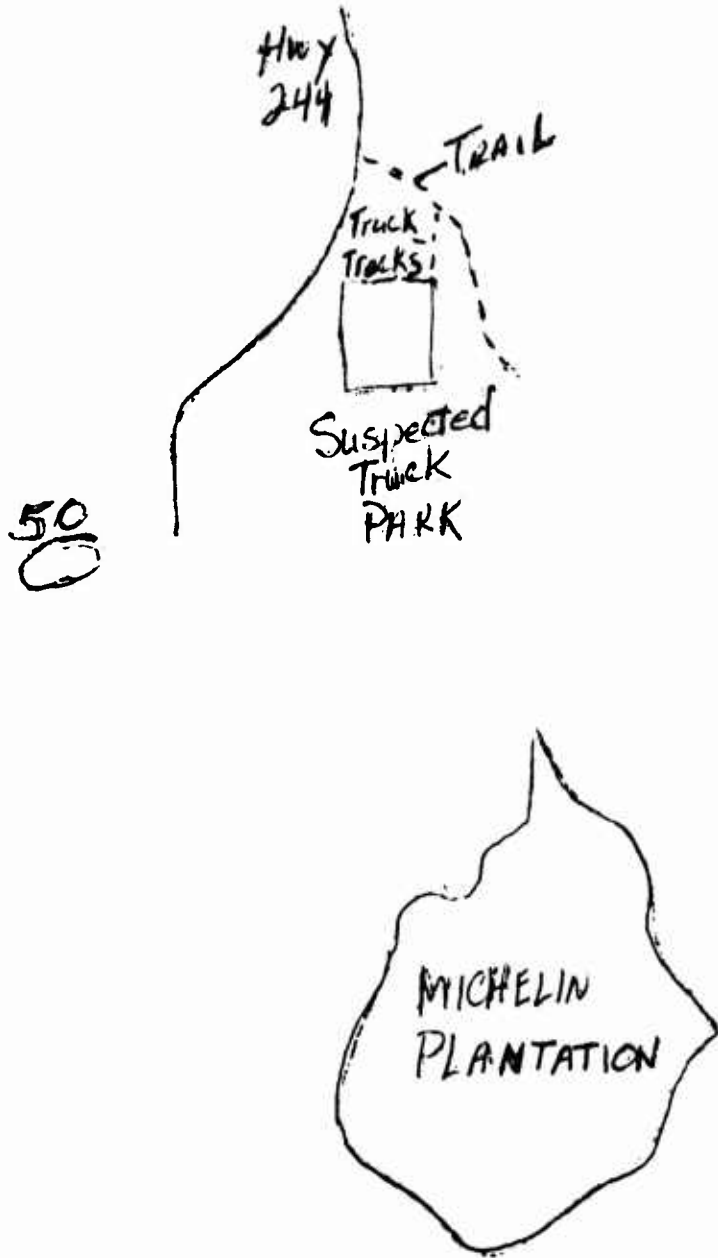
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⊞ No of Bunker's

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 Headquarters 1st Brigade
 25th Infantry Division
 APO 96385

AVDCFB-C

21 May 1968

SUBJECT: Combat After Action Report (Operation WILDERNESS)
 (RCS: MACV J3-32)

TO: Commanding General
 25th Inf Division
 APO San Francisco
 ATTN: AVDCDH

1. (U) NAME OF OPERATION: Operation WILDERNESS
2. (U) DATES OF OPERATION: 11001 March 1968 - 082400 April 1968.
3. (U) LOCATION: TAY NINH and BINH DUONG Provinces; RVN.
4. (U) COMMAND HEADQUARTERS: Headquarters, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division
5. (O) REPORTING OFFICER: Colonel Fremont B. Hodson Jr.
6. (O) TASK ORGANIZATION:
 - a. 4-9 Infantry: 11 March - 30 March 1968.
 - b. 4-9 Infantry: ((-) C Co): 31 March - 8 April 1968.
 - c. 2-12 Infantry: 22 March - 30 March 1968.
 - d. 3-17 Cavalry (- A& B Troops): 20 March - 24 March 1968.
 - e. 3-17 Cavalry (- A & B Troops): 25 March - 8 April 1968.
 - f. 2-22 Infantry:(M): 11 March - 30 March 1968.
 - g. C-2-22 Infantry (M): 31 March - 8 April 1968.
 - h. 3-22 Infantry: 30 March - 4 April 1968.
 - i. 3-22 Infantry: ((-) D Co) 5 April - 8 April 1968.
 - j. B-56 CIDG (27 March-29 March 1968).
 - k. 7-11 Artillery DS (11 March - 8 April 1968).
 - l. 1-27 Artillery GSR (11 March - 8 April 1968).
 - m. 2-32 Artillery GSR (11 March - 8 April 1968).

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n. 5-2 Artillery (GS) (-) (11 March - 8 April 1968)

7. (C) SUPPORTING FIRES:

a. Artillery: Artillery support was characterized by frequent movement of the firing batteries to support the airmobile activities. Fire support bases used were:

- (1). FSB Wainwright (XT 282509)
- (2). FSB Washington (XT 123526)
- (3). FSB Wainwright (XT 287507)
- (4). FSB Rawlins II (XT 302507)
- (5). FSB Washington (XT 146568)
- (6). FSB Hooker (XT 570850)
- (7). FSB Rawlings I (AT 308500)
- (8). FSB Wayne (AT 283428)

A total of 8,948 HE, 203 WP and 187 illuminations rounds were expended. Artillery fire accounted for 35 enemy KIA (BC) and 6 enemy KIA (POSS). GS units were used for firing TOTS, preparation of landing zones, large tactical targets and the HDI program.

b. Tactical Air: Tactical Air Support was provided by 7th USAF. The mission were controlled by 1st Brigade TACP. The following summarizes USAF Tactical Air Support for Operation WILDERNESS.

- (1). F4C Missions Flown: 121
- (2). Fighter Sorties: 247
 - a. Preplanned: 23
 - b. Preplanned (Diverted): 63
 - c. Divert: 153
 - d. Immediate: 8

(3). Bomb Damage Assessment: 313 bunkers destroyed, 1 bunker damaged, 36 bunkers uncovered or exposed, 33 military structures destroyed, 14 military structures damaged, 114 meters of trench destroyed, 225 meters of trench uncovered, 9 tunnel entrances exposed, 7 bridges destroyed, 150 boxes ammo destroyed, 150 crates ammo destroyed, 24 secondary explosions, 5 secondary fires, 35 sections of road cut, 2 trucks destroyed, 1 truck damaged, 2 fighting positions destroyed, 10 supply caches destroyed, 4 bicycles damaged, 1 stove destroyed, 10 bags of rice destroyed, 20 explosive crates were destroyed, 20 water buffalo KIA, 40 enemy KIA (BC), 41 enemy KIA (POSS).

c. Army Aviation: Army aviation statistics for Operation WILDERNESS are as follows:

