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HEADQUARTERS  
 3d Reconnaissance Battalion  
 3d Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
 FPO, San Francisco, California 96601

3:RWC:jhs  
 9 December 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding General, 3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMF (Attn: SC 3)

Subj: Command Chronology

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.1

- Encl: (1) Operation Order 343-65  
 (2) Patrol Report of 5 November 1965  
 (3) Patrol Report of 8 November 1965  
 (4) Patrol Report of 13 November 1965  
 (5) Patrol Report of 17 November 1965  
 (6) Patrol Report of 4 November 1965  
 (7) Patrol Report of 12 November 1965  
 (8) Patrol Report of 15 November 1965  
 (9) Patrol Report of 19 November 1965  
 (10) Patrol Report of 4 November 1965  
 (11) Patrol Report of 4 November 1965  
 (12) Patrol Report of 8 November 1965  
 (13) Patrol Report of 9 November 1965  
 (14) Patrol Report of 11 November 1965  
 (15) Patrol Report of 14 November 1965  
 (16) Patrol Report of 15 November 1965  
 (17) Patrol Report of 11 November 1965  
 (18) Patrol Report of 16 November 1965  
 (19) Patrol Report of 4 November 1965  
 (20) Patrol Report of 4 November 1965  
 (21) Patrol Report of 8 November 1965  
 (22) Patrol Report of 13 November 1965  
 (23) Patrol Report of 19 November 1965  
 (24) Patrol Report of 19 November 1965  
 (25) Patrol Report of 14 November 1965  
 (26) Patrol Report of 23 November 1965  
 (27) Patrol Report of 26 November 1965  
 (28) Patrol Report of 26 November 1965  
 (29) Patrol Report of 1 November 1965  
 (30) Patrol Report of 3 November 1965  
 (31) Patrol Report of 5 November 1965  
 (32) Debriefing Report, Frag Order 3-65  
 (33) Patrol Debriefing, Frag Order 3-65  
 (34) Patrol Debriefing, Frag Order 3-65  
 (35) Patrol Debriefing, Frag Order 3-65  
 (36) Patrol Report of 7 November 1965

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
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- (37) Debriefing Report, Operation 5-65
- (38) Debriefing Report, Operation 5-65
- (39) Debriefing Report, Operation 5-65
- (40) Patrol Report of 13 November 1965
- (41) Patrol Report of 14 November 1965
- (42) Patrol Report of 17 November 1965
- (43) Patrol Report of 18 November 1965
- (44) Debriefing Report, Frag Order 9-65
- (45) Debriefing Report, Frag Order 9-65
- (46) Operation Order 344-65
- (47) Patrol Report of 22 November 1965
- (48) Patrol Report of 26 November 1965
- (49) Patrol Report of 28 November 1965
- (50) Patrol Report of 30 November 1965
- (51) Patrol Report of 23 November 1965
- (52) Patrol Report of 26 November 1965
- (53) Patrol Report of 20 November 1965
- (54) Patrol Report of 22 November 1965
- (55) Patrol Report 10-65, of 23 November 1965
- (56) Frag Order 10-65
- (57) Frag Order 10-65
- (58) Patrol Report, Operation 12-65 of 26 November 1965
- (59) Debriefing Report, Frag Order 12-65
- (60) Debriefing Report, Frag Order 12-65
- (61) Patrol Report, Operation 13-65 of 24 November 1965
- (62) Debriefing Report, Frag Order 13-65
- (63) Debriefing Report, Frag Order 13-65
- (64) Operation Order 346-65
- (65) Operation Order 347-65
- (66) Patrol Report of 28 November 1965
- (67) Patrol Report of 30 November 1965
- (68) Patrol Report of 2 December 1965
- (69) Patrol Report of 25 November 1965
- (70) Patrol Report of 25 November 1965
- (71) Patrol Report of 28 November 1965
- (72) Patrol Report of 28 November 1965
- (73) Patrol Report of 30 November 1965
- (74) Patrol Report of 30 November 1965
- (75) Patrol Report of 2 November 1965
- (76) Patrol Report of 29 November 1965
- (77) Frag Order 14-65
- (78) Frag Order 14-65
- (79) Patrol Report of 28 November 1965
- (80) Debriefing Report, Frag Order 15-65
- (81) Debriefing Report, Frag Order 15-65
- (82) Patrol Report of 29 November 1965
- (83) Debriefing Report, Frag Order 18-65

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1. In compliance with reference (a), the below report is submitted.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

a. Reporting Unit: 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion (AT 959749)

b. Period covered: 1 - 30 November 1965

c. Commanding Officer	LtCol. R. R. VAN CLEVE
Executive Officer	Major T. R. STUART
Adjutant	WO M. J. GILDEA
Operations Officer	Major D. A. COLBY
S-4	2ndLt. L. T. BALL
CO, H&S Co.	Capt. E. J. CHAPMAN
CO, Co A	Capt. B. G. HUNTER
CO, Co B	Capt. J. L. COMPTON
CO, Co C	Capt. J. E. REVELL
CO, Co D	Capt. P. G. COLLINS
CO, Co C, 1st Recon Bn	1stLt. R. W. CRAIN
CO, 1st Force Recon Co.	Major M. C. GAFFEN

d. Average monthly strength:

(1) USMC officers	29
(2) USN officers	1
(3) USMC enlisted	470
(4) USN enlisted	24

3. Significant Events.

a. Logistics

- (1) On 8 November 1965 this unit received its first CRITAPAK shipment.
- (2) During the month of November 98% of the Camp Reasoner Cantonment Program was completed.
- (3) On 1 November, the Battalion received 12 AN/PRC-25's for trial use in the field. These radios proved very effective in reconnaissance work.

b. Civil Affairs. On 14 November 1965 the Battalion Medical Officer treated 60 Vietnamese children at the Orphans Home in Gantry Valley.

4. OPERATIONS.

- a. The 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion in general support of the 3rd Marine Division, maintained its elements deployed around the periphery of the Division TAOR's.

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- b. Company A conducted reconnaissance patrols for a total of 36 platoon patrol days during the month of November, reporting 26 significant sightings that included 133 VC being observed. Also reported were numerous trails, VC campsites and a variety of booby traps. Two contacts with the Viet Cong inflicted 3 enemy KIA and 3 enemy WIA while no USMC casualties were sustained. (Enclosures (2-5)(47-49))
- c. Company C rejoined a Third Platoon on 18 November 1965. The platoon was detached from Company B, 3rd Recon Battalion and will assist the company in general support of the 3rd Marine Division. During the month of November the company conducted platoon size reconnaissance patrols for a total of 32 platoon patrol days reporting 3 significant sightings totaling 27 VN. Also reported were numerous booby traps, fighting holes and the location and destruction of a Viet Cong truck. One contact with the Viet Cong inflicted (1) enemy KIA and no USMC casualties. (Enclosures (6-9) (50-51) (66-67))
- d. Company D conducted one company size and ten platoon sized reconnaissance patrols totalling 48 platoon patrol days during the month of November. The company reported 17 sightings totalling 23 VC and 17 VCS. Two contacts with the Viet Cong produced negative results. They also reported numerous new trail locations and enemy harbor sites. (Enclosures (10-17) (52-53) (68-74))
- e. Reconnaissance Group Alpha located in CHU IAI consists of Company B (-), 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion and Company C, 1st Reconnaissance Battalion. During the month of November this unit conducted 3 company size and ten platoon size reconnaissance patrols for a total of 67 platoon patrol days reporting 165 significant sightings totalling 770 VC and 29 VCS being observed. In addition, the group completed a successful four man pinpoint reconnaissance mission locating a Viet Cong prisoner compound (Group Frag Order 13-65). Four contacts with the Viet Cong resulted in one enemy KIA, Four enemy WIA while one USMC KIA and one USMC WIA were sustained. The group also reported numerous booby traps and punji stakes in prospective HLZ's, new trail locations and several VC cache sites with billeting areas. Company B (-) detached a platoon to HUE PHU BAI for direct support of 3rd Battalion, 4th Marines on 18 November 1965. (Enclosures (29-45) (54-63) (75-83)).
- f. First Force Reconnaissance Company came under operational control of 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion on 1 November 1965. The company conducted 10 platoon size patrols for a total of 46 patrol days reporting 25 significant sightings totalling 31 VC, 36 VCS and 119 VN being observed. In addition, this unit located and destroyed a missing airdrone and a large rice supply. It reported numerous new trails, streambeds, huts and campsites. One artillery mission called, accounting for four VC dead, four wounded VC and the capture of seven weapons.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

One contact resulted in one enemy KIA, two enemy WIA and no USMC casualties. (Enclosures (18-28))

*R. R. Van Cleve*  
R. R. VAN CLEVE

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3dMarDiv (SC 3) (5)

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

3d RECON BN

CONFIDENTIALCopy 20 of 20 copies  
3d Recon Bn  
DA NANG, RVN  
4 Nov 65OPERATION ORDER 343-65

Ref: (a) BnOpO 336-65  
 (b) Maps: 1:50,000 Series L701, Sheet Numbers 6559 I, II;  
 6659 I, III, IV; 6558 I, IV; 6658 I; 6657 I, II; 6757  
 II, II, IV; 6656 I; 6756 I, IV

Time Zone: H

Task Organization: Reference (a).

1. SITUATION.

- a. Enemy Forces. Current INTSUM's.
- b. Friendly Forces. Current OPSUM's.
- c. Attachments and detachments. Reference (a).

2. MISSION. 3d Recon Bn (-)(Rein) establishes a reconnaissance net in the DA NANG and CHU LAI enclaves.

3. EXECUTION:

a. Concept of operation. 3d Recon Bn (-)(Rein) accomplishes its assigned mission by maintaining area surveillance and reconnaissance patrolling within RAOR's. Fire support and infantry reinforcement requirements will be effected by direct liaison with cognizant Regimental Commanders.

b. CoA: DA NANG.

8-15 Nov: Maintain one platoon in RAOR 3.

c. Recon Group Alpha: CHU LAI

Same as BnOpO 342-65

d. CoC(-): DA NANG

8-15 Nov: Maintain one platoon in RAOR 4.

e. CoD: DA NANG

8-15 Nov: Maintain two platoons in RAOR's 5 and 6.

f. Force Recon Co: DA NANG

8-15 Nov: Maintain two platoons in RAOR's 1 and 2.

ENCLOSURE (1)

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CONFIDENTIALg. Coordinating instructions.

- (1) Reconnaissance operations will be conducted as set forth in paragraph 3a of reference (a).
- (2) Coordinate all missions with cognizant Regimental Commanders.
- (3) EEI's. Annex A to reference (a).
- (4) Submit helicopter requirements to this Headquarters (Attn: S-3) not later than 48 hours prior to commencement of mission.
- (5) Use varying means and times of entry and exit; helo LZ's will be no closer than 3000 meters to objective area.
- (6) Submit operation orders not later than 24 hours prior to execution of assigned missions to this Headquarters (Attn: S-3 for reproduction and distribution.
- (7) Submit patrol rosters to this Headquarters (Attn: S-3) prior to execution of assigned missions. DA NANG only.
- (8) Patrol Leaders report to the Battalion S-2 immediately on return to the Battalion area for debriefing. DA NANG only.
- (9) Prepare alternate plans for entry to and exit from RAOR's.
- (10) Be prepared to call and adjust artillery fire.
- (11) If an airstrike is requested and approved, display a single red panel at position when aircraft are on station.
- (12) Be prepared to recommend infantry reinforcement and suitable primary and alternate LZ's for its entry.
- (13) For DA NANG RAOR's see Annex B to reference (a); CHU LAI RAOR's see Annex C, reference (a).

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ENCLOSURE (4)

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4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. Reference (a).
5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.
  - a. Reference (a).
  - b. Battalion Command post remains the same.



R. R. VAN CLEVE

Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

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ENCLOSURE (1)

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

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 3d Reconnaissance Bn.  
 DA NANG, RVN  
 051300H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Seat 1-Alpha

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000 Sheet No. 6659 III Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (12) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: To conduct day and night undetected land recon to locate VC Camps, storage areas and signs of activity; establishing day OP's and night ambush sites.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 301500H Oct
4. TIME OF RETURN: 051130H Nov
5. ROUTE: Refer to OPORD 180-65
6. OBSERVATIONS:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
011300H	(ZC 175837)	4 VC were moving East on the road, and disappeared from view at these coordinates. Distance was too great to determine equipment.
011545H	(AT 806846)	7 VC moved East on the road from these coordinates to (AT 811849) where they left the road going North towards the river. They carried weapons and packs. 2 men were carrying a heavy object between them.
011620H	(AT 811849)	14 VC moved onto the road, and then moved West to (AT 806846) where they moved onto a trail on the South side of the road. They were wearing dark clothing and khaki and carrying rifles and packs. Of these 14 men, 7 were possibly the ones who had previously been seen moving East at 1545.
011626H	(ZC 189838)	1 VC was moving West on the road wearing dark clothing and carrying a pack.
011800H	(AT 799848)	1 boat with 2 men was observed moving East and stopping to pick up another man. The boat contained a cargo which could not be determined. It appeared to be checking fish nets in the river.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

- 020735H (AT 805846) 2 VC were observed moving West on the road. They wore black clothing and were carrying packs and rifles.
- 020746H (AT 799848) 2 VC were observed moving on the river and stopping on the river bank at (AT 799848). One wore black clothing, the other khaki. They met 3 other VC, 2 of which were wearing black clothing and 1 white clothin. They unloaded nondescript equipment from the boat and then proceeded West on the river.
- 020856H (AT 799848) 2 VC were observed in a boat moving East on the river. They stopped, submerged the boat, fled into the brush and reappeared with 3 other VC and proceeded to bathe while 2 VC stood guard. Completing their bathing they disappeared into the brush. They wore black clothing and khaki and appeared to be carrying rifles.
- 020900H (AT 802846) 2 VC stopped on the road. They were wearing black clothing and carrying packs and rifles.
- 020925H (AT 811849) Observed 7 VC moving East on the road and then stop and move off the road onto the trail towards the river.
- 021127H (AT 806846) Observed 7 VC moving West on the road and then stop at these coordinates where 2 other VC were waiting. They then moved on the trail and off of the road. They wore black and khaki clothing, and were equipped with packs and rifles. It appeared that they were 2 M-1 rifles, and 2 carbines . Also noted were 2 sacks of rice.
- 021458H (AT 803849) Observed 2 VCS bathing in the river and drying rice on the bank. They remained there all day.
- 0216.04H (AT 809847) Observed 6 VC moving East on the road. They wore black and khaki clothing and were equipped with packs and rifles. The weapons appeared to be 4 M-1's and 2 BAR's.
- 021612H (AT 799849) Observed 2 VC in a boat moving East on the river. A box was noted in the boat. They wore khaki clothing. They moved out of sight at (AT 815852).

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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- 021737H (AT 799849) Observed 2 VC in a boat moving West on the river. There is a possibility that it was the same boat that went up stream at 1600. The boat pulled into the North bank and the men went uphill.
- 021814H (AT 779849) Observed 4 VCS come out of the hills, onto the North bank of the river to a boat, and proceed East on the river. 2 Men wore light colored clothing and 2 dark clothing. 1 man appeared to be carrying an object over his shoulder.
- 030808H (AT 801850) Observed 3 men in a boat moving West on the river. The patrol was unable to determine what uniforms or equipment they wore.
- 031017H (AT 806847) Observed 2 VC moving East on the road to (AT 811849) and move off of the road towards the river. They were wearing black clothing and carrying packs and rifles. At 021108H these same VC emerged from a small trail at (AT 811849) carrying a bag of rice.
- 031015H (AT 801849) Observed 2 men in a boat come into sight on the North side of the river and then proceed to the South bank where they met 3 other men. They pulled the boat onto the bank at (AT 801849). They all wore black clothing, equipment unknown.
- 031410H (AT 804854) 2 VC landed a boat on the North bank of the river and went to a clearing 200 meters from the North bank at these coordinates. Uniform and equipment were not able to be determined.
- 031430H (AT 806847) Observed 7 VC moving East on the road, then move off the road at (AT 811849). They were wearing khaki clothing and carrying rifles, packs and cartridge belts. The VC moved on to the South side of the road at (AT 811849), then moved East on to (AT 811849), then moved off the road towards the river. 30 minutes later, they moved back to the road and ~~landed boat~~ carrying bundles and then moved off the road to (AT 807846). Their route was such that they wound up back at the point where they had started.
- 031645H (AT 801849) Observed 3 men in a boat pull into the North bank of the river. 2 men wore dark clothing and 1 light clothing. They camouflaged the boat and moved into the brush on the hillside. The man in light clothing moved back to the river bank twice to

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ENCLOSURE (2)

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fill up buckets of water. At 021710H 4 men came down to the boat, 3 got into the boat and moved East out of sight

- 031730H (AT 811850) 2 men in a boat stopped at these coordinates and then moved East out of sight.
- 040750H (AT 811849) 3 men in a boat were moving West on the river and stopped on the South bank, then disappeared from view.
- 040910H (AT 801848) 2 men crossed the river in a boat from the North bank to the South bank. 1 wore dark clothing and 1 wore khaki shorts and a green jacket. The boat possibly contained a bag of rice.
- 041750H (AT 806846) 5 VC moved East on the road to (AT 811849) where they met 3 other VC. They moved off the road and towards the river. 2 wore khaki clothing and 3 dark clothing. It appeared they were carrying weapons. At 041830H they moved back to (AT 806846) and moved off the road onto the trail leading towards the South. Some were carrying large white packs or possibly sacks of rice. Artillery H&I fire landed approximately 2000 meters from their position and the VC immediately took cover.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 050930H (AT 802846), when the patrol moved onto the road, for helo pickup, they discovered several cooking fires on the South side of the road. These fires appeared to have been recently used. Also found was a .30 Cal. Carbine bandoleer.

(2) Communications in the area of operation was considered good.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.

9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.

## 10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Conclusion: The majority of VC movement on the road in this area seemed to establish a definite pattern. A group of VC would come off a trail onto the road at (AT 806846), move East on the road to a trail leading to the river at (AT 811849) and move down toward the river. After a period of about 30 minutes, they would reappear at (AT 811849) and move back West and move back off the road at (AT 806846) onto the same trail they originally appeared on, which moves South up the hill from the road. (See sketch). On the return trip they often appeared to be carrying large bundles which may have been rice or something similar. From this it would appear that there is a VC Camp somewhere South of the road with access by the trail at (AT 806846) and it is supplied by the river, with pick-

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river centered around the area of (AT 802851), and indicated the possible presence of a camp in this area, as people were seen bathing, drying rice, washing clothes, etc.

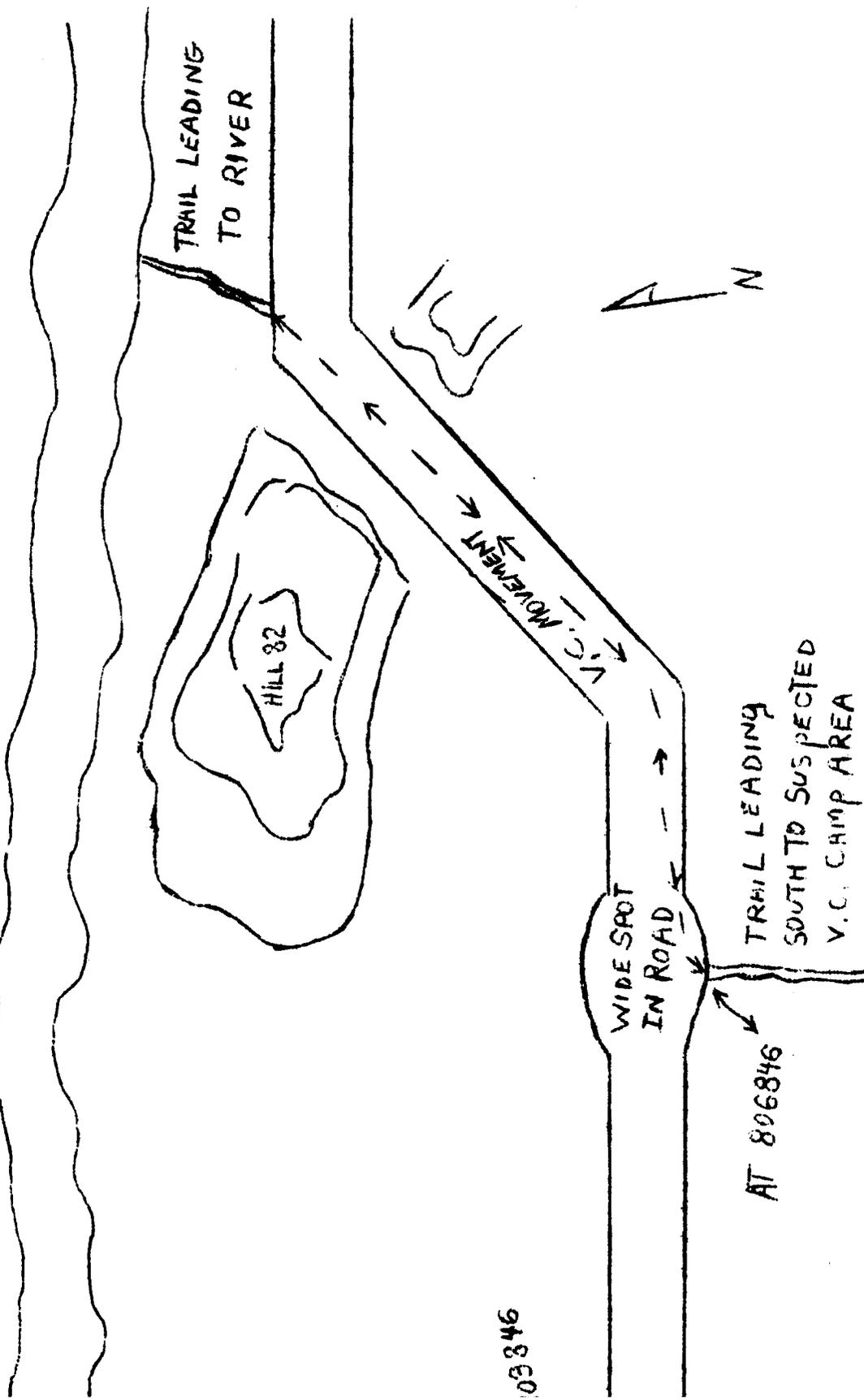
W. T. HENDERSON  
2dLt Co. A

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: None. Concur with conclusion in No. 10.

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ENCLOSURE (2)

ACTIVITY ON N. BANK  
CARED AROUND CLEARING



09846

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 DANANG, RVN  
 081000H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 3-Alpha

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (13) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct day and night undetected land reconnaissance to locate Viet Cong campsites; storage areas communications routes and routes and signs of activity; establish day OP's and night selective ambush positions.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 081630H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 080940H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 181-65
6. OBSERVATIONS OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
050835H	(AT 835677)	The patrol reported matted down elephant grass which indicated approximately 500 people had recently passed through the area within the last 24 hours. An area 500 meters in width contained a large number of freshly broken trails. These trails generally ran from SSW, and NNE.
061109H	(AT 842658)	The patrol located approximately 200, 5 man hutches between (AT 872663) and (AT 844660). The matted down areas were approximately 5 meters square. It appeared the area had not been used for 3 or 4 months.
061130H	(AT 838659)	5 VC fired on the patrol. The patrol pursued the VC, killing one, and critically wounding another. The critically wounded VC was later killed while attempting to confiscate a grenade from the corpsman attempting to administer first aid. The ARVN interpreter killed the wounded VC. No marine casualties were sustained during the exchange of fire. 1 MAS 36 French rifle was captured.
061405H	(AT 843661)	The patrol located a large well used trail. Along the trail, there were many cleared areas which could accommodate 3 to 4 people. The trail generally runs from (AT 842664) to (AT 865666).

ENCLOSURE (3)

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- 061505H (AT 862665) As the patrol entered towards checkpoint #6, the point man made contact with a man dressed like a Marine and wearing a soft hat. The man was Caucasian, had blonde hair and blue eyes and was armed with a weapon which appeared to be an M-14 or M-1 rifle. The point challenged the man believing he was a fellow marine. The man immediately fled before the point could fire. The man wore a green utility jacket, and the soft hat he appeared to be wearing was a camouflaged bush hat. A thorough search was initiated with negative results. In the same vicinity, fresh human defecation was found less than 12 hours old.
- 061550H (AT 865666) A green and red torn VC flage was found containing sewn lettering. A green triangle was sewn on a red field. The ARVN interpreter, stated the VC flage was definitely VC. Hand written documents were also found in the vicinity.
- 062159H (AT 862679) The patrol heard sporadic automatic weapons fire from these coordinates.
- 070853H The patrol reported they had traveled on a heavily used trail from (AT 868665), East to (AT 873664). (AT 873664) 7 graves were located and were believed to be approximately 40 days old. These graves were found adjacent to the trail. Sticks were placed perpendicular on the graves. Their significance could not be determined.
- 071140H (AT 884705) The patrol reported sighting approximately 120 people dressed in black clothing and wearing straw hats, moving in a Southwesterly direction. These people were being observed from an estimated 4400 meters. The patrol leader could not determine whether they were carrying packs or rifles. The people were moving across a large open rice paddy complex. An artillery mission was requested, and later cancelled.
- 071340H (AT 878664) The patrol made contact with 2 VC moving West on the trail. 1 VC was killed, and 1 escaped. The dead VC was carrying a pack. He was estimated to be approximately 20 years old. Numerous documents were found in the pack. 1 M-2 carbine was captured.
- 071425H (AT 876667) The patrol reported locating 2 dwellings thatched and constructed of bamboo. One dwelling was 4 meters square, and 7 feet high. This dwelling was believed to be a sleeping area which could accommodate

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ENCLOSURE (3)

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15 people. The other dwelling was approximately 2 meters wide, 7 meters long, and 7 feet high. This dwelling was a cooking area. Inside, were cooking utensils, a plastic helmet, and a water can. Food or weapons were not detected. The dwellings were constructed adjacent to a stream. Indications are, the dwellings had not been used for several months.

071442H

Near the vicinity of (AT 876667). The patrol located written documents stashed away in a cubby hole in a stream bed approximately 300 meters from (AT 876667). The ARVN interpreter stated the written documents were possibly a VC medical list. Found in the vicinity, were empty C-ration cans, 1 pork steak, 1 spiced beef and both cans had appeared to been opened with a knife or bayonet.

071600H (AT 878665)

Found 1 hutch, and 3 dwellings 200 meters northwest and down stream from (AT 876667). One dwelling was used for cooking purposes and was approximately 5 meters square and 8 feet high. These dwellings were thatched and constructed of bamboo. The other dwelling was utilized as a sleeping quarters 10 feet wide, 20 feet long, and 10 feet high. An animal pen was found which could accommodate 4 to 5 pigs or other domestic animals. It appeared the dwelling had not been used for several weeks. Torn clothing littered the area, as well as empty bottles and C-ration cans. Detected, were many vials which had previously contained medical liquids. Found, were 2 sets of USMC utilities and one set of VN camouflaged utilities. A large shell crater was located centered in the middle of the dwelling complex.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) The trail complex utilized by the patrol, were free of booby traps. No trail markers were evident. Fresh foot prints were detected in the mud along the trail and were approximately 6 hours old. These prints were found at 061400H (AT 860663)

(2) Indications are, that the trail networks utilized by the patrol were being used frequently and had been used recently.

(3) Communications with the AN/PRC 25 was excellent.

(4) The patrols area of operation was infested with land leeches and vermin.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: 3 VC killed, 2 weapons captured and numerous documents and packs were captured.

ENCLOSURE (3)

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9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: COMPLETED
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

**Recommendation:** That hill mass 502 and 162 be bombed in the future, and H & I missions be conducted along the patrol area of operation.

J. LATTEA  
1st Lt. Co A

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER:

The significant sightings of the patrol during their reconnaissance would tend to enhance the credibility of previous agent reports on the movement of two unidentified Viet Cong battalions into the southwestern position of the DANANG TAOR with the mission of attacking USMC units in and around the hill 327 complex. The absence of further information on the caucasian sighted, prohibits an evaluation as to his nationality and present position with the Viet Cong. It is possible that the patrol disrupted the movement of a large force into the DANANG area.

ENCLOSURE (3)

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 3d Reconnaissance Battalion  
 DANANG, RVN  
 131040H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat-1-Alpha

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (13) EnL (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct day and night undetected land reconnaissance to locate VC Camp sites, storage areas, communication routes and signs of activity; establish day OP's and night selective ambush positions.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 091900H Nov
4. TIME OF RETURN: 131000H Nov
5. ROUTE: Refer to OPORD 182-65
6. OBSERVATIONS - ENEMY AND TERRAIN:
  - (1) 092100H (AT 865833) VC warning engraved on rock
  - (2) 101720H (AT 844855) Located a cave
  - (3) 101925H (AT 841846) Located a large well used trail
  - (4) 111435H (AT 852852) 2 VC were observed moving West on the road
  - (5) 111530H (AT 848856) 3 VC were observed moving East in a boat on the SONG CA DE'
  - (6) 111600H (AT 838852) A VC observation post was located in a tree
  - (7) 111700H (AT 838853) 6 Hatches were located which had been destroyed previously
  - (8) 120845H (AT 828854) 1 VC barracks was located near a stream bed
  - (9) 121000H (AT 827854) 7 Hatches were located near a stream

ENCLOSURE (4)

CONFIDENTIAL

(10) 121720H (AT 830855) 3 armed VC were observed 75 meters to the patrol's front

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

- (1) At 092100H (AT 865833) a large rock was located on the center of the trail with the following inscription in Vietnamese, quote, "Warning to all families to stay out of this area. Signed, N. L. P." Supporting this large rock were two smaller rocks.
- (2) At 101720H (AT 844855) a trail was located running generally North, and South. This trail led to a natural cave which could have been utilized as a natural shelter. On investigation of its interior it was found to be uninhabited.
- (3) At 101925H (AT 841846) it was noted that large groups of people had frequently used this trail complex. This was indicated by numerous other trails branching off from the main trail. Some limbs had been broken off scrub brush and vegetation had recently been matted down. At one point on the trail a fern branch had been stripped in such a manner as to indicate that 5 VC were to use the trail. This interpretation of the trail marker was made to the patrol leader by the ARVN interpreter. An ambush was established on the trail until 0300H with negative contact being made. At 0300H a helo evacuation was requested and granted for the ARVN interpreter who was bitten by a snake, and a Marine who had acquired a very high fever. The evacuation was completed at 0330H and the men taken to C and C.
- (4) At 111435H (AT 852852) 2 VC were observed moving West on the North side of the road. 1 man was wearing black clothing, and the other a khaki uniform. Both men were carrying olive drab colored packs, and non-descript weapons.
- (5) At 111530H (AT 841856) 3 VC were observed in a boat moving East on the SONG CA DE'. 2 of the men wore green utilities with green soft covers. The third man wore a high collared brown uniform which appeared to be well tailored. Weapons could be observed on the deck, but their description could not be determined. It was also noted that the men wore black boots, or canvas shoes. The boat was loaded with approximately 15 unpainted boxes, 24 inches square. These boxes may have contained ammunition. At 111545H the boat pulled into the North bank of the SONG CA DE' at (AT 841858). The boat remained at

ENCLOSURE (2)

CONFIDENTIAL

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this location for a period of approximately 3 minutes, then proceeded up stream out of visual observation.

- (6) 111600H (AT 838852) in the vicinity where the patrol had established an observation post, they located a VC observation post concealed in a tree. The tree was 20 feet high, located on a finger, and extended out from the finger. From this vantage point excellent observation could be directed to the West and East of the SONG CA DE' Basin. The West side of the tree afforded good observation of the road complex which parallels the SONG CA DE's Southern bank. Distance from the tree to the road was estimated at 500 meters. The Eastern side of the tree afforded excellent observation of the SONG CA DE' and the estimated distance from the tree to the Southern bank of the river was approximately 800 meters. Spikes were placed horizontal to the tree to enable rapid escalation and descent. In the tree, spikes were properly placed to enable a person to brace his feet. Two separate loops of wire were placed on the tree limbs to accommodate the barrel of a rifle and the small of the stock enabling the person to effectively snipe from his vantage point. These wires were found on the East and West side of the tree. The base of the tree contained a fighting hole concealed by natural cover, and was 3 feet deep and 3 feet wide. It appeared the observation post and fighting hole had not recently been occupied. From this location a network of trails branched off in all directions. These trails were from 1 foot wide to 3 feet wide. No booby traps or trail markers were detected along these trails.
- (7) At 111700H (AT 833853) the patrol located 6 hutches which had been used as sleeping quarters. These hutches had previously been destroyed by the same patrol. It appeared no one had re-entered the area, and attempted to use its destroyed facilities. In the general area, a small cave 10 feet wide and extending 8 feet back, was found to be uninhabited.
- (8) At 120845H (AT 828354) the patrol located an old VC barracks which measured 20 feet by 40 feet, and was built adjacent to a stream. Its foundation was constructed of rock and its frame work of bamboo. This barracks could have been used as a command post, or sleeping area. It appeared the barracks had been recently destroyed by fire. Old clothing was scattered throughout the immediate area. Found within its enclave were one old block of TNT, and a straw hat. Indications of possible use was not evident.

ENCLOSURE (4)

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

- (9) At 121600H (AT 827854) the patrol located 7 destroyed hutches. 6 hutches were approximately 10 feet by 15 feet. The other hutche 20 feet by 30 feet. These hutches were believed to be an extension of hutches that were found earlier at (AT 828854). Located in the immediate area were empty containers of VN canned milk, 15 factory made bricks, M-1 clips, grenade pins, and a tarnished 105mm shell casing. In the general area a sleeping space containing bamboo matting was located in a cave. The entrance to the cave was concealed by 4 or 5 large boulders. It did not appear to have been recently used.
- (10) At 121720H (AT 830855) as the patrol was proceeding down a ravine, they observed 3 VC armed with rifles cross approximately 75 meters in front of the point man. The VC did not detect the patrol's presence. The patrol did not attempt to take the VC under fire in order to remain clandestine. A period of 4 minutes elapsed, then the rear element of the patrol received 5 or 6 rounds of overhead fire from their left rear. These were possibly warning rounds, rather than sniper rounds due to the inaccuracy and the range. As the patrol proceeded up the hill for better observation, the rear point observed 1 VC armed with a carbine wearing a khaki shirt and a bush hat. When the patrol was deployed 200 meters up the hill, they heard a large amount of conversation and movement from the vicinity of the ravine. This talking was heard for approximately 15 minutes and then it discontinued. No further contact was made.
- (11) Map correction: Refer to attached overlay.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: Visual contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good. 2 men Helo evacuated to C and C.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.
- R. H. HEASLEY  
Sgt Co. A
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

ENCLOSURE (4)

ENCLOSURE (7)

83  
+ 86

TRAIL



+ 83  
86

MAP CORRECTION  
SHEET NO. 6659 III  
SER. L-701

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 DANANG, RVN  
 171500H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat-3-Alpha

Maps: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (13) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct day and night undetected land reconnaissance to locate VC Camp sites, storage areas, communications routes, and signs of activity; establish day OP's and night selective ambush positions.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 130900H November
4. TIME OF RETURN: 171430H November
5. ROUTE: Refer to OPORD 183-65
6. OBSERVATIONS: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) At 161500H, in the vicinity of grid square (AT 8183), a male's voice was heard singing. The ARVN interpreter indicated that it was a VC.
  - (2) Vegetation in the area of operation was extremely dense and made observation and trail blazing very difficult. This area was also leech infested.
  - (3) During the 5 days of intensive patrolling the area was found void of friendly or enemy activity.
  - (4) The AN/PRC 25 provided an excellent means of communications. The battery was in continuous use for a period of 60 hours without battery failure, or loss of power.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None

J. MATERRA  
 1st Lt Co A

ENCLOSURE (5)

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None

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5-3

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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 DANANG, RVN  
 041300H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat - 1 - Charlie

MAPS: Vietnam 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Ser. L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (18) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct reconnaissance and surveillance of assigned area using patrolling and daylight OP's. Conduct ambushes of opportunity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 011500H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 041115H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 51-65
6. OBSERVATIONS: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) The trail network not presently on the map was considered to be a well used trail. The width of the trail is approximately 18 feet wide. The brush and tree canopy paralleling the trail is approximately 10 feet high. The trail was not booby trapped.
  - (2) From 020900H to 041030H in the vicinity of Grid Squares (AT 8565), (AT 8665), (AT 8765), (AT 8865), (AT 8764), and (AT 8864) Vietnamese workers were observed cutting grass and sticks from 0900 to 1700 daily. Cattle were also present.
  - (3) From 021230H to 021415H (AT 898665). 6 VN were observed in a group possibly igniting flare devices, which on igniting, produced a red flash followed by a large column of white smoke. The smoke duration was approximately 5 minutes. The interval between flares was 10 minutes. They wore white shirts, black trousers and straw hats. No weapons or equipment were noted. No attempt was being made to conceal their activity.
  - (4) Communications in the area of operation with the AN/PRC 10 and 25 were considered good. In the ravines, communications was weak, but readable.
  - (5) Night movement is considered hazardous due to the dense brush and slippery rock formations in the ravines.
  - (6) Refer to overlay for map correction of a trail complex not presently indicated on the map.

ENCLOSURE (2)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED:  
GOOD.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.

R. E. EBBS  
Sgt Co. C.

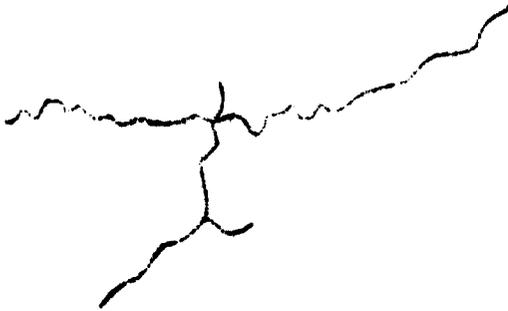
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DESPATCHER: None.

ENCLOSURE (2)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

36  
67+

(1) Trail network not  
indicated on the map.



+ 63  
90

ENCLOSURE (6)

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DANANG, RVN

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 1-Charlie

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (16) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct reconnaissance and surveillance of assigned area using patrolling and day light OP's, conduct ambushes of opportunity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 091430H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 121615H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 52-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:
  - (1) No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) At 111300H (AT 837783). As the patrol was moving North to South on an old unused road, they located a truck which had been concealed in dense vegetation. It appeared this vehicle had been there for approximately 6 weeks. An attempt had been made to repaint the vehicle forest green. Its original color was olive drab. 3 cans of forest green paint were found under the vehicle. It appeared the vehicle had been repainted in haste due to the paint dripping on the tires and frame. The vehicle was considered in good condition. Missing, were the gas tank and battery. The vehicle was equipped with 8 tires and 1 spare all of which were serviceable. The patrol leader believes this truck was a military vehicle belonging to the ARVN. The cab did not have a metal canopy. The serial No. 561193B2. was inscribed on a plaque in the cab. It was rebuilt by the Army of Japan on 29 July 1960. The patrol destroyed portions of the vehicle with fragmentation grenades. Destroyed were the tires, differential, headlights and engine block.
  - (2) At 111830H (AT 836785). While the patrol was proceeding in a Westerly direction, the point of the patrol activated a VC booby trap which was a dud. As the patrol continued in a Westerly direction, they located 2 other booby traps and disarmed them. Refer to the sketch for location and description of the booby traps.
  - (3) Movement throughout the patrols area of operation was extremely difficult due to the dense vegetation.

