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AUTHORITY

28 Feb 1980, DoDD 5200.10; AGO D/A ltr, 29 Aug 1980

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SUBJECT: Combat After Action Report - Operation AKRON V, 1st Brigade, 9th Infantry Division, Period 11-21 January 1968 (U)

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1. Subject report is forwarded as inclosure for review and evaluation in accordance with paragraph 5b, AR 525-15.

2. Information contained in this report is provided to insure appropriate benefits in the future from lessons learned during current operations and may be adapted for use in developing training material.

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CG, 5th Infantry Division (Mech)
CO, 1st Brigade, 9th Infantry Division
1. (U) Name of the Operation: AGHON V


3. (C) Location: Southeast of Long Thanh Hamlet and Binh Son rubber plantation east of Hwy 15 and west of Hwy 2 in Long Thanh District of Binh Hoa Province; south of east-west grid line 22; east of north-south grid line 23; north of east-west grid line 80; west of north-south grid line 37. Reference: Maps, Vietnam, 1:50,000 sheets 6450 III & IV.

4. (C) General: During the period 110650H Jan 1968 to 211400H Jan 68, Operation AGHON V was conducted by the FIRST Brigade, in close coordination and cooperation with the 1st ATF, in southeastern Long Thanh district of Binh Hoa Province to locate and destroy elements of the 274th VC main force regiment. The 2-47th Inf (H), 2-39th Inf, Co A, 4-39th Inf and Troop A, 3-5th Cav were maneuver units under the operational control of the 1st Brigade.

5. (C) Reporting Officers:
   a. 1st Bde, 9th Inf Div: Colonel Harry O. Williams
   b. Subordinate maneuver and combat support unit commanders:
      (1) 2-47th Inf (H): LTC John J. Tower
      (2) 2-39th Inf: LTC Harold P. Mueller
      (3) 1-11th Arty Br: LTC Donald W. Farmer

6. (C) Task Organizations:
   TF 2-39th Inf
   2-39th Inf
   B/2-47th Inf (H)
   1st Plat, Co A, 15th Engr (26)

   TF 2-47th Inf (H)
   2-47th Inf (H) (-Co E)
   TF 3-5th Cav
   1/3-5th Cav
   4/3-39th Inf (-)
   3rd Plat, Co A, 15th Engr (26)

   For STRDP
   Declassified after 18 years

   DOD DIR 8850.43

   DOD Classified Information

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   Downgraded at 8 year intervals
7. Supporting Forces:

a. Artillery: The following Direct Support/General Support Reinforcing units supported Brigade Operations from Fire Support Bases within the Brigade TAOR.

(1) 1st Bn, 11th Arty.
   (a) A Btry, 1-11th Arty (105T), 11 Jan 68 - 18 Jan 68.
   (b) B Btry, 1-11th Arty (105T).
   (c) C Btry, 1-11th Arty (105T), 19 Jan 68 - 21 Jan 68.

(2) Rounds Expended.

   (a) Observed:

   (b) Unobserved (H & I's):
      3. Illumination: 0.

   (c) Unobserved Targets:
      2. White Phosphorus: 130.

   (d) Unobserved Propaganda: 27.

(3) Artillery ammunition expenditures by type.

   (a) High Explosive: 6456.
   (b) White Phosphorus: 511.
   (c) Illumination: 854.
   (d) Propaganda: 53.

(4) Total rounds expended: 7,974.

b. Army Aviation

   (1) Organic Aviation: Sorties 439
      PAX 461
      Hours 103
      Cargo 25 Tons
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(2) Non-organic Aviation:

(a) There were 4 airmobile daylight assaults utilizing 132 sorties of UHID aircraft to transport 790 passengers.

(b) There were 2 airmobile daylight extractions utilizing 73 sorties of UHID aircraft to transport 438 passengers.

(c) There was 1 airmobile night insertion utilizing 5 sorties of UHID aircraft to transport 30 passengers.

(d) There was 1 airmobile night extraction utilizing 5 sorties of UHID aircraft to transport 30 passengers.

(e) There were 11 daylight airmobile moves utilizing 11 sorties of CH47 aircraft to move 128 passengers and 28 tons of equipment.

(f) Two UHID aircraft were used daily for Command and Control and resupply.

3. Close Air Support

(1) Both preplanned and immediate air strikes were employed as follows:

(a) Preplanned,

1. Strikes requested 45
2. Strikes approved 31
3. Strikes diverted from 1st Bde 8
4. Strikes diverted to 1st Bde 1
5. Total strikes delivered 24

6. Type aircraft used

   a. F100 50
   b. F4C 8
   c. A37 14

7. Ordnance

   a. 250 GP Bomb 24
   b. 500 GP Bomb 119
   c. 750 GP Bomb 59
   d. 750 lb NAPALM 30
   e. Rockets 37
   f. 20mm 4000 rds

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1. Targets Hit
   a. VC Base Camp 11
   b. Troop in contact 6
   c. LZ Preparation 1
   d. VC Bunker Complex 1

(b) Immediate
   1. Number requested 7
   2. Number approved 6
   3. Number diverted to 1st Bde

(2) Total number of airstrikes flown 30
and delivered

6. Intelligence:

a. Preoperational Intelligence Information
   (1) Elements of the 1st and 2d Bns of the 274th VC Regt are believed
dispersed in the area of operation; it is possible some elements of the 2d Bn
are located vic YS1179. The 3rd Bn is unlocated but probably south of Rt 1.
LRRP on 1 Dec 67 reported an occupied base camp center of mass vic YS29635.
On 8 Dec 67 vic YS28835, LRRP engaged a VC squad dressed in black
trousers and light colored shirts armed with 1-47's. A LRRP engaged an unknown size
VC force vic YS27932 on 2 Jan 68. Analysis of available intelligence indicates
the VC are probably company/platoon locations with center of masses vic
YS31845; YS27835; YS27085. (This follows the pattern indicated company
locations are separated approximately 150 to 250 meters apart and 2 to 4
kilometers between battalions and regimental Headquarters. II FOOSE
PER1HINE 46).

   (2) Strengths and Weaknesses:

   (a) The 274th Regt is strengthened by its knowledge of the
terrain and by its complete control of the hinterland.

   (b) The VC are able to disperse their installations and
personnel widely because of the dense concealment offered by dense forested
areas, yet concentrate rapidly on a well developed trail system to accomplish
a mission.

   (a) However, the VC are vulnerable to massive allied fire
power. Order of Battle research indicates that the estimate strength of the
1st Bn, 274th VC Regt is 300. According to FO's captured by the FACES, the
strength of the 274th Regt is approximately 150. If the estimate
has been in the 274th Regt since August, malaria has probably weakened a high
percentage of personnel. The rigors of jungle living are not generous and
morale is probably low, making the enemy vulnerable to an aggressive PSTOPS
Program.

b. Enemy Capabilities:

(1) The enemy can:

   (a) Attack friendly forces entering the area with elements of
2 battalions supported by the appropriate share of Regimental Artillery and
81/120mm mortars.
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(b) Reinforce within 24 - 36 hours with the D445 3rd Bn, 274th Regt.

(c) Defend critical base areas with available forces.

(d) Avoid contact with friendly units yet remain in the area of operation.