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- (1). Sorties (UH-1D, UH-1D Aircraft); 121
 - (a) Combat Assaults (Gunships): 66
 - (b) Tactical Troop Lifts: 60
 - (c) Resupply: 45
 - (d) Air Evac, C & C Recon, & Miscellaneous: 50
- (2). Sorties CH-47 Aircraft: 93
 - (a) Resupply: 8
 - (b) Evacuation: 65
 - (c) Other: 20
- (3). Sorties CH-54 Aircraft: 0
- (4). Sorties CH-23B Aircraft: 216
 - (a) Tactical: 162
 - (b) Administrative: 54

8. (C) Intelligence: Experience from past operations and intelligence gathered prior to the start of Operation WILDERNESS indicated that enemy activity was concentrated on the fringes of the Brigade AO and consisted mainly of support and resupply of enemy units to the South.

a. Strength: The 1st Brigade was opposed by elements of COSVN Hq's 1st Guard Battalion, 680th Training Regiment, 82d Rear Services Group, D-14 local Force Companies. Total enemy strength was 2500-3000 men, of which approximately 1200 were combat soldiers.

b. Disposition: During the operation support and guard units remained in their base camps. 680th Regiment occupied an area along the CAMBODIAN Border Northwest of TAY NINH: the 1st Guard Battalion secured base camps, caches and resupply routes in War Zone C. Elements of COSVN remained in traditional areas north of KATUM, along the CAMBODIAN Border. Local force units were dispersed in base areas east of TAY NINH. Toward the end of March, D-14 moved South of the AO to support operations near TRANG BANG. Other local force units were dispersed throughout TAY NINH Province.

c. Summary of Enemy Activity: During Operation WILDERNESS the majority of enemy forces were committed to defending base camps, caches and resupply routes. Local force elements launched round attacks against Regional Force, and Popular Force out-posts in TAY NINH Province, harassed DAU TIENG Base Camps with mortars, rockets, and ground probes, and harassed TAY NINH - DAU TIENG convoy with antitank mines. Through VR, SLAR, and Red Haze Missions 1st Bde was able to identify several well-used communications routes. The main LOC ran South from the FISHHOOK vicinity XT4385, along Rte 233 and the Michelin Plantation to the East. VR's spotted tire tracks on road and trails and several huge base camps consisting of more than 100 bunkers.

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c. (Cont'd) Air strikes in response to these VR's uncovered and damaged 2 3/4 trucks and destroyed large ammo caches. The only ground action conducted against this LOC met with immediate heavy resistance, and rather than commit a large force to the operation, the unit was withdrawn. 20

d. Weather: During Operation WILDERNESS, the weather had little effect on operations. On several occasions, morning haze delayed airmobile operations, but there were no air missions aborted due to inclement weather. The weather in no way hindered operations or convoys.

e. Terrain: The terrain was generally flat and provided no obstacle to movement. Vegetation varied from triple canopy jungle to large open fields and rice paddies. The ground was firm enough to support mechanized operations.

f. Intelligence: Agent Reports and information received during Operation WILDERNESS were evaluated at C-3 (fairly reliable, possibly true). Operations accompanied by agents or recent Chieu Hoi's were very successful. The most comprehensive and reliable intelligence was received from VR sightings by the 3-17 Cavalry.

g. Security: Operational security during Operation WILDERNESS was good; elements at all levels showed a greater awareness of reasons for good security.

9. (C) Mission:

a. Conduct offensive operations in vicinity of TAY NINH to DAU TIENG; destroy enemy forces.

b. Open MSR to BAU CO from TAY NINH, TAY NINH to DAU TIENG, and secure engineer efforts and convoys operating on these routes.

c. React to enemy initiatives and intelligence throughout TAOI.

d. Defend BAU CO, TAY NINH Base Camp, and DAU TIENG Base Camp.

e. Conduct recon of and interdiction of enemy LOC leading into 1st Bde's TAOI from CAMBODIA. Armed aerial recon. Emphasis to be replaced on the Crescent area, and the Ben Cui and Michelen Plantations.

f. Be prepared to react to convoy incidents.

g. Provide light fire team support for counter mortars at DAU TIENG during hours of darkness.

h. Provide light fire team support to Division units on order.

i. Conduct Battalion refresher training.

j. Sweep and secure MSR from TAY NINH to GO DAU HA (effective 20 Mar 68).

10. Concept of the Operation (C): Brigade would employ one Mech Infantry Platoon to secure BAU CO and sweep, secure and escort convoys along the TAY NINH-DAU TIENG MSR. D troop 3-17 Cav would sweep and outpost MSR between TAY NINH and GO DAU HA. Air troop, 3-17 Cav would conduct recon and interdiction of enemy LOC within the Brigade TAOR and provide light fire teams.

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10. (Cont'd) Infantry battalions would conduct refresher training and react to intelligence to destroy enemy forces and installations. At least one Company of Infantry would be RIF for TAY NINH to DAU TIENG base camp during hours of darkness. Infantry battalion would provide engineer security along MSR.

11 March 1968

11. Execution (C):

4-9 Inf: Completed move from HOC MON, XT752038 to TAY NINH at 1516. Companies stood down for maintenance for remainder of the day. Recon platoons secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M): Battalion conducted RIF with Co C from XT500490 to XT530490 to XT530520 to XT517514. B Co conducted RIF from XT517514 B Co conducted RIF from XT5175 to XT519350 to XT519350 to XT530550 to XT530520 Recon platoon RIF from XT530490 to XT498490 to XT512520 to XT532530. The operation resulted in negative US casualties, and 1 VC KIA (BC) vicinity XT520549 with 7.62 pistol.

S-5 Activities: 2-14 Inf delivered material to HIEP LONG, XT233480 and supervised bunker construction.

12 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Stood down at TAY NINH for refitting in preparation for future operations. C Co conducted training in vic center of mass XT1448. At XT140496 C Co apprehended two detainees and returned to TAY NINH negative contact. Recon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M) (-): C Co swept and outposted MSR from XT41544 to XT238458 B Co swept and outposted MSR from XT471468 to XT415493 and conducted RIF in Area of Operation bounded by grids XT473413 XT453413, XT430437 and XT460437. Recon platoon secured convoy from DAU TIENG to TAY NINH and back. B Co found 5,230 pounds of unpolished rice at XT463425 extracted 1,450 pounds, destroyed the rest.

A 2-22 Conducted road sweep and cleared MSR from TAY NINH to XT371424. One platoon cleared road from BAU CO to TAY NINH and escorted convoy back to BAU CO, securing BAU CO, at night.

S-5 Activities: S-5 personnel dropped 46,000 leaflets vicinity XT3853, and 21,000 leaflets vicinity XT3946.

13 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Continued to stand down in preparation for future operations with C Co conducting training vic center of mass XT1447, negative contact. Prepared to send two companies to support 2-22 contact. Recon platoon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M) (-): C Co swept and outposted MSR from XT415443 to XT338458 B Co sweep and outposted MSR from XT471468 to XT415493. Recon secured convoy from DAU TIENG to TAY NINH to DAU TIENG. C Co conducted RIF from XT415443 to XT356455 to XT354475 to XT367473. At 1435 C Co at XT373476 received small arms fire from an estimated 50 VC. B Co established a blocking position from XT380475 to XT381483 and support with mortars. A light fire team supported. At 1555 B & C linked up at XT374476, C remained in position and B swept area of contact. At 1620, B received fire at XT373477.

