

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS
3RD SQUADRON 5TH CAVALRY
APO US FORCES 96370

UNCLASSIFIED

AVDE-CT

18 July 1967

SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report (MACV/RCS/3/32)

THRU: Command Channels

TO: Commander
U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam
ATTN: J343
APO US FORCES 96243

1. (U) NAME OF OPERATION: PADDINGTON (1st Brigade, 9th Infantry Division)
2. (C) DATES OF OPERATION: 08 July 67 - 16 July 67
3. (C) LOCATION: Central Phuoc Tuy Province, RVN
4. (C) COMMAND HEADQUARTERS: 3rd Squadron, 5th Cavalry
5. (C) REPORTING OFFICER: LTC Sidney S. Haszard
6. (C) TASK ORGANIZATION:
TRP A: CPT Moore
TRP B: 1/LT O'Brien
TRP C: CPT Britton
Support CON: HHT (-)
3/4/15 Base (Det)
3 Dzer Tanks
2 AVLB's
2 LOH's
1 Arty Ltr Tro, 1-84 Arty
7. (C) SUPPORTING FORCES:
3rd How, 11th ACR
B Btry, 2/35 Arty, 54th Arty Gp
1/11 Arty, 9th Inf Div
7th USAF

One air strike was called during the operation, placed as a preplanned request through the 9th Inf Div Air Request Net. An Enemy base camp was attacked with partial destruction.

8. (C) INTELLIGENCE:

With the initiation of Operation PADDINGTON, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cavalry expected to engage elements of the 5th VC Division operating in the area encompassed by Operation PADDINGTON. VC units threatening friendly elements were the 274th NT Regt and the 1st Bn of the 275th Regt.

During the operation, numerous mine, sniper and ambush incidents occurred which had been conducted by units of the 5th VC Division. 3-5 Jav at one time received 35 rounds of mortar at FSB Mike.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
UNCLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED AT 3 YR INTERVALS
UNCLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YRS
EOD DIR 5200.10

1 NOL 1

~~TOP SECRET~~

During the period, the regimental base camp of 274th MF Regt was discovered. In it were found 400 bunkers (est), 50 huts, 3 tons of rice, 1 sewing machine, 1 portable typewriter, documents, SA, AW, and RR ammunition and many other items. The camp was secured by caretakers probably of the 3d Bn 274th Regt. As a result of contact with the enemy caretakers, B-3/5 Cav claimed 4 VC KIA (BC) - 6 VC KIA (POSS).

UNCLASSIFIED

Terrain and weather did not halt 3-5 Cav operations during the period; however the combination of almost continual rainfall and dense jungle growth seriously hampered foot and vehicular movement.

During Operation PADDINGTON, friendly forces denied the enemy access to his base camp areas and supply caches in the area. However, the VC succeeded breaking encirclement by withdrawal to the northwest.

9. (C) MISSION:

- a. Provide route and escort security.
- b. Secure LZ's and fire support bases.
- c. Establish blocking positions.
- d. Conduct search and destroy operations.

10. (C) CONCEPT OF THE OPERATION:

- a. Escort supporting elements to forward area.
- b. Conduct combat reconnaissance in AO.

11. (C) EXECUTION:

- a. 08 Jul 67. Began road march to AO.

(1) 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry: Remained attached to 1st Bde as Operation PADDINGTON commenced. Moved from Blackhorse to vic YS459782 and established FSB at that location; Rt 2 was outposted in sector prior to move. B/2-35 Arty and elements of 15th Engrs were escorted to FSB as part of Sqdn march units. All elements prepared for continuation of current operation.

(2) HHT, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Sqdn TOC, medic and commo tracks, escorted by Birdogs, moved with Trp C from Long Giao to FSB vic YS459782, all other elements remaining at Blackhorse. Birdogs moved to Long Binh to escort 2 dozer tanks and bridging equipment to FSB - one tank broke down and was left at Blackhorse. The other vehicles were turned over to Trp A elements for escort to FSB, Birdogs returning to Blackhorse to escort remaining tank to 3/5 Cav location tomorrow. Sqdn Surgeon delivered a RVN baby girl at Binh Son, and, at 2015H at YS460777 ordered dustoff for RVN baby to Quan Loc because of pneumonia.

