

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Infantry units

Item number: 7/1/54

**Item: 1 Battalion Royal Australian
Regiment**

Annexes

[1-31 Dec 1965]

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

2 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 200
2. Period Covered: 011800 to 021800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
4. Time and Date of Issue: 021800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: Several reports of small arms fire into the Brigade CP perimeter were received during the night of 1 Dec. Additional rice caches were discovered throughout the day totaling some 48.5 tons. 62 VC suspects were apprehended by 2/503 Inf and are presently undergoing interrogation. Details of today's activities follow:
 - a. Ground Activity:
 - (1) (1830 hrs) 12 additional VC suspects were apprehended by 2/503 Inf, vic YT 854441, and are presently undergoing interrogation.
 - (2) (2115 hrs) Company A and C, 1/26 Inf, reported receiving small arms fire into their perimeter vic YT 721319 and YT 720340, respectively. Several individuals were sighted running from the area when fire was returned. At YT 712326, an individual was seen in the woodline but fled when fired upon with the aid of a sniper scope.
 - (3) At 2100 hrs, a trip flare was set off in front of Company D Maintenance's perimeter, vic YT 725329. 3 personnel, observed running towards Vo Dat, were fired upon.
 - (4) (2200 hrs) A grenade was thrown into the 3/319th Arty area vic YT 788382.
 - (5) (0050 hrs) Again, A Company, 1/26 Inf reported receiving several rounds of small arms fire into their perimeter.
 - (6) (0900 hrs) At YT 866427, one VC body was found by A Company, 2/503 Inf. Area of discovery was location of previous artillery fires on suspected VC positions.
 - (7) At 0935 hrs, A Company, 2/503 Inf, found one small mine wired for electrical detonation. Instructions, written on the mine in English, said, "Do not use until January 1966." Also found was one transformer and a flare which was dated 1944. (YT 860426)
 - (8) (1050 hrs) One VC, with weapon and steel helmet, was sighted by 2/503 Inf vic YT 840421.
 - (9) (1100 hrs) A rallier to the 1/RAR reported a VC Main Force Bn was operating in the vic of YT 857440 to YT 830475. He further stated a VC hospital was located vic YT 837471.
 - (10) (1100 hrs) Several documents were found in a rice bin vic YT 815343 by G-5 staff members while removing rice from a cache.
 - (11) (1105 hrs) 1/RAR discovered cache consisting of 7 tons of polished rice, 25 tons of paddy rice and 200 lbs of salt vic YT 807346.

INTSUM Number: 200 (Continued)

(12) (1300 hrs) Elements of 2/503 Inf found Willys station wagon vic YT 850417. (Vehicle being removed to Brigade Hqs location). An additional 50 VC suspects were reported at this time and are undergoing interrogation.

(13) (1430 hrs) 1/RAR discovered 16.5 tons of polished rice (250-60 kilo bags) and 7 tons of paddy rice vic YT 806336.

(14) (1430 hrs) 26 rounds of assorted ammunition and several documents were found by 1/RAR vic YT 834375.

(15) (Late report) Rallier turned himself over to the 1/RAR on 1 Dec vic Vo Xu.

(16) (1615 hrs) 150, 100 lb bags of cement were found by 2/503 Inf vic YT 882436.

(17) A rallier from the Vo Xu area turned himself in with Mauser 98 rifle to District Chief and was brought to 173d Bde for interrogation. (1800)

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

(1) (1815 hrs) Local villager of Phuong Lam (YT 7248) informed the 1/503 Inf that a rice cache is located vic YT 764529 which is a fortified area.

(2) (0900 hrs) The village chief of Phuong Lam (YT 7248) related the following information to the 1/503 Inf on 2 Dec 65:

The village at YT 7647 is booby trapped and well fortified. Friendly civilians are also reported as living in this village; air and artillery strikes on the hill mas in GS YT 7749 caused many VC casualties. The VC have subsequently moved their force to include their wounded, from this area to GS YT 7945.

(3) Village chief of Dong Heip (YT 6738) reported the following information today: VC base area is located YT 670375; VC base area is located YT 680449 and 6945; VC base area is located YT 6946; VC road block located at YT 640402, consists of 500 men with automatic weapons and 60mm mortars. (Date of information is 30 Nov 65)

(4) (Late entry) 2/503 Inf reported that an originally selected LZ area, which was not used during their air mobile assault yesterday, contained sharpened poles 6' high and dispersed 35' - 40' apart to form an anti helicopter obstacle. (YT 880445)

(5) (0800 hrs) Aerial observer reported the road vic YT 897475 impassable to vehicles due to washout and the bridge, located at YT 909503, has center span out. Numerous foot bridges were seen across the streams located in the hill complex vic GS YT 8648.

(6) At 1415 hrs, 3 farm tractors were reported hidden in the trees vic YT 873423. 30 sampans were also sighted in a creek vic YT 761448. Many women and children were observed in the craft.

(7) Local villagers report that the VC took large quantities of rice from them during the past two years. The VC reportedly would take the rice with no compensation eight or ten times in a row, and then buy some rice at a higher than "market" price. The VC would deny stealing rice and claim that they always paid a premium price to the villagers.

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel:

(1) KIA By: Ground Forces Confirmed - 1 Possible - 0

CONFIDENTIAL

122

INTSUM Number: 200 (Continued)

(2)	Captives	Defector	Rallier	Suspect
	VC		2	62

NOTE: Total to date for operation: VCC 154, Ralliers 17, Suspects 143, total-314.

b. Equipment Losses: 48.5 tons of rice, 200 lbs of salt, 20 documents, 1 Mauser rifle, 1 transformer, 1 mine, 1 flare, 1 Willys station wagon, 26 rds of small arms ammo, 150-100 lb bags of cement.

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identification: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Partly cloudy to mostly cloudy, hot and humid.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities: No Change

14. Conclusions: No Change

RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry
C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
021000 December 1965
Interrogator: Lt Ngoc (ARVN)

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-178

Name: PHAM BIEN
Date of Birth: 8 March 1935
Place of Birth: DUC THO Village, MO DUC District, QUANG NGAI Province
Occupation: Farmer.

INFORMATION OBTAINED:

Source was unable to furnish any new tactical intelligence information.

INTERROGATOR'S COMMENTS: Source is a peasant, working on a farm. Recommend source be evacuated to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
Vo Dat, RVN
021000 December 1965
Interrogator: Lt NGOC (RVNAF)
Map: VO XU, 1:50,000, Sheet
6544 IV, Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-129

Name: TRAN BAY Alias: None
Date of Birth: 1928
Place of Birth: Tan Phong, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Parents: Father: Tran Lai (deceased)
Mother: Ngo Thi Cong (deceased)
Residence: Vo Xu

Information:

Organization of Sung Nhon:

Sung Nhon II consists of 3 Sub-Hamlets. 1, 2, and 3.

Military Organization of Sung Nhon II:

War trenches and commo trenches: Around the village there is a moat. In the hamlet there are only bomb shelters dug under houses. There are no commo trenches or war trenches.

Booby trapped areas: Saw many above ground panji stakes on the right and left sides of the village (YT820450 and YT830460) and along the road from Sung Nhon I to Sung Nhon II (YT830450).

Defense Forces: There are about 15 persons armed with rifles (type unknown), the majority of whom are old and weak. The youth all follow the VC.

Road of retreat of the VC: Source believe that when the ARVN enter the village, the VC will retreat into the jungle in back of the village. In this area there are no trenches. Perhaps the VC will retreat along the creek.

VC situation: About 3 months ago, a group of about 24 persons went into the jungle near road 20 (YT763527) carrying about 240 entrenching tools to the back of a house at the edge of the jungle outside of Sung Nhon II. The exact area where the VC went is not clear.

The source confirms the following information of ME PU:

Medical point (YT857427).

District Headquarters (?) (YT858427). There is a cadre name Trung working here. In the village of ME PU, there are only bomb shelters.

Comments: This information is only partially reliable. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

179 c2
i/ROR

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
Vo Dat, RVN
021100 December 1965
Interrogator: WO Chieu (RVNAP)
Map: VO XU, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-230

Name: NGUYEN NON Alias: None
Date of Birth: 16 April 1935
Place of Birth: Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Parents: Father: Nguyen Ni (60)
Mother: Huynh Thi Ni (57)
Residence: Vo Xu

Information:

Guerrilla Forces protecting Vo Xu:

Hamlet Leader: Vo Loi
Asst " " : Luong Thong
Nr of Troops : About 50
Nr of Weapons: 1 LMG
1 Carbine
A number of Mausers
A number of grenades

COMMENTS:

Hamlet VC, does not know anything concerning Sub-Hamlet. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
Vo Dat, RVN
021400 December 1965
Interrogator: Lt Chieu (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xa, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-131

Name: VO CHU Alias: None
Date of Birth: 1948
Place of Birth: Pho Tung, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
 Father: Vo Dinh (deceased)
 Mother: Phan Thi Bi
Residence: Vo Xu

Information:

Source has only been a guerrilla for approximately 2 months and has contracted malaria, therefore, he spends most of his time in bed. He claims that only knowledge concerning VC is that on or about 20 November 1965, while he was in bed, he saw 50 persons armed with rifles and 1 carrying a 60mm mortar tube moving on road 1 (between Vo Xu and Me Pu). According to source, this was either a district force unit or a Binh Tuy Provincial unit but he is not sure.

Comments:

Source is VC (Nghia Linh Sub-Hamlet Guerrilla). Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det, IPW Section
 173d Abn Bde (Sep)
 Vo Dat, RVN
 2 December 1965
 Interrogator: Asp Trach
 Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
 6544 IV, Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-181

Name: Huynh Van Man
 Alias: None
 DOB: 16 June 1941
 POB: Pho Binh, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
 Present Address: VO XU
 Occupation: Farmer
 Parents:
 Father: N/A
 Mother: N/A

Information:

Guerrilla platoon of Ngia Pho

Cadre:

Plt Ldr: Huynh Van Man
 Sub Plt Ldr: Tran Qua
 Composition: 2 squads
 Squad 1....Squad Ldr, Le Du
 Squad 2....Squad Ldr, Phan Long Dat

Quartering Places: Quartered in Nghia Pho (YT825378), Vo Xu

Activity.

Guard: Day and night the guerrillas take shifts. Masquerading as civilians they stand guard to protect against the Vietnamese Army. (YT 832 378)

Peoples mission: To destroy the roads and bridges along road 20 (informant does not know the exact position. He only knows it is on road 20 about 13 hours walk northeast of Vo Xu).

Making of Panji pits and booby trapped areas.

Each guerrilla must make 1000 panji stakes and 1 pit. Each group must make around 15 pits and about 10,000 stakes. These stakes are planted in the jungle (YT 810377) and in the vicinity of the office of the village authorities of Vo Xu (YT823377)

Rice Caches; around the end of October 1965 a group of guerrillas (8 people) went into the jungle to dig a storage area for rice (YT823337). This job isn't yet finished so the informant doesn't know how much rice is stored there.

Comments:

Officer's comments.

Informant is a VC. Recommend forward to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
 1st Lt, AIS
 OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det, IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
Vo Dat, RVN
2 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Trach
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV, Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-213

Name: Dang Nghia
Alias: None
DOB: 10 Dec 1940
POB: Son Huong, Son Tinh, Quang Ngai
Present Address: Vo Dat
Occupation: Farmer
Parents: Father; Dang Tap
Mother; Truong Thi Ty

Information:

Informant doesn't know anything about VC.

Officer's Comments: No worth. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RDR C2
175

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
022000 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Chieu (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Dat, 1: 50,000, Sheet
6544 IV, Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-123

Name: LB VAN SAU
Date of Birth: 2 January 1934
Place of Birth: Pho Khanh, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Fisherman
Residence: Nghia Duc Hamlet, Vo Xu

Information:

No information obtained.

Comments:

Source cannot supply good information. Claims he does not know about VC. Source said he had no personal weapon. Interrogator feels source is a VC. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det, IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
2 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Hung
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-169

Name: Ho Doi
DOB: 20 August 1949
POB: Nghia Hanh, Quang Ngai
Present Address: Nghia Binh (Vo Xu)
Occupation: Farmer
Function w/VC: Information Chief of Nghia Binh (Vo Xu); weapons(none)
Information:

No useful information was obtained.

Comment:

Source is a local guerrilla of Nghia Binh Hamlet (Vo Xu), for approximately 15 days. During this time he was VC information chief at Nghia Binh (Vo Xu).
Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det, IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
2 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Trach
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-98

Name: Huynh Man
Function w/VC: None
DOB: 2 October 1938
POB: Nghia Thanh, Quang Ngai
Present Address: Sub Hamlet Nghia Binh, Vo Xu
Occupation: Farmer
Weapons: None

Information:

Around June 1965 source was captured by the VC and taken to the area of a salt cache in the forest near Sung Nhon II in order to help the VC. This group was composed of about 16 people, each person carried about 18 kilos of salt. This salt was acquired in the area of Me Pu. They passed the area of Me Pu following the road in a north westerly direction. Because they were worn out, source does not know the route, therefore, source also does not know where they went. Source knows after 5 hours of walking from Me Pu, his group arrived in a jungle area where this salt was stored. (Source does not know where this cache is located)

Comment:

Source was forced to help the VC against his will, and had no interest in what they did. Therefore, source does not have much information.
Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, Ipw Section

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO XU, RVN
022040 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Trach (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

RALLIER INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-204

Name: MAI TOI
Date of Birth: 1 March 1941
Place of Birth: Pho Hiep, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Residence: Nghia Tinh, Vo Xu
Function with VC: Guerrilla
Weapons: None

Information:

Source has no information of VC activities at Sung Nhon 2 and Me Pu. All other information rallier possessed was exploited by 17 Cav. Recommend source be evacuated to Chieu Hoi Center, Ham Tan, Binh Tuy Province.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det, IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
2 December 1965
Interrogator: Lt Ngoc
Map: VO XU, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV, Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-117

Name: VO EM
DOB: 1948
POB: Quang Ngai

Information:

NLF Government Cadre in VO XU

Chairman: Mr Cau
Self-Support Committee Chairman: Mr Choy
Farmer's Committee Chairman: Ky
Construction Committee Chairman: Cho
Guerrilla Platoon Leader: Mau, aka Ky
Secret Agent: Tien Thoi

Cadre in Nghia Tinh Sub Hamlet:

Chairman: ~~Them~~
Ass't Chairman: Vo Chanh
Security: Pham Chau
Farmers: Duy
Military: My

Comment:

This information is reliable. Can not prove source is VC but do to his likely military age we suspect him of VC activities. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR
170

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
022145 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Chieu (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-171

Name: PHAM PHAM
Date of Birth: 5 September 1931
Place of Birth: Quang Ngai
Residence: Nghia Binh Sub-Hamlet, Vo Xu

Information:

The trail from Be Bu to Song Nhon II is booby trapped and there are camouflaged foxholes on both sides about 1.2m wide by 0.6m long.

There are also tunnels near the trail and in the village for protection from planes. Exact locations unknown.

About 2 months ago (Sep 65), 100 civilians carried 20 kilo sacks of salt to vicinity coordinates YR840457, where there were storehouses about 2.5m X 3m.

In Aug 65, approximately 150 persons from Vo Xu and Be Bu were sent out to destroy the road. They worked at night and hid in the daytime. This project took 2 nights to complete.

Comments:

Reliable information, needs to be checked. Recommend source be evacuated to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
CIC, IPW Section

172d MI Detachment IPW Section
 173d Abn Bde (Sep)
 VO DAT, RVN
 2 December 1965

SUBJECT: Roster of VC in Vo Xu Village

TO : C2
 173d Abn Bde (Sep)

FROM : OIC, IPW Section
 172d MI Det

The following is a roster of VC in Vo Xu Village compiled from captives during screening.

NGUYEN THUA - Leader, Hamlet Unit
 TRAN QUOC MINH - Assistant
 NGUYEN VANG NGHIEP - Village Security
 LE TU - Member (Squad Leader)
 NGUYEN LUONG - Member (Squad Leader)
 LAM VAN PHAT - Member (Asst Platoon Leader)
 PHAM MINH - Member
 TRAN MINH - Member
 NGUYEN DANG CACH - Member
 NGUYEN TAN PHUONG - Member
 NGUYEN DU - Member
 NGUYEN DUN - Member
 NGUYEN PHUOC - Member
 TRAM VAN NHI - Member
 CAO PHU - Member
 NGUYEN CHUYEN - Member
 NGUYEN NGAI - Member
 NGUYEN DANG TUAT - Member
 HI TRUNG - Member
 NGUYEN NHUONG - Member
 LUU DANG - Platoon Leader

SUB-HAMLET #1, (Vo Xu)

LE VAN ANH - Chairman
 VI TOAN - Vice Chairman
 NGUYEN VAN DIEN - Hamlet Information Officer

Cadre of Sub-Hamlet #1

LE HONG TAM - Secretary
 DANG CANH - Economics
 PHAM PHUONG - Member
 HUYNH KIEN - Member
 CAO LUU - Vice Chairman for Defense
 NGUYEN GIAO - Asst Leader
 BUI TRAI (TAI) - Hamlet Leader, Commander of Hamlet Guerrillas
 PHAM HIEN - Leader of Farmer's Association
 DANG MAN - Security
 NGUYEN TRU - Member, Civilian Proselyting Section
 NGUYEN VAN - Security Section
 NGUYEN THINH - Asst Hamlet Security
 NGUYEN THAN - Hamlet Chairman? (Hamlet #2)
 LE TIEN - NLF Party Chairman

Hamlet #2

NGUYEN VAN THANH - Chairman, Ethnic Minorities?
 TRUCNG ON - Hamlet Leader
 PHAM DINH NONG - Hamlet Asst Leader
 TRUNG MINH TU - Secretary
 NGUYEN TANH - Hamlet Chairman
 LE THIEN - Asst Hamlet Chairman

KENNETH R. BROWN
 1st Lt, AIS
 OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
022200 December 1965
Interrogator: WO Chieu (ARVN)
Map: VO XU, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series I701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-225

Name: NGUYEN CAN
Date of Birth: 10 May 1929
Place of Birth: BINH DINH Province
Present Address: NGHIA HO Sub-Hamlet, VO XU (YT 820380), TANH LINH District,
BINH TUY Province

INFORMATION OBTAINED:

Source stated that there is a booby-trapped area (punji pits .5m deep) in a clearing in the forest about 300 meters north of SUNG NHON II (YT 825452) at vicinity YT 520454.