(e) Attempt to withdraw from the area of operations.

(2) Analysis and Discussion:

(a) Attack: with forces available is unlikely because the concentration of force necessary to attack would present a lucrative target to artillery and airstrikes. An attack is unlikely to occur unless friendly forces present a target of opportunity in a vulnerable location; ie, an isolated company/platoon position. The attack would probably commence between 2400H and 0200H as a night assault against a perimeter.

(b) Reinforce: Historically, reinforcement of engaged units with other VC forces in the area is unlikely and is not practiced.

(c) Defense: Other than delay or harassment is not likely because of the vulnerability to massed artillery fires and close airstrikes. If trapped or threatened by encirclement the VC will attempt to break out by night assault between 2400H and 0300H.

(d) Withdraw: to the east or northeast.

c. Conclusions: The VC will use harassing attacks, mines and booby traps to delay reconnaissance in force operations and avoid significant contact with US units in the area.

d. Weather and Terrain: During the operation, weather had no significant impact on military operations. Terrain hampered friendly movement and made maneuverability difficult. The trails cleared by the engineers throughout the area, alleviated the situation considerably, especially for mechanized and cavalry units.

e. Significant Events

(1) 110650 A/2-67 via YS20054, destroyed 1 homemade mine rigged for either command or pressure detonation.

(2) 110905 A/2-67 via YS230854, APC detonated 1 pressure type mine, consisting of 4 x 81mm mortar rounds. Only one round detonated and the remaining 3 were destroyed in place. There were no casualties or damage.

(3) 111100 2-39, moving into FSB NAIL via YS272806, received 1 round RPG fire. Fire was returned with SA fire. Negative US casualties, area was searched without results.

(4) 111207 B/2-39, via YS280837, made contact with estimated 12 VC. SA and AW was exchanged; VC broke contact at 1213H and withdraw east. Results: 1 US WIA (dust off complete at 1350 hrs). VC losses unknown.

(5) 111330 C/2-47 via YS 244658, destroyed 3 x 81mm mortar rounds, possibly rigged as booby traps.

(6) 111300 B/2-47 via YS 297017, destroyed 5 x 82mm mortar rds rigged as land mi. -

(7) 111437 B/2-39 via YS 278836, destroyed 1 bunker approx 20 days old and destroyed 1 latr

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(8) 111505 A/2-47 found 3 spider holes approx 18" wide and 3' deep. Also found 20 meters of trench, all were old and caved in. Found via YS2500876.

(9) 111550 B/2-39 via YS2500836, found a well used trail running east to west. Searched area without result.

(10) 111505 B/2-39 via YS257040, received 20 rounds SA fire from estimated 5-6 VC. Fire was returned and VC broke contact at 1607H. Results: 2 US WIA (one required dust off; complete at 1731H). VC losses unknown.

(11) 120000 C/2-47 via YS257937, received SA fire from estimated 4 VC. Returned fire and VC broke contact at 2003H, and withdrew south. There was 1 US WIA (slight) and VC losses unknown.

(12) 121300 B/2-39 via YS258599, received estimated 40 rounds unknown caliber mortar fire and ground attack from an unknown number of VC. Artillery, LST, and Spooky supported. Mortars ceased at 2245H and were receiving SA and ground attack. VC broke contact at 0018H. At 0240H began receiving SA fire and ground attack from all sides. Artillery and Spooky supported. VC broke contact at 0610H. Results: 46 US WIA of which 31 required dust off, 2 Scout dogs killed.

(13) 120900 2-39 report B/2-47 via YS257937, destroyed 4 bunkers, and evacuated 500 lbs of rice.

(14) 120910 2-39 report B/2-47 via YS259839, found a battalion size base camp consisting of 55 bunkers with overhead cover. Also found a VC aid station containing medical supplies, bloody bandages, some documents, and 1000 lbs of rice, 12 mortar rounds, 12 grenades. Documents and rice evacuated and remainder destroyed.

(15) 121400 A/2-39 via YS259937, engaged 3 VC with SA fire, resulting in 2 VC KIA (BC), 1 AK-47 and 1 M-79 captured and evacuated to 2-39 CP.

(16) 121430 D/3-5 Crv ARP via YS259937, engaged 3 VC carrying materials dressed in black pajamas, resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC).

(17) 121530 C/2-39 via YS257837, evacuated 100 lbs of rice.

(18) 121536 (DELAYED ENTRY) 1st Bde Avn Section reported CR-23 via YS259839, received unknown rounds SA fire from unknown number of VC. Fire was not returned. There were no hits and speed and altitude unknown.

(19) 130755 LNO 1-11th Arty via YS257873, UH-1D received unknown number of rounds SA fire from unknown number of VC. Fire was not returned; ship took no hits, speed and altitude unknown.

(20) 131050 B/2-39 via YS259839, found and evacuated 2 AK-47's, SN 8407455; SN 8410205.

(21) 131235 A/2-39 via YS259839, found 1 VC KIA (BC); VC was killed by artillery and was dead approximately 36 hours.

(22) 131255 A/2-39 via YS257837, destroyed 1 x 155mm WP dud, and evacuated 500 rounds AK-47 ammo, to 2-39 CP.

(23) 131295 4/2-47 via YS257863, received 6 rounds RPG fire from south of trace and 16 rounds SA fire from north of trace. Fire was returned with organic weapons. There were no US casualties or damage; VC losses unknown.

(24) 131335 1st Bde Avn Sect Section via YS265687, while flying at 60 - 70 knots, at 100 feet, received unknown number rounds SA fire. Aircraft received unknown number of hits which broke bubble and forced to land and FS/FB HAMMER and was extracted.

(25) 131330 A/2-39 vic YS246879, engaged an estimated VC force in regimental size base camp. VC were armed with RPG's and AK's. VC broke contact at 1413H. A/2-39 pursued VC and reestablished contact at 1429H with an estimated VC squad. C/2-39 linked up with A/2-39 and engaged unknown size VC force. VC broke contact at 1600H. There were 15 US Wounded, 2 US KIA, and 5 VC KIA (BC).

(26) 131440 Recon/2-47 vic YS274866 to YS271849 destroyed 1 new bunker and 1 tunnel (8' x 6' x 6') and YS274866, destroyed 10 tunnels: 15 x 1mm fox holes, 5 pair black primus and 5 ponchos.

(27) 131448 Recon/2-47 vic YS287838, apprehended 2 male detainees, who were interrogated and released as innocent civilians.

(28) 141517 B/2-39 vic YS287837, while seeking bunker complex found 3 VC bodies, also B/2-47 in same area found 11 VC bodies, Results: 4 VC KIA (BC).

(29) 141710 A/2-39 vic YS287837, found bunker complex consisting of 55 bunkers; in complex found the following: 4 LA rounds; 2 RPG-2 7.62's; 27 Chiappa grenades; 4 LA-47 clips; 28 x 60mm mortar rounds; 60 x 60mm mortar fuses; 67 x 60mm mortar rounds; 5 RPG propellant charges; 1 US 312; 1 US clay more; 1 x 60mm mortar tube SN: 73073 '2 with bipod; 3000 lbs of rice; 3000 rounds of assorted small arms ammo and 15 lbs of documents.