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ENCLOSURE (7)

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(b) Map Corrections: An old road, 10 feet wide and covered with overgrowth is not presently shown on the map. Refer to the map correction overlay.

(5) The village of THON HOA TRUNG in Grid Square (AT 8477) was found to be deserted. Throughout the patrols 3 day operation no civilian activity was noticed. The rice fields in the area of operation were unattended. The lack of civilian activity was considered unusual.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: GOOD.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.

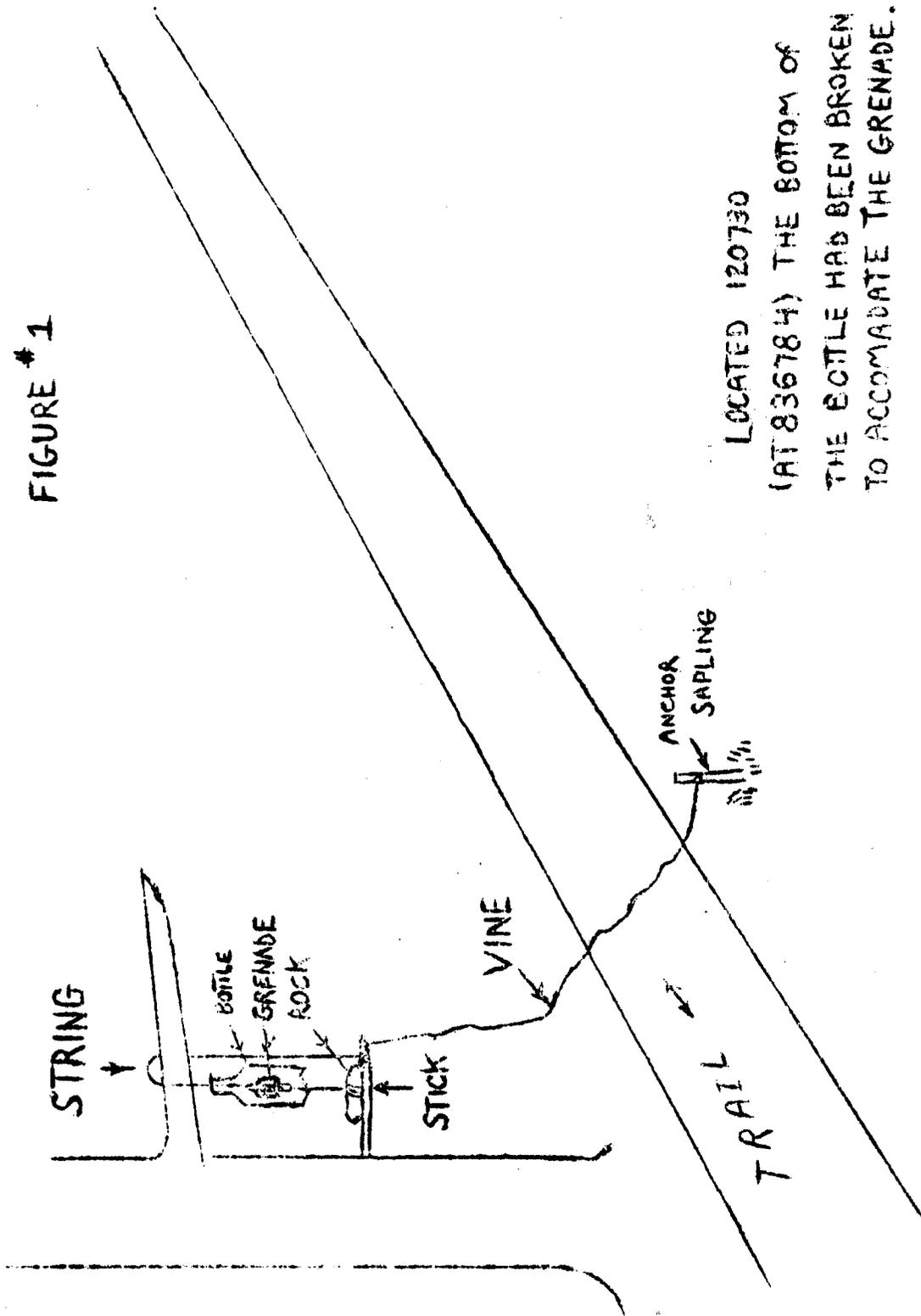
R. E. EBBS  
Sgt Co. C

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None

**ENCLOSURE**  
CONFIDENTIAL

ENCLOSURE

FIGURE # 1

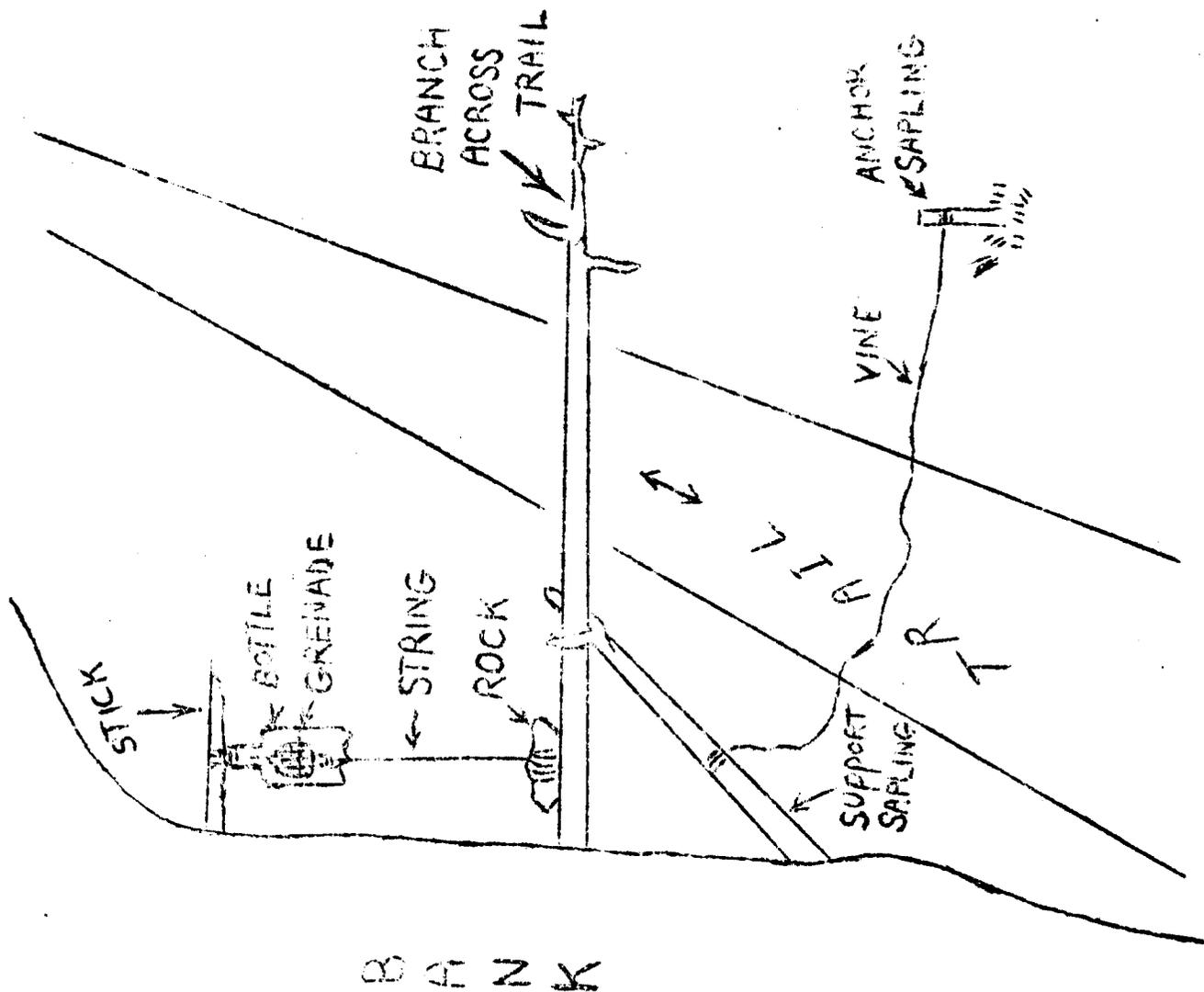


LOCATED 120730  
 (AT 836784) THE BOTTOM OF  
 THE BOTTLE HAD BEEN BROKEN  
 TO ACCOMMODATE THE GRENADE.

ENCLOSURE

FIGURE # 2

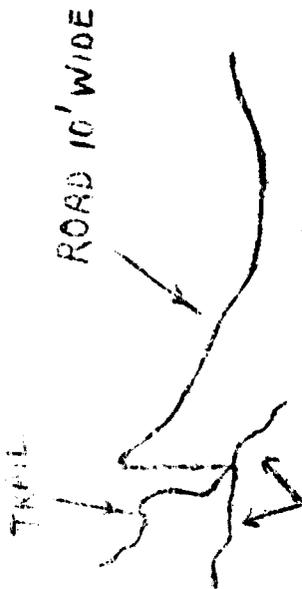
LOCATION (AT83578G)



THE BRANCH OVERLAPED THE TRAIL APPROXIMATELY 4 FT OFF THE GROUND.

83  
81 +

MAP CORRECTIONS  
NOT SHOWN ON THE MAP.



HARD TOP ROAD

+ 77  
87

SHEET NO. 6659 III SER L-701

ENCLOSURE

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 3d Reconnaissance Battalion  
 DANANG, RVN  
 151630H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat-2-Charlie

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (14) Enl (1) YSN
2. MISSION: Conduct a surveillance of assigned area using patrolling and day light OP's, and conduct ambushes of opportunity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 121600H Nov
4. TIME OF RETURN: 151000H Nov
5. ROUTE: Refer to OP ORD 53-65
6. OBSERVATIONS--ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 131200H (AT 863695) on the military crest, the patrol located 3 donut shaped fighting holes. These holes were concealed by natural vegetation. The holes were 3 feet deep, 6 feet in diameter and the 30" shaped center 2 feet in diameter. Refer to sketch. The fighting holes were approximately 4 to 6 months old. There were no man made obstacles in the vicinity of these fighting holes.

(2) On the day of the 13th and 14th, in grid squares (AT 8570), (AT 8569), (AT 8669) and (AT 8670) the patrol sighted numerous elephant tracks and elephant dung. The elephant tracks were approximately 18 inches in diameter. Some of the dung was old, and some fresh. Possibly in search of food or just wandering in the area unattended, the elephants had blazed trails which ran in all directions. It was in this general vicinity that the patrol observed 30 to 40 piles of elephant dung. The patrol leader estimated there may have been at the most 2 to 3 elephants. On the night of the 14th elephant trumpeting was heard, but its exact location could not be determined.

(3) At 141400H (AT 858728) while proceeding down a trail, the patrol found a trail marker centered in the middle of the trail. Refer to sketch.

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(4) At 141430H (AT 855729) the patrol located an unused bunker 6 feet by 3 feet by 3 feet. This bunker appeared to have been recently constructed and was constructed on the side of a hill. It was constructed of logs and dirt. The patrol leader believes it was a shelter, rather than a field fortification. A small trail led to its entrance.

(5) At 141800H (AT 855736) 2 small hutches were located and found to be uninhabited. These hutches were 10 feet long, 8 feet wide, and 10 feet high. They were constructed of saplings and the roofs were thatched. One hutch contained a wooden bed, cooking utensils, two empty cannisters from 3.5 rockets and a rice pot. Indications are that these hutches had not been recently used.

(6) In grid square (AT 8573) this area contained small saplings. These saplings had been planted in a pattern on the sides of hills.

(7) At 150700H (AT 854736) a US made illumination flare was found rigged as a booby trap. This flare was de-activated and returned to the Reconnaissance Bn.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommend: That the trails running West and Northwest (AT 8536) be investigated in the future. The trail is well used.

D. M. DICKE  
1stLt CoD

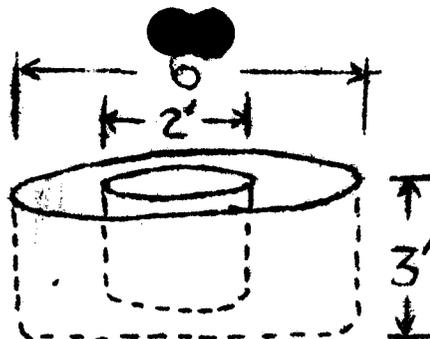
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER:

Concur with the patrol leaders recommendation.

CONFIDENTIALENCLOSURE ~~(X)~~

1.

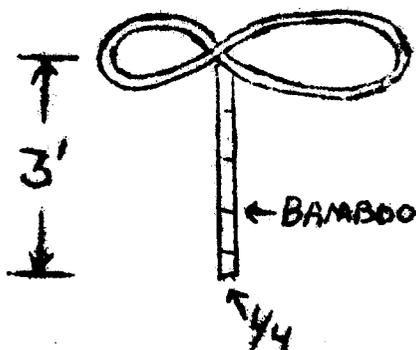
FIGHTING HOLES LOCATED AT  
(AT 863695) CONCEALED  
WITH NATURAL CAMOUFLAGE,  
AND NO PARAPET WAS EVIDENT



2.

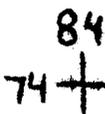
TRAIL MARKER  
LOCATED AT (AT 858778)

BOW MADE OF GRASS



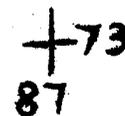
3.

MAP CORRECTION.



SHEET NO. 6658 IV

SER. L-701.



ENCLOSURE

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 DANANG, RVN  
 191940H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 1-Charlie

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet 6659 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (15) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct reconnaissance, and surveillance of assigned area, using patrolling and day light OP's. Conduct ambushes of opportunity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 151700H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 191940H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 54-65
6. OBSERVATIONS OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) That from 151700H to 191400H, the patrol did not encounter or observe any enemy or friendly activity within the patrol's designated area of operation. While the patrol proceeded towards "Fox Fort" for extraction, a search was initiated in the village of PHON-HOA-TRUNG at (AT 846777). This village is presently uninhabited, and the dwellings are old and deteriorating. The rice paddy complexes in this area are unattended and overgrown with vegetation. Indications are that the trail networks utilized by the patrol were not recently used, and that booby traps and trail markers were not detected.

(2) The AN/PRC 25 provided excellent means of communications at all times. One battery was used continuously for a period of 75 hours without failure or loss of power.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: FAIR.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.

R. E. EBBS  
 SGT Co. C

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OF DEBRIEFER: None.

ENCLOSURE CONFIDENTIAL

S-3

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Copy 15 of 200 Copies  
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 DA NANG, RVN  
 Date, time 041100H

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat-1 Delta

MAPS: Vietnam 1:50,000 Sheet No. 6658 IV Ser. L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (16) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct general surveillance of the Song Vu-Gia Basin.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 311800H - October 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 041000H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to OP Order.
6. OBSERVATIONS-ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) At 010130H 2 squads established observation posts at (AT 895013). At 1800 mortar and artillery fire was observed near the village of CHAU-SON #2 (AT 945598) on hill 42.
  - (2) At 012110H (AT 892607). Two squad size observation posts were established. At 020750H voices of women and children could be heard. During the day no civilian activity was noted in the rice paddie complexes. At 021740H Heavy artillery fire was observed at (AT 892607). These fires were continued periodically throughout the night.
  - (3) At 022045H (AT 898613). Two squad size observation posts were established. A heavy volumn of illumination was observed South of grid line 52 and West of grid line 83. At 032100H in the vicinity of grid line (AT 9460) a public address system was heard. Speeches were being given, and oriental type music being played intermittently. The patrol leader feels there may be a direct relationship between the artillery missions fired on hill 42, and the proximity of the rally, as a possible popular demonstration against the artillery missions. This is conjecture and may be credible.
  - (4) At 030740H (AT 898613) Voices were heard but ~~none~~ could be observed. During the day, no activity was noted in the immediate area.

ENCLOSURE ~~(10)~~C O N F I D E N T I A L

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- (5) The trail networks used did not contain booby traps.
- (6) Communications in the area of observation was excellent.
- (7) Friendly and enemy activity in the area of operation was negative.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.

9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED:  
Good

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) H&I fire ought to be focused on prominent ridgelines, as they contain the trails. No H&I was evident on the trail networks, but some was noted on ridge complex slopes. H&I fire ought to be planned by aerial observers on trail complexes during the day for night firing as to better exactly pinpoint the trails for night H&I.

C. DELGROSSO  
1st Lt. Co D

---

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None

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ENCLOSURE (7)

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 DANANG, RVN  
 041000H November 1965

S-3

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 3-Delta

MAPS: Sheet 6659 III, AMS, Ser. L-701, 1:50,000

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (17) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: To conduct an area reconnaissance of an area centered at grid square (AT 91-61) to determine extent of VC activity establishing day OP's and night ambush sites.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 311820H - October 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 040925H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 466-65
6. OBSERVATIONS:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATIONS</u>
010730H	(AT 914638)	Discovered one coolie hat, bamboo slivers from baskets and several pieces of cloth.
011000H	(AT 935633)	Sighted 5 VCS moving East on trail in column formation carrying a shiny object.
031320H	(AT 943645)	Sighted 12 VCS moving West on trail in column formation.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 010730H along a trail paralleling a stream from (AT 914638) to (AT 923-29) the patrol observed numerous craters of an extensive artillery bombardment. It was noted that some of the shell fragments were quite large, with one in particular, appearing to have broken into two pieces, rather than exploding into fragments.

(2) At 011000H (AT 935633). The patrol sighted 5 VCS moving East on a trail in a column formation. They picked an undetermined shiny object from the brush, which was approximately four to five feet long, and carried it with them. Very shortly thereafter, they were sighted picking a bundle of undetermined gear from the brush, which they then wrapped in a blanket, and carried with them. The VCS were wearing black PJ's and straw hats.

(3) At 031320H (AT 943645). The patrol sighted 12 VCS moving West on a trail in column formation. They appeared to be utilizing a point, main body and rear guard. The VCS were observed to move into four huts on the outer edge of a village at these coordinates, and were not seen to reappear. They were wearing black PJ's and white hats, No

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ENCLOSURE (16)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

weapons were observed.

(4) At 031700H (AT 918636). One element of the patrol sighted three large wild turkeys and two bears.

(5) Throughout the duration of the patrol all activity to the East, along the road and in the rice paddies, appeared to be normal.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact was made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING, DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommendation: That the OP utilized by the patrol at (AT 916620) be considered for future use in observation of this area, as it affords an excellent vantage point of the area to the East.

B. A. MC DERMOTT  
1st Lt. Co. D

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

**ENCLOSURE (1)**

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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 DANANG, RVN  
 081200H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scoat 2-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series I-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (16) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Establish OP sites in the vicinity of (AT 867626) and hill 419 observing to the northwest and South.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 040900H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 081030H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 467-65
6. OBSERVATIONS OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
041215H	(AT 860622)	The patrol had established an observation post, when a member of the patrol heard movement towards his immediate front. He stood up with his M 60 machine gun and observed 5 VC approaching his position. 3 of the VC had non-descript weapons slung across their shoulders and were wearing khaki uniforms. When he fired at the VC, they fled in a Southwesterly direction which was heavily vegetated with 5 feet high elephant grass. Disposition of any killed or wounded could not be determined. A search was initiated with negative results.
060400H	(AT 866626)	Movement was heard in the vicinity of the patrol's position. When a patrol member coughed, the movement ceased. Grenades were thrown towards the location of the movement. No further movement was detected. A search in the morning provided no information of enemy killed or possibly wounded.
070500H	(AT 872629)	The patrol detected movement on the trail and requested 3 rounds of illumination. The mission was granted. During the period of illumination, no enemy sightings or activity was noted.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) The trail network utilized by the patrol were free of booby traps. No trail markers were detected.

(2) Communications with the AM/PRC 25 was excellent. One battery of

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still operative after 96 hours of continuous use.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: Contact was made but no enemy were killed or wounded.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: GOOD.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.

R. S. YNACAY  
SSgt Co. D.

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

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 DANANG, RVN  
 091900H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 3-Delta

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off, (14) Enl, (1) USN, (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct an area reconnaissance of the area North of (AT 812832) to determine the extent of VC activity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 061800H November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 091700H November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to OP ORD 468-65

## 6. OBSERVATIONS:

- 081400H (AT 812849) Fired upon by 1 VC with an M-2 Carbine.
- 091100H (AT 812849) 3 Armed VC moved East on the road.
- 091300H (AT 815849) 3 Armed VC moved West on the road.
- 091515H (AT 815849) Movement was heard from the rear of the platoons ambush position.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

- (1) At 081400H (AT 812849), while the patrol was deployed in an ambush position, a member of the patrol moved making excessive noise. The noise was apparently heard by 3 VC who were moving East on the road. 1 VC fired his automatic weapon towards the vicinity of the patrol member. The weapon used was believed to be an M-2 Carbine. No casualties were sustained. The VC fled down the road.
- (2) At 091100H (AT 812849) the patrol observed 3 VC moving East on the road wearing black clothing, rain jackets and rain hats. They were carrying CHICOM carbines, and were wearing cartridge belts. No other equipment was noted.
- (3) At 091300H (AT 815849) 3 VC were moving West on the road, wearing black clothing, rain hats and rain jackets. 2 VC were carrying CHICOM Carbines and 1, a carbine. They all were wearing cartridge belts.

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- (4) At 071800H (AT 815849) Two med evacuations were required by helo for 1 man who had injured himself with a machete', and another man who had excessive leech bites.
- (5) At 080930H (AT 816855) a small boat landing was located on the Western bank of the SONG CA DE' River. 2 Paths led from the bank towards the road, and then branched off towards the East and the West. Numerous empty C-ration cans littered this area.
- (6) At 08930H 3 small bridges cross separate streams which empty into the SONG CA DE' River. These bridges have previously been destroyed. ~~The~~ bridges are approximately 10 feet long, 8 feet wide and constructed of concrete and steel supports. Movement across these bridges is possible for foot troops.
- (7) The patrol area of operation is infested with land leeches.
- (8) Communications utilizing the AN/PRC 25 was excellent.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: Contact was made with 1 VC. No casualties were inflicted or sustained.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Fair. 2 men were helo evacuated to C and C. Condition, good.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
- Recommendation: That H&I fires be considered from (AT 812849) to (AT 815849), and Hill 82 (AT 807849).

B. A. MC DERMOTT  
1stLt Co. D

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: Concur with the patrol leader's recommendation that H&I fires be considered in the areas indicated in paragraph #10.

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 111000H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 1-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series I-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (17) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct an area reconnaissance of BAOR #5 to determine the extent of enemy activity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 091800H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 111000H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 469-65
6. OBSERVATIONS OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

No physical or visual contact made.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) During the patrol's daylight observation point from (AT 889048) of the valley in grid squares (AT 8565), (AT 8665), (AT 8765), (AT 8865), and (AT 8965). No observation of VC or VN activity was noted throughout the day or night. The patrol leader believes the inactivity in that area is highly unusual, since this valley has an abundance of grazing land for cattle.

(2) 091600H (AT 928653). As the patrol was proceeding in a Westerly direction from hill 41. (AT 934664), women and children that were previously tending chat, disregarded their work and congregated at the above coordinates to observe the patrol's movement. The patrol leader suspected possible contact after observing the interest the inhabitants were showing. No men or small boys were with the women at that time. No contact with the enemy was made.

(3) At 100730H, estimated to be in grid square (AT 8068), a white object, believed to be a parachute was detected on top of the rain forest canopy in the Southeastern base of the BA NA Complex.

(4) Communications throughout the patrol's area of operation was excellent. One battery was in continuous use for a period of 40 hours.

(5) The trail networks which were used were free of booby traps, trail markers, panji stakes and traps.

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5-3

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 111000H November 1965

PATROL REPORTDESIGNATION OF PATROL: **Scat 2-Delta**

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (18) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN

2. MISSION: Conduct an area reconnaissance of RAOR #5.

3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 111800H - November 1965

4. TIME OF RETURN: 110930H - November 1965

5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 470-65

6. OBSERVATION:

No physical or visual contact.

7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 131600H, the patrol heard 2 loud distinct elephant trumpets from the Southeast side of hill mass 995 in grid square. (AT 8569)

(2) The trail the patrol utilized for movement to their observation post was overgrown with vegetation, and free of booby traps. No trail markers were evident.

(3) The rice paddy complexes in the area of observation were unattended and overgrown.

(4) The village of CAO SUNG #4 (AT 857688) is uninhabited at this time.

(5) Communications with the AN/PRC 25 was excellent. One battery was in continuous use for 70 hours.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.

9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: GOOD.

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.

C. H. SCROFONO  
 1st Lt. Co. D

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

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 161800H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 3-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (13) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct an area Reconnaissance of RAOR #6 to determine the extent of VC activity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 121800H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 150940H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 471-65
6. OBSERVATIONS OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
140755H	(AT 937644)	10 armed VC were moving in a Southwesterly direction

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 140755H (AT 937644). 10 VC were observed moving in a Southwesterly direction in a file formation on an azimuth of 220 degrees. Five men wore black trousers and shirts and the others were wearing black trousers with white shirts. All the VC wore straw hats and were armed with non-descript weapons.

(2) Communications with the AN/PRC 10 was considered good.

(3) The trail complex used by the patrol was free of booby traps. No trail markers were noted.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: GOOD.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Conclusion: That the observation post established at (AT 902628) afforded excellent observation of the SONG VU GIA Basin.

B. A. W. DERMOTT  
 1st Lt. Co. D

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

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 111830H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 3-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off, (15) Em1, (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct an area reconnaissance in grid squares (AT 8761), (AT 8762) and (AT 8662) to determine a casualty assessment on the VC conducted by ~~air~~, and artillery.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 111005H November
4. TIME OF RETURN: 111800H November
5. ROUTE: N/A
6. OBSERVATIONS OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 111230H (AT 871615) as the patrol proceeded towards Hill 419, they found a propaganda leaflet at these coordinates. The leaflet was one of our USMC "surrender" leaflets to the VC. The patrol deployed into two squads and physically reconnoitered the Southern slopes of Hill 419 where approximately 50 craters had previously been observed. No human fragments were found, only metal fragments from ordnance was detected. One piece of a rubberized garment, approximately 1 inch square, and blue in color, was found in one of the craters.

(2) At 111530H (AT 862624) ten to fifteen matted down areas were located with negative evidence of possible enemy usage.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Conclusion: That the hill mass of Hill 419 affords excellent observation of the SONG VU GIA Basin, and possible enemy activity towards the East and the South.

B. A. MC DERMOTT  
 1stLt Co. D

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

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 DAHANG, RVN  
 161100H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Seat 1-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (17) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct an area reconnaissance of RAOR #5 to determine extent of VC activity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 141800H - November
4. TIME OF RETURN: 161000H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 472-65
6. OBSERVATIONS OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 151400H (AT 872665). One man with dark clothing appeared in front of a large rock formation for approximately 2 seconds and then disappeared from view. This incident was observed from (AT 842641) where the patrol had established an observation post. No weapon or equipment were discernable.

(2) From the patrol's observation post (AT 842641) there were no sightings of enemy or friendly activity in the Mortar Valley complex from grid squares (AT 8565) to (AT 8965).

(3) At 151800H (AT 858654). A trail marker, blue in color, and approximately 2 feet square made of plastic was found imbedded on the side of a bank. A sample was recovered.

(4) Communications utilizing the AN/PRC 25 was excellent. One battery was in continuous use for a period of 42 hours.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: GOOD.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: That the blue trailmarker 2 feet by 3 feet square found in the stream at (AT 858654), was similar to the ones noted on operation "Trailblazer". The stream itself is

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1 to 3 feet deep, sandy bottom and an excellent, easily identified, avenue of approach into the hill 41 complex, and probably links into the trail used in operation trailblazer as another route to the Camp Complex destroyed at (AT 836656) on 18 to 25 October 1965.

C. J. DEL GROSSO  
1st Lt. Co. D

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: Concur with the patrol leaders conclusion.

ENCLOSURE ~~2~~

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 040930H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: SHUCKLE 2

MAPS: Sheet 6659 III, AMS Series L-701, 1:50,000

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (13) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct undetected reconnaissance and surveillance within RAOR 2.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 311900H - October 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 040900H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 5-65
6. OBSERVATIONS:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
011300H	(AT 923902)	5 Thatched huts.
020900H	(AT 931899)	5 Thatched huts.
010900H	(AT 929891)	Heard firing from this Vicinity.
011400H	(AT 922890)	Found 5 cleared out areas.
021600H	(AT 908891)	Saw 3 wood cutters.
040630H	(AT 918878)	Checked out cave.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 011300H (AT 923902). Found 5 thatched huts. There were no people in the area. Evidence of the huts being utilized was apparent, as the huts contained rice bowls, lamps, axes and beetle nuts.

(2) At 020900H (AT 931899). Found 5 thatched huts. From rice bowls, lamps and utensils found, it was determined that they had been used recently.

(3) At 020900H. Two shots were heard from vicinity (AT 929891). Approximately 1/2 hour later, 2 more shots were heard. Upon checking with the Marine assigned a lookout position (AT 928899), (he thought the shots were perhaps at him). a 2 man ambush was set up with negative results.

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(4) At 011400H (AT 922890). Found 5 cleared out areas approximately 10-15 feet in diameter. Two of the areas contained remnants of cooking fires.

(5) At 021600H (AT 908891). 3 wood cutters were sighted wearing black clothing.

(6) At 040630H (AT 918878). Checked out a cave that had been sighted from an OP position previously. The cave was approximately 6 feet high and 12 feet deep. From all appearances it was man made. The cave was hard to enter, as the entrance is located on a stream bank, and the stream had a water level of approximately 4 feet. Inside the cave grass was growing on the floor, and it appeared that it had not been recently used.

(7) MAP CORRECTIONS: See Overlay

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: GOOD.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Conclusion: That the area covered is primarily used by wood cutters. The trails noted were in a good enough condition to permit movement of large bodies of troops at a rapid rate of march.

J. C. LENKER  
1st Lt. Force Recon.

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER:

Of significance was the fact that there were no sightings of armed VC in the area covered. It appears that there is no foot traffic towards HOA VAN. The trail nets in the area from all indications are used sporadically by the VC as an egress route into the hinterland after an attack.

ENCLOSURE (17)

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89  
91 +

*h*

*h*

+ 89  
94

ENCLOSURE (19)

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 DANANG, RVN  
 041010H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: CHUCKLE - 1

MAPS: Vietnam 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III, 6659 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (12) Enl
2. MISSION: Provide observations and surveillance of area Bravo.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 3101930H - October 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 041000H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 5-65
6. OBSERVATIONS: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) Friendly and enemy activity throughout the patrol area of operation was negative.

(2) The teams deployed to cover, and reconnoiter the trail networks in their area of operation resulted in negative sightings. The trails were considered infrequently used because of the overgrowth along its axis. One trail was found used recently. Refer to overlay. Roads, once used for logging purposes, were old and deep ruts were numerous. These roads were approximately 10 feet wide in some areas. Refer to overlay. Booby traps were not encountered on the road and trail complexes. Numerous trail markers were found in the vicinity of grid square (AT 9188) refer to sketches. From approximately the 650 meter contour interval the rain forest canopy is approximately 80 feet high.

(3) Communications throughout the area of operation with the AN/PRC 25 was considered excellent.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: None
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: GOOD.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

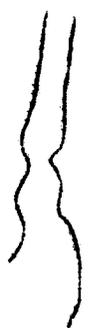
Conclusion: That helo evacuation and helo-lifted Reaction Force. Above the 600 meter contour-line, the canopy is too high and heavy as to preclude helicopter use. Patrol planners, in such areas, should not plan on being able to utilize these two items.

R. F. PARKER  
 1st Lt. 1st Force Recon

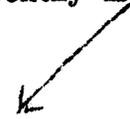
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

ENCLOSURE (3)

(1) [redacted] cutters or logging road, [redacted] feet wide and deeply rutted.



(2) Well traveled and recently used.

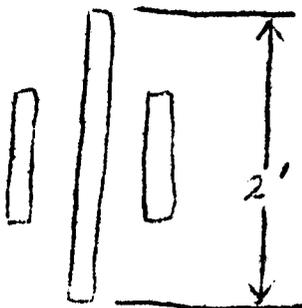


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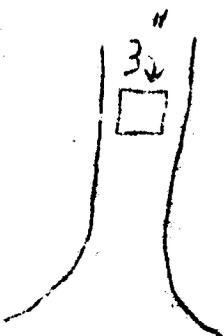
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92

ENCLOSURE (5)

TRAIL MARKERS.



Saplings embeded in the center  
of the trail (AT 913881)



Cut out rectangular notches were engraved  
on trees along the trails. Some contained  
non discript markings.

ENCLOSURE (80)

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5-3

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 DA NANG, RVN  
 081030H Nov 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: CHUCKLE - 3

MAPS: Vietnam 1:50,000, AMS; Series L-701, Sheet 6659 III

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (13) Enl
2. MISSION: Conduct ground reconnaissance surveillance in area Z of the DA NANG RAOR.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 041700H Nov
4. TIME OF RETURN: 080835H Nov
5. ROUTE: Refer to OPORD 6-65
6. OBSERVATIONS - ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
041600H	(AT 898857)	Discovered a stream not indicated on the map.
051400H	(AT 868863)	Sighted 1 man working rice paddy.
061030H	(AT 885826)	Sighted 20 VN gathering on road.
061030H to 061100H	(AT 8881) (AT 8983) (AT 8982) (AT 9083)	Heavy boat traffic on river.
061130H	(AT 9081)	Heard firing.
061130H	(AT 913824)	Sighted 4 men crossing stream.
061130H	(AT 914827)	Sighted 1 boat proceeding west on river.
061200H	(AT 914827)	Sighted 1 boat proceeding west on river.
061200H	(AT 886866)	Discovered small stream not indicated on map.
061300H	(AT 919826)	Sighted 6 men crossing stream.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ENCLOSURE (2) 21

C O N F I D E N T I A L

061300H	GRID SQUARE (AT 9082)	Sighted 10 men appearing to be working fields.
080800H	GRID SQUARES (AT 9084) (AT 9184) (AT 9284)	Sighted 100 people working fields.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

- (1) At 040200H (AT 897862) the patrol observed several and heard numerous chickens in the area. They were small, and brown in color.
- (2) At 041600H (AT 898857) the patrol discovered a stream not indicated on the map. The stream was approximately 2 feet wide with a depth of about 8 inches. The water ran rapidly, and was very clear.
- (3) At 050700H (AT 898862) the patrol again sighted numerous chickens of the same description as those referred to in #1.
- (4) At 051400H (AT 868863) the patrol sighted 1 man working in a rice paddy. He wore white clothing and a white hat. His presence in the area caused the patrol leader to be suspicious of him, as the village in that vicinity (HOI-AN) was deserted. Also noted was the fact that the rice fields in this vicinity have reached the stage of full growth and appear to be ready for harvest.
- (5) At 061030H (AT 885826) the patrol sighted 20 VN gathering into a large group on the road. After they had assembled, they broke up into groups of two's and three's and proceeded East along the road with approximately a 1000 meter interval between the groups. It was also noted that they walked strictly on the left side of the road.
- (6) At 061030H to 061100H in grid squares (AT 8882), (AT 8983), (AT 8982) and (AT 9083) heavy traffic was observed on the river proceeding West. The distance from which being observed, prevented determining the type and size of boats, and whether they were carrying men and/or equipment.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ENCLOSURE 21

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- (7) At 061130H in grid square (AT 9081) the patrol heard a large volume of steady firing which lasted for 20 minutes. Weapons included were automatic weapons, rifles, mortars, and possibly 1 light artillery piece which seemed to be firing at a rapid rate. At 061150H the firing ceased from a steady rate to only sporadic firing for approximately 1 hour, then ceased altogether.
- (8) At 061130H (AT 913824) 4 men were sighted crossing a stream. Rather than crossing altogether, they would cross one at a time, and after approximately 5 minutes, another would cross. This pattern continued until all 4 men had completed the crossing and they then disappeared at (AT 914826). All 4 men were dressed in black PJ's with no hats. No weapons were noted.
- (9) At 061130H and 061200H (AT 914827) A boat was observed pulling away from the bank and heading West on the river. Contents of the boats could not be determined.
- (10) At 061200H (AT 886866) A small stream not indicated on the map was discovered. The water was clear and ran rapidly. Comment: Other than the 2 streams mentioned in this report, the patrol could find no water to the left of North-South grid line 88, within the boundaries of their patrol route. (Refer to OPOrD).
- (11) At 061300H (AT 919826) The patrol observed 2 groups of 3 men each crossing the river in what at first look like they were swimming in a column. However, when they reached the bank, it was discovered that, rather than swimming, they were in actuality riding atop water buffaloes. Having crossed the stream, they began to work the fields in grid square (AT 9182). Distance prevented determining their uniforms or equipment.
- (12) At 061300H in grid square (AT 9082) 10 men were observed appearing to work in the fields. Distance prevented determining uniform and equipment, other than the fact that some wore white hats.
- (13) At 071400H (AT 901872) Chickens were noted roosting. They were of the same description as those in #1.

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ENCLOSURE (20)

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(14) At 071400H (AT 901872) An unexploded 8 inch Howitzer shell was found. This area had been the target of an extensive artillery bombardment, as numerous shell craters (4-5 feet in diameter, and 1½ feet deep), and the trees and brush were badly torn. It was noted that the unexploded shell did not contain a fuze.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact was made with the enemy.

9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good

(1), Officer was evacuated at 050830H, as a result of an eye injury suffered several hours before.

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None

GySgt LONG  
3d Plt, 1st FORCE RECON

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None

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ENCLOSURE 21

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 DA NANG, RVN  
 130930H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: CHUCKLE-2

MAPS: Viet Nam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III Series L701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off. (12) Enl. (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct a surveillance of RAOR #1 to determine the nature of VC activity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 091900H Nov 65
4. TIME OF RETURN: 130750H Nov 65
5. ROUTE (SHOW ON OVERLAY): Refer to Opn Order 7-65
6. OBSERVATIONS - ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 101400H (AT 885870) the patrol located a shelter which measured 7' X 5' X 4'. The shelter was constructed with logs, and had been recently destroyed. The shelter had been built adjacent to a stream bed at (AT 884869). Downstream a second shelter was located intact. This shelter measured 7' X 5' X 4'. It appeared this shelter had not been used for a period of time. No material or equipment was found. Refer to sketch.

(2) 101845H (AT 879874) a small cave was located on a bank near a stream bed. The cave's entrance was approximately 8' wide and the exterior extended back 5'. Its entrance, was partially concealed by a rock piling 4' high. The interior of the cave did not contain any evidence of recent use. Refer to sketch.

(3) 110845H (AT 876863) 3 members of the patrol were evacuated by helo to C and C for minor skin irritation which caused swelling of the face. The rash and swelling of the effected areas are very similar to those of persons with Poison Ivy.