Rice Storage area: In August 1965 the VC mobilized 300 civilians to carry about three tons of rice from SUNG NHON to vicinity YT 823451. After carrying the rice to this spot, the civilians were told to return home. Source surmises that the rice is now hidden in vicinity about coordinates.

INTERROGATOR'S COMMENTS: This information is reliable, needs checking. Source is not a VC. Recommend source be evacuated to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
022210 December 1965
Interrogator: WO Chieu (ARVN)

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-215

Name: NGUYEN CONG THAN
Date of Birth: 10 January 1949
Place of Birth: QUANG TRI Province

INFORMATION OBTAINED:

Source was unable to furnish any new information of tactical value.

INTERROGATOR'S COMMENTS: Source does not live near ME PU. Source went to VO XU after the VC seized control, but moved to VO DAT and knows nothing important about the VC. Recommend source be evacuated to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
2 December 1965

CONSOLIDATED SCREENING REPORT NR 7 (RALLIERS)

The following name individual is rallier:

DANG LAM (65-NL-137)

INTERROGATOR'S COMMENTS: The above rallier was very cooperative and volunteered to lead us to a rice cache. This rice cache was previously given by another source and has since been recovered.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172D MI DETACHMENT (Abn Bde)

2 December 1965

DOCUMENT EXPLOITATION REPORT

(Documents captured by 1/RAR, 27 Nov 1965 at YT785375.)

General:

2 documents consisting of one land clearance application and one hand written copy.

Comments:

Documents are of no tactical value and recommend they be evacuated to District Headquarters.

Document Screener: Sgt Le Van Hiep

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SB

3 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

- 1. INTSUM Number: 201
- 2. Period Covered: 021800 to 031800 Dec 65
- 3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
- 4. Time and Date of Issue: 031800 Dec 65

5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: Several reports of small arms fire into the Brigade CP perimeter were received during the night of 2 Dec. An additional rice cache discovered in the same general area (YT 8033) as some previously found, indicates this area was well developed as a base and supply area. Local villagers appear to generally favor our presence as indicated by the number of VC being pointed out by these villagers. Details of today's activities follow:

a. Ground Activity:

(1) (2020 hrs) 1/26 elements received AW fire vic YT 718343, after fire was returned, AW fire ceased.

(2) At 2215 hrs, a trip flare was set off and AW fire was received by C Company, 1/26 at YT 714342.

(3) (0010 hrs) A flare went off vic perimeter of A Company, 1/26 Inf (YT 722317). No personnel were observed.

(4) (0750 hrs) A/1/503 reported capturing 2 VC vic YT 765475.

(5) (1030) 1/503 captured 8 VC suspects and one container of documents at YT 763475.

(6) (0930) B/1/RAR located a VC hut at YT 799358 believed to have been vacated approx 30 days ago. A second hut was found 100 meters N of the first.

(7) (1140) 2/503 reported two secondary explosions at YT 869472 after airstrike.

(8) (1115) A/1/RAR located a cache containing approx 1.4 tons of rice, 20 sheets of galvanized iron and a vent for a tunnel. The area was believed abandoned 3 weeks ago. (YT 800337)

(9) (1200) E/17 Cav, acting on information given by a friendly informer, captured one VC at YT 752342.

(10) (1400 hrs) 2 VC suspects were captured in Sung Nhon II. (YT 825450) by A Company, 2/503 Inf.

(11) At 1545 hrs, villager of Nom-Soa (YT 765475) turned over one VC to C Company, 1/503 Inf.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

(1) (1910 hrs) Spt Bn demolition team operating in the area of the 2/503 Inf destroyed 10 - 20' X 24' underground bunkers. Most of the bunkers had 2 entrances about 15' - 20' yards apart (YT 865428)

(2) VCC, captured in Sung Nhon I, 2 Dec, indicated the possible location of a PAVN Bn in defensive positions vic YT 822450. (2230 hrs)

INTSUM Number: 201

(3) (0615 hrs) III Corps reported a reconnaissance aircraft in area YT 8352 sighted many fires on the first pass. On the second pass, all fires were out (at 0320 hrs)

(4) (0755 hrs) S-5 representative to Hoai Duc District released Vietnamese National to the IPW Section, 172d MI Detachment. Vietnamese stated he was one of 400 porters which carried 3 weapons each to YT 6364 approx 2 months ago. Weapons were believed to be new Mauser rifles.

(5) (1155 hrs) 10th Div reported that on 011300 Dec, a rallier informed Vietnamese officials that VC 7th Regt was at YT 772535.

(6) Following air strike at 1715 hrs, FAC reported one hut destroyed and another burning which appeared to be covering a tunnel entrance. (YT 862467)

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel:

(1) KIA BY:	Confirmed	Possible	
Ground Forces	0	0	
(2) Captives	Defector	Rallier	Suspect
VC 4			10

NOTE: Total for operation now: VCC -158, Rallier-17, Suspects-15

b. Equipment Losses: $1\frac{1}{4}$ tons of rice, approximately 150 documents, 20 sheets of galvanized iron, and 4 huts.

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identification: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to partly cloudy, hot and humid. Ground Fog 0400-0900 limited visibility to approx 50 yards.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

(1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity

(2) Limited local defense in village areas

(3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

(a) 1 possibly two regiments

(b) 1 PAVN Bn

(c) U/I Bn

(d) 1 Guerrilla Bn

(e) 3 Local Guerrilla companies

Confidential


169

INTSUM Number: 201 (Continued)

Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Bns.

b. The enemy may mount an attack of multi-battalion or regimental size.

14. Conclusions: The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.


RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry
C-2

GROUP 4

Confidential

11RAR
161
7/12

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
032215 December 1965
Interrogator: Sgt Hiep (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-195

Name: TRAN HUU CHI
Date of Birth: 12 October 1930 Age: 35
Place of Birth: Pho Hiep, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Marital Status: Wife, 5 children
Wife: Nguyen Thi Na
Father: Tran Hoa, 72 (deceased)
Mother: Duong Thi Gan, 68
Present Address: Nghia Pho, Vo Xu Village since 1959

Information:

One month ago, source stated the VC forced him to work with them as a guard (Asst Squad Idr).

Six months ago, he was captured by VC to study about communist propaganda, and to be re-educated. They sentenced him to jail for 15 days, and kept him in the forest between Sung Nhon II and Rjin Mountain (source does not know the location of the jail). After 15 days in prison, they sent him back to Sung Nhon II where he escaped from VC.

While he was being forced to work as a labor for VC, he saw 20 VC who had on mixed clothings and carried sub-machineguns, rifles, and carbines. Source does not remember how many.

He saw 6 VCs called the Liberation group in Sung Nhon II.

Six months ago, he knew there were 300-400 in Sung Nhon II population. Half of them liked the VC, (reason unknown), and the other half did not like the VC because they cannot endure the VC taxation and the VC civilian labor.

He states that he had never been in Me Pu.

He saw 6 men come to Sung Nhon II, but did not know who the 6 men were. When he saw them, he was told by 1 of the 6 men that they were the liberation group.

He also states that there were bamboo sticks along the road from Sung Nhon II to Sung Nhon I. Source did not have a weapon while serving with the VC. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

✓

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

166 1/RAR

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
032145 December 1965
Interrogator: Sgt Hiep (RVNAF)
Map: VO XU, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-108

Name: PHAM CHAU
Residence: Vo Xu Village, Nghia Tinh Hamlet

Information:

Source was forced by VC to join Hamlet Militia. When he is on guard duty, the VC give him two grenades but he must turn them in when he goes off guard. He turns the grenades into Mr Nguyen Bay or Mr Nguyen My.

Source knows following VC:

Nguyen Bay: Asst Hamlet Leader, Nghia Tinh Hamlet. Mr Bay carried a Mauser rifle.

Nguyen Thanh: Hamlet guerrilla, Nghia Tinh Hamlet.

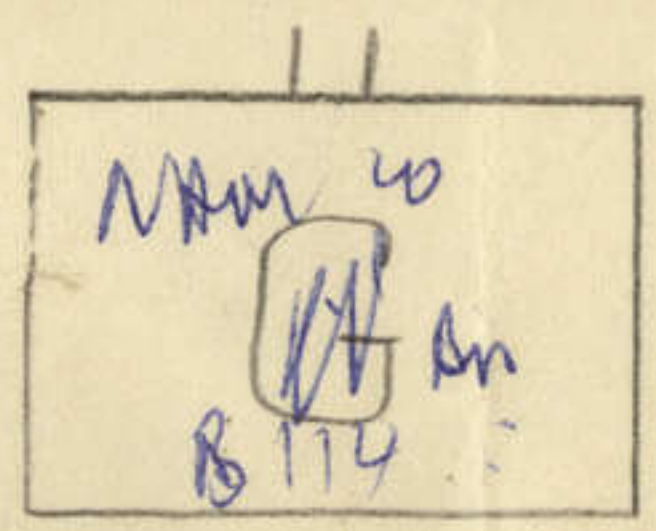
Nguyen Chan: Village Guerrilla, Nghia Pho Hamlet. He carried a Mauser rifle.

Mr Loi: Hamlet unknown. He carried a carbine.

Comments:

Source is not a dedicated VC but he did serve in Hamlet Militia and therefore, should be evacuated to Province Headquarters. Source did not have a weapon while with the VC.

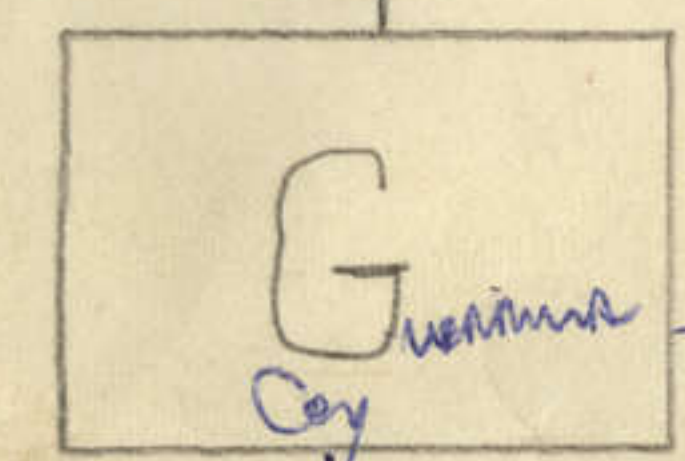
KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section



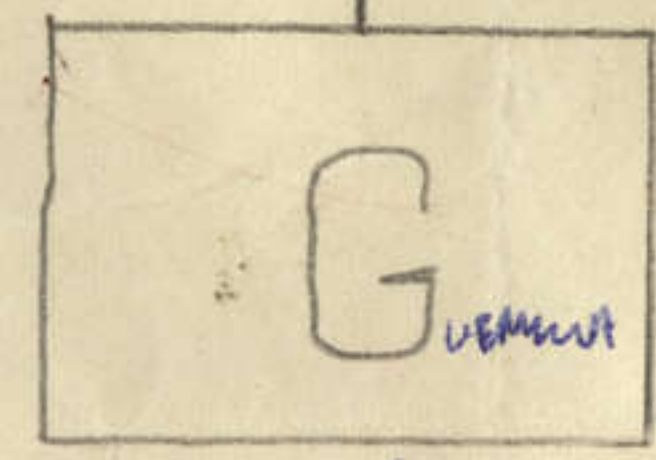
NAM LO
(B.114)

DUONG VAN NAM

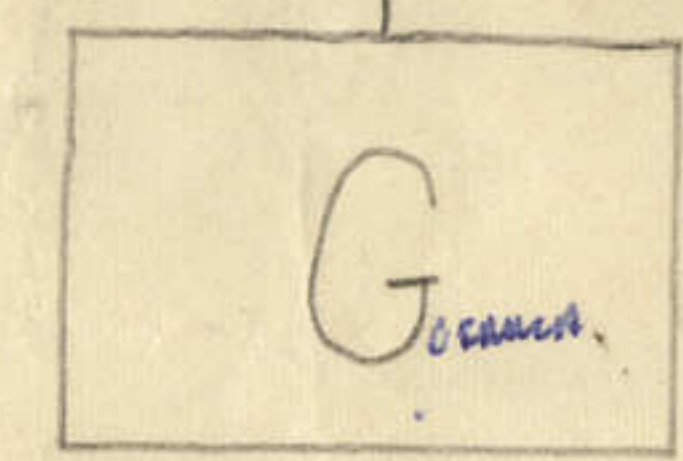
up to BAR(?) and 24x M16
Thompson and M1A1 SMGs.
Sanson carbine and pistol



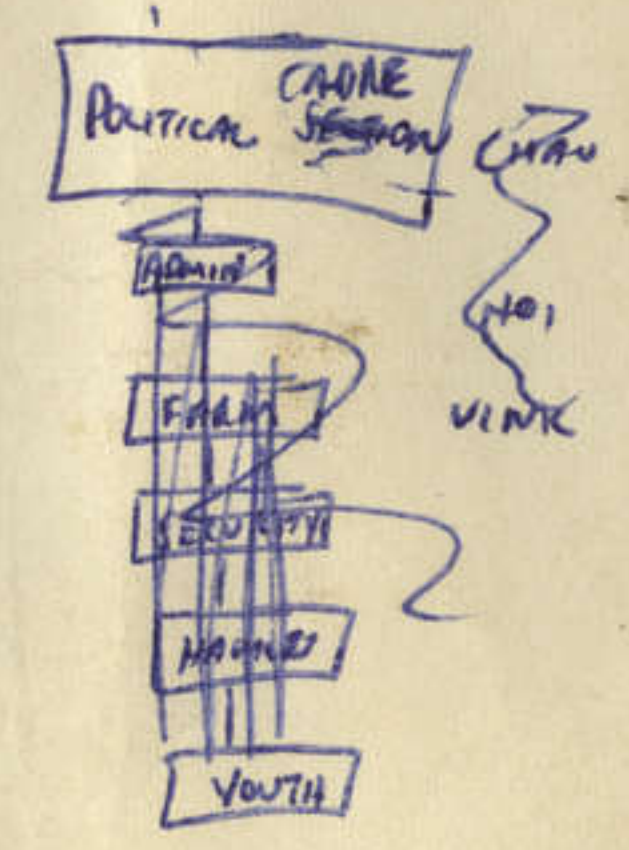
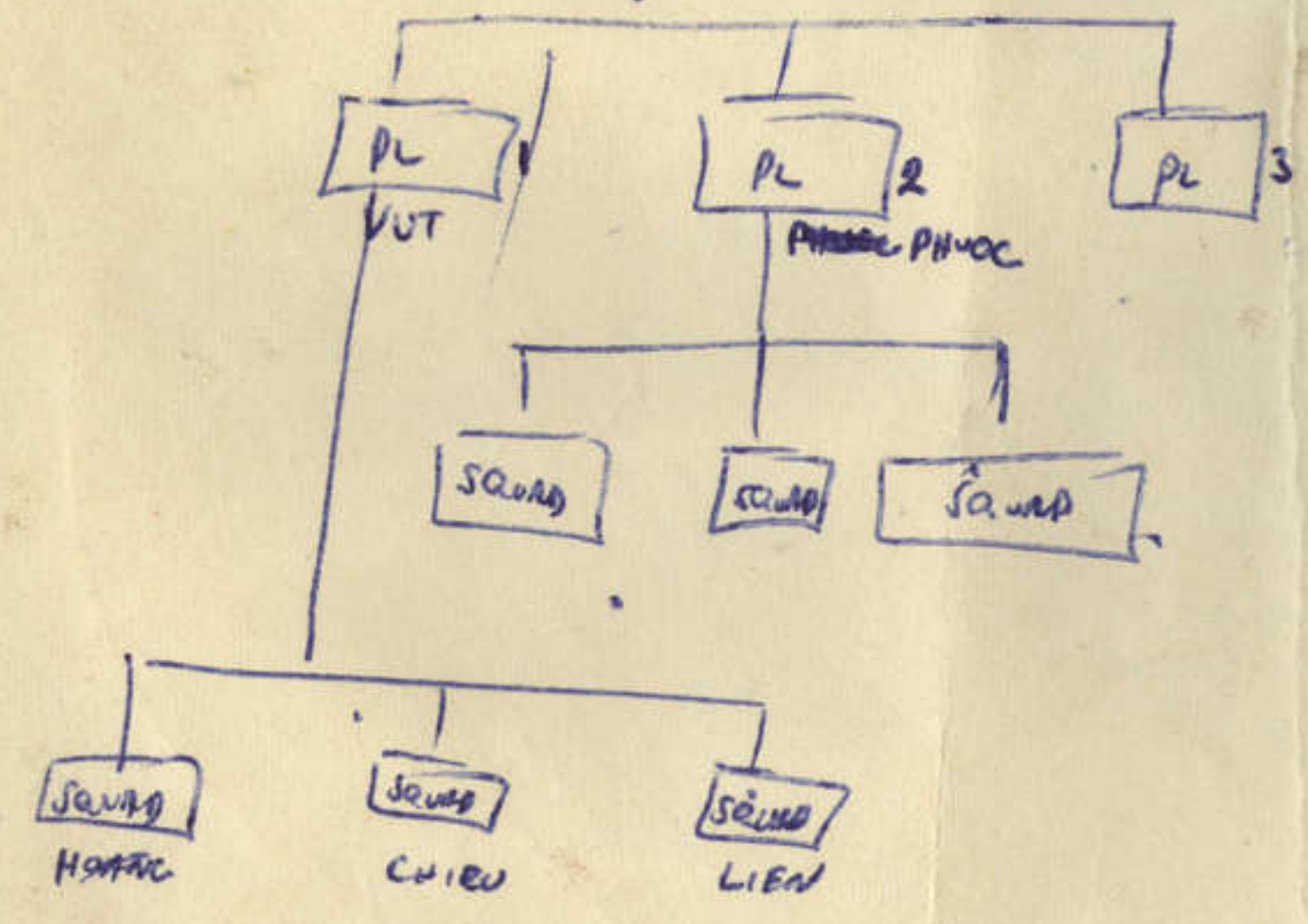
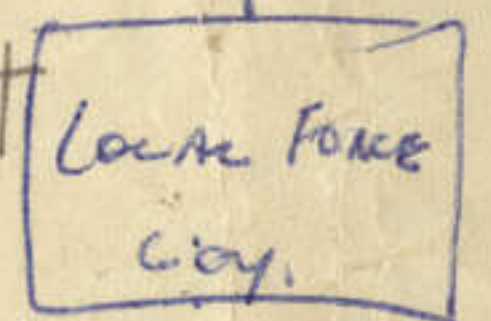
Quy VO XU