(3) Trp A, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Moved as 1st march unit at 1050H, outposting Rt 2 from YS439956 to 453857 by 1210H. This sector was further extended to the south when Trp B moved to est FSB vic 4577. Took charge of 15th Engr dozer tank and equipment at 2100H from Birdogs, escorted them to FSB. All elements closed FSB vic YS459782 by 2230H.

(4) Trp B, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Moved from Blackhorse as 2nd march unit at 1125H, initiated outposting of Rt 2 from YS453857 to YS461775. This was canceled when the trp was ordered to est FSB vic YS4577. At 1415H a dustoff was called for a man who had a nervous breakdown, spans, and was temporarily uncontrollable - dustoff completed at 1455H. Posed LP's at YS456771, YS458771, and YS460771. Prepared for further missions.

UNCLASSIFIED

(5) Trp C, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Moved as 3rd march unit at 1200H escorting Sqdn TOC and elements of B/3Arty, and elements of 15 Engrs at 1215H while still inside Blackhorse perimeter an ACAV caught fire from unknown cause, 1 man slightly injured. Moved on at 1245H closed FSB at 1440H. C 16 escorted Engr elements to Nui Dat, released them to 11th ACR. LP's posted at 458776, AP at 451778, prepared for further missions.

750-1115.90

b. 09 July 67. Completed road march to AO.

(1) 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry: Moved east on Hwy 327 to establish AVLB site at YS593768 and move into FSB John (YS596756) and FSB Mike (YS618821). Escorted engineer elements to Nui Dat and one howitzer of B/2-35 Arty from Blackhorse to link up with its battery at FSB John. Established and secured FSB John and Mike and prepared for further operations under OPCON of 1st Bde, 9th Inf Div. Conducted MEDCAP in Ngai Giao (YS4677). CP moved to YS618821.

(2) HHT, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Escorted B/2-35 Arty from YS459783 to YS596756. Provided one ACAV to Trp C to escort one howitzer from Blackhorse. Conducted MEDCAP's in Binh Son treating 47 Vietnamese and in Ngai Giao treating 64 Vietnamese. Moved Sqdn CP to FSB Mike (YS618821).

(3) Trp A, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Moved from YS458784 at 090815H and passed through Trp B at YS543774. Continued east on Hwy 327, escorting 3/A/15 Engrs and secured bridge site at YS593768 during insertion of AVLB. Secured resupply LZ at FSB John (YS596756) for aerial resupply of water, POL and ammo. Moved into, established and secured FSB John (YS596756).

(4) Trp B, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Moved east on Hwy 327 090600 from YS460779 and swept Hwy 327 from YS507774 to YS543774, where Trp B established a blocking position for the passage of the remainder of the squadron. Crossed AVLB at YS593768 and moved north on Hwy 328 to FSB Mike. Secured and set out LP's around western side of FSB Mike. One plt remained at AVLB site to secure it over night.

(5) Trp C, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: One plt remained under direct OPCON of 1st Bde for security of plantation and MEDCAP in Binh Son. Secured MEDCAP in Ngai Giao. Escorted wheeled vehicles of 15th Engrs from YS460782 to Nui Dat (YS4366) at 0800H. Provided one tank and one ACAV to escort downed ¼ ton trailer from YS460782 to Blackhorse and escort a 155 mm SP howitzer from Blackhorse to FSB John (YS596756). Trp (-) moved east on Hwy 327, escorting Sqdn CP and HHT (-) across AVLB at YS593768 and north on Hwy 328 to FSB Mike (YS618821). One C Trp tank hit a pressure detonated AT mine at YS612792 at 1815H, causing extensive damage to the tank, but injuring no one. Trp C secured and set out LP's along eastern side of FSB Mike.

