

CONFIDENTIAL

OPERATION ORDER #296-68

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1ST FORCE RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY (REIN)

THU BAI, REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

071400H FAX 1968

Ref: (a) Map(s), VIETNAM, Sheet(s) 6541 II, III  
 (b) 1st Recon Bn C FO3000.4  
 (c) 1st Mar Div O P3800.1F (Intelligence SOP)  
 (d) 1st Mar Div O FO03330.2 (Rules of Engagement)  
 (e) Co Frag Order #296-68

140968

Unit/Call Sign: STONE PIT (F-5) Patrol Leader: SSGT GRIGGS

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

2. Mission. Establish an observation post and provide security for IMPRESSIVE DELTA radio relay site on Truoi Mountain (vic YC944966) and conduct surveillance operations within your assigned HAVEN to detect possible VC/NVA troop movement or arms infiltration in the Tan Tau area. Particular emphasis is to be placed on surveillance to observe possible rocket launching sites, mortar positions, storage areas, fortifications, and routes of access and egress. Emphasis is also to be placed on establishing a suitable MLZ and adjust arty/air on targets of opportunity in support of Operation Houston.

3. Execution. Depart LZ 405 at 100730H; insert via YC944966. Extract at 1701300H via YC 944966.

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) Coordinate with SPILLWAY 6 to ensure that you have knowledge of all previously plotted "on call" and any early warning devices that are in place outside the defensive positions.

(4) Coordinate with any patrol that leaves from your position to ensure safe passage and return through the perimeter defenses.

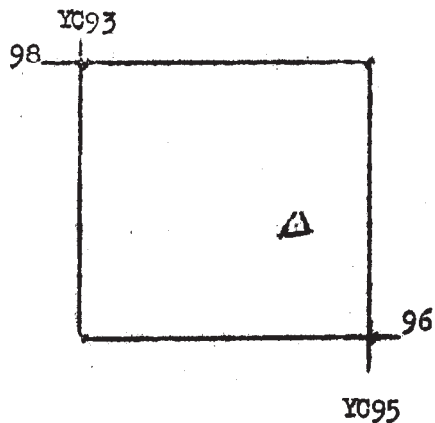
(5) Emphasis is placed on erecting concertina defensive barriers.

(6) Have resupply list into IMPRESSIVE by 1300H daily.

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

5. Comm/Electronics. Primary Freq: 44.7 Alternate 45.8  
 Artillery: SAND HURST 56.50 (155 Gns)  
 SAND HURST "A" 56.50 (155 Gns)  
 BEECH NUT "A" 45.35 (105 & 155 HOW)  
 BEECH NUT "B" 58.05 (155 HOW)  
 PONY BOW 57.50 (155 HOW)

Air Observer: COWPOKE 44.2  
 1/5 Tao Net 62.15 (MILLBROOK)



**Distribution:**

G-2  
G-3  
CO, L/4/11  
CO, A/2/11  
CO, E/2/11  
CO, 5thMar  
CO, 1stBn 5thMar  
CO, HMM-165  
CO, HMM-364  
CO, HMM-367  
CO, MAG-36  
CO, 220thAvnCo  
CO, 155MM Gun Btry (SP)  
CO, 1st FAG  
Recon FSCC  
TF XRay FSCC  
S-3, 1stReconBn  
S-3, 1stForReconCo  
PtlLdr, F-5

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C. N. RILEY  
By direction

**CONFIDENTIAL**

5-3

OPERATION ORDER: 296-68  
 OPERATION: HOUSTON  
 PATROL: STONE PIT (F-5)  
 DESERTER: CPL. W.D. KEARNEY  
 MAPS: VIETNAM 1:50,000; AMS  
 L7014; SHEET 6541 II, III

1ST FORCE RECONNAISSANCE COMPANY (REIN)  
 PHU BAI, RVN  
 DTG 161730H JULY 1968

PATROL REPORT

1. SIZE, COMPOSITION AND EQUIPMENT:

- A. COMPOSITION: 10 ENL. 1 USN.
- B. SPECIAL ATTACHMENTS: NONE
- C. COMM. AND OBSERVATION EQUIPMENT: 2 PRC-25'S, 1 7x50, 1 6x30, 1 STARLIGHT SCOPE
- D. SPECIAL EQUIPMENT: 2 M-60'S, 1 M-14, 1 M-79

