DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

HEADQUARTERS 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION

APO San Francisco 96225

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SUBJECT: Operational Report for Quarterly Period Ending 31 July 1967

(RCS CSFOR - 65) (BC)

TO: SEE DISTRIBUTION

Operational Report for Quarterly Period (RCS CSFOR-65)

Location: Vicinity CU CHI, CU CHI Base Camp (XT647153), RVN

Reporting Officer: Major General John C.F. Tillson III

Prepared by: Captain Howard C. Hanning, CO, 18th Military History Detachment

1. (C) Significant Organizational Activities.

A .Operations:

(1) General. There were 11 major (Bn or higher) operations and 1405 small unit actions

Conducted by the 25th Infantry Division (-) during this quarter. All major and 109 small unit actions resulted in enemy contact.

(2) Operation FORT NISQUALLY (28 Nov 66 - 14 May 1967). The mission of the operation was to conduct operations to secure the area adjacent to the base camp of the 3rd Bde, 4th Inf Div at DAU TIENG and to eliminate VC influence in the unit's Tactical Area of Responsibility (TAOR). Operations

from 1 - 14 May 1967 primarily consisted of daylight reconnaissance and night ambush patrols within 3000 meters of the DAU TIENG base camp. There was no significant contact.

Results of Operation FORT NISQUALLY were as follows: 28 VC killed in Action (KIA), verified by Body Count (BC), 23 VC KIA possible (poss), 26 VC Prisoners (PW), 58 detainees. Captured and evacuated were: 23 individual weapons, 2 LMG, 1 claymore mine, 1 CHICOM RPG-2, 1695 rds ammo, 100 expended .30 cal links, 1 bayonet, 3 grenades, 30 punji stakes, 36 tons of rice, 105 lbs pork, 325 lbs sugar, 41 lbs tea, 20 lbs shrimp, 6 kg assorted food; 10 bicycles, 5 new bicycle frames, 3 bags bicycle parts; 1 pair jungle boots, 1 roll black material, 100 lbs assorted clothing; 300 ft electric wire, 2 FM radios, 4 batteries; 1 US gas mask, 1 large roll mosquito netting, 111 lbs documents, 11 rolls corrugated tin, 20 gal kerosene, 30,000 Piasters, 150 lbs assorted medical supplies, 21 lbs epsom salts.

Destroyed were: 10 AT mines, 32 AP mines, 29 hand grenades, 3 105mm casings, 3 155mm projectiles, 1 105mm projectile, 3 81mm rds, 1 M-79 rd, 3 rds CHICOM RPG-2, 33 CBU bomblets, 4 200lb bombs, 1 750 lb bomb, 39 ½ tons rice, 1000 lbs beans, 1700 lbs peas, 3 lbs sugar, 1 gal grease, 2 canteens whiskey, 1600 lbs mullett; 7 sampans, 6 bicycles; 1 Bn size hospital, 11 VC base camps, 309 bunkers, 3 buildings, 115 foxholes, 32 huts; 310 ft electric wire, 5 rolls barbed wire, 250- sheets tin, 1 grinding mill.

(3) ALA MOANA (1 Dec 66 - 14 May 1967). This operation was conducted in HAU NGHIA and BINH DUONG Provinces to destroy VC forces, supplies and base camps near the division base camp at CU CHI, and in the FILHOL Plantation, and to provide security for the CU CHI base camp and surrounding area. 1st and 2nd Brigades, 25th Infantry Division continued participation in Operation ALA MOANA, employing local security operations, without significant contact until the termination of the operation on 14 May 1967.

Results of Operation ALA MOANA were as follows: 381 VC KIA (BC), 558 vc kia (POSS), 25VC PW, 652 DETAINEES. Enemy equipment losses were: 94 small arms weapons, 5 crew served weapons, 56 artillery shells, 133 mines, 406 grenades, 7 mortar rounds, 12 bombs, 21n499 rounds of small arms ammunition, 181 booby traps, 87 cluster bomb units (CBU), 188 blasting caps, 17 anti-tank weapon rds, 289 sampans, 4 outboard (sampan) motors, 55 lbs medical supplies, 14 bicycles, 162 lbs documents, 2 oxcarts, 15 sticks TNT, 4 lbs clothing and 57 lbs explosives; 5 punji pits, 2,395 meters of trenches and 57 foxholes; 120,092 tons of rice, 2 tons of salt and 5 tons of food stuffs other than rice.

(4) JUNCTION CITY: (22 Feb - 16 May 1967). This operation concluded using the Mobile Brigade Concept to continue offensive operations in War Zone “C” begun by the forces of the entire division. Operations from 1 May through 16 May were conducted by the 1st Brigade, 9th Infantry Division, which had been placed under operational control (OPCON) of the 25th Infantry Division. Significant contact

occurred on 13 May when Fire Support Base (FSB) 11, at XT305495 was attacked by an unknown size VC unit and received over 100 rounds of 81mm and 82mm mortar fire with small arms (SA) and automatic weapons (AW) fire, resulting in one tank and one M151 ¼ ton truck being destroyed, 8 US Killed by Hostile Action (KHA) and 30 more US Wounded in Hostile Action (WHA). The operation concluded on 16 May without further significant contact.

Results of Operation JUNCTION CITY were as follows: 947 VC KIA (BC), 423 VC KIA (poss), 183 HOI CHANH (rallier under the CHIEU HOI program), 18 VC PW, and 61 detainees, of whom 35 were civil defendants and 26 were innocent civilians.

Enemy Equipment losses were: 314 small arms weapons, 30 crew served weapons, 1,193 artillery shells, 156 mortar rds, 60 anti-tank weapon rounds, 331 mines, 559 grenades and booby traps, 41,482 rds of small arms ammunition, 120 bicycles, 25 sampans, 5,098 lbs of clothing, 1,058 lbs medical supplies, 8 radios, 4 telephones, 2,500 feet of communication wire, 50 batteries, 1 head set, 1 Morse key, 1 mulimeter, 2 tape recorders, 7 audio tapes, 1 antenna, 9 oxcarts, 2 printing presses, 10 generators, 12,643 gallons of fuel and 1,495 lbs of documents.

Enemy facility losses were as follows: 3,471 fortifications, 1,060 structures, 25 tunnels, 250 foxholes and 249 trenches.

Enemy food losses were as follows: 528 tons of rice, 15 tons of other foodstuffs (except rice), and 460 lbs of salt.

(5) MANHATTAN (23 April - 17 June 1967). The 25th Infantry Division as a part of IIFFORCEV, began Operation MANHATAN on 23 April with the objective of destroying VC forces and installations in the HO BO - BOI LOI - BEN CUI areas, and along the SAIGON River in conjunction with other IIFFORCEV units. After IIFFORCEV concluded the operation on 11 May, the 25th Infantry Division continued Operation MANHATTAN as a division operation until 07 June 1967, employing the 1st and 2nd Brigades, 25th Infantry Division and 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division. Search and destroy operations commenced in April continued. On 9 May, 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division completed its participation in Operation MANHATTAN and returned to CU CHI Base Camp in preparation for the forthcoming Operation KOLEKOLE. On 10 May, 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division completed its participation in Operation MANHATTAN and returned to the DAU TIENG Base Camp in preparation for the forthcoming Operation AHINA and DIAMOND HEAD. First Brigade, 25th Infantry Division continued operations and provided necessary security for extensive clearing operations conducted by the 65th Engineer Battalion, which employed the ROME PLOW, a modified bulldozer with a sharpened blade used for clearing densely vegetated areas. In addition, necessary roads were constructed in the Area of Operations (AO). The clearing of the vegetation in the AO deprived the VC; of the sanctuary they had long established throughout the area, especially in the HO BO and BOI LOI Woods .

Significant results of Operation MANHATTAN were: 74 VC KIA (BC), 99 VC KIA (poss), 3 HOI CHANH and 19 PW. Enemy weapons and munitions losses were: 201 small arms weapons, 18 crew served

weapons, 42 artillery rounds of ammunition, 671 mortar rounds of ammunition, 214 anti-tank weapons rds of ammunition, 293 mines, 901 grenades and booby traps, 400,543 rds of small arms ammunition, 168 cluster bomb units, 3200 blasting caps, 2300 feet of detonating cord, 1800 lbs of TNT and 2278 lbs of black powder.

Enemy equipment losses: 34 sampans, 400 pounds of clothing, 443 pounds of medical supplies, 250 tons of rice, 5.5 tons of other foodstuffs, 398 pounds of documents, 12,760 feet of communication wire, 7 radios, 30 pounds of punji stakes, 17 pounds of tools, one telephone, 7 protective masks, 2 plows, 108 bicycles, 1 oxcart, 6 generators, 25 gals of CS agent and 6 outboard motors.

Enemy facility losses: 461 structures, 1594 meters of tunnels, 1163 bunkers, 421 foxholes, 5634 meters of trenches, 7 base camps, 1 radio repair ship, 1 bicycle repair shop and 2 hospitals.

(p3)

(6) AHINA (13 - 18 May 1967). This operation was a search and destroy operation conducted in the east central portion of War Zone "C", bounded by XT6490, XT6450, XT5450 and XT6440. Its purpose was to engage and destroy VC/NVA forces known to be operating in the AO, and to destroy VC/NVA base camps and facilities throughout the area. Operations conducted in the AO from 1 -5 April during Operation JUNCTION CITY indicated that further enemy facilities and forces would be located there if the AO were re-occupied. Therefore Operation AHINA was planned to exploit this intelligence. Enemy contact during the operation was limited to sniper fire and occasional contact with squad size VC forces. Extensive weapons, foodstuffs, and supplies were uncovered and destroyed which made the operation a success. Supplies captured included three trucks known to have been employed by the VC for resupply purposes. Operation AHINA was also significant for its employment of a light tactical raft for an unopposed crossing of the SAIGON River at XT459562 by mechanized infantry in conjunction with a heliborne assault by other infantry forces.

Results of Operation AHINA were: 9 VC KIA (BC), 2VC Killed by Air Force (KBAF) (poss). Enemy equipment evacuated included: 3 AK-47, 1 SKS carbine, 1 RPG-2 rocket launcher, 1 CHICOM LMG-type 56 w/magazine and 100 rds ammunition, 1 M1 rifle barrel - receiver group, 8000 brass mine adapters, 8000 detonator components, 100 feet electrical cord, 200 smooth metal cylinders (believed to be pistol barrels); 7650 lbs polished rice, 330 bags unpolished rice (200 lb bags), 7 cows; 1 truck-Willys- panel, 1 truck-Landrover type, 70 lbs clothing, misc machine parts - weapons molds, 1 fire extinguisher w/DDT spray, 1 single cylinder gas engine, 20 springs -3" in diameter 10" long, 1 outboard engine - 9HP Briggs & Stratton w/misc tools and spare parts.

Enemy Equipment Destroyed: 90 rifle grenades, 63 frag grenades, 11 anti-tank mines, 1 RPG-2 rd w/2 fuses, 18 howitzer rds - believed to be Japanese pack-howitzer rds, 1- 81mm rd, 100rds .30 cal, 150 rds 5.56mm, 4600 7.62 rds (short) for AK-47, 1400 7.62 rds misc size, 15 rifle stocks, 12 magazines - 30 rd "banana clip" for AK-47, 1 shotgun, 8 lbs black powder, 4 M-79 rds, 1 trip flare (US), 1 anti-personnel mine 8" diameter, 6 CBU bomblets, 300 lbs cordite, 5 casings for shape charge, 9 60mm mtr rds, 1

shape charge - 10 lb, 15 lbs batteries, 1 metal lathe, 1 drum - 55 gal; 54 huts (includes 4 kitchens & 4 classrooms), 42 bunkers w/overhead cover, 1200 meters trench w/foxholes; 10 tons rice, 9 lbs peas, 50 lbs peanuts, 1 hog (killed by Airstrike), 3 quarts cooking oil, 12 cans (5 gal ea) coconut oil, 30 cans (2 gal ea) beans; 1 truck 3/4T Dodge - WWII type (damaged from previous airstrike), numerous ports and pans, cooking utensils, 2 fish nets, 8 bicycles w/misc repair parts, 2 sampans, 1 winch w/30' cable, 2 hammocks, 2 gal gasoline, 1 gal kerosene.

(p4)

(7) KAWELA (11 June - 25 June 1967). This operation was begun by the 25th Infantry Division as a follow-up to Operation MANHATTAN, to exploit intelligence reports of VC activity along the upper SAIGON River (vic XT5632) and in the TRI TAM District (XT5836). It employed the 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division and the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry to search and destroy VC forces and installations in an AO thought to house elements of Military Region (MR) IV, and that contained supply routes that continued to the FILHOL Plantation immediately north of the Division base camp at CU CHI, and to the HO BO Woods beyond them. During the operation no main force units were encountered. Contact was limited to sporadic sniper activity from local guerrillas. The operation was begun with two crossings of the Saigon River. One a non-illuminated, non-support crossing using aluminum foot bridges and light tactical rafts. It was unopposed while another diversionary crossing was made by mechanized units to the south. Although contact was negligible, extensive amounts of enemy munitions and equipment were seized.

Results of Operation KAWELA were: 38 VC KIA (BC), 26 VC KIA (poss), VC killed by Air-strikes (KBA) 2 (BC), VC KBA (poss) 25. Enemy equipment captured : 58 rds of SA ammo, 2 RPG-2 launchers, 22 lbs of medical supplies, 12 lbs of documents, 42 rds of SA ammo, 5 AK-47 rifles, 1 pistol belt, 1 combat pack, 5 bags of CS-1, 9 tape recordings, 1 CHICOM carbine, 7 RPG-2 rds, 9.2 tons of rice, 1 CHICOM carbine,`1 cannon barrel, 2 bicycles, 1 82mm mortar w/base plate, 1 grinding machine, 2 grenades, 1 dairy.

Equipment destroyed: 9 sampans, 6 AT mines, 305 bunkers, 82 military structures, 12 bicycles, 29 tons of rice, 1,257 rds of SA ammo, 3 claymores, 2 VC protective masks, 55 AP mines, 1 500 lb bomb, 23 CBU's, 66 trenches, 29 tunnels, 54 grenades, 14 sampans, 1 60mm rd, 1 500 lb bomb, 1 .50 cal breech, 1 .30 cal pistol w/o barrel, 1 .50 cal MG tripod, 3 ¼ lbs of explosives, 3 booby traps, 3 stoves, 1 RPG-2 rd, 1 raft, 6 CBU's detonators.

(8) SABER THRUST: (22-20 April, 22 May-2 June, 5-8 June, 2-10 July 1967) This operation was conducted by the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry as an intermittent security operation. SABER THRUST was begun on 7 April and conducted in five phases as separate security and patrolling operations in the vicinity of the CU CHI base camp, and along the Main Supply Route (MSR). During this reporting period it was expanded to include engineer security, night ambushes, Long Range Reconnaissance Patrols and employment of a base camp reaction force. Operation SABER THRUST VI was conducted from 22 May through 2 June throughout the CU CHI and TRANG BANG Districts of HAU NGHIA Province, to include the

FILHOL Plantation and the HO BO Woods. SABER THRUST VII was conducted from 5-8 June in an AO centered on XT2839 northwest of GO DAU HA. SABER THRUST VIII was conducted from 2-10 July 1967 again throughout the CU CHI and TRANG BANG Districts of HAU NGHIA Province. For the extent of enemy contact see paragraph 1-e, Intelligence.

Results of the three phases of Operation SABER THRUST were: 17 VC KIA (BC), 28 VC KIA (poss), 1 VC WIA, and 9 VC PW.

Enemy equipment captured was: 10 SA weapons, 10 ½ lbs of documents, 800 lbs fish, $200 in SVN currency, 1-.50 cal mount, 1-4.2mm mortar tube, 1 carbine, 1 grenade.

Enemy equipment and foodstuffs destroyed were: 22,400 lbs rice, 500 lbs fish, 51 fortifications, 34 tunnels, 27 structures, 1 sampan, 15 BT's, 2 AP mines, 19 grenades, 2500 rounds of assorted SA ammo, 5 road blocks.

(p5)

(9) AKUMU (08 July 67 - 26 July 67). Purpose of the operation was to conduct a cordon and search and pacification operation in PHU HOA DONG Village (XT715195), BINH DUONG Province. This village is located five kilometers to the northeast of the division's base camp at CU CHI, and at the eastern edge of the FILHOL Plantation. The cordon and search and pacification operations were conducted jointly with the 7th ARVN Regiment located in PHU HOA DONG.

First Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, with 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry (-) under its operational control (OPCON), was the control headquarters for the execution and continuation of the cordon while 7th ARVN Regiment controlled the execution of the search and clearing of the village interior. Intelligence prior to the operation indicated the presence of elements of the 1st Bn, Military Region IV (MR IV), the 7th Bn, CU CHI District and the 2nd Bn, CO MON District in the area. The strength of each battalion was 200 - 300 men. In addition a VC local force platoon of 25 men was known to operate in the area. Considerable VC activity in the adjacent FILHOL Plantation and HO BO Woods was known to be influential in the activities in the village and surrounding areas. VC fortifications, installations, booby traps and mines were found throughout the operation. Contact with VC forces was light for the first days of the operation, consisting of sporadic sniper fire from groups of 2 or 3 VC.