(30) 150930 FAC report vic YS319839, received SA fire. Fire not returned; speed and altitude unknown; negative hits.

(31) 150935 2-39 report B/2-47 vic YS287838, found 5 VC bodies lying on the ground. There were no unit ID or weapons on the body. 5 VC KIA (BC).

(32) 161107 A/2-39 vic YS287838, destroyed 25 bunkers which appeared to be living quarters. Evacuated 6 x 60mm mortar rounds.

(33) 151130 2-39 report B/2-47 destroy 1 mine which consisted of 10 lbs TNT vic YS289845.

(34) 151143 C/2-39 vic YS 87836, found 20 bunkers, 1 RPG-RI, and unknown amount of AK-47 ammo. Also via YS292832, C/2-39 found 600 lbs of rice and many bloody trails. Bunker area had firing tables for mortars and contained a firing range. The bunkers were destroyed and the remainder evacuated to 2-47 CP. Also in same area found a document which identified the 1st Co, 1st BN, 274th VC Regt.

(35) 151217 C/2-39 vic YS287838, received unknown rounds SA fire and 1 grenade from unknown number of VC. Fire was returned with anti-tank weapons and VC broke contact at 1220H. There was 1 US KIA (slight); Closses unknown. Captured 100 lbs medical supplies varying from powders to liquids, which were evacuated.

(36) 151334 2-39 report B/2-47 vic YS28335, found 4 VC KIA (BC); there were no weapons or documents on the body.

(37) Recon/2-47 vic YS278786, reported H1D received 15 rounds AV fire from 1 VC sniper. Engaged sniper with .50 cal and mortar. Search 1 area without results.

(38) 151605 C/2-39 via YS287836, found 3 VC graves containing 3 VC killed by schrapnel. Results: 3 VC KIA (BC).

(39) 151655 2-39 report UHID via YB269140, was forced down by VC sniper fire. There were no US casualties and extent of damage unknown.

(40) 160906 Recon/2-47 via YS270875, had contact with 7 VC. VC broke contact at 1047H and fled northeast. Artillery was fired into the area and a sweep conducted which resulted in 2 VC KIA (BC) and 1 RPG charge captured. There were no US casualties.

(41) 161200 A/2-47 via YS262865, to YS335875, report convoy received 1 RPG round and SA and AW fire from an unknown number of VC. C/2-47 was sent to the area and upon their arrival the VC broke contact and fled. There was 1 US WIA (slight); VC losses unknown.

(42) 161200 B/2-39 via YS305820, guard sighted 1 VC. A patrol was dispatched and searched area without results.

(43) 161327 C/2-39 via YS294839, destroyed 1 bunker and 1 booby trap and Chicom hand grenade.

(44) 161334 A/2-39 via YS292839, found 11 bags of rice (1100 lbs), 2 RPG rounds, and acid documents. Rice was in an inaccessible location and upon contacting G2, the rice was destroyed and remainder evacuated to 2-39 CP.

(45) 170250 Recon/2-47 via YS269871, spotted 3 VC approx 45 meters outside of perimeter. Engaged the VC with a claymore and patrol searched area without results.

(46) 170950 A/2-47 APC via YS360844, hit 5 x 81mm mortar rounds rigged as pressure detonated land mines. Only 1 round detonated and there were no US casualties and no damage. The remaining rounds were destroyed in place.

(47) 171030 A/2-47 via YS332844, found 12 old bunkers with old and caved in overhead cover. Bunkers were estimated 1 year old and not recently used.

(48) 171130 A/2-39 via YS313838, destroyed 1 bunker (4'x6'x4') with 2' overhead cover. Bunker was still being worked on.

(49) 171201 A/2-39 via YS328837, found a VC base camp consisting of 10 bunkers (10'x7'), which appeared to be sleeping quarters and protection from artillery; the camp was used within the past week. In one bunker, found several 50 cal rounds without the powder, numerous 40mm Ration cans, 3 anti-personnel mines, 500' wire, 1 Chicom claymore, and 100 rounds M-16 ammo. All were destroyed. At coordinates YS325834, found 49 bunkers of which 2 were (25'x15'x15'), 4 kitchens with assorted pots and pans, and 11 expended AK-47 rounds. All were destroyed.

(50) 171530 Recon/2-47 via YS268882, found a bunker complex consisting of 30 bunkers (10'x10'x6') with 2' overhead cover. Also reported sniper fire from unknown number of VC. Fire was returned with organic weapons and an airstrike was placed on the base camp with the following results: 10 bunkers destroyed, 12 bunkers damaged, and 100 meters of trench destroyed. There were 4 US WIA, 1 US KIA, and 1 WIA required dust off which was complete at 1710H.

(51) 172143 2-7 LP via YS340870, observed 7 to 10 VC carrying what appeared to be a RR. LP engaged two VC with organic weapons. The VC did not return fire. LP withdrew and patrol searched area at daylight without results.
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(52) 181200 C/2-47 vio YS265877, received 5 - 6 rounds of 81mm mortar fire and searched area without results.

(53) 181825 C/2-47 vio YS275385, observed 1 VC moving west. Engaged VC with M-79 fire with unknown results.

(54) 190912 A/2-47 vio YS263872, found a possible LF position, used within the past 24 hours. Also found 8 gun positions (2'x3') without overhead cover. Search of the area revealed a well used trail with 2 unidentified markings, one on a tree and the other along the trail.

(55) 191104 C/2-39 vio YS247303, found a well used trail large enough for ox carts, also found fish trap in the area. Element reconnoitered the area by fire with unknown results.

(56) 191227 A/2-39 vio YS260304, received unknown number of SA fire from unknown number of VC. Fire was returned with SA fire and LFT and artillery supported. VC broke contact at 1254H. Results: 1 US KIA, 1 US WIA, KMRV complete at 1626H. VC losses unknown.

(57) 191340 Recon/2-39 vio YS248902, examined 3 graves without results.

(58) 191720 C/2-47 vio YS262894, destroyed 5 bunkers (7'x7'x5').

(59) 191424 A/2-39 vio YS260504, destroyed 5 old bunkers (4'x3'x5').

(60) 191912 A/2-39 vio YS266895, received 2 - 3 rounds SA fire from unknown number of VC. Fire was returned and searched area without results.

(61) 200853 C/2-39 vio YS262892, made contact with unknown number of VC. VC broke contact immediately. Results: 3 US WIA; all dusted off. Dust off complete at 1026H. VC losses unknown.

(62) 201556 A/2-39 vio YS264887, made contact with 4 - 7 VC. VC armed with AK-47's and Carbines. Contact broke immediately. Search area and destroyed 1 hut. There were no US casualties; VC losses unknown.

f. Conclusions: Pro-intelligence reports were substantiated by various contacts with the enemy. The two base camps uncovered attest to the fact that the area was used by the VC as an important focal point for their activity. Most probably the area is a coordinating point for logistical operations and troop movements to other areas (RSSZ and Phuoc Tay Province). This is verified by the construction of the bunkers. The bunkers generally had no firing ports and were very well protected against artillery or air strikes. The VC also did not engage superior Allied Forces but rather dispersed throughout the area and escaped. The attack on 3/2-39 on 12 Jan 68 was probably a rear action to cover the withdrawal of the VC units to the west and north, and then north to the northern part of Long Thanh District, across Hwy 1 and into the Cong Thanh District. This action disrupted the VC operations in the area, and especially their ability to launch offensive operations in that area. The VC need space and time to effectively operate. To interfere with either one is to severely limit their activity. The VC will probably return to this area but periodic Allied Offensive efforts will keep them off balance.