Thua



Duyet



File 9 from 001

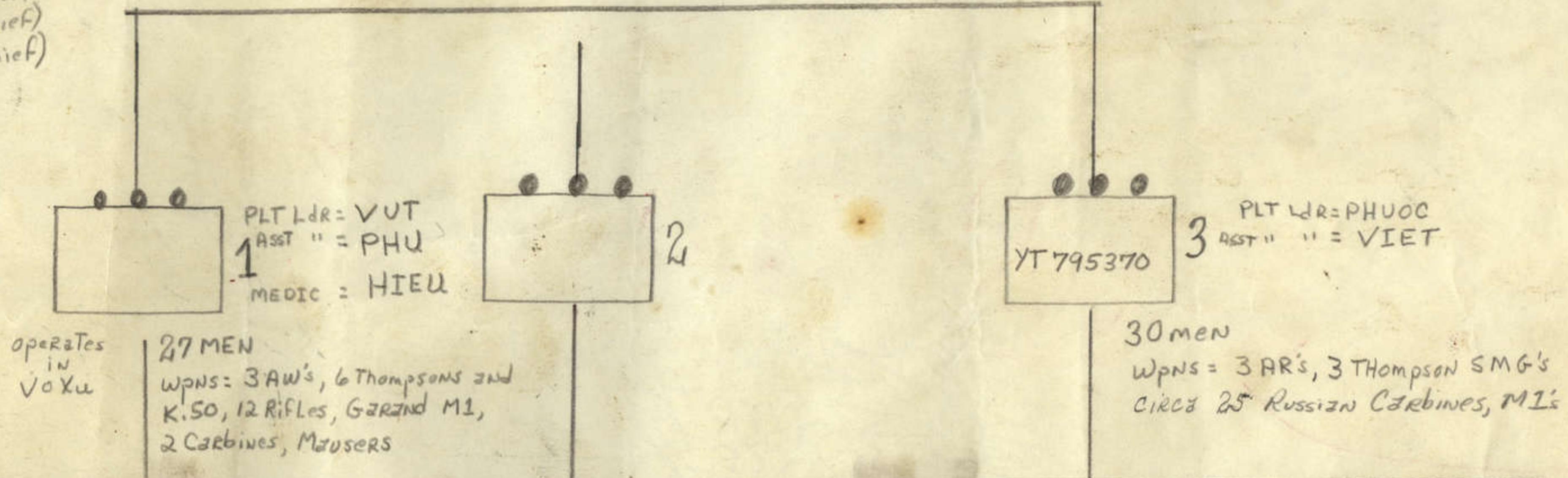
Political SECTION

- BAN HANG CHAU (Admin)
- BAN VONG HOI (FARM)
- BAN AN VINK (Security)
- XE DOI (HAMLET UNIT)
- DOAN THANH VIEN (Youth Movement)
- DOAN PHU VI (Youths womens Group)
- DOAN THE PHU TAO (OLP Peoples UNIT)
- Le Hong TAM (Admin Sect Chief)
- BO (FARM Sect Chief)
- LANG (Security Sect Chief)
- TRE (Hamlet Unit Chief)
- DAO (Assistant)

ANH QUY
2^d Co.
422 Co.

CO = Quy
ALTERNATE CO = HO

90 - 100 MEN
WPNs = 9 AR's, Russian Carabines, M1's, Grenades, Number unK.
Operational Area = Chan Duc - Vo Xu



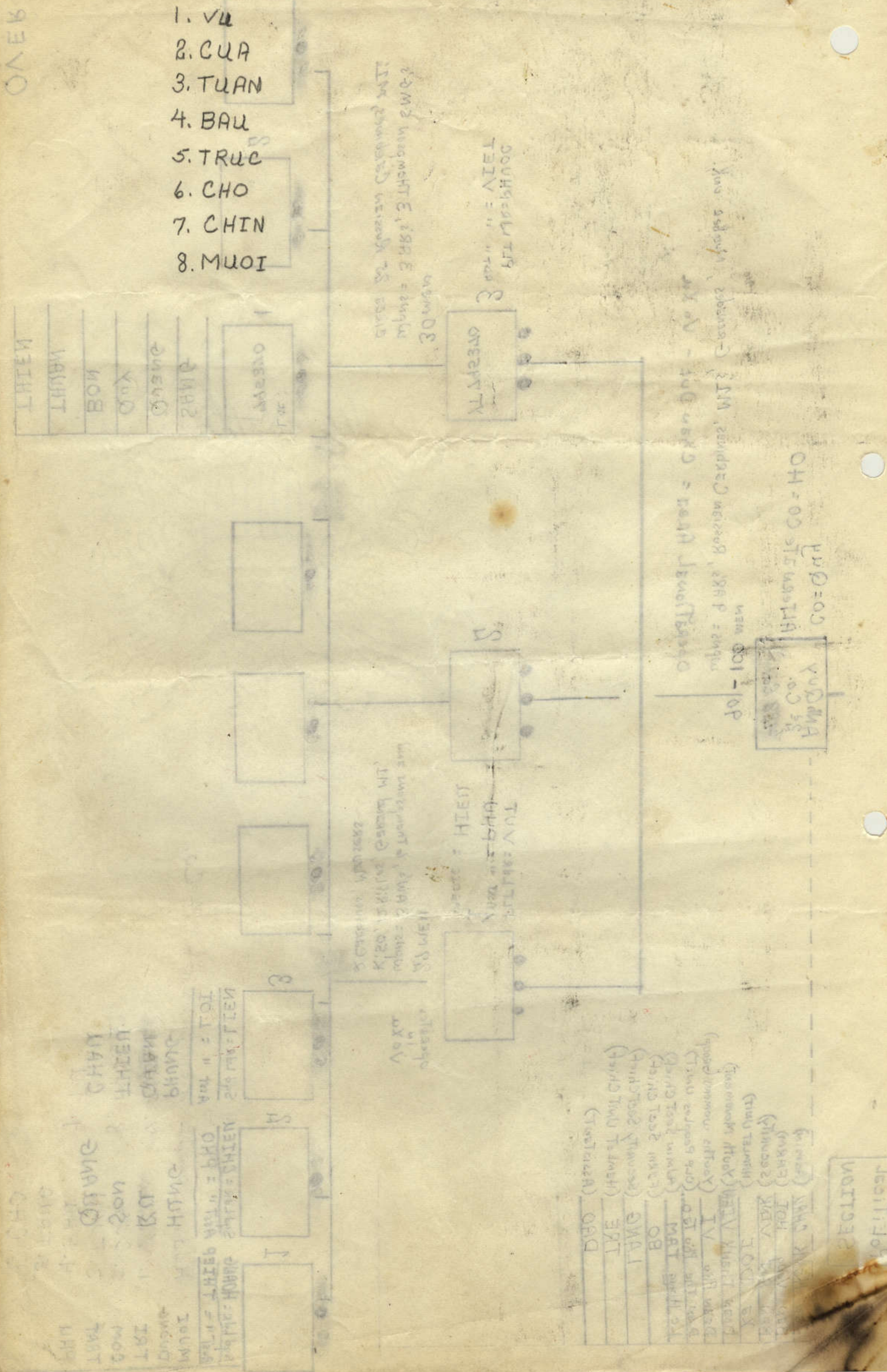
- | | | |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Sqd Ldr: HOANG | Sqd Ldr: CHIEU | Sqd Ldr: LIEN |
| Asst " = THIEP | Asst " = PHO | Asst " = LOI |
| MUOI | HUNG | PHUNG |
| DUONG | KU | QUAN |
| TRI | SON | THIEU |
| COM | QUANG | CHAU |
| TRAT | BAD | |
| PHU | FRUC | |
| | CHO | |

- | | | |
|-------------|---|---|
| Loc: 795370 | 2 | 3 |
| SANG | | |
| QUANG | | |
| Quy | | |
| BON | | |
| THUAN | | |
| THIEN | | |

OVER

Other members of Quay Co.

- 1. VU
- 2. CUA
- 3. TUAN
- 4. BAU
- 5. TRUC
- 6. CHO
- 7. CHIN
- 8. MUOI



OVER

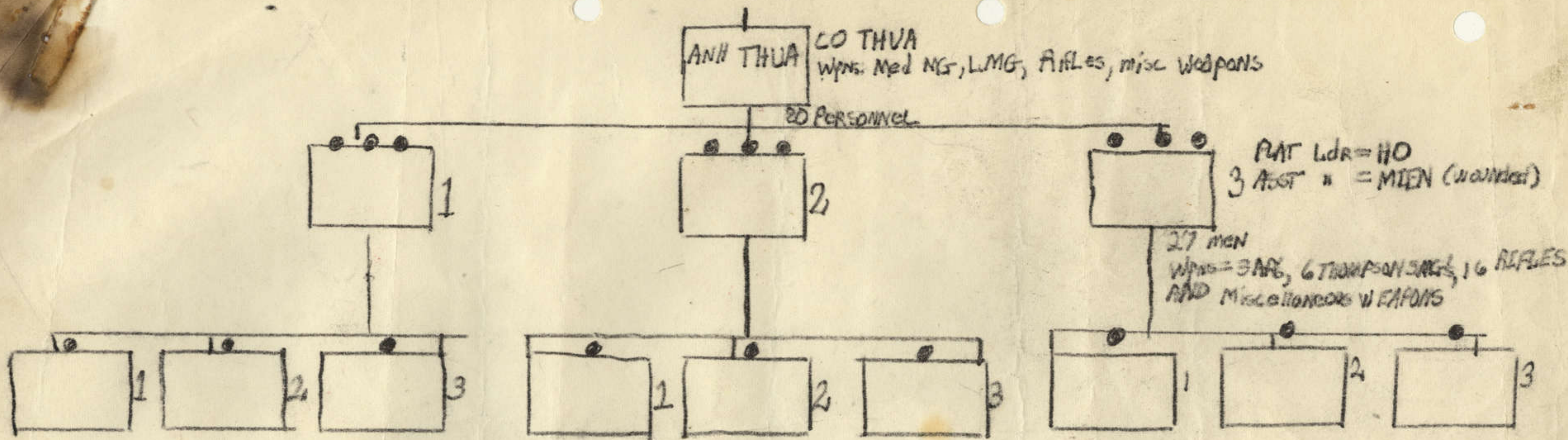
LHIEU
 MAHT
 BOU
 CHU
 CHANG
 CHAU
 CHAU

CHU
 MAHT
 BOU
 CHU
 CHANG
 CHAU
 CHAU

CHU
 MAHT
 BOU
 CHU
 CHANG
 CHAU
 CHAU

DHO (HIEU)
 LVE (HIEU)
 CHU (HIEU)
 BO (HIEU)
 MAHT (HIEU)
 CHU (HIEU)
 CHANG (HIEU)
 CHAU (HIEU)
 CHAU (HIEU)

SECTION
 HIEU



VO XU, RVN

031400 DECEMBER 1965

INTERROGATOR SGT WELSH (RAR)

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT

NAME: TRUONG LOAN

ALIAS: NONE

DATE OF BIRTH: 20 OCT 1934

PLACE OF BIRTH: BINH XUONG, QUANG NGHIA.

OCCUPATION: FARMER

PARENTS: FATHER - TRUON LONG

MOTHER - NGUYEN THINH NHIEU

} STILL LIVING IN BINH XUONG

See HQ 4/12
Entered on Per files

CIRCUMSTANCES OF CAPTURE. WAS FOUND HIDING IN SHELTER HOLE BY COMBINED POPULAR FORCES/10 PL RAR PATROL IN VO XU VILLAGE. SOURCE HAD WITH HIM A MAP OF VO XU AND TWO OTHER DOCUMENTS CONCERNING TROOP MOVEMENT. HE SAID HE KNEW OF WEAPON CACHE AND WOULD LEAD US TO IT HOWEVER NO WEAPON CACHE WAS FOUND. HE SAID LATER THAT THE REASON HE HE TRIED TO LEAD US TO THE WEAPON CACHE WAS HIS FEAR OF THE PF SERGEANT.

INFORMATION OBTAINED.

1. SOURCE STATED THAT V.C. ENTERED VO XU VILLAGE AT NIGHT FROM THE NORTH EAST. THE V.C. STRENGTH WAS APPROXIMATELY 30 MEN CARRYING THOMPSON'S AND CARBINES. V.C. USUALLY APPEARED AT APPROX 2200 HRS. THEY CAME IN TO "STEAL" SUPPLIES FROM THE PEOPLE.
2. SOURCE KNOWS NOTHING OF V.C. TUNNEL SYSTEMS AT NORTH EAST END OF VILLAGE.
3. SOURCE DID NOT KNOW V.C. LOCATION DURING DAY LIGHT, HAS ONLY SEEN THEM AT NIGHT.
4. SOURCE KNOWS MR. HO AS THE PLATOON COMMANDER OF THE PLATOON WHICH ENTERS VO XU AT NIGHT. SOURCE HAS MET MR. HO ONCE.
5. SOURCE KNOWS MR. BOP AS ARICE CARTER FOR THE V.C. MR. BOP HAS A TRUCK.
6. SOURCE STATES THAT AMR. CAY WHO LIVES IN NGHIA NAM, VO XU AND LOOKS AFTER BUFFALOES IS A V.C.
7. NGUYEN DONG TY WHO LIVES IN NGHIA TINH IS ALSO A V.C.
8. SOURCE ALSO KNOWS A MR. BAO WHO HAS GONE WITH THE GUERILLAS.

I. S. WELSH
SGT (INTERP)
INT SEC.

172d MI Det, IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
Vo Dat, RVN
3 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Trach
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-187

Name: Le Thang
Function w/VC: Hamlet Guerrilla
Weapons: None
DOB: 3 July 1945
POB: Pho Phuoc, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Residence: Hamlet Nghia Pho, Vo Xu

Information:

Source confirms that around July 1965 at a jungle area *Meat one 827342 - 2 Dec* YT822336 the VC built 2 houses in order to store rice.

Traps.

Around July 1965 source was forced by the VC to work on spikes, carrying approximately 15 steel spikes and around 500 sharpened bamboo spikes for use against airborne troops. A number of stakes were placed in the area at YT818384, YT823383, YT817378 and YT823377 near Vo Xu. (near the area of the High School and market)

Comment:

Since source served with the hamlet militia I recommend he be evacuated to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

SI 153

4 December 1965

AVAB-SB

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 202
2. Period Covered: 031800 to 041800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep) CP Location YT 722324
4. Time and Date of Issue: 041800 Dec 65

5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: In the general Phuong Lam area (YT 7248) in which 1/503 is operating we have now identified tentatively a North Vietnamese Company approximately 100 strong; and another company of approximately 50 men and a support company of 200 men in Lam Dong Province.

In the general area to the north of Sung Nhon II (YT 8245), the VC appear to have a well established base area. The remnants of the Duc Hanh (YT 7837), Vo Xu (YT 8137), and Than Duc (YT 8743) local militia forces-- numbering perhaps 100 men--together with the local Nam Lo Battalion, have withdrawn to this base area to regroup.

Small enemy elements have now been forced from hiding within the timbered areas along the general line of the Song La Gna river in the center of the Rice Bowl.