Then on 13 July contact increased marked 130148 hours, Co B, 4th Bn (mech), 23rd Inf received 10 rds of RPG-2 fire vic XT686216, damaging 2 Armored Personnel Carriers (APC), and resulting in 1 US KHA, 8 US WHA, 3 VC KIA(BC), 2 VC KIA (poss) and the capture of 1 RPG-2 launcher with two rounds. At 130142 hours a four man Listening Post (LP) from Co B, 4th Bn (Mech), 23rd Inf engaged 3 VC at XT687212, resulting in 3 US WHA and unknown VC losses. Finally, at 130225 hours, Co A, 4th Bn (Mech), 23rd Ind received sniper fire at XT702208, resulting in 1 US WHA. At 131440 hours, Companies B and C engaged an unknown VC force at XT664218 resulting in 2 US WHA. There was light contact until 18 July when Co B, 4th Bn (Mech), 23rd Inf received 23 RPG-2 rounds and 82mm mortar rounds at XT669198. Fire was returned resulting in 3 VC KIA (BC), 1 VC KIA (poss), 1 US KHA and 15 US WHA. Contact was believed to be with 2nd Co, 1st Bn, MR IV.

There was no further significant contact until 22 July, when 2nd Bn, 14th Inf Recon Platoon engaged 2 VC at XT749159 after they were spotted by a Forward Air Controller (FAC). Two VC were KIA (BC) and an AK-47 rifle and a caliber .45 pistol captured. Further contact was again negligible until the termination of the operation.

(p6)

At the start of the operation a hamlet festival was conducted by Civil Affairs team which explained the purpose of the US presence in the village to over 19,000 persons. MEDCAPS and Catholic services (in the village church) were held throughout the operation. Operation AKUMU challenged the VC in a formerly secure stronghold, and greatly diminished VC influence "at the back door" of Camp CU CHI.

In addition, VC In addition, VC supply and movement routes through the FILHOL Plantation to the HO BO Woods were severely disrupted.

Results of the operation were: VC KIA (BC) 15, VC KIA (poss) 11, HOI CHANH 1.

Enemy equipment destroyed: 237 bunkers, 74 tunnels, 49 foxholes, 970 meters of trench, 55 punji pits, 43 military structures, 22 AT mines, 27 AP mines, 15 sampans, 4 82mm mortar rds, 2 60mm mortar rds, 16 CHICOM grenades, 5 rifle grenades, 2 US claymores, 9 US hand grenades, 2 docking sites, 2 misc. drums, 57 rds CHICOM carbine ammo, 1 rd M16 ammo, 2 stick mines, 2 lbs clothing, Misc , 15 lbs rice, 2 105 canister, 1 hat.

Enemy equipment captured: 1,198 rds SA ammo, 3 pistol belts, 1 lb documents, 1 sign-minefield, 1 flashlight, 1 compass, 1 pr black gloves, 1 poncho (VC), 3 RPG-2 rocket launchers, 1 RPG-2 booster, 12 pr sandals, 1 hammock, 1 pr trousers, 1 M1 rifle - cal .30, 1 canteen with cup, 2 protective masks, 2 57 RR containers, 1 canvas bag, 15 M79 rds, 2 belts with clip for AK-47 rifles, 1 82mm mortar tube and elevating mechanism,. 2 .45 cal pistols, 1 magazine - AK-47, ½ lb med supplies, 1 lb clothing, 560 piastres, 1 holster - .45 cal, 1 canteen cover, 1 magazine .45 cal, 1 CHICOM rifle, 1 CHICOM 7.6mm red stock carbine.

(10) The 25th Infantry Division MONSOON CAMPAIGN began on 14 May 1967. Within the division TAOR, three operations are being conducted: Operation KOLEKOLE, BARKING SANDS and DIAMOND HEAD. The mission of the division in the MONSOON CAMPAIGN is to conduct offensive operations with emphasis in populated areas, to destroy VC/NVA forces and installations, to secure major lines of communication (LOC's) to support the Government of Vietnam (GVN) Revolutionary Development Program, and to reinforce Free World Military Assistance Forces and FVN forces as directed.

(a) KOLEKOLE (14 May 1967 - continuing). This operation is a search and destroy operation conducted by 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division in the DUC HOA, BAO TRAI, HIEP HOA and LOC GIANG Areas, and along the ORIENTAL River. (SONG VAM CO DONG). The brigade conducts EAGLE FLIGHTS and airmobile operations based on current intelligence. Cordon and search out-posting, and County Fair operations are conducted in conjunction with 25th ARVN Division, Civilian Irregular Defense Groups (CIDG), Regional and Popular Forces. Significant actions were the relief of an 80 man CIDG force encircled by a VC company on 16 May west of the ORIENTAL River (XT4402), by elements of the 1st and 2nd Bn, 27th Infantry. Airmobile assaults into the area resulted in prolonged contact from 1600 to 0130 hours 17 May. Results were 27 VC KIA (BC) and 36 more VC KIA (poss) with only 2 US KHA and 9 more WHA. There was intermittent contact throughout June and July, particularly along the AN HA Canal, and at LOC GIANG (XT428155) along the ORIENTAL River. Engineer operations in conjunction with KOLEKOLE have reopened Highway 10 from DUC HOA to BAO TRAI, the HAU NGHIA Province capital. This improved the GVN's authority and control, and assisted the 25th Infantry Division's overland reaction capability, as well as allowing civilians to move local products to new markets. Engineer operations continue to improve Highway 10 and the bridge west of TRANG BANG (XT4519).

(p7)

Results of Operation KOLEKOLE to date are as follows:: 338 VC KIA (BC), 226 VC KIA (poss), 45 VC PW, 21 HOI CHANH and 290 detainees. Enemy material captured was: 168 lbs documents, 2 Russian rifles, 3 105mm rds, 20 M-1 carbines, 1 .38 pistol, 4 shotguns, 16 CHICOM carbines, 2 VC pack-boards, 3 . 55 gal drums of CS, 4- .45 cal pistols, 19 M1 rifles, 5 M3 SMGs, 2 BARs, 1 French LMG, 8 AK-47s, 114 batteries, 5 PRC-10 radios, 2 RPC-2 rds, 7 AT mines, 52 lbs medical supplies, 127 lbs of clothing, 1 20mm cannon, 2255 SA rds, 1 57mm recoilless rifle, 227 SA magazines, 1 sniper rifle, 1 Mauser rifle, 2 grenade launcher adapters, 12 claymores, 17 CHICOM grenades, 1 M79 launcher, 150 US blasting caps, 3 claymore generators, 30 yds of bandages, 5 SMG magazines, 1 Thompson SMG, 420 meters of wire, 92 grenades, 50 .50 cal rds, 45 prs of black uniforms, 60 hammocks, 1 commercial radio, 1 60mm mortar rd, 1-lb C-4, 2 20mm rds, 100ft claymore wire, 1 M2 carbine, 2 M14 rifles, 1 75mm RR rd, 2 M16 rifles, 2 bolt action rifles, 3 homemade rifles, 1 wallet, 1 VC flag, 1 gasoline generator, 400 pcs chinaware, 1 BAR, 1 AK47, 2 US carbines, 4500 lbs of rice, 2 M2 carbines,

Enemy material destroyed: 2633 bunkers, 483 military structures, 203 tunnels, 14 trenches, 226 sampans, 187 AP mines, 72 AT mines, 51 booby traps, 60 81mm rds, 58 60mm rds, 11 57mm rds, 3 175mm rds, 17 M79 rds, 60 155mm rds, 30 105mm rds, 635 grenades, 923 RPG-2 rds, 5305 lbs of rice, 66 CBUs, 2 lbs clothing, 4 small rockets, 2 ponchos, 2 oxcarts, 7622 SA rds, 8 4.2” rds, 1 typewriter, 1 500 lb bomb, 4 VC protective masks, 75 lbs TNT, 12 rifle grenades, 1 foot bridge, 2 LAWs , 2 motorized sampans, 1 claymore, 100 lbs nitrates, 800 lbs cement, 7000 chopsticks, 1 commercial radio, 200 blasting caps, 5 cans assorted fuses, 14 AT mine casings, 50 2.75” rockets, 7 bicycles, 1 flare device, 3 grenade detonators, 5 250 lb bombs, 2 75mm rds, 10 82mm rds, 2 2.5” rockets, 1 homemade carbine, 50 lbs black powder, 8 AT mine fuses, 87 grenade casings, 48 grenade fuses, 32 SA magazines, 6 CHICOM rifle bolts, 100 AT mine plungers, 3 AT mine detonators, 1 3.5” rocket, 1 micrometer, 1 shaped charge, 1 60mm mortar tube, 4 20mm rds, 4 trip flares, 8 2.75” rocket warheads, 16 .50 cal rds, 500 ft claymore wire, 200 booby trap springs, 9 claymore adapters, 3

rifle stocks, 1 knife, 5 mine molds, 1 VC pack, 1 bangalore torpedo, 2 rifle grenade launcher adapters, 200 lbs of fertilizer, 3 fuses, 4 hand grenade threaders, 1000 lbs of charcoal, 200 lbs of salt.

(b) BARKING SANDS (May 1967 - continuing). This operation is being

Conducted by the 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division for the pacification of CU CHI and TRANG BANG Districts in HAU NGHIA Province, and in PHU HOA District of BINH DUONG Province. Counter guerrilla warfare techniques are bing employed to include saturation patrolling, "Checkmates" (road blocks in unannounced locations to check for VC personnel or supplies being moved by surface transportation), bushmaster and cordon and search operations in cooperation with Regional and Popular Forces, and with ARVN units. Engineer units up-graded Highway PA, leading from CU CHI to PHU CUONG, the capital of adjacent BINH DUONG Province. Daily convoys now run between these locations. (p8).

In addition to pacification missions, numerous small unit operations have been staged from dispersed battalion or company size bases throughout the district which have allowed the US units to limit VC capability to move freely during night or day. Therefore, VC control of the AO has been reduced. A "Buddy" operation conducted with the PHU DUC PF and the 494th RF Co, that illustrates the type of operations employed, was conducted 19 June after intelligence was received through the Combined Operation Center (COC) at TRANG BANG, that a VC squad was operating vic XT5130. Through three contacts that day, the squad was eliminated, resulting in 5 VC KIA (BC), 3 VC KIA (poss), 9 VC PW. These operations are continuing.

Results of Operation BARKING SANDS to date are as follows: 115 VC KIA (BC), 294 VC KIA (poss), 9 VC PW, 1 HOI CHANH and 12,346 detainees.

Enemy Material captured was: 48 lbs documents, 6 CHICOM rifles, 6 AK47s, 7 CHICOM carbines, 1 pistol, 4 RPG-2 rds, 12,000 lbs rice, 2 M1 carbines, 15 lbs clothing, 1 can of 16mm film, 925 SA rds, 2 57lmm RR containers, 2 Russian carbines, 2 batteries, 2 claymores, 2 sampans, 1 commercial radio, 2 Mauser rifles, 300 meters claymore wire, 1 US protective mask, 1 LAW, 5 homemade blasting caps, 23 ½ lbs medical supplies, 30 M79 rds, 2 vials penicillin, 4 signs, unknown amt medical records & medical booklets, 1 tunnel complex map, unk amt bottles & medicine vials, 1 Thompson SMG, 1 Russian semi-automatic rifle, 1 RPG-2 booster, 1 notebook, 3 wallets, 1 M1 rifle, 1 M79 protective mask, 1 M60 MG, 2 .45 cal pistols, 2 homemade rifles, 1 9mm CHICOM pistol, 1 VC protective mask, 560 piasters, 1 holster, 1 4.2" tube w/elevating mechanism, 24 VC flags, 1 canvas bag, 380 gals of fuel, 700 CHIUE HOI pamphlets.

Enemy material destroyed was: 1157 bunkers, 576 military structures, 236 tunnels, 19 trenches, 74 AT mines, 58 booby traps, 46 AP mines, 8 claymores, 25 81mm rds, 8 82mm rds, 18 60mm rds, 3 75mm rds, 3 175mm rds, 12 105mm rds, 13 155mm rds, 10 RPG-2 rds, 272 grenades, 2 4.2" rds, 42 sampans, 3 bicycles, 19 CBU's, 23 bombs, 504 lbs clothing, 3150 lbs rice, 1 8" rd, 17,411 SA rds, 1 shaped charge, 14 M79 rds, 145 lbs TNT, 50 lbs propaganda, 1 CHICOM claymore, 2 lbs bandages

(soiled), 1000 ft commo wire, 2 RPG-2 chargers, 20 stick mine fuses, 3 PPS41 Soviet SMGs, 2 unk mines, 1 81mm firing table, 200 sandbags, 2 concertina (rolls), 1 750 lb bomb casing, 1 Arty flare.

(p9)

(c) DIAMOND HEAD (18 May 1967 - continuing). This operation is being conducted by the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division from its base camp at TAY NINH. Its mission is to conduct search and destroy operations in TAY NINH Province, cordon and search operations in the MICHELIN Plantation, and security and reinforcement missions in the TAY NINH and PREK KLOK areas. An additional mission is to provide necessary security to its base camp at DAU TIENG. Search and destroy operations have resulted in the discovery of supply caches, and intelligence reports indicate the local VC in the TAY NINH and DAU TIENG areas are finding it increasingly difficult to effect resupply. However, terrorist incidents of assassination and kidnapping in and around DAU TIENG, and the mortaring of DAU TIENG base camp have increased. This is due, in part at least, to the detachment of one battalion of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division to operate in Operation UNION TOWN outside the 25th Infantry Division's TAOR, as well as other times the brigade has left DAU TIENG. One battalion conducted security operations for the DAU TIENG and TAY NINH base camps exclusively throughout the month of July. Buddy operations were also conducted during July with eight companies of RF, PF and CIDG forces. Engineer units are up-grading the road from TAY NINHJ to SUOI DA leading to War Zone “C”, which will increase the reaction capability of the 3rd Brigade (particularly its mechanized units) and make the road available for civilian use.

Results of Operation DIAMOND HEAD to date are: 40 VC KIA (BC), 92 VC KIA (poss), 4 VC PW, 1 HOI CHANH and 174 detainees.

Enemy material captured was: 2 P38 PISTOLS, 2 CHICOM carbines, 43 ½ lbs documents, 58,030 lbs rice, 1 unk weapon, 1 shotgun, 2 Mauser rifles, 10 AK47s, 1 tractor, 1 RPG-2 rd, 1 AT mine, 75 lbs medical supplies, 463 SA rds, 1 CHICOM rifle, 6 bicycles, 230 lbs food, 8 cans cabbage, 2 cans oil, 2000 lbs fertilizer, 2 notebooks, 1 M1 rifle, 1 commercial radio, 2 packs assorted medical supplies, 6 CBUs, 1 claymore, 1 VC training schedule, 1 book, 1 M79 launcher, several signal instruction manuals, 10 cases of cream.

Enemy material destroyed was: 1152 bunkers, 650 military structures, 18 trenches, 9 tunnels, 6 bridges, 16 AT mines, 7 AP mines, 62 booby traps, 10 60mm rds, 9 57mm rds, 2 75mm rds, 3 105mm rds, 4 155mm rds, 2 RPG-2 rds, 1 250 lb bomb, 7 oxcarts, 40 lbs clothing, 30 lbs black powder explosives, 6 mines, 16 82mm rds, 16 sampans, 1 ammo casting, 1 500lb bomb, 7 large storage tanks, 1 lb propaganda, 47 grenades, 902 SA rds, 46,250 lbs rice, 1 rice polishing machine, 3 VC protective masks, 18 bicycles, 900 lbs of cement, 3 CBUs, 7 81mm rds, 1100 lbs fertilizer, 301 trip flares, 6 claymores, 1 hand flare, 17 M79 rds, 1 voltage converter (200amp), 2 blasting boxes, 20 gal cooking oil, 1 LAW, 55 gals diesel fuel, 1 8” rd, 2 metal silhouette targets, 1 RPG-2 fuse.

B.. Artillery Support: During the quarter Division Artillery fired 105,551 rounds in support and 139,871 rounds on Harassment and Interdiction (H&I). Included in these totals were rounds fired in support of ARVN operations and/or outposts under attack.

C.. Air Support: There were 2,684 sorties during the quarter flown in support of 1,254 missions with the following results: 67 VC killed by Air Force (KBAF) (BC), 373 VC KBAF (poss). In addition, 295 VC structures, 1740 bunkers, 59 sampans, 3 tunnels, 55 caches and 11 bridges were destroyed. There were 42 secondary explosions and 196 secondary fires.

