

CONFIDENTIAL

OPERATION ORDER #224-68

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 1ST FORCE RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY (REIN)
 PHU BAI, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
 301415H May 1968

Ref: (a) Map(s), VEITNAM, Sheet(s) 6541 III,IV
 (b) 1stReconBnO P03000.4
 (c) 1stMarDivO P0800.1F (Intelligence SOP)
 (d) 1stMarDivO P003330.2 (Rules of Engagement)
 (e) CoFragOrder #224-68

132768

Unit/Call Sign: RECORD (F-3) Patrol Leader: LT JOHNSON

1. Situation. (a) See current INTSUM'S
 (b) See current OPSUM'S and PIR'S
 (c) Attachments: NONE

2. Mission. Conduct reconnaissance and surveillance operations within your assigned NFZ/TFZ to detect possible VC/NVA troop movement or arms infiltration in the area west of Route 545. Particular emphasis is to be placed on locating enemy storage areas, fortifications (trench lines, bunkers), harbor sites and the direction and trafficability of trails in the area. Be prepared to call and adjust arty/air on targets of opportunity in support of Operation Houston.

3. Execution. Depart LZ 405 at 020730H; insert vic YC899966.
 Extract at 061300H vic YC869979.

a. Coordinating Instructions

(1) Coordinate with S-3, 1st FAG to ensure maximum effectiveness of supporting arms, including use of night defensive, "on-call", and counter battery fires.

(2) Ensure thorough coordination with the 5thMarRegt, who have been assigned the mission of providing the Bald Eagle capability. Special emphasis will be placed on "link-up" procedures in the event it becomes necessary to employ the Bald Eagle.

(3) Ensure coordination with the 5th Marines COC for any knowledge they have of this area and if they will have any friendly units operating in this vicinity.

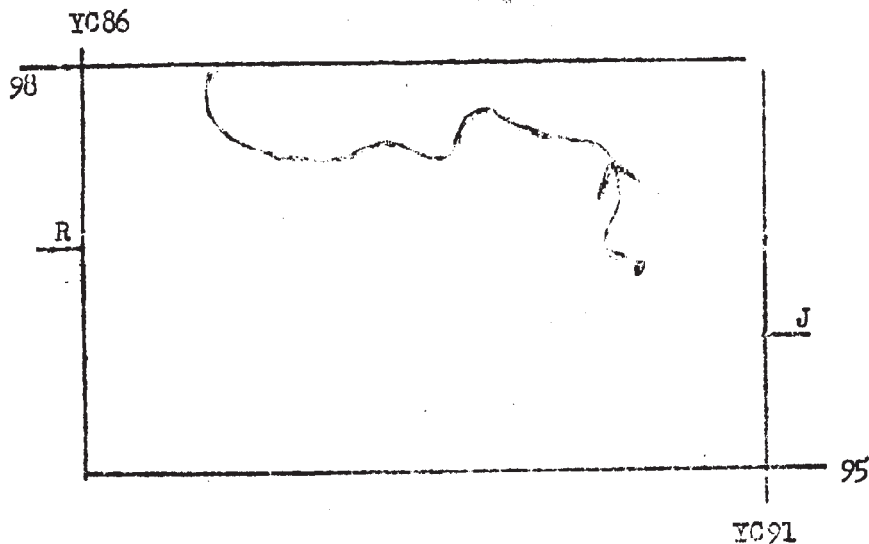
4. Admin/Logistics. Reference (b), and verbal.

5. Comm/Electronics. Primary Freq: 37.6 Alternate: 33.1
 Artillery: (a) BEECHNUT "D" 45.35 (155 HOW)
 (b) LUNGA POINT "L" 63.65 (155 HOW)
 (c) SAND HURST 56.50 (155 Guns)
 (d) SAND HURST "A" 36.50 (155 Guns)
 Radio Relay: IMPRESSIVE BRAVO
 IMPRESSIVE DELTA
 Air Observer: COWPOKE 34.5
 1/5 Tac Net: 67.55 (MILLBROOK)

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Distribution:	G-2	(1)
	G-3	(2)
	CO, 1stLt/11	(1)
	CO, 5thMar	(1)
	CO, 1stBn 5thMar	(1)
	S-3, 5thMar	(1)
	CO, HMM-365	(1)
	CO, HMM-363	(1)
	CO, HMM-364	(1)
	CO, HMM-367	(1)
	CO, MAG-36	(1)
	CO, 220thAvnCo	(1)
	CO, 155 MM Gun Btry (SP)	(1)
	CO, 1st FAC	(2)
	Recon PSOC	(1)
	TF XRay PSOC	(1)
	S-3, 1stReconBn	(1)
	S-3, 1stForReconCo	(4)
	PtILdr, F-3	(1)