(4) At 111500H (AT 876888), as the patrol was moving along a creek bed, they located a wooden fish or smoke rack. It appeared that this rack had recently been built, but not recently used. Nothing unusual was detected in its general vicinity. Refer to sketch.

(5) At 111600H (AT 879891) a jet drone, black in color and intact was located near a stream bed. Two trees had been felled to conceal its location from the air. Components of the drone had been removed and were found in the stream. Indications are that persons had att-

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empted to dismantle the aircraft. Condition of the fuselage and wing assembly were in good condition. Electronic components were dismantled by the patrol and were helo evacuated to the Air Force Operations Center. On request from the Air Force, the drone was destroyed by demolitions at 121230H.

(6) At 121240H (AT 879891), as the patrol was being extracted by helo, the use of a sling was required. The number two man was approximately 40' above the ground when the helo was blown off course by a gust of wind while hovering. This caused the man to become wedged in a tree while the winch continued to ascend. This caused the man to become dislodged from the sling, and fall to the ground inflicting serious bodily injury and head damage. The injured Marine was immediately evacuated to C and C. His condition was critical.

(7) At 121700H (AT 879874) a small cave was located near a stream bed. Located inside the cave was a metal container, which at one time was possibly a large oil can. The metal object was 5" square. Also found was a piece of dark green plastic, a yard square, and numerous banana leaves. The cave had not been recently used.

(8) Communications with the AN/PRC-25 was excellent. One battery was in continuous use for 80 hours.

(9) Map Corrections: A trail not shown on the map was utilized by the patrol. Refer to map correction overlay.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.

9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED:

Four men were helo evacuated, one of which was critically injured, to C and C.

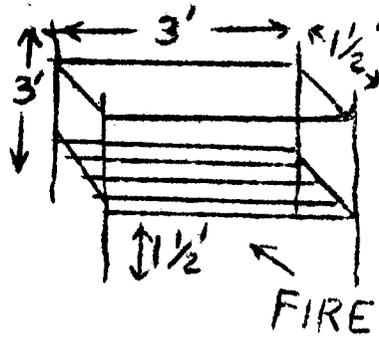
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: That the long range patrol rations were excellent.

J. C. LINKER  
1stLt 1st Force Recon Co

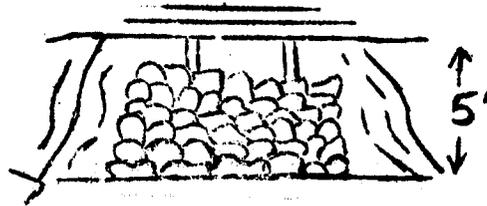
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None

ENCLOSURE 22

(AT 876888)  
FISH RACK-  
TRAIL-NE.



(AT 879874)  
CAVE - SLANTED BACK.  
ROCKS PILED IN  
FRONT.



(AT 879874)  
CAVE MADE BY BOULDERS.  
FOLDED METAL AND  
WATERPROOFING PLASTIC  
WITH BANANA LEAVES.



ENCLOSURE 22

ENCLOSURE 22

88 + 97

TRAIL



+ 86  
90

MAP CORRECTION  
SHEET NO. 6359III  
SER. L-701

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 DANANG, RVN  
 191455H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Chuckle - 3 -

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheets 6659 III, 6659 IV, and 6559 II

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (13) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct an area reconnaissance of RAOR #1 and #2 to determine the extent of VC activity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 141730H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 191330H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 8-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
141000H	(AT 864871)	Discovered rice cache
171230H	(AT 866868)	Observed 1 VC with rifle

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 141000H (AT 864871) the patrol discovered a rice cache stowed in a metal container. It was estimated to contain approximately 250 pounds of rice, which appeared to be fairly fresh. The container was destroyed and the rice scattered.

(2) An old VC Camp site consisting of a cleared area was discovered at 151030H (AT 865878). It was of sufficient size to accommodate an estimated 150 persons. Several fighting holes of varying sizes were noted scattered around the perimeter of the camp site. They were poorly constructed and did not give the appearance that they had been prepared for use in a determined VC defensive stand. It did not appear that the camp site had been used in the past several months.

(3) At 160900H (AT 860873) the patrol discovered a small VC Camp site. It consisted of several areas of matted down grass, which could offer sleeping accommodations for approximately 24 persons. This site appeared to have been in more recent use than the one previously noted- probably within the past month.

(4) At 171230H (AT 866868) the patrol observed 1 VC carrying a non-descript rifle moving North. He was dressed in a gray shirt and trousers with no hat.

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(5) A well defined trail network in excellent condition was discovered along the patrol's route. (Refer to sketch). Generally, the trails were 3 feet in width and covered by a dense jungle canopy ranging from 4 feet to 80 feet in height.

(6) Communications with the AN/PRC 10 was excellent throughout the patrol.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: FAIR. Insufficient rations due to the extending of the patrol resulted in patrol's becoming weak with hunger.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.

1st Lt Suttle  
1st Force Recon Company

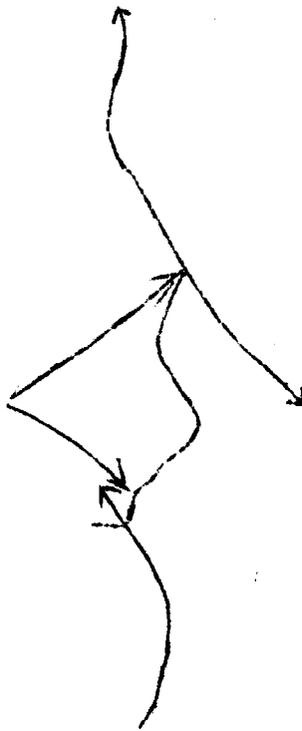
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

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TRAIL NOT INDICATED ON  
STANDARD MAP REFERENCE

83  
90 +

LOGS WERE FENCED  
ACROSS THE TRAIL  
GIVING A STAIR STEP  
EFFECT.



+ 86  
83

ENCLOSURE

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5-3

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 DANANG, RVN  
 191530H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Chuckle - 4

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000; Sheets 6659 III, 6659 IV, and 6559 II

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (13) Ehl (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct an area reconnaissance of RAOR #1 and #2 to determine the extent of VC activity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 141730H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 191400H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 8-65
6. OBSERVATIONS OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made with the enemy.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) The route the patrol followed from 14 through 17 November from (AT 827863) in a North Northwesterly direction to (ZC 205895) was very difficult to negotiate. Vegetation was extremely thick, and trail blazing had to be utilized. This route was virtually void of trails with those discovered being old abandoned "loggers" trails, which were overgrown with dense vegetation.

(2) On 18 and 19 November in grid squares (ZC 1988, 1987, 1986 and 1886) the patrol noted numerous signs of VC activity. Throughout the whole length of the river basin in these grid squares countless small trails were noted running in all directions. Numerous matted down grass areas of adequate size to accommodate 20-30 persons were discovered. Most of the trails contained many fresh footprints; some of which were judged to be only several hours old.

(3) At 181200H (ZC 197870) the patrol discovered a ford constructed of rocks and dirt. It was 3 feet wide and stretched for approximately 30 feet across the stream. Within a radius of 200 meters from this point, 3 small VC Camp sites were found, which appeared to be a part of a larger camp centered at the ford at (ZC 197870). Each of these smaller camp sites could accommodate from 20 to 30 persons. Several frames for what appeared to be individual shelters were constructed of 2 poles 5½ feet long supported by 2 shorter poles of about 3 feet needing only to have a poncho thrown over it to complete the shelter. (Refer to sketch)

ENCLOSURE 24

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(4) Frequent sightings of a trail marker was noted in these grid squares. (Refer to sketch). Their meaning could not be determined.

(5) At varying intervals along the stream basin/trail complex occasional sightings of elephant dung were noted.

(6) It was also noted that the wildlife (particularly birds and wild boar) was not disturbed by the patrol's presence in the area of grid squares (ZC 1988, 1987, 1986, and 1886). In fact at times they would meander in and around the patrol members. This could possibly be indicative of the fact that they are accustomed to the presence of humans.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact was made.

9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: GOOD.

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Conclusion: That based on previous patrols in this general vicinity, as well as this one, the VC appear to be limiting their activities to below 1200 meter elevation. There is more than adequate cover and concealment at the lower levels, and it provides, generally, for better trafficability.

Recommendation: That an infantry operation be conducted in grid squares (ZC 1988, 1987, 1986, and 1886) in the very near future.

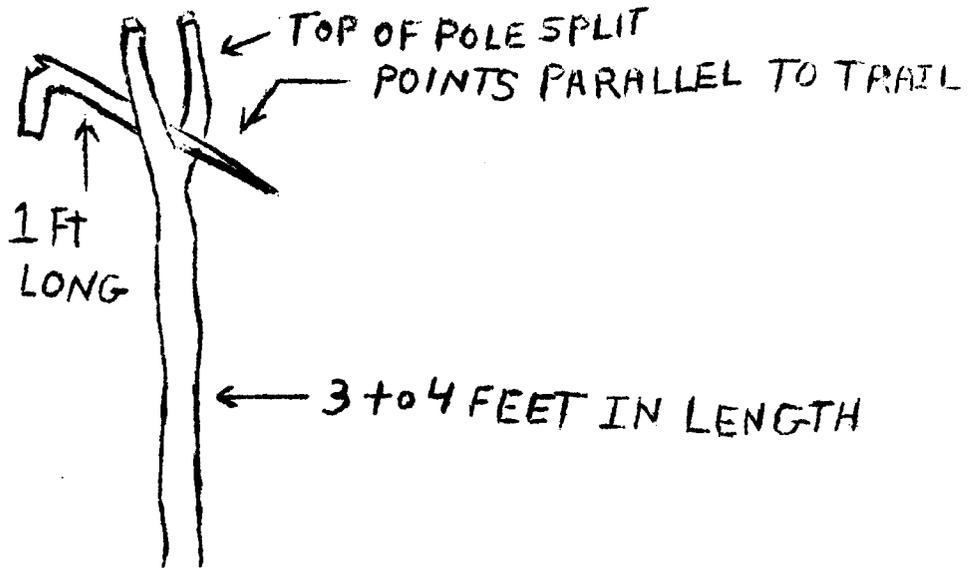
1st Lt. Parker  
1st Force Recon Company

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None

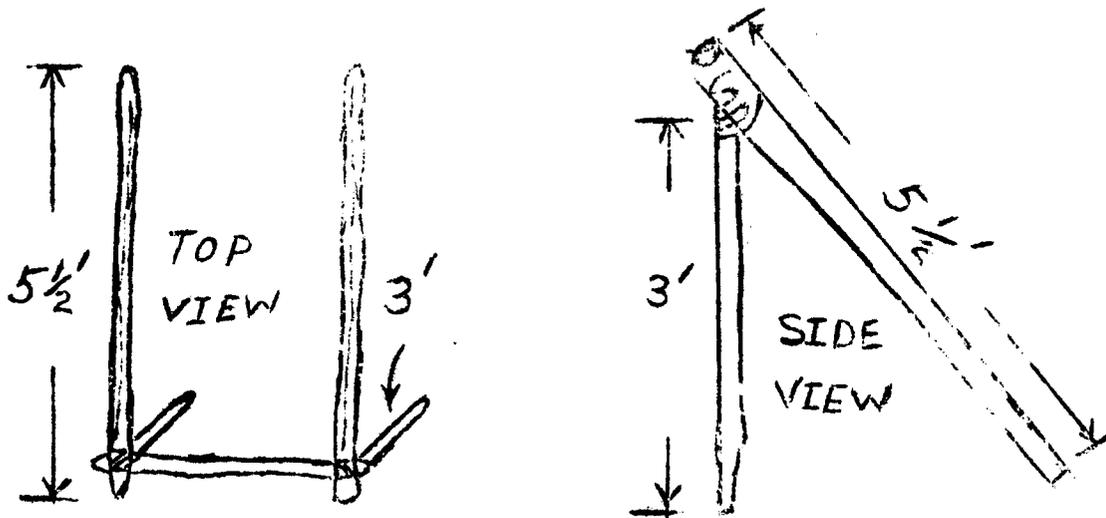
ENCLOSURE 24

(1) -

# TRAIL MARKER - CONSTRUCTED OF SAPLINGS



## (2) INDIVIDUAL SHELTER FRAME WORK



ENCLOSURE 24

C O N F I D E N T I A L

5-3

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DANANG, RVN  
141235H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Chuckle - 1

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (13) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct ground reconnaissance/surveillance of objective area RAOR #1 and #2.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 091830H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 140915H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 7-65
6. OBSERVATIONS: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) 111420H (AT 856853). 4 VN were observed heading South towards the road carrying bundles of rice stalks. They were wearing black trousers and shirts and straw hats. No unusual occurrences were noted.
  - (2) The trail complexes utilized by the patrol appeared to be infrequently used. The width of the trails were generally 3 feet wide. No evidence of booby traps or trail markers were noted.
  - (3) The trails were generally infested with land leeches.
  - (4) Communications with the AN/PRC 25 was considered excellent. The battery was in continuous use for approximately 90 hours.
  - (5) Map Corrections: Two trails were used that are not presently shown on the map. Refer to trail overlay.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: GOOD.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Conclusion: That the AN/PRC 25 be used by all future patrols due to its excellent performance and long duration of its battery.

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

D. L. GRANNIS  
1st Lt. 1st Force Recon. Co.

**ENCLOSURE**C O N F I D E N T I A L

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 3d Reconnaissance Battalion  
 DANANG, RVN  
 231100H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Chuckle-#2

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000. Sheet No. 6659 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (13) Em1 (1) USN

2. MISSION: Conduct an area reconnaissance of RACR #2

3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 191900H Nov

4. TIME OF RETURN: 221200H Nov

5. ROUTE: Refer to OPORD 9-65

6. OBSERVATIONS:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
201530H	(AT 874874)	Observed 2 armed VC
210730H	(AT 874874)	Observed 15 to 20 VC setting under a shelter

7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 201530H, as the patrol was proceeding in a Southwesterly direction, the point of the patrol heard a voice approximately 100 meters to his front. On further investigation two VC, one armed with a Carbine, and the other a Sub Thompson, wearing black trousers and shirts were observed moving away from the direction of the patrol towards the Southwest. In the general vicinity movement and other noises were heard. The patrol pulled back and then requested a fire mission on the VC position. No damage assessment could be made at this time.

(2) At 210730H (AT 874874) the patrol attempted to make a damage assessment from the previous artillery fire. On reaching the location, voices were heard and an estimated 15 to 20 VC were observed taking shelter from the rain under a blue canvas. They wore black clothing, but no weapons were noted. The patrol then withdrew to (AT 875866) and requested artillery on the known VC position. A secondary explosion and screams were heard during the barrage. A damage assessment was not made.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

At 221156H (AT 868863) the patrol was extracted by LVT's and then proceeded East down the SONG CA DE'. One LVT had sustained engine failure and was being towed by the lead LVT. Just prior to reaching the NAM-O bridge where the patrol was left off the tow line broke and one LVT drifted out to the ocean.

Communication with the AN/PRC 25 was excellent.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: Visual contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED:  
Fair.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None

J. C. LENKER  
1stLt 1st Force Recon Co

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None

C O N F I D E N T I A LENCLOSURE 

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543

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DANANG, RVN  
261115H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Chuckle #4

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (11) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct an area reconnaissance and surveillance of RAOR #2.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 221900H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 261100H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 10-65
6. OBSERVATIONS OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
250800H	(AT 852865)	6 VC were cooking in a small village.
250900H	(AT 852865)	People were noted returning to the huts.
251000H	(AT 852865)	Voices were heard from the village.
251607H	(AT 848858)	2 VC were moving South towards NAM YEN:
251618H	(AT 851866)	3 VCS were moving East across the rice paddies.
251635H	(AT 857863)	1 artillery round hit a hut and a secondary explosion was heard.
251726H	(AT 852865)	1 VCS was moving South across the rice paddies.
260645H	(AT 852865)	11 people were moving towards the village.
260730H	(AT 852865)	4 dead VC were located near a shallow grave.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

At 250800H, 6 VC were observed cooking in a small village at (AT 852865). One man was noted carrying a rifle. An artillery fire mission was directed on the hut complex. After several rounds hit the target area, screams and yelling were heard. 2 people were noted running away from the impact area towards the North.

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At 250900H, after the artillery had ceased fire, people were noted returning towards the village. A damage assessment could not be made at this time without compromising the patrols location. A repeat fire mission was delivered on the same target. No casualties were noted.

At 251000H, voices were heard from the vicinity of the village at (AT 852865). One person was observed moving through and around some huts.

251607H, 2 VC wearing khaki clothing were sighted moving towards the South across the rice paddies towards the village of NAM YEN in grid squares (AT 8485), and (AT 8585). One VC was armed with a rifle, and the other was hand carrying 2 ammunition boxes.

At 251618H, 3 VCS were observed moving in an Easterly direction wearing non descript clothing and carrying packs at (AT 851866). No weapons were noted.

At 251635H, the patrol leader had previously requested H & I fires on the village complex at (AT 857863). The request had been granted and a round was on the way when 4 armed VC were observed entering a hut. The one round delivered was a direct hit on the hut they had entered seconds before. A few seconds after the initial round had detonated, a large secondary explosion was heard.

At 251726H, One VCS was observed moving South across the rice paddies at (AT 852865) wearing black shorts and a black poncho. A weapon may have been concealed under the poncho. Nothing unusual was noted about his activity.

At 260645H, the patrol observed a total of 11 people moving in groups of 2 and 3 from the South towards the village at (AT 852865). Due to poor visibility, observation of equipment or weapons could not be determined. At 260705H people were noted in the village at (AT 852865) digging and carrying items out of some huts. An artillery fire mission was requested and delivered on the target. After the initial volley, people were noted running out of the huts towards the North.

At 250730H, the patrol entered the village at (AT 852865) to make a damage assessment previously administered by artillery fire and also conduct a search of the village near the vicinity of a hut. They located a shallow grave which contained 3 mutilated VC bodies. A 4th body was along side the grave. The mutilation had been inflicted by shrapnel from the artillery rounds. The search of one hut uncovered 4 rifles, 4 packs, plus numerous items including food and documents. 3 rifles, and 2 packs were found in another hut 20 meters away. The interior of the 2 huts contained shelters approximately 2 feet wide and 4 feet deep with a 3 foot overhead. The huts were not booby trapped. All weapons, documents and equipment were returned for IFT inspection. It was noted that around the huts trench foot traps 2 feet wide and 3 feet deep had been constructed. No panji traps, or stakes were noted.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: 4 KIA. 4 WIA, resulting from artillery fire.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: FAIR.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommend: That future patrols in the area be conducted on the lower portions of the lowlands and valleys in this area rather than the high ground. That the infantry in the very near future conduct a search and destroy operation in grid squares (AT 8486), (AT 8536), (AT 8485), and (AT 8535).

R. F. PARKER  
1st Lt. 1st Force Recon. Co.

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER:

This portion of the SONG CA DE' continues to be utilized as a logistics and personnel supply net for the Northwestern portion of the DAMING TAOR.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

S-3

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 DANANG, RVN  
 261100H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Chuckle - #3

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet 6699 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (12) Eal (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct a reconnaissance of RZ #2
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 221830H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 261000H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 11-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
250700H	(AT 871869)	Ambushed 3 VC.
250930H	(AT 861871)	Old VC Camp site.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 250700H (AT 871869) just prior to the patrol departing their night ambush site, 3 VC were ambushed as they entered the clearing the patrol occupied. They emerged from the bush dragging a barrel filled with broken bottles of assorted sizes. The patrol opened fire from a range of approximately 5 meters resulting in 1 VC KIA and 2 possible WIA's. The KIA was wearing a blue uniform, blue rain hat and rubber tire sandals. He had a cartridge belt with 1 Chicom grenade attached. Another Chicom grenade was found tied to the drum the VC had been dragging. The 2 suspected WIA's were observed to fall in the brush under the initial firing, but a thorough search of the area proved negative. It was noted though that there were many patches of blood on the bivouac and the ground in the vicinity where they went down. None of the 3 VC were carrying rifles. The uniform the KIA was wearing was clean and in good condition, and he had recently had a haircut-probably within the past 48 hours.

(2) At 250930H (AT 860873) the patrol re-entered a VC Camp site they had searched in a previous patrol. (Refer to para. 7.(3) of Chuckle-3 Patrol Report dated 191455H November 1965). The camp appeared to have been used recently. This was determined by the many footprints found in the area not yet washed away by the rain.

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(3) Grid squares (AT 8686), (AT 8786) and (AT 8685) are badly overgrown with bush in those portions shown as rice paddies on the standard map reference however, these areas are considered to be suitable for NLE's.

(4) 2 main trails were found with numerous smaller trails leading off of them. Many freshly made footprints were found on the trails.  
(Refer to overlay)

(5) The stream extending Northeastly from the SONG CA DE' in grid square (AT 8685) has become swollen with the monsoon season. The water is in excess of 6 feet in depth, and the current extremely strong. It is necessary to use a line to cross the stream.

(6) Communications with the AN/PRC 10 was good. 1 battery was in continuous use for 48 hours.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: 1 VC KIA confirmed; 2 VC WIA possible.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: GOOD.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.

W. G. SUTTLE  
1st Lt. 1st Force Recon. Co.

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER:

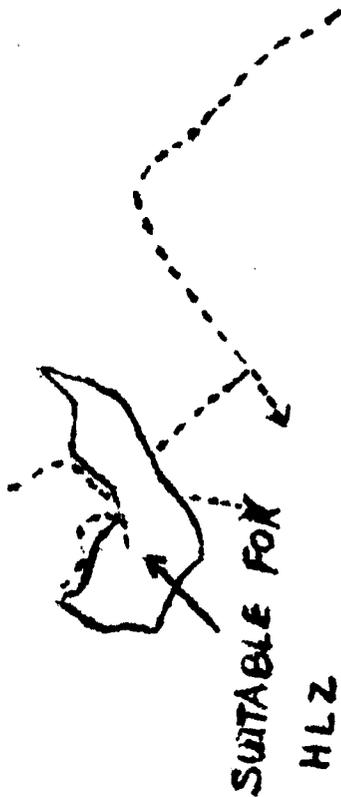
This position of the SONG CA DE' continues to be utilized as a logistics and personnel supply net for the Northwest portion of the DANANG TAOR.

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ENCLOSURE

85  
+  
88



+  
83  
92

8-3

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 DANANG, RVN  
 011035H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Chuckle #1

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (11) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct an area Reconnaissance and surveillance of RZ #2
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 270200H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 010945H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 11-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
280945H (AT 856849)		15 people moving Northwest along Route #14.
281010H (AT 856857)		2 men moving South carrying pole with box suspended on it.
281220H (AT 856857)		2 men moving Southwest with bundles containing green vegetation.
281243H (AT 856847)		3 people moving Southeast along Route #14.
281320H (AT 856847)		3 people (women ?) moving Southeast along Route #14.
281405H (AT 856847)		6 people moving Southeast along Route #14.
281427H (AT 856847)		4 people moving Southeast along Route #14.
281500H (AT 853850)		3 men moving West along Route #14.
281610H (AT 856857)		3 men moving South into village area.
290910H (AT 857848)		16 people moving Southeast from vicinity (AT 855853).
291145H (AT 855853)		22 people moving in a column formation through village.
300920H (AT 845853)		16 people moving into vicinity (AT 845853).
300935H (AT 854854)		1 man crossed river moving North in a round boat.

ENCLOSURE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

301050H (AT 850864) 4 men moving Northwest along trail.  
 301225H (AT 854854) 1 man crossed river moving South in same boat.  
 301235- (AT 856847) 15 people moving from village area Southeast along  
 301405H Route #14.  
 301845H (AT 850864) 3 men wearing black PJ's moving East along trail.  
 270940H (AT 888861) Patrol found one charger M-14 ammo.  
 291100H (AT 857865) Patrol found one charger M-14 ammo.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 280945H 15 people were moving Northwest along Route #14 at (AT 856849), wearing straw hats, black shirts, and trousers. No unusual occurrences were noted.

(2) At 281010H 2 men were observed moving in a Southerly direction at (AT 856857) carrying a box suspended on a pole. Visual contact was lost when they entered the village of NAM-YEN.

(3) At 281220H 2 men were observed exiting the village of NAM-YEN in a Southerwesterly direction at (AT 856857), wearing black clothing and carrying bundles of undetermined vegetation.

(4) At 281243H 3 people were moving towards the Southwest along Route #14 at (AT 856847), wearing black clothing and carrying poles with baskets suspended from both ends. Contents in the baskets could not be determined.

(5) At 281320H 3 people were moving Southwest along Route #14 at (AT 856847) wearing black shirts and trousers and carrying poles with baskets suspended from either end. It appeared these people may have been women. Contents in the basket could not be determined.

(6) At 281405H 6 people were observed moving in Southeasterly direction on Route #14 at (AT 856847) wearing black clothing and carrying poles with baskets suspended from either end. Contents in the baskets could not be determined.

(7) At 281427H 4 people were moving towards the Southeast on Route #14 at (AT 856847) wearing black shirts and trousers, and carrying poles with baskets suspended from either end. Contents in the baskets could not be determined.

(8) At 281500H 3 men were observed moving West along Route #14 at (AT 853850) wearing black shirts and trousers, and carrying packs. It was noted they maintained several yards interval while in route.

ENCLOSURE

C O N F I D E N T I A L

CONFIDENTIAL

- (9) At 281610H 3 men were observed moving in a Southerly direction towards the village of NAM-YEN. 2 men wore black clothing and were armed with non descript weapons. The other man wore khaki clothing and carried a pack.
- (10) At 290910H 26 people, which appeared to be women, were observed moving Northeast towards the village at (AT 855853). They wore black clothing and carried long poles. Visual contact was lost when they entered the village at (AT 855853).
- (11) At 291145H 16 people were noted moving towards the Southeast at (AT 855853) wearing black shirts and trousers, and carrying poles with baskets suspended from either end.
- (12) At 291345H 22 people in a column formation were observed moving in a Northeasterly direction at (AT 847856) wearing black shirts and trousers. No unusual occurances were noted.
- (13) At 300920H 16 people were observed moving in a Westerly direction on Route #14 at (AT 845853) wearing clothing and some carrying long poles to transport equipment.
- (14) At 300935H 1 man was observed crossing the SONG GA DE' River from North to South in a small basket boat at (AT 854854) wearing a green poncho. He beached the boat on the South bank and proceeded into the brush carrying a small basket.
- (15) At 301050H the patrol observed 4 men carrying weapons and packs moving towards the Northwest. They wore black clothing and the weapons appeared to be Chipom carbines.
- (16) At 131225H 1 man was observed crossing the SONG CA DE' from South to North at (AT 854854) wearing a black shirt and trousers and carrying a pack. He beached his basket boat on the North bank.
- (17) At 301235H 15 people were observed moving towards the Southeast from the village at (AT 858855) and (AT 856847). They wore black clothing and 12 of the people were carrying poles with baskets suspended from either end.
- (18) At 301845H 3 men were moving East along a trail at (AT 850864) wearing black shirts and trousers and moving very rapidly. No weapons or equipment were noted.
- (19) At 270940H (AT 888861) the patrol found one charger of M-14 ammunition.
- (20) At 291100H (AT 857865) the patrol found one charger of M-14 ammunition.

ENCLOSURE CONFIDENTIAL

C O N F I D E N T I A L

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: None.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED:  
Excellent.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: PRC 25 provided outstanding communications until last 8 hours of patrol and then failed. Battery life; 98 hours. Technical malfunctions; None.

D. I. GRANNIS  
1st Lt. Force Recon.

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

ENCLOSURE (2)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

RECON GROUP ALFA  
 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Force  
 c/o FPO, San Francisco, 96601

3/JRG/rjm  
 3 Nov 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 Subj: Patrol Report, Operation Lien Ket (10), 29-31 October 1965  
 Ref: (a) DivG 3480.1  
 (b) 2nd Bn., 4th Marines COMREP 20-65 dtd 26 Oct 65  
 (c) Map: Vietnam, 1:50,000 Tri Binh 6757 III, Series L701  
 Encl: (1) Operations Overlay

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted.
2. Units participating in Operation Lien Ket (10):

Co B (Rein), 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion

3. a. General Review of Significant Events. Co B had the mission of establishing pre D-Day observation and post D-Day observation and blocking positions in support of Operation Lien Ket (10) involving 2nd Bn., 4th Marines and an ARVN Bn. vicinity Phuoc Khach BT 3705. One platoon (2nd Plt, Co B) and two squads (1st Sqd, 3rd Plt, and 2nd Sqd, 3rd Plt, Co B) were helilifted into the operational area about 291100H and OP's were established as shown in Enclosure (1) (Operations Overlay). 1st Plt, Co B landed at 290730H and blocking positions were established prior to the commencement of Lien Ket (10) at 290800H.

Co B was detached 301600H upon termination of the operation. Co B (-) began patrolling east and southeast and reentered friendly lines at 311800H. One squad patrolled northwest from Hill 410 (BT 3803) and was recovered by helicopter at 311430H.

During the operation no enemy sightings were made and no contacts were made. The following is a chronological listing of significant events:

- (1) 2nd Squad, 3rd Platoon, Co B (CONDOR)
  - 280945H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter.
  - 281030H. Landed BT 389034.
  - 281300H. Located 5 recent graves at BT 388035.
  - 281400H. OP's established at BT 389034 in a tree.

ENCLOSURE (3)

291100H. Observed 8-10 people moving east at BT 370073. Could not observe clothing or equipment.

300825H. Heard 3 shots from northwest.

310635H. Secured OP and began patrol.

310800H. Located harbor site at BT 393036 consisting of 6 lean-tos and unset booby traps. Found partially burned papers. Additional harbor sites located at BT 391043, BT 392046 and BT 387048.

311430H. Patrol recovered at BT 381050 by helicopter.

(2) 2nd Platoon, Co B (HAWK)

281105H. Platoon left RLT-4 area by helicopter.

281115H. Landed at BT 404048.

281430H. OP established at BT 387051.

290640H. Established OP/blocking positions at BT 379050 and BT 377056.

300830H. Observed 1 man with 45 water buffalo.

301100H. Platoon joined company at BT 369058.

(3) 1st Squad, 3rd Platoon, Co C (FALCON)

281110H. Departed RLT-4 by helicopter.

281130H. Landed at BT 388070.

281500H. Moved to harbor site at BT 382067.

281600H. Established OP at BT 379064.

290500H. Patrol joined teams at OP and established two OP's at BT 380064 and BT 388064.

301130H. Patrol joined company at BT 371059.

(4) 1st Platoon, Co B (EAGLE)

290645H. Departed MAG-36 by helicopter.

290715H. Landed at BT 364035.

291010H. Established blocking ambush at BT 365048.

292030H. Observed one man wearing jungle hat. Two rounds fired.

(5) Co B (-)

301530H. Company (-) departed BT 372056.

301830H. Company (-) harbored for night at BT 395011.

310630H. Company (-) split into three units at BT 410042 to check areas at BT 416035, BT 413033 and BT 409036.

311200H. FAISON and Company Headquarters moved to BT 408028 to try to make radio contact with CONDOR.

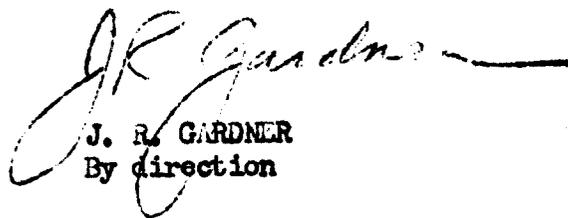
311330H. Company (-) rejoined at BT 414033.

311830H. Company (-) reached friendly position at BT 490037.

311930H. Returned to RIF area by truck.

b. Company Commander's Evaluation of Significant Events. Considerable delay was encountered in inserting teams due to inability of pilots to read maps, and reluctance of pilots to follow directions of enlisted reconnaissance leaders. Team CONDOR was to be landed at BT 388036. The helicopter landed at BT 470000, an error of 20,000 meters. The GySgt. in charge told the pilot of his error, but the pilot refused to believe it unless an officer told him. The helo returned to RIF area to pick up a reconnaissance officer, who subsequently directed the pilot to the correct LZ.

c. Company Commander's Recommendations. Reconnaissance unit leaders direct helicopters over the intercom to preclude landing in wrong LZ's, and that helicopters not land until they have established that they are over the correct position.

  
J. R. GARDNER  
By direction

ENCLOSURE (3)

RECON GROUP ALFA  
 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Force  
 c/o FPO, San Francisco, 96601

3/JRG/rjm  
 5 Nov 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion

Subj: Patrol Report, Operation 3-65, 1-4 November 1965

Ref: (a) DivO 3480.1  
 (b) Recon Group Alfa Frag Order 3-65 dtd 1 Nov 65  
 (c) Map: Vietnam, 1:50,000 Tri Binh 6757 III, Series L701

Encl: (1) Operations Overlay

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted.

2. Units participating in Operation 3-65:

1st Squad, 1st Platoon, Co B (Rein), 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 2nd Squad, 1st Platoon, Co B (Rein), 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 2nd Squad, 2nd Platoon, Co B (Rein), 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 2nd Squad, 3rd Platoon, Co B (Rein), 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion

3. a. General Review of Significant Events. The mission was to maintain observation over avenues of approach into the Chu Lai area. Four squad size OP's were established in grid squares BT 4008, BT 4204, BT 4003 and BT 4300. During the 70 hours the OP's were manned, 54 sightings were made totaling 240 VC. Four artillery missions were fired with excellent effect on targets. The following is a chronological listing of significant events:

(1) 1st Squad, 1st Platoon, Co B (Rein) - STATESIDE

011800H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter.

011830H. Landed at BT 419053.

011845H. Observed numerous new trails and harbor site at BT 422049.

011900H. Harbored for the night at BT 421047.

020630H. Established two OP's at BT 421047.

021000H. 2 men wearing khaki lectured people in rice paddy at BT 435044 for a period of 10-15 minutes.

ENCLOSURE 3/

021800H. 1 man in camouflage seen in treeline observing OP.

021830H. Patrol in camouflage moved towards OP. Artillery mission fired with good effect. Moved to BT 419046 to harbor.

030030H. Observed one man approach defensive perimeter, then move away.

030630H. Established OP at BT 419046.

030930H. 5 men observed moving in column east at BT 431041 wearing pack and bush hat.

031015H. 2 men observed heading east on trail at BT 431041, one wearing pack.

031035H. 2 more men sighted moving to join 2 men previously mentioned.

031045H. 3 more men joined group at BT 429041.

031104H. 1 man came out of woods and hid rifle at BT 424043 and returned to woods.

031120H. 1 man came out of same woods and filled canteen.

031215H. 1 man with pack and rifle moved east to BT 421039.

031250H. 4 men moved west on trail to harbor site at BT 424043.

031305H. Observed 1 woman and 2 men moving east on trail towards BT 424043 with two cartridge belts and 1 pack.

031400H. 1 man moved east on trail at BT 426039 wearing cartridge belt.

041600H. Patrol recovered by helicopter at BT 408030.

(2) 2nd Squad, 1st Platoon, Co B (Rein)- VIKING

011810H. Departed RLT-4 area for LZ at BT 433011.

011845H. Returned to RLT-4 area due to fires at BT 433007.

020700H. Departed RLT-4 HLZ by helicopter.

020715H. Landed in wrong LZ at BT 455011.

020725H. Reboarded helos.

020730H. Landed in correct HLZ at BT 433007.

020730H. Established OP at BT 433006.

020900H. Observed 4 or 5 underground bunkers with wooden entrances at BT 445017.

021229H. Heard 2 rounds of rifle fire at BT 434023.

021245H. Observed 1 man who appeared to be a very large Negro moving from bushes into a hedge at BT 438021.

021430H. 6 men were observed moving in a suspicious manner towards the northwest at BT 429034. They hid whenever aircraft were in the area.

021515H. Observed 7 men headed southwest at BT 446019. A fight broke out between one man in blue and several dressed in black.

031145H. 2 men were observed moving northeast on trail at BT 445016 carrying two rifles.

031200H. 7 more men with rifles followed the previous two.

031713H. Group of 4 men were seen. One was dressed in green and carried rifle at BT 441027.

031750H. 4 men moved northwest at BT 441023, with 1 pack and two weapons.

031815H. 13 men moved southwest at BT 442016. 7 carried rifles and the man in blue who was in the fight at 021515H was with them. Artillery was fired with excellent effect on target.

041255H. 2 men moved east at BT 441014 carrying weapons. Appeared to be from group that the artillery was called on.

041300H. 6 men with rifles moved into Thanh My Trung (2) at BT 4503.

041600H. Patrol recovered by helicopter at BT 433007.

(3) 2nd Squad, 2nd Platoon, Co B (Rein)- SOONER

011800H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter.

011810H. Landed at BT 409028.

011900H. Observed camp fires at BT 437015. Artillery mission called. Observed secondary explosions on fire for effect.

011930H. Established Op at BT 406036.

041600H. Patrol recovered by helicopter at BT 409028.

(4) 2nd Squad, 3rd Platoon, Co B (Rein)- ZOMBIE

011820H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter.

011835H. Landed BT 398090.

011900H. Harbored at BT 403087.

010545H. Established 2 OP's at BT 403087.

021122H. 16 men moving east on trail at BT 405105 in tight column carrying bundles and 1 pack. Entered Tien Xuan (1) hamlet BT 4009.

021300H. Heard 6 rounds of fire from Tien Xuan (1).

021300-1500H. Heard total of 37 rounds of fire from same hamlet.

021540H. 15 men heading east in column BT 4009. One man wearing khaki and another was tied up and blindfolded and being dragged on a rope. All went into Tien Xuan (1).

021555H. Heard 3 rounds of fire from hamlet.

021605H. 7 men in column moved east at BT 415096, passed through Tien Xuan (1).

030800H. 2 men on bicycles moved southwest at BT 402080 carrying rifles.

030710H. 15 men left Tien Xuan (1) headed north on trail at BT 415097. Appeared to be group that entered at 021122H.

030735H. 1 man with pack moved northwest at BT 399104.

030825H. Heard small arms fire and automatic fire that sounded like .50 cal machine gun from Tien Xuan (1). About 50 rounds were fired.

031020H. 15 men with packs and 4 weapons moved across rice paddy at BT 408103. Artillery fired with excellent effect. 1 body observed.

031520H. 8 men with 2 rifles and large white packs moved northeast at BT 402083.

031600H. Lost communications.

030800H. Observed 5 men with weapons moving north at BT 408090.

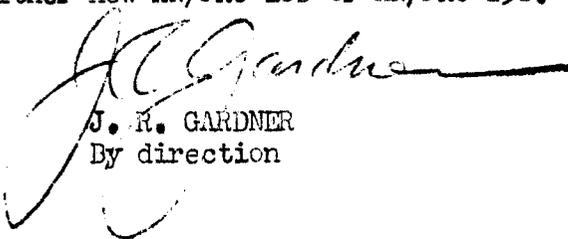
030810H. Recovered by helicopter at BT 404087.