(p10)

D.. Army Aviation: During the period 1 May to 31 July 1967 there were 3,846 sorties, 1,577 combat missions, 1,896 passengers carried and a total of 1,655 hours flown. Armed Helicopters expended 549,970 rounds of 7.62mm machine gun ammunition, 4,305 rounds of .50 cal machine gun ammunition, 90 rounds of 5.56mm ammunition, 3,853 rounds of 40mm grenades, and 1,975 aerial rockets in support of combat operations. In addition, 138 sorties and 90 hours were flown using the Man-packed Personnel Detector E63" (commonly called the "People Sniffer", modified for use in the UH1D helicopter), accompanied by another UH1D with spotlights ("Firefly"), and a Light Fire Team (two more armed UH1B). These flights scouted for VC, detecting them by the ammonia produced in human perspiration, and by the carbon produced by their camp fires. These missions resulted in the destruction of 24 structures, 13 sampans, 29 VC Killed by Army Air (KBAA) (BC), 65 VC KBAA (poss), 2 VC PW and 2 VC WIA.

E. Intelligence:

(1) VC Activity:

(a) General: VC activity consisted primarily of low level incidents directed toward

delaying security operations in support of Revolutionary Development, and acts of terrorism aimed toward intimidating the civilian population to resist pacification and the up-coming elections. No significant contacts with NVA units have occurred since the withdrawal of Division elements from War Zone "C".

(b) VC Tactics:

1. The VC have chosen to separate into smaller groups and conduct harassing attacks against RF, PF and RD activities rather than concentrating large forces. However, they may concentrate forces if the likelihood of a quick victory exists. An example was an attack on PHOUC HIEP by elements of the 1st and 7th Bn's MR IV on the night of 18 July. A force of approximately Bn (-) size launched a coordinated ground and mortar attack on PHOUC HIEP (vic XT563167) with a blocking force in the vicinity of TRUNG LAP (XT5921). Reaction by US artillery and air power suppressed the mortars and broke up the attackers before they had an opportunity to exploit their initial momentum. Another attack occurred on the morning of 15 July when a platoon of the 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf was attacked in conjunction with a coordinated attack on PHUOC HOA (RF) outpost. Mortars and recoilless rifles were fired on the outpost immediately prior to an assault by approximately two companies. The VC over-ran the outpost resulting in 16 ARVN KIA, 30 ARVN WIA and 30 ARVN MIA, as well as capturing a 60mm mortar and many small arms. Known VC losses were 2 KIA (BC). During their withdrawal, the VC engaged the 1st platoon, A Co, 2nd Bn, 22nd Inf (M). On making contact, the VC engaged the platoon with mortars, recoilless rifles, RPG-2s and small arms. Results: 2 US KIA and 16 US WIA. VC losses from this contact are unknown.

2. Frequent incidents of assassination, kidnapping, mining and psychological warfare directed toward the civilian population were noted during the period. The effort appears to be directed toward intimidation rather than for political or geographical gains. (p11)

3. The primary enemy initiated incidents involving U.S. Forces were the mortar attacks on CU CHI and DAU TIENG base camps. At 2328H 24 July, the DAU TIENG base camp received an attack by 82mm mortars which lasted about 11 minutes, resulting in approximately 70 rounds of 82mm HE ammunition impacting inside the base camp, and 30 rounds outside the perimeter. The primary target appeared to be the airstrip. This attack resulted in 50 WHAs (7 of which required dust-off) and 1 civilian WHA. One aircraft was destroyed and 24 received substantial damage. Other damage included a fire truck, a wheeled wrecker, 8 ¾ ton trucks, an RTT Van, and a 15 kilowatt generator. In addition, numerous tents had to be salvaged as a result of damage received during the attack. A sweep of the suspected mortar position on 25 June located four mortar positions in the vicinity of a village approximately 2 kilometers northwest of the base camp. Another incident involving U.S. Forces was the mortar attack on CU Chi base camp at 2135H, 13 July. Sixteen rounds of 82mm mortar HE ammunition were received, resulting in 15 US WHA. All rounds impacted in less than one minute. No contact with the attacking force was made.

4. During friendly operations, the VC avoided contact or conducted delaying actions. An example occurred on 12 July when the 1st Bn, 27th Inf and 2nd Bn, 27th Inf made contact with an unknown size force vic XT405145 during heliborne assault operations. The VC conducted a strong defense against the assaulting force from dug in and covered positions causing moderate casualties

among the US troops, and damaging five helicopters during the first day. Under cover of darkness, the VC exfiltrated and escaped.

(2) Conclusions:

(a) The VC continue to be forced from base camps and supply areas by friendly operations resulting in an increase in the amounts of supplies denied the enemy. Because of continued military pressure, a greater number of the VC have chosen to rally under the CHIEU HOI PROGRAM. This has been particularly true in HAU NGHIA Province where 556 HOI CHANHs were received during May, June and July.

(b) The presence of US Forces in the Division TAOR will continue to give the population confidence in GVN's ability to protect them. Additional construction, improvement, and repair of LOC's will allow a greater number of civilians access to areas under government control. Conversely, areas under VC control are more readily accessible to allied troops and supporting forces.

(c) Enemy losses in manpower, facilities and equipment are expected to reduce the effectiveness of VC units in the FILHOL Plantation, the LOC GIANG area, and the HORSESHOE area of the ORIENTAL River.

F. Logistics:

(1) Class I Supply - (25th Supply and Transport Battalion)

(a) Status.

	"A" Rations	"C" Rations
1. Stockage objectives (days)	5	10
2. On hand (days)	3	10

(b) Fresh fruits and vegetable were received from Class I point, SAIGON.

(c) Ice Cream

1. Cycle of Issue, 3 times per week.
2. Gallons per week from SAIGON 1,200
3. Gallons per week from CU CHI 1,000

(d) Average amount of ice issued daily:

1. Potable 131,920
2. Non-Potable None

(2) Class II & IV (25th Supply and Transportation Bn)

(a) Additions to ASL during quarter 159

(b) Total lines on ALS 949

(3) Class III (25th S&T Bn)

(a) Consumption rate.

	DAILY	QUARTERLY
1. Mogas	15,000	1,365,465
2. Diesel	17,000	1,576,456
3. JP4	19,000	1,735,765

4. Avgas 1,300 120,370

(b) In the Class III Yard, a covered storage area for packaged products has been completed. Work is scheduled to begin soon on conversion of two square berms to rectangular to accommodate two new JPA.

(c) Class III supply remained fairly constant during the quarter. Average daily issue increased from 11,794 gallons to 15,000 gallons for Mogas from 14,347 to 19,000 gallons for JP4. Daily decreases in issue was noted for diesel and Avgas from 23,504 to 17,000, and from 1,505 to 1,300 gallons respectively. (p13)

(4) Services (25th S&T Bn)

(a) Contract Laundry 9,505 bundles

(b) QM Bath unit: Extensive support was given to the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry (Mech) and to the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry during field operations during the quarter.

1. Total showers for quarter 44,513
2. Average number of showers daily 1,464

(c) Graves Registration:

1. Deceased US personnel processed during the quarter 150
2. Deceased RVN personnel processed during the quarter 32

(5) Transportation (25th S&T Bn)

(a) Mileage driven:

1. Total 221,604
2. Average Daily 2,462

(b) Tonnage moved:

1. Total 8,906

2. Average Daily 98.6

(c) Troops moved by convoy:

1. Total 308

2. Average Daily 3.4

(d) Personnel moved locally by bus:

1. Total 5,188

2. Average Daily 56.2

(e) Troops hauled (Pass Truck)

1. Total 3,368

2. Average daily 56.2

(6) Maintenance (725th Maintenance Battalion)

(p14)

(a) The following maintenance requests were completed by this battalion during the reporting period.

ITEM	MAY	JUNE	JULY	TOTAL

Wheel Vehicles	174	325	392	891
Track Vehicles	115	184	114	413
Small Arms	2622	561	628	3811
Artillery	118	159	248	525
Chemical	24	18	16	48
Refrigeration	40	85	49	174
Engineer	279	314	259	842
Signal	1970	2484	2418	6872
Fire control	229	331	342	902
Office machines	146	213	197	556
Aircraft	146	139	`` 146	431

(b) During this reporting period, the maintenance and supply mission of this battalion has been influenced by the following factors:

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1. Repair parts availability

2. Geographical location (to include weather land terrain characteristics

3. Introduction of new equipment and obsolescence of others.

4. Facilities.

(7) Medical Support. 25th Medical Battalion (This unit supported Division and new Divisional units with medical service and supplies.)

(a) Medical totals:

1. Patients seen 10,543

a. Disease 5,723

b. Non-battle injuries 1,781

c. IRHA 437

d. Other (ARVN, VC, VN, Transfers) 2,602

2. Lab tests 3,723

3. Immunizations 5,567

4. Prescriptions filled 9,936

(b) Dental patients seen 2,430

1. Dental Examinations 1,764

2. Other (extractions, etc.) 666

(c) Supply and Service. (p15)

1. Line Items issued 5,027

Short tonnage total 11

2. MEDCAP line items issued 2,176

Short tonnage total 4.5

3. Bulk pharmacy items issued 9,072

4. Prescriptions filled (to 30 June. After this date all prescriptions were filled by A & D) 6,575

5. Eyeglasses ordered (pairs) 622

6. Maintenance work orders received 84

a. Work orders completed 78

b. Work orders at 32 Medical Depot 3

c. Work order awaiting parts 2

d. Work orders not completed 1

(8) Transportation Office (25th DISCOM)

(a) Highway continues to be the primary mode of transportation for the resupply of CU CHI, TAY NINH and DAU TIENG base camps. Following is a breakout of regular resupply convoys operated in the division area:

(1) CU CHI - SAIGON convoys

a. Total convoys 202

b. Number of convoys per day 2

c. Total vehicles 8,176

d. Number of vehicles involved in unit distribution 3,224

(2) On 1 May, Route 1 between SAIGON and CU CHI was reclassified GREEN. During the reporting period, 20,837 vehicles moved over the MSR south, individually or in groups smaller than convoy size.

(3) Convoys from SAIGON / CU CHI to TAY NINH.

a. Total convoys 176

b. Number of convoys per day 2

c. Total vehicles 22,975

d. Vehicles by unit:

1. 1st Log Command 12,296

2. 25th Div & attached units 6,908

3. 1st Inf Div 57

4. 4th Inf Div 1,226

5. 9th Inf Div 224

6. PHILCAG 910

7. Other 4 (p16)

(4) During the reporting period, 2,893 vehicles from the 25th Inf Div moved over the MSR to TRANG BANG and GO DAU HA in support of operations north of CU CHI.

(5) TAY NINH and DAU TIENG convoys:

a. Total convoys 176

b. Number of convoys per day 2

c. Total vehicles 7,931

(b) Special airlift dates for the quarter is as follows:

MISSION ACFT PRIORITY SORTIES PASSENGERS CARGO (lbs)

1	C-7A	1	7	130	10,000
2	C-7A/C-123	1	4	153	- -
3	C-123	CE	16	420	18,000
4	C-123/C-130	1	5	336	- -
5	C-130	CE	2	-	30,000
6	C-130	CE	17	535	26,400
7	C-130	CE	2	162	- -
8	C-130	1	2	210	- -
9	C-130	1	1	-	28,000
10	C-130	2	7	-	195,000
TOTALS:			63	1946	407,400

(c) The volume of business in the Division Baggage Section decreased this quarter due to a reduction in the number of personnel rotating. The section served 922 customers and shipped 1,435 pieces of personnel baggage weighing a total of 112,590 pounds.

(9) Ammunition Office (25th DISCOM)

(a) Stockage objectives:

1. Status at end of quarter 806

2. On hand 1068 tons

(b) Issues:

PERIOD	AMOUNT (Tons/Day)
16 Apr - 15 May	65.58
16 May - 15 Jun	62.59
16 Jun - 15 Jul	45.32

(c) Average for quarter (Tons / Day) 57.83 (p17)

G. Administration:

(1) Personnel: During the past quarter the personnel posture of the division has been excellent. Assigned strength (approximately 104%) exceeded the authorized strength. This average has been maintained in an attempt to keep the present for duty strength above 100%. There continues to be la shortage of approximately 50%; of the authorized Infantry NCO's in grades E-5 and E-6. There are also shortages of MOSs O5C40, 11B40, 11C40 (E-5), 11F40 and 91B10 (E-5). These shortages have occurred primarily as a result of a lack of fill action against requisitions, or in some cases, personnel in lower grades have been used to fill requisitions in NCOs.

(2) Key Losses/Gains:

(a) 1 May 67 - Col Kenneth E. Buell assumed command of 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division. Col Marshall B. Garth departed.

(b) 4 May 67 - LTC George E. Webb Jr. departed.

(c) 8 May 67 - LTC Alan M.R. Dean assigned as 25th Infantry Division Fire Support Coordinator.

(d) 11 May 67 - LTC Joe R. Salcedo departed.

(e) 13 May 67 - LTC James V. Ladd assumed command of the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry

(f) 16 May 67 - LTC Felix Salvador departed.

(g) 19 May 67 - LTC Charles A Gillis departed. LTC Chandler Goodnow assumed command of the 1st Battalion, 5th Infantry

(h) 23 May 67 -Col Francis Conaty Jr. departed.

(i) 28 May 67 - LTC Murt F. Kelty assumed command of the TAY NINH base camp

(j) 31 May 67 - LTC John M. Shea assumed command of 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry. Col Doniphan Carter assumed command of the 1st Bde, 35th Inf Div.

(k) 16 Jun 67 - LTC Thomas A. Ware Jr. assumed command of the 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry

(l) 28 Jun 67 - LTC David R. Hughes assumed command of the 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry

(m) 1 July 67 - LTC John M. Henchman assigned as Executive Officer, 1st Brigade 25th Infantry Division (p18)

(n) 3 July 67 - Col Marvin D. Fuller departed.

(o) 3 July 67 - Col Leonard R. Deems Jr. assumed command of DISCOM

(p) 6 July 67 - LTC Harvey H. Perritt Jr. departed.

(q) 14 July 67 - LTC Raphael D. Tice assigned as Deputy Brigade Commander of the 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division

(r) 16 July 67 - BG Robert C. Shaw departed.

(s) 20 July 67 - LTC Allen t. Lindholm assigned as 25th Infantry Division Artillery Fire Support Coordinator.

(t) 22 July 67 - LTC Louis S. Jennings departed

(u) 24 July 67 - LTC John M. Holko Jr. departed

(v) 26 July 67 - LTC Walter Adams assigned as Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff

(w) 31 July 67 - LTC Joseph H. Devins Jr. departed

(3) The division PX remains in operation with 8,000 square feet of floor space and 7,700 feet of storage space. Total sales for the Division Exchange was $2,764,076.28 for the quarter ending 31 July 1967.

(4) Strengths: Division (-) as of 31 July 1967.

	OFF	WO	FM	AGG
Auth	734	114	10,724	11,592
Asgd	757	115	11,063	11,935
PFD	708	113	10,781	11,602

(5) Losses: (1 May - 31 Jul 67)

	OFF	WO	EM	AGG
KIA	4	0	119	123
WI	90	5	1,236	1,331
MIA	0	0	0	0
DOW	3	0	12	15
NBO	1	1	6	8
NBI	4	0	898	93

(6) Gains (1 May - 31 July)

OFF	WO	EM	AGG	
187	34	1,803	2,024	(p19)

(7) Provost Marshall Activities:

(a) Eight Military Policemen were attached to the 1st Bde, 25th Inf Div for military police support of Operation MANHATTAN and Operation KAWELA. The 1st Bde utilized the MP's from 28 Apr 67 until 8 Jun 67 in support of Operation MANHATTAN and upon its completion, went directly into

Operation KAWELA which was completed on 16 June. The military police responsibilities were considered successful. Normal police support was provided by the eight MPs.

(b) On 8 July 1967 a platoon of Military Police from the 25th MP Company provided Military Police support and acted in an advisory capacity to the VN national police, ARVN and Popular Forces, during Operation AKUMA. The platoon had the responsibility for screening civilians for identification and family birth papers within the village of PHU HOA DONG. The commitment ended on 13 July 67. During the operation, 4,197 Vietnamese were screened.

(c) From 30 July to 2 Aug 67, the 25th MP Company provided nine Military Policemen for support to the 1st Inf Div during Operation CORONADO II. Normal Military Police support was provided.

H. Revolutionary Development Support:

(1) An increased number of liaison visits were made during the reporting period because of changes in personnel in the Office of the ACof S, G5 and also because of the formation of the Civil Operations for Revolutionary Development Support throughout the Division TAOI. Regular visits were made to the Provinces of HAU NGHIA, BINH DUONG and TAY NINH as well as to each District Headquarters.

(2) The new Corps Office at Province Headquarters will improve the division's support of Revolutionary Development by reducing the number of representatives requiring coordination in Civic Action.

(3) The MACV Hamlet Evaluation Summary (MES) continued to be a valuable tool. The report has been modified to show a more accurate status of the hamlets.

(4) There were no changes in the locations of Revolutionary Development Cadre Teams. Teams fluctuated in strength throughout the period causing the GVN to replace missing members with personnel initially programmed to form new teams. This has resulted in fewer teams being formed and current teams have remained at their present locations longer than planned.

(5) Village and Hamlet elections are held during this period. Little VC interference was noted. The election in TAN AN HOI was canceled on 28 May because candidates had not filed properly. Election was held the following week.