C. N. Riley
 C. N. RILEY
 By direction

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S-3

OPERATION ORDER: 294-68

1ST FORCE RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY (REIN)

OPERATION: HOUSTON

PHU DAI, RVN

PATROL: RECORD (F-3)

DTG 051100H JUNE 1968

DEBRIEFER: CPL. W.D. KEARNEY

MAPS: VIETNAM 1:50,000; AMS

L7014; SHEET 6541 III & IV

PATROL REPORT

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION AND EQUIPMENT:

- A. COMPOSITION: 1 OFF. 9 ENL. 1 USN.
- B. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
- C. COMM. AND OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: 2 PRC-25'S, 1 6x30
- D. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: 1 M-14

2. MISSION: CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE OPERATIONS WITHIN YOUR ASSIGNED NFZ/FFZ TO DETECT POSSIBLE VC/NVA TROOP MOVEMENT OR ARMS INFILTRATION IN THE AREA WEST OF ROUTE 545. PARTICULAR EMPHASIS IS TO BE PLACED ON LOCATING ENEMY STORAGE AREAS, FORTIFICATIONS (TRENCH LINES, BUNKERS), HARBOR SITES AND THE DIRECTION AND TRAFFICABILITY OF TRAILS IN THE AREA. BE PREPARED TO CALL AND ADJUST ARMY/AIR ON TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION HOUSTON.

3. TIME OF DEPARTURE AND RETURN: 020730H/051040H

4. ROUTE: (SEE PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY)

5. SYNOPSIS: 75 HOURS OF PATROLLING AND OBSERVATION RESULTED IN THREE SIGHTINGS AND THREE CONTACTS WITH 10 VC/NVA. NO FM CALLED IN SUPPORT OF THIS MISSION.

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

A. ENEMY: 021135H YC897977 AFTER PATROL WAS INSERTED, AND MOVED OUT, PATROL HEARD TWO BURST OF AUTOMATIC FIRE FROM AN AK-47. PATROL BELIEVED THE BURST TO BE SOME TYPE OF SIGNAL.

030907H YC888977 PATROL STOPPED FOR A BREAK. POINT MAN SPOTTED 2 VC/NVA, DRESSED IN GREEN UTILITIES, AND ONE HAD A AK-47. POINT MAN FIRED AT VC/NVA, BUT MISSED.

031040H YC888974 PATROL HAD MOVED TO TOP OF HILL WHEN POINT MAN SPOTTED 1 VC/NVA, THE VC/NVA WAS WEARING A RED JACKET, AND APPEARED TO HAVE KOREAN FEATURES, HE WAS ALSO CARRYING A AK-47. POINT MAN OPENED UP WITH AUTOMATIC FIRE KILLING THE VC/NVA. AT THE SAME TIME POINT MAN WAS SHOOTING THE ONE VC/NVA, HE SPOTTED 3 MORE VC/NVA. THE OTHERS FIRED UP THE HILL AT POINT MAN, BUT MISSED HIM. WHEN PATROL WENT DOWN TO CHECK OUT THE AREA THEY FOUND DRAG MARKS, AND PUDDLES OF BLOOD.

B-24

070910H (Y0802970) PATROL HAD FINISHED TAKING BREAK AND WAS STARTING TO MOVE OUT WHEN TEAM RECEIVED HEAVY VOLUME OF FIRE FROM THE "SE". PATROL RETURNED FIRE, THREW 1 M-26 GRENADE. ON THE INITIAL BURST OF FIRE, TEAM SUFFERED 1 KIA, 1 WIA (EVAC), 2 WIA (MINOR). TEAM HEARD MOVEMENT FROM "SE". TEAM MEMBER SPOTTED 1 VC/NVA IN BUSHES AND OPENED FIRE RESULTING IN 1 VC/NVA KIA (CONF). AT SAME TIME ANOTHER PATROL MEMBER SPOTTED ANOTHER VC/NVA. TEAM MEMBER OPENED FIRE ON HIM, RESULTING IN 1 VC/NVA KIA (CONF), BY S/A. ANOTHER PATROL MEMBER SAW 2 VC/NVA, DRESSED IN GREEN UTILITIES, AND OPENED FIRE ON THEM RESULTING IN 2 VC/NVA KIA (CONF). AFTER INITIAL BURST OF FIRE NO MORE FIRING WAS HEARD. MED-EVAC HELO WAS IN AREA, AND PATROL PUT TWO MED-EVAC'S ON THE HOIST AND THE TEAM MOVED TO LZ WITHOUT FURTHER INCIDENT.