9. Mission: The 1st EDU, in close coordination and cooperation with 1st ATF, attacks at 111200H Jan 68 to locate and destroy elements of the 274th VC Main Force Regiment operating in the eastern portion of AO AMRON.
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SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Lotion Report (MACV/RS/33/32)

10. Concept of Operation:
   (a) During the period 11-21 Jan 68, the 1st Brigade conducts Operation AKRON V in four phases.
   (b) Maneuver:
      (1) Phase I - TF 2-39 and TF 2-47 (M) move by air and motor march during the period 11-21 Jan 68 to assembly areas vic LD in central AO AKRON. TF 2-47 (M) establishes a screening/blocking position along Engineer Trail with team 3-5 Cav in eastern AO AKRON on Engineer Trail NLT 111200H January 68.
      (2) Phase II - At 111200H, TF's 2-47 (M) and 2-39 conduct reconnaissance in force to the east through the morning of 18 January 1968 to locate and destroy elements of the 274th VC Main Force Regiment and other unidentified VC/NVA elements, to sweep objectives to the east in zone and to drive fleeing VC/NVA elements against blocking positions established by 1st AATF and team 3-5 Cav.
      (3) Phase III - During the morning of 18 January, the 2-39 Inf is AML extracted and reinserted at Mish Son Airstrip. The Bn conducts reconnaissance in force through the morning of 21 Jan to the southeast to locate and destroy unidentified VC/NVA elements, working toward a blocking position established along the Engr Trail by TF 2-47 Inf (M).
      (4) Phase IV - TF 2-47 (M) moves by motor march to AO FINGERS (northeast corner of AO DENVER) for further reconnaissance in force operations. TF 2-39 is AML extracted from Engr Trail and reinserted in AO FINGERS for further reconnaissance in force operations.
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SUBJECT: Combat Operations After Action Report (AV04/25/13/32)

TF 2-47th Inf (N) continued search and destroy ops in zone with Co A and Co C; released OPCON of Co A 2-39th Inf; and retained OPCON of Co A (-) 4-39th Inf and A/3-5th Cav. Co A 2-47th Inf (N) conducted search and destroy ops east to a RON located via S303361 with negative VC contact. Co B continued search and destroy ops east to a RON position via S304839; and retained negative VC contact. Scout platoon continued to secure FSB H411R.

13 Jan: TF 2-39th Inf continued search and destroy operations east in zone with three Infantry companies and one mechanized Infantry company. Co A conducted S&D ops east in zone. At 1245H, Co A found 1 VC body vic Y270837; VC killed by arty and estimated been dead for 36 hours. At 1300H, Co A found 500 rounds of AK-47 rifle ammo. vic S272839. At 1355H, Co A engaged an estimated 15 man VC force armed with AK-47’s and RPG’s; contact was broken at 1413H. Co A pursued the VC and regained contact at 1429H with an estimated VC squad resulting in 16 US WIA and 1 US KIA; contact was broken at 1605H. Co B 2-39th Inf assisted Co B 2-47th (M) in the destruction of the base camp discovered on 12 Jan 68, then moved east to reinforce Co A vic S282839. Co C conducted S&D ops east in zone making contact with an unknown size VC force vic S284839 at 1410H resulting in 1 US WIA and 1 US KIA.

Co B 2-39th Inf (N) destroyed the VC base camp discovered on 12 Jan 68; conducted S&D ops east; and reinforced Co A vic S283839. At 1440H, Co B 2-47th Inf (N) made contact with an unknown size VC force vic S284839 resulting in 2 US WIA and 3 US KIA. At 1620H, Co C, Co B, Co C and Co B 2-47th Inf (+) swept through the area of contact, discovering 5 VC KIA (body count) and an estimated 50 or more VC base camp; the elements secured the VC base camp; and RON vic S284839. Co C continued to secure the area vic S284839. At 1613H, Co C 2-39th Inf found two rifles on 12 Jan 68 when they swept vic S282839; weapons had been lost during VC attack.

TF 2-47th Inf (N) continued S&D ops in zone with Co A and Co C; retained OPCON of Co A (-) 4-39th Inf and troop A 3-5th Cav. Co A 2-47th Inf (M) conducted S&D ops east in zone. At 0724H Co A received 1 round from an unknown size VC force vic S284839 resulting in one US slightly wounded and negative damage to US equipment. Co A RON vic S283839. Co B 2-47th Inf (M) remained OPCON to TF 2-39th Inf. Co C conducted S&D ops east in zone and returned to RON vic S286661 with negative VC contact. A troop 3-5th Cav assisted by Co A (-) 4-39th Inf continued screening ops in zone with negative results. Recon Flat continued to secure TF 2-47th Inf (N) CP/FSB HAWK and conducted local patrolling. At 1316H, Recon Flat discovered VC position vic S274839 and S271849. There were ten protective underground positions, 8’x8’x6’ long; 15 each one man spider holes; there were fresh foot prints in the area. In the area, Recon Platoon captured 5 pair of VC black pajama type uniforms and 5 VC ponchos. At 1448H Recon Flat detained two RVN nationals vic S274839; the detainees were interrogated and released. At 0755H, a UH-1D, while landing at FSB HAWK, received several rounds small arms fire southwest of FSB HAWK, resulting in a damaged cockpit. At 1255H, TF 2-47th Inf (K) resupply convoy received 6 rounds of RGF fire and an estimated 18 rounds of small arms fire vic S297-863. There were negative US casualties and negative US equipment damage.