2. MISSION: ESTABLISH AN OBSERVATION POST AND PROVIDE SECURITY FOR IMPRESSIVE DELTA RADIO RELAY SITE ON TRUOI MOUNTAIN (VIC YC944966) AND CONDUCT SURVEILLANCE OPERATIONS WITHIN YOUR ASSIGNED HAVEN TO DETECT POSSIBLE VC/NVA TROOP MOVEMENT OR ARMS INFILTRATION IN THE BEN TAU AREA. PARTICULAR EMPHASIS IS TO BE PLACED ON SURVEILLANCE TO OBSERVE POSSIBLE ROCKET LAUNCHING SITES, MORTAR POSITIONS, STORAGE AREAS, FORTIFICATIONS, AND ROUTES OF ACCESS AND EGRESS. EMPHASIS IS ALSO TO BE PLACED ON ESTABLISHING A SUITABLE HLZ AND ADJUST ARTY/AIR ON TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION HOUSTON.

3. TIME OF DEPARTURE AND RETURN: 100730H/161710H

4. ROUTE: CB TRUOI MOUNTAIN (YC944966)

5. SYNOPSIS: 144 HOURS OF OBSERVATION RESULTED IN NEGATIVE CONTACTS, AND 1 SIGHTING OF 4 VC/NVA. NO FM CALLED IN SUPPORT OF THIS MISSION.

6. OBSERVATION OF ENEMY AND TERRAIN:

- A. ENEMY: NONE
- B. TERRAIN: MOUNTAINOUS WITH STEEP RAVINES. CANOPY 100-120 FT HIGH.

7. OTHER INFORMATION: INSERT & EXTRACT LZ AT YC944966. GOOD 1 CH-46 ZONE.

111230H (YC913892): PATROL SPOTTED WHAT APPEARED TO BE 3-4 HOOCHES AND LOOK OUT TOWERS. PATROL LEADER ~~WAS~~ ~~WENT~~ ~~TO~~ ~~CHECK~~ THE TOWERS OUT, BUT THE AO NEVER SHOWED UP.

121345H (YC917931) PATROL SPOTTED 4 VC/NVA WALKING ON ROUTE 545. THE 4 VC/NVA WERE MOVING "S". THE VC/NVA STOPPED AT YC917931 THEN TURNED AROUND AND PROCEEDED "N" TO YC916932 WHERE 3 VC/NVA WENT INTO BRUSH AND FOURTH VC/NVA CONTINUED "N" ON ROUTE 545. DID NOT CALL FIRE MISSION DUE TO ACHILLES HAVEN.

8. RESULTS OF ENCOUNTERS WITH THE ENEMY: NONE

9. CONDITION OF PATROL: EXCELLENT

10. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS: NONE

B-66

11. EFFECTIVENESS OF SUPPORTING ARMS: NONE USED.

12. COMMENTS BY DEMURRIER: NONE

13. SELECT MUNITIONS: NO

14. PATROL MEMBERS:

SSGT. GRIGGS  
SSGT. SCHOCH  
SGT. THOMPSON  
CPL. ZUBKOW  
CPL. PFLUG  
LCPL SEARS  
LCPL ADAMS  
LCPL RAMEY  
HM ZWECK  
PFC COOPER  
PFC WARDLOW

SSGT. GRIGGS  
5TH PLT, 1ST FORCE RECON CO (REIN)  
PATROL LEADER

DISTRIBUTION LIST:

C.G. 1ST MAR DIV (REIN) (1)  
C.G. 3RD MAR DIV (REIN) (1)  
G-2 1ST MAR DIV (REIN) (1)  
G-2 1ST MAR (1)  
G-2 TFXRAY (1)  
G-3 TFXRAY (1)  
TFXRAY 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)