Further confirmation has been received that an enemy force, possibly as strong as a Regimental Headquarters and four (4) battalions, continues to be active in the area between and to the west of Vo Dat (YT 7333) and Gia Ray (YT 6212). Details of today's activities follow:

a. Ground Activity:

(1) (2115 hrs) A Co. 82d Avn and B Co. 1/26 Inf reported a trip flare was set off in the vicinity of their perimeter, YT 715325. No personnel were observed.

(2) (2350 hrs) 5 personnel were fired on by C Co. 1/26 Inf, vic YT 732255.

(3) (0903 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav discovered 4 caves containing warm ashes vic YT 818407. A permanent camp site with several huts were located just above the caves.

(4) (1957 hrs) (Late Entry) On 3 Dec, 1 VC, dressed in black pajamas, rallied to the 1/RAR at the bridge located vic YT 8438.

(5) (0925 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav captured 2 VC suspects vic YT 750344 which were turned over to district officials.

(6) (0935 hrs) A Company, 1/503 Inf wounded and captured 1 VC armed with an M1 rifle at YT 768482. The VCC wearing grey uniform, was carrying medical supplies. VCC stated that 100 VC were located vic YT 7648. These VC were armed with submachine guns and carbines, and were moving North. He was a member of 401st Platoon of K-4 Company. The unit is comprised of 100 North Vietnamese, which infiltrated here through Cambodia. The unit which is armed with the old family of weapons i.e. M1's and MAS machine guns, had the mission of guarding a clothing cache located approximately one kilometer West of the VCC's point of capture. VCC also identified a K.3 unit comprised of 150 men (NVN), and a C.29 support unit composed of 200 personnel located in Lam Dong.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTSUM Number: 202 (Continued)

(7) (0945 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav, reported finding 2 caves at YT 813418 containing cooking utensils and hot rice. 2 sampans were located in the same general area; one was sunk, the other was towed in. Grenades were thrown into the caves.

(8) (0945 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav discovered 3 caves at YT 814419 into which they threw grenades.

(9) Troop E/17th Cav reported finding 2 sampans, 4 caves, 2 pounds of rice and cooking utensils at YT 815420. The sampans were destroyed and grenades were thrown into the caves.

(10) (1026 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav reported their boats were fired on at YT 809416 by automatic and small arms fire.

(11) (1140 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav destroyed one sampan and one small gasoline engine at YT 762447.

(12) (1220 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav reported they sunk one sampan at YT 732438.

(13) (1341 hrs) L/RAR found two Mauser rifles based on information and assistance from a rallier. (YT 846337)

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

(1) (Late Entry -2 Dec) The village chief of Gia Ray YT 6312, reported the following information to the 1/2 Infantry:

(a) 20 VC were seen on the road vic YT 641131

(b) Indications are that on the night of 29 Nov, an unknown number of VC occupied an assembly area previously used by 1/2 Inf elements vic YT 635135.

(c) Log foot bridge used by the VC to cross the La Nga River are located at YT 645227, YT 654244 and YT 678274.

(d) On 2 Dec, two VC companies were located at YT 7125 and YT 6417 respectively two separate platoon locations were located at YT 625165 and YT 675115 respectively.

(e) On 2 Dec, 5 VC approached workers in the field, vic YT 636122, and forced them to cease work and to leave the area.

(f) A rumor is circulating among the village that the VC will attack the village when the U. S. Forces leave.

(2) (1730 hrs) 2/503 Inf reported the following information concerning the village of Sung Nhon II (YT 823450):

(a) Bamboo stakes, 8-12 feet long and placed 8-10 feet apart were found in and around the village.

(b) Village women said the men are in the mountains and are afraid to come out.

(c) Villagers are very friendly and cooperative to U.S. Forces. (Several documents were found in the village complex)

(3) (1940 hrs) 1/503 Inf received the following information from the Popular Forces Commander of Phuong Lam YT 7248:

(a) 120 VC are located at YT 687472 and YT 685485. The VC have 2 - 60mm mortars, 2 - 30 caliber MG's, 1 Russian SMG's and individual weapons. The VC were believed to be moving South-West.

791

MAD

INTSUM Number: 202 (Continued)

(4) (2130 hrs) RRU reported a SPAR location vic YT 753929.

(5) (2130 hrs) RRU reported a SPAR location vic YT 970908.

MAP (6) (0730 hrs) An aerial observer sighted what appeared to be 2 camouflaged sampans vic YT 814417.

(7) (0727 hrs) Following an air strike vic YT 856464, a FAC reported the destruction of what appeared to be an observation or antenna platform located in the trees.

(8) (0800 hrs) A FAC sighted what appeared to be possible storage structures at YT 753467 and YT 771473. The structures had metal roofs and many trails leading to them.

(9) (0950 hrs) An aerial observer from Troop E/17th Cav sighted smoke coming from the woods vic YT 815430. No personnel were observed.

MAP (10) (1005 hrs) RRU reported a SPAR located at YT 635271.

(11) (1135 hrs) 1/503 Inf reported a local Village Chief stated 40 VC with one 50 cal machine gun and individual weapons were stopping traffic at YT 758750 and YT 765588.

(12) (1115 hrs) 10th Div (ARVN) reported a rice storage house was located vic YT 822350.

(13) (1338 hrs) An aerial observer reported sighting two sampans afloat and one sunk at YT 708361. No personnel were sighted.

(14) (1418 hrs) Following an air strike vic YT 632274, a FAC reported numerous trails, one trench and a large hole were exposed through the canopy; hole appeared to be entrance way to a tunnel.

(15) (1550 hrs) VCC reported two rice caches located in two houses at YT 822336 and YT 833420. Also, located in the mountains vic YT 8051.

(16) (1620 hrs) Aerial observer from Troop E/17th Cav reported sighting one sampan occupied by three or possibly four persons, moving South West on the river at YT 757446.

(17) (1635 hrs) Aerial observer from Troop E/17th Cav reported sighting three sampans and seven smaller boats at YT 750424. No personnel sighted.

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel:

(1) KIA By: Confirmed Possible

Ground Forces 0 0

(2) Captives Defector Rallier Suspect
VC 1 1 2

Number of above who

were wounded (1) "Totals to date: VCC-155, Ralliers-18, Suspects-154

b. Equipment Losses: 37 documents, 6 sampans, 1 gasoline engine, 2 Mauser rifles, 1 ML rifle, 52 of the 92 tons of rice reported captured has been evacuated.

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identification: None

CONFIDENTIAL

Confidential

INTSUM Number: 202 (Continued)

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to partly cloudy, hot and humid.

b. Terrain Conditions: No change from previous reports. Reconnaissance of the Song La Nga from YT 645391 west-north west to YT 692353 revealed the following data:

(1) The river averages approx 6' deep; however, near the banks, the water is approximately 9 feet deep. It is approximately 50-60 feet wide with 9 foot banks on both sides.

(2) Many sandbars are located throughout the river and the current is approximately 5-6 knots.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

(1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity

(2) Limited local defense in village areas

(3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

(a) 1 possibly two regiments

(b) 1 PAVN Bn

(c) U/I Bn

(d) 1 Guerrilla Bn

(e) 3 Local Guerrilla companies

Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Bns.

(4) The enemy can mount an attack of multi-battalion or regimental size at any time.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions: The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.

Raymond E. Marshall

RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry
C-2

GROUP 4

Confidential

149

CONFIDENTIAL KIN

INTERROGATION REPORT

THIS REPORT IS THE RESULT OF AN INTERROGATION CONDUCTED AT THE NATIONAL INTERROGATION CENTER OF THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE ORGANIZATION (CIO) UNDER THE JOINT AUSPICES OF THE VIETNAMESE AND US INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITIES IN SAIGON. THIS IS AN UNEVALUATED FIELD INFORMATION REPORT.

COUNTRY	: Republic of Vietnam (RVN)	SIC REPORT NO: 412/65
SUBJECT	: Organization of Regiment Q763: Battalion 709	NIC CASE NO: 296/3
DATE OF INFO	: April - May 1965	DATE OF REPORT: 4Dec65
DATE AND PLACE OF ACQUISITION	23 August 1965 SAIGON, Vietnam	NO. OF PAGES: 3
		REF: CIO Report 345 23 September 1965

SUMMARY AND HIGHLIGHTS

Regiment Q763 was composed of the 707th, 709th and 711th Battalions, which were previously designated the T-70, T-80 and T-90 Main Force Battalions. These Battalions had operated in Western RVN and had recently moved to the DUONG MINH CHAU War Zone. The 7th Company, 709th Battalion was comprised of three Combat Platoons and one Combat Support Platoon. The troops' morale was very high and they were anxious to be sent to the lowlands to fight. In May 1965, the entire 709th Battalion moved to PHUOC LONG Province in preparation to attack its provincial capital. Source defected before the attack on 10 May 1965.

BASIC BIOGRAPHIC DATA

Source is NGUYEN VAN TON, NIC Case No. 296. He was born on 27 December 1945 at THANH PHU Village, LONG DINH District, DINH TUONG Province, RVN. He is single and is a graduate of the RVN Secondary 2nd Form (U.S. 9th Grade). He understands some French. Source joined the VC in February 1964 and was taken to the LO GO Area, XA MAT, in the DUONG MINH CHAU War Zone. From 30 March 1964 to February 1965 he was assigned to the Rear Services Sub-Section of the Propaganda, Cultural, and Indoctrination Section of the Central Office of South Vietnam (COSVN), and later was assigned to the Management Cell of the Rear Services Sub-Section. In February 1965, he was transferred to a combat unit and to a radio communications unit as a laborer. In April 1965, he was assigned to the 7th Company, 709th Battalion, Regiment Q763. Source defected to RVN authorities on 10 May 1965. He arrived at the NIC on 5 July 1965.

DISTRIBUTION

US MACV

US EMBASSY

CLASSIFICATION

KIN
CONFIDENTIAL

GROUP I

EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC
DOWNGRADING AND
DECLASSIFICATION

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachments
None

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Page 2 of 3 pages

PHYSICAL CONDITION AND ATTITUDE

Source is in good health. He is somewhat conceited but appeared to be cooperative and frank during the interrogation. He had an average memory and the interrogator was required to prompt him often to obtain the desired information

CIRCUMSTANCES OF OBSERVATION

1. In April 1965, Source was assigned to the 7th Company, 709th Battalion, Regiment Q763 until his defection to RVN authorities on 10 May 1965.

REGIMENT Q763

2. Source was unable to furnish any information on this Regiment because he was nothing but a low ranking soldier who served the 709th Battalion for approximately one month. However, he was told that this Regiment was formed by the combination of three Battalions: T-70, T-80, and T-90. These Battalions were formerly Main Force Battalions which operated in Western South Vietnam and had recently regrouped to the DUONG MINH CHAU War Zone. These Battalions presently bear the designations 707th, 709th and 711th.

BATTALION 709 (EX-T-70)

3. Source was unable to furnish detailed information on the 709th Battalion. He was informed that the 709th was the former Battalion T-70 which operated in Western South Vietnam. According to his friends, this Battalion had participated in combat at CHA LA (province unknown); VINH THUAN (province unknown); KE SACH, BA XUYEN Province; and PHUOC HOI, GIA DINH Province.

ORGANIZATION AND COMPOSITION OF THE 7TH COMPANY, BATTALION 709

4. This Company (Source's company) had three combat platoons numbered 1, 2 and 3) and one combat support platoon.

a. Command Staff

Commander : BAY HAI (fnu), a regrouped cadre
 Executive Officer: None
 Political Officer: HAI THIET (fnu), a regrouped cadre who taught the DRVN 5th Form (U.S. 7th Grade) in the DRVN
 Adjutant : BIEN (fnu)
 Medic : Unknown

(1) 1st Platoon: Source did not know its strength. He only knew a soldier named VIET LINH (fnu)

(2) 2nd Platoon: Source only knew that NAM (fnu) and THANG (fnu) were in charge of this platoon. Three of the Source's acquaintances, CHOI (fnu), THO (fnu) and NGOAN (fnu) were members of this platoon

(3) 3rd Platoon (Source's Platoon)

Leader : SAU TIENG (fnu)
 Assistant : MUOI CUONG (fnu)
 Weapons : Source did not know the exact number of weapons possessed by the platoon because its squads were stationed in difference areas. Source surmised that the three squads were armed with the same number of weapons, while the 7th and 8th Squads were armed with U.S. automatic rifles.

C O N F I D E N T I A L - K I N

C O N F I D E N T I A L

Page 3 of 3 pages

(a) 7th Squad

Leader : DUNG (fnu)
 Members: DUA, MAN, THU; all fnu. And a number of unidentified persons
 Assistant: DAU (fnu)

(b) 8th Squad

Leader : SAU THANG (fnu)
 Assistant: CAM (fnu)
 Members: NHIEM, MAM, HOANG, HOANG B; all fnu. A number of unidentified persons

(c) 9th Squad

Leader : HUNG (fnu)
 Assistant: THANH (fnu)
 Members : TAM THANG, BUM, NAM and NGUYEN VAN TON (Source)
 Weapons : 3 K.50 submachineguns, 2 M1 Garrand rifles, and 1 grenade launcher

(4) Combat Support Platoon: Source knew nothing about this platoon.

LIVING CONDITIONS

5. Each soldier wore a tube around his waist which contained eight liters of rice. When many men ate together, they use the "HOANG CAM" cooker. If there were only a few, they cooked their meals in groups of three (one started the fire, the second stroked the fire and the third man dispelled the smoke). Their food was salted fish, meat and salt. The Adjutant obtained rice and salt, and distributed them to the squad leaders, who in turn gave the rations to the men. The soldiers' standard of living was very low. In comparison with the office cade, the soldiers lacked everything.

MORALE

6. Source stated that the soldiers morale was very high. They like to be sent to the lowlands to fight. With regards to RVN-U.S. bombings in the DRVN, the soldiers told Source that the U.S. was obliged to do so because they were in a deadlock in the South. But these acts did not influence the morale of the soldiers.

PARTY AND YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

7. Source knew nothing about these organizations because he did not participate in their activities. In addition, he was assigned to the combat unit for only a month or so.

BATTALION 709 ACTIVITIES

8. In April 1965, Battalion 709 was bivouaced in the DUONG MINH CHAU War Zone and did not engage in any military operations. In May 1965, the entire unit moved to PHUOC LONG Province where it made preparations to attack the Province Capital. Since Source escaped from his unit to rally to the RVN Government on 10 May 1965, he did not know what happened thereafter. Source was informed that Regiment Q763 was slated to move to Zone VI; however, Source did not know the location of Zone VI.

C O N F I D E N T I A L - K I N

1/RAR

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
 APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SC

4 December 1965

SUBJECT: SITREP for period 031800H to 041800H December 1965

TO: Commanding General
 1st Infantry Division
 ATTN: G3
 APO U.S. Forces 96345

I. (C) Operations Summary: 173d Abn Bde (Reinforced) continues security and pacification activities and expands area of influence west and north of LA NGA River to protect harvesting in "Rice Bowl" and at 0900 hours, TF RED (A/1/2 Reinforced) conducted airmobile operation vic Dong Hiep (YT 6739). Three lifts were introduced into LZ Bearcat (YT 662392) securing LZ at 0940 hours TF RED conducted show of force in Village of Dong Hiep and made contact with local officials. TF will remain in area conducting both night and daylight patrols.

E/17 Cav conducted a 20 man patrol using motorized assault boats along LA GNA River to search and destroy VC and recon crossing sites along river. The patrol began at YT 845388 traveling approx 30 kms to point vic YT 694351. Boats and tunnels and sampans were discovered along the river and AW and SA fire received at YT 809416, fire was returned but results unknown. A and C companies 1/503 continued patrolling in area vic Nom Soa Trung (YT 7647) closing of Bn base at 1605 hours. In a brief fire fight one uniformed VC with weapon was wounded and captured. VC from PAVN unit was carrying medical supplies. 2/503 Inf conducted two platoon size patrols and three (3) squad size recon patrols west and north of Than Duc (YT 8743) closing Bn base 1645 hours.

Remainder of Bde units continued to patrol in sector and secured Route #3 through TAOR for ARVN convoy. Convoy entered TAOR from Gia Ray at 0900 hours passing through to East and returned departing area at 1835 hours.

CO 1/26 was designated the Vo Dat Airfield and Supply Complex Commander. Troops from all units in area have been made available for local defense of area.

a. Major Unit Actions: Operation New Life '65 continues.

RESULTS: FRIENDLY (TODAY) ENEMY (CUMULATIVE)

KHA-None

KIA-15 confirmed 9 possible

WHA-None

VCC-1 today, 155 total

Equip-None

Ralliers- 1 today, 18 total

Suspects- 2 today, 154 total

Equip- (Today) 6 sampans, 1 gasoline engine

2 Mauser rifles, 1 M1 rifle, 37 documents.

II. (C) Plans Summary: 1/503 will move one reinforced company during hours of darkness to a patrol base (YT 7550) and patrol East to Hill 434 (YT 778498) during daylight. Plans have been made for 1/503 to have two 50 man ready re-act forces available for heliborne lift to counteract VC road blocks along National Hwy 20, if discovered. Patrols will seal off area and neutralize the road block.

III. (C) Other Activities:

- a. Air Sorties: Sixteen (16) TAC air sorties flown in support of Bde.
 b. Arty Fires: 165 missions, 1620 rounds.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

c. Civic Actions:

(1) A Dentist from the 1/RAR treated 26 patients pulling 29 teeth. Seven (7) MEDCAP teams treated 494 villagers. MILFMAP team treated 89 refugees in Vo Dat and inoculated 106 refugees for plague, smallpox, and cholera. Engr repaired the road from Vo Dat to Tu-Te.