14 Jan: TF 2-39th Infantry continued to exploit the area of contact on 13 January by searching and destroying within the VC base camp area located vic S274839. The VC base camp area was linear in design and contained 55 protective bunkers connected by a defensive type trench system. The bunkers were constructed eight feet long, six feet wide, and five feet deep with an overage of two and one half feet of overhead cover. The bunkers were estimated to have been built for six months, however, there
11 Jan: TF 2-39th Inf conducted an amphibious assault on LZ SCRM-RIVER via YS223834 with D Company and H Company commencing 1105H. BN H, Co E, A Btry 1-11th Arty, and Co B 2-47th Inf (M) conducted motor march from Camp Martin Cox along RVN Route #9 to FSB GREN vic YS223834 displacing to and closing FSB MALIS vic YS279304 at 1400H. Co A, upon securing LZ SCRM-RIVER, conducted SAD ops, north and became OPCON to 2-47th Inf (M). Co B, upon insertion at LZ SCRM-DRIVER, conducted SAD ops east at 1300H. Co B engaged 12 VC at YS208337 with SA and AH fire; there were 1 US KIA (dusted off at 1300H) and negative VC casualties. Co B, at 1437H, discovered and destroyed one VC bunker 13 meters deep x 2 meters long x 1 meter wide located vic YS178836. Co B, at 2133H vic YS268338, came under mortar attack; 2210H received ground attack from all directions with heaviest attack coming from SE; mortar attack also continuing; 2300h elements report VC massing fires from NE; US casualties and VC casualties unknown as of 2300H. 12 Jan: TF 2-39th Inf conducted search and destroy operations in zone with Co B and Co C; regained OPCON of Co A 2-39th Inf from TF 2-47th Inf (M); conducted an amphibious assault into LZ SCRM-RIVER via YS223834 with D Company and H Company commencing 1105H. BN H, Co E, A Btry 1-11th Arty, and Co B 2-47th Inf (M) conducted motor march from Camp Martin Cox along RVN Route #9 to FSB GREN vic YS223834 commencing 1105H. BN H, Co A (-), Co C and B Battery 1-11th Arty. Upon securing FSB GREN, the BN conducted SAD ops east to FSB HAIZAR located vic YS278922. Co A discovered and destroyed 1 mine with dual detonation system (command & pressure) at 0855H vic YS268041. Co A also detonated a mine consisting of 6 each 60mm HE rounds by running over it with an M113 APC at 0905H vic YS280840. There were negative US casualties and negative damage to the APC. Co B OPCON to TF 2-39th Inf. Co C at 1200H, found and destroyed a VC mine consisting of 3 each 60mm HE mortar rounds vic YS278922, secured and patrolled vic FSB GREN. Co A (-) 4-39th Inf conducted an amphibious assault into LZ PLISST vic YS344741 and became OPCON to 4-39th Inf. Co B 2-39th Inf (M) conducted motor march from Xuan Loc to vic PLISST; secured PLISST; assumed OPCON Co A (-) 4-39th Inf; screened in zone and became OPCON to TF 2-47th Inf (M). Scout Platoon secured 2-47th Inf HQ with negative VC contact. 12 Jan: TF 2-39th Inf continued search and destroy operations in zone with Co B and Co C; regained OPCON of Co A 2-39th Inf from TF 2-47th Inf (M); conducted an amphibious assault into LZ SCRM-DRIVER vic YS223834 with D Company and H Company commencing 1105H. BN H, Co E, A Btry 1-11th Arty, and Co B 2-47th Inf (M) and secured FSB MALIS with Co E. Co A 2-39th Inf conducted search and destroy ops south from their RON position commencing 0730H to link up with Co B 2-39th Inf at YS283836. At 1425H, Co A engaged three VC vic YS283836 resulting in negative US casualties and two VC KIA (body count), one AK-47 rifle and one M79 grenade launcher. Co B 2-39th Inf (M) conducted amphibious assault on LZ SCRM-DRIVER and conducted search and destroy operations north to link up with Co H 2-39th Inf. At 0900H, Co B discovered a VC base camp with 25 bunkers vic YS297307 and captured 12 mortar rounds, 12 hand grenades, and 1000 lbs of rice. Zero Sets 8/3-5th Cav, while supporting TF 2-39th Inf engaged 3 VC at 1435H vic YS297307 resulting in 1 VC KIA (M).
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was evidence of recent repair and construction. During the search of the base camp area there was a total of 14 VC KIA found in graves and 2 VC KIA found hanging in trees. The following are items of VC equipment found in the base camp: one combat servicable 60mm mortar, 3,000 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition, 1,800 lbs of rice, 4 lbs of salt, 5 lbs dried shrimp, 5 gal soybean oil, 1 package of medicine, 5 lbs of documents, 4 RPG rounds, 2 RPG launchers, 25 60mm mortar fuses, 4 AK-47 magazines, 28 US 81mm mortar rounds, 67 60mm mortar fuses, 5 RPG propellant charges, 1 Type 312 telephone, 1 US type claymore mine, and 3 pick mallets. All elements reported finding evidence of a hasty withdrawal of the VC forces. There were numerous articles of bloody clothing found in the base camp area and several improvised stretchers containing blood stains. A thorough debriefing of unit commanders and element leaders determined through eye witness reports that a minimum of 31 VC were killed or wounded during the contact within the VC base camp area. Companies B and C 2-39th Inf and Co B 2-47th Inf (M) remained overnight vic 289840. Co B continued to secure TF 2-39th Inf CP/FSB NAII5. TF 2-39th Inf was supported with one airstrike vic 5297836 resulting in 4 VC bunkers destroyed, 20 meters of trench destroyed, and 10 VC bunkers damaged. Resupply of the elements operating within the VC base camp area was accomplished by the 1st Bde Aviation Section utilizing two OH-23 helicopters. Due to the dense jungle area and time factor only an LZ large enough to land an CH-47 could be cleared. The 1st Bde Aviation Section flew 154 sorties in 14 hours carrying 79 passengers and 33,300 lbs of equipment and supplies. The CH-43 carried in supplies and passengers and back-hauled captured VC equipment and supplies. TF 2-47th Inf (M) conducted search and destroy operations southwest west along the ridge line (vic 306857 to vic 529585). Co A swept south to vic 300847 with negative VC contact. A troop 3-5th Cav swept southeast to vic 307850 receiving sniper fire at 1145H from an unknown size VC force vic 302805; the element returned fire resulting in negative US casualties and unknown VC casualties. Co A (-) 4-39th Inf continued to maintain screening/blocking positions along the Engr Trail on the northern boundary of the AO. At 1155H an element of A troop escorting the AVLB to a crossing site vic 346877 received an RPG, small arms and automatic weapons fire; the element returned fire resulting in negative US casualties and unknown VC casualties. At 1250H, a troop reported finding a partially destroyed and unservicable Mauser Rifle Model 92 vic 327877. Recon Platoon 2-47th Inf (M) continued to secure TF 2-47th CP/FSB NAII5, provided security for resupply convoy, and supported by Engr squad, returned and destroyed 10 bunkers discovered on 13 Jan, vic 271849.