(p20)

(6) On 2 June the division moved 221 VN Nationals from unauthorized areas in the vicinity of the MICHELIN Rubber Plantation to the refugee center at DAU TIENG (XT4946).

(7) The latest change in the HES showing the Security Status of hamlets is an improvement, and is of value to a tactical unit.

I. Civic Action:

(1) There are presently 5 AA Platoons from the 2nd Civil Affairs Company attached to the 25th Infantry Division. During this reporting period, an additional AA Platoon was attached to the division. This platoon, designated the 15th AA Platoon, is further attached to the 1st Brigade, and is performing civic action missions in PHU HOA DONG.

(2) Statistical Summary:

	MAY - JULY	SINCE 1 FEB 67
Helping Hand Recipients	48,053	76,620
MEDCAP Patients	47,552	69,080
MEDCAPS	333	546
Construction Projects	246	441
Education and Training	10	180
Community Relations	21	838

(3) MEDCAPS during this period showed a sharp increase from 237 to 333 conducted. The number of patients more than doubled from 21,528 to 47,552. Additional projects of training GVN

medical personnel and conducting maternity clinics continued with approximately 58l people receiving On -Job-Training (OJT).

(4) The Helping Hand program provided additional tents and commodities to the Refugee Center in DAU TIENG in addition to clothing and such necessities as carpenter kits, mason kits, family and individual refugee kits, and midwife kits. Approximately 325 refugees from in and around the DIAMOND HEAD Operation are affected. The following is a summary of helping Hand issues during the quarter"

ITEM	QUANTITY
Books	1290 each
Candy	4 boxes
Solatium Boxes	60 each
Clothing	10.2 tons
Canned Foods	30.5 tons
Family Refugee kits	30 each
Ind Refugee kits	25 each
Midwife kits	6 each (p21)
Mushroom Soup	23 cases
Paint	167 gals
School kits	4560 each
Sewing Machine	4 each
Soap	39,809 bars
Shoe Tongs	32 sets
Towels	41 each
Toys	64 each
Toothpaste	2336 each

Tooth brushes	1481 each
Keen Mix	3 cases
Saws	4 each
Pick Axes	3 each
Shovels	8 each
Tin	183 sheets
Cooking Oil	2084 gals
Baby Foods	500 jars
Corn meal	14,000 lbs
Lumber (scrap)	35,350 board feet (est)
Carpenter kits	1 each
Blacksmith kits	1 each
Brick machines	2 each
Friendship kits	72 each
Instructor kits	5 each
Maternity Kits	101 each
Textile kits	110 each
Television Sets	1 each
Goodwill bags	65 each

(5) Construction:

a. Roads repaired 12 (39 km)

b. Bridges constructed 3

c. Fences 6 (2.3 km)

d. Playgrounds 5

e. Classrooms 30

f. :Latrines 6

g. Wells 1

h. Dispensaries 4

i. Miscellaneous:

1. Culverts - 5 (61 meters)

2. Dwelling 10

3. Irrigation ditches - 2 (4 km)

(6) Participation in civic action effort by local RF/PF has been enthusiastic. Self Help projects have a 95% participation by Vietnamese and 5% by US personnel. Projects undertaken by RF/Pf and civilians on a self help basis has reached the point where such projects are willingly assumed. Emphasis has been placed on short term high impact projects. Self Help projects have been stressed except when it is impossible or impractical to utilize RF/PF units, or in instances where the local officials and populations have not been previously introduced to FWAF Civic Action.

(p22)

(7) During the reporting period numerous Friendship Councils were held throughout the Division TAOI. Problems have been brought to light and the majority resolved. These meetings have been and will continue to be a yardstick in measuring where we stand and where more assistance can be stressed.

(8) This reporting period observed Operation MANHATTAN ending and the Monsoon Campaign get into full swing. The Monsoon Campaign has pushed Civic Action to a new high throughout the Division TAOI.

(9) The willingness of the Vietnamese people to participate and encourage self help projects throughout the Division Area has greatly increased the assistance given.

J. Psychological Operations (PSYOPS)

(1) PSYOP activities were directed primarily in support of operations conducted in HAU NGHIA, TAY NINH and BINH DUONG Provinces.

(2) A total of 21,213,184 leaflets were air-dropped and hand disseminated throughout the division TAOI. Thirty leaflets were originated by G5 PSYOPS and produced by the 246th PSYOP Co to exploit PSYOP opportunities.

(3) Aerial loudspeaker broadcasts conducted during the quarter totaled 75 hours, 35 minutes broadcast time. Ground loudspeaker time totaled 55 hours. An aerial loudspeaker set has been developed to be mounted on a UH1D. This has greatly improved our loudspeaker capability for standard broadcasts, and decreased our reaction time for exploiting PSYOP incidents.

(4) During the quarter, the G5 PSYOP section supported the following division operations:

a. Operation BARKING SANDS

b. Operation KOLEKOLE

c. Operation DIAMOND HEAD

d. Operation AKUMU

e. Operation SABER THRUST

f. Operation MANHATTAN

g. Operation KAWELA

h. Operation JUNCTION CITY

i. Operation ALA MOANA

j. Operation FORT NISQUALLY (p23)

(5) During the month of June the ARVN PSYOP teams attached to 1st Brigade and G5

ordered back to the 30th POLWAR Bn due to a reorganization. This loss has severely hampered our PSYOP program. The ARVN PSYOP teams are the most effective means available for disseminating credible propaganda.

(6) A PSYOP campaign along the major LOCs within the 25th Inf Div TAOI has resulted in an increasing number of civilians providing information on VC mines and other activities.

(7) Requisitions for PSYOP equipment have been filled in some cases.

(a) Items received so far are:

1. Megaphones

2. Polaroid Cameras

(b) Items still outstanding are:

1. Multilith presses w/components

2. Loudspeaker sets

(8) A combination of increased military activity and corresponding increase in PSYOPs has shown definite results in the CHIEU HOI Program, particularly in HAU NGHIA Province. CHIEU HOI totals for this province in February, March and April were 313. In May, June and July, they increased to 556.

(9) Availability of U-10 aircraft has greatly improved our PSYOP capability. We receive an average of 9 missions per week, thereby allowing us to cover more targets with greater frequency.

(10) Two HOI CHANH's have been assigned to the G5 for the purpose of evaluating our present leaflets and for developing new leaflets. They have so far proved to be a definite benefit to the PSYOPS Program.

(11) The increased number of leaflets dropped and loudspeaker time continues to increase. One indicator of the effectiveness of the PSYOP Program is the increasing number of HOI CHANH. The 246th PSYOP Co has filled all our leaflet requirements on a timely basis, thereby giving us a large number of standard and special leaflets to exploit PSYOP opportunities.

K. Medical

(1) Personnel and Supporting Medical Units. (p24))

(a) At the end of the reporting period, the division was short four medical officers and three medical service corps officers. Replacements have been requested and are programmed for early August.

(b) Primary medical support to the division still remains more than adequate and

And of the highest caliber. Specialized treatment for all injuries is immediately available or within twenty minutes flying distance of the 25th Medical Battalion and the 12th Evacuation Hospital.

(c) Primary medical care at TAY NINH is provided by the 45th MUST. DAU TIENG obtains primary medical support from "D" Co, 4th Medical Battalion. All specialty treatment is readily available or within twenty minutes flying time of each primary medical facility mentioned.

(2) Training:

(a) Cross training in the preparation of medical records and reports has been given emphasis because of the anticipated turn over in these particular clerical specialties.

(b) Two 25th Division Regulations 40-19 (MEDCAP II) and 40-10 MEDICAL REPORTS were revised. Circular 40-4 Light Duty Status was instituted after staffing.

(c) Field sanitation classes were conducted at DAU TIENG for one day.

(3) The health of the command has been good. The malaria rate remains constant; the venereal disease rate has dropped. Infectious Hepatitis is on the increase and is being reckoned with accordingly.

(4) Environmental Situation.

(a) Water Supply. A new water point W.P. VI, was opened for amplifying the quantity of potable water at Camp CU CHI.

(b) The drainage problem remains the same because of the lay of the land, the increased rains of the monsoon season, the level of the water table, and the nature of the soil.

(c) The problem of illegal use of non-potable ice has been reckoned with through command channels due to the increase of infectious hepatitis traced probably to this source.

(5) Conclusion: Medical support, even with the influx of new personnel and the annual turn-over of medical personnel, remains adequate in quantity and excellent in quality. Each medical problem has quickly been resolved with consideration of eliminating the cause of each through active command and control measures.

(p25)

L. Signal: See separate ORLL 125th Signal Battalion, Attached.

M. Training:

(1) During the period of May, June and July 1967, the following number of personnel attended the division schools listed below:

Small Arms Inspection	40	Mess Management	46
Generator Operator	75	Company Aidman	37
Projectionist	35	Mines and Booby Traps	1,943
Explosives & Demolitions	402	Tunnel Destruction	40

(2) In addition, the following number of personnel attended courses given in May and June 1967:

Combat Leaders	30	NCO Academy	26
Replacement Training	1,322	Ambush Academy	194

(3) On 1 July 1967, the NCO Academy and Ambush Academy courses were discontinued and a new combined course for Lightning Combat Leaders offered in their place. Courses held in July 1967 were:

Lightning Combat Leaders	160	Replacement Training Course (For all incoming E-1 through E-7 Warrant Officers, and Lieutenants)	617

(4) Instruction was also given at non-divisional schools during the reporting period to the following personnel:

COURSE	INSTRUCTOR	NUMBER ATTENDED
Jungle Survival	Fleet Airborne Electronic Training Unit (US Navy)	2
JUSPAO / USAID Orientation	Military Assistance Command, Vietnam	9
Aviation Avionics Maintenance Training Program	34th General Support Group, USARV	18

Cable Splicing 40th Signal Bn, USARV 5

XM-21 Armament 34th General Support Group USARV 2

Eiffel Bridge ARVNAF Engr School 4

Classification and repair

(p26)

Leaflet Dissemination 50th Political Warfare Bn, MACV 4

ARC-131 FM Radio 198th Sig Detachment, USARV 3

AN/PRC-74, AN/PRR-9 198th Sig Detachment, USARV 24

and AN / PRT -4 79TH Maintenance Bn

Saigon Support Command

AN / GRC - 160 Mr. George H. Schmeer 25

General Dynamics Corporation

(on TDY to Cu Chi Base Camp from CONUS)

(p27)

2. (C) Commanders Observations and Recommendations:

A. Observations: (Lessons Learned)

(1) Personnel.

ITEM: The continued lack of NCOs particularly in the grade of E-6

OBSERVATION: The 25th Infantry Division Leaders School for junior enlisted leaders should be continued and increase its capability to instruct a larger number.

(2) Operations

ITEM: Increased hazards of mines during monsoon season,.

DISCUSSION: Because of heavy rains, trafficability of the terrain has become extremely difficult and as a result, existing trails and roads must be used. The VC have increased their employment of mines along roads and trails. In many instances they have employed mines behind passing vehicles, especially in areas where they feel that the same routes will be used by US Forces when they withdraw from an area.

OBSERVATION: Units should when possible avoid using the same road or trail to leave an area they have entered. When this is not possible units should employ mine detectors to sweep ahead of column. A continuous training program for newly assigned personnel on identification and detection of mines must be conducted..

ITEM: Determination of terrain trafficability for tracked vehicles during the rainy season…

DISCUSSION: The recent advent of the rainy season in this area has limited tank travel to hard surface roads. Cross-country mobility has been very poor to impossible in the Division TAOR. Aerial reconnaissance of an area can usually determine whether the terrain is trafficable for track vehicles by closely observing bomb craters, shell holes or large wells. If the water level in these holes s no higher than one foot from the ground level, tank traffic is generally possible with extreme caution. No sudden or sharp turns and no tracking is permissible, under these conditions. In addition, care must be exercised to avoid crossing obstacles such as rice paddy dikes where at some time during the crossing the majority of the weight of the tank is concentrated on a small surface area (such as three road wheels). When observing water levels in holes, personnel must be cautioned to determine the distance between water levels and true ground level, not the hole's edge. Bomb and shell craters give a false measure of distance. Determination of trafficability based on dryness of ground surface is not valid due to the high water table and intense heat at the surface caused by the sun.

OBSERVATION: Aerial observation can assist in determining trafficability of an area, but due to misleading conditions, only a ground reconnaissance of some detail can provide accurate information.

ITEM: Need for additional personnel for Cavalry operations in dense terrain and during rainy season.

DISCUSSION: When operating in dense foliage, it has become essential to employ dismounted personnel to the front and flank of the armored vehicles. The loss of tanks due to wet terrain has drastically cut the speed by which this type unit can move through dense foliage. Any sudden maneuvering of personnel carriers in such terrain generally results in a thrown track, thereby disabling the vehicle for a period of time and causing additional security requirements. Constant movement through heavy woods and jungle places strain upon the power train and suspension system of the personnel carriers, which will result in a higher deadline rate and increased down time. The tactical considerations involved in the movement of armored vehicles in dense foliage are as follows:

a. Loss of tanks (due to terrain) slows movement.

b. Attempts at maneuver results in down vehicles as a result of thrown or broken tracks.

c. Recon by fire has negligible effects.

d. Observation and fields of fire are limited.

e. VC are able to make and break contact at will due to greater maneuverability and speed of dismounted personnel.

f. Personnel carriers provide protections against small arms fire but little protection against high arching grenades or RPG-2s. The TOE for an Armored Cavalry unit provides for a dismounted capability of one infantry squad within each platoon. This squad is not capable of providing the necessary protection to 7 personnel carriers. Internal augmentation of this force can be accomplished by dismounting all but a minimum crew from the remaining vehicles. This would provide an additional 12

men. However, there is no provision for additional communications equipment. The addition of twelve men to the dismount capability of the platoon would provide sufficient security provided the unit is stationary. This force however is not sufficient for tactical movement through dense foliage.

OBSERVATION: When an Armored Cavalry unit must be employed in dense vegetation, additional dismounted troops and communications equipment must be attached for successful employment.

(p29)

ITEM: Use of MAD System (B1 Mortar Air Delivery System).

DISCUSSION: This system was tried on several occasions and proved to be highly unsatisfactory. The round will not detonate in water. Secondly, for a pin-point type target, there are too many factors to consider in order to hit a target: i.e., airspeed, altitude, moving targets. In most cases, artillery can cover any target discovered, and once the initial adjustment has been made, Fuse VT can be employed and give devastating target coverage. The target initially must be pinned down by use of helicopter-borne machine guns, and the area covered by door gunners.

OBSERVATION: That the use of the MAD was ineffective in our areas of operations, and that the use of such system should be discontinued in future operations.

ITEM: Use of the AT-912 as an elevated antenna.

DISCUSSION: Due to the limited number of RC-292 antennas authorized a unit, it is necessary to employ field expedients in order to provide additional elevated antennas.

OBSERVATION: Experience has shown that the AT-912, when elevated, is at least as effective as the RC-292. The only problem involved is causing the matching unit to properly match the frequency in as much as matching unit power cables are not available in sufficient lengths. For situations where frequencies will be relatively static, the matching unit can be pre-tuned with the MX-6707/VRC. The antenna must first be attached to the radio using the short matching unit power cable, the radio turned on and the proper frequency set. The antenna matching unit can be disconnected and the antenna elevated.

ITEM: Use of AN/GRA 39, remote control unit for read-back during fire missions.

DISCUSSION: The continuous requirement for accurate transmission and receipt of firing data, necessitates a number of checks in the gunnery chain in a minimum amount of time. A good communications system is therefore an important factor in firing.

OBSERVATION: The remote control component of the AN/GRA 39 radio set control group is used in place of field telephones at each howitzer position and in the Fire Direction Center (FDC). Wire lines are laid from each howitzer to the MX155 switching kit, and through the exec post telephone to the FDC. This procedure accomplishes the following:

a. All personnel in each firing section hear all commands from the exec post.

b. All personnel in the FDC hear all commands sent from the exec post to the firing sections, and all read-backs data from guns to exec post.

c. Maximum number of firing battery personnel are able to monitor commands and read-back, providing more efficient gunnery performance and accuracy of firing data.

(p30)

ITEM: Use of CS Gas to expose the enemy.

DISCUSSION: The use of CS gas has proven successful on many operations. Once a VC unit, personnel, or a suspected hiding site has been spotted, one gun ship saturates the area with CS gas. Once the VC move out of the area, the other gunships roll in on the target.

OBSERVATION: All gun ships and C&C helicopters are now carrying CS gas to employ against targets of opportunity.

ITEM: Joint operations with US Air Force Forward Air Controllers (FAC) and Gun Team to stop and destroy the VC.

DISCUSSION: On several occasions, one gun team has worked with FAC in spotting enemy activity. The FAC aircraft usually orbits above 6000 feet, and by the use of binoculars and an observer, detect enemy movement or activity. The gun team orbiting a pre-designated area out of the area of operation, and on call, are directed in low level on to the target by the FAC. If the enemy takes evasive action, CS gas is used in an attempt to drive the VC out of hiding.

OBSERVATION: These joint operations have proven highly successful, and on several occasions have caught the VC off guard. It has further proven that joint operations between services can be accomplished in an excellent and efficient manner.