D. TERRAIN: HILLY, CANOPY 25 FT HIGH. THICK UNDERGROWTH. MOVEMENT 50-75 METERS PER HOUR.

7. OTHER INFORMATION: INSERT LZ Y0896977- GOOD 1 CH-46 ZONE. GRASS AND BRUSH 2-4 FT HIGH. EXTRACT LZ Y0804977- DOMB CRATER, SEVERAL STUMPS IN MIDDLE. POOR 1 CH-46 ZONE.

TRAILS: 031750H (Y0809975 & Y0807970) PATROL FOUND TWO MAJOR TRAILS WITH FRESH FOOTPRINTS. THE TRAILS RAN "E" TO "W", AND WERE WELL USED. CANNOT BE OBSERVED FROM THE AIR.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: 4 VC/NVA KIA CONF. BY S/A. 2 VC/NVA KIA PROB. BY S/A. 3 USMC WIA BY S/A. 1 USMC KIA BY S/A.

9. CONDITION OF PATROL: GOOD

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

11. EFFECTIVENESS OF SUPPORTING ARMS: NONE USED.

12. COMMENTS BY DEBRIEFER: RECON TEAMS HAVE HAD 6 CONTACTS IN THE AREA BETWEEN BEN TAU (Y0895995) WEST TO THE TA TRACH RIVER DURING THE PAST TWO WEEKS, RESULTING IN 9 NVA KIA (CONF) AND 3 NVA KIA (PROB). FOR DETAILS OF THESE CONTACTS SEE PATROL DEBRIEFS #212-60, #223-60, #228-60 AND THIS DEBRIEF.

THOUGH, RECON TEAMS HAVE NOT YET FOUND ANY ENEMY BASE AREAS IN THIS AREA, IT IS FELT THAT POSSIBLE ENEMY BASE AREAS ARE LOCATED IN THE VICINITY OF Y0867973, Y0875967, AND Y08600. IN ADDITION, THE 5TH MARINES HAVE HAD SUCCESSFUL AMBUSHES AGAINST LARGE SIZE ENEMY FORCES CARRYING RICE ALONG WELL USED TRAILS THAT LEAD BACK INTO THIS AREA.

CONCERNING THE REPORT OF 031040H OF 1 ENEMY WITH KOREAN FEATURES, PATROL MEMBER REPORTED THAT THIS MAN WAS SHORTER AND OF LIGHTER COMPLEXION THAN MOST VIETNAMESE. THE REASON THE PATROL MEMBER REPORTED KOREAN FEATURES WAS BECAUSE THE ENEMY RESEMBLED CLOSELY THE KOREAN LAUNDRY WORKERS.

13. SELECTED MUNITIONS: YES

14. PATROL MEMBERS:

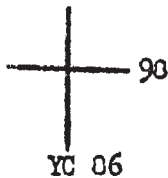
LCPL CARVER, S.
CPL. WEST, H.
1ST LT. JOHNSON, R.
PFC CURRIE

HM3 STAUFFER, J.
PFC BARRETT, S. (WIA SERIOUS)
LCPL CAMPBELL, T.
CPL. PALMER, R. (WIA MINOR)

CPL. LYONS, J. (KIA)
(MINOR) LCPL BASSETT, A. (WIA)
LCPL LYNCH, M.

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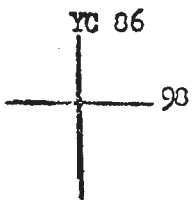
- C.G. 1ST MAR DIV (REIN) (1)
- C.G. 3RD MAR DIV (REIN) (1)
- G-2 1ST MAR DIV (REIN) (1)
- G-2 1ST MAW (1)
- G-2 TEXRAY (1)
- G-3 TEXRAY (1)
- TEXRAY AO (1)
- CO, I CORPS ADV GROUP (ATTN: G-2) (1)
- CO, 1ST RECON BN. (1)
- S-2 1ST RECON BN. (1)
- S-3 1ST RECON BN. (1)
- CO, 1ST FAG (3)
- CO, 11TH MAR (4)
- CO, 5TH MAR (5)
- CO, 1ST MAR (1)
- CO, MAG-36 (5)
- CO, MAG-16 (1)
- CO, MAG-11 (1)
- CO, 1ST FORCE RECON CO (REIN) (1)
- Co. S-2 (5)
- Co. S-3 (4)



PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY



RECORD



TRAILS