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11. (Cont'd) by 1720 A Co and the GRIP had maneuvered to position at XT376472. Sporadic contact continued throughout the night for all elements of 2-22. Action resulted in 4 US KIA, 9 US WIA, VC losses unknown.

A 2-22 Inf (M): Swept MSR from TAY NINH to XT 371424 and participated with 2-22 as described above. One platoon swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and BAN CO, securing Ban Co at night.

GRIP: Participated in RIF with 2-22.

S-5 Activities: D-25 Med conducted MEDCAP at DAU TIENG, treating 85 patients; 7-11 Artillery held MEDCAP at LONG BIEN, XT240435, treating 60 patients; 2-14 Infantry supervised construction of a dispensary at HIEP LONG, XT 33480; 588th Engineers delivered 500 boxes of cereal to CAO DAI Orphanage, XT 237497. PA & E sprayed TAY NINH with DDT for insect and plague control; 4-9 Infantry delivered 100 cans of food stuffs to BAN SOI XT0847.

14 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Continued to support 2-22 Inf (M) in contact. B Co provided security for FSB WAINWRIGHT, XT 282509. D Co moved to DAU TIENG to act as RIF at night. A, B, & D Companies conducted an assault into LZ at XT365497 and RIF to vic XT352491. During RIF B Co discovered and destroyed a small enemy base camp vic XT 353493, conducted sweep to XT100440 and returned, receiving light sniper fire at 1115, vic XT103533 and returned fire with organic weapons and artillery; negative casualties, negative results. One platoon of C Co secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf: (M) (-): Battalion conducted RIF from its lager position at XT373476 into area of previous days contact at 0830, after an air strike and artillery preparation. Continued RIF and discovered and destroyed two medium size base camps at XT374475 and XT376478; all elements closed DAU TIENG for night. Platoonsize AP's were established vic DAU TIENG Base Camp.

A-2-22: Participated in RIF of Battalion as described above. One platoon conducted sweep and clear of Rte 4 between TAY NINH and BAN CO, and secured BAN CO at night.

S-5 Activities: 7-11 Artillery conducted MEDCAP at LONG KHUONG, XT245435 treating 50 patients; 4-9 Inf held MEDCAP at NINH HOA, XT 2352 treating 93 patients; B-25 Med conducted MEDCAP at DAU TIENG, treating 50 patients; leaflets drop was conducted vic XT3860, dropping 46,000 leaflets and broadcasting PSYOP's tapes for two hours.

15 March 1968

4-9 Inf: A, B, & C Companies conducted airborne assaults vic XT067543 and RIF to PZ vic XT074566, with negative contact. C Co secured FSB WASHINGTON II vic XT123526 and conducted local sweeps to XT126542 and XT 114534. All units closed TAY NINH Base camp at 1743 Recon platoon secured rock crusher at Nui Ba Don.

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2-22 Inf (-) Battalion conducted normal sweep and clear mission along TAY NINH - DAU TIENG MSR. Co B conducted RIF Northeast Of DAU TIENG base camp, establishing AP's at XT546487 and XT522468 and a blocking force at XT540480 negative contact. Battalion established 4 platoon sized AP's vic DAU TIENG at night.

A 2-22 Inf (M): Secured GAO XAI laterite pit and swept and outposted route 4 from TAY NINH to Bau Co. One platoon secured BAI CO at night. At 1615 vic XT284618 an APC of Co A hit a pressure plate type antitank mine resulting in 4 WIA, and total warping of the hull of the APC.

S-5 Activities: Conducted leaflet drop vic XT4975 dropping 23,000 leaflets.

16 March 1968

4-9 Inf: A, B, C, & D Companies conducted airmobile assaults vic XT329539, XT282527 and XT304513 conducting company sized RIF to PZ vic XT365528, XT365582 XT291511, and XT379543. A Co discovered and destroyed several bunker complexes vic XT378538, XT374530 and XT375531. B Co located 150 meters of trench vic XT370527. C Co apprehended one female detainee vic XT297511; she had no ID papers and was carrying 6,000 piasters. At XT377549 D Co located 8, 82mm Chicom mortar rounds and freshly dug mortar positions. All companies PZ to Tay Ninh except D Co which PZ to FSB WAINWRIGHT II, XT287507 and convoyed to Tay Ninh. Recon platoon secured the rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M) (-) B Co departed DAU TIENG base camp, established temporary lager position at XT453433 and had 1 platoon conduct RIF to West, and one platoon RIF to the East. At 1348 vic XT45418 an APC hit a mine resulting in heavy damage to the APC and 3 WIA. Co C and Recon platoon swept and secured MSR between TAY NINH and DAU TIENG escorting 2 convoys along route.

A 2-22 Inf (M): Escorted artillery convoy from TAY NINH to FSB WAINWRIGHT II and conducted RIF along axis XT335537, XT332535 and returned to TAY NINH. One platoon of A Co swept and outposted Rt 4 between TAY NINH and BAI CO, and securing BAI CO at night.

CRIP: Conducted air mobile recon mission vic XT205590, negative contact.

17 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Four companies departed TAY NINH by convoy closing FSB HULL, vic XT260380. From FSB company sized airmobile assaults were conducted to LZ's vic XT293393, XT298398, and XT303477. Co C secured the FSB. Companies conducting RIF to PZ's at XT300412, XT319380, and XT295395. At XT304409 A Co found 750 pounds of polished rice, and at XT302408, A Co discovered and destroyed a small base camp. At XT298398 B Co found 150 meters of tunnel. All Companies PZ to FSB HULL, and convoyed to TAY NINH. Recon platoon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M) (-): B Co with A Co swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and DAU TIENG and escorted convoy. C Co (-) sealed village at XT501485 and conducted cordon and search with CRIP. Remainder of C Co conducted RIF from DAU TIENG along axis XT515488 to XT525497 to XT517518 and return to DAU TIENG. Four platoon sized AP's were established at night vic DAU TIENG Base Camp.

CRIP: Conducted cordon and search of village vic XT501485 with C 2-22 Inf (M).

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S-5 Activities: 7-11 Inf conducted MEDCAP at GAM GIANG, XT259380, Treating 163 patients. 4-9 Inf conducted MEDCAP at TAM HAP, XT135505, treating 130 patients. 2-77 Artillery held MEDCAP at NINH THANH, XT501471, treating 74 patients.

18 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Co C (-) convoyed from TAY NINH with artillery, and secured FSB RAWLINGS II, XT302518. One platoon of C Co secured CAO XA laterite pit. A, B, & D Companies conducted airmobile assaults to LZ vic XT378552, conducting RIF to XT373561 and XT373559 for extraction. A Co was extracted to FSB RAWLINGS II night ambush positions vic of the FSB.