(2) Psy War Activities:

(a) Allied psy war team: The team distributed food stuffs (bulgar, oil, milk, and candy) to 65 families. ROK MEDCAP team worked in Tu-Te total persons treated included in para 1 above. Team also visited houses in the village and talked with occupants.

(b) Psy War Activities: One leaflet mission was flown over the hills north of 2/503 area. 50,000 leaflets (Chieu Hoi) were dropped, Copy of which is attached.. One C-47 loudspeaker mission programed for 2130-2330 to-night.

(3) Rice Rustling Activities: One 300 cu ft cache was located NE of Duc Hanh. 3/319 is retrieving with APC's and turned over to District Chief to be distributed as needed.

d. Logistics: The Brigade Supply Operations Center at Vo Dat received 140 tons of supplies by 10 C-130 sorties from Bien Hoa. Five days of all classes of supplies are on hand at Vo Dat. Units not accessible by road received 18 tons of water, ammunition and rations by 36 UH1 sorties from Vo Dat. 1/RAR experienced a premature detonation from an M43A1, 81mm HE round, Lot #AA-4-239 has been recalled.

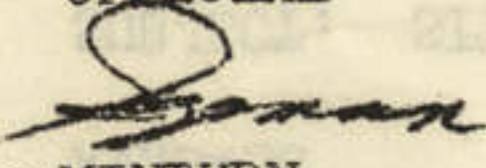
e. Visitors: Col. Frink, SA III Corps, visited Pde today.

WILLIAMSON
Brig Gen

DISTRIBUTION:

4-CG, USARV
2-CG, III Corps
2-COMAAFV
2-ARVN 10th Div
2-1st Bde, 101st Div
2-173 Abn Bde (Sep) (Rear)
1-CG
1-DCO
1-XO
1-C1
2-C2
1-C3
1-C4
1-C5
1-LOC
2-ea Bn
1-ea Sep Co/Btry

OFFICIAL


MINTURN

C3

CONFIDENTIAL

911

1/RAR

02
144

65-NL-35D

172D MI DETACHMENT (Abn Bie)

4 December 1965

DOCUMENT EXPLOITATION REPORT

(Documents and material captured by C Coy, 1/RAR, on 021200 Dec 65, at Coordinates Y1836375)

GENERAL:

Total of 19 documents consisting of one homemade lamp, several rounds of miscellaneous ammunition, one notebook belonging to Mr Nguyen Hung, one medicine advertisement, one homemade first aid kit containing one guaze bandage, 2 bottles of pepper.

COMMENTS:

Documents and material are of no tactical value. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

DOCUMENT SCREENER: SP4 Rodgers

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

143

172 MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO XU, RVN
042100 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Trach (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

RALLIER INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-326

Name: LE TOAN Alias: None
Date of Birth: 3 October 1933
Place of Birth: Lon Chau, Son Tinh, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
 Father: Le Quan (deceased)
 Mother: Lam Thi Thien
Residence: Duy Can Village
Circumstances of capture: Source was captured by C Coy, 1/RAR on 032030 Dec 65,
at coordinates YT845389, while on his way to rally to
friendly forces.

Information:

VC cadre at Sub-Hamlet 2 (Duy Can) Village:

Chairman: LE BANH
Leader : TRUONG LAN
Security Ldr: DANG NUOC

Place where two (2) Mausers are hidden:

At the La Nga Bridge (YT845387). (The two (2) Mausers have been recovered
by friendly forces.)

Village Guerrilla Leaders (Duy Can):

On 2 December 1965, source saw village guerrilla platoon go in front of
his house.

Number of Troops: About 20
Weapons: 2 MMG
 3 Carbines
 2 Thompsons
 A number of Mausers
 Fragmentation grenades
Uniforms: Black pajamas, conical hats, rubber sandals

Quartering Areas:

Quartered in Duy Can (YT865335).

Ambush Points:

On 3 Dec 65, source saw ambush point established at 3 way crossroad
(approximate coordinates YT856339).

Comments: Source is Sub-Hamlet guerrilla. Information is reliable. Source was
not personally armed with a weapon, however, he stole 2 weapons (Mauser rifles)
from the VC and hid them before coming in to rally. Upon rallying, source divulged
the location of the two (2) weapons and they were recovered on 4 Dec 65, by friendly
forces. Recommend evacuation to Chieu Hoi Center.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

CONFIDENTIAL

142

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SB

5 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 203
2. Period Covered: 041800 to 051800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
4. Time and Date of Issue: 051800 Dec 65

5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: Paragraph 5a through 12 on following pages)

VC activity throughout the Brigade TAOR was very limited. Only one contact, a light sniping action, was established. Additional small caches have been discovered, including one weapon. Two VC captured (with weapons) have been identified as a Company Commander with 15 years experience as a VC and one of the platoon leaders of the 421st local force company. Local civilians continue to furnish information on VC activities.

(Outside the Brigade TAOR) The VC force which overran the village of Suoi Cat (YT 594065) on 050040 hrs, has now been estimated to have been of battalion size. It is believed that an attack is imminent on the village of Gia Ray (YT 6312) or Xuan Loc (YT 4609). 60 and 80mm mortars were used by the VC during the attack. (From III Corps)

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdict routes of communication.
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

(a) 1 Regiment from the SW and a remote possibility of an additional regiment from the North.

(b) 2 U/I Bns

(c) 1 Guerrilla Bn

(d) 3 Local Guerrilla Companies

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Bns.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions: The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses. VC will attack units if they indicate that they are failing to maintain adequate security.

CONFIDENTIAL

5a. Ground Activity:

(1) (1825 hrs) D Company, 16th Armor received small arms fire vic YT 866430. An element of 1/RAR was sent to investigate the area and also received fire. No further contact was reported after the fire was returned; however, a VC suspect, apprehended in the vicinity, is presently undergoing interrogation.

(2) (2200 hrs) 1/503 Inf sighted lights vic YT 770495. (Artillery and mortar fire was placed on this location.) SEE NOTE 1

(3) (0730 hrs) An element of Troop E/17th Cav received one round of small arms fire vic YT 752304.

(4) (0935 hrs) 1/503 Inf located ~~the~~ deserted campsites at YT 768506 and YT 763506. The camps which appeared to be at least one month old, did not have any structures.

(5) (1201 hrs) D Company 1/RAR located several caves and one Mauser rifle on the West bank of the La Nga River vic YT 834375.

(6) (1305 hrs) D Company 1/RAR located a small cache of food, clothing and water bottles at YT 840392.

(7) (1500 hrs) 2/503 Inf reported that FAC aircraft received ground fire vic YT 9046.

(8) (1305 hrs) D Company, 16th Armor, captured one VC suspect vic YT 8046.

(9) (1650 hrs) D Company, 16th Armor, captured one VC suspect vic YT 864427. (When observed, the suspect ran into the home of a family which identified him as not being a member of the household)

(10) (1715 hrs) B Company 1/RAR discovered a campsite which appeared to not have been used within the last 4 months. Campsite contained trenches and dug in positions. (YT 805325)

(11) (1715 hrs) Several huts, which showed signs of recent use, were discovered by D Company 1/RAR vic YT 836401.

(12) (1606 hrs) An abandoned VC Transient Camp was located by B Company, 1/RAR vic YT 805334. Camp appeared to have been occupied about 4 months ago.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

(1) (1800 hrs) The Popular Forces commander of Dong Heip (YT 7542) reported the following VC locations (Center of mass):

- (a) A company at YT 675440
- (b) A company at YT 680475
- (c) A company at YT 635445
- (d) A company at YT 640472
- (e) A battalion at YT 640390

(2) (1925 hrs) Local civilians reported the following information to elements of the 1/503 Inf:

(a) 60 guerrillas (armed with 2-LMG's, an unknown number of Czech SMG's and 1 M-1 rifle) are located vic YT 653463.

(3) (1925 hrs) A regional forces patrol informed the 1/503 Inf that they (the patrol) found blood stains vic YT 685475. (This location was fired on by friendly artillery night of 3 Dec)

(4) (0930 hrs) The Village Chief of Phuong Lam (YT 7248) informed the 1/503 Inf that the VC were protecting tax collectors at the following locations: 40 VC at YT 692460, 12 VC at YT 688462, and 8 VC at YT 670480.

(5) (0945 hrs) RRU reported a SPAR located at YT 595255.

(6) (1235 hrs) The Village Chief of Chinh Tam 3 informed 1/2d Inf

th

CONFIDENTIAL

4. (0930 hrs) The village chief of Phuong Lam (YT 7248) informed the 1/503 Inf that the VC were protecting tax collectors at the following locations: 40 VC at YT 692460, 12 VC at YT 688462, and 8 VC at YT 670480.

5. (0945 hrs) RRU reported a SPAR located at YT 595255.

6. (1235 hrs) The Village Chief of Gia Ray m 3 informed 1/2d Inf that an estimated reinforced VC company had siezed the Village of Suoi Cat, YT 594065, early this morning. See para 5, first page

7. (1300 hrs) A Company, 82d Avn reported that an aerial observer sighted a roadblock vic YT 595072 wherein approximately 15 vehicles and many civilian personnel were halted.

8. (Delayed Entry) Local ARVN forces, assisted by elements of 1/RAR captured a reported leader of a local guerrilla force company in Vo Xu (YT 8238). Another individual, believed to be guerrilla force platoon leader, was also captured. Complete interrogation report to follow.

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel:

(1) KIA By:	Confirmed	Possible
Ground Forces	0	0
(2) Captives	Defector	Rallier
VC 2		Suspect
		3

b. Equipment Losses: None

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identification: None

10. Enemy Movements:

a. (1230 hrs) The Village Chief of Hoai Duc (YT 7331) reported that sometime this morning, 20 men, dressed in black and wearing red scarves, moved from vic GS YT 7532 to GS YT 7331 and continued West.

b. Interrogation of VC guerrilla force company commander revealed that his unit, the 421st, was located at YT 700359 when allied forces arrived in Vo Dat. They then moved to Vo Xu- Nghia Duc hamlet. From this location they moved to YT 834407 and may now be at YT 840460.

11. Estimated Number and Types Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to mostly cloudy, hot and humid.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

Note: This area has been the target of numerous artillery and air strikes. It is also the approximate location of where the VC was wounded and captured by the 1/503 on 4 Dec. The VC, carrying bloodied surgical equipment and a large medical bag is believed to have been treating wounded VC in the area. (The lights suggest the VC were searching for additional casualties)

Raymond E. Marshall
 RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
 Major, Infantry
 G-2
 GROUP-4

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

D/16 139

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SC

5 December 1965

SUBJECT: SITREP for period 041800H to 051800H December 1965

TO: Commanding General
1st Infantry Division
ATTN: G3
APO U.S. Forces 96345

I. (C) Operations Summary: 173d Abn Bde (Reinforced) continues to secure and pacify the "Rice Bowl" area during the current harvest. At 050300H B Co, 1/503 reinforced by the Bn recon platoon moved by foot to a patrol base vic YT 760498. Two platoon size patrols were conducted into the hill mass in GS YT 7649 on 5 Dec. 2/503 conducted one mounted patrol to YT 8145 using D/16 Armor personnel carriers and elements of A Co. Tall elephant grass severely limited ground observation, therefore it was necessary to direct navigation of surface elements from a hovering helicopter. B and C Co conducted platoon size reconnaissance patrols to the Northeast of THAN DUC, YT 8743. 1/RAR continued search and destroy operations South and Southwest of VO XU using three companies in sector and continued to secure bridge at YT 836386 with remaining company. 1/26 Inf conducted three clearing patrols of plt size on the airfield-logistics perimeter. 1/2 Inf conducted two plt size patrols in sector and TF Red (one reinforced Co, 1/2 Inf) continues mission of securing DONG HIEP (YT 6739). Trp E, 17th Cavalry conducted three platoon size patrols in sector. Detailed Engineer reconnaissance was made in an effort to locate possible crossing sites over the LA NGA River to permit overland resupply of Western and Northwestern area of the "Rice Bowl". No changes in CP locations.

a. Major Unit Action (Operation "New Life '65" continuing).

RESULTS: FRIENDLY--(TODAY)	ENEMY--(CUMULATIVE)
KHA-None	KIA-None (Today) 15 confirmed, 9 possible
WHA-None	VCC-2 (today) 157 total
Equip-None	RALLIERS-None (today) 18 total
	SUSPECTS-3 (today) 157 total
	EQUIP- (today) 3 rifles, food, clothing, water bottles

II. (C) Plans Summary- 1/503 Inf will continue patrolling vic YT 7649 with one reinforced company. 2/503 Inf will secure MSR through their sector for passage of 2/43 Inf (ARVN) convoy on 6 Dec. 1/RAR will continue search and destroy operations South and Southwest of VO XU. 1/26 Inf will conduct an air-mobile operation of a 160 man task force vic YT 7439 and continue with a combination search/show of force operation returning to Bn base on 6 Dec by foot. Bn (-) will conduct patrols within Bn sector. E/17 Cav will establish two platoon size patrol bases East and Southeast of VO DAT. C Btry 3/319 Arty will be displaced by CH37 vic 1/503 Inf patrol base area on 6 Dec to be in a better position to support future operations of 1/503 Inf in Northwest corner of Bde TAOR. Same H37's will be used to lift Command & Control vehicles to TF Red. A Btry 3/319 Arty will be displaced by road to the vic of 2/503 Inf to extend Arty coverage to the Northeast.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

III. (C) Other Activities:

- a. Air Sorties: 10 sorties
- b. Arty Fires: 123 mission 658 rounds
- c. Civic Action:

(1) Civic Action:

(a) MEDCAP teams treated 257 persons in the Bde area. This treatment was given by seven (7) MEDCAP teams.

(b) The Engineers Repaired Roads between VO DAT and VO XU and between VO DAT and TU TE.

(c) One hundred refugees.

(2) Psy War Activities:

(a) Allied Psy-War Team: The team worked in VO XU this afternoon. The team held individual discussions with villagers and the Korean MEDCAP team was operational. Persons treated are listed in the combined total in 1,a above.

(b) Psy War Activities: Persons whose husbands were away from THON DUC were interviewed for information for Chieu Hoi appeals in the area North of THAN DUC (YT 8743). The District Chief talked to refugees in THAN DUC explaining why the allies are here and that the GVN is going to help them in their resettlement and establishment of homes.

d. Logistics: The Brigade Supply Operations Center at VO DAT received 84 tons of supplies by 6 C-130 sorties from Bien Hoa. Approximately 5 days of all classes of supplies are on hand at VO DAT. Units not accessible by road were resupplied with 18 tons of water, rations, and ammunition by 35 UHL sorties from VO DAT.

e. Visitors: Col Link, Dept of Army Staff visited the Bde today to become oriented on the logistics situation at operating level.


WILLIAMSON

Brig Gen

DISTRIBUTION:

- 4-CG, USARV
- 2-CG, III Corps
- 2-COMAAFV
- 2-ARVN 10th Div
- 2-1st Bde, 101st Div
- 2-173d Abn Bde (Sep) (Rear)
- 1-CG
- 1-DCO
- 1-XO
- 1-C1
- 2-C2
- 1-C3
- 1-C4
- 1-C5
- 1-LOC
- 2-ea Bn
- 1-ea Sep Co/Btry

OFFICIAL


MIN

AC3

CONFIDENTIAL

138

TELEPHONE

137



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in reply

ADDRESS

INTERROGATION REPORTS

HO

VIET

No Bde report on Viet
held by us. We had
a copy but had to be
returned to 172 mi Det as
it was their file copy.

CPL H.

Field Interrogation Report.

INT SEC 136
IRAR
VO XV.
5 DEC 65

Name: HO KIM VIET.

Age: 28 years old.

Length of Time with VC: 3 months.

This man originally was a member of 3RD Paratroop Division^(?). He enlisted in VC 3 months ago and became a member of local village guerrilla company. The company consists of 2 platoons: - 1st platoon, commanded by HOI who is also company commander.

2nd platoon, commanded by THONG.

This man belonged to 1st platoon and was also a courier. Platoon strength 39 to 42.

His weapon was a French MAT 49.

He said he went to meet MR HO.

HO's family is in QUANG NGAI province and he is unmarried.

He also said his unit has Garand rifles, MMG,^t HO's unit has 1 x LMG.

~~His unit~~

6 men of this man's unit have been captured;

4 of them are THANG, THI, YAO, CU.

This man was told to stay behind (as rest of VC withdrew) to liaise with other units, by HOI. Swam Seng La Nga 2 nights ago. Night 3/4 Dec.

INTERPRETERS
LT. A WHITE
CPL. McAULEY

1/RAR

135

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
5 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Trach
Map: VO XU, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV, Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-95

Name: Trinh Ngoi
Alias: None
DOB: 15 July 1938
POB: DUC DUY, MO DUC, QUANG NGAI
Occupation: Farmer
Residence: VoXu
Parents: Father: Trinh Dong (deceased)
Mother: Doan Thi Ban
Circumstances of capture: Captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 1965 at Vo Xu (coordinates unknown)

Information:

- a. VC cadre in Nghia Duc
Sub Hamlet chairman: Nguyen Kham
Sub Hamlet Leader: Cao Sau
Sub Hamlet Sub Leader: Huynh Tan Danh
- b. Forces in District of Tanh Linh
About 26 November 1965, source saw a VC district force, of about 20, which was led by Ho and armed. Mausers and grenades (supply nrs not known clearly). This unit was going in the direction of Vo Xu (quartering areas not known clearly)
Uniforms: Black, rubber sandals; no hats
- c. Booby traps:
There are bamboo stakes planted at the administration office of Vo Xu (YT820380)
- d. VC rice field
In the sub hamlets of Nghia Binh and Nghia Tinh (YT820390) the VC have transplanted about 10 acres of rice. This rice is ripe and will be harvested this month Dec 65.