ITEM: Firing charts with 6400 mils capability.

DISCUSSION: It has been found that in setting out deflection indices for a 6400 mil firing chart, a five to ten mil arc was left over in one quadrant, thus leaving one quadrant's deflection indices that much in error.

OBSERVATION: Firing charts are constructed with the primary direction of lay 6400 mils at deflection 2800. An exact 6400, 1600, 3200, and 4800 azimuth index is established for each battery on the firing chart. Placing the arm of the RDP on the 6400 mil index, and working in a clockwise direction, a deflection index is placed at scribe mark number 8 on the RDP. Number it 2 and label it with the appropriate battery designation. Next, place the arm of the RDP on the 1600 mil index and place a deflection index out at the scribe mark numbered 2. Number this index 1 and label it with the appropriate battery designation. Place another index out from number 1 at 1000 mils using the arm of the RDP. Number it 0 and label it with the appropriate battery designation. The index at 3200 and 6400 will be numbered 3 and labeled with the appropriate battery designation.

Repeat the above procedures beginning at the 3200 index.

By modifying the Artillery School's recommended method, the error is taken up throughout the firing chart. Inaccuracies in the deflection indices are no more than one or two mils.

ITEM: Daylight H&I's

DISCUSSION: H&I's are normally scheduled during the hours of darkness. Past experience and intelligence reports indicate that the VC often move during daylight when aircraft are out of the area of movement.

OBSERVATION: H&I's are planned in areas of known VC activity, making use of past experience and current intelligence. These H&I's are fired from early morning until dusk, at which time the normal H&I program is initiated. Volume of fire is dependent upon whether harassment or interdiction of a particular terrain feature is the objective.

ITEM: Pre-planned Blocking Fires.

DISCUSSION; After a preparation has been fired on an LZ, routes of withdrawal often permit the VC to escape. These routes are normally canals or trails in the general area of operations.

OBSERVATION: Pre-planned, on-call groups of targets are assigned to likely avenues of escape or withdrawal routes to insure rapid response by artillery elements in providing blocking firs.

ITEM: Preparation of Landing Zone.

DISCUSSION: It has been found that scheduled preparation, planned from picto and photo maps, have sometimes left a critical area, hedgerow, or bunker relatively uncovered by artillery fires. Moreover, with several batteries firing a given preparation, it is difficult for an air observer to adjust additional fires into the critical area from a target included in the scheduled preparation fires.

OBSERVATION: It has proved useful to pre-designate a target, not a part of the regular scheduled preparation, in the landing zone. This target is used as an adjusting point by the air observer for adjusting additional coverage of a LZ when necessary.

ITEM: Shifting Fires:

DISCUSSION: It has been a general practice to prepare landing zones per a given schedule of fires and to terminate firing on schedule just prior to arrival of armed or troop aircraft at the LZ.

OBSERVATION: When shifted according to a schedule of fires, artillery fires can effectively block routes of VC withdrawal from a prepared LZ. Close coordination must be effected between artillery firing units, artillery LNO's with command control ships, armed helicopter pilots, and troop aircraft pilots. Elements of information to be coordinated are:

a. Areas into which fires are to be shifted.

b. Colored smoke or other signal to indicate termination of preparation of LZ.

(p32)

c. Orientation of gun-target lines,

d. Other pre-planned control measures.

ITEM: Computing of firing data for air observer missions.

DISCUSSION: Battery Fire Direction Centers have experienced difficulty in controlling the subsequent adjustments of multiple missions with the TOE equipment and personnel available.

OBSERVATION: When aerial observers adjust using the gun-target line, the initial chart data is computed and checked. Subsequent corrections are then computed using 100/R for deflection, and the C factor for quadrants, using two computers for independent checks. This system has proven to be more rapid and as accurate as the chart procedures.

ITEM: FADAC metro message.

DISCUSSION; In order for the Field Artillery Digital Automatic Computer (FADAC) to be used as effectively as possible, accurate data must be programmed into the computer as rapidly as possible upon receipt of the data. In programming weather data, the fastest way is to prepare a teletype tape of the data and feed it into the machine automatically.

OBSERVATION: It was found that the teletype operator could prepare a tape and transmit it faster if it was given to him in the exact format that the computer would accept. The metro and radio sections prepared a form which showed exactly how the tape should be prepared. The metro section puts the data on the form, showing where a space or carriage return (symbol) should be. The computer will accept only 16 numbers to a line. It will accept a corrected mistake if the correct number is covered by the letters character (symbol #). It will not accept a random key or a line feed. Using this form,the teletype operators were able to punch a tape much faster and consequently transmit it to the units much faster.

ITEM: Striking Targets Acquired by the Man-packed Personnel Detector D63 (People Sniffer).

DISCUSSION: The "People Sniffer" device mounted on a UH-1 helicopter has been very effective in acquiring targets. The device has been employed with a LFT, to provide cover for the "Sniffer Helicopter", and to strike targets. Most sensings have occurred over jungles or dense foliage. This type terrain limits the effectiveness of aerial fire power delivered by the LFT. Targets acquired by the "People Sniffer" could be more effectively engaged by TAC AIR or artillery fire.

OBSERVATION: Heavy volume artillery fire or large ordnance deliveries by TAC AIR provides more effective engagement of acquired targets.

ITEM: Supplementing Firefly Missions with the "People Sniffer". (p33)

DISCUSSION: The "Firefly Mission" employs starlight scope, flares, and searchlights to acquire targets during the hours of darkness. Target acquisition using these devices has been very effective on rivers and open terrain, but has been ineffective over dense foliage along rivers and streams. By augmenting the firefly aircraft with "People Sniffer" in another aircraft, targets that would have gone unnoticed are now acquired and engaged.

OBSERVATION: The "People Sniffer" device has proven to be very effective in target acquisition, and is now being employed regularly to increase the success of Firefly missions.

ITEM: Control of Artillery fire during combat operations.

DISCUSSION: On a recent operation, the artillery preparatory fire was directed by the airmobile force and air mission commanders from the command and control aircraft orbiting the objective area.

OBSERVATION: Fire support is required as close to the lift element as possible during the approach and landing in the landing zone in order to decrease and possibly neutralize the amount of enemy fire received. Artillery should be continued until the assault element is only minutes away from the landing zone. Gunships should prepare the landing zone by suppressive fires as soon as artillery fire has stopped. This technique is very effective in giving the flight element continuous support and is preferable to the much used time on target method.

ITEM: Eagle Flight Operations.

DISCUSSION: The 25th Aviation Battalion conducted several "Eagle Flights" operations with divisional ground forces. A normal operation requires eight aircraft, one command and control aircraft, one utility aircraft, and a minimum of four gunships.

Once in the area of operation, two gunships descend to low level to fix VC positions. When an enemy position is located, normally by receiving ground fire, the lead aircraft marks it with smoke and climbs to join the remaining lift aircraft who begin descending out of an orbit over a predetermined reference point.

The gunships escorting the lead aircraft will engage the VC while the flight joins and lands in a landing zone selected in close proximity to the enemy position. From the time the VC are found until troops are on the ground is normally less than four minutes. The lift aircraft can then lead a reinforcing unit and orbit for immediate employment, or go to strip alert in a selected staging area.

OBSERVATION: A normal operation utilizes eight lift aircraft. However, use of five ship eagle flights in areas where intelligence sources indicate a relatively small VC force is desirable. With good intelligence information, these small Eagle Flights are effective and have produced numerous POWs and detainees. A utility aircraft is a great asset. This aircraft should have a medic and a maintenance team on board. It can be used to replace a downed aircraft while the maintenance team render assistance, evacuate WIAs, KIAs POWs and detainees, perform command and control during absence of the normal C&C aircraft (refueling, etc.), and provide emergency re-supply.

ITEM: Screening assault element with smoke.

DISCUSSION; On several operations Co B, 25th Avn Bn was called upon to provide a smoke screen for the purposes of obscuring the lift element from enemy observation. This is accomplished by installation of an integral Smoke Generator, (53E 00-62A,) on UH-1 helicopter. Wind must be considered when using smoke, from the aviation stand-point, and to insure that the smoke does not interfere with the ground tactical plan.

OBSERVATION: Under proper wind conditions, the smoke screen is very effective in obscuring the flight element from likely enemy positions.

ITEM: Use of Smoke.

DISCUSSION: The use of smoke in Landing Zones (LZ) and Pickup Zones (PZ) has been found to be very helpful to pilots. Pathfinders should use smoke at both ends of the LZ or PZ. When the lead pilot calls for smoke, the Pathfinders pop smoke at the first touch down point. Five seconds later, smoke is popped just beyond the last touch down point.

OBSERVATION; This system enables the flight leaders to align the flight on the long axis of the PZ or LZ, far enough out to preclude last minute adjustments.

ITEM: XM 172 Panel.

DISCUSSION: It has been found that the XM 172 Panel is excellent for marking friendly positions at night. The illuminating panel can only be seen from the air, and not by the enemy when it is laid out flat on the ground.

OBSERVATION: Utilization of the illuminating panel will assist friendly troops in the employment of attack helicopters at night.

ITEM: Use of High Voltage Generators and Electrical Line.

DISCUSSION: Recently power lines were knocked down into a water soaked field causing a direct short to ground,. A crowd soon gathered around the mishap. One individual in the crowd received a burn and severe shock which could have been fatal.

(p35)

OBSERVATION: When power lines are downed or shorted, unqualified personnel should not work on lines. If possible, turn generator off.

ITEM: "People Sniffer".

OBSERVATION: This instrument has proven successful in locating individuals in heavily vegetated areas. Large areas of this nature can be covered by employing the "People Sniffer" in a UH1D (traveling at tree top level) accompanied by a light fire team (two gunships). Upon detection, a smoke grenade is dropped to pinpoint location identified. The light fire team can cover the area until an orbiting Eagle Flight element is available to conduct a ground search.

ITEM: Cordon and Search Operations.

OBSERVATION: When establishing a cordon by airmobile means, always maintain an airmobile reserve for employment against VC ex-filtration not observed by those forces already on the ground.,

ITEM: Employment of CS.

OBSERVATION: Prior to destruction of bunkers and tunnels, seed with CS.

ITEM: Employment of 90mm Recoilless Rifles in the Attack.

DISCUSSION: The canister round employed by the 90mm rifle gunner in conjunction with M60 teams provides the terrain clearing capability and the automatic fire power needed to make effective fields of fire, and suppress enemy small arms fire simultaneously.

OBSERVATION: When enemy small arms fire is encountered from a heavily foliated area, targets must be identified as soon as possible. Effective firing with .50 cal. or M60 machine guns is not always possible when observation is limited. However, 90mm canister rounds may be used to open fields of fire and to permit the automatic weapons to effectively engage point targets.

ITEM: Use of foot Patrols with Mech. Operations.

DISCUSSION: Often when a mech. unit operates in the field, the individual soldier is not employed on the ground, rather the mech. unit conducts the S&D operations mounted. The VC soon anticipate this and expect to hear the APCs coming toward them.

OBSERVATION: When Mech. Is used in an area, separate dismounted operations should be conducted. It has been found that these foot mounted troops will surprise the enemy who is listening for the sound of APCs.

ITEM: Use of 81mm Mortar Aiming Stake Lights.

DISCUSSION: The aiming stake lights when turned on during the hours of darkness, present a very marked target and is easily seen from a great distance at certain locations from outside the perimeter. When under attack, or prior to attack, the VC are able to sight in on the aiming stake lights. The lights cannot be turned off unless personnel go to each stake and flip the switch. During a heavy ground attack, this is not always possible.

OBSERVATION: Aiming lights should be rigged with WD-1 commo. wire and dry cell batteries with the control switch near the mortar for control by the gun crew, thus enabling the crew to turn the lights on and off at will..

ITEM: Tents, Lean-to Shelters, etc.

DISCUSSION: On a bright night, the starlight and moonlight causes a very bright reflection from personnel shelters that are damp or wet from dew or rain. This glow or shimmering effect of the wet water proof lean-to's is easily seen from a great distance, and are perfect targets during night attacks on the perimeter.

OBSERVATION: Personnel shelters, lean-to or tent, should not be erected be erected in forward areas. Those shelters which must be erected should be well camouflaged to prevent "shine". Individuals should rely on a poncho pulled over and laying on the individual rather than a tent.

ITEM: Distinctive Outline of Tracked Vehicles during the Hours of Darkness.

DISCUSSION: Tracked vehicles have a very distinctive outline and are easily "sky lighted" from the ground by the square shape of the vehicle, the cupola and guard inside the cupola, and the large .50 caliber machine gun sticking out.

OBSERVATION: The outline can be broken up by strategic emplacement of vines, brush and trees. If possible the armored personnel carrier should be parked in or near scrub growth and additional brush placed near all four corners and behind the machine gunner. Caution should be exercised so as not to block the observation of the guard in the cupola.

ITEM: Radio Call Lights and Dash Oil Lights illuminating inside the track.

DISCUSSION: On the large radio sets, each time a transmission is incoming, the radio call light illuminates the inside of a vehicle. The dash light (oil light, master switch-light, etc.,) are on continually and present a good target from across the perimeter.

OBSERVATION: Radio call lights should be turned off in forward areas, or taped so as to allow only a pin point of light to shine directly to the front of the radio. Dash lights should be completely covered with

sand bags. A poncho should be draped over the rear of the track to block all possible illumination (in lieu of the track ramp being closed).

(p37)

ITEM: Smoking inside of Tracks and in Cupola while on Guard.

DISCUSSION: Cigarettes, lighters and flame producing devices when used inside of tracks and in cupolas, provide the VC with excellent targets.

OBSERVATION: No smoking should be permitted anywhere except in a covered hole or a closed Armored Personnel Carrier. There should be no smoking in a cupola of an Armored Personnel Carrier.

ITEM: Situation Report through the Rifle Company chain of Command.

DISCUSSION: Experience proves that a situation report must be given more often than once per h our at unit level to insure that personnel are fully awake and alert on the machine gun while on guard.

OBSERVTION: Situation reports should be given from each track to the platoon leader's track every 15 minutes. Platoon Leaders should make situation reports to company every 30 minutes during the hours of darkness.

ITEM: Return of Fire and Fire Control

DISCUSSION: Training of the people and force of habit prevents the personnel on guard from firing on movement, trip flares that have been illuminated etc. by the VC. In most cases, fire control is held at too high a level in the chain of command. By the time the guard receives permission to fire, the attack has been launched by the VC.

OBSERVATION: Fire Control should be at the lowest level practical. All personnel should be fully aware of locations of friendly elements, types of fire that can be returned initially. (i.e. small arms only on squad leaders order; .50 caliber or larger on Company Commander's order only), and location of LP's

and ambush patrols. Certain types of probing fires should be returned with certain and selected weapons from the perimeter.

ITEM: Depressions, Holes and Berms outside the protective wire used to launch assaults.

DISCUSSION: Any depression or hole near the outside of the perimeter wire, is used, is a perfect covered position from which to launch a RPG attack.

OBSERVATION: Each hole or depression should be booby trapped, illuminated, land have punji stakes emplaced in them. Trip flares in holes, claymore mines emplaced in the walls of holes with detonating wire buried and aiming , and elevation stakes on the perimeter to place accurate M79 fire in the hole should be employed.

(p38)

ITEM: Battlefield illumination usage to illuminate the VC and outside the perimeter without illuminating the friendly elements.

DISCUSSION; Illumination over head, not only illuminates the VC but also the friendly forces. A technique is needed to illuminate only that portion of the battle field occupied by the VC.

OBSERVATION: One in every four 81mm defensive concentrations should be white phosphorous. 81mm “defcons” should be within 15-20 meters of the protective wire. 81mm illumination rounds should be fired so as to burn on the ground at a distance of 200 - 300 meters from the protective wire depending on the terrain. This sky lights the attacking VC without completely illuminating the friendly position. Consideration should be given to trip flares with pull wires running back to the perimeter. Flood lights may also be emplaced 50 - 100 meters from the perimeter, and placed to shine across the front of the platoon position. The spot light should be booby trapped to prevent removal. Lights so employed must be controlled from the platoon leader's vehicle.

ITEM: Maximum effect from grazing fire with ground mounted weapons.

DISCUSSION: More grazing fire is required at ground level to repel the attack and prevent VC from crawling into the wire where he can do more damage.

OBSERVATION: All M60 machine guns should be mounted on tripods with T&E mechanism for effective grazing fire. M60 not mounted on a tripod during the hours of darkness tend to be fired too high or into the ground in front of the gun. The tripod insures accurate grazing fire. Additional firepower can be brought to bear by placing additional .50 caliber machine guns in ground mounted positions. These may be obtained from destroyed tracks or from some other source rather than removing them from the track vehicles. If necessary, some .50 cal MGs can be dismounted at night, from HQ and Mortar APCs.

ITEM; Routine of placing command post tracks in the center of a circular perimeter for forward rifle companies.

DISCUSSION; RON perimeters should be frequently changed as to design, shape and location (open field or in wood-line).