2-22 Inf (M) (-): At 0645 DAU TIENG Base Camp received 40 rounds of 82mm mortar fire was returned with artillery and light fire team. Resulting of engagement 9 US KIA, 4 VC KIA (by Artillery & LFT) B & C Co conduct RIF from DAU TIENG to vic XT565515. At XT567507 by 1325 hours B Co engaged two VC with small arms fire and automatic weapons, resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC) and no US casualties. Recon and CRIP participated in RIF with B & C companies.

A 2-22 Inf (M) Swept and outposted Rte 4 between TAY NINH and BAU CO. Secured BAU CO with one platoon at night.

CRIP: Participated in RIF with 2-22 Inf (M).

S-5 Activities: 7-11 Artillery held MEDCAP at LONG KIM, XT243460, treating 100 patients.

19 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Stood down at TAY NINH, established 6 platoon sized night ambush patrols vic TAY NINH Base Camp. Recon platoon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M): Swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and DAU TIENG B Co and recon element conducted RIF Northwest of DAU TIENG along axis XT 468475 to XT445483 and return to DAU TIENG; negative contact. All elements closed DAU TIENG. At 1705 DAU TIENG received 7 rockets rounds, destroying one building damaging another. At 1231 10 rounds of 82mm mortar were received, negative damage. 2-22 established 2 night platoon sized AP's vic DAU TIENG Base Camp.

A 2-22 Inf (M): Conducted cordon and search of village vic XT340548 with National Police and CRIP. One platoon secured Rte 4 between TAY NINH and BAU CO, securing BAU CO, at night.

CRIP: Participated in cordon and search of village vic XT340548 with National Police and A 2-22.

S-5 Activities: 2-22 Inf conducted MEDCAP at LONG YEN, vic XT225435, treating 105 patients. 4-9 conducted MEDCAP at LONG YEN, treating 68 patients. S-5 personnel conducted a leaflet drop vic XT7808, dropping 40,000 leaflets, and broadcasted a PSYOP ans for 30 minutes.

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20 March 1968

4-9 Inf: All units stood down for maintenance and preparation for future operations. 1 platoon secured the CAO XA laterite pit. Recon platoon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN. D Co departed TAY NINH by CH-47 for DAU TIENG to be OPCON to 2-22 (-) for base camp defense.

2-22 Inf: (M) (-): Continued to secure DAU TIENG base camp. B Co and Recon opened DAU TIENG TAY NINH MSR. C Co conducted RIF to XT430482. Battalion established 3 night platoon sized AP's outside DAU TIENG Base Camp.

A 2-22 Inf (M): One platoon opened and secured Rte 4 between TAY NINH and BAU CO, and secured BAU CO at night. A Co (-) departed TAY NINH at 1830 to go OPCON to 2-22 at DAU TIENG at 2000.

3-17 Cav (-): D Troop opened and secured Rte 22 South of TAY NINH to GO DAU HA. B troop conducted recon and interdiction of enemy LOC in the Northeast portion of the Brigade T.AOR.

S-5 Activities: 7-11 Arty held MEDCAP at LONG YEN, XT225435, treating 105 patients. 4-9 Inf conducted a MEDCAP at LONG VAN, XT233480, treating 68 patients; S-5 personnel conducted a leaflet drop vic XT7808, dropping 40,000 leaflets and broadcasting a 30 minute PSYOP tape.

21 March 1968

4-9 Inf: D Co returned to TAY NINH by CH-47 from DAU TIENG at 0900. One platoon of D Co secured artillery and 4.2 mortar section at FSB WASHINGTON II, XT123527. A, B, C, & D (-) conducted combat assault from TAY NINH to LZ at XT049545. A Co RIF to XT055562; B Co RIF to XT063556; C Co RIF to XT059547, and D Co RIF to XT059547. Companies returned to LZ and PZ to TAY NINH. Elements at FSB WASHINGTON II returned to TAY NINH Base Camp by ~~helicopter~~ Recon platoon secured ~~laterite~~ rock crusher at NUI BA DEN. A Co flew to DAU TIENG at night to assist 2-22 in Base Camp defense.

2-22 Inf: A Co (-) returned OPCON to Battalion, leaving one platoon at BAU CO to secure at night and to sweep and secure MSR between BAU CO and TAY NINH. Recon and Co B opened and secured TAY NINH - DAU TIENG, MSR. Co B stood down for maintenance. Battalion established 2 night AP's vic DAU TIENG, with 4.2 mortar squad at District HQ.

3-17 Cav (-): Opened and secured Rte 22 South to GO DAU HA with D troop. B troop conducted recon and interdiction of enemy LOC in Northern portion of T.AOR. Reacted to intelligence by insertion of Aero Rifles at 1520 at XT163462, negative contact. Aero - Rifles were extracted at 1655 from XT 163462 returned to TAY NINH.

S-5 Activities: 588th Engineer conducted MEDCAP at BIEN PHUONG, treating 37 patients; 4-9 Inf conducted a MEDCAP at NINH THUAN, XT2550 treating 98 patients; RB-25 Med conducted MEDCAP at DAU TIENG, treating 170 patients. S-5 personnel conducted a leaflet drop vic XT3063 dropping 23,000 leaflets and broadcasting a 30 Minute PSYOP tape; 4-9 Inf delivered 100 lbs of clothing to the CAO XA Orphanage, XT116503.

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22 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Battalion conducted combat assault with four companies to LZ vic XT088618 and RIF to XT096618, XT083612, XT083616, companies returned to LZ to PZ to TAY NINH. Recon platoon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M) (-): Battalion and secured DAU TIENG-TAY NINH MSR. Battalion (-) conducted RIF with B Co RIF to XT586510, C Co RIF to XT494588, Recon platoon followed and supported B Co. APC of B Co hit a 50 lb pressure detonated anti-tank mine at XT546488, resulting in 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA, heavy damage to APC.

A 2-22: One platoon swept and secured TAY NINH-BAU CO MSR and secured BAU CO at night. A Co (-) escorted 4.2 mortars and a battery of artillery to FSB WASHINGTON, XT146568, then RIF to XT098606, returned to FSB and escorted FSB element back to TAY NINH.

2-12 Inf: Closed DAU TIENG 1345, became OPCON 1st Bde, that time. Battalion stood down for maintenance.

3-17 Cav (-): Conducted road security mission with D troop opening Rte 22 from TAY NINH to GO DAU HA. B Troop inserted Aero - Rifles LZ XT573502 at 1317, took under fire 3 persons in assorted khaki uniforms, negative results. Extracted from LZ at 1532. B Troop conducted recon and interdiction operation in Bde TAOR.

S-5 Activities: 4-11 Army conducted MEDCAP at LONG BINH, XT225500 treated 127 patients; 2-14 Inf held a MEDCAP at HIEP LE, XT2350, treating 225 patients. 2-22 Inf conducted a MEDCAP at AP 13, XT564496, treating 150 patients.