Comment: Information is reliable. Informant has no weapon. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

134

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
5 December 1965
Interrogator: Sp4 Rodgers
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV, Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-96

Name: Truong Quang A
Age: 28
DOB: 10 March 1937
POB: Quang Ngai Province
Residence: Kien Hoa Province
Occupation: Farmer
Marital Status: 1 wife, name: Nguyen Thi Bang, age 23
2 children: Truong Thi Yen Di, 4 yrs
Truong Quang Lam, 2 yrs
Circumstances of capture: Source was captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 65 at Vo Xu village. Coordinates unknown

Information:

Source is not from this area and disclaims all knowledge of local VC cadre and activities. He was visiting relatives in Vo Xu.

Comments: Source is not from this area and there is nothing to link him to VC activities. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

133

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
5 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Hung
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV, Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-93

Name: Nguyen Van Trong
Alias: None
DOB: 1950
POB: Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Parents: Father: Nguyen Van Tra
Mother: Tran Thi Dap
Circumstances of capture: Captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 1965 at Vo Xu village.
Coordinates unknown.

Information:

1. Guerrilla forces of Duy Can
Hamlet leader: Hoanh
Hamlet Sub Leader: Not known
Platoon: Hien
Number of Troops: About 40
Weapons: 4 MMG; around 5 carbines; 20 Mausers
2. Administration of Duy Can
Chairman: Ty
Sub Chairman: Kem
Secretary: Duong

Comment: Informant was forced to be a Sub Hamlet Guerrilla. Doesn't have a weapon; only a spear. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

132

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
052145 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Hung (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-197

Name: LE DI Alias: None
Date of Birth: 1947
Place of Birth: Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
 Father: Name unknown to source (deceased)
 Mother: Name unknown to source (deceased)
Residence: Vo Xu
Circumstances of Capture: Captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 65 at Vo Xu

Information:

Guerrilla Forces in Vo Xu:

Hamlet Leader: VO LOI
 " Sub " : TAM
Platoon Ldr : NGUYEN HONG VINH
Nr of Troops : Approximately 40
Weapons : 2 Thompsons
 1 Carbine
 A nr of Mausers
 A nr of grenades

Comments:

LE DI was pointed out as a man with weapon. Upon reinterrogation, it was found out that his weapon was given to Mr LOI when source became sick 1 month ago. Source is a Hamlet Guerrilla, has no weapon, has no other information. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

Field Interrogation Report.

INT SEC
IRAR 131
VO XU
5 DEC 65.

NAME: HO.
AGE: 35 years old.
POSITION IN VC: Company Commander.
TIME IN VC: 1 year. as Coy Comd
UNIT: 341 Company.
STRENGTH: 95 men.

The company, 341, consists of 3 platoons.

1st Platoon commanded by KHANH
2nd ✓ ✓ ✓ THAN
3rd ✓ ✓ ✓ NHUC (PHONETIC)

The company did not belong to any specific BN but received orders from the Nam Lo ~~Dist.~~ ^{DIST. CHIEF.} from time to time.

Each platoon in 341 company has 3x LMGs (30 cal American) plus Mousers, carbines, and grenades. 2 PIs FORMED, 1 UNFORMED. There are no NVN in the unit. The unit has gone into the hills about 3 to 4000 metres and is 1/2 days march away.

This man crossed to the south of the river (SÔNG LÀ-NGA) 5 days ago and was led by CANG, who lives near the bridge and Mrs Loi (Platoon commander's wife of local guerrillas) who lives on road leading into jungle.

Slept in jungle each night.

INTERPRETERS
LT A WHITE.
CPL MCAULEY

CHANH DUC

130

Chan Duc

East of A Hamlet just across the rice paddy on the edge of the forest is located 3 rice caches.

NGUYEN THUA - HAS A Grenade in his home.

MR. LE THUYH - VC cadre CHAIRMAN.

NGUYEN CANH - Sub-hamlet No. 2 cadre.

MR. MINH - CHANH DUC Village Guerrilla Chief.

There have two different reports of a radio located in the area in Chan Duc.

Source has stated that the NAM LO (D114) BN. is located at North end of Chan Duc Village. Consists of 3 companies: (1) DUYET (was wounded by bombing); (2) ~~THUA~~ THUA; (3) QUY.

Source saw many personnel of this BN. at 0600 27 NOV. '65 in North end of Village. Their spokesman told people they will fight to the death. Also informed population not to go into the cleared area at North end of Village it is mined.

VO XU

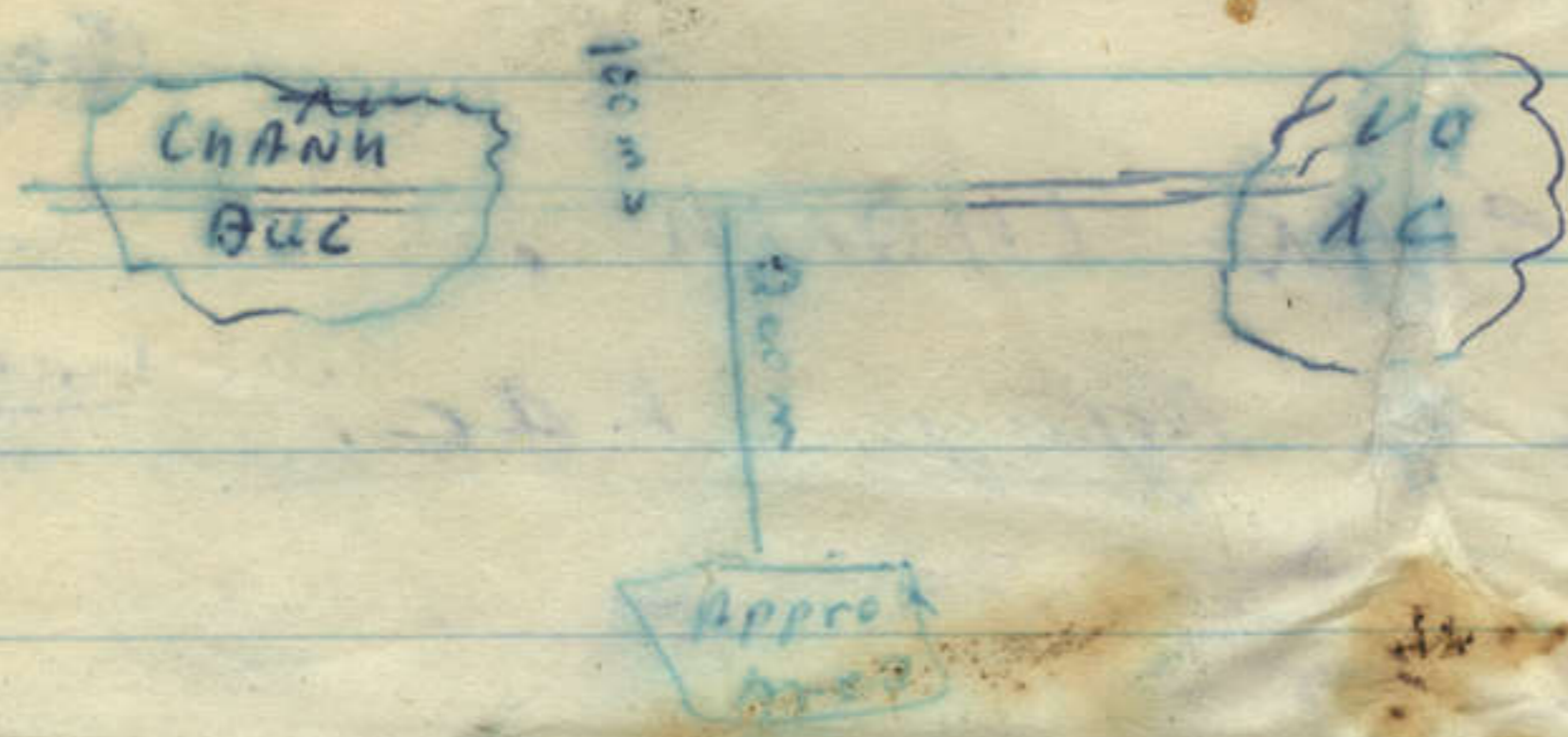
129

MR. DANG — VC TAX collector, lives
in NGA BA,

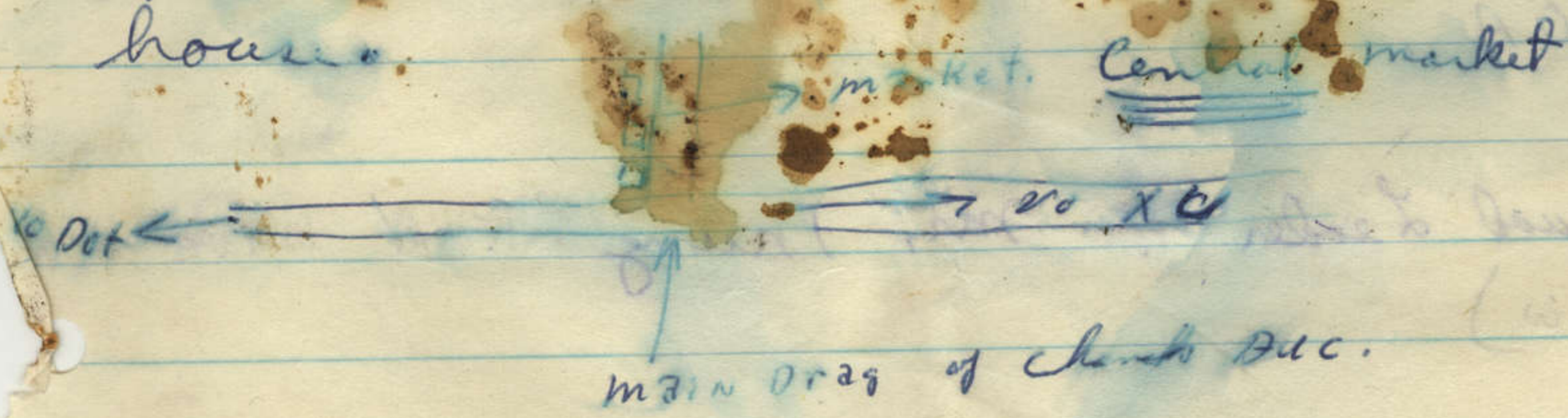
MR. DOAN HAM alias BIEP — owner of
rice mill in VO XU. He had a 2½ ton truck
carrying rice for VC all one night.

1- One cache west of Chanh Duc. (Rollies will show)

2- One rice cache in Forest East of Village across small canal near Burned off Area.



3- One rice cache on main road through Chanh Duc - 5 hours past hut on left hand side of road. A rather large house.



4- One salt cache located in Xang Nham (Sub. Hamlet in Chanh Duc) near market in house.

Mr. Tham Thieu - A VC Platoon lead

in Chanh Duc.

Mr. Phong But - Asst. Plt. Leader.

1st Sg.

Sg. Leader - Mr. Binh

Asst. Sg. Lt. - Mr. Truc

2nd Sg.

Mr. Binh

Asst. Sg. Lt. - Mr. LEUAN THANH.

Nguyen Thai - Brother of Nguyen Lac.

Women: Mrs. Nguyen Thi Chiet

Mrs. TAM THI MANH

VC Information Chief Chanh Duc

Mr. CA.

3rd Squad Leader - Mr. Trung (RVA Have him now)

2nd squad: Nguyen Lac
Rest: Le Van Thanh

Tran Tuan Chai H

Nguyen Luc

Nguyen Hoa

Nguyen T-Lai

Hai Qu

Nguyen

Nguyen

Le Van Thanh

Nguyen Hoa

→ Platoon leader

Nguyen T-Chai - woman

Nguyen T-Chai - woman

Tran Hoa

Nguyen Thi

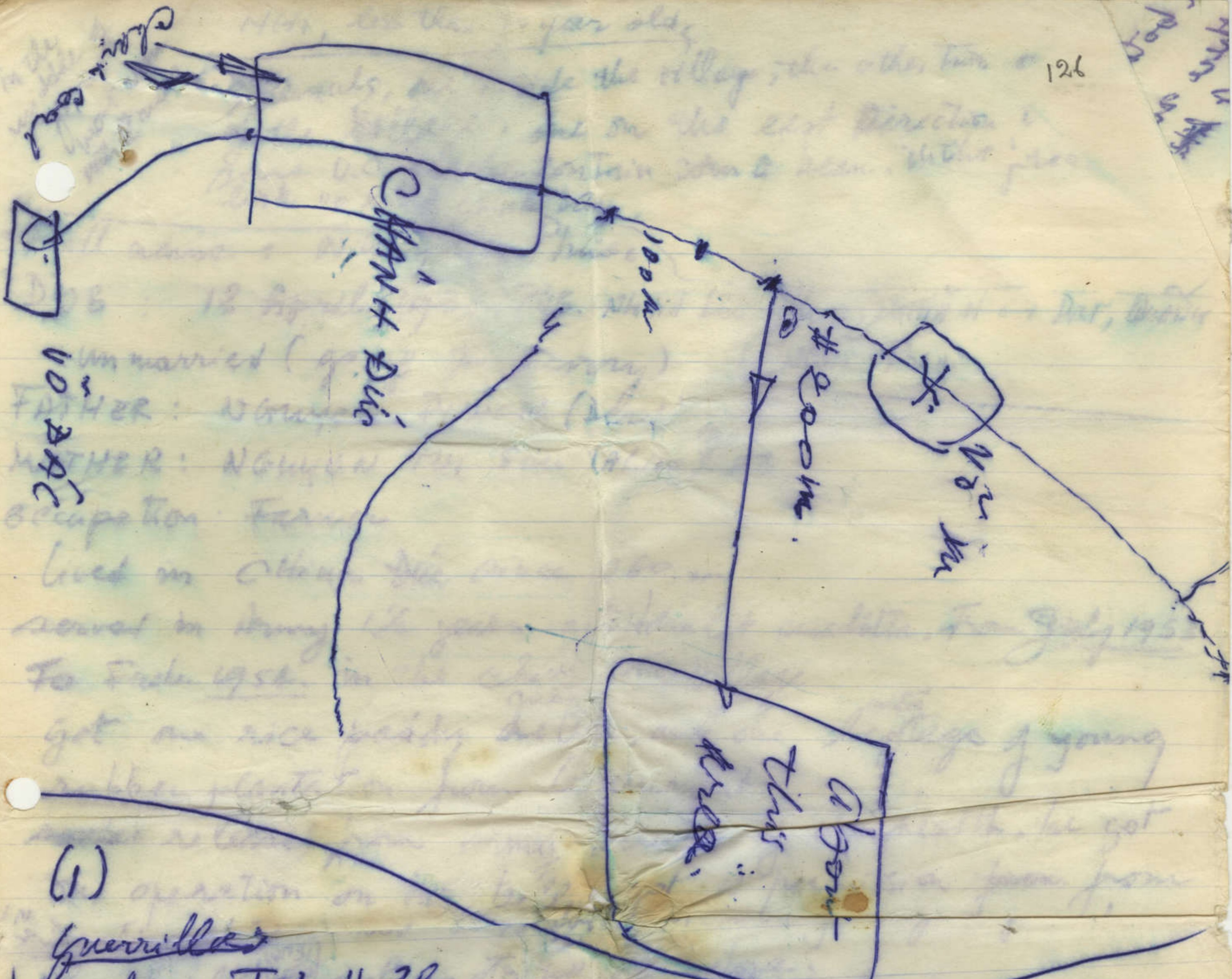
— Brother of source

Lu Thi

Nguyen Thanh

Nguyen Sai





(1)

Guerillas

- 1 Mr. Tu # 26
- 2 " Phát, assistant. (30 years old)
- 3 " ~~Phuoc~~ Phuc (29 y. olds)
- 4 " Cao Phu (27 y. olds)
- 5 " Nguyen Phuong
- 6 " Nguyen Cuoi Canh
- 7 " Loi Loi
- 8 " Du Trong
- 9 " Trong (30) (his house next to act)
- 10 " Truot
- 11 " Phuoc
- 12 " Minh, leader

in the middle of
forest
with some
mountain

NH, less than 30 year old
3 Temples, one inside the village, the other two on both sides
of the village. one on the east Direction there are
some v.c. cache contain corn & bean. in the forest like
link vo xu & chink die

Full name : NGUYEN PHUOC
DOB : 12 April 1938. POB. Nhat Lác village, Nhat HANH Dist, QUANG
UNMARRIED (going to marry) | Nhat Prov.

FATHER : NGUYEN PHUOC (dead)
MOTHER : NGUYEN THI SIM (ALIVE) ^{age} 56.

Occupation : Farmer

Lived in Chink die since 1960 ...
served in Army 1 1/2 years as Hamlet militia. From July 1953
To Feb. 1954. in the Chink die village

got one rice paddy ^{quien} and one ^{minh} heftage of young
rubber plantation from Government.

~~was~~ released from army because of his health. he got
an operation on his back. got a permission ~~from~~ from
Doctor ^{MINH} ~~was~~ in service ...

his health ^{was} not so strong as before.