OBSERVATION: The VC are well aware of the mechanized concept of the Headquarters group being in the center of the circular perimeter. Different techniques should be employed, i.e., command group vehicles may be placed away from the center and behind the line platoon tracks.. The unit perimeter may be emplaced in the edge of a wood-line allowing a helipad for aerial resupply etc., or within a finger of trees extending into an open field.

ITEM: Injuries to personnel sleeping in open, unprotected areas or inside of tracked vehicles. (p39)

DISCUSSION: Most casualties come from personnel in or near tracked vehicles or sleeping exposed above ground.

OBSERVATION: No more than two men per ground position, and no one should be allowed to sleep in tracks. Everyone not sleeping in a hole or gun position should be laying flat on the ground, (no cots) and the sleeping area should be sand-bagged above the line of the body..

ITEM: Effect of River Tides upon Search Operations.

DISCUSSION: Numerous VC caches have been discovered along rivers and their tributaries. In most cases the caches were discovered at low tide. Apparently the VC bury their equipment/ammunition in the river bank at low tide, thus obtaining additional concealment during periods of high tide. Caches concealed in this manner are easier to detect at low tide. Accurate tidal information has not been available, consequently search operations frequently have not been fully effective in tidal areas.

OBSERVATION: Accurate information concerning tides should be developed for all areas affected by tide changes.

ITEM: Light Machine Gun Mounted on OH-23 Aircraft.

DISCUSSION: The use of OH-23 Aircraft for C&C during mechanized operations has been effective in detecting VC movement ahead of the mechanized forces. In some cases VC have escaped before maneuver elements/or light fire teams could reach the objective area due to lack of organic fire power on the OH-23 aircraft.

OBSERVATION: A light machine gun mounted on the OH-23 could engage the VC and restrict his movement until maneuver elements or light fire teams reach the scene.

ITEM: Use of Hand Grenades during Search Operations along Canals and Rivers.

DISCUSSION: VC hide under water when US Forces approach a canal or river line. Single grenades tossed along the water frequently are not effective due to insufficient area coverage.

OBSERVATION: An effective technique is to line several men along the canal/river bank and have these men throw grenades on command. This procedure saturates the area and will normally force the VC to the surface.

ITEM: Increased Booby-trapping of Ambush Patrol Exits.

DISCUSSION: Due to the increased number of VC mines and booby-traps employed in and near the tactical wire, departing ambush patrols have incurred several casualties.

OBSERVATION: To counteract booby-traps, the exit gates were relocated and mine-sweeps employed prior to the departure of the patrols.

ITEM: Return Route.

DISCUSSION: On a recent combat ambush patrol, a member of the patrol was wounded when he detonated an enemy booby-trap. The individual was returning to his position after emplacing his claymore mine, but did not return the same way he had departed.

OBSERVATION: The patrol member could have lessened his chances of becoming a casualty by returning to his position via the same route he had departed.

ITEM: Overhead Trip-wires.

DISCUSSION: The Viet Cong are constantly changing their methods of employing booby-trap tripwires. Tripwires have been encountered which are several feet above the eye level. These wires are tripped by the unsuspecting RTO who walks under them carrying his PRC-25 and long antennae.

OBSERVATION: The unit commander must remind their subordinates to be constantly alert for new methods of VC booby-traps and tripwire employment.

ITEM: Chicom Grenade Booby-traps in Open Terrain.

DISCUSSION: Many Chicom grenades boob-traps have been encountered recently in grassy open terrain away from hedgerows. These grenades are generally painted green and tied or wired to stakes approximately 6" off the ground with pins removed. As a soldier knocks the stake, the grenade handle falls to the ground and the grenade explodes instantly.

OBSERVATION: Care should be used in moving through open grassy areas, personnel should move widely separated from each other and leaders should choose routes with low grass rather than high grass when possible.

ITEM: VC Sniper Fire.

DISCUSSION: Recently VC sniper teams working in pairs have been encountered probing night defense perimeters. Two or three snipers open fire from one side of the perimeter, after friendly attention is concentrated on this initial fire, a second sniper team open up from the opposite side of the perimeter.

OBSERVATION: Use indirect fire as primary means of countering snipers harassing a defensive perimeter and do not move defenders to other positions to counter sniper fire.

ITEM: Searching Hedgerows.

DISCUSSION: Thick vegetation and the danger of booby traps made it impractical for an entire squad or platoon to search hedgerows.

OBSERVATION: Two or three men should remove all gear and check the hedgerow while the rest of the element secures the area. Men unencumbered by gear can make a more thorough search in thick vegetation, and the danger of loose gear detonating booby-traps by hanging up in bamboo is reduced.

ITEM: Jungle Clearing I.

DISCUSSION: During Operation JUNCTION CITY and MANHATAN, the Engineer Battalion was involved in jungle clearing operations. To accomplish this mission, Rome Plows were employed. These plows are mounted on standard bulldozers with specially constructed blades and operator cabs attached. The blade has a knife edge and is set on an angle. During Operation JUNCTION CITY, the clearing consisted of making 100 meter wide right-of-ways along roads in the operational area. To accomplish this, Rome Plow-Bulldozer teams were created utilizing two Rome Plows with each bulldozer. The plows would knock down the brush and trees followed by the bulldozers wind-rowing the fallen vegetation. In War Zone C, the operational area for JUNCTION CITY, the jungle is extremely heavy and the trees range from 100 - 200 feet in height. In many cases it was necessary to use demolition to remove the larger trees.

During Operation MANHATTAN, Rome Plows were used to clear road right-of-ways and large scale jungle clearing. With as many as eight plows working at a single time, it was necessary to devise a system whereby all the plows could be operated in an area restricted by the availability of security. This operation was conducted in the lower BOI LOI Woods area. During clearing, Rome Plows were employed separately from the bulldozers, with the bulldozers used only to wind-row relatively small areas for helicopter landing pads. This was done because the dozers could not wind-row at the same rate as the plows. In order to provide security for the dozers, it was necessary to work them in a small area.

OBSERVATION: As a result of these two clearing operations, many techniques have been evolved for jungle clearing. The most significant being that the productivity of each plow is dependent upon the number of plows operating. It was found during Operation MANHATAN, that by placing the plows in an echelon-left formation, with the jungle to be cleared on the left, five plows operating for 8 hours could clear 100 acres of jungle in one day. By keeping the jungle on the left, the angled blade of the plow pushes the overflow to the right and out of the way of the plow and the following plows. Mechanized infantry moved with the plows to provide security.

Maintenance played a large role in the success of the operation. Without continued maintenance support, these plows could not keep running. In the vicinity of each clearing area, a maintenance point was established with an air-compressor and two contact maintenance teams. Once every two hours a plow would stop to be checked, refueled, and have branches and leaves blown out of the engine compartment. It also gave the operators a chance to take a `15 minute break.

Another problem encountered was the control and guidance of the leading plow when cutting through a new section of jungle. This was alleviated by painting large numbers on the top of the cabs,

and providing a HRC-25 Radio to the assistant operator. A light observation helicopter, in direct contact with the lead plow, provided necessary control and guidance for initial cutting.

ITEM: Jungle Clearing II

DISCUSSION: A new concept in land clearing has been put to the test near CU CHI,Vietnam by Co C, 65th Engr Bn. The operation consists of dragging a large anchor chain behind two vehicles, spaced so that the vegetation which passes between them will come into contact with the chain. The links of the chain are 9 inches wide and 12 inches long. Each link weighs approximately 28 pounds.

The very nature of the equipment employed in the operation dictates the type of clearing that can be accomplished. Basically, the weight of the chain and the pulling force of the vehicle are the principle clearing factors. It is easily understood then, that vegetation which can withstand a swift blow from a heavy object is not effectively cleared by this operation. This is especially found to be true in areas of undergrowth, where the diameters of the trees and shrubs are appreciably smaller than four inches. The chain passes over vegetation of this size, after which the vegetation springs up. Somewhat different, much more gratifying and useful results are obtained when the chain is used to clear trees with diameters greater than four inches. The chain has been used to clear rubber trees up to three feet in the base diameter. The chain catches around the base of the tree, rides up on the trunk, causes the tree to lean, and eventually weighs it down; uprooting and laying it on the ground.

The chain was found to be most effective in clearing rubber trees rather than any other type of vegetation. In the plantation, it was possible to drive the vehicle down the paths between the trees, since the trees are planted in straight rows and side by side. Trees in the Filhol Plantation where the cutting was done, are planted in rows running generally Northwest to Southwest. The rows are approximately 8 meters apart, and the trees are approximately 6 meters apart within the rows.

The selection of direction in which to clear is a relatively simple matter. The important factor to remember is that the most effective cuts are long and straight. The width of the cut will depend on the size of the trees. It was found that the trees in the Filhol, which averaged about twenty inches in diameter, were most effectively cleared in cuts of two rows each. The length of the chain is a factor here also, since the strain on the vehicle varies directly with the angle between the chain. The chain is made of 90 feet sections which can be joined or separated. Through experiment, a length of 360 feet, or 4 sections, was found to be optimal, since this length of chain was sufficient to reduce strain on the

vehicles when clearing the rows of trees, and at the same time was not so lengthy as to greatly impede maneuverability.

(p43)

Careful briefing of both vehicle operators and vehicle commanders is a must before beginning the operation. It should be emphasized that staying in the clear paths is important. Also drivers should try to coordinate with one another during the operation. The vehicles should "glide" during periods of little resistance, and then accelerate as soon as the chain catches on the trees. This prevents damage to pintles, stalling, and in general, makes for a smoother operation. In addition, one vehicle should remain slightly ahead of the other, so that if one hits a mine, personnel on the other vehicle are not likely to be affected.

Reversing direction when clearing can be a very tricky operation. If at all possible, cuts should be made between two open areas to facilitate turning. The turns should be very deliberate, especially when there are obstacles present. One method is to make a half circle with both vehicles. Another method is for one vehicle to make a very tight neutral steer while the other makes a somewhat broader turn. Still another method is for both vehicles to back over the chain, make a tight turn, and head in the reverse direction for another cut. Many variations are possible. The vehicle drivers should not hesitate to drive over the chain if it is necessary, and must only be careful not to get so far apart as to be pulling against each other. In most cases, the condition of soil will dictate the type of turn. This is because the maneuverability of the vehicles with the chain is quite hampered in boggy or even damp terrain. Also, it is important to cut in such a manner that the fallen trees will not be in the path of the vehicles on future cuts. A minimum of planning is required to accomplish this since the chains pull the trees inward and stacks them in very neat rows.

Once the operation begins, it is necessary to assert aggressive control. The control element must direct the entire operation and be constantly alert. It must react quickly to obstacles and be quick in formulating a plan for reversing for direction after each cut. The controller should be on one of the two vehicles pulling the chain, and should have ready contact with all elements of the operation so that the operation will run as quickly as possible instead of bogging down due to some unforeseen situation.

The mechanical considerations in an operation of this type are many and play an important role. The weak areas soon present themselves as a matter of course during operations. There are some areas in which preventive maintenance can save time and enhance the operation in general. The weakest part of the installation is the pintles to which the chain is attached. It is found that the constant strain against the pintles soon wears the threads on the four bolts which hold them in place. It is not uncommon for these bolts to fail. One solution to this problem is to carry extra bolts for quick repairs.

An even better solution is to reinforce them with 1" or 1-1/8" wire cable. The cable is threaded through the two hook brackets to form a complete loop through the third link from the end of the chain. This reinforcement takes a great deal of strain off the pintles and reduces pintle failure by about 90%.

(p44)

The transmission of the vehicles suffer since low-gear only must be used during the actual clearing. Sometimes it becomes necessary to stop for cooling off periods of 30 to 40 minutes. A loss of power is also a common phenomenon. This is attributed to the over-working of the transmission. It is necessary to check the oil frequently and to have an ample supply of oil on hand at all times. If there are any oil leaks in the vehicle, or if a leak develops, the vehicle should not be used for this operation until such time that the leak has been repaired completely. The nature of the strain is such that even a tiny oil leak will soon become a serious maintenance problem.

Another problem is the final drive of the vehicles. Pulling the chain causes considerable strain on this assembly. A vehicle with faulty final drive should not be used in this operation. Particular attention should be paid to the final drive during operations so that serious damage can be avoided. The probability of throwing a track on an operation of this type is much greater than other operations. The extra burden of pulling the chain makes even the slightest obstacle such as a log or small trench harbingers of nearly certain tack failure. Tight track and very selective driving are a necessity if the operation is to run unhampered. Clearly, maintenance considerations play an important role in this operation, as in more clearing operations.

A tactical consideration of the anchor chain clearing operation merit special attention. The types of security and employment thereof should be an integral part of the planning phase. The optimum security is a force of five personnel carriers, two preceding the chain pullers, two following, and one on the flank which is exposed to the uncut wood-line. This all around mobile security makes up for the inherently vulnerable cumbersome chain set-up. The security elements should be close enough to provide adequate support, yet for enough away to allow the cutting to run smoothly. Tanks also can be used to provide security for the operation. An added benefit of using tanks would be that they can pull the chain if something went wrong with one of the prime movers.

The most important tactical concept to keep in mind is alertness. The fact that the operation covers so much area places a tremendous responsibility on all concerned to be especially watchful. To effect unity of command, the control element must direct not only the clearing, but concurrently, the security.

A comparison of performance of three types of prime movers was made on two different days. On 10 July 1967, M48A3 tanks were compared to D-7 Dozers. On 14 July 1967, M-88 recovery vehicles were tested. All three types of vehicles were employed in the same manner: clearing two rows of trees in the Filhol Plantation. The dozers had the slowest clearing rate of 5.28 acres / hour. The M-88s were most effective, with 28.9 acres / hour. The tanks had the second fastest rate of 15.1 acres/hour. Thus, with an effectiveness of 1 for dozers, the tanks would be rated at 15.1 /5.28-2.86, and the M-88s would be rated at 28.9/5.28-5.49 (p45)

The greatest difference in performance, other than in clearing rates, was the amount of time the vehicles were down for repairs. The dozers, even though they worked slower, did not have to make even one stop for maintenance. The tanks and M-88s however, were frequently stopping to repair pintles, check the oil, cool off the transmission, or replace tracks. The greatest single stopping factor was pintle failure. As mentioned above, this problem has been solved by using a reinforcing cable. The other maintenance drawbacks of M-88s and M-40s, although numerous, are not sufficient to warrant choice of D-7s for pulling the chain in lieu of M88s or M48A3s.

If the choice is between M-88s and M48A3s, the greater horsepower and weight, and hence momentum of the M-88s make them the logical selection. When properly employed and maintained, the M-88 can clear nearly twice as effectively as M48A3. The extra power makes them more maneuverable than the tanks. Also, the M-88 transmission is designed to pull heavier loads, and there is less tendency to run the M-88 to stall out when the chain comes in contact with unusually large trees. In areas of smaller trees, it is possible to run the M-88 in second gear, speeding up the operation, and reducing transmission strain.

If necessary, a tank and an M-88 may be employed in the same operation. The rate of clearing however, would be governed by the tank since it would be the weaker of the two.

During the 15 days of operations with the chain, C Company was able to clear approximately 1500 acres of the Filhol Plantation. The Operation now raised from guess work to a science, has been placed in the hands of a sister company to the 65th Engr. Bn. A second, somewhat smaller chain has been acquired, and the operations are continuing with M-88s as prime movers. The smaller chain links are 5” wide and 9” long. They weight approximately 60% as much as the larger links. This chain was doubled and attached to one section of the larger chain.

Before the original chain was acquired, a 1-1/8" cable, weighted by wrapped cable, was tested to determine effectiveness in clearing. The cable has a tendency to slip over small vegetation, and was relatively ineffective. If the cable was used to clear large trees, the strain encountered would make it necessary to replace the cable often, making the operation logistically and economically unfeasible. The operation as considered unfruitful, and no data concerning effectiveness was collected or analyzed

On 10 July 1967, two D-7 Dozers were used to windrow the rubber trees which had been cleared y the anchor chain. It was found that the dozers averaged windrowing 1.1 acres/hour/dozer. At this rate, it would take 23.9/1.1 or at least 26, D-7 Dozers windrowing in support of two M-88s clearing rubber trees. This is clearly not feasible, obviously the gains of windrowing are not equivalent to the required equipment density.

(p46)

On 10 July 1967, napalm disbursed from flame tracks was used in an attempt to burn rubber trees which had been cut down for a period of six months. Briefly, the timber would not ignite. The fallen timber in the rubber plantation is spread out so that the spaces between rows form natural fire barriers. As mentioned above, windrowing is not feasible. The conclusion is, that it is not feasible to dispose of the fallen timber by fire.

OBSERVATIONS:

1. The following are observations and recommendations on anchor chain clearing operations. Some are taken from the preceding text, and serve as a summary thereof. Others are merely hints emanating from observation.

a. That M-88s be used in lieu of M48A3s for this operation.

b. That the pintles on the M-99 be reinforced with wire cable prior to each day's operation.

c. That two 30 minute maintenance stops be made each normal working day.

d. That clevis, pintles, and reinforcing cables be checked often for wear and tear.

e. That the day's clearing be carefully pre-planned, and that track commandeers and drivers be thoroughly briefed prior to starting the operation. This should include a fly over when possible.

f. That extra lengths of reinforcement cable be taken each day to replace any that may wear out.

g. That a "quick-release" device for the reinforcing cable be employed. This consists of two clevis attached through the tow-hook brackets.

h. That the clearing be done between two unobstructed areas whenever possible.