#### 4. Commanders Evaluation of Significant Events

a. Tien Xuan (1) hamlet appears to be a center of VC activity with many people who appear to be local force guerrillas presently assembling there. Test firing of weapons heard from the hamlet indicates preparation for operations in the near future.

b. Large numbers of VC moved out of hills vicinity BT 4400 north into Thanh My Trung (1) BT 4402 and northwest towards Ky Long (2) BT 4302. Black shorts appeared to be standard wearing apparel and 30-40% carried weapons. One man appeared to be a tall, very large Negro. Area vicinity coord BT 444015 appeared to be bunkered harbor area. Additional harbor sites located at BT 423058, BT 424042 and BT 427040.

5. Commander's Recommendations. AN/PRC-10 radios are failing with such frequency that the ability to perform the mission and the safety of the men involved are endangered. It is recommended that the old AN/PRC-10 radios be replaced as soon as possible with either new AN/PRC-10s or AN/PRC-25s.



J. R. GARDNER  
By direction

ENCLOSURE (23/

Recon Group 11B  
 Chu Lai, Viet Nam  
 042100H Nov 1965

Debriefing Report, Frag Order 3-65

Debriefed: SSgt. W. A. BASS

Team: STATESIDE: Cpl. MINDEN, LCpl. CROUCH, Pfc. DONIVAN, Pfc. COTTON,  
 LCpl. HILLING.

MISSION: Establish OP at coord BT 421047 and observe the valleys north and south and Ky Long (2).

At 011800H, left RLT-4 HLZ by helo and landed at LZ at coord BT 419053 at 011830H. Vikings helo sighted 2 men on the proposed OP site at coord BT 421047. Immediately upon landing, team STATESIDE moved right out to the OP site. On the way to the OP, numerous new trails were sighted and a harbor site was sighted at coord BT 422049. None of these were there when the team was last through that area (29 Sept 1965). The team arrived at the OP site at 1900H and set in for the night. At 2330H, sounds of movement were heard at coord BT 420047 on a trail moving down the hill. At 020001H, sounds were heard of someone sneaking up to the OP from the north side. The grass was dry and he was trying to move silently; at 0200 he finally gave up and moved off to the north. Nothing else was heard during the night. At 020630H, 2 OP's were established. One looking north and the other looking south. Nothing unusual was observed from the north. At 021000H, 2 men wearing khaki stopped at coord BT 435044 to talk to workers in the rice paddy for about 10 minutes. At 1030H, 5 men stopped on the trail at coord BT 435044. They were moving in column but gathered and talked for about 5 minutes at that location. 1 wore light clothing and the rest black. At 021800H, 1 man in camouflage was noted in tree line at coord BT 422050 observing the OP. He was observed for approximately 30 minutes but finally faded back into the trees. At 1830H, a column of unknown amount of people were observed through a sharp break in the trees. They appeared to be moving towards the OP so the team moved out of the OP site and moved to coord BT 419046 and set in a defense for the night. At 030030H, 1 man was sighted approximately 10 meters north of the defensive positions. He stood by a tree for approximately 10 minutes then moved back up the hill to the north. At daylight, an OP was set up at that location. At 030930H, 5 men were sighted moving east, moving in a column well spaced at coord BT 431041. 1 wore a bush hat and pack. The rest wore black shorts. At 0950H, 1 man was seen moving east at coord BT 442049 on the same trail as the others. At 1015, 2 more sighted on same trail going the same way. 1 wore pack. At 1035, 2 more were sighted on the same trail going the same way. At 1045H, they were joined by 3 more at coord Bt 429041. At 1055, 2 men moving east, 1 with cartridge belt and pack were sighted at coord BT 425038. At 1104H, 1 man came out of the wooded area and hid a rifle at coord BT 424043 and returned to the woods. About 15 minutes later, another man came out and filled a canteen and went back into the woods. Evidently, these two men stay there all the time. At 1215H, 1 man with pack and rifle moved east at coord BT 426039 on the same trail as the others. At 1250H, 4 men moved west on the same trail to coord BT 424043. At 1305H, 1 woman and 2 men were sighted moving east on trail towards BT 424043. The woman wore a blue shirt and cartridge belt, the men wore black, 1 cartridge belt and 1 pack.

ENCLOSURE 32

At 1400H, 1 man moved east on trail at coord BT 426039, wearing black and with cartridge belt. 10 minutes later, he left the wooded area without his cartridge belt. Nothing else unusual was sighted during the day. 27 to 36 people were working in the rice paddies throughout the day. At 1830H, STATESIDE moved to coord BT 416044 and set up defense for the night. Nothing to indicate VC had been in the area on the southwest side of Hill 270 for quite some time. At 040730H, OP was set up at the night position. Nothing was sighted. At 041000H, STATESIDE moved over to SOONER'S OP and remained there until pick up by helicopter.

Recommendations: That H&I fires on coord BT 423048 and 424042 be fired. A sweep or airstrike should be conducted at coord BT 427040 into the wooded area. It seems to be a well used harbor site.

Recon Group Alfa  
Chu Lai, Vietnam  
02230H Nov 1965

Patrol Debriefing, Frag Order 3-65

Debriefed: SSgt. W. A. BASS

Team: VIKING: LCpl. ALLEN, LCpl. MANGUM, Pfc. ROSAS, Pfc. JEPSON, Pfc. HARRIS

MISSION: Establish OP at coord BT 433007 and observe the Thanh My Trung (1) village and areas of approach towards Chu Lai.

At 011810H, left RLT-4 HLZ by helicopter. After dropping team ZOMBI off, proceeded towards HLZ at coord BT 433011, but upon arrival noted mines at coord BT 433007, so VIKING returned to CP, arriving at 011845H. At 020710H, left RLT-4 HLZ by helicopter and landed at HLZ coord BT 455011. Immediately after landing, the team set up a defensive position. The grass at this position was approximately 18 inches high, but the helicopters refused to land and the team had to jump from approximately 6 to 8 feet high. After approximately 5 minutes, the helicopters returned and picked up the team, then flew directly to the HLZ at coord BT 433008, which was the LZ where the team was supposed to be landed. The team immediately moved out and established an OP/LP at coord BT 433006 at 020730H. About 17 to 25 people were working in the paddies at grid squares BT 4302 and 4402. At 1000H, the people all returned to their village. At 020845H, 2 men were sighted moving northeast on the trail at coord BT 440022. They wore black and carried large bundles under their arms. At 021110H, a very large smoky fire was noted inside the village at coord BT 438022. 4 or 5 underground shelters were seen with wooden entrances and dirt piled on top and around the sides at coord BT 445017. At 021229H, 2 rounds were fired from coord BT 454023. Nothing could be observed. At 1245H, 1 man, very large, appeared to be a Negro, was sighted moving from bushes into a hedge row at coord BT 438021. He was wearing blue striped shirt and trousers. He was tall and huskily built and very dark complected. At 1430H, 6 men were observed moving northwest at coord BT 429034. Whenever aircraft flew over, they hid in the bushes. 1 wore light blue and the rest wore black. At 1515H, 7 men moved southwest. At coord BT 446019, they stopped and sat down on the paddy dike. 1 man in blue sat in front and appeared to be talking to the others. A man appeared, running from the northeast. The people sitting down started to disperse. The man in blue kicked and hit one of the men he had been talking to. At this point, the man in black ran up and the man in blue started running. After about 100 yards, the man in black caught the one in blue and knocked him down and bent down out of sight. Then the man in black took off running and the man in blue chased him. Another man in black stopped the one in blue and the other man got away. 2 men carried off the man that was kicked and hit, moving north. Then everyone disappeared. At 031145H, 2 men moved northeast on the trail at coord BT 445016, 1 man wearing black and the other a white shirt and red shorts. Both had rifles. Within 15 minutes, a total of 7 men with rifles followed the same trail as the other two. At 031713H, 2 men separated from a group of 4 more at coord BT 441027. 1 man was dressed in green and had a rifle. The rest wore black. At 1750H, 4 men moved northwest at coord BT 441023 wearing black and carrying 1 pack and 2 weapons. At 031815H, 13 men moved southwest through the rice paddy, at coord BT 442016, uniforms were mixed. The man in blue from the day before was leading them. 7 men had rifles. Artillery fire was called, target area was well covered. Dusk made it impossible to observe results.

ENCLOSURE 33

At 041255H, 2 men moved east. 1 wore blue and 1 black. Both had weapons at coord BT 441014. They appeared to be two of the men that artillery had been called on the night before. At 041300H, another man appeared in black with rifle, at the same location, followed by 5 more with weapons. They all moved into the village of Thanh My Trung (1). Later they were all seen moving towards Thanh My Trung (2). At 1320H, 5 woman and 4 men, with 3 rifles, moved northeast at coord BT 439022. Nothing else unusual was sighted. At 041545H, team VIKING moved down to HLZ at coord BT 439009. At 041615H, the team was retracted to RLT-4 HLZ by helicopter.

RECON GROUP AIFA  
 Chu Lai, Viet Nam  
 0420 0 Nov 1965

Patrol Debriefing, Frag Order 3-65

Debriefed: SSgt. W. A. BASS

Team SOONER: SGT. BARTLETT, LCpl. WILLIAMS, Pfc. VALE, Pfc. LANGE, Pfc. POLACKE

MISSION: Establish an OP at coord BT 406036 and observe all enemy activity in that general vicinity.

Left RLT-4 HLZ at 011810H by helo and landed at LZ coord BT 409028 at 011810H. At 1900H, fires were noticed at coord BT 437015. At 1915H, SCAT BRAVO asked if SOONER could adjust artillery fire on the position of the fires. SOONER said yes. At 1920H, the 1st round arrived but lost. WP was requested and adjusted on target. The first round of fire for effect, a small secondary explosion was seen. Upon landing at the LZ, the team immediately moved out to establish the OP at coord BT 406036. The OP was established at 011930H. At 020750H, people began working in the rice paddies. Nothing unusual was sighted, just normal work in the rice paddy all three days that the OP was set in. At grid squares BT 4100, 4101, two air strikes and 2 bombing missions were observed. Artillery fire was also fired in the same area, intermittently, all three days. At 022100H, bombs were dropped at coord BT 406033. Nothing was observed that looked like targets in any of those area. On the morning of 2 November, A1 aircraft strafed the area of the original artillery mission at coord BT 437015. At 041130, the team moved out to LZ at coord BT 409028, arriving at 041130H. At 041600 team was retracted and returned to RLT-4 HLZ.

Recommendations: OP site could be good sniper position against enemy in the area.

Comments: From OP, counted 19 A1 aircraft and 3 R-130 aircraft sitting on airfield, also could observe 11 positions along the western side of airfield. Would be ideal for the enemy to observe from.

ENCLOSURE ~~34~~ 34

Recon Group Alfa  
 Chu Lai, Viet Nam  
 041400 Nov 1965

Patrol Debriefing, Frag Order 3-65

Debriefed: SSgt. W. A. BASS

Team ZOMBIE: Cpl. ROHWELLER, Cpl. EDWARDS, LCpl. BURKE, Pfc. BRADLEY, LCpl. CAPLINGER

MISSION: Establish OP at coord BT 403087 and observe approaches from the north and south.

At 011820H, left RLT-4 area by helicopter and landed at LZ coord BT 398090 at 011835H. Moved into the adjacent bushes until dusk. At dusk moved SE to coord BT 403087 and set in CP/OP for the night. At 020545H, set out CP south about 25 meters, to observe the trails south of the hill. Used the CP/OP site to observe the trails to the north. During the night 2 to 5 rounds were fired from the village of Tien Xuan (2). The rice paddies were heavily worked each day by 25 to 30 people and a lot of water buffalo were herded. All usual activity. At 020920H, 4 men entered a house at coord BT 414095 and listened to one man talking or lecturing. Later, children were in for classes. Later in the day the sides were put up. The building was new. At 021122H 16 men moving east on trail at coord BT 405105 were in a tight column. They were carrying bundles of sticks and baskets, all dressed in black. The first man appeared to be leading the rest and wore gray clothing and appeared to be wearing a pack. They disappeared into Tien Xuan (1), later only small groups left in the village. At 021300H 6 rounds of small arms fire were heard from Tien Xuan (1). Between 1300 and 1500, 37 rounds of small arms fire were heard. At 021540H, 15 men appeared moving east on trail in tight column. All were in black except first man who was wearing khaki. About 25 meters to the left on a trail running parallel was a Vietnamese tied and blindfolded, being pulled along by another Vietnamese. When they were last seen, they all disappeared into Tien Xuan (1). At 021555H, 3 rounds of small arms fire were heard from the village. At 1605H, a 7 man column moved east at coord BT 415096. 1 man leading in khaki and the others in black. They left the village moving east and disappeared. At 020800H, 2 men on bicycles moved southwest on trail at coord BT 402080. They appeared to be carrying rifles. One had on a white shirt and the other wore green clothes. At 030710H, 15 men left the village of Tien Xuan (1) moving north on Trail at coord BT 415097. All in black except the first man who wore gray and carried a pack. At 030735H, 1 man in black with a pack moved NW at coord BT 399104. At 0825H, 3 to 5 small arms rounds, and several bursts of automatic weapons fire were heard in Tien Xuan (2), possibly test fire. It sounded like a 50 cal. and possibly 50 rounds total were fired. At 1020H, 15 men in black moved east across the paddy at coord BT 408103. All carried packs and 4 men had weapons. Artillery was called in. 1 man was left lying on road with his gear. At 1045H, 12 men moved fast out of this area in black with pack and 3 weapons. They were last seen at coord BT 416096. These were believed to be the same men that the artillery was fired on. At 1135, 1 man moved out and picked up gear from the man lying on the road. The next day, the body was gone. At 1510, 2 men, 1 wearing a loin cloth and the other naked appeared at coord BT 414087 and disappeared into the bushes. At 1520, 8 men in black with 2 rifles and all heavy white packs moved northeast and stopped and sat down at coord BT 402083.

Thinking they would move north east on the trail, a fire mission was called in on coord BT 407091, at Cpl. ROHWELLER'S command. Fire mission was cancelled due to the fact that the men had stopped. A fire mission was called on the position that they were sitting in. Communications got fouled up and the people moved out, so the original mission was requested again.

ENCLOSURE 35

When the fire mission came, the rounds landed approximately 5 meters in front of the OP, so the mission was cancelled. Communications were completely lost at this time and never reestablished. The team moved into defensive positions and continued to try to establish communications. At 032240H, movement was detected moving towards the OP. The odor was very strong for about 10 minutes, then went away. The team was picked up at 040810H at coord BT 404087 and returned to RLT-4 CP.

Recommendations: Due to distances and missions assigned, we need AN/P...-25 radios and good equipment. When an artillery mission is called, it is necessary to have immediate response, as when the VC move across the open areas, they move fast. At coordinates BT 402082, it is believed to be a pick-up point for supplies and messages.

RECON GROUP ALPHA  
 "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn  
 CHU-LAI, VIET NAM  
 7 November 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 Via: Recon Group Alpha Commander

Subj: Patrol Report

Ref: (a) DivO 3480.1  
 (b) My Traq Order 7-65

1. Units: 1st Platoon, "C" Co (Rein)(-), 1st Recon Bn  
 3rd Platoon, "B" Co (Rein)(-), 1st Recon Bn
2. Size: Three officers, 40 enlisted USMC and 5 enlisted USN.
3. Time: 030800H to 051145H
4. Place: High ground north of Song Tra Bong at vic coord (BS 522901)  
 and Hill 90 vic coord (BS 542932)
5. Nature of Action: Area Reconnaissance
6. Casualties: Friendly - WIA - Two (one from punji stake and one  
 heat casualty)  
 - KIA - None  
 Enemy: - WIA - Two (estimated)  
 - KIA - None
7. Execution:

Both platoons were helo-lifted from MAG-36 to their respective objective areas at approximately 030820H. The first platoon OP site, vic coord (BS 52290), was saturated with punji stakes (estimated 4,000). These stakes were expertly planted and well concealed. One Marine casualty was experienced when a man stumbled and inadvertently stepped on one of these stakes. The third platoon had one heat casualty on the second day of the operation. Both of these Marines were evacuated. The first and third platoon utilized two OP's in addition to a CP/OP to accomplish their mission during the daylight hours. At night the OP teams, previously dispatched, returned to their respective platoon CP and set in a tight perimeter defense. The total operating period covered approximately 52 hours. A total of 23 sightings which included 126 VC (115 with weapons) were effected. Two artillery missions and two air strikes were requested and received.

The following is a chronological account of what transpired on this operation:

030800H - Both platoons embarked on helos and proceeded to objective area.

030820H - 1st Platoon inserted at vic coord (BS 519900). Two people were observed running south at (BS 522899) from the LZ.

ENCLOSURE 36

030845H - 3rd Platoon inserted at (BS 542932). Twenty to thirty people were observed running in all directions from the LZ.

030900H - 1st Platoon moved east and established CP/OP at (BS 522901). 3rd Platoon moved to (BS 542929) and set in CP/OP. 1st Platoon found thousands of punji stakes planted throughout the OP area. One Marine casualty inflicted by a punji stake. Due to varied length, diameter and composition (some wood, some bamboo) it is assumed that these stakes were planted for anti-helicopter as well as anti-personnel purposes.

030905H - Third Platoon observed one VC wearing black PJ's with weapons on a bicycle moving east at (BS 538920).

030915H - Third Platoon sent a team to (BS 543927) to set up an OP. 1st Platoon observed two VC moving N.W. at coord (BS 523900), wearing black with rifles.

030930H - 1st Platoon observed 10 VC running west at (BS 545880), wearing black, with three rifles.

030940H - 1st Platoon observed six VC moving N.E. at (BS 533901) wearing black with weapons.

030945H - 1st Platoon observed 35 VC moving S.E at (BS 533901), all with rifles, wearing packs and green uniforms. An artillery mission was requested and received. Due to dense terrain, it was difficult to determine results and a follow up air strike was requested and delivered on this brush covered area. Artillery and air coverage was excellent.

030955H - 3rd Platoon observed two VC with rifles, moving east at BS 544925. Both wore black and one had brush camouflage on his back.

031015H - 1st Platoon observed that while a UH1E A/C was making runs at BS 530891, it received automatic weapons fire from that position. Another automatic weapon fire was also located in a house at BS 544880. An air strike was called on this position and the house was levelled and burned.

031014H - 3rd Platoon observed one man with a rifle sitting in a rice paddy at BS 554933. Periodically he would move out among the approx 80 people working in the paddies and then return to his position.

031100H - The 3rd Platoon team OP reported sticks being beaten together to the rhythm of a 6-2-3 pattern on an azimuth of 280° from the CP/OP.

031108H - 3rd Platoon reported one man wearing rice camouflage stopping at the edge of the rice paddy at BS 553918.

031130H to 031330H - The 1st Platoon reported 10 VC moving N.E into the village at BS 537900. They were wearing black PJ's with camouflage and carried weapons.

031227H - 3rd Platoon reported two VC's with rifles moving N.W. on bicycles at BS 555937.

031324H - Third Platoon reported two men moving east on the trail at BS 536-915. One ran west on into the brush, the other started running in a circle in the paddy; after about three laps he too disappeared into the brush to the west.

031335H - The 1st Platoon reported two VC dressed in PJ's with rifles moving S.W. at BS 523893.

031345H - The 1st Platoon reported two VC wearing black moved east at BS 535899. M-60 fire wounded one of the enemy. He was dragged into the village at BS 537899 by the other VC.

031353H - 3rd Platoon reported that two men, one arriving from the S.W. and the other from the N.E. stopped at a mound in the trail at BS 534916. They stopped and talked to everyone who came along the trail. They moved off the trail into some shade but continued to stop and talk to anyone who desired to use the trail. They did this all afternoon and one of the men came back the next day and repeated the procedure.

031355H - The 3rd Platoon reported two platoons of men running S.W. in a column of twos at BS 552891. They were too far away for observation of uniform and equipment.

031445H - 3rd Platoon sighted five men on bicycles moving east at BS 514893. 1st Platoon sighted five VC wearing black PJ's with rifles moving north on the trail at BS 533896.

031505H - 1st Platoon reported their punji stake casualty successfully evacuated.

031548H - 3rd Platoon reported two explosions at BS 552911. Immediately thereafter, four men with one rifle bicycled S.E. into the village at BS 555910.

031605H - The 3rd Platoon reported one VC with rifle at sling arms moving into the heavy brush at BS 539920.

031620H - 1st Platoon sighted 11 VC with camouflage in groups of 2 and 3 moving S.E. from BS 537899.

031820H - 1st Platoon sighted two VC wearing black PJ's with one rifle moving west at BS 531881. 3rd Platoon sighted 8 VC with 7 rifles moving into the trees at BS 548919. An artillery mission was called, but results were undetermined due to poor light.

031830H - 1st Platoon sighted six VC in camouflage with rifles moving south from BS 537899.

040650H - 1st Platoon sighted four men in black PJ's with camouflage moving N.E. at BS 533881.

040700H - 3rd Platoon reported four armed VC running south in front of the infantry. They dropped their weapons in the brush at BS 556930.

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040800H - The 3rd Platoon ordered one team to establish an OP at BS 543938. They found the hill top at those coordinates trenched with barb-wire fencing. There was also a woven bamboo fence and punji stakes in the trench. There were dug-in emplacements all over the hill top, but no visible trails on the hill.

041215H - The 1st Platoon reported three VC, one in brown shorts, no shirt, the others in black PJ's with two rifles moving west at BS 515894.

041645H - The 1st Platoon reported two VC with rifles wearing camouflage over black PJ's moving north into the village at BS 538899.

041500H - 3rd Platoon reported that one heat casualty successfully evacuated.

041715H - The 1st Platoon fired on 8 VC with rifles running south at BS 544899. One was hit in the leg, fell, but was carried away by the others.

041935H - The 3rd Platoon observed a flashing light at vic BS 535946. It was possibly a signal light. No movement was noted in either Tan Tra (1), (2), (3) or Nam Binh (6) until USMC forces swept through on 5 November, then everyone ran from the villages into the brush.

051115H - The 1st Platoon burned all the punji stakes at their area.

051140H - Both platoons retracted and returned to the company CP (rear) at 051345H.

#### 8. Commander's Analysis

a. The assigned mission was accomplished. No difficulties were encountered throughout the operating period.

b. Reconnaissance elements utilized on this operation proved most effective. The operational platoons provided timely enemy sightings, called in effective supporting arms fire on large enemy concentrations, and on several occasions assisted the deployed battalions by relaying messages for companies who had lost communications.

#### 9. Remarks and Recommendations

a. That in future operations of a similar nature, this unit should be deployed in the same fashion.

b. That the PRC-25 be issued to this company on a permanent basis for use on all operations. Some of the advantages derived from the utilization of this radio are:

(1) Its light weight feature facilitates movement.

(2) Its transistorized components and batteries furnish adequate strength and range for our purposes.

(3) Its utilization negates the necessity of establishing a radio relay station.

(4) After 52 hours of continuous operation, there was no loss of volume or strength noted nor was it necessary to change batteries.

(5) Its use can eliminate the requirement of taking back-up AM equipment to the field.

c. The PRC-25 appears to be the solution for good, continuous communications from reconnaissance elements maneuvering in the RAOR.

*R. W. Grahn*  
R. W. GRAHN  
CO, "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn

ENCLOSURE ~~61~~

RECON GROUP ALFA  
 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Force  
 c/o FPO, San Francisco, 96601

3/JRG/rjm  
 10 Nov 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion

Subj: Patrol Report, Operation 5-65, 4-8 November 1965

Ref: (a) DivO 3480.1  
 (b) Recon Group Alfa Frag Order 5-65 dtd 3 Nov 1965  
 (c) Map: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet 6757 III, Series L701

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted.
2. Units participating in Operation 5-65:

1st Squad, 2nd Platoon, Co B, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 1st Squad, 3rd Platoon, Co B, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 1st Squad, 1st Platoon, Co B, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 2nd Squad, 3rd Platoon, Co B, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion

3. a. General Review of Significant Events. The mission was to maintain surveillance over avenues of approach into Chu Lai. This was accomplished by establishing 4 OP's in grid squares BT 4008, BT 4204, BT 4003 and BT 4201. During the 96 hours during which OP's were manned, 11 significant sightings were made totaling 33 VC. Two artillery missions were fired and three contacts were made with no casualties. The following is a chronological listing of significant events:

(1) 1st Squad, 2nd Platoon, Co B. (STATESIDE)

041600H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter.

041615H. Landed vicinity BT 409029.

041910H. Observed 1 VC with rifle at BT 414042. Man made signal and 2 more VC were observed about 50 meters higher up the hill.

041920H. Patrol moved to BT 413041 and established defensive perimeter for the night.

050330H. Rock was thrown into patrol's position. Blinking lights observed on all sides.

051045H. Patrol joined patrol SOONER vicinity BT 414039 due to communications failure.

ENCLOSURE 3

(2) 1st Squad, 3rd Platoon, Co B (SOONER)

- 041600H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter.
- 041615H. Landed vicinity BT 409029.
- 041830H. Established OP vicinity BT 406035.
- 051045H. Patrol STATESIDE joined SOONER.
- 051045H. 2 VC moving southeast sighted at BT 415038 with 1 rifle.
- 051215H. Reestablished OP vicinity BT 409029.
- 051317H. 2 VC sighted moving northwest at BT 428024 with 2 rifles.
- 051430H. Artillery TOT mission fired on area where SOONER encountered VC.
- 060830H. Began patrol to BT 417044 to establish OP and evaluate results of TOT.
- 060940H. Discovered fresh grave at BT 413038.
- 061155H. Established OP at BT 417044.
- 061330H. Observed 1 man moving east at BT 428039 with weapon, small pack and cartridge belt.
- 070955H. Observed 3 VC moving east at BT 423037 wearing khaki and packs. 1 carried bundle. Recon sniper fired at 1000 meters without hitting.
- 071025H. 1 VC moved out of same area as previous sighting wearing pack. Sniper again fired without effect.
- 071315H. Moved to HLZ at BT 416043.
- 071420H. Recovered.

(3) 2nd Squad, 3rd Platoon, Co B (ZOMBIE)

- 051745H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter.
- 051800H. Landed at BT 399007.
- 051845H. Established harbor site at BT 401090.
- 060600H. Observed 4 VC moving south at BT 407091 riding bicycles and carrying rifles.
- 060830H. Heard small arms fire from the north and the east, which continued sporadically the whole time unit was there.
- 061525H. Observed 7 people moving south at BT 407096. One man was larger than the others and appeared to be caucasian. Fire mission was called but was ended due to proximity of village before rounds could be fired for effect.

071132H. Observed 3 VC moving northeast at BT 406096 wearing green camouflage utilities, with 2 packs and 2 rifles.

081330H. Patrol moved to BT 399091.

081800H. Patrol recovered by helicopter.

(4) 1st Squad, 1st Platoon, Co B (VIKING)

051720H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter.

051735H. Landed at BT 422000.

051910H. Moved to harbor site at BT 424014.

061300H. Observed 4 men moving east at BT 425024, one wearing white and second wore blue. Man in blue appeared to carry rifle.

062000H. Heard drum from northeast.

081800H. Patrol recovered.

b. Commander's evaluation of significant events

(1) A significant decrease in enemy movement into the TAOR was noted in comparison to a few days previously.

(2) No activity was noted in old harbor sites and trails in Dong Co valley (BT 4101) and vic BT 4103 probably due to heavy air and artillery saturation of area. These areas have previously been heavily used by the enemy.

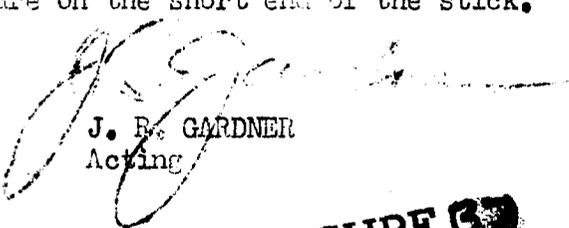
(3) The major portion of the VC traffic came out of the 661 hill mass vicinity BT 4401, possibly moving from Tho An-Tay Phuoc (DS 4795) to the south.

(4) Hamlet of Tien Xuan (3) (BT 4009) continues to be a center of enemy activity.

c. Commander's Recommendations

(1) Immediate steps be taken to replace the company's AN/PRC-10 radios which are failing in the field at a rate of 25%.

(2) Steps be taken to procure sufficient jungle boots for reconnaissance units. Established priorities of distribution are being bypassed and the units who really require the gear are on the short end of the stick.

  
J. B. GARDNER  
Acting

ENCLOSURE 3

RECON GROUP ALFA  
CHU LAI, VIET NAM  
071600H Nov 1965

Debriefing Report, Operation 5-65

Debriefed: SSgt. W. A. BASS

Team: SOONER, 3rd Platoon, Co B, 3rd Recon Bn.

Cpl. RITZIC, LCpl. KELLEY, LCpl. CRAWFORD, Pfc. ARGENT, Pfc. LANE (Sniper)  
and Pfc. STATON.

Team: STATESIDE, 2nd Platoon, Co B, 3rd Recon Bn.

Cpl. ORRIS, Pfc. SMITH, Pfc. DAWSON, Pfc. OCHOA, Pfc. ENRIQUEZ

MISSION: SOONER: Set up OP at coord BT 406035 and observe the rice paddies around Hill 127 at coord BT 428024 and the trail leading east from coord BT 412035 and observe the trail at coord BT 413034.

STATESIDE: Set up an OP at coord BT 425048 and observe Ky Long (1) and (2) and observe the trails running in and out of those villages.

Left RLT-4 HLZ at 041600H by helo and landed at LZ coord BT 409029 at 041615H. Team SOONER moved down to harbor site at coord BT 409032 and harbored until 1830H. At 1830H, SOONER moved out to establish an OP at coord BT 406035. SOONER was joined by STATESIDE at 051030H. Nothing was observed prior to STATESIDE joining them.

Team STATESIDE moved from LZ along the east side of Hill 186 up to hill at coord BT 413039, then east along the woodline to coord BT 414042. Observed 1 VC with rifle at that coord. He jumped out from behind a tree at approximately 1910H. He made a signal like a coo-coo clock and ran up the hill. At this time, 1 coo-coo was heard from down the hill and 2 more were heard from up on the hill and 2 VC with rifles were observed up the hill about 50 meters above the patrol. The VC that jumped from behind the tree was approximately 25 meters in front of the team. As the first VC coo-coo'd, two lights, like flashlights, appeared at coord BT 416044. They flashed like a signal. They blinked about 3 times. Team STATESIDE, figuring they had run into an ambush, moved down through the brush to coord BT 413041. At this coord they set up a defense for the night at 041945H. As soon as the defense was set up, Cpl. ORRIS and Pfc. DAWSON moved down the hill to the edge of the brush to investigate sounds like someone beating rocks together. They were beating the rocks with a steady rhythm. After listening to the beating for approximately 15 minutes and not observing anything, they proceeded back to the team's position. During the night, blinking lights were observed intermittently throughout the night from about 8 different positions. Intermittently during the night, sounds of whispering, rock slides and movement were heard. At about 050330H, a rock was thrown into the team's position and bounced off Cpl. ORRIS' rifle stock. At 0400H, Pfc. ENRIQUEZ heard sounds of someone moving down and rocks rolling about 5 feet away. Someone hissed "shhh" and the movement stopped. Just before the rock hit Cpl. ORRIS' rifle stock, the sound of a rifle bolt going home was heard. At approximately 0200H, sounds as if someone was sticking a pig were heard in the valley below. Sounds of whistling were heard throughout the night.

ENCLOSURE 37

At 050700H, team STATESIDE heard helos fly over and moved out to coord BT 414037 hoping to set up an HLZ for pickup. The helos flew over again and the team fired a smoke signal. About 15 minutes later, the helos flew over again, lower this time, and another smoke grenade was fired. The helos flew on, as if not seeing the smoke. At 1020H, the team moved out towards the ARVN outpost as communications had been lost since 1730H the night before. At coord BT 414039, team SOONER observed STATESIDE and signalled them to join up. At 1045H, the teams were joined and STATESIDE used SOONER'S radio to notify SCAT BRAVO of circumstances. At 1115H, both teams moved out for the OP site at coord BT 406035 arriving at approximately 051215H. Nothing was observed the rest of the day. At 060830H, the teams were ordered to proceed to coord BT 417044 and evaluate the previous night's artillery fire and observe Ky Long (1) and (2). At 0915H, both teams moved out to that coord. At 0940, at coord BT 413038, a fresh grave was sighted. It had not been rained on and it had rained the previous night. At 1155H, the OP was established at coord BT 406035. The results of the artillery appeared to be that Hill 70 had been overshoot as only about 3 craters were in evidence. At 06430H, 1 VC with weapon, cartridge belt and small pack was sighted moving east at coord BT 428039. All other sightings were just usual, working with cattle. At 1630H, 18 Marines were seen moving into Ky Long (1). At 070940H, 2 men and 15 cows were seen in the rice paddy at coord BT 456046. 1 man had a pack on his back. Both wore black. At 070955H, 3 VC, 2 with packs and 1 with something under his arm, walked east across the rice paddy at coord BT 423037. All 3 wore khaki shirts and black trousers. Pfc. LANE fired on them with his sniper rifle and they all dropped down. Then all 3 got up and ran. 1 man left his pack and the man with something under his arm had both arms free when he ran. No one ever came back for the gear. At 1025H, 1 girl with a pack moved out from the same place where the other 3 VC had come from, but skirted the area where the others had been shot at. She was fired at with the sniper rifle, but just kept walking. The range was approximately 1000 meters. At 071315H, both teams moved out of the OP and moved to the HLZ at coord BT 416043 and were retracted at 1420. The helos came into the LZ firing their M-60 machine guns, but admitted that they had seen nothing to shoot at.

At 051317H at coord BT 428024, 2 VC with rifles were seen moving northwest, wearing black.

At 041845H, what appeared to be a cave was seen. The entrance was through a flat rock laying flat on the ground. The rock was approximately 5 feet in diameter and split. The opening was about 1½ feet in diameter and appeared to go down 7 to 8 feet. A tree approximately 1 foot in diameter was growing through 1 end of the crack in the rock. The tree was approximately 30 feet tall. It was at coord BT 413039.

At 051045H, just as the 2 teams joined up, 2 VC were sighted at coord BT 415038. 1 had a rifle and both wore black. They moved off southeast.

Company Group Alfa  
 Chu Lai, Viet Nam  
 061000H Nov 1965

Debriefing Report, Operation 5-65

Debriefed: SSgt. W. A. BASS  
 Team ZOMBIE, LCpl. CUNNINGHAM, LCpl. MGBEE, Pfc. BRUNER, Pfc. PETROVICH,  
 Pfc. CARLSON, Pfc. MONDIA

MISSION: Set up OP at coord BT 401040 observing the northern and southern sections and trails.

At 051745H, left RLT-4 HLZ by helo and landed at LZ at coord BT 399091, at 01800H. Immediately moved approximately 100 yards southeast and set up defensive position until 051845H. Then the team moved to coord BT 401090 and established a harbor site for the night. Small arms and automatic weapons fire were heard periodically throughout the night. At 060600H, established OP at that coord and set up another OP about 25 yards west of that position. Normal agricultural activity went on throughout the day. At 060600H, 4 VC, 3 on bicycles with rifles moving south on the trail at coord BT 407091, then followed the trail around and disappeared at coord BT 401079. At 060830H, small arms and automatic weapons fire was heard from the north and the east. This continued sporadically throughout the whole time the team was out. At 060835H 39 small boats anchored at coord BT 435135. At 1459H, 4 people moved south on trail at coord BT 407094. They were joined by 3 more people with packs at that coord. All 7 then moved south on the trail and disappeared at 157H. At 1525H, the same 7 people plus 3 others reappeared at coord BT 407094. The number 3 man was larger than the others and appeared to be Caucasian. At least he had real white legs. The first man in the group had on a blue shirt and black bottoms, the next wore a pink shirt and black bottoms. All the rest wore black. They moved to the trail junction at coord BT 407092. Just northeast of the junction the first 3 people moved off to the east and back south through the rice paddies and disappeared moving south at coord BT 409087. The other 7 moved on up the trail northeast. An artillery fire mission was requested as they were at coord BT 407088. The first round was fired and adjustment was requested right 500, down 100. Mission ended mission due to proximity of village. At 1645H, all work in the paddies secured and everyone moved out north. At 1720H, a fire was seen at coord BT 393107. At 070632H, it was noted that 6 people were already working the rice paddy. The night before, there had been no rice stacked in the paddy, but at dawn there were 18 stacks of rice at coord BT 403105. An artillery mission was requested and denied. At 070810H, 4 people and 3 bicycles with unknown gear being pushed south at coord BT 406100. At 1132H, 3 VC with 2 rifles and 2 packs were sighted moving northeast at coord BT 406096. They wore green camouflage uniforms. At 1144H, most of the cattle suddenly disappeared from the fields north of the OP. At 1330H, 3 people with bicycles loaded with wood being pushed north at coord BT 417091. At 1337H, 3 people were seen moving north parallel, approximately 10 meters east of the trail at coord BT 408089. Later it was noted that they were cutting small sticks and low brush. On 8 November, nothing was noted but usual activity. At approximately 081700H, approximately 5 people were seen moving in column, fairly evenly spaced, moving south-southeast at coord BT 402108. Could not see clearly due to rain and fogged binoculars. At 081330H, the team moved down to coord BT 399091 to await pickup by helo. At 081800H, the team was retracted and returned to the RLT-4 HLZ.

ENCLOSURE 38

During the nights of 5 November and 6 November, a noise that sounded like digging was heard from the west. It was heard off and on for approximately  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours.

At approximately 060800H, sounds that were similar to a small 1 cylinder motor ran for approximately 30 minutes. It sounded directly from the east.

There was a noticeable lack of children in the rice paddies. None were seen during the whole patrol.

Debriefing Report, Operation 5-65

Recon Group Alfa  
 Chu Lai, Viet Nam  
 082000Z Nov 1965

Debriefed: SSgt. W. A. BASS

Team: VIKING, 1st Platoon, Co B, 3rd Recon Bn.

Sgt. BRAUCH, Cpl. WELCH, LCpl. EASTERLING, LCpl. SCOTT, Pfc. SCOTT.

MISSION: Set up OP at coord BT 422017 and observe avenues of approach to Chu Lai area.