(6) Trp D, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Provided 2 LOH's to Sqdn for C & C.

(7) B/2-35 Arty: Fired preparatory fires around AVLB site. Moved with HHT APC's to FSB John and fired DEFCON's for FSB Mike.

(8) 3/A/15 Engrs: Moved with Trp A and established AVLB site at YS593768 for the crossing of the squadron over Song Rai. AVLB's remained in place overnight and the remainder of the plt closed into FSB John with Trp A.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
c. 10 July 67. Secured fired support bases and LZ's, established blocking positions.

(1) 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry: Black Knights remained attached to 1st Bde as Operation PADDINGTON continued. Trp A moved from ford site at YS593769 and FSB John to FSB Mike and then into the jungle southeast to RON. Trp B moved from FSB Mike southeast into RON position. Trp C (-) continued to secure Sqdn CP at FSB Mike. MEDCAP conducted at Binh Son.

(2) HHT, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Sqdn CP remained located at FSB Mike, secured by Trp C (-). MEDCAP was conducted in Binh Son, 45 patients were treated.

(3) Trp A, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: 16 element swept Hwy 328 north from FSB John until it met Trp B's team sweeping south, remaining elements located at ford site at YS593769 and FSB John. 16 attached to Trp B for the afternoon. AVLB's were extracted from ford site by 1430H. 36 moved from FSB John to FSB Mike at 1515H, to rejoin 16, released from Trp B. 26 moved at 1655H to rejoin Trp A, all elements located at RON at YS635799 by 2240H. AP posted at YS633795.

(4) Trp B, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Sweep team moved at 0620H south on Hwy 328 until it met Trp A's team moving north at 0855H. At 1150H Trp B (-) moved from FSB Mike to the SE - At YS628819 4 bunkers were found and destroyed. Trp A's 16 element joined B Trp 16 and 26 by 1400H, released at 1630H. B 16 and 26 were in the RON position at YS654798 by 1900H, 36 remained at FSB Mike. AP posted at YS652798. LP's at YS656796, and YS654796.

(5) Trp C, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: C 16 and 36 remained at FSB Mike securing Sqdn CP. 26 remained at Binh Son, securing plantation area and MEDCAP team. AP's located at YS619807, YS619813, and YS611823.

(6) Trp D, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Provided two LOH's to sqdn for C & C.

(7) 3/A/15 Engrs: Moved with Trp A to FSB Mike; commenced construction of defensive positions for four artillery batteries.

d. 11 July 67. Secured fire support bases, conducted search and destroy operations.

(1) 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry: Black Knights remained attached to 1st Bde as Operation PADDINGTON continued. Trps A and B continued to move south - east toward Objs ALFA and BRAVO, center of mass located vic YS672765 and YS683783 respectively. Trp C swept Hwy 328 from FSB Mike to FSB John, escorted B/2-35 Arty from FSB John to FSB Bill. At 0830H Trp B had one wounded from recoilless rifle fire at YS664790. At 1100H Trps A and B switched objectives. Trp B found rice cache at YS655785, found base camp vic 660783. At 1616H Trp B had contact once more, at 662783, RR fire and SA fire, no casualties, 4 VC (BC). Trp A found base camp at YS670790.

(2) HHT, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Sqdn CP remained at FSB Mike. HHT elements continued to assist in securing and improving the area. Birdogs carried out missions as required.

(3) Trp A, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Moved out at 0700H toward Obj ALFA, center of mass vic YS672765. At 0935H elements had linked up with Trp B. At 1100H, Trp A assumed Trp B's Obj BRAVO, center of mass vic YS683783, and Trp B took Trp A's Obj ALFA. At 1500H elements moved NE to vic 670790 where a base camp had been located from the air - formed an RON at that location but changed to new RON position at 668798 by 2005H. Three AP's were posted around the perimeter.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

(4) Trp B, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: B 36 remained attached to Trp C at FSB Mike. 16 and 26 moved out at 0620H toward Obj BRAVO, center of mass at YS685783. At 0830H contact was made at 664790, 1 man wounded by RR fire. Dustoff requested at 0840H, completed at 0925H. At 0935H Trp A linked up with Trp B. At 1100H, Trp B was ordered to assume Obj ALFA at 672765 while Trp A assumed Obj BRAVO. At 655785 a rice cache was found, under a hut, in a pit 9'w/10'1/9' deep. At 1600H elements were in a base camp area at 660783, at 1616H contact was again made at 662783, RR and SA fire received, no casualties. Moved into RON at 665782, had 4 VC KIA (BC). AP's were posted at 668785 and 666783.