VC forced ^{MINH} to work with them as a hamlet guerrilla.
since in the middle of June until now, worked under
Mr. ^{MINH} ~~Chink~~ who runs away.

12 days ago there was one guerrilla unit coming in the
village; ~~there~~ ~~was~~ ~~less~~ 3/4 black pyjama, commanded

by Mr. Qui. designation is B3.

and there are some VC. guerrillas, as follow: (1)

124

[MESSAGE NO 775. H. Duc Sub
sector/S2]

MESSAGE

(011630H/12/1965)

FR: HoAi Duc Sub Sector H.Q.

TO: S2 U.S. 173^d Bde.

Info: Binh Tuy Sector HQ

The source of information exploited. The source of information, which was valuable, S2 agent informed. All rice plant and rice ^{CACHES} in Vo Xu and Chau Duc ^{VIC} VC have transferred to the forest approx Y.T. 820346. Here one VC Dist main force is ^{now} occupying and protecting all the rice and rice plant caches ^{here}. There are about 5 rice and rice plant caches in this vic forest. The VC 42^d unit commanded by Mr. TRAN VAN Ho, district commander. It is hiding along the LAN Quan stream, approx Y.T. 834370, in order to harass, and command the local guerrilla group. The VC comrades in Vo Xu village now use sampans to hide out along the La Nga river T. T. (information). STOP

S/.

MARKED ON MAP

Scan All 2/12

Enter in Person File

En Per File
7/12 HQ

1/RAR 123

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D Abn Bde (Sep)
Vo Dat, RVN
5 December 1965
Interrogator: Sp4 Rodgers
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-114

Name: Nguyen Trung Su

Age: 35

DOB: Unknown

POB: Unknown

Residence: Vo Xu

Occupation: Sub Hamlet guerrilla, 1st squad, Nghia Duc Than

Marital Status: 1 wife; name: Nguyen Thi Du, 25 yrs of age

2 children: Nguyen Thi Le, age 4 yrs

Nguyen Thi Loc, age 2 yrs

Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 1965 in Vo Xu.

Information: No information not previously obtained.

Comment: Source is VC; Source had no weapon. Recommend evacuation to
Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

(22)

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D Abn Bde (Sep)
Vo Dat, RVN
5 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Trach
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-190

Name: Ngo Nhi
Alias: None
DOB: 10 Nov 1924
POB: Pho Binh, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Parents: Father: Ngo Nhut (deceased)
Mother: Nguyen Thi Dieu (deceased)
Residence: Tanh Linh
Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured 1/RAR on 29 Nov 1965 at Vo Xu.

Information:

a. Booby trapped areas

Around October 1965 source was forced to dig a panji pit. Because of that he knows that the panji pits are at the three way crossroad (YT812376)

b. VC Forces

On the night of 24-25 Nov 65, source saw a number of VC (about 30) armed with rifles and wearing black and khaki grey uniforms going from the direction of the church at Vo Xu (YT825377) towards Duy Can. Source doesn't know where this unit came from or where it was going.

Source has no other information.

Comment:

Source is not a VC therefore he has no weapon. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

121

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
052100 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Hung (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-157

Name: NGUYEN THANH Alias: None
Date of Birth: 2 September 1931
Place of Birth: Nghia Hanh, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
 Father: Nguyen Thuan
 Mother: Tran Thi Do (deceased)
Residence: Vo Xu
Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 65 at Vo Xu.

Information:

Guerrilla Forces in Vo Xu:

Hamlet Leader: Phan Loi
Platoon " : Unknown
Nr of Troops : Approximately 40
Weapons : 2 Thompsons
 a number of Mausers
 a number of grenades

Hamlet Committee:

Chairman: Can

Comments:

Source is not a VC. Source does not have a weapon. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
052115 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Trach (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

120

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-149

Name: NGUYEN NGOC Alias: None
Date of Birth: 2 June 1915
Place of Birth: Pho Hung, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
 Father: Nguyen Muo (deceased)
 Mother: Tran Thi Xung (deceased)
Residence: Vo Xu
Circumstances of Capture: Captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 65 at Vo Xu

Information:

Source was followed and restricted by VC because he stole the wife of a VC Cadre (Tran Ngoc Vinh), who was regrouped back to the north in 1954. Because of this, source does not know anything concerning VC in Vo Xu.

Comments:

Source is not a VC, therefore, he has no weapon. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

2

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
052125 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Trach (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

119

1/RAR

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-147

Name: NGUYEN NHAM Alias: None
Date of Birth: 10 November 1947
Place of Birth: Pho Trang, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Tailor
Parents:
Father: Nguyen Mien
Mother: Nguyen Thi Loc
Residence: Vo Xu
Circumstances of Capture: Captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 65 at Vo Xu

Information:

Communication Trench:

On or about October 1965, source was forced by VC to dig a commo trench. Because of this, source knows it is along the road 1 (YT813377). The VC dug this trench as a defense against the Vietnamese Army. This trench is 1m deep, 80cm wide and has dirt piled along the outside.

Booby Traps:

Behind the rock pile (YT820383) and in front of the Administration Office in Vo Xu (YT823378) there are panji pits.

Source worked in a pawn shop in Saigon from 1963 to 1965, but returned to Nghia Duc (Vo Xu) to recover from an illness. Because of this, source never went out of his house and so knows nothing of the VC at Vo Xu.

Comments:

Source is a suspected VC. Source has no weapon. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

118

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
5 December 1965
Interrogator: Sp4 Rodgers
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV, Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-97

Name: Truong Giang
Age: 29
DOB: 17 August 1936
POB: Quang Ngai
Residence: Vo Xu, Tan Linh District, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Marital Status: 1 wife, name: Ngo Thi Thiet, age: 29
4 children: Truong Trong, age 9
Truong Thi Hoa, 8
Truong Thi Huong 3
Truong Dung Phuong 1

Circumstances of capture: Captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 1965 at Vo Xu. Exact coordinates unknown.

Information: No information not previously obtained.

Comment: Source is VC. Source claims that he had no weapon. Recommend forwarding to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

117

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
5 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Hung
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV, Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-198

Name: Pham Luong
Alias: None
DOB: 2 March 1945
POB: Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Parents: Father: Phan Binh (deceased)
Mother: Nguyen Thi Thao
Residence: Vo Xu
Circumstances of Capture: Source captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 1965 in Vo Xu.
Coordinates unknown.

Information: None

Comments: Source is member of sub hamlet militia. He has no weapon (only spear).
Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

172d MI Det IPW SECTION
 173d Abn Bde (Sep)
 VO DAT, RVN
 051530 December 1965
 Interrogator: Asp Trach (RVNAF)
 Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
 Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-186

Name: PHAM BICH Alias: None
 Date of Birth: 1935
 Place of Birth: Nghia Thinh, Nghia Hanh, Quang Ngai
 Occupation: Farmer
 Parents:
 Father: Pham Dung (deceased)
 Mother: Doan Thi Dat (deceased)
 Residence: Tanh Linh
 Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 65. Time and place of capture unknown.

Information:

Rice Caches:

Around the beginning of October 1965, source was forced to carry rice because of that he knows where a VC rice cache is, which is composed of 2 compartments made of corrugated tin 2mX2mX1.5m. This cache has approximately 600 bags (approximately 4400 litres) of rice. Source does not know where VC bought this rice. This cache is located in the jungle at about YT820337.

Guerrilla Leaders of Nghia Binh:

Cadre:

Leader: THONG
 Number of Troops: Approximately 30
 Weapons: Spears
 Composition: 3 Squads
 Quartering Areas: Quartered in the houses of the comrades of Nghia Binh but meets in the high school in Vo Xu (YT811376). On both sides of the road are panji stakes.

Comments:

Source is a VC guerrilla (Sub-Hamlet). No weapon (only spear). No information of VC units. Source will lead friendly forces to rice cache. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
 1st Lt, AIS
 OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

115

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
051645 December 1965
Interrogator: Sgt Hiep (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-36

Name: HUYNH XUAN MAI
Date of Birth: 10 October 1929 Age: 36
Place of Birth: Pho Tan, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai Province
Present Address: Hamlet 3, Chanh Duc Village since 1961
Occupation: Farmer
Marital Status: Married, wife and 5 children
Wife: Chau Thi Xuyen, 35
Father: Huynh Kha (deceased)
Mother: Vo Thi Tau, 75
Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured by 1/RAR on 27 Nov 65 at Duc Hanh

Information:

In May 1965, source was captured by the VC. Source was then forced to confess in front of the population as to what he had done while working for the Government of Republic of Vietnam. As the result, source was forced to work at civilian labor for 7 days. Source was captured by Mr Nguyen Dong, VC Hamlet Chief.

Personalities:

LE TIEN, VC Village Chief
HUYNH THANG, VC Hamlet Militia Chief
TRAN HIEP, VC Hamlet Guerrilla Squad Leader
NGUYEN VAN TINH, VC Sub-Hamlet Guerrilla Squad Leader
NGUYEN DONG, VC Hamlet Chairman
NGUYEN THANH, VC Hamlet Security Official
NGUYEN VAN VINH, VC Sub-Hamlet Chairman
TRAN MINH DEN, VC Hamlet Security
HUYNH THOI, VC Village Cadre
NGUYEN TRU, VC Village Cadre

In September 1965, Mr Nguyen Dong told source to carry salt from Road #20 to Sung Nhon II. This job took source 3 days.

Source claims he used to be Government worker.

Served in the Vietnamese Information Service from 1959 to 1961.
Vietnamese Family Chief in 1961.
Sub-Hamlet Chief from latter part of 1961 to 1963.
Vietnamese Hamlet Policeman and Secretary from 1963 to 1965.

Comments:

Source is not a VC. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

114

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
052030 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Trach (RVNAF)
Map: Ve Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-146

Name: LE QUANG Alias: SUONG
Date of Birth: 8 January 1937
Place of Birth: Pho Binh, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Parents:
 Father: Le Thong (deceased)
 Mother: Huynh The Le (deceased)
Residence: Vo Xu
Circumstances of Capture: Captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 65 at Vo Xu

Information:

In 1964, source was a family liaison representative of Vietnamese Government in Sub-Hamlet 3 (Vo Xu). Source was jailed by VC for 3 months. After he was released, he went to Saigon to work as a pedicab driver. Because of this, he knows nothing of the VC in Vo Xu.

Comments:

Source is a member of Sub-Hamlet guard, therefore, source has no weapon and had only spear. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

113

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
051900 December 1965
Interrogator: Sgt Hiep (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-92

Name: CAO VAN NHAN

Date of Birth: 25 September 1932 Age: 33

Place of Birth: Vinh An, Pho Hiep, Quang Ngai Province

Present Address: Nghia Tinh, Vo Xu Village since 1959

Occupation: Farmer

Marital Status: Married, wife and 3 children

Wife: Nguyen Thi No (34)

Father: Cao Lac (deceased)

Mother: Phan Thi Linh (75)

Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 65 at Vo Xu, (exact coordinates and time unknown). Source did not possess weapon at the time of capture.

Information:

Source confirmed that he stood guard as a hamlet militia for VC 3 times. His job was to watch strangers coming in to the village.

In Nov 65, source saw the village guerrillas walking on the road in front of his house on 4 occasions. Each time source observed 3 to 4 men carrying rifles and hand grenades (type unknown).

Source states he knows 3 VC Village Guerrillas in his village. They are MAI TOI, NGUYEN BAY, LE TI (positions unknown).

Source further states that Mr MAI TOI (65-NL-204), rallier, has a rifle.

Source claims VC did not want him because they thought source is a Protestant and can not be used.

Comments:

Source is not a hard core VC but since he served on the hamlet militia for the VC, recommend he be evacuated to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR 112

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
Q51330 December 1965
Interrogator: SP6 West
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6344 IV,
Series L701

BALLIER INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-313

Name: TRAN BINH
Date of Birth: 20 October 1951 Age: 14
Place of Birth: Nghia Loc Hamlet, Nghia Hanh District, Quang Ngai Province
Residence: Vo Xu
Circumstances of Capture: Source rallied to Vo Dat District Headquarters on 2 Dec 65. Source rallied with weapon (Mauser rifle).

Information:

In April 1964, VC cadre Mr HO and Mr SUANG, with what source heard was a main force platoon, entered Vo Xu for a period of 4 days. They seized the hamlet and sub-hamlet chiefs and four other men. While in the hamlet, they held propaganda meetings. When they withdrew, they took the chiefs and the other four men with them. These four men were indoctrinated and after a period of four to six months, they returned to the village as informers for the VC.

Source states that he visited his sister in Quang Ngai Province from sometime in June 1965 till 17 July 1965. Upon his return to Vo Xu, source stated the VC cadre had taken over control of Vo Xu, based on the information supplied by the four informers. The people who sympathized with the RVN were seized and taken into the jungle. They were never seen again.

Source has a brother, TRAN QUANG, prisoner Nr 65-NL-89, who also was forced to join the VC. His brother was sent to serve in a unit in Duy Can Hamlet in Heai Duc District, Binh Tuy Province. This unit was called the Heai Duc District Force and had a strength of about two companies. Source's brother served about one month with this unit and then returned to Vo Xu because he had TB, where he remained until he was picked up.

Source stated that he became a hamlet guerrilla on 16 Oct 65, and received 7 days of training on aiming and firing of the rifle, however, he never actually fired the weapon during this training. He also learned how to crawl and hide in the jungle during this training period. After this training period, source received one rifle (Mauser type) and 33 rounds of ammunition. Source kept this rifle with him except when it was needed by other people going on a mission.

Source stated that on the 27th or 28th of Oct 65, he and the other guerrillas withdrew to Me Pu. After one day, source, Mr DO, Mr TRAN, and Mr LOI returned to Vo Xu as snipers. Source then rallied and does not know what happened to the other three guerrillas.

Source knows the location, and has been there, of a rice cache between Vo Xu and Duy Can and thinks there are about 3 or 4 more caches within 300 meters of this location. Cache is about 10 X 10 X 10 (interrogator feels these rice caches have already been exploited by the Australians).

VC Organization of Vo Xu Hamlet:

Hamlet Guerrilla Chief:	LOI (Carbine)
Asst " " "	: THONG (US Sub-machinegun)
" " " "	: CAO SAU (2 grenades)
Platoon Leader	: NGUYEN THANG (US Sub-machinegun)
Guerrilla	: VIST (Mauser)
"	: TRUNG BONG (Mauser)
"	: SON (Mauser)
"	: TAM (Mauser)
"	: KHOA (Mauser)
"	: GIAU (No weapon) (Captured)
"	: DI (No weapon) (Captured)

Guerrilla	:	MINH (No weapon) (Captured)
"	:	DUNG (Mauser)
"	:	THOI (Mauser)
"	:	QUOI (Mauser)
"	:	DO (Mauser)
"	:	TUNG (Mauser)
"	:	DAU (Mauser)

Sub-Header Guerrilla:

Age 20 to 25 or up to 30 if not married.

Sub-Header Militia:

Age 30-40 or 50 depending on members health. These groups have no weapons. When they go on guard they receive one grenade each.

Comments:

Source has been very cooperative. He has given information that has checked out with previous information we have received. He rallied with his weapon and desires to enter the open arms program. Recommend source be evacuated to Chieu Hoi Center in Binh Tuy Province.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR 110

65-NL-34D

172D MI DETACHMENT (Abn Bde)

5 December 1965

DOCUMENT EXPLOITATION REPORT

(Documents captured by 1/RAR on 2 Dec 65 at YT807336, with 200 bags of rice in a hut)

GENERAL:

There are a total of 2,000 documents and a GVN flag as follows:

1,000 copies of census lists (origin unknown).

20 Viet Cong newsletters.

979 Miscellaneous documents.

1 Old and torn GVN Flag.

COMMENTS:

The above documents have no tactical intelligence value. Recommend they be evacuated to District Headquarters.

DOCUMENT SCRIBENER: SP4 Rodgers

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

109

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
061200 December 1965
Interrogator: SP4 Rodgers
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-165

Name: LE HUONG
Date of Birth: 4 April 1941 Age: 24
Place of Birth: Quang Ngai
Residence: Saigon
Occupation: Truck driver
Marital Status: Wife: Trang Thi Mien, 24
1 child: (just born, unnamed)
Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 65 at Vo Xu

Information:

No information not previously obtained. Source is from Saigon and came to this area to haul charcoal. Source has doctor's certificate of ill health.

Comments:

Source is not a VC. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

108

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
061145 December 1965
Interrogator: SP4 Rodgers
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-166

Name: NGUYEN HUNG

Date of Birth: 12 July 1932 Age: 33

Place of Birth: Quang Ngai

Residence: Vo Xu

Occupation: Ditch digger

Marital Status: Wife, Pham Thi Hung, age: 30

Children: Nguyen Thi Hao, age: 9

Nguyen Thi Huo, age: 6

Nguyen Thi Truong Huong, age: 4

Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 65 at Vo Xu

Information:

No information not previously obtained.

Comments:

Source is a Sub-Hamlet guard. He possessed no weapon. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

107

AVAB-SB

6 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 204
2. Period Covered: 051800 to 061800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
4. Time and Date of Issue: 061800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Paragraph 5a through 12 on following pages)

Two major and several minor VC contacts occurred in the Brigade TAOR. The Reconnaissance Platoon 1/2 Infantry was fired upon while moving through the village of Chinh Tam 2, by approximately 20 VC firing automatic, small arms and Claymore type weapons. Regional forces, operating within the 1/503 Inf TAOR, contacted an estimated VC platoon. Additional rice caches were discovered. Local civilians continue to furnish productive information on VC activities.