15 Jan: TF 2-39th Inf continued Opn AKRON V. The TF continued to explore and destroy the large bunker complex discovered vic 3287837 and conducted search and destroy ops in area. Co A and Co C continued to search and destroy vic of the VC base camp area. There were an additional 45 bunkers found in the area for an accumulative total of 100 bunkers found and searched in the base camp area. The following VC equipment and supplies were discovered: 1 RPG launcher, 2 hand grenades, 6 81mm mortar rounds, 219 rounds of AK-47 small arms, 600 lbs of rice, 100 lbs of medical supplies, 2 lbs of documents. There were also several blood trails and 5 VC KIA (body count) were found. The VC had been killed by small arms fire and were discovered unburied. At 1210H, Co C received small arms fire from an unknown size VC force; fire was returned and the VC broke contact by throwing a hand grenade resulting in one US slightly wounded and one VC KIA (body count). At 1546H, Co C discovered 3 graves vic 30168 containing 3 VC killed by schrapnel. One VC appeared killed within last 12 hours; other bodies appeared two weeks old. At 1605H, the fourth platoon of Co C engaged one VC near the base camp area with small arms fire, resulting in negative VC casualties and unknown VC casualties. Co B 2-47th Inf (K) and Co B 2-39th Inf conducted southwest toward FSB NAII5. At 1055H, Co B 2-47th Inf (K) discovered and destroyed one VC improvised mine consisting of two 105mm HE rounds and two 60mm mortar rounds. At 1334H, Co B 2-47th Inf (K) found four VC bodies stripped of equipment near vic 292832. The VC had been KIA.
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by artillery. TF 2-39th Inf was supported by four preplanned airstrikes; during one airstrike at 0930H vic YS290850, the fighters received ground fire from an unknown size VC force, resulting in negative US casualties and unknown VC casualties. At 1655H, a UHID (Jayhawk 764) received small arms fire and force landed vic YS286840 resulting in negative US casualties. The crew was extracted at 1727H. Commencing at 1800H, an element from Co B 2-39th Inf was airmobled from FSB NAILS to vic of downed UHID to provide security. The UHID was extracted by a CH-47 at 1845H. Co B commenced airmobile extraction at 1908H and the last sortie landed at FSB NILIS at 1533H. The extraction mission was accomplished without incident. TF 2-39th Inf (-) continued search and destroy operations east in zone. Co C and Co A 2-39th Inf (-) conducted S&D ops east to vic YS335870. At 1050H, Co A discovered 3 VC tunnels vic YS334871; the tunnels were caved in and there was negative signs of recent VC activity. Co B 2-47th Inf (-) remained OFCON to TF 2-39th Inf. At 0959H, Co A (-) 4-39th Inf commenced airmobile extraction from FZ PLIES YS318287; at 0954H the last sortie departed FZ PLIES; and Co A (-) returned to the control of TF 4-39th Inf (OPN RILEY) at Camp Martin Cox. Troop A 3-5th Cav was released OFCON from TF 2-47th Inf (-) at 1300H and conducted motor march to Camp Blackhorse. TF 2-47th Inf (-) reported that a UHID received 15 rounds small arms fire while landing at FSB NAILS; fire was returned with 50 cal machine gun and mortar fire. There were negative US casualties or equipment damage. Recon Platoon 2-47th Inf (-) sighted 1 VC at 1400H vic YS286873. The VC was pursued for several hundred meters with negative results.

16 Jan: TF 2-39th Inf commenced searching the bunkers complex and continued search and destroy operations in zone. Co A assisted by Co C. Co A conducted the search of the bunker area and swept east from the bunker complex commencing at 1210H. Co A discovered a cache of 1,100 lbs of rice, two RFG rounds and one lb of documents at 1354H vic YS282839. It was necessary to destroy the rice cache because the thick tripple canopy jungle prevented cutting of a LZ and the area to which the rice would have to be carried for evacuation would have prevented the element from accomplishing a thorough sweep of their objective area. Co B 2-39th Inf conducted a sweep north of FSB NAILS and returned to remain over night. Co C assisted Co A in the complete search of the base camp area and then swept east to remain over night with Co A vic YS303829. Co C reported finding one VC booby trapped chicom grenade and one VC bunker at 1317H vic YS291839. The bunker and grenade were destroyed. Co B 2-47th Inf (-) (OPCON to TF 2-39) conducted S&D operations northeast from FSB NAILS to vic YS317280 and returned to FSB NAILS to remain over night. At 0859H an outpost from Co E spotted 2 VC and engaged them with small arms fire vic YS305820. The outpost pursued the VC for several hours resulting in negative US casualties and VC casualties unknown. Co E continued to secure FSB NAILS. TF 2-47th Inf (-) conducted S&D ops to the south with Co A and Co C to vic of LZ FILE YS287180. Co A commenced its sweeping operation south at 0900H. At 1128H, vic YS335970; Co A was unsuccessfully attacked by a VC ambush. The ambush was initiated by the VC firing an RFG at the rear of the lead M13 APC. The RFG missed the M13, exploded and caused only minor dents and scratches to the rear of the M13. Fire was returned by Co A and Co C moved from vic LZ FILES to reinforce Co A. Enroute Co C also received RFG and small arms fire. Co C arrived at the ambush site at 1131H, engaging the VC with small arms, automatic weapons and 50 cal machine gun fire causing the VC to break contact and flee to the west. The results of the contact were 2 US slightly wounded (treated by medic and remained on site), and VC casualties unknown. At 1607H, Co A found and destroyed 3 105mm Artillery rounds. At 1125, TF 2-47th Inf (-) resupply convoy enroute to FSB NAILS and escorted by Recon platoon (-), received small arms fire vic YS252865; fire was returned and the VC broke contact. There were negative US casualties; VC casualties were unknown. At 1045H, a patrol from Recon platoon made contact with 7 VC, engaging them with small arms fire vic YS270875. The VC broke contact and fled to the northeast. Artillery was fired into the area and at 1125H, Recon platoon (-) joined the patrol with combat tracker teams and
pursued the VC. Debriefing of the patrol concluded that there were two VC seen hit by small arms fire, however, a search of the area revealed only blood trails.

17 Jan: TF 2-39th Inf continued to conduct search and destroy operations east in zone. Co A followed by Co C (RRF) conducted a sweep east from vic YS303835 to clear objective vic YS314837. At 1145H, Co A found and destroyed one bunker vic YS313833 and at 1327H vic YS314837 destroyed 3 bunkers. Co A and Co C remained over night at vic YS312882. Co B conducted search and destroy operations northeast to vic YS294827 and returned to FSB NAII with negative VC contact and remained over night. Co B conducted search and destroy operations west and southwest in zone. Co A and C conducted search and destroy ops southwest from their night location to vic YS325884 at 0955H. Co C's point N13 hit an improvised 81mm mortar HE pressure detonated mine vic YS338885. There were negative casualties or equipment damage. At 1020H, Co A found and destroyed three VC bunkers vic YS328844. At 1145H, Co A found and destroyed a VC base camp containing 10 bunkers vic YS288877. Also found in the VC camp were expended 30 cal brass, C-ration cases, and 1 unexploded 81mm mortar HE pressure detonated mine YS245834, ten were new and the others old and unserviceable. The ten new bunkers were destroyed. The following equipment and supplies were found in the base camp area: 3 kitchens with pots and pans, 1 expended round of AK-47 ammo and 10 rounds of unexpended AK-47 small arms ammo. At 1300H, Recon platoon made contact with an unknown size VC force in a VC base camp located vic YS268882. In the ensuing fire fight the patrol sustained one KIA, one WIA dusted off, and three WIA with minor wounds (treated and returned to duty). Artillery fire and an immediate air strike were placed on the base camp resulting in 10 bunkers destroyed, 12 bunkers damaged and two hundred meters of trench destroyed.