(5) Trp C, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: C 26 remained at Binh Son, B 36 remained attached to secure FSB Mike. Elements continued to secure Sqdn and 1st Bde CP at FSB Mike. Sweep team moved out at 0655H, swept Hwy 320 from Mike to FSB John. C 16 began sweep of trail at 606776 east, at 1235H, escorting B/2-35 Arty to FSB Bill, completing mission by 1350H. AP's were posted at YS610817, 616824 and 628817.

e. 12 July 1967. Secured fire support bases, conducted search and destroy operations.

(1) 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry: Remained attached to 1st Bde for Operation PADDINGTON. A change in mission kept Trp A continuing to search and destroy to the southeast. Trp B continued to search the base camp area vic YS659783, C/2-39 Inf joining them in the search. Trp B with C/2-39 Inf returned to FSB Mike to assist in securing it. Trp C continued to secure Sqdn CP and 1st Bde CP at FSB Mike, and sent a reinforced plt to secure FSB Bill. C 26 remained at Binh Son, OPCON to 1st Bde.

(2) HHT, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Continued to assist in security of FSB Mike, and generally improved positions in the area. Sqdn CP remained at FSB Mike.

(3) Trp A, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: 16 elements continued to be attached to Trp B. At 0710H a change in orders put Trp A back to the mission of search and destroy to the southeast, instead of returning to FSB Mike. All elements moved out at 0728H. At 0955H a small base camp was found at 662797. All elements closed B Trps RON at YS665782, of 11 July, by 2200H.

(4) Trp B, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: B 36 attached to Trp C, A 16 attached to Trp B. Elements continued to search base camp area vic YS659783. At 0947H Trp B received 500 gals of mogas and diesel to refuel their vehicles. At 1250H C/2-39 Inf linked up with Trp B and became OPCON to 3-5 Cav to assist in searching base camp. At 1300H A 16 was released and closed FSB Mike by 1600H. At 1700H all elements were on the move with C/2-39 Inf toward FSB Mike, closing by 2200H. LP posted at 617809.

(5) Trp C, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: C 26 continued to secure Binh Son plantation and MEDCAP team. B 36 remained attached. At 0645H the sweep team began move south on Hwy 328. At 0813H a tank hit a mine at 612793, no injuries. A 40 lb shape charge was found at 612792 at 0855H and removed, sweep complete by 1040H. At 1245H a reinforced plt was ordered to FSB Bill, moving by 1300H, closed by 1530H. LP posted at 619815 and 619811.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

f. 13 Jul 67. Secured fire support bases, conducted search and destroy operations.

(1) 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry: Remained attached to 1st Bde as Operation PADDINGTON continued. Trp A moved from its RON position to the southeast to seize Obj ALFA, center of mass YS679763. Continued on to Hwy 329, then turned around and moved to base camp vic YS659783 to assist Trp B in destruction of it. Returned to FSB Mike. Trp B moved from FSB Mike into base camp vic YS679763 to assist in destruction of it. Moved into RON at YS653797. Trp C continued to secure FSB Mike with attached elements. C 16 secured FSB Bill, C 26 remained at Binh Son. Div CG visited 3-5 Cav O800H, visited base camp area at 1455H. At 2000H FSB Mike came under mortar attack, approximately 16 rds, elements put on full alert. 2 US, 4 ARVN were wounded, 1 ARVN dustoff.