2. In conclusion: The anchor chain, when properly employed, is highly effective in clearing rubber plantations. As any other type of clearing operation, this one denies concealment and cover to the enemy. The large scale nature of the operation suggests that it merits special attention, and that it should be given careful consideration.

(p47)

ITEM: Rafting Operations:

DISCUSSION: On 10 June 1967, Co E, 65th Engr Bn, was tasked to provide bridging in support of Operation BARKING SANDS, in the vicinity of XT564325. The mission called for the use of the 15man assault boats, an aluminum foot bridge, LTTR, and a Class 60, M4T6 raft. The crossing site was relatively inaccessible to wheeled vehicles and engineer equipment other than dozers, due to the absence of roads and steep bank approaches. It was decided therefore, that all bridging equipment be air-transported to the crossing site with the exception of the assault boats and foot bridge. They were transported by vehicles as close to the site as possible, then hand-carried the rest of the way. This done in order to achieve the element of surprise and secure a crossing site. Air-transporting (by CH-47) the LTR, the 27' bridge erection boats, and pre-assembled M4T6 floats was a novel method of transporting this equipment for the 65th Engr Bn within the 25th Inf Div Operational area. The equipment was a great success with minimum of time and without any difficulties. The operation was a great success and it provided valuable information and experience for similar future operations.

OBSERVATION: As a result of this operation the following techniques were adopted:

a. Bridging and rafting support can be provided by any crossing site required by tactical units by transporting equipment with CH-47s. Rafting support can be provided and extracted with a matter of a few hours. This is highly important where the tactical situation calls for a quick crossing or emergency extraction.

b. The M4T6 Float Bridge can be air-transported in pre-assembled packages. This is particularly important since it eliminates the need for bridge trucks and cranes at the crossing site. It releases this equipment for other missions.

c. The aluminum corduroy tread-way was utilized for the first time and it proved to be a very valuable piece of equipment. It was used on the far shore approach which was marshy and muddy. This tread-way provided enough stability to cross tanks and even an AVLB. Without it, extensive fill and equipment work would have been required.

d. Due to the tremendous rotor down-wash created by the CH-47, it was found necessary to secure all pontoons and floats in order to prevent capsizing or drifting of this equipment. On LTR half pontoon was capsized and sunk as a result of rotor wash.

e. This operation also pointed out the importance of prearranging and briefing of personnel emplacing the equipment and the pilots transporting it. It is recommended that in future operations, liaison visits be made by engineer units and aviation personnel to make sure that the best procedures are used and any problem areas straightened out prior to the operation.

ITEM: Phu Cuong River Crossing: (p48)

DISCUSSION: The mission at the Phu Cuong River Crossing called for two each, five float reinforced rafts, two each LTRs, seven 27' bridge erection boats, and a complete 38' dry span. All the equipment and personnel required to accomplish the mission were air-transported in forty three CH-47 (Chinook) sorties. The whole operation was completed within eight hours, and the construction of the rafts completed within the same day.

OBSERVATIONS: The following are some of the problem areas and lessons learned during the operation:

a. One of the M4T6 floats was capsized as it was set down by the Chinook. Several bridge components were lost as a result. This can be avoided in future operations by instructing the pilots to hover over the landing zone for a short period of time in order to decrease the oscillation of the float and then gently place it in the water. Also, all component parts placed in the float should be adequately secured to the float during transportation.

b. The far shore pier was not adequate nor sufficiently strong to accommodate high class vehicles or wide loads. To overcome this problem, a 38'4” dry span was constructed on top of the existing, and all

efforts were made to locate the load bearing stiffeners over the structurely sound piles. A tapered balk ramp was also used to connect that pier to the shore. This arrangement proved very satisfactory and all vehicles were crossed without any difficulty.

c. Another problem area noted during the operation was that the pontoons had a tendency to shift off center from the saddle panels. After a closer inspection and observation, it was determined that this was caused during air-lifting. This problem was solved by tightening the straps from the pontoons to the center beams as tight as possible before airlifting. Also, retainer lugs to the saddle adapters should be checked to male sure that they are secured in place and safety pinned.

d. One of the major problems during the operation occurred when an M4T6 float was dropped during airlift back to CU CHI. Upon recovery, the float was found to be beyond repair. During investigation, it was found that the retainer lugs had failed in bending, thus causing the float to drop. This can be attributed to the fact that the total load of the float and the rotor down-wash of the aircraft were supported by the retainer lugs. This problem has been eliminated by slinging the floats differently. The slings will be placed on the notched portion of the center beam where it connects with the beam extension. This will eliminate the stress concentration on the retainer lugs.

e. It has been proven by this operation that small river crossing operations can be totally supported by “E” Company, thus releasing line companies to perform other missions.

(p49)

f. This type of an operation increases the capability of the bridge company and adds to the support of the Division. It can be used in relatively inaccessible areas and it eliminates the need for engineer equipment to emplace the rafts.

ITEM: Two Fixed Spans (38'4”) Supported by a Trestle at Midspan.

DISCUSSION: The mission called for two complete 38'4! Dry spans and a 50 ton trestle for midspan support. This was an emergency mission and had to be completed within the shortest period in order to open the MSR to SOUI DA. All required personnel and equipment were air-lifted to the site. Dry spans and trestle were emplaced by Chinook with very few problems.

OBSERVATION: When the bridge was assembled it was possible to span a larger span than is possible with standard spans. The classification of the bridge, however, was reduced to Class 30. Classification can be increased by providing additional trestles and diagonal cross bracing. This technique provides emergency support for MSR repairs and can be accomplished within a short period of time.

ITEM: Employment of ¼ Ton Truck-Mounted Searchlights.

DISCUSSION: The employment of searchlights in support of perimeter defense is new to many artillery units.

OBSERVATION: Searchlights should be accurately located and laid for direction. To illuminate a given area, an azimuth should be given to the searchlight. When the searchlight detects a target, the azimuth and estimated range can be reported. Searchlights should be collocated or have direct communications with the automatic weapons on the perimeter so that rapid fire can be brought to bear on the target. Lights should have alternate position and be repositioned nightly.

(3) Training and Organization.

ITEM: Search Techniques: There is a definite lack of knowledge in conducting a search of villages.

OBSERVATION: Each infantry squad should be organized so that each member has a particular job to perform when searching a house.

DISCUSSION: Instruction is required to point out possible and likely hiding places when conducting searches. Use of an VN RF/PF instructor would be ideal because of their first hand knowledge of Vietnamese village life. The ideal training area would be a vacated house in a pacified or secured area.

ITEM: Weapons Familiarization.

DISCUSSION: It was found that newly arriving personnel were in most cases unfamiliar with the various weapons organic to an Armored Cavalry Troop, especially the M16 rifle and the crew served weapons. This resulted in unnecessary malfunctions of weapons because of inadequate maintenance. There also were instances of personnel being injured by Cal. 50 MGs due to the fact that personnel were inadequately trained in care and cleaning, and assembly and disassembly of crew served weapons.

OBSERVATION: Institution of a training program at platoon level in which all personnel were given instructions on all weapons organic to the platoon resulted in a substantial decrease in malfunctioning of weapons. Injuries due to improper assembly of, or inadequate maintenance of weapons have also ceased.

ITEM: Reorganization of Aero-Rifles and LRRP.

DISCUSSSION: Due to the deactivation of the Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol (LRRP) as a separate unit of the Division Cavalry Squadron, there is a need for personnel trained for the type missions previously performed by the LRRP.

OBSERVATION: Personnel assigned to the Aero-Rifle Platoon of D Troop, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry will receive training to enable them to perform LRRP missions.

ITEM: Training and use of Light Scout Aircraft.

DISCUSSION: The Division Cavalry Squadron has been successful in employment of OH-23 armed with the M-2 Gun Kit when used in conjunction with ground operations and give the ground commander valuable means of collecting intelligence on his area of operations. The Light Scout aircraft also provides the commander a means to assist him in controlling movement of his ground forces.

OBSERVATION: Aviators from D Troop, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry were sent to the 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry to observe employment techniques of the Light Scout Helicopter and obtain knowledge on training requirements for use of the OH-23 in a light scout role. The OH-23 Helicopters of D Troop have been armed with the MG Gun Kit, and are presently being employed in a light scout role. The only problem encountered thus far is a lack of TOE aerial observers and a lack of aviators trained in the techniques of employment of light aircraft.

ITEM: Training Radar Operators.

DISCUSSION: The Cavalry Squadron has been hindered in employment of its organic radar equipment because of a lack of qualified personnel.

OBSERVATION: In order to overcome this problem, personnel from HQ, A&B Troops as presently undergoing training at TRA CU Special Forces Camp. Under this program the personnel are getting practical training in the employment of the AN/TPS 33H and AN/PPS-4 Radar Sets.

ITEM: Control of Fires During Contact.

DISCUSSION: VC initiated incidents in heavily wooded areas are generally at close range and from spider holes or trench lines. In such incidents fire must be returned but it must be controlled and be directed at the enemy. Indiscriminate firing hinders the situation because if makes it more difficult to determine where the enemy is located. Suppressive fire, when employed, must be placed on the ground and must be walked into the enemy position.

OBSERVATION: Squad leaders must train their personnel in reaction to close contact situations. Personnel must be designated to observe for the enemy positions and employ aimed fire at identified or suspected positions.

ITEM: Supervision and control of personnel.

DISCUSSION: Supervision and control of personnel is difficult because of the nature of operations over wide areas or in areas of thick vegetation. The problem is also increased by the fact that a large number of operations require use of small units i.e., platoon or squad. Therefore the mater of control and supervision must be designated to the lowest practical level..

OBSERVATION: Small unit leaders must continually be reminded of the importance of their duties,. Commanders must train these leaders to a point of proficiency that will permit mission accomplishment with minimum supervision.

(4) Intelligence.

ITEM: Use of Polaroid Camera for Aerial Photographs..

DISCUSSION: Because of the usefulness of aerial photos and the need for them on short notice, use of the polaroid camera is ideal. Those photos can greatly aid unit and patrol leaders in accomplishing the mission by providing up-to-the-minute coverage. The user can choose the specific area of desired coverage and can obtain any number of photos desired.

OBSERVATION: Companies/Sections should request coverage telephonically from the Battalion S2. When the photos are no longer required by the unit, they should be returned to the S2 for filing for possible future requirements.

ITEM: MEDCAP Used to Obtain Information.

DISCUSSION: The use of Medical Civic Action Programs (MEDCAP) is good means of making contact and provides an excellent means of obtaining enemy information. A unit recently exploited this in the following manner: A VN individual appeared at a Bn perimeter seeking medical attention for an alleged injury. He actually had information concerning AT mine locations. The unit was able to dress him in fatigues and fly him over the area where he successfully located the mines by dropping flour sacks near them. Then they returned him to the base camp and bandaged his fake leg injury prior to releasing him 20 minutes from the time he arrive. His identity was safe guarded and the mines located.

OBSERVATION: Be aware of all benefits available to a unit through the use of MEDCAPS and exploit completely through hand dissemination of weapon reward leaflets and national safe conduct passes.

ITEM: Necessity to furnish Hoi Chanhs with a Certificate for weapons turned in at time of rallying.

DISCUSSION: ARVN authorities have requested the assistance of US units in assuring that Hoi Chanhs are given credit for weapons turned in at the time of rallying. Rewards are paid by local Chiou Hoi Cadre for weapons turned in, but the absence of a certificate by the unit to which the individual rallied makes payment impossible.

OBSERVATION: Units receiving ralliers with weapons should furnish a certificate with the rallier when he is brought to Division. Units should not pay a Hoi Chanh in the field for his weapon turned in at time of rallying. This does not preclude payment to the Hoi Chanh for information leading to location of arms and material caches.

ITEM: Use of the same interrogator while exploiting a source builds confidence of Source for the interrogator.

ITEM: Interrogation of Returnees.

DISCUSSSION: Interrogation of Returnees reveals that their willingness to cooperate with intelligence personnel and lead US Forces to the Viet Cong Troop locations and caches, decreases as he is exposed to the reeducation techniques and the security of a GVN "Chieu Hoi" Center. As he feels more secure, the Returnee is less willing to take the risks involved in leading US Forces to the Viet Cong locations and caches.

OBSERVATION: Exploit intelligence gained from the interrogation of a returnee as soon as possible.

ITEM; Analysis of Charts and Maps. (p53)

DISCUSSION: Past experience has shown that a detailed analysis of captured charts and maps reveals much information of intelligence value. All too often a rapid scanning of a document fails to disclose any data of significance. In order to fully exploit captured charts or maps, every portion of the map must be studied and analyzed with great care. Partially erased lines, rotations and trail traces may not be detected at first glance. Indentations in the paper or acetate, which have been caused by the pressure of a pen or pencil, are difficult to detect. A method found to be useful in detecting these indentations is

the slant light technique. In this technique, the person examining the map holds a flashlight or some other light source at an angle of approximately 15 degrees to the surface of the map or acetate covering. The light strikes the surface of the map in such a manner as to cause a shadow to be formed in the slight indentation. A grease pencil is then used to highlight the shadow area. Charts and maps captured in recent months confirm that VC cadre are often careless in their map security. Every effort should be made to capitalize on this VC weakness.

OBSERVATION: (1) All captured maps and charts should be carefully screened and analyzed to insure that this source of intelligence information does not go unexploited.

(2) The slant light technique can be a valuable tool in discovering information that would otherwise go undetected.

ITEM: Perishability of Intelligence.

DISCUSSION; The platoon leader of the Security Platoon of a Viet Cong Military Region headquarters rallied to a district office of the government of Viet Nam one morning at approximately 0700 hours. He was interviewed at that location all that day. The next day Military Intelligence personnel of the 25th Infantry Division were notified that he had rallied and arrangements were made to have him brought to the Base Camp Friendship House at that time. During his interview at the base camp, it was determined that he was willing to lead US troops to the headquarters which he had been guarding A plan was drawn and the next morning, the Hoi Chanh led the troops to the headquarters. However, the only things remaining were the building of the headquarters which were destroyed.

OBSERVATION; If even as little as forty-eight hours elapse after the Viet Cong have reason to believe that an important cadre has rallied to the government, they have time to minimize the value of any information he may furnish.

(5) Logistics:

ITEM: Class V Stockage Levels at TAY NINH.

DISCUSSION: The division's position has been that Class V stockage levels at the 1st Log Comd Class V ASP at TAY NINH have been excessive for several months. Stockage objectives exceeded any realistic anticipated usage factors. The large amounts of Class V unnecessarily produced a significant target.

OBSERVATION: The division position was stated during briefings to CG IIFFORCEV and Deputy CG, USARV. Result was the reduction of stockage objectives by approximately 40%.

ITEM: Resupply of Forward Units.

OBSERVATION: Resupply by CH-47 continues to be the most profitable means of resupply. This is particularly true with perishable food items required for immediate consumption. Ice is transported externally and easily delivered to individual company locations. Other items can then be carried internally without the possibility of spoilage by the melting of ice.

ITEM: Aircraft Refueling Point.

OBSERVATION: The capability for refueling would be highly advantageous at semi-permanent Fire Support and Patrol Bases. This would be used primarily for C&C aircraft during combat operations to cut down on turn-around time to distant refueling points (i.e., CU CHI, DAU TIENG).

ITEM: Brake Lining and Components.

DISCUSSION; Brakes are being worn at a high rate. This is basically due to the extreme mud conditions and the high abrasive action of sand and laterite Brake drums have also been reported packed with dirt which makes mechanism impossible to operate.

OBSERVATION: Brake linings and components are seasonal items in RVN and the stockage objectives should be programmed before the rainy season. Organizations who programmed to pull wheels and clear brake components experienced a much lower deadline rate than units who merely performed routine maintenance service.

ITEM: Time Change Components.

DISCUSSION: Some time change components are not on hand in supply channels and have to be requisitioned as an 02 priority to prevent excessive down time.

OBSERVATION: That organizations forecast these requirements at least 150 flying hours prior to expected component time change to insure that the components are available when needed.

ITEM: K16 Rifle.

DISCUSSION: The M16 Rifle has been the subject of concern by commanders of units equipped with this weapon. The problem stems from inadequate operator maintenance. Due to the construction of the weapon and its tolerances, a build up of carbon in the chamber plus wear on the extractor results in extraction difficulties. Dirty ammunition and chambers causes ruptured cartridges.

OBSERVATION: Emphasis has been placed on proper cleaning and lubrication procedures. Small arms specialists conducted training classes and presented proper operators maintenance techniques to organizational personnel. The receipt of additional bore and chamber brushes has helped to reduce the problem.

ITEM: 10KW Generator.

DISCUSSION: Considerable difficulty has been experienced due to premature engine failure on the 10KW generators, FSN 2805-872-5972. This engine operates at a high rate of speed and has a high oil consumption rate. If the oil level gets too low, the engine will either throw a rod or burn out a bearing.

