

CONFIDENTIAL
OPERATION ORDER #267-68

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1ST FORCE RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY (REIN)
KHU BAI, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
231230H June 1968

Ref: (a) Map(s), VIETNAM, Sheet(s) 6541 II
(b) 1st Recon Bn O P03000.4
(c) 1st Mar Div O P3800.1P (Intelligence SOP)
(d) 1st Mar Div O P003330.2 (Rules of Engagement)
(e) CoHrag Order #267-68

137568

Unit/Call Sign: SPILLWAY (F-1) Patrol Leader: CPL DORSETT

1. Situation. (a) See current INTSUM'S
(b) See current OPSUM'S and FIR'S (S-2/S-3)
(c) Attachments: NONE

2. Mission. Conduct reconnaissance and surveillance operations within your assigned HAVEN to detect possible VC/NVA troop movement or arms infiltration in the vicinity of the Loc Thuy Valley. Particular emphasis is to be placed on locating and fixing 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 260900H; insert via ZC161968. Extract at 291430H via ZC139967.

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 5th Mar Regt, who have been assigned the mission of providing the Bald Eagle capability. Special emphasis is to be placed on "link-up" procedures in the event it becomes necessary to employ the Bald Eagle.

(3) Ensure coordination with the 5th Marines COG to gain any knowledge they have of this area, and any units that they have in this area.

(4) Call in sitrep every hour. Call Bravo at 1200, 1600, and when at harborsite.

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

5. Comm/Electronics. Primary Freq: 33.1 Alternate: 44.7
Artillery: BEACH UT "E" 75.75 (155 HOW)
Radio Relay: IMPRESSIVE BRAVO IMPRESSIVE ALPHA
IMPRESSIVE DELTA
Air Observer: COWPOKE 34.5
1/5 Tac Net 62.15 (MILLBROOK)

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

OPERATION ORDER: 267-68 1ST FORCE RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY (REIN)
OPERATION: HOUSTON PHU BAI, RVN
PATROL: SPILLWAY (F-1) DTG 290800H JUNE 1968
DEBRIEFER: GYSGT. G.A. KOCH
MAPS: VIETNAM 1:50,000; AMS
L7014; SHEET 6541 II

PATROL REPORT

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION AND EQUIPMENT:

- A. COMPOSITION: 8 ENL. 1 USN.
- B. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
- C. COMM. AND OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: 2 PRC-25'S, 1 6x30
- D. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: 1 M-14, 1 M-79

2. MISSION: CONDUCT RECONNAISSANCE AND SURVEILLANCE OPERATIONS WITHIN YOUR ASSIGNED HAVEN TO DETECT POSSIBLE VC/NVA TROOP MOVEMENT OR ARMS INFILTRATION IN THE VICINITY OF THE LOC THUY VALLEY. PARTICULAR EMPHASIS IS TO BE PLACED ON LOCATING AND FIXING 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. TIME OF DEPARTURE AND RETURN: 261010H/290634H

4. ROUTE: (SEE PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY)

5. SYNOPSIS: 68 HOURS OF PATROLLING AND OBSERVATION RESULTED IN NO CONTACTS OR SIGHTINGS WITH THE ENEMY. NO FM WAS CALLED IN SUPPORT OF THIS PATROL. THERE WAS ONE KIA (NBC) AS A RESULT OF PATROL MEMBER RETRIEVING HIS OWN BOOBY TRAP.

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

- A. ENEMY: NONE
- B. TERRAIN: GENERALLY VERY HILLY WITH THICK SECONDARY GROWTH. CANOPY AVERAGED FROM 10 FT IN THE LOWGROUND TO 50 FT AT HIGHER ELEVATION. MOVEMENT WAS 100 METERS PER HOUR.

7. OTHER INFORMATION: INSERT LZ ZC156971, EXCELLENT 1 CH-46 ZONE. GRASS AND BRUSH 10 FT HIGH. EXTRACT LZ ZC145972, OUTSTANDING 2 CH-46 ZONE. SECONDARY GROWTH 10 FT HIGH.

TRAILS: ONE WELL USED TRAIL WAS FOUND IN THE OP AREA. THIS TRAIL WAS 1½ FT. WIDE AND AT CERTAIN LOCATIONS COULD NOT BE OBSERVED FROM THE AIR.

264630H (ZC156963) WHILE PATROL WAS MOVING THRU BRUSH THEY RECEIVED ONE SNIPER ROUND FROM AN UNKNOWN LOCATION. THE ROUND LANDED 6 FT FROM THE NEAREST PATROL MEMBER.

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271800H (ZC156962) PATROL FOUND 10 FIGHTING HOLES THAT APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN RECENTLY DUG AND HAD BEEN USED AS RECENTLY AS 7 DAYS AGO. THE FIGHTING HOLES WERE LOCATED ALONG A WELL USED TRAIL.

270930H (ZC153964) 15 FIGHTING HOLES WERE FOUND BY THE PATROL. ALL OF THEM SHOWED NO SIGNS OF RECENT OCCUPANCY. IT WAS ESTIMATED THAT THEY WERE AT LEAST 3-6 MONTHS OLD.

290515H (ZC145974) TEAM LEADER WENT FROM HIS HARBOR SITE TO RECOVER BOOBY TRAP (M-26 GRENADE) THAT TEAM LEADER HAD SET UP THE PREVIOUS NIGHT. TEAM LEADER WAS THE ONLY ONE THAT HAD KNOWLEDGE OF THE LOCATION OF THE BOOBY TRAP. THE REST OF PATROL WAS AWAKE AND HEARD THE EXPLOSION. THE PATROL WAITED 4-5 MINUTES WHEN THEY INVESTIGATED THE EXPLOSION

THEY FOUND THE PATROL LEADER LAYING ON A SMALL TRAIL. FURTHER INVESTIGATION SHOWED THAT PATROL LEADER WAS DEAD. IT APPEARED THAT HE HAD THE M-26 GRENADE IN HIS HAND WHEN THE EXPLOSION OCCURRED.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: NONE

9. CONDITION OF PATROL: GOOD

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

11. EFFECTIVENESS OF SUPPORTING ARMS: NONE USED.

12. COMMENTS BY LEADER: ALL PATROL MEMBERS MUST TAKE EXTREME CARE IN SETTING UP AND RETRIEVING BOOBY TRAPS. ALL MEMBERS OF THE PATROL MUST BE INFORMED AS TO THE LOCATION AND THE TYPE OF BOOBY TRAPS UTILIZED.

13. SELECT MUNITIONS: NO

14. PATROL MEMBERS:

GPL. RAMIREZ, C.
1ST PLT, 1ST FORCE RECON CO (REIN)
PATROL LEADER

SGT. DORSETT, R.G. (KODC)

CPL. RAMIREZ, C.

HM3 TRAINO, A.J.

LCPL MERWIN, A.E.

CPL. MILLER, R.L.

CPL. PHILLIPS, W.L.

LCPL EVANS, F.L.

PEC JENKINS, J.

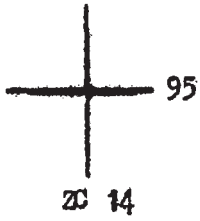
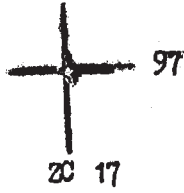
LCPL HILDEMAN, D.A.

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PATROL ROUTE OVERLAY

SPILLWAY



TRAIL