23 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Battalion conducted cordon and search of village vic XT 188492 Battalion meter marched to dismount point at XT170490 and then proceeded to release point at AT 182193, surrounding the village with four companies. Companies were in place at 0406. Search team of 1st Bde CRIP and 50 National Police were in position at 0730. 7 Vietnamese were detained and turned over to Vietnamese custody. Battalion closed TAY NINH at 1217, and stood down for maintenance. 1 platoon of HHC secured the CAO XAI laterite pit. Recon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M) (-): Continued defense of DAU TIENG with two platoon sized night AP's at XT509493 and XT529460 1 rifle squad at DAU TIENG Bridge, and 1 mortar squad from C Co supporting DAU TIENG District Headquarters. D Co and Recon swept and outposted TAY NINH-DAU TIENG MSR. C Co stood down for maintenance. Occupied lager position with B Co Recon platoon and C Co (-) vic XT52052

A 2-22 (M): Opened and secured Rt 22 South to GO DAU HA, one platoon opened and secured Route 4 between BAU CO and TAY NINH.

3-17 Cav (-): B Troop conducted recon and interdiction of enemy LOC in Bde TAOR with B Troop. D Troop stood down for maintenance.

2-14 Inf: Stopped down for maintenance and preparation for future operations. Established Bushmaster location vic XT508488.

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2. S-5 Activities: 4-9 Inf held MEDCAP at SLB OUS, ~~WT209505~~ treating 60 patients; B-25 Med conduct MEDCAP at DAU TIENG, treating 25 patients.

24 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Conducted refresher training, vicinity TAY NINH Base Camp. Recon secured Rock Crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M): Recon and B Co swept and outposted DAU TIENG - TAY NINH MSR and escorting convoy from TAY NINH to DAU TIENG. C Co conducted RIF to lager position XT494506, fro DAU TIENG remained in position overnight, and established two AP's. One platoon of C Co conveyed to BAU CO.

A 2-22 Inf (M): Swept and secured BAU CO - TAY NINH MSR with one platoon and secured at night, assisted sweep and outposting TAY NINH - GO DAU HA MSR.

2-12 Inf: Conducted refresher training vic DAU TIENG Base Camp.

3-17 Cav (-): D troop stood down. B troop conducted recon and interdiction of enemy loc in Western portion of TAOR.

S-5 Activities: 7-11 Artillery conducted MEDCAP at CAN GIANG, XT2837 treating 60 patients; 2-77 Artillery conducted MEDCAP at TRI TAM, XT501471 treating 63 patients.

25 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Conducted refresher training vicinity TAY NINH Base Camp. Recon secured rock crusher, NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M) (-): B Co Recon platoon and C Co (-) conducted RIF from night lager vic XT520520 to XT522538/ APC from recon unit hit ~~hit~~ at XT525518, at 0926 resulting in L US, KIA, and 1 AP C destroyed recon platoon closed DAU TIENG.

A-2922 Inf: Opened and secured Rte 4 between TAY NINH and BAU CO.

2-12 Inf: Conducted refresher training and local patrolling vic DAU TIENG Base Camp.

3-17 Cav (-): D Troop opened and secured Rt 22 South from TAY NINH to GO DAU HA. Made contact with unknown size VC force at XT288360 at 1006, sporadic sniper fire, contact broken by VC 1015 negative casualties negative results. B Troop inserted Aero rifles vic XT520520 in support of 2-22 RIF, extracted 1000 negative contact.

26 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Conducted refresher training vic TAY NINH Base Camp. One platoon provided engineer security at the CAO KA laterite pit. Recon platoon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M): A Co conducted a RIF from MSR at XT435450 North to a lager position vic XT434505 establishing platoon sized and night lager position. C Co (-) closed TAY NINH and BAU CO. Recon platoon swept and outposted Rte 239 from DAU TIENG to XT372424. Established 2 platoon sized AP's vic DAU TIENG.

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2-22 Inf (M)(-): (Cont'd) DAU TIENG Base Camp received 12 rounds of 82mm mortar, resulting in 2 KIA, 3 WIA and damage to two 5 ton trucks, 1 1/2 ton truck, 1 1/2 ton trailer, AF Co B/22 at XT422454, spotted 13 VC, resulting in 1 US KIA (POSS).

2-22 Inf (M): Swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and XT372404. Secured B&U CO at night, with one platoon.

2-12 Inf: Conducted local patrolling and refresher training vic DAU TIENG. 2-12 established a night lager vic XT512448.

3-17 Cav (-): Conducted recon and interdiction of enemy LOC in Western portion of Bde TAO with C Troop. Swept MSR from TAY NINH South to GO DAU HA with D Troops.

S-5 Activities: 7-11 Arty held MEDCAP at LONG KHUONG, XT245435, treating 45 patients; 2-14 Inf held a MEDCAP at HIEP NGHIA, XT235500, 297 patients were treated; 4-9 Inf held a MEDCAP at THUONG PHUOC, XT266465, treating 103 patients.

27 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Conducted refresher training during morning hours. In afternoon-battalion (-) conducted combat assault to LZ AT570850 to secure FSB HOOKER and to be prepared to go to support of CIDG, B-56 element in heavy contact at XT532902. C Co remained at TAY NINH as RRF. Recon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M): B Co conducted sweep and outposts of TAY NINH, DAU TIENG MSR, assisted by elements of C Co. One platoon of A Co escorted the convoy between TAY NINH and DAU TIENG. One platoon of C Co outposted and swept Rte 4 between TAY NINH and B&U CO. A Co conducted RIF from DAU TIENG to XT468424 and established night lager.

2-12 Inf: B Co conducted RIF from DAU TIENG to XT508446 where it joined A Co which had moved from its night lager position at XT512448; RIF continued to XT510450 where night lager was established. C Co secured DAU TIENG Base Camp.

B-56 CIDG: In heavy contact with 1-2 companies vic XT532902 at 0830. Bad weather prevented reinforcing with additional troops during morning. Aerial resupply was also hampered by weather. Portion of perimeter had been breached and VC had reinforced. Became OFCON to 1st Bde at 1325. Aerial resupply was affected at 1500. Another CIDG element RAPID FIRE was airlifted to vic of contact, but ambushed as it approached B-56 at 1812. RAPID FIRE withdrew to FSB HOOKER, XT570850. B-56 contact continued throughout day and into the night.

28 March 1968

4-9 Inf (-): Battalion (-) conducted local sweeps of FSB HOOKER. C Co was air lifted to FSB HOOKER from TAY NINH, closed 1805. Battalion established 5 night platoon-sized AP's vic FSB HOOKER, and continued to improve defensive positions. Recon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

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2-22 Inf (M): One platoon of C Co swept and outposted Rte 4 between TAY NINH and BAU CO. C-56 (-) and A Co swept and outposted TAY NINH - DAU TIENG MSR. Recon platoon escorted convoys along TAY NINH - DAU TIENG MSR. B Co departed DAU TIENG and conducted RIF to lager position vic XT519524, night lager position received 4 rounds of 60mm mortar outside perimeter, with negative results.

2-12 Inf: One platoon C Co air lifted from DAU TIENG to secure downed helicopter, XT242335, returned to DAU TIENG after helicopter secured. A & B companies returned to DAU TIENG from night lager, and stood down for maintenance. D Co conducted refresher training vic DAU TIENG Base Camp.