18 Jan: TF 2-39th Inf initiated Phase III of Opn AKRON V by conducting an airmobile assault on the BINH SON air strip (YS299916) and conducted search and destroy ops south in zone. Co A spearheaded the assault, lifting off from LZ vic YS312882н at 0804H, followed by Co B 2-39th Inf and Co C. Co C completed the airmobile assault at 1140H. Upon securing the LZ, Co A, Co B and Co C with Recon platoon attached swept south in zone and established a three company night location vic YS279907. Co B, 2-47th Inf (M) secured the LZ for Co A, Co B and Co C; provided security for the motor movement of TF 2-39th Inf (-) from FSB NAII to FSB GREY (YS212897). Co B was returned to the control of TF 2-47th Inf (M) at 1340H. Upon being released from OPCON TF 2-39th Inf, Co B established a night location at LONG THAI (YS138921) and provided one platoon security force for the 8 inch Arty Battery located vic YS137916. Co C assumed the mission of rapid reaction force. TF 2-47th Inf (M) initiated phase III OPN AKRON V establishing blocking positions along the Engineer Trail from vic YS260860 to YS290888. Co A and Co C departed their night location at 0817H. Co A established blocking positions west of FSB HUMBER, screened and conducted roadrunner ops in zone. Co C established blocking positions along the Engineer trail vic YS290890 west to vic YS292885. At 1200H, Co C reported receiving 5 to 6 rounds of semi-automatic small arms fire from a sniper vic YS290890. Co C returned fire with small arms, automatic weapons and 81mm mortar. There were negative US casualties and VC casualties were unknown. At 1821H, Co C engaged one VC vic YS275885, with M79 and small arms fire resulting in negative US casualties; VC casualties were unknown. Recon platoon, TF 2-47th Inf (M) conducted local patrols north of FSB HUMBER and provided convoy security between Hwy 15 and FSB NAII. Co A and Co C remained overnight in their blocking positions. At 1300H, FSB HUMBER an CH-46 received 2 rounds of small arms fire. There were negative equipment damage or casualties.
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19 Jan: TF 2-39th Inf continued OPN AKRON V, Phase III conducting search and destroy ops south in zone with Co A, Co B and Co C with Recon platoon attached. At 1227H, Co C made contact with an estimated L-6 VC force vic YS260904. Co A engaged the VC with small arms, automatic weapons, and was supported by artillery. There was one KIA and one US WIA (KHEVCO); VC casualties were unknown. At 1320H, Co A found and destroyed five VC bunkers vic YS260904. Co C found and destroyed ten bunkers vic YS260904, and discovered the following items of equipment: 1 pair of US Army boots, small arms ammo, medical supplies, women's clothing and a small amount of documents. TF 2-39th Inf Headquarters and CP remained at FSB GREY (HINH SON). TF 2-47th Inf (M) continued Phase III, OPN AKRON V blocking in zone with Co A and Co B, maintained Co B at Long Thanh (YS138918) as a rapid reaction force to assist in the defense of RF/PF outposts vic Long Thanh; Recon platoon patrolled locally vic FSB NAHMAI, and provided roadrunners and convoy security between SVN route 15 and FSB NAHMAI. At 0912H, Co A found and destroyed a VC position containing 8 bunkers without overhead cover, Co C found and destroyed 5 bunkers vic YS262892 at 1442H.

20 Jan: TF 2-39th Inf continued OPN AKRON V, Phase III conducting search and destroy ops south in zone with Companies A, B & C. At 0855H, Co A engaged an unknown size VC force with small arms and automatic weapons fire vic YS262892. Co A was supported by artillery fire and an airstrike. There were two US WIA and VC casualties were unknown. Co C received automatic weapons fire (AK-47) and carbine fire at 1356H from an estimated force of seven VC. Co C returned fire immediately with small arms and automatic weapons fire causing the VC to flee the area, artillery was placed to block the escape route of the VC, however a sweep of the area revealed only blood trails and one VC structure which Co C destroyed. TF 2-39th Inf completed their sweep at 1658H and moved through TF 2-47th Inf (M) blocking positions and remained overnight at vic YS277890. TF 2-47th Inf (M) continued to screen and block in zone with Co A and Recon Platoon. Co B remained at Long Thanh (YS138918) providing a rapid reaction force for the defense of RF/PF outposts in the vic of Long Thanh. Co C released one platoon to OFOCON 199th Light Infantry Brigade at 1600H. Co C was released OFOCON to TF 4-39th Inf at 1035H.

21 Jan: TF 2-39th Inf completed OPN AKRON V with the airmobile extraction from AO AKRON. Co A, Co B and Co C were extracted from PZ vic YS277890 utilizing one airmobile helicopter company. The extraction commenced at 0816H and terminated at 1048H. BN Hq was extracted from FSB GREY commencing at 1100H using CH-47 helicopters and was completed at 1200H. Co E was extracted from a PZ vic YS277890 commencing at 1300H utilizing CH-47 helicopters and terminating at 1505H. TF 2-47th Inf (M) completed OPN AKRON V conducting a motorized withdrawal from AO AKRON with the BN Hq and Co A commencing at 0845H. Recon platoon secured the PZ for TF 2-39th Inf and withdrew upon the completed extraction. The last element of TF 2-47th Inf (M) cleared AO AKRON at 1400H.

12. RESULTS:

a. Enemy Losses

(1) Enemy Personnel Losses: VC KIA (BC) 57
   VC WIA 0
   Chieu Hoi 0
   Detainees 0

(2) Equipment Captured:

   a. Weapons: 4 AK-47s; 1 M-79; 1 60mm mortar; 4 RPG Rocket Launchers; 2 M-16s.
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(b) Ammunition: Mortar rounds: 119; Small Arms ammo: 4,000; Mines: 1; RPG-2 rounds: 14; Claymore: 1.

(a) Foodstuffs: Rice: 12,950; Dried Shrimp: 25 lbs; Fish: 5 lbs; Candy: 10 lbs; Rock Sugar: 15 lbs.

(d) Medical Supplies: 121 lbs

(c) Communications: 1 TA 312

(f) Document: 49 lbs; 1 Map (hand Drawn)

(g) Clothing: 50 lbs

(3) Items Destroyed: 198 bunkers and 15 mortar rounds.

b. Friendly Losses

(1) Personnel:

(a) KIA 5

(b) WIA 63

(c) NB 4

(2) Equipment: None

13. Administration

a. The administration planning of Operation AUMON III proved to be sound, and the logistical combat service support was effective throughout the period of operation. The logistical support, Class I - IV was supplied directly from distribution points of 9th S&T BN, Bearcat (XT151009). Class V was distributed direct from 3rd Ord BN, Long Binh, ARVN. Land ice was EYT Q/15 and 320. Aerial resupply by UH-1D and CH-47 aircrafts was utilized for tactical ground units inaccessible by existing road nets.

b. Supply

(1) Class I point, 9th S&T BN (Bearcat) issued during period of operation:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;A&quot; Ration</td>
<td>4146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;B&quot; Ration</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;C&quot; Ration</td>
<td>34,796</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sundry Packs</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LDDP Rations</td>
<td>197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potable Ice (lb)</td>
<td>364,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sterilized Milk (cases)</td>
<td>490</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Units remained on a ration cycle C-C-C for most of the operation without noted discrepancies.

(2) Class II and IV:

(a) Class II requisitions were handled by the rear detachments who maintained radio communications with forward locations.

(b) All other items of an urgent nature were flown directly to requesting unit on an as needed basis by rear detachment personnel.
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(a) Class IV barrier material issued during period of operation included 444 Engineer stakes, 32,000 sandbags, and 6 bundles of concertina barbwire.

(b) Class III and IIIA

(a) Class III dispensing point, Bearcat Base Camp issued during period:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ITEM</th>
<th>QUANTITY</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NOGAS</td>
<td>DEISEL</td>
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<tr>
<td>8066 gal</td>
<td>8044 gal</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) Class III was delivered forward, by organic unit 1200 gal tankers, 500 gallon collapsible bladders, 55 gallon fuel cans.