(2) HHT, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Continued to assist in securing FSB Mike improved positions in the area. Sqdn CP remained at FSB Mike.

(3) Trp A, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: A 16 attached to Trp B, and 26 and 36 moved out of RON at 0700H for Obj ALFA, vic YS679763. By 1140H elements had seized ALFA and moved on to Hwy 329, vic YS685760. They then turned around and moved toward basecamp at YS659783, joining Trp B there by 1400H. After destroying the camp, elements left the area at 1610H, closing FSB Mike at 2030H. AP posted at 616816.

(4) Trp B, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: B 16 attached to Trp C, A 16 attached to Trp B. Sweep team and elements moved south from FSB Mike on Hwy 328 at 0910H, remainder of elements moved to base camp vic YS659783, entering that location at 1300H. They were joined by Trp A at 1400H, and the destruction of the camp was completed, Trp B elements departing area by 1700H. Moved into an RON at YS653797 by 2000H, posting three (3) LP's around the perimeter.

(5) Trp C, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: C 16 remained at FSB Bill, C 26 remained at Binh Son, B 16 attached to Trp C. Continued to secure Sqdn CP and 1st Bde CP at FSB Mike. Conducted H & I fire on perimeter at 0130H and 0530H. B 16 cleared Hwy 328 from FSB Mike to FSB John, secured Australian surveyors working on the road. AP posted at YS617806. At 2000H perimeter came under mortar attack fire, troops on full alert. Firing has ceased by 2025H.

g. 14 July 67. Secured fire support bases, conducted search and destroy operations.

(1) 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Remained attached to 1st Bde for Operation PADDINGTON. At 0030H, one or two figures were seen outside the perimeter and taken under fire, results unknown. H & I fire was conducted on the perimeter at 0045H and 0530H. At 0105H 3 mortar rounds fell inside FSB Mike, 1 US WIA. Trp A (-) moved from its RON into FSB Mike, sent A 16 with downed vehicles to the south along Hwy 328 where they linked up with elements of the 11th ABR at YS630653, RON vic 582634. Trp B (-) moved from its RON into FSB Mike, closing at 1600H, sent 2 elements to secure FSB George and B/2-35 Arty at YS612791, that unit having moved from FSB BILL, escorted by C16. Trp C continued to secure FSB MIKE. 1 US KIA at 0835H when he stepped on a mine at YS612808. At 0805H LTC Reed, 15 Engr, MG O'Connor and LTC Bulduc and Bassent visited the RON.

(2) HHT, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Sqdn CP remained at FSB Mike, all elements continued to assist in securing and improving the general area, and preparing for a possible move to a new location.

(3) Trp A, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Trp A (-) began its move from RON position to FSB Mike at 0800H, 16 closing at 1300H, the remainder by 1705H. A 16 with downed vehicles, moved from FSB Mike south along Hwy 328 to vic YS630653, where they linked up with elements of 11th ACR. RON position was vic YS582634. One of their tanks hit a mine some 300 meters south of 3-5 Cav CP at the beginning of the march, nobody injured. 26 and 36 remained at FSB Mike. LP posted at YS617823.

(4) Trp B, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Trp B (-36), with A 36 attached, remained in its RON repairing vehicles, and preparing to move, until 1300H, when they started toward FSB Mike. All elements had closed by 1705H. B 16, released from Trp C, and 36 were sent to FSB George at YS612791 to secure B/2-35 Arty. 26 remained at FSB Mike. LP posted at 620817.

(5) Trp C, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Trp C (-) continued to secure FSB Mike, and the Sqdn and Bde CPs. Conducted H & I fires at 0045H and 0530H, sighted and fired on figures outside the perimeter at 0030H, 0125H, and 0345H, unknown results. The B 16 attached element had 1 US WIA in the mortar attack at 0105H. At 0700H the sweep of Hwy 328 south from Mike began. Other missions included securing Class 5 at 607776 for B/2-35 Arty. LPs posted at 616818 and 512814.

h. 15 July 67. Secured fire support bases, conducted search and destroy operations.