At 051720H, left RLT-4 LZ and landed at 1735H at coord BT 422015. The team moved immediately to coord BT 422014 where several fresh trails were observed moving down the side of the hill. The grass was all laying down hill so it appeared people had moved only down hill. At this coord the team set in a defensive position at 1740H. 2 men moved on up the hill to the woodline looking for the harboring site for the night. About 50 meters up the hill they saw what appeared to be a VC harbor site and numerous trails moving down and parallel to the side of the hill. The harbor site would accommodate approximately 3 people. On the way back to the team, bamboo about 15 feet long was pulled down and tied. This was about 30 meters south of the defensive position. The team moved east to coord BT 424014 arriving at 1910H. A harboring site was set up for the night. At this coord, observation was good from 80° to 270°, so the OP was established there. None of the usual farming activity was seen in the area. At 061300H, 1 man dressed in white shirt and black shorts came up to coord BT 425024 and shouted and waved and sat down under a tree. 1 man in a bluish green shirt and shorts followed by 2 men in black appeared from the tree line to the north and joined the man in white. The man in white was noticeably larger than the others. He was real husky in build and taller than the rest. He appeared to weight approximately in the vicinity of 190 pounds. The man in blue green paced back and forth in front of the others and appeared to be lecturing the others. The two men sat during the whole time. At 061400H, they all moved across the rice paddy to the east. The man in blue was leading and had picked up an object under the tree that was the shape and size of a rifle wrapped up in something. He carried it in his hand and did not swing his arm. The 2 men in black followed at an evenly spaced interval of approximately 3 paces. The man in white stayed about 50 yards behind, looking around. They disappeared at coord BT 427023. At 1415H, 8 people appeared, 2 in white and 6 in black at coord BT 426024 and quickly gathered up the cattle and moved them east at a run. At the same time, laughter was heard from coord BT 432032 and 4 people in white were seen in the streambed. As the cattle were herded away, 4 people in the stream disappeared too. 1 man came out into the rice paddy from the northeast and talked to 2 of the people herding the cattle. Then one of the herders disappeared walking fast moving east. At approximately 2000H, sounds similar to a drum were heard from the northeast. It lasted approximately 1 minute. They were heard once more during the night. At 2030H, jamming was heard on the radio. It was Vietnamese music preceded by talking. It lasted for about 4 minutes. At approximately 062330H, during a regular communications check, a sexy Vietnamese woman's voice was heard. She talked less than a minute. At 070945H, Marines started a sweep through the valley in grid square BT 4103. At 071110H, 1 man in white shirt and black shorts came down the trail from the northeast to coord BT 426024, stopped under a tree, then went back to coord BT 426024 on the trail and sat down facing the rice paddy. He looked around then after about 10 minutes, he got up and moved on up the trail and disappeared to the northeast. At approximately 072250H, silhouettes of 4 people were seen moving in evenly spaced column moving west across the rice paddies at coord BT 422021. Nothing else was seen from the OP. At 081345H, the team moved down to coord BT 423016 to be picked up by helo. At 081800H, the team was retracted and returned to RLT-4 HLZ.

ENCLOSURE 39

RECON GROUP ALPHA  
 "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn  
 CHU LAI, VIET NAM  
 13 November 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 Via: Recon Group Alpha Commander

Subj: Patrol Report

Ref: (a) DivO 3480.1  
 (b) My Frag Order #6-65

1. Unit: 3rd Platoon, "C" Co (Rein)(-), 1st Recon Bn
2. Size: One officer, 19 enlisted USMC and one enlisted USN
3. Time: 091730H to 120830H November 1965
4. Place: The high ground running from BS 4796 east to BS 4996 with observation of all the area south of this ridge line.
5. Nature of Action: Area Reconnaissance
6. Casualties: Friendly: None  
 Enemy: None
7. Execution:

The 3rd Platoon, "C" Co, was helo lifted from the "C" Co CP vic BT 560049 at 091730H and landed vic BS 480967 at 091750H. There was a very low ceiling, poor visibility, intermittent rain and strong gusty winds which led the platoon leader to believe he had made an unobserved landing. The platoon moved out and established a harbour site/CP-OP vic BS 482967 at 091800H. At 100610H, Team #1 was sent out to establish an OP at BS 479968. At 101430H, Team #1 lost comm with the 1st Platoon CP and returned to the CP/OP arriving there at 101500H. Traffic through the operational area was unusually light for a farming district. At 101845H, the 1st Plt departed the CP/OP and proceeded to vic BS 486968 to set up a harbour site for the night. They arrived at 101915H, spent an uneventful night and departed the harbour site at 110415. The platoon moved to vic BS 489966, arriving at 110500H, and established a CP/OP. Team #2 was dispatched at 110515H to establish an OP at vic BS 490966. They returned at 110520H and reported that they had sprung a dud (hand grenade style) booby trap. Team #2 again departed to establish their OP and at 110530H, Cpl HOLT felt a trip wire hit his boot but this booby trap also failed to detonate. At 110630H, Team #2 established their OP at vic BS 490966. At 111130H, eight men, wearing camouflage, were seen standing in an "L" shaped formation in a paddy at BS 514967. A fire mission was called and the men dispersed. The coverage was excellent. Team #2 returned to the CP/OP at 111830H. During the day it was noted that most of the traffic was moving east. The platoon set up in a perimeter defense for the night and moved out at 120530H to vic BS 486967 for helo pickup. They were extracted at 120830H and returned to the RLT-7 CP at 120845H.

ENCLOSURE 40

There were 15 sightings, totaling 53 VC and 29 VCS, carrying 11 weapons. The platoon operated for a period of about 63 hours. One fire mission, with two fire for effects, was requested and accurately delivered.

The following is a chronological account of what transpired on this operation:

- 091730H - 3rd Plt helo-lifted from the "C"Co CP, vic BT 560049.
- 091750H - 3rd Plt landed vic BS 480967.
- 091800H - The plt established a harbour site/CP-CP for the night vic BS 482967.
- 091945H - A blinking light was seen from the village of Tho An at BS 473953. Two flashes of light were seen from the vic of hill 261 vic BS 4594.
- 100610H - Team #1 left the CP/CP to establish an OP at BS 479968.
- 100630H - Team #1 uneventfully established an OP at BS 479968.
- 101120H - Six VC were seen moving west. They split up at a trail junction at BS 473955. Three men went south into the village (Tho An) and three went into the bushes. They had one rifle and one pack.
- 101315H - One VC wearing black PJ's, carrying a rifle, left the village at BS 472957 (Tho An) moving north. At the same time three VC moved north-west out of the same village. They wore black PJ's and one man carried a rifle.
- 101430H - Team #1 lost communications with the CP/OP and returned to the CP/OP, arriving there at 101500H.
- 101430H - Ten men were seen moving south into the village at BS 472958. They were wearing black PJ's and appeared to be carrying two weapons.
- 101540H - One VC with a rifle wearing black PJ's was sighted at BS 477950. He appeared to be waiting for someone.
- 101543H - Two VCS were seen running across the rice paddy and into the brush at BS 479958. They wore bush camouflage.
- 101606H - One VC with a rifle wearing black PJ's moved south west into the village at BS 475951.
- 101625H - Ten men moved west at coord BS 477958, six of them carrying loads turned south into the village, the other four turned north. One was armed with a rifle and wore bush camouflage, some wore black PJ's, other white shirts and black shorts.
- 101845H - 3rd Plt departed the CP/OP and proceeded to the vic BS 486968 to set up a harbour site, arriving there at 101915H without incident. An uneventful night was spent.

110415H - 3rd Plt departed their harbour site, moved to vic BS 489966 and set in a CP/OP at 110500H.

110515H - Team #2 was dispatched to establish an OP at vic BS 498966.

110520H - Team #2 returned to report that Cpl MOFFETT had tripped an M-26 hand grenade type booby trap when leaving the plt perimeter. The grenade did not detonate.

110530H - Cpl HOLT enroute with Team #2 to it's assigned OP felt a trip wire rub against his leg but this grenade also failed to detonate.

110600H - Team #2 established an OP vic BS 490966.

110753H - 20 men, ten carrying baskets moved out of the village of Tho An BS 477953 heading east, traveling in groups of 4 and 5.

111035H - Four VC with one rifle all wearing black were seen moving N-E across the paddy at BS 525966.

111105H - One man wearing black PJ's sat at the edge of the trail at BS 493948 for a period of two hours. Another man joined him from the east, they talked and the 1st man moved off to the west. The second man returned to the east where he talked to another man who had been standing concealed in the brush. The 3rd man immediately went south. No weapons were observed.

111130H - Eight men wearing rice camouflage were seen standing in an L shaped formation in the rice paddy at BS 514967. Due to poor light, it was difficult to see if they were armed. A fire mission was called, coverage was excellent, the men dispersed in all directions.

111145H - Seven men wearing black PJ's moved west thru coord BS 518957. Three carried baskets while the other four carried long sticks or rifles under their arms.

11125H - Six men, with one weapon, two large packs and three heavy looking baskets moved east on the trail at BS 493947. All wore black PJ's.

111745H - Three men with one rifle moved west across the rice paddies at BS 502166. They were followed in five minutes by one more man. All wore black PJ's.

111830H - Team #2 returned from their OP and the plt set up a harbour site for the night at their CP/OP location.

112200H - During the night a flashing light was again seen from Tho An BS 477953 and BS 510955.

120530H - The platoon moved down to BS 486967, secured the HLZ and prepared for helo extraction.

120830H - The 3rd Plt was extracted by helicopter and returned to the 7th Marine CP.

### 8. Commanders Analysis

The assigned mission was accomplished. During the three day operating period, approximately 63 men wearing black and carrying heavy loads were observed moving east. These carriers were generally observed in the escort of armed personnel and a strong possibility exists that forced labor was being perpetrated.

### 9. Remarks and Recommendations

The fire mission requested and received by the 3rd Platoon was executed promptly due primarily to direct communications with the platoon leader vice utilization of our radio relay station. Two HE adjusting rounds followed by two battery one's were delivered in a period of six minutes.

When platoons are deployed deeper in the RAOR, this time advantage will be lost unless the PRC-25 is made available to this unit on a permanent retention basis.

*R. W. Grain*  
R. W. GRAIN  
CO, "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn

OPERATIONS OVERLAY  
 OPERATION 6-65  
 30 AV, Co C, 1ST Recon Bn,  
 9-12-NOV 65  
 VIETNAM 1:50,000  
 TRA BANG 6756 III  
 Sgt. R. J. McLean

ENCLOSURE

53  
 +  
 98



93  
 +  
 46

- LEGEND:
- O - HLZ
  - Δ - OP
  - - SIGHTING
  - \* - CONTACT
  - ★ - ARTILLERY MISSING
  - ⊙ - HARBOR SITE

RECON GROUP ALFA  
 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Force  
 c/o FPO, San Francisco, 96601

3/JRG/rjm  
 14 Nov 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion

Subj: Patrol Report, Operation 7-65, 9-12 November 1965

Ref: (a) DivO 3480.1  
 (b) Recon Group Alfa Frag Order 7-65  
 (c) Map: Vietnam, 1:50,000 Tri Binh 6757 III, Series L701

Encl: (1) Patrol Route Overlay

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted.

2. Units participating in Operation 7-65:

2nd Platoon, Co B (Rein), 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion

3. a. General Review of Significant Events: The mission of 2nd Platoon, Co B was to maintain observation over vicinity Thanh My Trung (1) and Ky Long (1) hamlets to report enemy movement and locations. The mission was accomplished by employing three teams (Dallas, Fort Worth and El Paso) to establish OP's in grid squares BT 4302, BT 4300 and BT 4303 respectively. During the 66 hours that the patrol operated, 11 sightings were made totaling 75 VC. One artillery mission was fired and one Marine was slightly wounded by shrapnel. The following is a chronological listing of significant events:

Team FORT WORTH

091800H. Departed RLIT-4 area by helicopter.

091815H. Landed vicinity coord BT 433008.

092015H. Established harbor site at coord BT 435013.

100630H. Established OP at coord BT 437012.

101215H. Observed 15 people moving south in groups of 2 to 5 on the trail at coord BT 442028, where they stopped and sat around.

101230H. 4 people moved on to BT 441014 wearing black and carrying 1 rifle.

**ENCLOSURE (4)**

101245H. 3 men moving northeast at coord BT 442028 wearing black with rifles and cartridge belts. They talked to the group observed at 1215H and then moved on north following a woman.

101315H. 2 men moved out of Thanh My Trung (1) and disappeared at BT 441014 wearing black and carrying rifles and cartridge belts.

101330H. Group at BT 442028 moved north into village after camouflaging baskets with branches.

101720H. 1 man moving northeast at BT 445015 wearing black and carrying rifle.

110825H. 1 man moving northeast at BT 448028 wearing black. Hid in bushes when aircraft flew over.

111830H. 13 men with 1 prisoner moving southwest at BT 438021. 1 man dressed in blue and prisoner in red trousers. 4 men carried weapons and 3 cartridge belts.

121310H. 3 men moving northeast on trail at BT 442015. 1 man wore red shorts and carried baskets with a heavy load. 1 man carried a rifle and another a pack.

121300H. 3 men moving northeast at BT 442015 wearing black and carrying two rifles. Followed by 6 more men.

121515H. Moved to HLZ at BT 433008.

121610H. Recovered.

Team DALLAS

091800H. Departed RIT-4 area by helicopter.

091815H. Landed at BT 423017.

091830H. Heard signal noises and whistling at BT 419020.

092000H. Moved to harbor site at BT 424022.

092100H. Called artillery mission on unit of unknown size at BT 419020. 1 Marine slightly WIA by a fragment.

100710H. Marine WIA evacuated by helicopter.

100720H. Separated from team EL PASO at BT 427024.

100900H. Observed harbor site at BT 431023.

101030H. Established OP at BT 431026.

110840H. 2 men moved into brush at BT 419045 wearing green uniforms.

112130H. Observed flashing lights on Hill 270 (BT 419045).

121130H. Team established ambush at BT 43103.

121630H. Recovered by helicopter from LZ at BT 439037.

Team EL PASO - EL PASO was with DALLAS until 100720H.

100720H. Separated from DALLAS.

100930H. Established OP at BT 427027.

101800H. Patrol discovered 3 rocks marking trail at BT 427025. They had not been there earlier.

110600H. Moved OP to BT 432035.

110930H. OP established.

111255H. Observed 32 people moving west at BT 437045, possibly carrying weapons.

121400H. Moved to LZ BT 439038.

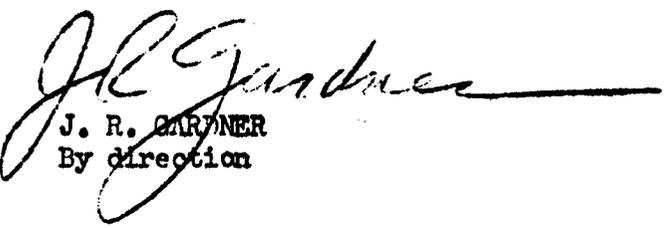
121605H. Recovered.

b. Commander's Evaluation of Significant Events

(1) Continuous observation since 1 November 1965 indicates heavy VC traffic in and out of area vicinity BT 441014.

(2) Clandestine movements of Recon personnel into the vicinity of villages is extremely difficult. The enemy is quick to warn of the unit's presence and to establish ambushes. However, on the other hand, OP's which have been established within a few hundred meters of the LZ have proven themselves to be most effective and secure.

(3) Since 1 November 1965, four sightings have been made of prisoners moving with VC groups into the TAOR. At the beginning of this period, sightings were mostly of armed persons, but more recent sightings have indicated a large percentage of workers accompanied by armed VC carrying heavy loads into the TAOR.

  
J. R. GARDNER  
By direction

**"C" COMPANY**  
**1st Reconnaissance Battalion**  
**3rd Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Force**  
**c/o FPO, San Francisco, 96601**

3/MA/rtd  
 17 Nov 1965

**From:** Commanding Officer  
**To:** Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
**Via:** Commander, Recon Group Alpha

**Ref:** (a) DivO 3480.1  
 (b) Group Frag Order 8-65  
 (c) Map: Vietnam 1:50,000, Series L-701 6757 III and 6756 IV

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following report is submitted.
2. Unit: 1st Platoon, "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn
3. (a) General Review of Significant Events. The mission of this platoon size patrol was to establish OP's in vic BS 483948 and observe the trail network near Tay Phuoc (1) and (2). The platoon was inserted in grid square BS 4893 to the south of the target area and due to the high vegetation and configuration of the terrain effective OP's could not be established. The platoon was later extracted and reinserted on hill 282 in grid square BS 4896 and satisfactory OP's were established. During this 62 hours operation, there were no significant sightings, but four booby traps were found and marked. The following is a chronological listing of events that occurred on this patrol.
  - 131730H - The 1st Platoon departed RLT-7 HLZ by helo.
  - 131745H - 1st Platoon inserted vic BS 486937.
  - 131745H-132000H - Extensive patrolling east-north and south in BS 4893. No contacts made and no satisfactory OP sites could be located.
  - 132000H - The 1st Platoon requested extraction and re-insertion.
  - 140730H - Short probing patrols dispatched resulting in negative information.
  - 141700H - 1st Platoon extracted by helo and reinserted vic BS 490966. A harbour site was established in this vicinity and an uneventful night was passed.
  - 150600H - Team OP's were established vic BS 494965 and BS 496964. At BS 494965 wires for booby traps and braided grass trip loops were observed but not disturbed. No explosives were seen. (See Appendix "A")

ENCLOSURE 42

150600-151200H - Sporadic traffic was observed going north-west on the trail from Thanh Tra (1) BS 525936 to Tay Phuoc (2) BS 499948. All traffic ceased at approx 151200H. The village of Phuoc Binh Tay (2) BS 499979 was completely deserted.

151350H - A continuous stream of heavy foot traffic moved from Tay Phuoc (2) BS 499948 to Thanh Tra (1) BS 525936.

151430H - All traffic on visible trails stopped. Very little farming was observed throughout the day.

151800H - Both teams returned to the platoon CP/OP. The platoon harboured over night in their CP/OP area. An uneventful night was spent.

160730H - The 1st Platoon was retracted by helo and returned to RLT-7 HLZ.

#### 4. Commanders Analysis

The assigned mission was accomplished. It is significant to note that VC sightings were few and civilian traffic comparatively light in this area. This could indicate a possible buildup further west or a more clandestine approach to movement by the VC due to the constant employment of Recon elements.

#### 5. Remarks and Recommendations

That consideration be given to establishing a rifle platoon OP on a permanent basis along the ridges line near coordinates BS 487967. This area provides excellent observation north, south, east, and west of the ridge line in front of 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines TOAR. This would allow the RAOR to be extended.

R. W. CRAIN  
CO, "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn

RECON GROUP ALFA  
 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Force  
 c/o FPO, San Francisco, 96601

3/JRG/rjm  
 18 Nov 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 Subj: Patrol Report, Operation 9-65, 12-16 November 1965

Ref: (a) DivO 3480.1  
 (b) Recon Group Alfa Frag Order 9-65  
 (c) Map: Vietnam, 1:50,000 Tri Binh 6757 III, Series L701

Encl: (1) Operations Overlay

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted.
2. Units participating in Operation 9-65:

1st Platoon, Co B(-)(Rein), 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion

3. a. General Review of Significant Events. The mission was to maintain surveillance over avenues of approach in RAOR #1. This was accomplished by inserting two OP's vicinity coordinates BT 400077 and BT 433010 and an OP/ambush vicinity coordinates BT 455010. During the 90 hours that the positions were maintained, 22 significant sightings were made totaling 77 VC. No enemy contacts were made during the patrol. The following is a chronological listing of significant events:

To m NIKE

121600H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter.

121615H. Landed at BT 433012.

130630H. Established OP vic BT 434008.

131236H. 7 men moving north on trail at BT 445015 wearing black and carrying 3 rifles.

131755H. 2 women moving southeast in stream at BT 439015 wearing black and carrying bundles wrapped in blue.

131800H. 2 more women moving southeast in streambed at BT 440009. Disappeared in bushes when aircraft flew over.

ENCLOSURE 

- 131802H. 2 men moving southeast at BT 440009 wearing black with 2 rifles.
- 131804H. 1 man moving southeast at BT 440009 wearing black with 1 rifle.
- 131811H. 8 men moving southeast at BT 440009 wearing black with 1 rifle.
- 131845H. Established harbor site at BT 433006.
- 131945H. 2 rounds of H&I fire landed 100 yards from the harbor site. Requested cease fire of H&I.
- 140700H. Established OP.
- 141748H. 1 man and 1 woman moving southwest at BT 440024 wearing black with 1 rifle.
- 141750H. 1 man moving southwest at BT 440015 wearing black. Man moved cautiously, hiding in tree line.
- 141756H. 3 men moving southwest at BT 440015 wearing black. Could not observe equipment. Men moved into streambed noted previously.
- 141808H. 3 men moving southwest at BT 439015 wearing black with 3 rifles.
- 141818H. 2 men and 2 women moving southwest at BT 439015 wearing black with 3 rifles.
- 151240H. 9 men moving northeast at BT 439015 wearing black with 4 rifles.
- 151241H. 3 more men followed previous 9 men.
- 151242H. 2 more men came out of streambed and followed others.
- 151243H. 5 more men came out of streambed and moved northeast with 1 rifle.
- 151245H. 2 women observed previously with bundles moved out of streambed and followed others.
- 151346H. 6 men wearing black moved northeast from same area carrying bundles wrapped in brown.
- 151440H. 2 more men moved northeast from same area.
- 151450H. 2 men moved southwest from streambed at BT 439014 wearing fitted black uniforms.

151810H. 5 men moving southeast at BT 439019 wearing black camouflaged with banana leaves and carried bundles.

151815H. 4 more men moved southeast from same area.

161100H. Team recovered.

Team APOLLO

130700H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter.

130715H. Landed at BT 398075.

130730H. Established OP at BT 400077.

131322H. Heard shot from northeast.

131400H. Heard another shot.

131715H. Heard 2 more shots and a scream.

131720H. Heard machine gun or BAR from same area.

131735H. Heard 2 small caliber shots.

132100H. Sporadic rounds heard all night followed by a large firefight at 2100H.

140800H. 2 men on bicycles moved west at BT 400079, 1 wore green and the other black with 2 packs and 2 rifles.

140825H. 20-30 more rounds heard about 2500 meters to northeast.

141245H. 2 men on bicycles returned moving east.

150650H. Heard 50 caliber machine gun vicinity BT 408095. Fired 10 or 11 rounds.

160930H. Sounded like a fire fight to the northeast.

161100H. Team recovered.

Team ZEUS

130615H. Departed RLT-4 by helicopter and landed at BT 452007.

130700H. Observed numerous harbor sites in that immediate area.

130800H. Established ambush.

132030H. Observed illumination grenade at BT 447013.

151415H. Team moved out to patrol to BT 439015.

CLOSURE

151915H. Established ambush on trail at BT 444014.

160700H. Found sign written in dirt at BT 444018.

161030H. Team recovered at BT 446014.

b. Commanders Evaluation of Significant Events

(1) Trails in the vicinity of BT 441014 appear to be a main supply route from Hill 661 to Thanh My Trung (1) hamlet (BT 4402). Heaviest movement occurs between 1700 and 1900 hours.

(2) Large amount of weapons fire heard in the vicinity of Tien Xuan (1) hamlet (BT 4009) including a .50 caliber machine gun. This has been noted before in the same area.

c. Commander's Recommendation. That operations be conducted in the BT 4009 and BT 4401 areas.

  
J. R. GARDNER  
By direction

Debriefing Report, Frag Order 9-65

Recon Group Alfa  
Chu Lai, Viet Nam  
161430H Nov 1965

Debriefed: SSgt. W. ... BASS  
Team: NIKE, 1st Platoon, Co B, 3rd Recon Bn.  
Cpl. ALLEN, LCpl. SCOTT, LCpl. MANGUM, Pfc. ROSAS

MISSION: Set up an OP at coord BT 434009 and observe Dong Co valley and the routes in and out of the village.

At 121600H, left RLT-4 HLZ by helicopter and landed at LZ coord BT 433011 at 1615H. The team moved to coord BT 433012 and set up a harbor site for the night. At 130630H, the team moved to coord BT 434008 and set up an OP at 0700H. All morning, all that was seen was normal activity. At 1236H, 7 men moved north on the trail at coord BT 445015. All wore black and 3 had rifles. They took advantage of all cover and concealment available. At 1755H, 2 women moved southeast to the stream and to a trail at coord BT 439015 that does not show on the map. 3 white rocks mark the stream. These same 2 women were seen several times. They wore black pajamas and conical hats and carried bundles wrapped in blue. The bundles 1 foot long and 1/2 foot wide. At 1800H, 2 more women moved southeast up to the stream at coord BT 440009, wearing black. When a helicopter came over, they hid in the bushes. After the helicopter went by, they ran across the open area and disappeared into the heavy bushes. At 1802H, 2 men moved southeast at coord BT 440009 wearing black. Each carried a rifle strapped to his shoulder. At 1804H, 1 man wearing black moved southeast at the same coord with 1 rifle. He also took advantage of cover and concealment. At 1811H, 8 men moved southeast at the same coordinates wearing black. They had 1 rifle. At 1845H, the team moved to coord BT 433006 and established a harbor site. At 1750H, NIKE was notified that they would have H&I fires just north of their position. At 1945H, 1 round of H&I fire landed about 100 yards just west of the harbor site. At 141415H, 1 more round landed approximately 25 yards to the right and 100 yards up from the harbor site. It landed at coord BT 431007. NIKE called and requested cease fire on the H&I fires. None of the shrapnel could be found the next morning. At 0700H, the OP was set up. The normal activity was noted during the morning. At 141748H, 1 man and 1 woman moved southwest at coord BT 440024 wearing black and carrying 1 rifle. At 141750H, 1 man moved southwest at coord BT 439017 wearing black. He was very cautious and followed the tree line hiding whenever aircraft flew over. At approximately 1750H, Scat Bravo notified NIKE of a large VC unit in their area. At 1756H, 3 men moved southwest at coord BT 443015 wearing black. They also followed the tree line. Eventually, all southwestern movement entered the same streambed noted before. At 1808H, 3 men moved southwest at coord BT 439015 wearing black. All 3 had rifles. At 1818H, 2 men and 2 women moved southwest at coord BT 439015 wearing black and carrying 3 rifles. At 151240H, 9 men moved northeast at coord BT 439014 wearing black and had 4 rifles. At 1241H, 3 men moved northeast following the other 9, wearing black. At 1242H, 2 men moved northeast at the same coord wearing black. These all came out of the stream bed. At 1243H, 5 men in black moved northeast with 1 rifle. At 1245H the 2 women mentioned before followed the men. At 132046H, 6 men wearing black moved northeast at the same coord. They carried round bundles, wrapped in brown in their arms. At 1440H, 2 men moved northeast at 439014 wearing black. At 1450H, 2 men moved southwest from the streambed where the others came from. These wore what appeared to be tailor made black uniforms. At 1645H, 6 people were seen in the paddy at BT 437024. 1 man was standing in front of the others who were sitting. They had previously been working in the paddy.

ENCLOSURE

After they went back to work, the man who had been standing stood around for a while, then went over under a shade tree and disappeared. All wore black. At 1747H, 1 man carrying a brown bag in his hand moved southeast at coord BT 439019. At that coord, he held the bag up in the air but didn't stop. At coord BT 439019, the brush was thick and most everyone passed through, but all paused for a few minutes in the brush. At 1750H, 1 man with what appeared to be a shopping bag under his arm moved southeast at coord BT 439019. As a helicopter passed over, he dodged into the bushes. At 1810H 5 men wearing camouflage (looked like banana leaves from the waist up) moved southeast at coord BT 439019. They wore black. They carried bundles in their arms. At 1815H, 4 more carrying bundles followed the others. They wore black. 1 man with bag joined the other 4 at coord BT 440014. At 1823H, 4 men moved southeast with bundles at coord BT 439019 wearing black. They also ducked from the helicopters. At 1823H, 2 women with bundles moved southeast at the same coord wearing black. They ran across the open field. At coord BT 439019, 2 men, 1 with a bundle, the other with a bamboo pole joined the women. 4 more men with bundles followed the others. At 160600H, a camp fire was seen at coord BT 441005. During the night from about 151930H to 152000H, a flashlight moved up and down the trail at coord BT 439013. A white object about the size of a coffee hat, except rectangular, was seen at coord BT 441005. It was still there when the team was retracted. All movement on the trails appeared to be like a supply route. Most movement started and stopped about the same time everyday. The amount of people with rifles seems to have grown in number since the last time that the OP was manned. At 161045H, team NIKE was retracted by helicopter and returned to RLT-4 HLZ.

Comment: An operation should be run through the area of the trails.

Debriefing Report, Frag Order 9-65

Recon Group Alfa  
Chu Lai, Viet Nam  
161900H Nov 1965

Debriefed: SSgt. W. A. BASS

Team ZEUS: Cpl. RITZIC, Cpl. HARTMAN, ICpl. EASTERLING,  
Pfc. ARGENT, Pfc. DOCKRADER, Cpl. ROHWELLER, ICpl. BURKE, Pfc. CARLSON,  
Pfc. ROGERS, Pfc. HARRIS, HM3 MORGAN

MISSION: Establish squad size ambush at coord BT 455010.

At 130615H, left RLT-4 area by helo and landed at coord BT 452007 at 0630H. Immediately moved into defensive position and sent out scouting party west approximately 300 meters, then west from the defensive position 150 meters then east about 300 meters. On the trails moving south and east were campfire sites and 2 small harbor sites that could accommodate 5 or 6 men. At the stream bed at coord BT 452010, a hat (jungle type), black trousers and 2 shirts were found. Also evidences of a 10-12 man harbor site were seen. Large rocks formed small caves and fire sites big enough for 1 to 3 men to hide in. Some rocks were 30 feet high, some smaller. About 100 meters passed the stream was as far as the team went. The trail is very good and is well used. The ambush was set in by 0800H. Nothing was seen or heard that day. At 132030H, what appeared to be an illumination grenade went off at coord BT 447013. No sound was heard. It lasted about 4 seconds. In the light the first time, about 3 people in coolie hats walked around the light. At 2100H, another light flashed for approximately 4 seconds and the 3 people sat around. At 2200 the light came on again, lasting about 1 minute, but nothing was seen. Nothing else was seen or heard that night. On both mornings of the 14th and 15th at approximately 0530, 2 lights appeared at approximate grid square 4503 and about 1000 meters northeast of the other. They came on and stayed on. They burned bright and steady. At 151400H, Scat Bravo ordered ZEUS to move to coord BT 439015. They were told to be there by 1730. At 151415H, the team moved out in a westerly direction to coord BT 446010. At this point the trail turned southwest. The team continued westerly about 100 meters, but the jungle was impenetrable. The team back-tracked to BT 447009 and moved north down the stream bed at coord BT 446015 at approximately 151800H. The team moved west to coord BT 444014 and found an unmarked trail. An ambush was set in for the night there at 1915H. No contact was made during the night. At 0645H, moved to 443015 to another trail. From here they moved north to coord BT 444018. At the trail junction at BT 444018, a sign was found written in the dirt. The sign was copied and turned over to RLT-4 S-2. The team then moved back down the trail to coord BT 444014, then moved west to coord BT 440015. At this coord a chicken was heard crowing from approximate coord BT 447012. The large open area that appears on the map at coord BT 440020 is not there. The team moved to coord BT 444014, then to the IZ at coord BT 446014. At 161015H the team was retracted by helicopter and returned to RLT-4 HLT.

ENCLOSURE 44

Debriefing Report, Frag Order 9-65

Recon Group Alfa  
 Chu Lai, Viet Nam  
 161400 Nov 1965

Debriefer: SSgt. W. A. BASS  
 Team: APOLLO, 1st Platoon, Co D, 3rd Recon Bn.  
 Cpl. MENTON, Cpl. MINDEN, Pfc. JEPSON, Pfc. MCCLOSKEY, Pfc. PLANTZ

MISSION: Set up an OP at coord BT 398075 and observe the area to the north and southwest.

At 130700H, Left RLT-4 HLZ by helicopter and landed at coord BT 398075 at 0715H. An OP was established at 0715H facing northeast. Nothing was seen. At 1300H, APOLLO received orders to change observation to southwest. The OP was moved approximately 10 meters. At 1322H, 1 shot was heard from the northeast. At 1400H, 1 shot was heard from the northeast again. At 1715H, 2 more rounds were fired from the northeast and someone screamed. At 1720H, 4 more rounds were heard. It sounded more from the east. It sounded like an automatic weapon, possibly a machine gun or BAR. At 1735H, 2 more rounds were heard from a smaller caliber weapon. These all sounded to be approximately 2500 meters away. At 1745H, 2 more rounds were heard. At 1800H, 3 more rounds were fired. At 1815H 2 rounds; at 1835H 1 round. Sporadic fire was heard throughout the night. At 2100H, a bombing run was made, followed by a large fire fight, then sporadic firing again. At 140740H, 2 women moved east on the trail at coord BT 398078 wearing black and carrying large baskets. At 0745H, 2 men moved west on the trail at coord BT 398078, wearing black and carrying baskets. At 0800H, 2 men on bicycles moved west at coord BT 400079. 1 wore a green uniform and the other black. Both had packs and rifles. At 0815H, 1 man moved west at coord BT 400079. He wore a gray shirt and black trousers and carried a swing blade. At 0815H, 5 rounds of small arms fire were heard from the east. At 0825H, 4 bursts of automatic weapons fire were heard, 4 to 7 rounds per burst. At 0930H, 3 men moved northwest at coord BT 401083. 1 wore white, the others black with coolie hats. At 1120H, chopping noises were heard from approximately 500 yards from the northwest. At 1245H, the before-mentioned 2 men on bicycles moved east at coord BT 400079. They carried no weapons or packs, but carried baskets. At 1425H, 3 shots of small arms fire from the northeast were heard. At 1515H, 3 men moved west at coord BT 398078. 1 wore blue shorts with a black top, the rest wore black. They all carried baskets and swing blades. At 1545H, 2 men moved west at coord BT 398078. 1 wore a white jacket and black trousers, the other wore black and a coolie hat. At 1615H, 5 or 6 rounds of automatic weapons fire were heard from the northeast. Nothing was heard that night. At 150650H, a 50 caliber fired from approximate coord BT 408095. It fired 10 or 11 rounds. Only normal movement was seen during the 14th. 1 man worked approximately 10 minutes in the rice paddy. 1 man in a white coat went to the stream and took a bath. Sporadic fire from the northeast was heard throughout the night. At 160930H, a large fire fight was heard from the northeast. At 161100H, the team was extracted from coord BT 398075 and returned to RLT-4 HLZ.

Comment: Could probably have observed the fire from hill 99.

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 20 copies  
 3d Recon Bn  
 DA NANG, RVN  
 10 Nov 65

## OPERATION ORDER 344-65

Ref: (a) EnOpO 336-65  
 (b) Maps: 1:50,000, Series L701, Sheet Numbers 6559 I, II;  
 6659 I, III, IV; 6558 I, IV; 6658 I; 6657 I, II; 6757  
 II, III, IV; 6656 I; 6756 I, IV

Time Zone: H

Task Organization: Reference (a).

1. SITUATION.

- a. Enemy Forces. Current INTSUM's.
- b. Friendly Forces. Current OPSUM's.
- c. Attachments and detachments. Reference (a).

2. MISSION. 3d Recon Bn (-)(Rein) establishes a reconnaissance net in the DA NANG and CHU LAI enclaves.

3. EXECUTION.

a. Concept of operation. 3d Recon Bn (-)(Rein) accomplishes its assigned mission by maintaining area surveillance and reconnaissance patrolling within RAOR's. Fire support and infantry reinforcement requirements will be effected by direct liaison with cognizant Regimental Commanders.

b. CoA(-): DA NANG

- (1) 16-19 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 3.
- (2) 19-22 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 3.

c. Recon Group Alpha: CHU LAI

- (1) Operations will be confined to an area NORTH of grid line 92 and WEST of grid line 54.

(2) Maintain at least 2 platoons in RAOR's 1 and 2 at all times from ~~15-22~~ Nov 65,  
 22-6 Dec 65

d. CoC(-): DA NANG

- (1) 15-18 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 4.
- (2) 18-21 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 4.

-1-

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(3) 21-24 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 4.

e. ~~Co~~ DA NANG

(1) 14-17 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 5.

(2) 17-20 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 6.

(3) 18-21 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 5.

(4) 20-23 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 6.

f. ~~Recon~~ Recon Co: DA NANG

(1) 15-19 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 2.

(2) ~~18-21~~ Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 2.

(3) ~~21-24~~ Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 2.

g. ~~Coord~~ <sup>24-28</sup> ~~Instructions~~ instructions.

(1) Reconnaissance operations will be conducted as set forth in paragraph 3a of reference (a).

(2) Coordinate all missions with cognizant Regimental Commanders.

(3) EMI's. Annex A to reference (a).

(4) Submit helicopter requirements to this Headquarters (Attn: S-3) not later than 48 hours prior to commencement of mission.

(5) Use varying means and times of entry and exit; helo LZ's will be no closer than 3000 meters to objective area.

(6) Submit operation orders not later than 24 hours prior to execution of assigned missions to this Headquarters (Attn: S-3) for reproduction and distribution.

(7) Submit patrol rosters to this Headquarters (Attn: S-3) prior to execution of assigned missions. DA NANG only.

(8) Patrol Leaders report to the Battalion S-2 immediately on return to the Battalion area for debriefing. DA NANG only.

(9) Prepare alternate plans for entry to and exit from RAOR's.

(10) Be prepared to call and adjust artillery fire.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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- (11) If an airstrike is requested and approved, display a single red panel at position when aircraft are on station.
- (12) Be prepared to recommend infantry reinforcement and suitable primary and alternate LZ's for its entry.
- (13) For DA NANG RAOR's see Annex B to reference (a); CHU IAI RAOR's see Annex C, reference (a).

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. Reference (a).

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.

a. Reference (a).

b. Battalion Command post remains the same.

*R.R. Van Cleve*

R. R. VAN CLEVE

Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

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G-2	(2)
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ENCLOSURE

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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 DANANG, RVN  
 221730H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 1- Alpha

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet 6659 III, 6559 II, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (15) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct day and night undetected land reconnaissance to locate VC Camp sights storage areas, communication routes and signs of activity. Establish day OP's and night ambush position.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 171400H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 221700H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 184-65
6. OBSERVATIONS OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
171744H	(AT 794845)	5 VC carrying packs and rifles moving West on road.
171530H	(ZC 204845)	Located 4 unoccupied hutches.
171545H	(ZC 204845)	2, 20 mm shell casings were found in a streambed.
171646H	(ZC 204845)	Located a storage hut.
171807H	(ZC 208838)	Located numerous trails.
180800H	(ZC 207838)	Located a large storage hut containing fresh rice.
<del>191210H</del>	(ZC 203849)	Located a well used trail and found fresh footprints.
200804H	(ZC 198848)	3 armed VC were observed crossing the river.
201135H	(ZC 195844)	28 armed VC were found occupying a bivouac area.
201500H	(ZC 194844)	Located an old VC bivouac area.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 171744H (AT 794845). 5 VC carrying packs and rifles were observed moving West on the road 3000 meters from the patrols landing point. This observation was made from a helo.