(c) Class V

(a) Expenditure of class V by all units, remained within the limit of the 9th Division KSR.

(b) No shortage of any type ammunition occurred during the period of operation.

(c) Ammunition expenditures by type and quantities during the period of operations are as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>TOTAL ROUNDS EXPENDED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.56mm Ball/Tracers</td>
<td>174,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.62mm Ball/Tracers</td>
<td>1,820</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.62mm Link</td>
<td>64,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>40mm, HE</td>
<td>4,354</td>
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<tr>
<td>40mm, Conister</td>
<td>134</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45 Cal Ball</td>
<td>2,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90mm HE BR</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81mm HE</td>
<td>1,968</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>81mm Ill.</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 HE</td>
<td>1,354</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 Ill.</td>
<td>687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 WP</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2 CS Experimental</td>
<td>90</td>
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<tr>
<td>105 HE</td>
<td>8,305</td>
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<tr>
<td>105 Ill.</td>
<td>211</td>
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<tr>
<td>105 WP</td>
<td>559</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pyrotechnics (All types)</td>
<td>287</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fragmentary Grenades</td>
<td>358</td>
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<tr>
<td>WP Grenades</td>
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<tr>
<td>C4</td>
<td>1,700 lbs</td>
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<tr>
<td>C4 Det. Cords</td>
<td>750 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C4 Det. Cords</td>
<td>40 lbs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Fuse</td>
<td>300 each</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Fuse Igniter</td>
<td>10,000 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Det. Cords</td>
<td>300 each</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(c) Maintenance

(1) Company C, 709th Maint Bn and HQ & A Co 709th Maint Bn received the following job orders in direct support of all battalions and separate companies.

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461 Track  Small Arms  Chemical  Flame/Heat  Instrument
18  10  58  0  6  5  3

(2) Recovery operations performed upon request of supported units totaled none.

d. Medical Evacuation and Hospitalization

(1) Patient categories handled by Co B 9th Med Bn were as follows:

\[
\begin{array}{cccccc}
\text{DERM} & \text{TUM} & \text{DIE} & \text{EVAC} & \text{HUSHUFF} \\
10 & 2 & 4 & 0 & 0 & 6
\end{array}
\]

(2) Dustoff procedures and medical evacuation of slightly wounded personnel was deemed fully adequate.

e. Transportation

(1) Army Aviation Helicopters were utilized to air lift class of supply from Bearcat to forward areas as follows:

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{OH}23 & \text{UH}60 & \text{CH}47 \\
439 & 142 & 23
\end{array}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
\text{Weight} & 50,000 \text{ lbs} & 186,700 \text{ lbs} & 156,000 \text{ lbs}
\end{array}
\]

f. Services

(1) Unit water trailers were slung airlifted and extracted on a daily basis by CH47.

(2) Metal and plastic 5 gallon containers were utilized during the operation.

(3) Non-potable water sources in forward areas were purified on an individual basis by the use of iodine/chlorine tablets.

g. Graves Registration: GR support was provided by the 9th S&T Battalion located at Bearcat.

14. Civic Actions/Psychological Operations: There were no civic action projects conducted that were directly related to Operation AIFCN. During Operation AIFCN V, the PSTO Team, through coordination with S-2 and S-3, flew both loudspeaker and leaflet missions in support of the operation. A first was introduced during the operation. This was the use of 105 artillery shells filled with leaflets. There was a total of 567,600 leaflets disseminated during the operation. Of these, 24,000 were dispersed by means of the 105mm artillery rounds. The themes of the leaflets were: Chieu Hoi Mixture, Chieu Hoi Questions, Soar and Power, Ileas Power, Safe Conduct Passes and assorted TET leaflets. There were also two special leaflets developed and printed especially for use against the 274th VC Regiment. The loudspeaker unit of the U-10 aircraft was utilized for a total time of four (4) hours and five minutes. The themes of the tapes were taken from the JUSPAO produced stock. These themes fitted well with the situations encountered. However, the team produced one tape in response to intelligence reports of a resupply effort through the village of Bn Ky. The greatest discovery of the operation, in a PSTO point of view, was the use of 105mm artillery shells. This gives the timely delivery of propaganda on a particular unit, while they are still in contact with our forces. The only drawback to the shells is that they are prepacked with standard Chieu Hoi Leaflets and Safe Conduct Passes. Special situations still require the use of an aircraft. In a number of instances
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the aerial dissemination immediately proceeded either an air strike or an
artillery barrage. Although not planned, the psychological advantages are
tremendous. The leaflets are not sooner on the ground than the attack is
upon them. This brings a real sense of credibility to all our propaganda.

15. Commander's Evaluation: Operation AKRON V succeeded in locating and
destroying elements of the 274th VC Main Force Regiment as prescribed in the
original mission. The absence of the FIRST BRIGADE in AO RILEY, and specific-
ally AO AKRON, during the Operation SANTA FE allowed the VC/VNA elements
to improve fortifications, stockpile supplies and move about freely. (Group
D, 3-5th Cav performed admirably in their overwatch mission (Operation AKRON
IV) and gathered valuable intelligence, but they did not possess the ground
troops to curtail VC movements and operations. It was evident from pre-
operational intelligence that AO AKRON had been used as a refuge and way
station on a major north-south supply route. This route lead from the HAT
Special Zone northeast across Hwy 1 through the HAT DICH area and north
across Hwy 1 into War Zone D and it was active during November and December.
Movements were also traced east from the HAT DICH area to the HAT TAO Secret
Zone. The airmobile and ground assault of the 2-39th Inf and the 2-47th
Inf (N) respectively, and the sweep east toward the 1st ATF/3-5th Cav block,
trapped several elements of the 274th Regt. This was verified by the moder-
ately heavy contacts and enemy delaying actions encountered in base camp
locations. The contacts succeeded in fragmenting the VC/VNA elements,
eliminatig several of their coveted base locations, and sharply deterred
their plans. The major contributing factors that allowed 1st Brigade elements
to close with the enemy were the surprise achieved by the insertion on LZ
SCAGIVT of an Infantry battalion without preparatory fires and the
deliberate late positioning of forces, especially artillery. Should this
operation or one of similar characteristics be conducted again a few adjust-
ments could be warranted. With the same number of maneuver elements available
it might be advisable to sweep and block a smaller area. Greater concentration
would undoubtedly increase the degree of success achieved on this type of
operation. Combining Infantry, both US and Australian, Armored Cavalry and
Mechanized Infantry, with cross attacks wherever practical, proved to be
tactically effective and feasible. Support with the 1st ATF was reinforced
by close cooperation and coordination during both planning and execution
phases. Operation AKRON V contributed much to the further welding of FMAAP.
The forces participating in Operation AKRON V did much to accelerate the
neutralization of the HAT DICH area as a VC haven.

Acknowledgements:

Distribution:

15 - HQ 1st Bde
30 - 119th Mil Hist Det
1 - 3rd Div G3 (R&E)
2 - 2-39th Inf
2 - 4-39th Inf
2 - 2-47th Inf (N)
2 - 3-5th Cav
2 - 1-11th Arty
5 - 1st ATF

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