(1) 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Remained attached to 1st Bde for Operation PADDINGTON. Trp A remained at FSB Mike, secured the area, conducted patrols, swept from Mike south to FSB GEORGE, at YS612791. Trp B (-) remained at George, swept from there to FSB John; on way back to George elements were ambushed, at YS605773 by est. 2 sqds of VC, RPG-2 and SA fire coming from the east. 2 US KIA, 2 WIA, unknown results. Trp C continued to secure FSB Mike, conducted patrols in general area. All elements prepared for move to Blackhorse.

(2) HHT, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Sqdn CP remained at FSB Mike, secured by Trp C (+). All elements assisted in securing and improving the area, and prepared for move to Blackhorse.

(3) Trp A, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Remained at FSB MIKE, assisted in securing the area. At 0530H A 16 was located at vic YS582634 waiting 11th ACR elements for move to Blackhorse. 26 swept from Mike to George, beginning at 0700H; 36 began its patrol at 0900H at 616794. Overall patrol area bounded by grids 61-63, 80-82. At 1000H patrol found plt size base camp at 618789. Sent elements to assist B 36 when that unit was attacked, elements returning to Mike by 1430H. LP posted at 519821. At 2130H 1 or 2 figures were seen and fired on outside the perimeter, unknown results.

(4) Trp B, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: B 26 attached to Trp C, 16 and 36 remained at FSB George. 36 element swept from George to John, beginning at 0700H, completed at 1029H. At 1040H, enroute back to George, 36 was ambushed by est 2 sqds of VC at YS605773. B 16, and A 26, part of A 36 were sent to assist. RPG and SA fire come from the east, dustoff called in at 1045H, completed at 1205H, delayed by storm at Blackhorse. 2 KIA, 2 WIA, unknown VC casualties. Contact broken at 1105H. B 16 and 36 returned to George at 1130H, after searching the area. LPs posted YS611792 and YS610788.

(5) Trp C, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: B 26 attached, 36 remained at Binh Son. Trp C continued to secure FSB Mike. Conducted patrol in area bounded by grid lines 58-63-80-83, closing by 1500H, negative results. LPs posted at YS618813, YS615823 and YS614817. All elements prepared for move to Blackhorse.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

i. 16 July 67. Provided security for PZ's, conducted road march from AO to Blackhorse.

(1) 3d Squadron, 5th Cavalry: Black Knights, attached to 1st Bde, secured FSB Mike and FSB George for the extraction of HQ, 1st Bde, 9th Inf Div, and supporting units, and moved to conclude Operation PADDINGTON with the Sqdn conducting a road march from Xa Nam to Long Giao. The sqdn march commenced at 1500H with its lead element, Trp A, arriving at Blackhorse at 1924H, and Trp B, with Sqdn CP elements, arriving at 1935H. Trp C remained at RON position with B/2-35 Arty at Mui Dat vic YS433677. Route of travel was Hwy 328 south to Rt 23, west to Rt 2, and then north to Long Giao.

(2) HHT, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Assisted in securing FSB Mike during the extraction of HQ, 1st Bde and 1-11 Arty from that location. Moved from Mike, escorted by Birdogs to FSB George, where Trp B escorted HHT elements south on Hwy 328 to Long Giao, SP time 1632H, closing time 1935H. MEDCAP was conducted in Binh Son, 53 Vietnamese were treated.

(3) Trp A, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: A 16 sent ahead of main unit, closed Blackhorse, and then outposted Rt 2 from Long Giao to vic YS461830. Trp A established plt bases and escorted 3 155 howitzers from FSB George to FSB vic YS627653, establish to support the 3-5 Cav initial movement to Blackhorse. Emplaced an AVLB at critical point at YS629653. SP time was 1628H, closing time Blackhorse at 1925H.

(4) Trp B, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Secured FSB George vic YS612789 and B/2-35 Arty (-) until completion of Sqdns move to Long Giao. Swept Hwy 328 north to Mike, and south to John. Traveled as 2nd march unit, escorting Sqdn CP elements to Blackhorse. SP time 1632H, closing time at Blackhorse 1935H.