Special Forces: B-56 vic XT532902 received a heavy ground attack at 1200 hours, perimeter was broken, but US and CIDG were able to establish another perimeter and repulse VC attack with support of LFT's artillery and air strikes provided by units OFCON to 1st Bde. 1st Brigade conducted aerial resupply and MEDEVAC of US and CIDG elements Results of Action: 120 VC KIA (BC) 17 CIDG KIA 50 CIDG WIA, 4 US WIA, CIDG M Team was air lifted to FSB HOOKER, from TOM LO CHON closing at 1643. Departed FFL at 1700 and proceeded toward point of B-56 contact.

S-5 Activities: 7-11 Arty held MEDCAP at LONG BINH, XT240435, treating 102 patients; 4-9 Inf a MEDCAP at TRUONG THIEN XT270455, treating 73 patients. 2-22 Inf conducted a MEDCAP at BEN CUI, XT4746, treating 147 patients. S-5 personnel conducted a leaflet drop vic XT3750; dropping 23,000 leaflets and broadcasting a 30 minute tape.

29 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Continued to improve positions and conduct local patrolling vic FSB HOOKER, XT570850. One platoon secured CAO XA laterite pit. All elements departed FSB HOOKER, closed TAY NINH Base Camp, 1945. Recon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-12 Inf: Conducted refresher training vic DAU TIENG Base Camp D Co assumed role as Ready Reaction Force for TAY NINH Base Camp. Battalion (-) helilifted back to TAY NINH.

2-22 Inf (M) (-): A Co conducted RIF from DAU TIENG to XT585530, B Co swept and outposted a portion of the TAY NINH * DAU TIENG MSR. Recon platoon escorted convoys between TAY NINH and DAU TIENG.

C 2-22 Inf: Swept and outposted that portion of DAU TIENG - TAY NINH MSR not secured by B Co. 1 platoon swept and secured Rte 4 between TAY NINH and BAU CO, and secured BAU CO at night.

3-17 Cav (-): D Troop swept and outposted MSR from TAY NINH South to CO DAU H. C troop conducted Recon and Interdiction of enemy LOC in Western portion of Bde THOI. and supported CIDG efforts in AO SMALLEROCK, East of KATUM.

Special Forces: 2nd CIDG element at 0804 linked up with B-56. All Special Forces and CIDG elements air lifted from field location to TOM LO CHON.

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S-5 Activities: 2-14 Inf conducted MEDCAP at HIEP TRUONG, XT212475, treating 269 patients.

30 March 1968

4-9 Inf: Battalion conducted stand down until 1200, then conducted refresher training vic TAY NINH Base Camp. One platoon secured laterite pit at CAO XA. Recon platoon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

2-22 Inf (M) (-): Swept and outposted portion of DAU TIENG - TAY NINH MSR with B Co. Recon platoon escorted convoys between TAY NINH and DAU TIENG. A Co stood down for maintenance.

C 2-22 Inf (M): C Co (-) swept and outposted that portion of DAU TIENG TAY NINH MSR not secured by B Co. One platoon of C Co swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and BAU CO, and secured BAU CO at night.

2-12 Inf: Conducted airmobile movement to FSB HAMILTON, XT400245 from DAU TIENG, closed 1229 conducted local sweep in vic FSB, and secured FSB during hours of darkness.

3-22: Closed DAU TIENG at 1325, became OPCON 1st Bde conducted stand down for remainder of day.

3-17 Cav (-): Conducted recon and interdiction operation in Bde TAOR with C Troop. D Troop conducted route security mission from TAY NINH to GO DAU HA.

S-5 Activities: 7-11 Arty conducted MEDCAP at LONG YEN, XT225435, treating 75 patients; 2-14 Inf conducted a MEDCAP at NIEP BINH, XT225500 treating 194 patients; 4-9 Inf held MEDCAP at NINH HUNG, XT293500, treating 103 patients.

31 March 1968

4-9 Inf (-): C Co OPCON to 3d Bde. Battalion (-) continued refresher training vic TAY NINH Base Camp. Recon platoon secured rock crusher, NUI BA DEN. One platoon secured Engineer effort at CAO XA laterite pit.

2-22 Inf (M): One platoon outposted and swept Route 4 between TAY NINH and BAU CO, and secured BAU CO at night. C Co (-) swept and outposted MSR from TAY NINH to Bde Eastern boundary and escorting convoys from DAU TIENG to TAY NINH.

2-12 Inf: OPCON 3rd Brigade.

3-22: Stood down at DAU TIENG for maintenance, and prepared for future operations.

3-17 Cav (-) D Troop sweep and outposted Rte 22 from TAY NINH to GO DAU HA. C Troop conducted Recon and interdiction of enemy LOC in Western area of Bde TAOR.

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S-5 Activities: 4-9 Inf conducted MEDCAP at LONG VAN, XT238480, treating 15 patients.

1 April 1968

4-9 Inf (-): B Co OPCON 3rd Brigade. One platoon secured engineer effort at CAO XA laterite pit. Recon platoon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN. Remainder of battalion conducted refresher training vic TAY NINH Base Camp.

C-2-22 Inf (M): One platoon outposted and swept MSR between TAY NINH and BAU CO. C Co (-) swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and Bde's Eastern boundary. C Co escorted convoy from TAY NINH to DAU TIENG.

3-22 Inf: A Co conducted RIF to village XT505445 with 3rd Bde CRIP. 2 popular forces platoons occupied blocking position vic XT500445. A Co cordoned village, CRIP searched. B Co secured engineer effort on Rte 239 West of DAU TIENG. C & D Companies stood down at DAU TIENG.

3-17 Cav (-): D Troop swept and outposted MSR from TAY NINH to GO DAU HA. C Troop conducted Recon and interdiction of enemy LOC vic central War Zone C and upper Michellien plantation.

S-5 Activities: 2-14 Inf conducted MEDCAP at HIEP THANH, XT230510, treating 210 patients; 2-22 Inf conducted leaflet drop vic XT5459, dropping 46,000 leaflets, and broadcasting a PSYOP tape for 45 minutes.

2 April 1968

4-9 Inf (-): A & B Companies conducted refresher training vic TAY NINH Base Camp. One platoon of D Co secured engineer effort at CAO XA laterite pit. Recon element secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

C-2-22 Inf (M): One platoon swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and BAU CO. C Co (-) swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and DAU TIENG, and escorted convoy from DAU TIENG to TAY NINH.

3-22 Inf: Conducted refresher training vic DAU TIENG Base Camp. One company secured engineer effort on Rte 239, West of DAU TIENG.

3-17 Cav (-): D Troop swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and GO DAU HA. C Troop continued mission of recon and interdiction of enemy LOC in Bde TAOR, in Western portion of TAOR.

S-5 Activities: 2-14 Inf conducted MEDCAP at HIEP HOA, XT215485, treating 189 patients; 4-9 Inf conducted MEDCAP at LONG VAN, XT238480, treating 58 patients.