**ENCLOSURE**C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

- (2) 171530H the patrol located 4 hutches unoccupied and constructed of bamboo. These hutches were approximately 8 X 6 X 8 feet. Some of the huts contained cooking utensils, firewood, weaved baskets, and one tube of Colgate toothpaste. There were some indications of recent use.
- (3) At 171545H, two 20mm shell casings were found in a stream bed. The primer had been punctured which indicated they may have been ejected by some aircraft. These casings appeared new.
- (4) At 171646H a small used storage hut was found at (AT 204845). The huts foundation was elevated and its structure was composed of bamboo, and thatched with banana leaves. The hut was approximately 8 X 6 X 10 feet. Its interior contained 8 tin containers weighing 80 pounds. Inside the containers were barley, corn, potatoes and salt. 3 small crocks contained what was believed to be fish sauce. 2 packs, 2 flashlights, and a pair of trousers were also found in the vicinity. All items of food were destroyed by desposing them in water. The packs and their contents were returned to the reconnaissance Bn. C.P. The huts were dismantled by the patrol. The tins and crocks destroyed.
- (5) At 171807H numerous trail networks not shown on the map were located at (ZC 208838). These trails were approximately 1 to 3 feet wide and considered well used. (Refer to overlay)
- (6) At 180800H a large bamboo constructed storage hut was located at (ZC 207838) contained approximately 1500 pounds of fresh rice and 5 pounds of fish sauce. This hut measured 6 X 8 X 8 feet. It appeared to have been recently constructed this was determined by the green bamboo and its overall appearance. Rice was destroyed by spreading throughout the area and ~~the hut dismantled~~.
- (7) At 191210H the patrol located a well used trail which ran generally North to South at (ZC 203849). The trail was 2 to 3 feet wide, hard surfaced, and sandy in some areas. Footprints were found at (ZC 203849) which had been made by approximately 12 men wearing sandals. These prints were 12 hours old and led towards the North. 3 unoccupied 10 by 12 foot lean-to's were found in the vicinity of the trail as well as fresh diggings which appeared to have been made for locating earth worms or roots.
- (8) At 208040H 3 VC un-armed and carrying packs were observed crossing the river at (ZC 198848) heading in a Westerly direction. They wore camouflaged bush hats, black trousers and shirts. Visual contact was lost when they entered a densely vegetated area.
- (9) At 201135H a well used trail was utilized by the patrol which ran generally towards the Southwest and to the river at (ZC 195844). From a high vantage point on a cliff and approximately 80 meters away the patrol observed 28 armed VC occupying 6 huts. These huts appeared

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

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well constructed and the area well policed. Due to the dense vegetation only portions of the huts were visible. The huts were approximately 10 X 20 X 10 feet constructed of bamboo and could accomodate 10 to 15 men. Weapons which were noted were US Carbines, M-1 rifles, and short foreign made automatic weapons. The VC in the area appeared at ease and relaxed. They wore black and khaki clothing.

(10) At 201500H the patrol located an old VC bivouac area at (ZC 194844). 3 huts 6 X 8 X 6 feet were found dismantled and neatly arranged for future use. In the vicinity of the huts was a large pile of neatly stacked lumber which measured 8 feet high and 20 feet long. It appeared this lumber had been taken from a bridge.

(11) Numerous trails not shown on the map are shown on the overlay attached to this report.

(12) Communications with the AN/PRC 25 was considered good.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.

9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: GOOD.

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommendation: That a continuous surveillance be conducted in this particular area, due to the recent observation of VC activity.

R. H. HEASLEY  
SGT. Co A,

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: Debriefer concurs with the patrol leaders recommendation.

**ENCLOSURE (2)**

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SHEET NO.  
6559 II  
SER-L-701  
(ZC)

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(AT)  
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SHEET NO.  
6659 III  
SER-L-701

ENCLOSURE (47)

5-3

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 DANANG, RVN  
 261400H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 3-Alpha

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (16) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct day and night undetected land reconnaissance to locate Viet Cong Camp sites storage areas, communications routes and signs of activity. Establish day OP's and selective night ambush positions.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 221530H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 261130H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 185-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
231130H	(AT 853849)	3 VC were moving East on the road.
250830H	(AT 825855)	3 VC were walking East on the road.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 231130H 3 VC, 2 women and one man were observed coming from the South across the rice paddies at (AT 853849). The women wore straw hats black shirts and trousers and were carrying baskets which were attached to a pole. The man wore a black shirt and shorts and was armed with a rifle. They stopped for approximately 1 minute, sat down and the man came out of the brush without his weapon. Then he observed the road to the East and West, returned to the brush and retrieved his weapon. They then proceeded East along the road.

(2) 250830H the patrol observed 3 VC moving East on the road at (AT 825855). They wore straw hats and green ponchos. 1 VC was armed with a US Carbine, and the others appeared to be carrying packs under their poncho's.

(3) Communications with the AN/PRC 25 was considered excellent. One battery was in continuous use for 30 hours.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED:  
GOOD.

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.

T. F. WHALEN  
SGT CO. A

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

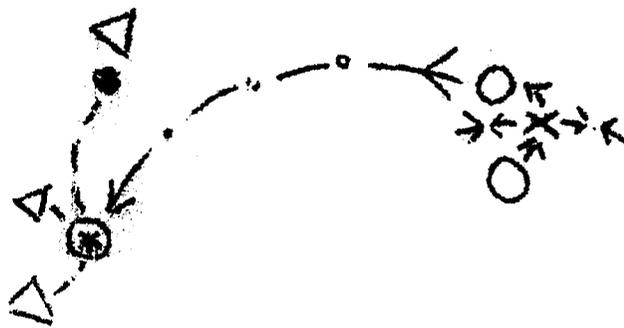
ENCLOSURE 48

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Appendix 'A' to PATROL REPORT TRAG 8-65

PATROL ROUTE  
 1ST PLT C Co 1ST RECON BN.  
 13/1745H to 160730H Nov 1965  
 VIET NAM 1:50,000  
 L-1701  
 SHEETS: 6757 III, 6756 IV  
 Sgt. D. Anshel (

51  
 +  
 97



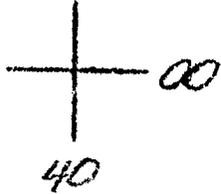
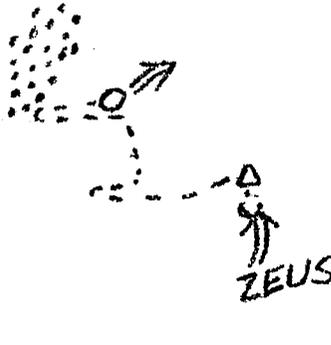
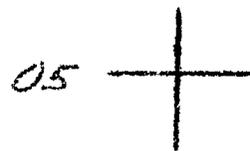
94  
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 46

LEGEND  
 O HAZ  
 X HARBOUR SITE  
 Δ TEAM OP  
 --- TEAM RECON ROUTE  
 - - - HELILIFT  
 ● BOOBY TRAPS

OPERATIONS OVERLAY  
 OPERATION 9-65  
 1ST FL; SUB (1) (REIN)  
 30 RECON SQ.  
 9-12 NOV 65  
 VIETNAM 1:50,000  
 TRI BINH 6737 III  
 Sgt. R. J. [Signature]

↑  
 A  
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 APOLLO

47



LEGEND:

- O - HLZ
- Δ - OP
- - SIGHTING

ENCLOSURE (1)

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 DANANG, RVN  
 281100H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 2-Alpha

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (17) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct day and night undetected land reconnaissance to locate Viet Cong camp sites, storage areas, communications routes and signs of activity; establish day OP's and selective night ambush positions.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 240800H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 280830H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 186-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) During four days and nights of extensive patrolling, establishing OP's, and night ambush positions no friendly or enemy activity was noted.
  - (2) Trails utilized by the patrol were free of booby traps and no trail markers were noted.
  - (3) Map Corrections: 2 trails were utilized by the patrol which are not presently on the map. Refer to Overlay.
  - (4) The AN/PnC 25 provided an excellent means of communications. One battery previously used was in continuous use for 36 hours without power failure.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

D. P. WYATT  
 2nd Lt. Co. A

*Encl (49)*

(49) (mirrored)

SHEET NO. 6659 III  
SER L-701



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+  
84

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 DANANG, RVN  
 300900Z November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 1-Alpha

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (12) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct day and night undetected land reconnaissance to locate Viet Cong camp sites, storage areas, communications routes and signs of activity; establish day OP's and selective night ambush positions.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 260730H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 300830H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 187-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) 4 days of extensive scouting and patrolling resulted in negative sightings of enemy or friendly activity.
  - (2) Trail complexes utilized by the patrol were free of booby traps and trail markers were not detected. Indications are that the trails had not been used recently.
  - (3) The AN/PRC 25 provided an excellent means of communications. On several occasions, on a river crossing the radio became submerged in water, but continued to operate without any malfunctions. One battery was in continuous use for a period of 96 hours.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.

W. T. HENDERSON  
 1st Lt. Co A.

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

ENCLOSURE 50CONFIDENTIAL

5-3

CONFIDENTIAL

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 DA NANG, RVN  
 231530H Nov 65

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: SCAT 2-CHARLIE

MAPS: Viet Nam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 II

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Officer, (14) Enlisted, (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct reconnaissance and surveillance of assigned area using patrolling and daylight OP's and conduct ambushes of opportunity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 191730H
4. TIME OF RETURN: 231300H
5. ROUTE (SHOW ON OVERLAY): Refer to Operation Order 55 - 65.
6. OBSERVATIONS - ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - a. Three days of intensive patrolling in the area of operation resulted in negative sightings of enemy or friendly activity. It was noted while passing through the villages of THON-PHUOC-SON at (AT 8676), (AT 8776) and THON-PHUOC-DONG (AT 8876) that these villages were deserted and unoccupied.
  - b. The AN/PRC-25 provided an excellent means of communication. While crossing a stream the radio became submerged in the water, but continued to operate without failure. One battery was in continuous use for a period of 76 hours.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.
10. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION: None.
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

D. M. DICKE, 1st Lt, Co, "C"

ENCLOSURE (5)

CONFIDENTIAL

5-3

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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 DANANG, RVN  
 261445N November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Seat 1-Charlie

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (16) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct reconnaissance and surveillance of assigned area using patrolling and daylight OP's. Conduct ambushes of opportunity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 221500H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 261330H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 56-65
6. OBSERVATIONS OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) The patrol conducted 4 days of extensive patrolling within their area of operation without sighting any friendly or enemy activity.
  - (2) It was noted by the patrol leader that people working the fields and handling the cattle in grid square (AT 8966) would not enter DONG NGHE Valley in grid squares (AT 8565), (AT 8665), (AT 8765), and (AT 8865). No activity what so ever was noted in this valley for a period of 4 days.
  - (3) The rice paddy complexes in the area of operation are submerged in approximately  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet of water, making movement extremely difficult and time consuming.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: FAIR.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

R. E. EBBS  
 SGT CO. C.

ENCLOSURE 52C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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 DANANG, RVN  
 201000H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 2-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (13) En1 (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct an area reconnaissance of RACR #6 for extent of VC activity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 161800H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 201000H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 473-65
6. OBSERVATIONS OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) On 161800H the patrol was helo lifted into a predesignated landing point at (AT 899650). On completion of the entry, the patrol proceeded East to (AT 901642) where a perimeter was established until the following morning. At first light on the morning of the 17th a patrol base was established and teams deployed to manned predesignated observation posts and reconnoiter the Northeastern basin of the SONG-TUY-LOAN. Observation of enemy or friendly activity was not noted.

(2) At 171800H the patrol displaced from their patrol base under the cover of darkness and proceeded in an Easterly direction to hill mass 223 at (AT 915648). Night ambush positions were established and the following morning teams were deployed to designated points where observation posts were manned to reconnoiter the North and Northeastern basin of the SONG-TUY-LOAN. Negative sightings were reported. At 180730H frequent air strikes were visible in grid square (AT 9762). At 181800H continuous small arms fire could be heard from the vicinity of (AT 9762).

(3) At 181800H the patrol displaced and moved East to (AT 903651) where they remained at this location, establishing a patrol base and observation posts. No activity or unusual occurrences were noted throughout the day.

(4) At 191730H the patrol displaced and proceeded East to (AT 906638); established ambush positions until early morning and then proceeded towards their landing point for extraction. Extraction was completed at 209005H at (AT 904642).

ENCLOSURE 53

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

- (5) The trail networks utilized were noted to be overgrown with vegetation, which indicated the trails had not been recently used. No trail markers or booby traps were encountered.
- (6) On the day of the 19th a helo medical evacuation was required for 3 men with minor cases of heat exhaustion and stomach cramps. The evacuation was completed and the condition of the men was considered good.
- (7) The AN/PRC 25 provided excellent means of communication. One battery was in continuous use for a period of 76 hours without failure, or loss of power.
- (8) The area of operation was heavily infested with mosquitoes.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: GOOD. 3 men required helo evacuation for minor injuries.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.
- R. S. YNACAY  
SSGT Co. D
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

ENCLOSURE 63  
C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A LCopy No 15 of 20 Copies  
3d Reconnaissance Bn.  
DANANG, RVNPATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 3-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (14) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: To conduct an area reconnaissance of RAOR #6
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 171800H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 221330H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 474-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) 5 days of intensive patrolling in the patrols area of operation result in negative sightings of enemy or friendly activity.
  - (2) At 181530H a helo med evacuation was required to evacuate an injured patrol member who had torn some legaments in his left knee. His condition was considered good.
  - (3) Trail networks which were used by the patrol were free of booby traps and trail markers were not noted.
  - (4) The AN/PRC 25 provided an excellent means of communication and one battery was in continuous use for 76 hours.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good. (1) man Helo evacuated to C & C with a torn legament of the left knee.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None

D. MC DERMOTT  
1st Lt. Co D

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None

ENCLOSURE 54C O N F I D E N T I A L

"C" COMPANY  
 1st Reconnaissance Battalion  
 3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMF (Forward)  
 FPO San Francisco, California, 96601

23 November 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 Via: Commander, Recon Group Alpha

Subj: Patrol Report 10-65

Ref: (a) Group Frag Order 10-65  
 (b) Maps: Viet Nam, 1:50,000 Series L701, 6757 III and 6756 IV

1. IAW reference (a) the following report is submitted.
2. Unit: 2nd Platoon, "C" Company, (Rein), 1st Reconnaissance Battalion
3. (a) General Review of Significant Events. The mission of this platoon size patrol was to conduct reconnaissance operations and establish OP's for surveillance in an objective area that visually covered from Tinh Trung at BS 437953 east to Tho An at BS 473953. Teams one and four with the platoon headquarters group were retracted by helo from vic BS 457952 at 220915H and returned to the RLT-7 HLZ. Due to inclement weather and helicopter commitments Team #2 was not retracted until 231730H. During this six day operation, there were three significant sightings totaling 20 VC with 9 weapons. One artillery mission was requested and delivered with excellent results.

(b) The following is a chronological account of the events that transpired on this patrol:

- 171715H - The 2nd Platoon was helo lifted from RLT-7 HLZ and inserted vic BS 499969 at 171735H.
- 171920H - The platoon established a harbour site vic BS 449967. They noted a sheer cliff at BS 450969.
- 180300H - Two flashlights were observed vic BS 449966 for a period of 20 minutes. Someone appeared to be searching the LZ area.
- 180630H - The 2nd Platoon left their harbour site moving south. They encountered a trail at BS 447963 and followed the trail for approx 500 meters. It appeared not to have been used recently. They found various signs on the trail (See sketches #1 and 2).
- 181110H - Team #2 was released at BS 446961. On the hill top at BS 448960 the constructions depicted in sketch #3, 4 and 5 were found.
- 181210H - Team #1 was released at BS 450957. They moved up to hill 294 (BS 453955).

ENCLOSURE 65

181445H - The Hq team with Team #4 also moved to hill 294 (BS 453955) and established a CP/OP with OP's on the north and south side of the crest. Tho An, (Sketches #6 and 7) was visible from the OP on the north side of the hill. Normal activity was observed in the fields.

181830H - At BS 473947 it was noted that a trail ran thru a clear area. approx 20 meters wide between bushes, however when ever anyone went up the trail they avoided the clear area by walking around thru the bushes on the west side.

181830H - 201100H - Each night intermittent machine gun fire was heard from the south. During the day intermittent rifle fire and machine gun fire was heard from the same area.

201100H - Ten men wearing black, no weapons, were sighted at BS 465958. A man wearing a green hat and uniform, no weapon, appeared to be instructing them in squad tactics. After 15 minutes practice, he appeared to be lecturing them for a short time. They then started herding cattle west and dissappeared into the brush.

220830H - Teams #2, 4 and the Hq section moved to BS 467952 in preparation for retraction.

220915H - 2nd Platoon, less Team #1 retracted by helo and returned to RLT-7 HLZ.

Team #1

181310H - Establish OP vic BS 459956. Observed normal activity in fields.

190750H - Noted that although two UKLE A/C were flying around the farmers in the paddies paid no attention to them.

200820H - One round of SA fire heard from the S-E.

200955H - Two men came out of the bushes at BS 462964. They were carrying rifles and headed east.

201415H - Seven men with weapons sighted at BS 475960. They proceeded to BS 471963 and appeared to be working on an emplacement. One man in a green uniform appeared to be the leader.

201420H - An artillery mission was requested, three rounds were fired, the men dispersed and six women ran into the impact area and the remainder of the mission was cancelled.

21 Nov - No visibility due to rain and fog.

220830H - Rejoined the CP/OP for retraction.

231700H - Team #1 extracted by helo from hill 294 and returned to RLT-7 HLZ

4. Commander's Analysis

The assigned mission was accomplished. It is interesting to note that during this six day operation only three significant sightings were effected. This perhaps tends to indicate that the enemy is cognizant of reconnaissance elements being continually deployed in RAOR II. The last three operations conducted in this area have disclosed little intelligence information and a significant reduction of enemy movement.

5. Remarks and Recommendations

During this operation three additional helicopter requests were formulated in a direct attempt to extract platoon/team elements deployed in the RAOR. After tentative approval was received, cancellations on these requests ensued and no priority could be obtained to effectively support operational reconnaissance elements. It is recommended that greater attention be focused on reconnaissance needs and requirements so that platoons/teams can be extracted/inserted on a more timely basis.

It was also noted that one PRC-10 became inoperative due to the severe rains encountered during this patrol. The PRC-25 continued to prove itself adequate for reconnaissance utilization.

*R. W. Crain*  
R. W. CRAIN  
CO, "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn

494956

ENCLOSURE 

RECON GROUP ALPHA  
 CHU LAI, VIET NAM  
 222000H Nov 1965

## FRAG ORDER 10-65

Debriefed: SSgt BASS  
 2nd Plt, "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn  
 Lt. WILLIAMS, Sgt LUCAS, and 11 men

MISSION: Perform area recon of the valley surrounding hill 234 coord BS 453955

Team Sapphire

At 171715H left RLE-7 HLZ by helo and landed at LZ Mitt coord BS 449969 at 1735H. Moved to coord 449967 and established harbour sight at 1920H for the night. In the vic of 450969 was a sheer rock cliff. At 180300H observed two flashlights in vic 449966. They appeared to be searching the area. They were observed for approx 20 minutes. At 180630H moved out south arriving at the stream bed in grid square 4496 at 0730H. At 0810H the teams moved south westerly direction to a trail at approx coord BS 447963, the trail ran on an azimuth of 140° for approx 175 meters. There were many signs in the trail (see attached sketch #1. The trail appeared to not have been used recently. At 1110H, Team Onyx released at coord 446961. At this point were two sticks beside the east side of the trail. They were broken and bent at the same angle approx 45° with the angle with the opening pointing west. Both were identical to length, break, and angle. The hill top at coord 458960, had some type of gate on a trap or something. (see attached sketch #3). At 1210H team Diamond was released from coord 450957. He moved up to hill 294 at coord 453955. At 1332 Onyx requested to stay at coord BS 441960 as observation was excellent, so permission was granted. At 1445H, Lt. WILLIAMS arrived at coord BS 453955 with team Sapphire. The CP/OP was established at that time and coord. Two OP's were establish at that time approx 50 meters apart on the north side and one on the south side of the hill, which put Tho An and An Khuong (1) under observation. The team Sapphire noted that the fields had the normal activities each day. At 181730H, two men were seen working on the middle of the trail at coord BS 478947 wearing black, coolie hats. No weapons in sight. They appeared to be digging. At 1803H they were joined by two other men, then they all four proceeded up the trail to coord 473947. At this coord the trail runs through a clear area approx 20 meters wide, between bushes, however every time anyone went up the trail they moved around the bushes on the west side, then continued on the trail to the village of Tho An. Travel on the trails was fairly light all three days they were observed. Nothing suspicious was noted other than before mentioned. Each night intermittent machine gun fire were heard from the same area. At 201100H, 12 men were sighted wearing black at coord BS 465958, they appeared to be doing squad tactics. The man leading them had a green uniform on and after about 15 minutes they finished, he appeared to be lecturing them. Then they all started herding cattle west and disappeared.

Team Diamond

At 181310H, team Diamond's OP was established at coord BS 458956. From 1300H to 1400H normal movement and work in the fields was all that was observed. At 1400H disbursed into the shade and came back at 1500H. At 1700H the people left the field and moved to Tho An and disappeared. During the night machine gun fire was heard periodically, also incoming artillery fire.

ENCLOSURE 56

At 190712H one man with black clothing and a coolie hat came down to the field with a basket. He was followed by three more people. They all started working in the rice paddies. At 0720H, one man ran the full length of the rice paddy and entered the bushes at coord BS 466954, he was followed by another man walking. Both appeared very soon herding three cows. People begin straggling into the paddies to work herding cows in some cases. At 0730H to 0759H, two UH1E A/C flew around but no one in the paddies seemed to pay any attention to them. At 0807H, nine people walking in column dressed in tight black clothing appeared at coord BS 468959, moving N-NE. The last man in column was noticeably huge in size. He was at least a head taller than the others and was heavy set. They moved into bushes at coord 465963. The two men in front carried baskets. Some of the people in the paddies watched them cross the paddies while others continued to work. One man talked to the large man in the back of the column for approx one minute. At 1053H, there were 18 people working in the paddies or attending cattle. At 1128H, eight of the nine people before mentioned appeared at coord 468956. The big man was still behind them. They moved E-SE towards the village, all except the big one carried baskets. They stopped at the stream for approx six minutes, then moved on into the village. At 1710H everyone left the paddies and returned to the village. During the night the same machine gun fire and artillery were heard as before. At 200820H people started returning to the rice paddies. At 200820H, one round S/A fire was heard from the S.E. Could not determine location. At 0920H, Cpl MCILVANIA took one man and established another OP at coord BS 456953. At 0955H two men came out of the bushes carrying a large shiny object at coord 462964. It was carried in the crotch of the arm like a rifle might be carried. They moved across the opening at that coord moving east and disappeared into the brush. At 1040H, seven people sat down in the edge of the rice paddies at coord BS 469960, one man talked to the others for approx 10 minutes then they all went back to work. At 1415H, seven men with weapons were seen at coord BS 475960 and moved to BS 471963 and appeared to be working on something that was brown in color. One man wore green uniform and appeared to be the leader. It appeared to be an emplacement as they were digging and measuring. Possibly a mortar emplacement. At 1440H artillery was requested and three rounds were fired. As the first round was fired everyone ran for the village. The seven people ran in different directions. Five women ran into the danger area so end of mission was called. At 1710H, Cpl MCILVANIA secured the OP and returned to the CP/OP. The night was spent there, nothing except artillery was heard that night. On 21 Nov nothing was observed at all due to rain and fog. At 220530H both teams Sapphire and Diamond and headquarters moved down to the LZ at coord. BS 457952 and at 0915H, the teams were retracted by helo and returned to RVT-7 H/Z.

Note: The sketches mentioned above will be attached as annexes to the patrol report.

**ENCLOSURE 50**

REGON GROUP ALPHA  
 CHU LAI, VIET NAM  
 231100H Nov 1965

OPAS NUMBER 10-55  
 Classification Sdgt NASS

Team Onyx, Cpl IESLIE, LOpl SAKUGAWA, PFC NAU, PFC STAHL

MISSION To set up OP at coord BS 442960 and observe the village Tinh Trung at coord BS 435951 and the valley surrounding it.

At 180000H Team Onyx departed from the plt at coord BS 450961 and proceeded to the OP site at BS 442960, arriving at 1320H. Due to tall brush caused the CP to be set up in a tree. The village could be observed through a hole in the trees that had been cleared by a previous 155 shell. No activity was seen in the rice paddies during the 18th. At 181800H, the team left the CP site and moved to a harbor site for the night at coord BS 441965. Nothing unusual was seen or heard during the night. At 190630H the team returned and established the OP at the same site. Only two men and one boy were sighted that day moving West. At 1800H the team moved into a harbor site at coord BS 443960. At 2100H movement was heard from the west. Silhouettes of six or seven people were seen approx 25 feet east of the harbor site. These same people were the ones heard from the west they circled the CP then moved off to the north at about 2345H. No weapons were seen but as they left the area, what sounded like a rifle banging against a tree or rock was heard. At 200700H, the team returned to the CP site. At 201100H the team departed the OP and moved to coord BS 441965 and established an OP at 1330H. Visibility was very poor and again observation had to be from a tree. Two shots that sounded like possible M-16 shots were heard about 5 minutes apart at about 1345H. They sounded from the south. A trail was noted NE-SW at coord BS 436963. It appeared well used and was approx 3 to 4 feet wide. It was covered by the tree canopy. At 1730H the team departed the OP and moved to coord BS 440966 and established a harbor site for the night. At coord BS 441966 on a trail running NE-SW with two trees six to seven feet apart on separate sides of the trail. Two mud balls about 4 inches in diameter and 10 inches long were placed on each side of the trail. The 10 inches length pointed at about a 45 degree angle from the trail. The tree on the SW side of the trail had a bunch of furns packed between it and another tree. The furns appeared fresh. A small fork in the trail was noted at this location. The CP position appeared well used. At coord BS 441965 two trees separated about 10 feet had one pole tied to each running to the ground. The poles were tied approx 4 feet off the ground and the end rested on the ground. The poles almost touched each other on the ground end. On the east side were three rocks about 3 inches in diameter evenly spaced running N-S. At 220700H the team started clearing an LZ for pickup, this was complete at approx 1300H. At 220830H word was received from the CP/OP group for the team to move to coord BS 453956 for helo pickup. At 0845H the team moved out to carry out its orders. At 1300H the team arrived at this assigned position and found the rest of the platoon had been retracted. At 1330H they joined team Irish at coord BS 454956 and stayed with them until pickup by helo at 231700H and returned to RL/T-7 HLZ.

ENCLOSURE 57

RECON GROUP ALFA  
 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Force  
 c/o FPO, San Francisco, 96601

3/JRG/rjm  
 26 Nov 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 Subj: Patrol Report, Operation 12-65, 18-23 November 1965  
 Ref: (a) DivO 340.1  
 (b) Recon Group Alfa Frag Order 12-65  
 (c) Map: Vietnam, 1:50,000 Tri Binh 6757 III, Series L701

Incl: (1) Patrol Route Overlays

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted.

2. Units participating in Operation 12-65:

2nd Platoon, Co B(-)(Pein), 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion

a. General Review of Significant Events. The mission of 2nd Platoon, Co B was to establish 2 OP's and maintain surveillance on avenues of approach in RAO #1. This was accomplished by establishing OP's vicinity of coordinates BT 404087 and BT 433008 from 181000H to 231630H. During the 126 hours surveillance was maintained, 19 sightings were made totaling 87 VC. One artillery mission was fired with good effect. No other contact was made. The following is a chronological listing of significant events:

1st Squad, 2nd Platoon (TOM)

181000H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter and landed vicinity F 433008.

181110H. Established OP vicinity BT 434010.

190730H. 1 man moved west into bushes at BT 440016 with rifle and grey pack and wearing black shorts.

191030H. 5 men moved north on trail at BT 437017 wearing black with cartridge belts and rifles.

191235H. 4 men moved southwest on trail at BT 442016 wearing black and carrying heavy baskets. Went into bushes and returned with empty baskets.

191305H. 1 man came out of bushes at BT 438018 wearing black with rifle.

General Review of Significant Events.

ENCLOSURE (2)

- 191800H. 4 men moved west at BT 421015 moving through bushes.
- 201230H. 3 men moving north on trail at BT 444018 wearing black, 1 cartridge belt and 3 rifles. Men entered the village at BT 446023.
- 201725H. 2 men moving southwest at BT 437015 wearing black with green poncho. Both with rifles.
- 201810H. 1 man moving southwest through bushes at BT 437015 wearing grey raincoat. Disappeared in bushes.
- 210825H. 2 men moved southwest through bushes at BT 438018 wearing grey raincoats.
- 231630H. Recovered.

Note: Observation nil last two days due to rain.

2nd Squad, 2nd Platoon (JERRY)

- 181000H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter and landed vicinity BT 398090.
- 181100H. Established OP vicinity BT 404087.
- 181730H. 16 men moving south on trail in a tactical column at BT 415090. 4 wearing grey uniforms and others wore rain coats. Appeared to be carrying something, possibly weapons.
- 190805H. 3 men moving east on trail at BT 402082 wearing brown with 3 rifles and 3 bicycles.
- 191700H. 4 men moved southeast at BT 405098, 1 wearing grey and carrying rifle.
- 200745H. 16 men previously noted. 4 wearing packs and 7 carried bundles at BT 415087.
- 200755H. 10 men moving northwest at BT 396099 wearing black with 1 weapon.
- 200940H. 7 men moved northwest into trees at BT 405099 camouflaged with bushes and green raincoats.
- 200940H. 10 men in black followed previous 7 men. 3 wore packs and all hid from passing helicopters.
- 201010H. 4 people followed the others. 3 with packs and 2 with weapons. Coming from area of Hotel, 2nd Bn., 4th Marines fire base area.
- 201020H. 2 men followed others. 1 wore bush camouflage.
- 201430H. 7 men with stretcher moved southeast at BT 402082 wearing black.

201625H. 2 men moved southeast at BT 409093 wearing black with 1 pack.

220800H. Moved OP to BT 397091.

231458H. 3 men moved northwest at BT 405099 wearing black with green raincoats. 3 packs and 1 rifle.

231630H. Recovered.

b. Commander's Evaluation of Significant Events

(1) Continuous VC activity noted since 1 November 1965 vicinity BT 437018 indicates probability of harbor site in that area. Possibly the trail at BT 438012 to BT 437018 is mined as people avoid walking on it.

(2) Marine activity vicinity Hill 22 (BT 424091) caused large numbers of VC to move northwest out of Tien Xuan (1) hamlet (BT 4009).

(3) Great difficulty was encountered in retracting and inserting Recon teams due to the low helicopter priority given to the Reconnaissance effort.

c. Commander's Recommendations

(1) Tien Xuan (1) hamlet (BT 4009) and harbor site (BT 437018) be swept.

(2) Make helicopters available by assigning the Reconnaissance screen a priority equal to any major operation in progress.

JAMES L. COMPTON  
 Captain, U. S. Marine Corps  
 Commanding

ENCLOSURE

Debriefing Report, Frag Order 12-65

Recon Group Alfa  
 Chu Lai, Viet Nam  
 252100H Nov 1965

Debriefed: SSgt. W. A. BASS

Team TOM: 1st Squad, 2nd Plt., Co B., 3rd Recon Bn

Cpl. MOFFETT, Cpl. MILFORD, Pfc. VANN, LCpl. RUDDER, Pfc. IANZ

MISSION: Establish OP at coord BT 433008 and observe the area to the northeast.

At 181000H, left RLT-4 HLZ by helicopter and landed at LZ at coord BT 433008 at 181055H. Moved immediately to coord BT 434010 and set up an OP. The OP was established at 1110H. Normal work was being performed in the paddies. Traffic was heavy on the trails moving both way, carrying baskets and farm equipment. At 181315H, 15 men came from the village at coord BT 447024. They gathered right outside the village and walked out in column evenly spaced at about a 5 yard interval carrying hoes on their shoulders. 5 wore white, 7 wore black and 3 wore blue, appeared to be short raincoats. They moved to coord BT 439014 where they proceeded to dig a ditch from the stream to the rice paddies. They did this for 3 days. The amount of men varied from 15 to 21. At 1605H, 6 people were observed gathered in the bushes at coord BT 439014. 3 wore black, 2 in white and 1 in blue. All had coolie hats. They were observed for some time. The different colored clothing appeared to be short rain coats. At 1643H, artillery fire was observed landing at coord BT 442045. While the team was observing the artillery fire, the 6 people disappeared. At 1645H, 20 people were sighted moving north at coord BT 440018. 7 carried big bundles of sticks. It is believed that they were the 15 that had been seen before with 5 additional people. They moved to the village at coord BT 445022. At 1840H, the team moved into their harbor site, arriving there at 1915H at coord BT 433006. Nothing unusual was heard or observed that night except artillery fire. At 190610H, the team moved to coord BT 433008 and established an OP at 0620H. At 0640, people started moving into the rice paddies to work. At 0730H, 1 man moved across the rice paddy west into the bushes at coord BT 440016. He carried a rifle and grey pack. He wore a black shirt and shorts. At 1030H, 5 men moved north on a trail through the bushes at coord BT 437017. They wore black clothing and white coolie hats. They wore cartridge belts and had rifles. As they entered a clearing, they would put out a flank guard. They walked in a well dispersed column. The man on point was out about 20 to 30 yards in front. 2 turned and moved NW at coord BT 437018 and entered the brush. The other 3 continued north for about 100 yards, then fanned out, 2 going NW, the other one following the trail out of sight. Three of them reappeared at coord BT 437019. A fire mission was called on them at 1055H. The first round was short and the 3 men ran into the brush. Adjustment was made on a square clump of bushes that they had entered and had not come out of. Four rounds were fired at coord BT 438018 and appeared to be direct hits. No casualties were observed, but no one left that area. They could not have moved out through the bushes in any direction without being observed. At 1207H, 4 people were observed, 3 men and 1 woman, moving NW at coord BT 437018. 1 man wore a black pack. 2 were in black and 2 in blue. The woman carried a small basket under her arms. They moved in column into the village. At 1235H, 4 men moved SW on the trail at coord BT 442016, wearing black and coolie hats. 3 carried heavy baskets. They moved into the brush at coord BT 438014. It was noted several times that people moved from the village to the brush at that coordinates carrying heavy baskets. Later, people came out with empty baskets. Possibly, there was a harbor site or camp in the brush at that coordinates. Just about all people with weapons came from that coordinates in the brush.

ENCLOSURE

At 1305H, the 13 men working party moved out to continue work on the ditch. At 1420H, 1 man left the working party and moved to coord BT 437021 and stopped. Another man came from the bushes at coord BT 438018 with a rifle and joined the first man. They talked there, the first man returned to the work detail and the man with the rifle moved into the hedgerow at coord BT 438021 for about 5 minutes. Later, he came out with a hoe and joined the working party. At 1730H, 1 man and 3 boys were seen searching the grass at coord BT 441018. They kept looking until dark. At 1810H, 2 young women led by 1 man moved south from coord BT 439018 and then SW and entered the jungle at coord BT 439011. The man wore a blue raincoat. The 2 women wore shiny black pajamas. They never returned. At 1900H, the team pulled back into a harbor site at coord BT 433009. Nothing was seen or heard except artillery. At 1935H, the team was notified of a possible VC company located at coord BT 415007 by SCAT BRAVO. Pfc. VANN thought that he had observed 4 men moving west at coord BT 421015 wearing camouflage bushes. By the time he got the binoculars, they had disappeared. This was at approximately 191800H. At 200030H, the OP was reestablished at coord BT 434007. At 0645H, movement into the paddies started. At 0725H, smoke from a firefight in grid squares BT 4308 and 4309 was observed. At 0815H, a fog bank came in, obscuring vision. It lifted at 0822H. At 1130H the fog again obscured everything. It began to lift at 1220H. At 1230H, 3 men were observed moving north on the trail at coord BT 444018. 1 man had a cartridge belt, 2 men had grey ponchos, all 3 had weapons. They met 3 people going SW with baskets. They talked for about 1 minute, then continued their separate ways. The 3 with weapons disappeared into the village at coord BT 446023. At 1345H, the 16 man working party returned to the ditch. At 1725H, 2 men moved SW at coord BT 437015 with rifles, 1 wore a green poncho, the other wore black. At 1810H, 1 man with rifle moved SW through the bushes at coord BT 437015 wearing a grey raincoat. He disappeared into the brush at coord BT 439011. At 1900H, the team moved to a harbor site at coord BT 433007. At 210600H, the harbor site was established into an OP. At 210700H, paddy workers started returning. At 0825H, 2 men moved SW through the bushes at coord BT 438018. They were either looking for something, or staying concealed, as they didn't follow the trail. They wore grey raincoats and coolie hats. 1 moved NE across the paddy from coord BT 439018 and entered the village, the other one disappeared. At approximately 0830H, the rains came and even the valley was not visible. At 1900H, the team moved to coord BT 432009 and established a harbor site. At 231600H, the team moved to coord BT 433011 and established an LZ. At 1640H, the team was retracted and returned to RLT-4 HLZ by helicopter.

Notes: On the trail running through the brush from coord BT 438012 to BT 437018, it was noted that all travel was beside, and not on the trail.

Debriefing Report, Frag Order 12-65

Recon Group Alfa  
 Chu Lai, Viet Nam  
 232200H Nov 1965

Debriefed: SSgt. W. A. BASS  
 Team JERRY: 1st Squad, 2nd Plt, Co B, 3rd Recon Bn.  
 Cpl. DUNMAN, Cpl. HOLT, LCpl. GORNIAK, LCpl. THOMPSON, LCpl. MATTEX.

MISSION: Establish OP BT 404087 and observe the area to the north and east and south.

At 181000H, left RLT-4 HLZ by helicopter and landed at LZ coord BT 398090 at 1030H. Moved to coord BT 404087 and established the OP. Normal work was observed in the rice paddies. At 1410H, ROSEMONT relayed through SCAT ERVVO to the teams that 4 men and 3 bicycles with boxes were moving east at coord BT 408087. JERRY observed them on the trail. They had bundles of sticks. At 1730H, 16 men moved south on trail at coord BT 415090. The first 3 men had about a 15 yard interval, then the rest about a 5 yard interval. All moved in column. 4 wore grey, 5 or 6 wore black, the rest wore short raincoats. They moved to a hut at approximate coord BT 415087. 2 more people joined them there. They moved around the north side of Tien Xuan (1) on the way. At 190720H, the same 16 men followed the same trail in reverse. 5 appeared to have packs. Couldn't make out any weapons, however, 1 arm stayed stiff at the side, as if carrying something. Meanwhile, the other swung normally. At 0805H, 3 men moved east on trail at coord BT 402082 wearing brown clothing. All 3 had rifles and riding bicycles. At 0807H, 10 men moved east behind the other 3. 4 carried baskets, all wore black. They moved in an evenly dispersed column about a 5 to 10 yard interval. At 1410H, 4 men moved NW at coord BT 406086, 3 pushed bicycles loaded with wood, the fourth man carried something on his shoulders. Could not determine if it was a rifle. 1 wore black, the other white top and black shorts. At 1422H, 3 men joined them and went with them. They carried baskets and green bushes. At 1700H, 4 men, 1 with pack, moved SE at coord BT 405098. 3 wore black, 1 wore grey, moved SE at coord BT 408092, the man in grey appeared to have a rifle. The others wore black. At 200745H, the same 16 men returned from the hut again, the same as the day before. 4 men had packs. 7 others carried small bundles in their hands. At 0755H, 10 men moved NW at coord BT 396099, moving single file in groups of 4-3-3. All wore black with raincoats. 1 carried a weapon. 3 had packs. At 0940H, 7 men moved NW into the treeline by the hut at coord BT 405099. They appeared to be camouflaged with brush. All wore black with green raincoats. At 0940H, 10 men, dressed in black, followed the other 7 men. 1 wore a poncho, 3 had packs. As a helicopter came over, they hid, then ran on after it left. They and the 7 previous people appeared to be coming from the area across the river where an ARVN firefight had been. At 101044H, people followed the others. 1 had a grey shirt, the rest wore black. 3 packs and 2 weapons were sighted. At 1020H, 2 more with weapons, 1 with bush camouflage followed the others. They all disappeared into the bushes at coordinates BT 405099. At 1430H, 7 men with 1 stretcher and 5 baskets moved SE at coord BT 402082. All wore black with coolie hats. At 1625H, 2 men moved SE at coord BT 409093, with 1 pack. They wore black with coolie hats. About 1200H, ARVN and one company of 4th Marines crossed the river to the west side and very little movement was noted after that. On the 21st, it rained and visibility was nil. At 220800H, the OP position was changed to coord BT 397091. At 231458 3 men were observed moving NW at coord BT 405099. They appeared to have 3 packs and 1 weapon. They wore black with green raincoats, 1 had a coolie hat. At 231630H, the team was retracted by helicopter and returned to RLT-4 HLZ.

