

cc S-3

1st Reconnaissance Battalion
 CHU LAI, RVN
 142130H Jun66

Bn Frag Order 3-66
 Team: 4th Plt, 1st Force Recon Co (HATEFUL)
 Debriefed: SSGT WILLIAMS
 Map: VIETNAM, 1:50,000, AMS 1701,
 Sheet 6657 III & IV

1. Size and Composition: 1 Off, 12 Enl
2. Mission: From 140200 to 151700H utilizing a para-drop entry, establish surveillance to North and West from Hill 555 (at 945161)
3. Time of Departure: 132400H
4. Time of Return: 142030H
5. Route: See attached overlay (Enclosure 1). This patrol left the Battalion area at 132400H and moved by vehicle to the CHU LAI Airfield. The patrol boarded an Army CV-2 and left the airfield at 140135H. The para-drop was made at 140205H, with members of the patrol landing within a 150 yard area. The patrol hid the chute, assembled, and started moving toward their objective at 140230H.
6. Synopsis: This patrol covered a period of 20½ hours with 7 sightings of 44 VC. Entry of this patrol was by parachute at 0200 in the morning and the VC did not know that they were in the area. However, at 141830H a dog and two woodcutters found one of their chutes. The two men left the area with the chute and at 141935H, there were plus 7 VC with weapons were observed moving into the area where the chutes were hidden. Extraction was requested and the patrol returned to the Battalion area at 142030H.

7. Observation (Enemy and Terrain)

<u>TIME</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>OBSERVATION</u>
141030H	AT 927178	2 VC resting beside trail, appeared to be drying their equipment. Wore khaki uniform and carried packs and rifles.
141035H	AT 948185	11 VC walking South, wearing black PJ's and white sun helmets, all with weapons. The movement of this 11 VC was very tactical with flank security and fire team rushes across open areas. The fourth man from the rear of the column was dressed in a brownish green uniform and appeared to be an advisor, as he seemed to be pointing out things the VC were doing wrong.

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ENCLOSURE (16)

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141045H AT 927178 4 VC walking West, mixed black and Khaki clothing. Wearing cartridge belts and carrying small arms.

141500H AT 946185 4 VC walking West along river bank. Two in black PJ's, one in blue PJ's, one in utility type uniform. All carried rifles.

141535E AT 929179 11 VC walking East on trail. Black PJ's and sun helmets. Had cartridge belts and small arms.

141630E AT 937178 2 woodcutters walking along the trail. Their log found one of the hidden chutes and they left the area taking the chute with them.

141910H AT 930179 9 VC moving East along river. Black PJ's all carried rifles. The two men who found the chute at 141500H were with the group and appeared to be guiding them. VC appeared to be searching area.

8. Other Information: a possible harbour site is located at AT 933179.

9. Encounters with the Enemy: None

10. Condition of Patrol: Good, except for one man with a sprained ankle.

11. Recommendations and Conclusions: (1) The Marine Corps is going to pursue this jump capability, a steerable parachute should be adopted.

(2) That the Marine Corps consider the HALO (High Altitude Low Opening) parachute capability for inserting pathfinder and Recon Teams.

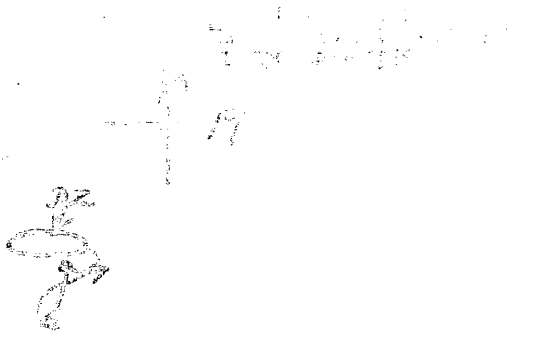
[Signature]
 J. T. PAUL
 1st Lt USMC
 Patrol leader

12. Additional Comments by Debriefer: None

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 G. H. WILLIAMS
 Sgt USMC
 Debriefer

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Enclosure 2