3 April 1968

4-9 Inf (-): A (-), B & D Companies convoyed from TAY NINH to FSB WAYNE XT283428. FSB WAYNE secured by 1st Regional Force Co, and 1 Troop of 3-10 Cav (ARVN). Battalion (-) conducted combat assault vic LZ's XT304388, XT-350388 and XT350368. Companies conducted clover leaf operation vic QZ returned to LZ's PZ to FSB WAYNE, and return to TAY NINH. One platoon of A Co secured CAO XA laterite pit. Recon platoon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

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C 2-22 Inf (M): One platoon swept and secured MSR 4 between BAU CO and TAY NINH, and secured BAU CO at night. C Co (-) swept and secured MSR from TAY NINH to Brigades Eastern boundary. Escorted convoy from TAY NINH to DAU TIENG.

3-22 Inf (-): Conducted refresher training vic DAU TIENG Base Camp with A, B and Companies. E Co secured engineer effort on RT 239 West of DAU TIENG.

3-17 Cav (-): C Troop conducted recon and interdiction of enemy LOC vic upper Michellen Plantation, Crescent, Ben Cui Plantation, Boi Loi Woods, KATUM and East of KATUM. D Troop swept and outposted MSR from TAY NINH south of GO DAU HA.

S-5 Activities: 7-11 Arty conducted MEDCAP at LONG BINH, XT240435, treating 75 patients; 2-14 Inf conducted MEDCAP at HIEP LE, XT2350 treating 185 patients; 4-9 Inf conducted MEDCAP at TRUONG LOU, XT279436, treating 83 patients; S-5 conducted leaflet drop vic XT555575 dropping 46,000 leaflets and broadcasting a PSYOP tape for 45 minutes.

4 April 1968

4-9 Inf (-): A (-) B, & D Companies departed TAY NINH by convoy arrived FSB: RAWLINGS I, XT308500 conducted company RIF to XT350524 XT335514 and XT353520 negative contact. FSB was secured by 161st Regional Force Company, and 1 troop of 3-10 Cav (ARVN), Battalion (-) returned to TAY NINH Base Camp. One platoon of A Co secure CAO XAI laterite pit. Recon platoon secured rock Crusher at NUI BA DEN.

C 2-22 Inf (M): One platoon swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and BAU CO, and secured BAU CO, and secured BAU CO at night. C Co swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and Brigade Eastern boundary. Escorted convoy for TAY NINH to DAU TIENG.

3-22 Inf: Conducted refresher training vicinity DAU TIENG, D Co secured engineer effort of Rt 239 West of DAU TIENG.

3-17 Cav (-): D Troop swept and secured MSR South From TAY NINH to GO DAU HA. C troop conducted recon and interdiction of enemy LOC vic Upper Michellen, Crescent, Ben Cui, KATUM, and East of KATUM.

GRIP: Conducted night ambush XT190515.

S-5 Activities: 4-9 Inf conducted MEDCAP at NINH HUNG, XT239500, treating 63 patients; 2-14 Inf conducted MEDCAP at HIEP AN, XT225483, treating 104 patients.

5 April 1968

4-9 Inf (-): A, B (-), & D companies departed TAY NINH Base Camp at 1245 by convoy and proceeded to dismount points at XT149495, XT163506, and XT180415. Companies conducted RIF to temporary lager position at XT156475 XT163451 and XT180460. Companies dispatched night ambush patrols from lager positions after darkness. Recon platoon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN. B Co secured CAO XAI laterite pit with platoon.

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C 2-22 Inf (M) One Platoon swept and outposted Rte 4 between TAY NINH and B.U. CO, and B.U. CO at night. C Co (-) swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and Brigade Eastern boundary. Escorted convoy from TAY NINH to DIA TIENG.

3-22 Inf: A Co secured engineer effort on MSR West of DAU TIENG. B Co departed DAU TIENG Base Camp at 0430, and moved to clandestine assembly area vic XT500518 Co conducted security operations vic assembly area and moved after darkness to ambush positions, vic village XT519515. D Co was air lifted from DAU TIENG to go OPCON to the 199th Inf Brigade.

3-17 Cav (-): D troop opened and secured MSR South from TAY NINH to GO DAU HA. C troop conducted recon and interdiction of enemy LOC in Upper Michellien, CHASCANT, BEN GUI Plantation, KATUM and East of KATUM.

S-5 Activities: 7-11 Arty conducted MEDCAP at LONG KIM, XT243460, treating 103 patients; 2-14 Inf held a MEDCAP at HIEP TRUONG, XT212475, treating 184 patients; 4-9 Inf conducted MEDCAP at CAO DAI Orphanage XT263501 treating 53 patients; 2-34 Armor conducted MEDCAP at CAC XA, XT116503 treating 125 patients.

6 April 1968

4-9 Inf (-): Companies returned to TAY NINH Base Camp from ambush position closing at 1045. Battalion stood down remainder of the day. Recon platoon secured rock crusher NUI BA DAN.

C 2-22 Inf (M): One platoon swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and B.U. CO. C Co (-) swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH, and Brigades Eastern boundary. Escorting convoy from TAY NINH to DIA TIENG.

3-22 Inf (-): A Co departed DAU TIENG Base Camp at 0500 moved to assembly area XT598502. Co conducted security operations in area, and established 2 night AM's in vicinity of Assembly Area. B Co returned from its night ambush positions at first light, and served DAU TIENG as RUF. C Co secured engineer effort on MSR west of DAU TIENG.

3-17 Cav (-): D troop swept and secured MSR from TAY NINH to GO DAU HA. C Troop continued mission of recon and interdiction of enemy LOC vic Upper MICHELLIAN, CHASCANT, BEN GUI, KATUM and West Of KATUM.

S-5 Activities: 2-14 Inf conducted MEDCAP at HIEP BINH, XT2249 treating 235 patients; 4-9 Inf held MEDCAP at TRUONG CU, XT275435, treating 58 patients

7 April 1968

4-9 Inf (-): B & D Companies departed TAY NINH Base Camp at 0607, closing FSB RAWLINGS II, XT301502 at 0700. A Co conducted airmobile assault from TAY NINH to LZ vic XT374486. B & D made contact with snipers vic XT375479. At 1540 A Co had reinforced B Co. Enemy force was estimated as reinforced VC platoon. CS was used in an attempt to dislodge enemy from bunker positions. Artillery and air strikes were not used because two men were wounded close to enemy positions, and could not be withdrawn. A provisional company of the rear elements of A, B, D, and HQ's company secured FSB RAWLINGS II after ARVN and RF/PF forces were withdrawn to secure TAY NINH during hours of darkness

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4-9 Inf (Cont'd) A & B remained in position during hours of darkness with D Co in reserve, and continued effort to reach 2 wounded men. Recon platoon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

C 2-22 Inf (M): One platoon swept and outposted Rt 5 between TAY NINH and BAU CO, and secured BAU CO. C Co (-) swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and Brigades Eastern boundary. Escorted convoy from TAY NINH to DAU TIENG.

3-22 Inf (-): A Co conducted RIF from ambush position at 0830 closing DAU TIENG at 0925. C Co (-) served as DAU TIENG RRF, one squad secured DAU TIENG laterite pit. Remainder of Battalion (-) conducted refresher training vic DAU TIENG Base Camp.