Sounds of a fairly large engine were heard from the SE, then later from the NE. It was heard on three different nights about 2030H. **ENCLOSURE (1)**

RECON GROUP ALPHA  
 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Force  
 c/o FPO, San Francisco, 96601

3/JRG/rjm  
 24 Nov 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 Subj: Patrol Report, Operation 13-65, 20-22 November 1965  
 Ref: (a) DivO 3480.1  
 (b) Recon Group Alfa Frag Order 13-65  
 (c) Map: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Series L701  
 Tri Binh, 6757 III  
 Tra Bong, 6756 IV  
 Encl: (1) Patrol Route Overlay  
 (2) Sketch of POW Camp

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted.
2. Units participating in Operation 13-65:

1st Team, 1st Squad, 1st Platoon, Co B(-)(Rein), 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion.

3. a. General Review of Significant Events. The mission of the patrol was a point reconnaissance of vicinity BS 425968 to locate reported VC POW camp. This was accomplished by landing a four man team vicinity BS 436986 by helicopter. The patrol then patrolled generally southwest until locating the deserted camp area vicinity BS 427967. The patrol was recovered on R+2 vicinity BS 444954. No enemy contact was made during the patrol. The following is a chronological listing of significant events:

200625H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter and landed vicinity BS 436986.

200900H. Observed one man in black with axe at BS 428987 headed south.

201600H. Harbored vicinity BS 433973.

210800H. Resumed patrol.

211200H. Located reported VC POW camp vicinity BS 427967. Camp not used recently.

220700H. Moved from camp to LZ.

ENCLOSURE

220915H. Recovered by helicopter vicinity BS 444954.

b. Description of POW Camp:

The big building was 46 feet by 18 feet and contained a blackboard, teacher's desk, podium and 10 wooden benches, running 3/4 of the width of the building. It could seat approximately 50 people. 2 buildings, 12 feet by 15 feet, were sleeping quarters with sleeping benches along the side. At the north end was an area where a 155 gun shell had burst in the trees. All the buildings showed signs of receiving shrapnel. The area to the west had large trees, but the underbrush had all been cleared. A small living quarters, approximately 10 feet by 8 feet was seen about 15 meters north of the other buildings. It also had a sleeping bench and had been partially destroyed by the shell. The three major buildings were constructed with the ends of live trees, the sides were made of some living trees and logs about 4 inches in diameter. The benches and desk were all made of logs. 1 chair and the blackboard were finished lumber. In front of the benches were tables approximately 12 inches wide for writing. The roof of all the buildings was high, pointed and thatched. There were no papers in the area. 1 can said Butant Cellucoise. It had a blue stain but was empty. It was the size of a bore cleaner can. The area had been policed in detail. 1 hut had a fireplace for cooking. Where the shell had burst was a hole in the canopy where an A0 could see the buildings if he approached by the north or ridge line side. The area west of the houses showed signs of having had small shelters before. Next to the classroom was a bunker dug into the ground. It had a 2 feet by 3 feet door. It was approximately 10 feet long and 4 feet wide. It had small tunnel-like holes along the side. There were enough small trees from 2 to 4 inches in diameter to have completely rebuilt the buildings. There was what appeared to be 2 graves in the area. All the trees used must have been dragged from an area away from the buildings.

c. Commander's Evaluation of Significant Events

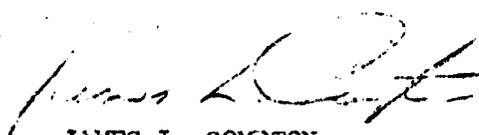
(1) POW camp had not been used for about 1 month. May have been abandoned due to H&I fires in the area or due to patrolling in that area by Co C, 1st Recon Bn on 15-17 October 1965.

(2) The valley vicinity BT 404004 to BS 420986 is believed to be presently occupied.

d. Recommendations

(1) Take no immediate action against the deserted POW camp area until enemy activity again picks up in that area.

(2) Increase H&I fires and TPQ missions in valley vicinity BT 404004 to BS 420986.

  
JAMES L. COMPTON

Captain, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

Debriefing Report, Frag Order 13-65

Recon Group Alfa  
Chu Lai, Viet Nam  
221400H Nov 1965

Debriefers: SSgt. W. A. BASS  
Team OTTO, Capt. COMPTON, Lt. CASSIDY, Cpl. HARBERT,  
Cpl. ROHWELLER

MISSION: Make point reconnaissance vicinity coordinates BS 425968 to locate reported VC POW camp.

On 200625, left RLT-4 HLZ and landed at HLZ coord BS 436986 at 200640H. Moved west to trail at coord BS 432985, then followed the trail northwest to BS 428987, then cut back southeast to a cross trail at BS 431984. Just prior to cutting back, 1 man in black was observed moving south with a swing blade in his hand. He was on what appeared to be a game trail. The team moved southwest down the nose of the hill to BS 430982 and found a trail moving northeast southwest at BS 430980, then followed the trail approximately 100 yards northwest. It was a wide trail but didn't appear to be heavily used now. The team then went southeast on the same trail to BS 432977, then moved straight up the hill to BS 431977. At the top, the team moved west to BS 422976 following a trail. 2 other trails were noted going northwest off the ridge at 429977 and 426977. At 426977, there was a strong southeast wind and the smell of garlic and tobacco was strong. At 422976, the team moved back east to a trail going down at BS 431978 moving southeast to BS 436974, then through the jungle southwest for approximately 300 meters and harbored at BS 425973 at 1600H for the night. At 210800H, the team moved southeast to a trail at BS 437973 running west, then followed it to a stream at BS 433970. The team followed the stream southwest to a trail on the eastern side of the stream at 432965, following it along the stream and across the stream just above the fork. A trail went south at this point, which they followed approximately 100 meters to a fork, one went south, the other northwest. The team went northwest approximately 100 meters. At this time, the point saw a building. The team moved back southeast about 25-30 meters, then moved up about 20 meters off the trail. Lt. CASSIDY and Cpl. HARBERT dropped their packs and moved up to scout the building. They circled and came up from the west. At coord BS 427967 was a hole and built a sort of a cache with dirt mounded up on top, reinforced with 2" limbs. At the top it had a 6" X 6" hole. Water was all that was in it. They moved to where they could observe the buildings from the southwest. The big building was 46 feet by 18 feet and contained a blackboard, teacher's desk, podium and 10 wooden benches, running 3/4 of the width of the building. It could seat approximately 50 people. 2 buildings, 12 feet by 15 feet, were sleeping quarters with sleeping benches along the side. At the north end was an area where a 155 gun shell had burst in the trees. All the buildings showed signs of receiving shrapnel. The area to the west had large trees, but the underbrush had all been cleared. A small living quarters, approximately 10 feet by 8 feet was seen about 15 meters north of the other buildings. It also had a sleeping bench and had been partially destroyed by the shell. The three major buildings were constructed with the ends made of live trees, the sides were made of some living trees and logs about 4 inches in diameter. The benches and desk were all made of logs. 1 chair and the blackboard were finished lumber. In front of the benches were tables approximately 12 inches wide for writing. The roof of all the buildings were high, pointed and thatched. There were no papers in the area. 1 can said Butant celluocise. It had a blue stain but was empty. It was about the size of a bore cleaner can. There were old evaporated milk cans and broken rubber sandals.

ENCLOSURE 

The area had been policed in detail. 1 hut had a fireplace for cooking. Where the shell had burst was a hole in the canopy that an AO could see the buildings if he approached by the north or ridge line side. The area west of the houses showed signs of having had small shelters before. Next to the classroom was a bunker dug into the ground. It had a 2 feet by 3 feet door. It was approximately 10 feet long and 4 feet wide. It had small tunnel-like holes along the side. There was about enough small trees from 2 to 4 inches in diameter to have completely rebuilt the buildings. There was what appeared to be 2 graves in the area. All the trees used must have been dragged from an area away from the buildings. The team arrived at the buildings at approximately 211200H. They spent the rest of the day and night there. At 220700H the team moved south on the trail to coord BS 432958 and then through the jungle to BS 444954 and was retracted at 0915H by helicopter and returned to DLF 4 HLZ.

Comments: Communication was excellent all the time with the AN/PRC-25.

It had been approximately 1 month since the camp had been occupied due to condition of cans, etc.

The valley that runs from BT 404004 to BS 420986 is believed to be occupied due to logic and smell.

At approximate coord BS 438978, sounds of wood cutting were heard.

The trail runs southeast from the valley and into Tho An.

*Co 2/Recon Bn*CONFIDENTIALCopy 4 of 20 copies  
3d Recon Bn (-)(Rein)  
DA NANG, RVN  
16 Nov 65

OPERATION ORDER 346-65

Ref: (a) BnOpO 336-65  
(b) Maps: 1:50,000, Series L701, Sheet Numbers 6559 I, II;  
6659 I, III, IV; 6558 I, IV; 6658 I; 6657 I, II; 6757  
II, III, IV; 6656 I; 6756 I, IV

Time Zone: H

Task Organization: Reference (a).

1. SITUATION.

- a. Enemy Forces. Current INTSUM's.
- b. Friendly Forces. Current OPSUM's.
- c. Attachments and detachments. Reference (a).

2. MISSION. 3d Recon Bn (-)(Rein) establishes a reconnaissance net in the DA NANG and CHU IAI enclaves.3. EXECUTION.a. Concept of operation. 3d Recon Bn (-)(Rein) accomplishes its assigned mission by maintaining area surveillance and reconnaissance patrolling within RAOR's. Fire support and infantry reinforcement requirements will be effected by direct liaison with cognizant Regimental Commanders.b. CoA: DA NANG

- (1) Conduct reconnaissance operations in accordance with OpOrd 345-65.

c. CoD: DA NANG

- (1) Conduct reconnaissance operations in accordance with OpOrd 345-65.

d. Recon Group Alpha: CHU IAI

- (1) Operations will be confined to an area NORTH of grid line 92 and WEST of grid line 54.
- (2) Maintain at least two platoons in RAOR's 1 and 2 at all times from 22 Nov-~~6~~ Dec 65.

7. DA NANG

--1--

CONFIDENTIALENCLOSURE *6*

C O N F I D E N T I A Le. CoC: DA NANG

- (1) 21-24 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 4.
- (2) 23-26 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 6.
- (3) 25-28 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 5.
- (4) 26-30 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 6.
- (5) 28 Nov-2 Dec: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 5.
- (6) 30 Nov-4 Dec: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 6.
- (7) 2-6 Dec: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 5.
- (8) 4-8 Dec: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 6.
- (9) 6-10 Dec: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 5.

f. 1st Force Recon Co: DA NANG

- (1) Operations will be confined to an area WEST of grid line 88 in RAOR 2.
- (2) 18-22 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 2.
- (3) 21-26 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 3.
- (4) 21-26 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 2.
- (5) 26 Nov- 1 Dec: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 3.
- (6) 26-30 Nov: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 2.
- (7) 1-6 Dec: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 3.
- (8) 30 Nov-5 Dec: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 2.
- (9) 6-11 Dec: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 3.
- (10) 5-10 Dec: Conduct reconnaissance operations in RAOR 2.

g. Coordinating instructions.

- (2) Reconnaissance operations will be conducted as set forth in paragraph 3a of reference (a).

--2--

ENCLOSURE 64  
C O N F I D E N T I A L

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~~(1) Submit to employment schedule for the required period by station.~~

(2) Coordinate all missions with cognizant Regimental Commanders.

(4) EEI's. Annex A to reference (a).

(5) Submit helicopter requirements to this Headquarters (Attn: S-3) not later than 48 hours prior to commencement of mission.

(6) Use varying means and times of entry and exit; helo LZ's will be no closer than 3000 meters to objective area.

(7) Submit operation orders not later than 48 hours prior to execution of assigned missions to this Headquarters (Attn: S-3) for reproduction and distribution.

(8) Submit patrol rosters to this Headquarters (Attn: S-3) prior to execution of assigned missions. DA NANG only.

(9) <sup>Cause</sup> Patrol Leaders report <sup>to</sup> the Battalion S-2 immediately on return to the Battalion area for debriefing. DA NANG only.

~~(10) Prepare alternate plans for entry to and exit from RAOR's.~~

(10) Be prepared to call and adjust artillery fire.

(12) If an airstrike is requested and approved, display a single red panel at position when aircraft are on station.

(13) Be prepared to recommend infantry reinforcement and suitable primary and alternate LZ's for its entry.

(14) For DA NANG RAOR's, Annex B to reference (a); CHU LAI RAOR's, Annex C, reference (a).

ENCLOSURE 64

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4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. Reference (a).
5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS.
  - a. Reference (a).
  - b. Battalion Command post remains the same.



R. R. VAN CLEVE  
Lieutenant Colonel, U. S Marine Corps  
Commanding

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ENCLOSURE **64**

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(This Operation Order supercedes OpO 346-65)

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 DA NANG, RVN  
 211700H

## OPERATION ORDER 347-65

Ref: (a) BnOpO 336-65  
 (b) Mps: 1:50,000, Series L701, Sheet Numbers 6559 I, II;  
 6659 I, III, IV; 6558 I, IV; 6658 I; 6657 I, II; 6757  
 II, III, IV; 6656 I; 6756 I, IV

Time Zone: H

Task Organization: Reference (a).

1. SITUATION.

- a. Enemy Forces. Current INTSUM's.
- b. Friendly Forces. Current OPSUM's.
- c. Attachments and detachments. Reference (a).

2. MISSION. 3dReconBn (-)(Rein) establishes a reconnaissance net in the DA NANG and CHU LAI enclaves.

3. EXECUTION.

- a. Concept of operation. 3dReconBn(-)(Rein) accomplishes its assigned mission by maintaining area surveillance and reconnaissance patrolling within RZ's. Fire support and infantry reinforcement requirements will be effected by direct liaison with cognizant Regimental Commanders.
- b. Co A: DA NANG. Conduct continuous reconnaissance operations with two platoons in RZ 3 and that portion of RZ 4 NORTH of grid line 78 with particular emphasis on the avenue of approach from Elephant Valley during the period 22 Nov-2 Dec 65 inclusive.
- c. Co C: DA NANG. Conduct continuous reconnaissance operations with two platoons in RZ 6 and that portion of RZ 5 SOUTH of a line between (AT 870660) and (AT 820650) with particular emphasis on the SONG VU GIA avenue of approach and the corridor SOUTH of the HILL 502 complex during the period 22 Nov-2 Dec 65 inclusive.
- d. Co D: DA NANG. Conduct continuous reconnaissance operations with two platoons in that portion of RZ 4 SOUTH of grid line 78 and that portion of RZ 5 NORTH of a line between (AT 870660) and (AT 820650) with particular emphasis on avenue of approach NORTH of the HILL 502 complex during the period 22 Nov-2 Dec 65 inclusive.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

- e. First Force Recon Co: DA NANG. Conduct continuous reconnaissance operations with two platoons in RZ's 1 and 2 during the period 22 Nov-2 Dec 65 inclusive. Operations will be confined to an area WEST of grid line 88 until 240800H Nov 65.
- f. Recon Group Alpha: CHU LAI.
- (1) Operations will be confined to an area NORTH of grid line 92 and WEST of grid line 54.
  - (2) Maintain at least two platoons in RZ's 1 and 2 at all times from 22 Nov-2 Dec 65.
- g. Coordinating instructions.
- (1) Submit Company employment schedule for the required period by 212100H.
  - (2) Reconnaissance operations will be conducted as set forth in paragraph 3a of reference (a).
  - (3) Coordinate all missions with cognizant Regimental Commanders.
  - (4) EEI's. Annex A to reference (a).
  - (5) Submit helicopter requirements to this Headquarters (Attn: S-3) not later than 48 hours prior to commencement of mission.
  - (6) Use varying means and times of entry and exit; helo LZ's will be no closer than 3000 meters to objective area.
  - (7) Submit operation orders to this Headquarters not later than 48 hours prior to execution of assigned missions (Attn: S-3) for reproduction and distribution.
  - (8) Submit patrol rosters to this Headquarters (Attn: S-3) prior to execution of assigned missions. DA NANG only.
  - (9) Cause patrol leaders to report to the Battalion S-2 immediately on return to the Battalion area for debriefing. DA NANG only.
  - (10) Be prepared to execute assigned missions using foot marches as the method of insertion and/or extraction.
  - (11) Be prepared to call and adjust artillery fire.
  - (12) If an airstrike is requested and approved, display a single red panel at position when aircraft are on station.

ENCLOSURE (65)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

(13) Be prepared to recommend infantry reinforcement and suitable primary and alternate LZ's for its entry.

(14) For DA NANG RZ's, Annex B to reference (a); CHU LAI RZ's, Annex C, reference (a).

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS. Reference (a).

5. COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS - ELECTRONICS.

a. Reference (a).

b. Battalion Command post remains the same.

*R. R. Van Cleve*

R. R. VAN CLEVE

Lieutenant Colonel, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

DISTRIBUTION

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ENCLOSURE C O N F I D E N T I A L

5-3

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 DANANG, RVN  
 281000H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 3-Charlie

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (14) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct a reconnaissance and surveillance of assigned area using patrolling and daylight OP's and conduct ambushes of opportunity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 241630H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 280930H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 57-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
261830H	(AT 890631)	The point made contact with 1 VC.
261840H	(AT 890631)	Located a VC harbor site.
271200H	(AT 893626)	Located a VC harbor site.
271300H	(AT 892621)	Located a VC harbor site.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) At 261830H as the point element of the patrol was reconnoitering the topographical crest of the hill at (AT 890631). He observed a VC in a grey uniform standing approximately 150 meters away. The point fired his automatic weapon at the VC, and missed. The VC immediately fled into the dense vegetation and contact was lost. A search was initiated with negative results.

(2) At 261840H the patrol located a temporary VC harboring site which paralleled the trail at (AT 890631). 12 matted down areas were noted which were estimated to be approximately 12 to 48 hours old. No foot prints or discarded equipment were noted.

(3) At 271200H a temporary VC harboring site was located at (AT 898626). There were 18 matted down areas paralleling the trail possibly 12 to 36 hours old. No foot prints or discarded equipment were noted. The trail was not booby trapped.

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(4) At 271300H the patrol located a VC harboring site off the trail at (AT 892621). 9 well matted down areas were noted. No equipment or footprints were noted in the vicinity.

(5) The AN/PRC 25 provided an excellent means of communications. One battery previously used was in continuous use for 36 hours without loss of power.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: One VC possibly wounded.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Conclusion: That the VC are using the trail complexes for movement from the NUI-DONG-LAM hill mass to the SONG-VU-GIA basin.

D. L. LEARY Jr.  
1st Lt. Co. C

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: It is possible that elements of the recently reported 148th VC Battalion (GS 8960) utilized the trail nets in this area during their approach into the DANANG TAOR. 148th reportedly commanded by LAM QUANG CHONG.

ENCLOSURE 

S-3.

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 DANANG, RVN  
 301000H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 2-Charlie

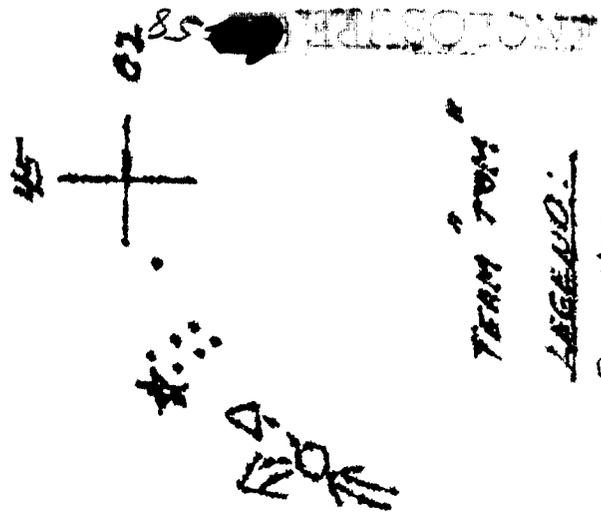
MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (14) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct a reconnaissance and surveillance of assigned area using patrolling and daylight OP's.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 261630H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 300830H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 58-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) 3 days of extensive patrolling resulted in negative sightings of enemy activity.
  - (2) A well used trail not indicated on the standard map reference was discovered by the patrol. It was approximately 3 feet wide and contained no booby traps or trail markers. (Refer to Overlay)
  - (3) Streams in the area of operation have become swollen because of the monsoon season.
  - (4) Difficulty was encountered on the 2nd and 3rd days with the setting of the AN/PRC 25. The patrol was able to receive, but not able to transmit.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

D. M. DICKE  
 1st Lt. Co. C

ENCLOSURE   
CONFIDENTIAL

PATROL ROUTE OVERLAP  
 OPERATION 12-65  
 2ND ALT, CO 8th AVN  
 18000-20630W 10W 1  
 VIETNAM 1:59 000  
 TRU BINH 6707 J  
 SGT. R. J. [unclear]

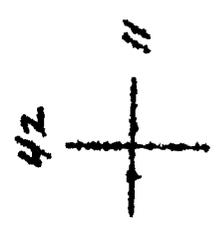


TEAM "TOM"

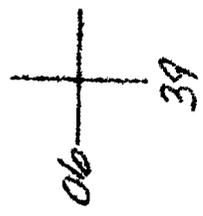
LEGEND:

- O - HLZ
- A - OP
- \* - ARTILLERY FIRE MISSION
- - SIGHTING

ENCLOSURE (1)

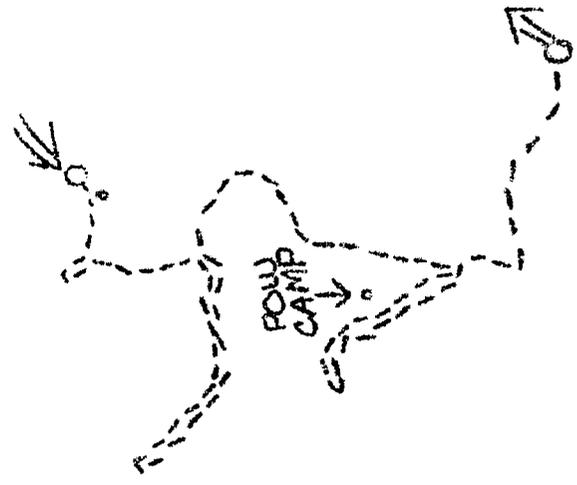


TEAM "JERAY"



Route South (check)  
 Operation (check)  
 1st Plt (-), Co B (-) (RM)  
 30 RECON BN.  
 VIETNAM I-50,000  
 TRI BINH 6757 III  
 TRA BANG 6706 II  
 5/15/68

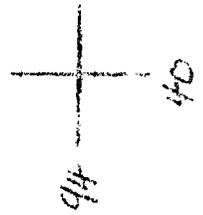
UNCLASSIFIED



LEGEND:

- O - HILL
- - - PATROL ROUTE
- - ENEMY SIGHTING

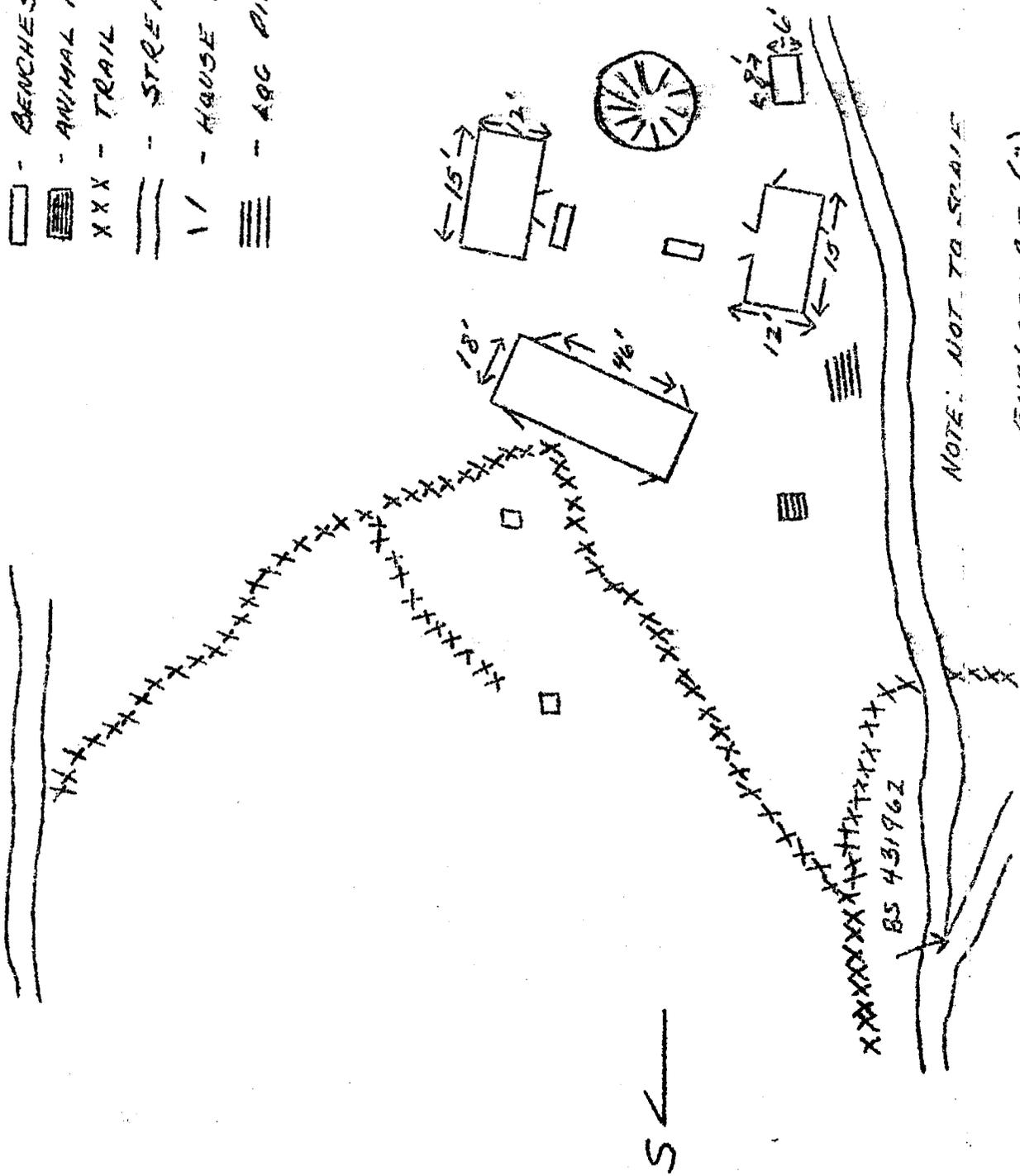
ENCLOSURE (1)



POW CAMP - LEGLAND

-  - 155 SHELL HOLE
-  - STORAGE BINS
-  - BENCHES
-  - ANIMAL PEN
- XXX - TRAIL
- == - STREAM
- || - HOUSE DOORS
- ≡ - LOG PILE

ENCLOSURE (2)



NOTE: NOT TO SCALE

ENCLOSURE (2)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Copy 14 of 50 copies  
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 DANANG, RVN  
 020930H December 1965

PATROL REPORTDESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat-1-Charlie

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Series L-701, Sheet No. 6658 IV

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (14) Enl, (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct an area reconnaissance and surveillance of RZ #6
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 280730H November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN 020930H December 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to OPOD 59-65
6. OBSERVATIONS-ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
290815H	(AT 911609)	18 children tending 14 water buffalo
291105H	(AT 936608)	2 men in a boat
290850H	(AT 918612)	4 children tending 5 water buffalo
291120H	(AT 928618)	14 men moving Northeast
301230H	(AT 927613)	4 men moving North
301250H	(AT 9160) (AT 9260) (AT 9360) (AT 9159) (AT 9259)	20 women and children tending 150 cattle
301305H	(AT 923604)	15 men riding Northeast on trail on bicycles
301315H	(AT 9059)	3 women, 8 men working rice paddy
301510H	(AT 925595)	7 men moving Southeast
011045H	(AT 915587)	2 small boats moving East
011100H	(AT 888585)	5 men, 3 women tending 20 cattle

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ENCLOSURE 68

C O N F I D E N T I A L

01110H (AT 9058) Approximately 35 to 40 people in rice paddies  
 (AT 9059)  
 (AT 9159)  
 (AT 9259)

01115H (AT 9160) 30 people tending approximately 300 cattle  
 (AT 9260)  
 (AT 9261)

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

- (1) At 290850H 4 children wearing a variety of clothing and straw hats were observed milling around in a rice paddy at (AT 918612).
- (2) At 290815H 18 children were observed in a rice paddy at (AT 911609). They were dressed in a mixture of black and white clothing.
- (3) At 291105H (AT 936608) 2 men, wearing black PJ's and straw hats, were observed proceeding North in a small round boat. Contents of the boat could not be determined.
- (4) At 291120H (AT 928618) 14 men, wearing a mixture of black and white clothing were observed moving Northeast in a column formation along a road. Each man was carrying a stick with a basket suspended from either end. Contents of the baskets could not be determined.
- (5) At 301230H (AT 927613) 4 men, wearing black PJ's and straw hats, were observed moving North along a road. Each man was carrying a stick with a basket suspended from either end. Contents of the baskets could not be determined.
- (6) At 301250H in grid squares (AT 9160, 9260, 9360, 9159, and 9259) 20 women and children wearing black PJ's and straw hats were observed tending approximately 150 cattle. The activity was limited to the paddy area and there was no direction of movement indicated.
- (7) At 301305H (AT 923604) 15 men, wearing black PJ's and straw hats were observed moving Northeast along a trail on bicycles. No equipment was noted.
- (8) At 301315H grid square (AT 9059) 3 women and 8 men, wearing black PJ's and straw hats, were observed working in the rice paddies. There was nothing unusual about their activities.
- (9) At 301510H (AT 925595) 7 men, wearing black trousers, and a mixture of black and white shirts, were observed moving Southeast in a column formation. There was no equipment noted.

ENCLOSURE 68

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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- (10) At 011045H (AT 915587) 2 men each in a small boat were observed moving East on the river. Distance prevented determining whether or not the boats contained any cargo, or if the men carried any equipment.
- (11) At 011000H (AT 888585) 5 men and 3 women, wearing black trousers and a mixture of black and white shirts, were observed herding approximately 20 cattle. There was nothing unusual noted about their activities.
- (12) At 011100H in grid squares (AT 9058, 9059, 9159, 9259) approximately 35 to 40 people, wearing a mixture of black and white PJ's and straw hats were observed working in the rice paddies. Nothing unusual was noted.
- (13) At 011115H in grid squares (AT 9160, 9260, 9261) 30 people, wearing a mixture of black and white PJ's and straw hats, were observed tending approximately 300 cattle. There was nothing unusual noted.
- (14) On a trail that leads from (AT 898616) Northwest to (AT 884627) the patrol noted approximately every 20 to 40 meters along the trail was a piece of blue plastic approximately 6 to 8 inches square. While no particular pattern was established, other than the interval that they were noted, it is possible they were being used as a trail marker.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Fair.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.
- R. E. EBBS  
Sgt Co. C
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

ENCLOSURE 68  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L

5-3

Copy 13 of 36 Copies  
 3d Reconnaissance Battalion  
 DANANG, RVN  
 251300H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat-2-Delta.

MAPS: Vietnam 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off (8) Enl, (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct reconnaissance South of grid square 78 in RZ-4, and North of grid square 66 in RZ-5.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 221300H Nov
4. TIME OF RETURN: 250930H Nov
5. ROUTE: Refer to OPOED 475-65
6. OBSERVATIONS: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) At 241145H (AT 896680) the patrol heard 5 or 6 rounds of small arms fire from an automatic weapon. The fire was apparently directed at 2 helos which were flying over the village of DONG BICH #1.
  - (2) The stream at (AT 900678), which is generally fordable during normal weather conditions, is now 30 yards wide, 15 feet deep, and the current estimated as being 5 to 7 knots. One patrol member attempted to cross the stream, but was unable to do so because of the depth and swift current. The patrol leader was forced to alter his route.
  - (3) The rice paddy complexes in grid square (AT 9176) are submerged in approximately 4 1/2 feet of water at the present time making movement through its networks very difficult and time consuming.
  - (4) An observation post was established on the high ground at (AT 902673) providing excellent observation of the DONG BICH # 1 valley in grid squares (AT 8868), (AT8968), and (AT 9068), and PHUOC NINH #7 valley in grid squares (AT 8867), (AT 8967), and (AT 9067). No enemy activity or unusual occurrences were noted.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ENCLOSURE 69

C O N F I D E N T I A L

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None

J. SCROFONO  
1stLt Co.D

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

ENCLOSURE 69  
C O N F I D E N T I A L

C O N F I D E N T I A L

5-3

Copy 12 of 3 copies  
 3d Reconnaissance Battalion  
 DANANG, RVN  
 251300H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat-1-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (1) Off, (17) Enl, (2) USN,  
(1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct a reconnaissance South of grid line 78  
in RZ-4.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 231915H Nov
4. TIME OF RETURN: 250830H Nov
5. ROUTE: Refer to OPORD 475-65
6. OBSERVATIONS: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) At 231915H, as the patrol departed FOX FORT (AT 902775), drum beating was heard. It was noted that initially there were 21 beats-corresponding to the number of men in the patrol. The drum beating appeared to come from the vicinity of grid square (AT 8776), and lasted for approximately 1 hour. It was noted that the signaling was passed down the line to succeeding drums, and then picked up and further passed on by means of flashing lights.
  - (2) At 240200H (AT 865760) in a deserted village 2 water buffalo were found wandering unattended. A thorough search of the houses within the village disclosed no signs of human presence.
  - (3) Since the patrol leader's last reconnaissance of this area 7 months prior, it was noted that virtually all signs of habitation were non-existent. The villages encountered were deserted with most of the houses having been dismantled. The villagers apparently have displaced to a "refugee" village which was found at (AT 890770).

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ENCLOSURE (70)

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- (4) At (AT 880765) cement bridge was found to have been destroyed by explosives, however a footbridge still spans the stream indicating the presence of persons in the area, even though no one was sighted by the patrol.
- (5) No punji traps or booby traps were encountered by the patrol throughout the route.
- (6) Communications with the AN/PBC-10 was excellent throughout the duration of the patrol.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact with the enemy was made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED. Good.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommendation: That H&I fires be considered on the road from (AT 883768) to (AT 860760). The paddies to either side of the road are waist deep with water, generally restricting movement to the road.

C. J. DEL GROSSO  
1stLt Co.D

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER:

Previous patrols in this general area have encountered apparent VC signal devices consisting of lights and drum beating. It is possible that the patrol was observed by leading elements/outposts of an U/I Company which was reported moving from (AT 820860) to (AT 870740) on the 24th of November (C-3). Y-16 Recon Company confirmed in the general vicinity of grid square (AT 8376) as of 30 September.

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ENCLOSURE 7a

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

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 DANANG, RVN  
 281420H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 3-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III and 6648 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (2) Off (15) Enl (1) USN (1) ARVN
2. MISSION: Conduct reconnaissance South of grid 78 in RZ #4 and North of grid 66 in RZ #5 to determine extent of VC activity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 251600H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 281300H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 475-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
261045H	(AT 843768)	2 VC were moving North in column.
261230H	(AT 867757)	9 children were tending the cattle.
261830H	(AT 841767)	Located 20 old fighting holes.
271700H	(AT 870762)	A trail contained 30 old fighting holes.

## 7. OTHER INFORMATION:

- (1) At 261045H Two armed VC were observed moving in a Northerly direction wearing camouflaged rain hats, blue grey ponchos and carrying heavy packs. Weapons noted were of unknown manufacture. The VC appeared to be heading towards the village of THON-HOA-FRANG at (AT 846775).
- (2) At 261230H 9 children were observed tending the cattle at (AT 877757). As the patrol proceeded on a trail towards the village of THON-PHOUC-SON (AT 860761) it was noted that the cattle were following the patrol. The patrol entered the Western portion of the village to avoid being followed by the cattle. They searched 2 huts and in 1 they found 4 women. No men were present.

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

It was noted that the outer edges of the village contained a 3 strand barbed wire obstacle. The strands of wire were 1 foot apart and the obstacle was approximately 3 feet high. It was noted by further inspection that the main gates leading through the wire obstacles were booby trapped with Chicom grenades. The gates were shut. An attempt to open the gates would activate the grenades. These grenades were attached to the base of the gates. Fighting holes were noted paralleling the wire obstacle in its inner complex. These holes were approximately 20 feet apart, 2 feet wide, 2 feet deep and 3 feet long. There was an estimated 20 to 30 fighting holes. These holes were 2 to 3 weeks old. An abundance of banana and grapefruit trees were found in the village. It was noted that during the day the village seemed deserted. Found in 1 of the huts was a bottle of medicine and a spear. These items were returned for ITT inspection.

- (3) At 261830H around the military crest, the patrol located 20 old fighting holes concealed by elephant grass. These holes were 2 feet wide, 2 feet deep, and 2 feet long, and some contained panji stakes at the bottom.
- (4) At 271900H noted were 30 old fighting holes which paralleled the trail at (AT 870762). These holes were 2 feet square and panji stakes protruded from the bottom.
- (5) The area West of grid line 86 is infested with leeches including Hill 350 South of (AT 837756).
- (6) Excellent communications was provided by the AN/PRC-25 throughout the area of operation.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.

9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED:  
Good.

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommendation: That a search and clear operation be conducted during the day and establish night ambush positions. That the hill mass in grid square (AT 8375) is being used as a route of ingress and egress into the village of THON-PHUAC-SON (AT 860762).

D. MC DERMOTT  
1stLt Co. D

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: Possible quasi-defensive positions of the Quyet Chien Battalion reported during mid October at (AT8378).

5-3

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 DANANG, RVN  
 281300H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 4-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6659 III and 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (12) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct reconnaissance South of grid 78 in RZ #4 and North of grid 66 in RZ #5 to determine the extent of VC activity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 251400H - November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 281300H - November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 475-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
271000H	(AT 878678)	2 wood cutters were moving towards the West.
251045H	(AT 878678)	9 woodcutters were moving West on a trail.