(5) Trp C, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: C 26 remained at Binh Son. Secured FSB Mike until completion of extraction of HQ, 1st Bde elements for their movement. Moved as the last march unit, escorting downed vehicles and following termination of B/2-35 Arty mission to provide support for the Sqdns march to Blackhorse. Established an RON at Mui Dat vic YS493677. SP time 1755H.

(6) Trp D, 3d Sqdn, 5th Cav: Provided 2 LOH's for C & C of the movement of the Sqdn, and a light fire team to cover the Sqdns move.

12. (C) RESULTS:

a. Friendly.

(1) Personnel: An estimated 500 personnel took part in the operation. Three KIA, 6 WIA, and no non-battle casualties were sustained. 3 WIA's were dustoff's.

(2) Vehicles: One tank was damaged and one tank destroyed by anti-tank mines, and one tank was damaged by recoilless rifle fire. One APC was destroyed by unknown causes.

b. Enemy:

- (1) An estimated 40 VC were contacted.
- (2) 4 KIA (RC) 6 (POSS) were inflicted.
- (3) Material, equipment and facilities destroyed:

- a. 7 land mines
- b. 3 tons spoiled rice
- c. misc clothing and backpacks
- d. Assorted weapon maintenance equipment
- e. 300 bunkers
- f. 50 huts
- g. 2 men hats

(2) Captured:

- a. 18 rds RPG
- b. 36 chicom handgrenades
- c. 6 practice wooden grenades
- d. 3 chicom claymore mines
- e. 10 RPG booster charges
- f. 2 drum type magazines
- g. 1 sewing machine
- h. 11 canteen and one cup
- i. 1 M-79 rd
- j. 40 rds 7.62 mm
- k. 40 rds 12.7 mm
- l. 46 rds cal .45
- m. 28 mine detonators
- n. one 60 mm mortar tube cover.
- o. 1 steel helmet with liner (US)
- p. 1 pair goggles (US)
- q. 12 entrenching tools (Chicom)
- r. 1 hoe
- s. 2 Lawas
- t. 200 ft. cord
- u. 1 portable typewriter
- v. 216 lbs rice
- w. 10 lhs documents

13. (C) ADMINISTRATION MATTERS:

a. Supply: All classes of resupply were delivered over aerial LOC's, none over ground due to the inaccessibility of the AO. No shortages were encountered in resupply. Only problem noted were in the coordination of aircraft used in resupply. This occurred in the initial stages of the operation only.

b. Maintenance: No critical maintenance problems were encountered.

c. Transportation: Due to the terrain and considerable distance between the squadron AO and the terrain area, air transportation was the sole means of resupply. Aircraft were readily available to accomplish this mission.

d. Communications:

(1) Repair: No problems were encountered.

(2) Shortages: No critical shortages existed.

(3) Battle Losses:

- a. 2 AN/VRC 46
- b. PRC/25
- c. 3@ TA-312

14. (C) SPECIAL EQUIPMENT AND TECHNIQUES:

During this operation one LOH-23 was equipped with machine guns. Problems were encountered at first in the use of these weapons, but they proved a valuable device for reconing suspected enemy positions by fire. It is planned to use these aircraft to a greater extend in the future.

15. COMMANDER ANALYSIS:

a. Enemy contact occurred in two separate engagements. One resulted in 2 friendly KIA and 1 WIA, when an estimated VC squad ambushed a mine sweeping team. The other engagement resulted in 1 friendly US WIA and four enemy KIA (BC). This engagement was significant because it resulted in finding one of the largest base camps ever discovered in the area and disrupted the enemy's monsoon offensive.

16. (C) RECOMMENDATIONS:

a. That the aero rifle team and a light fire team be used for security of mine sweep teams.

b. That the minimum of two LOH's be provided at all times.

William R. Kaler

W.R. SIDNEY S. HASZARD
LTC, Armor
Commanding