3-17 Cav (-): Opened and secured Rt 22 from TAY NINH to GO DAU HA. C Troop conducted recon and interdiction of enemy LOC vic UPPER MICHELIEU, CRESCENT, BEN CUI, KATUM, and WEST of KATUM.

S-5 Activities: 7-11 Artillery held MEDCAP at LONG YEN, XT225435 treating 83 patients.

8 April 1968

4-9 Inf (-): Received 2 missing personnel at 0045, and employed artillery and tactical air against suspected enemy position A & D advanced through objective area at 1025 with B Co held in reserve. Over 25 command bunkers and 50 smaller bunkers were found, and destruction was begun. Elements were extracted from PZ vic XT369483, beginning at 1509, and closed TAY NINH. Provisional company at FSB RAWLINGS closed TAY NINH. Results of Action: 3 US KIA, 21 US, WIA 4 VC KIA (BC) 15 VC KIA (POSS). Recon platoon secured rock crusher at NUI BA DEN.

C 2-22 Inf (M): One platoon outposted and swept MSR between TAY NINH and BAU CO and securing BAU CO at night. C Co (-) swept and outposted MSR between TAY NINH and Brigades Eastern boundary. Escorted convoy from DAU TIENG to TAY NINH.

3-22 (-): One company secured engineer effort West of DAU TIENG on MSR. Battalion conducted refresher training vicinity DAU TIENG. Battalion dispatched 2 platoon-size night ambush patrols from DAU TIENG to vic XT503513 and XT 476480 at 1830.

S-5 Activities: 2-14 Inf conducted MEDCAP at NIEP TRUONG, XT212447 treating 183 patients.

3-17 Cav () D Troop swept and outposted MSR from TAY NINH to GO DAU HA. C Troop conducted recon and interdiction of enemy LOC in western portion of TAOR.

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12. (C) Results (U):

a. Personnel	KIA	WIA	NBC	TOTAL
(1) US				
4-9 Infantry	3	24	4	31
2-22 Infantry (MECH)	3	15		18
2-12 Infantry	1	13		14
3-17 Cavalry				
3-22 Infantry				
Others	<u>7</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>67</u>
(2) CIDG	KIA	WIA	NBC	TOTAL
	17	50	0	67

(3) VC/NVA

KIA (BC) 198
 KIA (POSS) 131
 Detainees: 56
 PW's 3

b. Equipment Losses.

(1) Friendly: Bincular, M-13, 20 Ea; Binocular, 6 X 30, 2 each Bayonet W/S M-7, 40 each; Pistol, .45 Caliber, 30 each; Rifle, 5.56mm 60 each Launcher, Grenade, M-79, 17 each; Shotgun, 2 each; Armored vest, 36 each; Radio Set, AM/PRC-25 leach; Rifle, Recoilless, 90mm, 2 each; Machine gun, M-60, 2 each.

(2) Enemy: Heavy Weapons 1; Small Arms Ammo; 1,300 rounds; HE Ammo, 95 rounds; Mine and booby traps, 38; Rice (Ton), 4.25; Structures, 11; bunkers, 725; Documents (lb), 3, 625 Tunnel (meters), 27 Sampans, 11; foxholes 107; Fortifications, 859; Trench (meters), 315; Bicycles 10; Clothing, (lb) 59; Trucks, 3/4 ton 2; Workbenches, 3; Ammo Cache, 1; Crates of Ammo, 150; Crates of Explosive, 120; Entrenching tool, 6; tables, 3; Chairs, 3; Spears, fishing, 54; Buffalo, water, 20; Bridge, log 1; Bridge, underwater 1; Bridge foot, 1; Bike motor, 1; Cart Ox, 8; Ponchos, 16; Boxes supply, 10; Crates, 2; Stoves, 3; Wells, 2; Sugar (lb) 5; Machete, 1; Web Gear, 1; Boxes, Cray 20;

(3). Bomb Damage Assesment: BDA for most airstrikes were conducted by aerial observers.

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13. (C) Administrative Matters (C)

a. Since operations were conducted from the TAY NINH and DAU TIENG base camps adequate PX facilities were available to all personnel, and it was not necessary to operate mobile PX's.

b. No difficulty was encountered in rapid distribution of mail.

c. Replacement of non Commission officer in the grades E-6 through E-9 was extremely difficult. There are very few experienced personnel in these grades being assigned to the brigade.

d. Unexpected arrival of units at base camps required an immense and unnecessary amount of attention by the brigade S-1. This loss of valuable time could be prevented if at least 24 hours prior notice were given. Minimum information provided should be the size of the unit, messing facilities required and special considerations, (e. aviation units need billeting near the air field.

c. e. Supply:

(1) Class I: Three "A" rations per day were fed in all units. On a few occasions "C" rations were consumed after drawing "A" rations due to operational requirements.

(2) Class II & IV: A large quantity of barbed wire, concertina pickets, lumber and sandbags were used. Sandbags could not always be produced in the quantities desired.

(3). Class III: A total of 8,500 gallons of NOGAS, 10,200 gallons of diesel, 30 quarts of hydraulic fluid, 220 gallons of OE-30, 110 gallons of OE-10, and 20 cans of 6AA-90 grease were used.

f. Maintenance: Maintenance teams from battalions were with their respective units. They were able to perform all 2nd echelon vehicular maintenance. The 725th Maintenance Battalion provided all directed support maintenance.

g. Treatment of casualties and evacuation. "DUSTOFF" support for evacuation of casualties was provided by MEDEVAC units of CU CHI, DAU TIENG, and TAY NINH Base Camps.

h. Transportation: Transportation was provided by use of organic vehicles, UH1D, H23, C-130 and CH-47 aircraft.

i. Communications: Communications was provided by organic FM and RTT VHF for telephone service was provided by the 125th Signal Battalion.

j. Medical Evaluation. Personnel health was good throughout the operation.

14. Special Equipments and Techniques: (C): NONE

CONFIDENTIAL**15. Commanders Analysis (U)**

a. The NSi's in the Brigade TAOR were kept open, and secure for daily convoys.

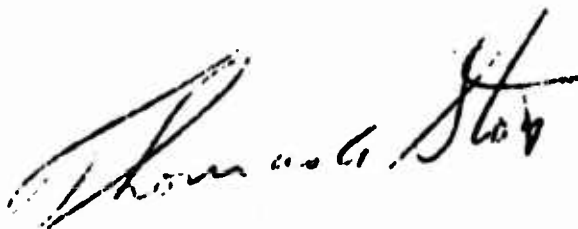
b. B&U CO, TAY NINH, and DAU TIENG were defended against significant enemy initiatives.

c. Infantry battalions conducted necessary refresher training to provide replacements with the know-how required to make the effective members of the fighting team.

d. By timely and effective reaction to intelligence, infantry battalions and the air troop of the 3-17 Cav were able to effectively interdict enemy LOC, and prevent any significant attacks on defended portions of the brigade TAOR.

16. Recommendations: (U): None

FOR THE COMMANDER:



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MAJOR, Infantry
Adjutant

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