## 7. OTHER FORMATION:

- (1) At 271000H 2 woodcutters, one a man, and the other a woman were noted moving in a Westerly direction carrying woodcutting tools at (AT 878678). They wore straw hats, black shirts and trousers. At 271430H they were observed returning with loads of cut sapplings.
- (2) At 271045H 8 women and 1 man were noted moving West on a trail carrying woodcutting tools at (AT 878678). They wore straw hats with assorted colored clothing. No unusual occurrences were noted.
- (3) At 271530H as the patrol was passing near the vicinity of the village of PHUOC MINH #6 the ARVN interpreter talked with a woman who was washing clothes. She stated that 5 VC were roaming around the area of the village and that there were some dead VC buried there. She also stated that the VC occasionally occupy the village.
- (4) It was noted that the village of PHUOC-GIANG in grid square (AT 878624) is non-existent.
- (5) The AN/PVC 25 provided an excellent means of communications throughout the patrol's area of operation.

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Encl (72)

C O N F I D E N T I A L

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:

Recommendation: That when the platoon's patrol roster is submitted to the S-3 that the thrust line be added to it.

H. R. HUNTON  
SSGT Co D

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

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 DA NANG, RVN  
 301430H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat-1-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (13) Enl (1) USN
  2. MISSION: Conduct a reconnaissance South of grid line 78 in RZ #4 to determine extent of VC activity.
  3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 281830H November 1965
  4. TIME OF RETURN: 301030H November 1965
  5. ROUTE: Refer to OPOD 475-65
  6. OBSERVATIONS-ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No visual or physical contact with enemy was made.
  7. OTHER INFORMATION:
    - (1) 2 days of extensive scouting and patrolling resulted in negative sightings of enemy and friendly forces.
    - (2) Trails within the patrol's area of operation appear to have had limited use. Few footprints were noted on the trails.
    - (3) Communications with the AN/PRC-10 was fair. Some difficulty was encountered due to the terrain.
  8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
  9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.
  10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None.
- E. J. HART  
Sgt Co.D
11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

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Encl (73)

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 3d Reconnaissance Battalion  
 DA NANG, RVN  
 301630H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat-2-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (11) Enl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct a reconnaissance of RZ #5 to determine extent of VC activity.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 281130H November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 301600H November 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to OPORD 475-65
6. OBSERVATIONS-ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No **visual** or **physical** contact with the enemy was made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:
  - (1) Throughout the duration of the patrol, extensive scouting and patrolling disclosed negative sightings of enemy or friendly forces.
  - (2) The trails within the patrol's area of operation are in little use with many of them having become overgrown with vegetation.
  - (3) At 300800H (AT 898675) the patrol noted at a stream crossing approximately 50 fresh footprints made by rubber tire sandals and bare feet. It was estimated that they were only several hours old. Also observed was a length of comm wire stretched across the stream possibly used by persons crossing during high water periods. It was anchored on either side by a bamboo pole.
  - (4) Communications with the AN/PRG-25 was excellent.
8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED: Good.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:
 

Recommendation: That an OP site be considered at (AT 871689). This site affords excellent observation to the West, clockwise to the Northeast.

R. S. YNACAY  
 SSgt Co. D

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

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ENCLOSURE 24

CONFIDENTIAL

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3d Reconnaissance Bn.  
DANANG, RVN  
021515H November 1965

PATROL REPORT

DESIGNATION OF PATROL: Scat 1-Delta

MAPS: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Sheet No. 6658 IV, Series L-701

1. SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF PATROL: (11) Fnl (1) USN
2. MISSION: Conduct an area reconnaissance of RZ #5.
3. TIME OF DEPARTURE: 301430H November 1965
4. TIME OF RETURN: 021500H - December 1965
5. ROUTE: Refer to Operation Order 475-65
6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN: No physical or visual contact made.
7. OTHER INFORMATION:

(1) Two nights and one day of extensive patrolling in the area of operation resulted in negative sightings of enemy activity. The terrain is heavily vegetated with elephant grass at heights of 8 feet to 20 feet. Trails are not distinguishable and branch off in all directions. This environment made movement practically impossible in some areas. The trail networks were infested with land leeches, but free of booby traps and trail markers.

(2) At 011140H the patrol located approximately 30 old fighting holes which measured 2 feet X 3 feet X 2 feet in grid square (AT 8767). The fighting holes did not contain panji stakes or appear to have been recently improved.

(3) Map corrections: A stream parallels the marsh area in grid squares (AT 8867) to (AT 8967). This stream is approximately 6 feet wide and in some areas 6 feet deep making movement very treacherous and time consuming. This stream is not presently shown on the map.

(4) Intermittent streams not presently shown on the map, generally running towards the North from the 310 Hill complex in grid squares (AT 8666), (AT 8766), and (AT 8866) are presently very active and converge to a main stream at (AT 881675) flowing towards the East (Refer to Overlay).

(5) The AN/PRC 25 provided excellent communications without power failure or malfunctions.

CONFIDENTIALENCLOSURE 

CONFIDENTIAL

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: No contact made.
9. CONDITION OF PATROL, INCLUDING DISPOSITION OF ANY DEAD OR WOUNDED:  
Fair.
10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: None

SSGT HOLT  
1st Plt. Co. D

11. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: None.

CONFIDENTIALENCLOSURE 

ENCLOSURE 75

86  
69+



SHEET NO. 665812 SERIAL 701  
INTERMITTENT STREAMS NOT  
SHOWN ON THE MAP.

65  
91

"C" COMPANY  
1st Reconnaissance Battalion  
3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMP (Forward)  
FPO San Francisco, California 96601

29 November 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
Via: Commander, Recon Group Alpha

Subj: Patrol Report

Ref: (a) DivO 3480.1  
(b) Group FragO 14-65  
(c) Maps: Viet Nam 1:50,000 Series L-701, 6757 III and 6756 IV

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following report is submitted
2. Units: 2nd Team, 1st Squad, 3rd Platoon, "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn
3. General Review of Significant Events

a. The 2nd Team, 1st Squad, 3rd Platoon was assigned the mission of establishing an OP vic BS 542929 and observing south, south-east, and west. They were helolifted from the RLT-7 HLZ and inserted vic BS 537929. They harboured overnight and established their CP/OP on the morning of the 24th. During the period of time the OP was operative, they sighted no armed VC, but did note some automatic weapons fire on the second night. The team was extracted at 271100H by helicopter. During the 90 hours that this team was in the field they had no significant sightings.

b. The following is a chronological account of what transpired on this patrol:

231700H - Helo-lifted from RLT-7 HLZ and inserted vic BS 537929 at 231730H.

231750H - Established harbour site vic BS 539929. An uneventful night was spent.

240530H - The team moved to BS 532929, established a CP/OP there and an auxiliary OP 20 meters west of the CP/OP.

240600H - Light automatic weapons fire and S.A. fire were heard from approx coordinates BS 575929. Approx 50 rounds were heard but not observed.

241245H - 241300H - 241320 - At all three times what appeared to be W.P. was seen burning at BS 539935. There was no W.P. splash and no explosion. Five or six people were close by, but made no effort to move away. On the contrary, they yelled and laughed. The burning produced a bright flame two foot in diameter that produced a white smoke plume that rose straight up until caught by the wind (S-3 note - Behavior similar to what could be observed if they were burning defective parachute flare cannisters)

ENCLOSURE ~~74~~

261230H - A "pop" was heard from BS 549923 and a column of grey smoke went straight up in the air. Possibly a smoke grenade.

261245H - One man, black poncho, no weapon entered the brush where the smoke had been.

271100H - The team was retracted by UH1E helicopter. Enroute, the helo landed at "C" Co (Forward), dropped off Cpl's EDWARD and STONE and picked up one WIA which they brought to "B" Med. I/Cpl WHITNEY and PFC SMITH were then brought to RUC-7 HLZ.

#### 4. Commander's Analysis

a. Method of entry was satisfactory. The only discrepancy concerned the close proximity of the landing zone to populated areas. This could not have been avoided in this area.

b. Method of operation was satisfactory. Results indicated that:

(1) No VC in the area at that time; or, VC in the area but moving only at night; or

(2) VC in the area do not have to carry weapons with them and can move freely from village to village.

c. Method of recovery was excellent. The problem with recovering by helicopter is that during heavy rains the helicopters are unable to fly. There are breaks in the weather from time to time during which a helicopter can make the pick-up.

#### 5. Recommendations

a. Because of the present restrictions placed on the infantry limiting them to 2,000 meters forward of the combat out post line; it is recommended that the reconnaissance units include the remaining part of the TAOR in their area of responsibility.

b. Because of the lack of helicopter support available during the rainy season it is recommended that the extent of reconnaissance area of responsibility be limited to a reasonable distance forward of the MLR that will allow patrols to move by foot to the objective and back and have enough time to adequately accomplish the mission.

c. When helicopters are to be used for recovery of patrols it is recommended that sufficient helicopters be put on emergency priority should the pick-up be delayed for more than four (4) hours.

*R. W. Grain*  
R. W. GRAIN  
CO, "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn

ON GR 17 A. HA  
 C IU LAI, VIET NAM  
 252000H, Nov. 1965

FRAG ORDER 14-65

Debriefor: SSgt W. A. BASS

Team Irish, 2nd Team, 2nd Squad, 3rd Platoon, "C" Co, 1st Reconnaissance  
 Battalion

L/Cpl McCARTHY, PFC ROGERS, PFC JONES, PFC POLACKE

MISSION: Establish an OP at coord BS 437963 and observe Tinh Trung.

At 220300H Team Irish left RLT-7 HLZ by helo and landed at LZ coord BS 453956, then moved approx 65 yards to coord BS 455956 and established an OP at 0930H. Visibility was poor and nothing was observed all day. At 1210H machine gun fire was heard from 85 degrees magnetic approx 9,000 meters away. At 1300H team Onyx joined Irish. H and I fires were requested for the night. Nothing was seen or heard that night. At 230845L, 21 men moved east to west in single file at coord BS 479954, wearing black with coolie hats. Visual contact was lost at coord BS 467964 as they entered the thick brush. At 0850H six VCS performing squad tactics using hand and arm signals at coord BS 478954. They wore black with coolie hats and carried no weapons or equipment. Artillery was called and 36 rounds were fired. They ran into small island of brush and 18 rounds were fired on target good coverage. Island was approx 75 meters in diameter. No one came out. Possibly six killed. Visibility in the PM very low. On 24 November no unusual sightings made only a total of six people were seen all day.. At 241915H three flashlights were seen at coord BT 468955 walking east to west. At coord 464955 artillery fire was called and six rounds received. Nothing else was sighted or heard due to low visibility. At 251300H team Irish was retracted from LZ coord BT 453956 by helo and returned to RLT-7 HLZ.

ENCLOSURE 22

RECON BATTAL ALPHA  
1ST BATTAL, VIET NAM  
271930H Nov. 1965

FRAG ORDER 14-65

Debriefed: SSgt W. A. BASS

Team Spartan, 3rd Platoon, "C" 1st Recon Bn

Cpl EDWARDS, LCpl WHITNEY, PFC SMITH, CPL STONE

MISSION: Set up an OP at coord BS 542929 and observe the south, south-east and west.

At 231700H left RLT-7 HLZ by helo and landed at LZ coord 537929 at 1730H. Moved right out to coord 539929 and harbored for the night. Nothing was seen or heard that night. At 240530H the team moved to coord BS 532929 and established a CP/OP at that position. Another OP was set up 20 meters to the west by two men of the team. At 06004 light automatic weapons and small arms fire were heard from an azimuth of 80 degrees approx 3,000 meters away. Approx 50 rounds were heard. Could not observe. At 0910H people came into the fields herded cattle. At 1245H, 1300H and 1320H at coord BS 539935 what appeared to be white phosphorus burned with about a two foot diameter of bright flame. White smoke went straight up until caught by the wind. There was no white phosphorus splash and no explosion such as a shell or grenade bursting would make. These were about 5 or 6 people were right by it. They just yelled and laughed but made no effort to move away. At 251630H three men were moving from bush to bush. They appeared to be hunting for something at coord 545923. One had on a blue poncho, the others had on moroon ponchos. One carried a long hoe on his sholder. They searched around for about 1 1/2 hours. One had two sticks about three feet long sticking out from under his poncho, one other had one stick sticking out of his poncho. These did not appear to be rifles. At 0750H one man came into the rice paddy and walked from one spot to the other looking for something in grid square 5393, he stopped several times. He left at 0920H and returned at 1530H and did the same thing again. He left this time at 1640H. He carried a pot about 10 inches in diameter and 8 inches high. At 261230H a pop was heard at coord BS 549923 a long gray column of smoke went straight up in the air. Approx 15 minutes later one man entered the brush where the smoke had been. He wore a black poncho and no weapon. Possibly it was a smoke grenade. At 271100H, the team was retracted by UH-1E A/C Cpl EDWARDS and Cpl STONE were landed at the company position. LCpl WHITNEY and PFC SMITH were brought to RLT-7 HLZ.

ENCLOSURE 78

RECON GROUP ALFA  
 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Amphibious Force  
 c/o FPO, San Francisco, 96601

3/JRG/rjm  
 28 Nov 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
 Subj: Patrol Report, Operation 15-65, 23-27 November 1965

Ref: (a) DivO 3480.1  
 (b) Recon Group Alfa Frag Order 15-65  
 (c) Map: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Tri Binh 6757 III, Series L701

Encl: (1) Patrol Route Overlays

1. In accordance with reference (a), the following report is submitted.
2. Units participating in Operation 15-65:

1st Plt, Co B(-)(Rein), 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion

3. a. General Review of Significant Events. The mission of the patrol was to establish two squad OP's vicinity BT 4003 and BT 3809 to provide surveillance over avenues of approach to Chu Lai in RAOR #1. This was accomplished by helilifting the squads to BT 406031 and BT 388098 at 231700H. During the 90 hours of the operation, 7 sightings were made totaling 59 VC. Three contacts were made resulting in 1 VC probably killed by a direct hit from an M-79 round. Four artillery missions were fired totaling 85 rounds of 155 and 8" on large enemy concentrations. The following is a chronological listing of significant events:

(1) 1st Squad (-), 1st Platoon, Co B - HARDY

231700H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter and landed vicinity BT 406031. Helicopter received 4 rounds of small arms fire from vicinity BT 405034. Artillery mission fired with good effect.

231730H. Established OP vicinity BT 408036.

232015H. Heard canteens rattling and talking from the northwest. Unable to observe.

240645H. 1 man moved northwest at BT 408033 wearing black and carrying rifle. Man lost from view before sniper could fire.

ENCLOSURE 

241615H. 4 men moved southwest out of woodline into HLZ at BT 406031 wearing black and camouflage raincoats with 2 grease guns and 2 rifles and large packs. Men buried small objects in ground - possibly mines.

241630H. 3 men moved southeast out of woodline 25 meters from OI. 2 wore black and 1 wore camouflage poncho carrying 1 grease gun, 1 carbine, and 1 rifle. 1 man carried large bundle of stakes with something on the end. These were buried vicinity BT 408033. 1 more man joined this group with 1 grease gun.

241720H. 4 men carrying tree branches up hill at BT 407035 wearing black with 2 grease guns. Many more voices heard from same area.

241800H. Aircraft flying TPQ bombing run received 4 rounds of small arms fire.

242100H. Moved in order to be able to call in artillery on harbor site.

242345H. Arrived at BT 413039. Artillery mission called with 47 rounds on target. One large secondary explosion was noted.

250645H. Moved to BT 417043 to reestablish communications which were lost about 0200H.

270830H. 1 shot heard from harbor site area. Suppressive artillery mission fired prior to patrol's recovery by helicopter.

271030H. Patrol recovered.

(2) 2nd Squad, 1st Platoon, Co B - LAUREL

231700H. Departed RLT-4 area by helicopter and landed vicinity BT 388098.

231735H. Heard 50 caliber MG from northeast. Small arms fire was heard all night.

241600H. 4 men moved northeast at BT 394112. 1 wore blue shirt and all carried packs.

241600H. 1 man and 1 woman came out of house and moved northeast at BT 389110, man wore khaki uniform and the woman carried a pack, the man carried a rifle and wore a pistol.

241900H. Patrol moved to BT 383103. Small arms and machine gun fire heard sporadically all night vicinity BT 4010.

251030H. Observed a coolie hat on ridge line. 2 men moved to investigate and observed 3 VC who opened fire. 1 VC was hit by M-79 round. 2 men moved back and the entire patrol was engaged in a firefight with a large number of VC. Patrol pulled off ridge line, moving south, 30 to 40 VC were observed sweeping area on line. They wore black. Artillery mission was fired at BT 389097.

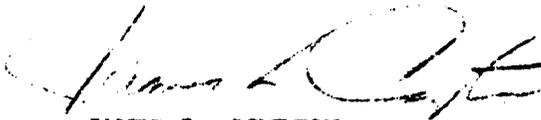
251140H. Patrol recovered by helicopter from BT 399078.

b. Commander's Evaluation of Significant Events

(1) A large unit appears to be operating in the area of Hills 186 and 410, BT 4003 and BT 3903. They appeared to have mined the most likely HLZ and avenue of approach to Hill 186.

(2) The VC come together in large groups during bad weather when aerial observation is not favorable.

c. Commander's Recommendation. Increase the TFQ and H&I missions in the vicinity of Hills 186 and 410.



JAMES L. COMPTON  
Captain, U. S. Marine Corps  
Commanding

Debriefing Report, Frag Order 15-65

Recon Group Alfa  
 Chu Lai, Vietnam  
 251400H Nov 1965

Debriefers: SSgt. W. A. BASS  
 Team LAUREL, 2nd Squad, 1st Plt, CoB(-)(Rein), 3rd Recon Bn  
 Cpl. MENTON, Cpl. RHODE, Pfc. IANE, Pfc. HARRIS, Pfc. OCHOA

MISSION: Set up an OP at coordinates BT 388098 and observe the two valleys at Xuan Ngoc (1) and (2) and the main trail that runs directly between the two villages.

At 231600H, left RLT-4 HLZ by helicopter and landed at landing zone 3. The landing was observed by people working in the fields. On the 23rd, there was a total of 12 sightings of normal activity. Nothing unusual was seen that day. At 231735H, a 50 caliber MG was heard from the northeast. 7 rounds were fired approximately 1500 meters away. At 1800H, a small fire-fight was heard, approximately 25-30 rounds were fired, small arms and automatic weapons both. This came from the northeast and the same area as the 50 caliber. At 1835H, 20 rounds carbine were fired from approximate coord BT 398105. Right after the fire stopped, 2 flashes of light were seen from the same area. At about the same time, 7 lights came on, some would flash off and on, others would be bright and then fade out, others stayed on. Some were stationary, others moved in all different directions. At one time during the night, there was an estimated 40 on at the same time. Some lasted all night. This covered the complete valley. At 240030H, 7 tracer rounds were fired from coord BT 400105. They were fired directly east. No weapons were heard, but the 7 tracers were seen. At 240720H, 3 rounds of small arms fire from 2000 to 3000 meters north of the OP were heard. They were spaced approximately 1 every 5 minutes. At 0645H, people started coming into the paddies to work. From daylight to 0700H, 7 boats were seen on the river moving northeast in GS BT 4112, 4211. At 0935H, there were an estimated 100 to 125 people working in the paddy. At 1020H, 3 single rounds were fired from GS 3910. It was small arms fire. At 1100H to approximately 1245H, almost everyone left the rice paddies and returned. At 1300H 6 men appeared at coord BT 393108. They appeared to be searching for something as they wandered back and forth through the bushes with sticks. They kept examining the bushes. The search lasted about 25 minutes. All wore black except 1 had a blue shirt. 1 man in black just sat in the bushes with a stick. He was not one of the six. At 1600H, 4 men appeared at coord BT 394112, all carried packs and wore black except 1 had a blue shirt. They stopped at a house at coord BT 389110 and talked to a man, then continued moving northeast and disappeared. 2 people came out, 1 appeared to be a woman wearing black. The man wore a khaki uniform. They moved northeast in front of the other 4 about 200 meters. The man had a sidearm and a rifle. The woman appeared to have a tan pack. As these 2 went through the paddies, they stopped and talked to everyone they passed. Everyone showed them courtesy. People walking in the opposite direction went clear across the paddy to avoid them. Always when they talked to anyone, they would point in the direction of the OP. At 1700H people started moving back to the village. At 1710H, 2 rounds small arms fire were heard from the northeast. At 1755H, a large fire with a large amount of white smoke appeared at coord BT 391111. From 1815H to 1840H, 8 rounds of what sounded like 60mm mortars were fired and landed at coordinates BT 428105. At 1900H the team moved to a harbor site at coord BT 383103. At approximately 2015H, a large fire-fight took place at coord BT 400113. It sounded like an M-60 and small arms fire, grenades and lots of tracers. The firing began in a northerly direction, then changed to the west. It lasted approximately 2 minutes.

**ENCLOSURE**

There was a large volume of fire, answered by automatic weapons fire. Sporadic SA fire was heard from the same general area all night. At daylight the team moved back to the same OP site. Visibility was real low. At 250940H 2 men with blue ponchos and 1 man with a khaki uniform standing in the middle were seen talking at 389114. Visibility dropped again and they were lost from sight. At approximately 251030H, a coolie hat was seen from the hill to the west. It disappeared so after about 10 minutes. Cpls. MENTON and RHODE moved to the top of the knoll about 30 yards. 3 VC were seen behind a large rock approximately 15 yards away. They turned back as the VC started firing. Cpl. RHODE returned fire and Cpl. MENTON fired his M-79 right behind the rock where the VC were. It was almost positive the 1 VC was killed behind the rock. The team fired 17 M-79 rounds and about 90 rounds of 7.62, picked up their gear and moved off down over the next ridge line. Cpl. MENTON saw 30 to 40 VC on line, well organized and evenly spaced. Most wore black. Some had camouflaged hats, others coolie hats. Artillery was called for at coord BT 389097. Rounds could not be observed. The team continued to move south and were told to establish an LZ. It was established at coord BT 399078, and the team was retracted by helicopter at 1140H and returned to RLT-4 HLZ.

It was noted that at coord BT 398103 on a trail moving northeast-southwest everyone by-passed the trail to coord BT 401106. At the 1st coord, what appeared to be a piece of cardboard attached to 2 stakes in the ground was on the trail. Everyone left the trail at this coordinate and returned to it at the second coordinate. The fire that was received sounded like rifle, greasegun and some other type automatic weapon fire.

Debriefing Report Order 15-65

Recon Group Alfa  
Chu Lai, Viet Nam  
271900H Nov 1965

Debriefed: SSgt. W. A. BASS

Team: HARDY - 1st Plt, Co B(-)(Rein), 3rd Recon Bn.  
Cpl. ALLEN, HM3 MORGAN, LCpl. MANGUM, ICpl. SCOTT, Pfc. JEPSENMISSION: Establish an OP at coord BT 408036 and observe Dong Nhah, Dong Co

At 231700H, left RLT-4 HLZ by helicopter and landed at LZ KABAU at coord BT 406031. The helicopter received 4 rounds of small arms fire as they were leaving. The rounds came from coord BT 405034. Artillery was immediately called. Good coverage of target. Artillery was shifted to Hill 186 to cover OP position. At 1730H, HARDY moved to coord BT 408036 and established their OP. At 2015H, heard canteens rattling and talking from the northwest about 150 meters above the OP. This same noise was heard throughout the night. It was too dark to see anyone. At 240645H, 1 man moved northwest at coord BT 408033 with rifle and wearing black. No movement was visible until 1445H when 4 men came out herding 25 cattle at coord BT 422022. At 241615H, 4 men moved southwest out of woodline into LZ at coord BT 406031. They wore black with camouflage raincoats, very large packs with rolls of rice on top. They had twigs stuck out of their packs for camouflage. All had cartridge belts and weapons, 2 grease guns and 2 rifles. They acted alert, well trained and disciplined. None appeared to be under approximately 26 years of age. They planted or put some small objects on the ground (possible mines). At 1630H, 3 VC moved out of treeline 25 meters to the west of the OP and moved southeast. 2 wore black and the first VC wore camouflage poncho. He had a grease gun. The others had one rifle and a carbine with a banana clip. The second man had a big bundle. It appeared to be stakes with something on the ends. They moved to coord BT 408033 and stuck or planted something from the bundle and covered it up with grass. One of these VC had called down some orders to the VC working on the LZ. After both groups had finished their jobs, they moved back to where they had come from. The group of three had been joined by 1 more VC somewhere out of sight of the OP as 4 came back in that group. 3 of them had on camouflage hats. The man that joined them also had a grease gun. At 1720H, 4 VC with weapons (2 grease guns) carried tree branches up the hill to coord BT 407035 and disappeared. During the whole time of these movements, many voices could be heard talking at approximately the same coord as the men with the branches disappeared. At 241800H, an aircraft flew over from the east and dropped bombs, then made another pass from the southeast and dropped more bombs. On the 1st run, the OP received shrapnel and on the second run, the aircraft had 4 rifle shots fired at it. At 2000H, orders were received to call in artillery, which HARDY requested not to do because of proximity of the target. They were told to move to approximate coord BT 413039 and call in artillery. At 2100H, team HARDY moved out of the OP to move to BT 413039, arriving at 2345H. Artillery was called and 20 to 25 rounds were fired with good coverage of the target. On 1 round there was a large, bright red secondary explosion. Artillery was shifted all around the side of the hill with good coverage. At coord BT 413039, a fighting trench was found in a half moon shape, approximately 4 feet deep and approximately 7 feet long with a dirt embankment. Observation was excellent over the trail below to the west. The whole valley could be seen. The area was covered with small harbor sites big enough to hold 4 or 5 VC. Some old C ration cans were laying around, not yet rusted. The trench was fairly new, approximately 8 or 9 days. At approximately 250200H, communication was lost. At 0645H, the team moved out to the northeast to coord BT 414041 when communication was reestablished.

ENCLOSURE (2)

The team was told to move to where observation could be established to the west and south. The team moved to coord BT 417043 and set up an OP. At 1145H, fog moved in and nothing could be seen. During the day, HARDY acted as radio relay for team LAUREL. At 270830H, 1 shot was heard from the west. Nothing was seen or heard during the period when the fog and rain started until this time. At 271000H, an artillery fire mission was fired on hill 186 in GS BT 4003 with good coverage after adjustment. At 271030H, the team was retraced by helicopter from coord BT 417043 and returned to RLT-4 HLZ.

Comments: The whole finger to the southeast of BT 406031 can be used as an HLZ, however the only place that the VC planted something was exactly where the helicopters had landed to insert the team.

Recommendations: Artillery coverage be fired on the HLZ and a sweep be made of the area.

Don't feel that a single team should be set up in that area again, but rather a platoon sized patrol, at least.

TPQ mission be run on BT 413038 (harbor sites and the fighting hole).

## "C" COMPANY

1st Reconnaissance Battalion  
3rd Marine Division (Rein) FMF (Forward)  
FPO San Francisco, California, 96601

29 November 1965

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion  
Via: Commander, Recon Group Alpha

Subj: Patrol Report

Ref: (a) DivO 348.1  
(b) Group FragO 19-65  
(c) Map: Viet Nam 1:50,000 Series L-701, 6757 III and 6756 IV

1. In accordance with reference (a) the following report is submitted.
2. Unit: "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn  
Five: Officers, 48 enlisted USMC and three enlisted USN
3. Casualties: (a) Friendly: KIA - 1  
WIA - 1  
(b) Enemy: WIA - 1
4. General Review of Significant Events.

a. "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn was assigned the mission of conducting a motorized patrol to BT 593936, then continuing the patrol west on foot to extract team Spartan (Team #2 1st Squad, 3rd Plt) and insert Covetous (1st Plt). The company left the company CP by vehicle and dismounted at BS 593936. While a foot moving west, they received 30 to 40 rounds of small arms fire from houses at BS 580958 (the west edge of Phu Le (1)). The company deployed and simultaneously received 10-15 rounds of automatic carbine fire from BS 478941. The 2nd Plt moved north to out flank the VC at this position and the sniper was momentarily seen running due east. He was pursued, but not caught. The company regrouped and proceeded west until one round of sniper fire from BS 579937 hit PFC VALE in the chest killing him immediately. The point platoon assaulted immediately, but the sniper had left the area. Medical evacuation was accomplished by 271020H and aircraft were requested to extract the 2nd Team, 1st Squad, 3rd Platoon. Extraction was accomplished and the company prepared to continue it's patrol route to insert the 1st Platoon. UH1E A/C were requested to rocket and machine gun the road west of the company (BS 573936) and on the 2nd machine gun run Cpl MINDEN was shot in the left leg. Cpl MINDEN was evacuated to "B" Med by helo and the company withdrew east. They received 5 to 6 rounds of S.A. from Phu Le (1) which was immediately returned. PFC BUSTAMONIE was certain that he hit one VC. The company moved up and saturated the area with fire and then withdrew unhindered to their dismount point. They returned to the company CP arriving there at 271245H. Documents found in searching the VC firing positions were turned into the Chu Lai ITT.

UNCLASSIFIED

ENCLOSURE 

b. During this patrol there were three (3) engagements with the enemy, a total of 20 VC were seen.

c. The following is a chronological account of what transpired on this patrol:

270750H - "C" Co left company CP and moved in a motorized column to BS 593936 where they dismounted.

270855H - The company proceeded west on foot thru Chau Tu (1) BS 587938 where there was a noticeable lack of activity. A man on a bicycle who had been at the dismount point was seen on the east side of the rail road tracks in this village; he had been seen following the patrol route. The company had started across the clear area at BS 580938 when the point team received 30 to 40 rounds of SA fire from houses located at BS 578938. Simultaneous with deploying 10 to 15 rounds of automatic carbine fire were received BS 578941. The point held fast and the 2nd Platoon moved north to out flank the VC at BS 578941. One VC was seen running east, was pursued but not caught. Eight houses were cleared and several official looking documents captured.

270945H - The 2nd Plt rejoined the company of BS 578938, and the company proceeded with the assigned mission.

270950H - One sniper fired one round from BS 574937 hitting PFC VALE in the chest killing him immediately. Fire was returned and the point platoon deployed. A perimeter was established and medical evacuation was requested. The houses in and around the perimeter were searched and cleared. One half of a carbine stock was found in one house and what was later identified as a bamboo mine was found in another. Sporadic sniper fire was received from BS 574937. The area was saturated with rifle fire and the sniper fire ceased.

271000H - It was noted that the company was being intermittently observed by three men and four women at BS 573937.

271020H - The medical evacuation was completed and aircraft were now requested to pick up the 2nd Team, 1st Squad, 3rd Plt. at BS 538928.

271025H - The 3rd Plt team was recovered and the company prepared to proceed west to insert the 1st Plt. One UHLE A/C was requested to make a rocket and straffing run along the road west of the company at BS 573936. On the 2nd straffing run Cpl MINDEN received one round in the left calf.

271115H - The UHLE A/C that had picked up the 3rd Plt Team landed, dropped off two men from this team and took Cpl MINDEN aboard as a medical evacuee.

271125H - The company began to move back to highway 1. When passing Phu Le (1) they received 5 to 6 rounds of SA fire from BS 579936. The snipers area was saturated with automatic fire and the firing ceased. The point man, PFC BUSTAMONTE was certain that he had hit one VC.

UNCLASSIFIED

271130H - The po moved to BS 585937 where they elements of "D" Co, 1/7. Both units laid down a base of fire covering the companies withdrawal across the open ground.

271140H - The company called in nine rounds of artillery fire and directed additional rocket and machine gun fire by the UHLE on Phu Le (1).

271210H - Both "C" Co and the squad from "D"-1/7 boarded the vehicles and proceeded to Kuo Man at BS 578964 where D-1/7 personnel debarked. "C" Co returned to the company CP arriving there at 271245H.

#### Commander's Analysis

a. The attempt to recover and insert the reconnaissance elements by foot was not successful.

b. The patrol moved out utilizing infantry formations and attempted to move as quickly as possible for shock effect.

c. Heavy rains caused swollen rice paddies and flooded the objective area restricting movement to elevated trails.

d. Sugar cane fields and densely vegetated villages provided the enemy with excellent sniper positions.

e. The company reacted to all contacts well, using the point element as a base of fire and the second platoon as a maneuver element.

f. After the 2nd team, 1st Squad, 3rd Plt was extracted by helicopter and Corporal MENDEN wounded, it seemed senseless to continue this slow, exposed method of insertion and the company withdrew to the dismount point.

#### Recommendations

a. That reconnaissance elements not be ordered to walk into the RAOR for insertion. Heavy population and limited covered routes in the southwestern portion of the Chu Lai perimeter make clandestine or show of force movement impossible since the Viet Cong resort to basic guerilla tactics to harass and impede the unit.

b. Since the infantry units are restricted to patrolling only 2,000 meters outside the MLR, that the reconnaissance screen be set up inside the TAOR, thus offering some degree of safety on insertion and still completing the recon mission.

c. That steps be taken to waterproof the earpiece of the PRC-25 as the material covering same is not adequate, and damage to receiving ability results.

d. That the rocket gunship (UHLE) and ground coordinator during close air support maintain radio contact continually from approach to release of ordnance to somewhat protect friendly troops from close fire.

**UNCLASSIFIED**

*R. W. Crain*  
R. W. CRAIN

3 CO, "C" Co, 1st Recon Bn

**ENCLOSURE 82**

RECON GROUP ALPHA  
CHU LAI, VIET NAM  
272100H Nov. 1965

DEBRIEFING REPORT, FRAG ORDER 17-65

Debriefers: SSgt W. A. BASS  
Lt. GRAIN, Lt YAKAMAVAGE, Lt. WILLIAMS, Lt. CHEFF, Lt NASH and 51 men.  
"C" Co, 1st Recon Bn

MISSION. Conduct a motor convoy to coord BS 503036 then patrol by foot west to extract team Spartan and insert team Covetous.

At 270850H, the company moved out of the company CP by vehicle and moved to coord BS 593936 and dismounted. At 0855 the company moved out on foot moving west. There was a noticeable lack of activity at Chau Tu (1) as the foot patrol passed. At the dismount point it was noted that a man moved out on a bicycle moving west following the patrol route. He was later seen by two men on the east side of the railroad tracks at Chau Tu (1) as the patrol passed by going and returning. The company started to cross the open space at coord BS 580938. The point received sniper fire from houses located at coord 578938. Approx 30 or 40 rounds. The company deployed, at that time the company received fire from coord BS 578941. Approx 10 to 15 rounds automatic carbine. At this time, the point held up and the 2nd platoon with Lt WILLIAMS moved to the north to coord BS 583939 into the oain fields then turned west and then north. The point saw one man running east. He dissappeared before a round could be fired. The point team persued, but never caught up with him. Eight houses were cleared and documents were picked up and later turned over to ITT Team. At approx 0945H the 2nd platoon rejoined the company at coord BS 578938. The company moved out and one sniper fired one round from coord BS 574937 hitting PFC VALE at coord BS 575938 at 0950H. PFC VALE was hit in the chest and immediately died. Fire was returned by the point team and the point platoon deployed. A perimeter was set up and medical evacuation by helo was requested at coord BS 576937. Houses surrounding the area were checked and one broken rifle stock was found in one hut. It was from a carbine and was cracked in half, with the but missing. One house just directly due east of the LZ, a 12 inch piece of bamboo three inches in diameter with solid ends except for a hole in both ends approx 1/2 inch in diameter was found. The hole did not go all the way through. One man said he had seen a simular bamboo mine at the mine warfare demolitions school. More sniper fire was received from coord BS 574937. Fire was returned with unknown results except the sniper fire quit. During this time one old woman and three children watched from a window of a house and two women and two more children from two other houses also watched. Two women and seven children watched from another house. All appeared frightened. While waiting for the helo approx three men and four women at coord BS 573937 took turns walking across the road and looking in the direction of the LZ. At approx 1020H the med evac was completed and A/C was requested to try to recover four man team Spartan from OP coord BS 538928. Recovery was made, at 1025H the company moved out to the west to coord BS 573937. UH-1E A/C requested if he could be of assistance and was informed to make a straffing and rocket run along the road west in front of the company. This was done. On the first run the rounds landed 50 meters forward of the company position. The second run the rounds landed in the friendly position and one round hit Cpl MINDEN in the left calf.

ENCLOSURE

At 1115H one UH-1H, C landed and let off two men from team Spartan and evacuated Cpl MINDEN to "B" Med. The company began to move back to highway 1 at 1115H. 2nd Platoon was point. As they moved into the open beside Phu Le, fire was received from coord BS 579936, approx 5 or 6 rounds. Fire was immediately returned. Sniper rounds ceased and the point man, PFC BUSTANONTE thought he had hit one man. The team was directed to saturate that vicinity. After moving approx 20 meters, approx 15 more rounds were received. By this time the main body had reached the opening and laid down a base of fire. The point moved to coord BS 585937. As they approached that area and entered into some covering, they were met elements of "D" Co, 1st Bn, 7th Marines. They set up a base of fire to cover the entire column as they crossed the open. As soon as the company had joined D-1-7, they moved out to the vehicles and at approx. 1210H boarded the vehicles and returned to the "C" Co, 1st Recon CP. Disembarking the elements of "D" Co at Nuoc Man at coord BS 576964. The company arrived at the CP at 1245H.

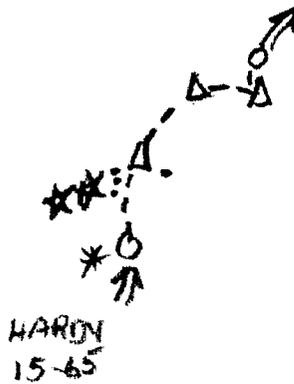
Note: The documents that were found were turned into ITT by SSgt BASS.

Recommendation: Company sized patrols should not be used in this area.



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PATROL ROUTE  
OPERATION 15-65  
VIETNAM 1:50000 6757II

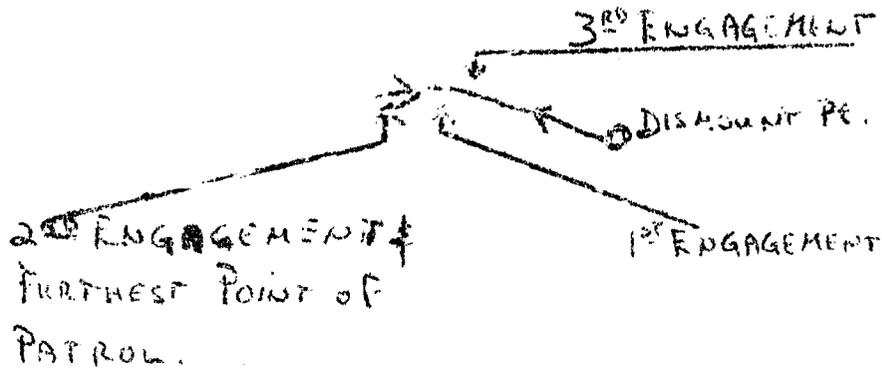
*Argentine*

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# PATROL INCIDENT ONE 4

ROUTE GROUP FRAG ORDER 19-65  
 C Co 1st RECON BN  
 VIET NAM 1:50,000  
 SERIES L-701  
 TRI BINH 6757 III #  
 TRA BONG 6756 IV  
 27 NOV 65  
 R.W. CRAIG  
 1st LT USMC  
 PATROL LEADER

98  
 54



91  
 60

APPENDIX "A"

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