OBSERVATION: Particular emphasis should be placed on changing of oil and filters to include adequate lubrication. Organizational maintenance personnel and operators must check oil level every four (4) hours of operation.

ITEM: Underwood Typewriters.

DISCUSSION: Underwood Typewriters, the standard model, are being turned in to field maintenance at an alarming rate. Basic reason for repair is due to slow reaction of the keys and numerous carriage problems. Inspection of those typewriters turned in, reveals that they are wet, dirty and rusty. Top covers are missing.

OBSERVATION: Emphasis has been placed on all using units on proper cleaning and lubricating procedures. In addition, all typewriters leaving the repair shop will have a decal fixed to the body at a noticeable location stating "Cover typewriter when not in use."

ITEM: Efficient Aerial Resupply.

DISCUSSION: During the past quarters the Division Cavalry Squadron has participated in several missions. One such mission resulted in an expedient means of resupply which previously was not employed. The A-22 cargo sling bags were incorporated and used to the best advantage. Result from using these containers were: Less man hours spent in preparation of resupply, less handling of resupply items, increased flights in a minimum amount of time, and less spoilage of food stuffs due to insulating capability of the cargo bag.

OBSERVATION: This method of resupply is far superior to methods previously used.

ITEM: Container for 105mm Beehive Ammunition.

(p56)

DISCUSSION; Beehive ammunition is normally kept on hand in firing positions for extended periods of time. Because it is packed in the conventional fiber and wooden box, prolonged exposure to the weather and frequent handling caused by battery moves often results in the fiber containers becoming unserviceable, providing no protection to the round. Fibers from other 105mm ammunition can not be used because of the greater length of the beehive round. To overcome this, a metal container has been constructed from two (2) 105mm jungle packs. The complete round and fiber are placed inside the container with the top portion of the fiber removed for easy access to the projectile. If the beehive fiber is unserviceable, a regular HE fiber can be used. The metal ring nut on the metal container cap must be oiled frequently to prevent rusting.

OBSERVATION: The container has proven to be satisfactory. It provides an air tight, sturdy container in which the round can be maintained for an indefinite period of time without being damaged.

ITEM: Necessity for skilled carpenters for construction of bunkers and modern buildings.

DISCUSSION: The need for an enormous amount of bunker construction for artillery units and the need to build mess halls and living quarters in base camp positions, require that the unit must have skilled carpenters.

OBSERVATION: It is imperative that all units deploying to Vietnam screen personnel to determine those with specific skills and also to place increased emphasis on field fortification when outlining training programs. Classes on field fortifications should have a maximum amount of practical application.

ITEM: Scarcity of RC-292 Antennas.

DISCUSSION; The antenna RC-292 is used extensively in the theater with the AN/VRC-12 series of FM radio to increase the relatively decreased transmission range caused by atmospheric conditions. Most units are not authorized a sufficient amount of these antennas to operate simultaneously in field and fixed locations as is required in RVN.

OBSERVATION: Unit should insure that authorizations are increased by use of MTOE prior to deployment.

ITEM: Medication Deterioration.

DISCUSSION; Coated and uncoated tablets deteriorate rapidly in humid tropical climate unless they are stored in air tight containers.

OBSERVATION: Medications should be stored and dispensed in glass or plastic containers.

ITEM: Storage of military and personnel clothing and equipment on displacement from base camp

(p57)

DISCUSSION: Movement orders are often given on short notice and weight limitations are necessary in order to pack all the required combat equipment in accordance with the available transportation. As a result, many items of both military and personal equipment are left in base camp. This becomes a problem if the equipment is not properly secured, as other units often occupy temporarily vacated base camp positions.

OBSERVATION: Handy foot lockers can be constructed from the 105mm ammunition boxes by removing the top from one box and the bottom from another, and then nailing the boxes together. The boxes can then be locked with inexpensive locks purchased from the PX and stored in CONEX containers by section.

ITEM: Ear Infections.

DISCUSSION: A prominent problem among personnel in RVN, especially aviators, is infection in the ear canal. This is attributable to allowing non-potable shower water to get into the ears. Also, perspiration may accumulate inside the earphones of the flight helmet and drain into the ear.

OBSERVATION: Make a conscious effort to keep non-potable water out of ears. Clean ears often with Q-tips and alcohol. Use nylon net covers over the earphones in the flight helmet and clean these regularly. Report to a medical facility at first signs of pain, itching or discharge from ears.

ITEM: Rashes on Body.

DISCUSSION: Many people ignore rashes on various areas of the body and consider them insignificant. In the humid climate of Vietnam, there is a likelihood of developing fungal rashes, which can be complicated if not treated early.

OBSERVATION: When any rash appears on your body, go to a medical facility at once. The use of powder in underwear and socks helps to control rashes. Rashes will not usually disappear without treatment.

ITEM: Tail Boom Attaching Point (Helicopter UH1C and D).

DISCUSSION AND OBSERVATION: During this quarter over fifty percent of our aircraft have been found to have loose high shear rivets in the tail boom attaching point. For easier inspection by the pilots and crew, the above mentioned area has been cleaned and painted white. Much emphasis has been placed on this area in the daily and flight readiness inspection.

ITEM: 90 degree Gear Box Attaching Point.

DISCUSSION AND OBSERVATION: During this quarter over fifty percent of our aircraft have been found to have loose rivets and skin cracks at and around the 909 degree gear box attaching point. The above mentioned area has also been cleaned and painted white for easier inspection by the pilot and crew.

ITEM: Pulling of Rivets on the Vertical Fin.

DISCUSSION: During normal operations, rivets at the trailing edge of the vertical fin have been found to be loose , and in some cases, missing.

OBSERVATION: The rivets at the trailing edge of the vertical fin should be closely checked during daily inspections, and each rivet should be checked individually.

ITEM; Premature 540 Bearing Failures.

DISCUSSION; During the preceding quarter it was found that numerous bearings throughout the 540 Rotor System were failing prematurely because of insufficient lubrication.

OBSERVATION: The bearings of the 540 Rotor System should be lubricated at least every five flying hours or whenever the helicopters have been operating in extremely dusty conditions.

ITEM: Lubrication of Vehicles.

DISCUSSION; The rainy season has proven again that mud and sand can destroy bearings, both roller and needle. It will enter the bearings in one or two days, either around the seals, or forced thru the fitting when it is not cleaned prior to being lubricated.

OBSERVATION: When adverse conditions exist, vehicles should be lubricated more often, fittings should be cleaned prior to lubing, and all of the old grease should be forced out to rid the bearing of dirt.

ITEM: Main Rotor Damper Push-Pull Tubes.

DISCUSSION AND OBSERVATION: Lubrication requirements for main rotor damper push-pull tubes in TM 55-1520-210-20 call for lubricating every twenty-five hours. Because of existing conditions, these tubes must be lubricated daily to insure a minimum wear and a life of one hundred hours or more. Due to the rapid wear of the damper tubes, they have fallen into the category of "Hard to get Items."

ITEM: Starter - Generator Cooling Fan.

DISCUSSION AND OBSERVATION: This unit has had three starter-generator cooling fans fail during this quarter. Due to metal from worn bearings contaminating engine oil system, all three engines had to be replaced. It has become the policy of this command to remove the above mentioned item during periodic inspection for detailed inspection.

(6) Civic Action and PSYOPS.

ITEM: News Media. (p59)

OBSERVATION: The establishment of a local newspaper in the hamlet of CAO PHU, KHIEM HANH District has been highly effective in disseminating news items, agricultural tips and GVN-US policy. This paper is written by the hamlet officials and published by US resources.

ITEM: Food and Wage Supplement.

OBSERVATION: An experiment is presently being conducted in the KHIEM HANH District to supplement the food and wages of the local civilian population. This is being accomplished by the establishment of a rabbit farm and fish hatchery. If these pilot tests succeed, other farms and hatcheries will be initiated.

ITEM: Civic Programs need a Secure area from which to Expand.

DISCUSSION: A consistency of effort with primary emphasis on hamlet security in early states on civic action is imperative.

OBSERVATION: When security requirements have been met, further more sophisticated projects can be conducted with maximum success.

ITEM: Civic Action in New Area.

DISCUSSION: To be successful in an area that has not had civic action projects, advance coordination with appropriate GVN officials is a must. Advance planning is required to overcome the support and logistical problems resulting from increased distances and communications difficulties.

OBSERVATION: There is no substitute for extensive prior planning and maximum coordination with local GVN officials to insure their cooperation.

ITEM: Areas where MEDCAPS are held on an irregular, infrequent basis.

DISCUSSION; Poor or partial success has been shown to MEDCAPS where they are only able to be held on an infrequent basis. Advance advertisement is necessary to support of MEDCAP activities.

OBSERVATION: The use of VIS to advertise benefits has increased the participation and a more active response of the people has resulted.

ITEM: Use of VC Wives for Civic Action Projects.

DISCUSSION: VN military wives can, if properly encouraged and guided, be interested and useful in helping others thus bringing prestige to their husband's units. A few material resources provided by a US element and enthusiasm on the part of US can get a program off to a good start. The VN women obviously get a great deal of satisfaction out of being a part of an organized service project.

OBSERVATION: Don't overlook the resources available in the wives and dependents of local VN military units. The needed rapport with the people is readily available thru this channel.

ITEM: Self Help Program.

DISCUSSION: In many cases, VN people show little interest or desire to better themselves, and perform physical labor only when they receive supplies, material and equipment from US Forces. Some have the attitude that the US Forces should not only supply them, but also do the physical labor to complete the project.

OBSERVATION: Use of US personnel to do physical labor must be kept to a minimum. GVN officials and energetic S-5's are the key to developing and maintaining the people's support.

ITEM: PSYOP loudspeaker usage more effective against VC and NVA units.

DISCUSSION: Many Hoi Chanh have indicated that they were made aware of the Chieu Hoi program by loudspeaker broadcasts even though the area had been subjected to numerous leaflet drops. It is further indicated in the VC main forces, the NVA cadre and leaders took great precautions to police up leaflets and destroy them, and issued instructions to the soldiers to not read the leaflets.

OBSERVATION: Use of loudspeaker appeals is most effective against known hard core VC or NVA units and should be used extensively when intelligence indicates presence of this type unit.

ITEM: Frequent personal contact should be maintained between unit CA personnel and local GVN authorities in the unit's area of CA responsibility.

DISCUSSION: Due to distances between base camps and outlying hamlets, the degree of road "insecurity" and lack of land line communications, direct liaison with Vietnamese officials at district and lower levels is often difficult to accomplish with the frequency desired. A major determent is the requirement for security in areas lacking 100% GVN control. The security requirement also deters, to a certain degree, from the unit's current tactical mission strength.

OBSERVATION: Maintenance of frequent personal contact is best accomplished by recognizing the necessity of it, and by allowing S-5 personnel greater freedom of movement than would normally be permitted.

ITEM: Local PF units should be employed for control purposes to the maximum extent consistent with the security considerations during the conduct of MEDCAPs.

DISCUSSION: During conduct of MEDCAPs, a recurring problem is control of civilians, particularly children whose enthusiasm and numbers often hamper effectiveness of the surgeon and medic team. US personnel are often limited in number, and do not speak Vietnamese. If local PF are available, their use for control purpose leaves US Personnel free to conduct the MEDCAP, and give the PF an active role in the operation, thus enhancing their image in the eyes of the people. The principle of mutual support is strengthened by US Forces and PF working together. It should be noted, however, that outpost security is not to be compromised in favor of control requirements,.

OBSERVATION: Use of local PF for MEDCAP control purposes, aside from the obvious benefits, produces secondary benefits consistent with GVN-US policy and procedure.

ITEM: Main Supply Route (MSR) Security mission and convoy escort involve a civilian traffic control problem. PSYOPS can be easily and effectively integrated into the measures taken to reduce this particular problem.

DISCUSSION: In addition to distribution of check-point leaflets and civilian traffic control regulations, a "letter" type leaflet which expresses decreased accident rate and concern for the safety of children serves the dual purpose of regulatory device and a PSYOP vehicle. The "letter" emphasizes the personal concern a unit has for civilians affected by heavy military traffic, and solicits cooperation that is accepted more readily than regulatory posters or leaflets. Unit identification in the letter adds to the credibility of personal concern.

OBSERVATION: Units using this "letter" form of leaflet, are actively conducting PSYOPS in the accomplishment of a primary civilian traffic control problem.

ITEM: Evacuation of Civilian Remains.

DISCUSSION: A continual problem area during this reporting period was the evacuation of civilian remains. Civilians within the tactical area of interest, are often brought to US Medical facilities within base camps for medical care if the seriousness of the case so warrants. If the individual expires while in a US base camp hospital, the requirement exists to evacuate the remains. Destinations vary in each case. Security requirements vary with the destination the route to the destination and the time of day, (movement is naturally restricted at night). Doctrinally, responsibilities for evacuation of civilian remains are vague.

OBSERVATION: A procedure has been implemented by which civilian remains are evacuated by the division's organic medical battalion using the most expeditious and appropriate means of transportation possible, based on the destination of the remains.

B. Recommendations. (p62)

(1) Command emphasis at all levels must be given to regular vehicular maintenance. This also applies to proper maintenance and accountability of organic weapons, tools, and equipment. Squad leaders must insure that each day in the field, the drivers perform proper before and after operation checks, and correct or report all deficiencies. Companies must also be periodically rotated to base camp for a thorough battalion level Technical Inspection, Inventory, Maintenance and Training Program.

(2) The VC have developed a very effective method of attacking mechanized units in a hasty perimeter at night. The close-in firing of RPCs under the cover of automatic weapons, and mortars can cause considerable casualties among both personnel and vehicles. Proper positioning and camouflage of tracks and ground mounted weapons, when coupled with good fighting and sleeping holes, plus employment of other basic defensive measures (trip flares, concertina wire, claymores, LPs/OPs, etc.) will significantly reduce our casualties and increase the price the enemy must pay. Frequent change of positions and patterns of establishing defensive perimeters are also effective counters. Tactics must be developed for establishing defensible positions in the windrows of trees knocked down by Rome Plows, and in the less dense rubber or wooded areas. Common sense, imagination, employment of all available resources, hard work, and continuous command supervision will defeat this current VC tactic.

(3) On the other hand, it is possible for units to become too defensive minded. To properly dig in and fortify a position that will be employed only one or two nights takes an inordinate amount of time and effort that might better be used for offensive operations. This handicap can be overcome or mitigated in several ways.

a. Establishment, over a period of time, of a number of temporary base areas in a given AO. These can then be reoccupied, on a random basis, with a minimum amount of time required to check for mines, booby traps, VC aiming stakes, etc. Each time such a position was used, the fighting/sleeping holes would be improved and alternate positions prepared.

b. Preparation of a strong position and “invite” the VC to attack. This concept is

based on the fact that it is easier for the VC to find us than vice versa. Such a position should have at least a triple concertina wire around the perimeter, and if at all possible, the APCs should be dug in to gun defilade level by bulldozers. Effective warning system, fire plans, and counter attack plans by properly located reaction forces are essential ingredients of this tactic.

c. Movement of the entire unit after dusk for several hundred or more meters. Although the VC will hear tracks moving, it is difficult to pinpoint the exact range and azimuth of movement. This tactic will hinder the VC's penchant for thorough reconnaissance and minute planning. The new position may be secured beforehand by a stay behind patrol. Proper security must be taken during the displacement to preclude an ambush. A hasty defense should be set up in new positions to include a single strand of concertina, trip flares, claymores, and a combination fighting/sleeping prone shelters dug; some of them may be provided overhead cover by the APC itself. No more than one man should be in a APC at any one time.

(p63)

(4) All fruits and vegetables must be inspected by Class I Supply personnel and the assigned Veterinarian.

(5) The ice cream issues from SAIGON should continue so that issues to units can be made in accordance with the “A” ration cyclic menu. There was a higher bacteria count in the “Formost” Ice Cream, however, some improvement has been made during the quarter.

(6) Continued close monitoring of the unit's periodic logistics report together with liaison in SAIGON is essential in limiting critical shortages.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

4 Appendices Incld:

1. Task Organization JASPER J. WILSON
2. ORLL, 125th Sig Bn Colonel, GS
3. COAAR AKUMU Chief of Staff
4. Pictures

Combat Operations, After Action Reports (COAAR) of the operations completed during the reporting period have already been forwarded under separate cover.

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AVFBC - H (19 Aug 67) 1st Ind

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 25th Infantry Division,

31 July 1967 (RCS CSFOR -65) (U)

DA, L HQ II FFORCEV, APO San Francisco 96266 26 Aug 1967

THRU: Commanding General, USARV, ATTN: AVHGC - DH, APO 96375

Commander in Chief, US Army Pacific, ATTN: GPOP - MH, APO 96558

TO: Assistant Chief of Staff for Force Development, Dept of the Army,

Washington, D>C> 20310

1. Subject report is forwarded.

2. This headquarters concurs with the comments and recommendations in the report.

No action is required by this headquarters.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

R.E. WAMBSCANSS

CPT. ACG

Asst AG (p65)