(Outside the Brigade TAOR) A rallier reported that the VC force which attacked Suoi Cat (YT 594065) early on 5 Dec was possibly a battalion from the F-5 Regiment.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 1 Regiment
- (b) 5 Battalions and possibly 4 more
- (c) Possibly 7 companies

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Bns.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

- a. The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.
- b. The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.

The enemy will reestablish his control over this area immediately upon our departure if adequate ARVN forces are not maintained in this area.

CONFIDENTIAL

5a. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period:

- (1) (1923 hrs) A patrol from Company A, 2/503 Inf discovered well-used trails from YT 858429 to YT 859438. At 1030 hours a grenade was thrown at the patrol vic YT 859438. A search was conducted of the area with negative results. The patrol found 200 cubic feet of rice (approx 2.8 tons) at YT 862438 stored in two buildings made of mud with tin roofs. Three other buildings were in the same area, which was well fortified. The patrol found 225 more cubic feet of rice (approx 3 tons) at YT 876454 stored in a bamboo hut with a tin roof. This area was also well fortified. The rice was destroyed because its location was inaccessible to vehicles.
- (2) (2021 hrs) 2/503 Inf captured one VC who walked into their ambush site vic YT 871432. The VC, dressed in black pajamas, stated he was a member of a 20 man guerrilla platoon armed with carbines, M-1's and Thompson SMG's
- (3) (2225 hrs) Two rounds were fired by a small group of VC (dressed in peasant clothing) which approached a position of B Company, 2/503 Infantry's. The VC approximately 60 meters to the front of "B" Company's position, were fired on and 1 VC was KIA, another wounded, and captured. No weapons were found in the area.
- (4) (0455 hrs) A trip flare was set off in the vic of Company C, 1/26 Infantry's perimeter, YT 718338. No personnel were observed.
- (5) (0555 hrs) An unknown number of personnel were observed crawling toward a listening post of C Company, 1/26 Inf, vic YT 715337. C Company personnel threw a grenade but later investigation of the area produced negative findings.
- (6) (1000 hrs) 1/503 Inf destroyed a small quantity of rice and ten empty 5-gallon cans vic YT 765494.
- (7) (1005 hrs) A Company, 2/503 Inf discovered 300 cubic feet of rice (approx 3.7 tons) in a well camouflaged hut vic YT 814448.
- (8) (1120 hrs) Company A, 2/503 Inf discovered 300 cubic feet of salt (approx 7½ tons) vic YT 838438.
- (9) (1310 hrs) A local civilian informed the 1/503 Inf that a truck moving on Hwy #20, vic YT 687471, received small arms fire.
- (10) (1315 hrs) The Regional Force Company in Phuong Lam (YT 7248) contacted 20 to 30 VC vic YT 668465. The VC, armed with one heavy Czech machinegun, one SMG and carbines, wore black and blue pajamas. Following the fire fight, several pools of blood were found in the area. (12 Red Haze plots were revealed during a flight over this area at 052035 Dec)
- (11) (1400 hrs) A VC suspect was apprehended by elements of 1/2 Inf and Spt Bn in the village of Tu Te, YT 7033. Capture was based on information received from an informer.
- (12) (1430 hrs) The Reconnaissance Platoon, 1/2 Inf was fired upon by approx 20 VC employed on both sides of the road from YT 682203 to YT 685210. Action was initiated by the detonation of a claymore type weapon vic of the last vehicle in the column. Following this, small arms fire from AR's and carbines was received. The VC, dressed in black peasant clothes and white conical type helmets, withdrew to the wooded areas when the fire was returned. Enemy losses were 2 VC KIA, 3 huts destroyed and 8 bushels of corn.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

- (1) (1930 hrs) A Company 82d Avn reported a UEL-B was fired at by three automatic weapons vic YT 635140.

Confidential

(2) (2237 hrs) III Corps reported the village area of Sou Cat was fired on vic YT 594065.

(3) (0930 hrs) A helicopter pilot observed one man running in a South-easterly direction vic YT 720243.

(4) (1335 hrs) FAC reported a secondary explosion vic YT 86 458, following an air strike at that location.

(5) (1600 hrs) The Regional Forces Commander of Phuong Lam (YT 7248) informed the 1/503 Inf that, a VC headquarters is located vic YT 693458, a VC rest area is located vic YT 668499 and a VC camp is located vic YT 668499.

(6) (1630 hrs) The village chief of Gia Ray informed the 1/2 Inf that a VC company is located vic YT 625135.

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel:

(1) KIA By:	Confirmed	Possible	
Ground Forces	3	0	
(2) Captives	Defector	Rallier	Suspect
VC 2			1

Number of above who were wounded (1)

b. Equipment Losses: Approx 8.5 tons of rice, 300 cubic feet of salt, 10 empty 5-gallon cans, 8 bushels of corn, and 3 huts.

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identification: None

10. Enemy Movements: (0920 hrs) The local populace of Phu Lam (YT 7554) informed the 1/503 Inf that approx 40 VC return to the village each night.

11. Estimated Number and Types Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to mostly cloudy, hot and humid.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

Raymond E. Marshall
 RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
 Major, Infantry
 C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

1/RAR

104

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D ABN BDE, (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
6 December 1965
Interrogator: Sp4 Rodgers
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-163

Name: Pham Long Thuong
Age: 54
DOB: 12 March 1911
POB: Quang Ngai
Residence: Vo Xu
Marital Status: 1 wife, name: Tran Thi Muoi, age: 42
2 children: Nguyen Thich, 17 Yrs
Pham Long Thanh, 8 yrs

Occupation: Farmer

Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured 1/RAR on 29 Nov 1965 at Vo Xu.

Information:

Source was twice taken into mountains for reeducation by VC. The first time was for objecting to giving rice to VC, second time for not digging trenches as ordered. Source has no information not previously obtained.

Comment:

Source is not VC. Recommend disposition to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

103

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
6 December 1965
INTERROGATOR: Sgt Hiep
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-162

Name: Nguyen Hai
Age: 34
DOB: 14 January 1931
POB: Pho Trang, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai Province
Occupation: Farmer
Marital Status: 1 wife, name: Tran Thi Thao, Age 37
5 children
Present Address: Nghia Pho, Vo Xu Village. Since 1962
Parents: Father : Nguyen Lang (deceased), 80
Mother: Le Thi Mai (deceased), 75
Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 1965 at Vo Xu.

Information:

Approximately one month ago, he stood on guard as a hamlet militia on four different occasions. Source saw VC coming in the Vo Xu on one of these occasions. They wore gray pajamas and were carrying rifles (kind unknown). They were walking toward Chanh Duc Village from Me Pu (Source does not know why).

Source was forced to stand guard for VC but he is not a VC. He has no weapon and used a stick when on guard. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

102

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
060900 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Hung (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-196

Name: NGUYEN GIAU Alias: None
Date of Birth: 1946
Place of Birth: Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Parents:
 Father: Nguyen Hai, 57
 Mother: Bui Thi Hai
Residence: Vo Xu
Circumstances of Capture: Captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 65 at Vo Xu (YT820380)

Information:

Guerrilla Forces of Vo Xu:

Hamlet Leader: Pham Loi
 " Sub " : Tran Sau
Platoon Ldr : Tran Qua
Nr of Troops: Approximately 40
Weapons : 1 Thompson
 1 Carbine
 A number of Mausers
 (Provisions are not clearly known to source)

Comments:

Source is a hamlet guerrilla but has never participated in action. Source possessed a Mauser rifle and led friendly forces to the hidden location. The ^{Weapon} serial number ~~of source~~, 1284 was recovered on 5 December 1965. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR 101
172d MI DET IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
060930 December 1965
Interrogator: SP4 Rodgers
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 164

Name: LE VAN THI
Date of Birth: 18 June 1939 Age: 26
Place of Birth: Quang Ngai
Residence: Vo Xu
Occupation: Barber
Marital Status: Wife: Nguyen Thi Ba, 24
3 children: Le Thi Minh Nguyet, 6
Le Minh Canh, 4
Le Thi Cam Nhung, 1

VC Activities: Hamlet Militia

Circumstances of Capture: Captured by 1/RAR on 29 Nov 65 at Vo Xu

Information:

Source had no information of tactical value that was not previously obtained from other sources.

Comments:

Source is a VC but possessed no weapon. Recommend evacuation to Province Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

100

AVAB-SB

7 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 205
2. Period Covered: 061800 to 071800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location, YT 722324
4. Time and Date of Issue: 071800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Paragraph 5a through 12 on following pages)

Four minor contacts with VC elements occurred in the Brigade TAOR. One of these--small arms firing into the artillery defensive perimeter--was VC initiated.

VC losses as a result of these contacts were: 1 VC KIA (B/C), 1 VC KIA (Possible), 1 VC WIA, 1 M-1 rifle and 2 Russian rifles. A SPAR located within the TAOR of the 2/503 Infantry was received from the 1st Division at 1440 hours.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 1 Regiment
- (b) 5 Battalions and possibly 4 more
- (c) Possibly 7 Companies

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Battalions.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

- a. The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.
- b. The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.
- c. The enemy will reestablish his control over this area immediately upon our departure if adequate ARVN forces are not maintained in this area.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTSUM Number: 205 (Continued)

5a. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period:

- (1) (0025 hrs) A Btry 8/6 Arty received small arms fire vic YT 778390.
- (2) (2330 hrs) A trip flare was set off in the vic of the 1/26 Inf perimeter vic YT 715325. Nothing was observed.
- (3) (0839 hrs) Company B, 1/RAR discovered a campsite estimated to be 6 months old, vicinity YT 839391.
- (4) (1050 hrs) Elements of the 2/503d Inf engaged an undetermined number of VC vic YT 859435. The VC wore black pants, light blue shirts and soft caps. The VC losses were: One VC KIA, one VC WIA, two Russian rifles and one M-1 rifle. The VC fled North-west.
- (5) (1055 hrs) A patrol from the 1/2 Inf received small arms fire from an estimated 5 VC, dressed in black pajamas and soft caps vic YT 768242. Fire was returned and 1 VC was believed WIA. An area search disclosed a platoon sized base camp with cooking equipment, a small amount of rice and 15 rounds of 30 caliber ammunition.
- (6) (1110 hrs) C Company, 1/503d Inf captured two VC suspects vic YT 702460. During the helicopter extraction of the suspects, a VC (armed with a carbine) was sighted in the vic of the extraction area.
- (7) (1830 hrs) C Company, 2/503d Inf engaged two VC at 1405 hrs vic YT 860440. A well camouflaged village consisting of 4 huts and several weapons emplacements were found and destroyed.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

- (1) (1630 hrs) Late Entry: At 1015 hrs, the District Chief of Hoai Duc reported the rice harvesters, working in the vic of YT 693254, were fired on by approximately two squads of VC dressed in black pajamas. He also reported a Vietnamese female, present on 4 Dec in the vic of Mr. Ho's capture (VC guerrilla platoon leader in the Vo Xa area) recovered two weapons dropped by members of Ho's platoon who fled when seeing Ho being captured. (1 Mauser rifle, 1 French submachine gun). She stated, during her interrogation at District, that she had recovered 5 weapons but could not locate the others.
- (2) (1150 hrs) 10 camouflaged huts were sighted by a FAC; 6 vic YT 865456 and 4 vic YT 863463.
- (3) (1130 hrs) An official from Dinh Quan (YT 5637) informed the 1/503 Inf that: an unidentified VC company is located vic YT 632508, D800 Bn is located from YT 7555 to 7661, K5 Company is located from YT 7754 to YT 7855, and 40% of the rice in Dinh Quan District has been harvested.
- (4) (1130 hrs) The following data, derived from unit patrol actions, was reported by the 1/503d Infantry: No caves were found vic YT 774494 as previously reported by local inhabitants; no fortifications were found on the hill located vic YT 778498; one body, badly decomposed, and dressed in black pajamas, was found vic YT 759503; 630 pounds of polished rice were found vic YT 764492; and two crossbows were found vic YT 765492.
- (5) (1440 hrs) 1st Div reported a SPAR located vic YT 826449 as of 0800 hrs. (NOTE: It took 6 hours for this report to reach this headquarters.)
- (6) Continuous aerial surveillance revealed no tax collecting road blocks were established over Route #20.

CONFIDENTIAL

bb

INTSUM Number: 205 (Continued)

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel:

(1) KIA By:	Confirmed	Possible
Ground Forces	1	1

(2) Captives	Rallier	Suspect
VC		3

b. Equipment Losses: 60 rounds of small arms ammo, 1/4 ton of rice, 1 grenade, 1 M-1 Rifle, 2 Russian Rifles, 1 Mauser Model 98 rifle, 1 French Mat 49 submachine gun.

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: To assist in determining the tonnage of rice and salt captured, the following factors are used:

- (a) one cubic foot of paddy rice equals 44.87 pounds
- (b) one cubic foot of polished rice equals 62.86 pounds
- (c) one cubic foot of salt equals 71.43 pounds

9. New Identifications: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types of Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to mostly cloudy, hot and humid.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

Raymond E. Marshall
 RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
 Major, Infantry
 C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

97

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SB

8 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 206
2. Period Covered: 071800 to 081800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
4. Time and Date of Issue: 081800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Para 5a through 12 on following pages)

VC activity throughout the Brigade TAOR was very limited. Only one contact occurred, small arms fire was received by the Brigade civic action team. The local populace continues to inform operating units of VC locations and movements. Action is currently underway to investigate the report that an armed VC platoon in the 2/503 TAOR desires to surrender.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 1 Regiment
- (b) 5 Battalions and possibly 4 more
- (c) Possibly 7 Companies

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Battalions.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

- a. The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.
- b. The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.
- c. The enemy will reestablish his control over this area immediately upon our departure if adequate ARVN forces are not maintained in this area.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTSUM Number: 206 (Continued)

5a. Ground Activity:

(1) (2100 hrs) A patrol from Company A, 2/503 Inf apprehended one individual coming out of the woods, vic YT 827460. The individual was in a state of shock and is too incoherent at this time to provide any information.

(2) (0305 hrs) 1/26 Inf reported a trip flare was set off vic YT 714327. No personnel were observed.

(3) (1157 hrs) 2/503 Inf found 4 freshly dug positions, 25 pounds of rice and what appeared to be a grave, vic YT 858450.

(4) (1200 hrs) 1/2 Inf reported hearing carbine and grenade fire vic YT 667445. When a plane flew over the area the firing stopped.

(5) (1240 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav reported capturing one VC suspect vic YT 750348. Suspect was pointed out by an informer.

(6) (1300 hrs) 2/503 Inf reported that the civic action team received small arms fire, vic YT 805463. (Artillery fire was called in on the area and the firing ceased)

(7) (1300 hrs) 1/RAR found and destroyed a VC camp that appeared to have been occupied approx 24 hours ago. (There were no shelters or dug positions.)

(8) (1335 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav reported hearing 3 rounds of small arms fire vic YT 748345.

(9) (1349 hrs) 2/503 Inf fired on one VC wearing a grey uniform vic YT 857450.

(10) (1530 hrs) 1/26 Inf reported sighting 6 personnel, unarmed and dressed in civilian clothes, vic YT 715350. The individuals fled when sighted.

(11) (1544 hrs) 2/503 Inf apprehended one VC suspect, vic YT 828450. The suspect, a local villager, is believed to have worked with the VC.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

(1) (1800 hrs) An aerial observer reported smoke, possibly from campfires, vic YT 854478 and YT 853503 (Artillery fire was placed on both locations)

(2) (0915 hrs) (Late Entry) A local villager of Phuong Lam (YT 7248) informed the 1/503 Inf that; pools of blood, damaged cartridges and bits of clothing were found on the hill complex (YT 7549) at 071500H Dec. (This area has been the target for artillery and air strikes in the past few days.)

(3) (1000 hrs) Local personnel reported to the 1/2 Inf that the VC were setting up an ambush, vic YT 6645.

(4) (1050 hrs) Local personnel reported to the 1/2 Inf that one VC with an M-1 rifle and wearing either khaki or fatigue uniform, was standing on a road, vic YT 745240.

(5) (1425 hrs) Local personnel reported to a 1/2 Inf patrol that; 30 VC entered the village of Gia Ray, vic YT 6312, at 0200 hrs 8 Dec, and asked for the disposition and strength of American troops. A 30 man force was seen moving along a trail South West of the village at 0730 hours and was assumed to be the same group, a suspected VC company was located, vic YT 6209 to YT 6310, and the road is cratered, but passable North of the bridge, vic YT 633096.

CONFIDENTIAL

96

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel:

(1) KIA:	Confirmed	0	Possible	0
(2) Captives: Josias Rallier VC			Suspect	3

b. Equipment Losses: None

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: The road is cratered, but passable, north of the bridge, vic YT 633096.

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identifications: None

10. Enemy Movements: A 30 man force was seen moving along a trail south west of Gia Ray at 080730H Dec.

11. Estimated Number and Types of Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to partly cloudy, hot and humid.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change.

Raymond E. Marshall
RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry
C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SC

8 December 1965

SUBJECT: SITREP for period 071800H to 081800H December 1965

TO: Commanding General
1st Infantry Division
ATTN: G3
APO U.S. Forces 96345

I. (C) Operations Summary: 173d Abn Bde (Reinforced) continues to secure the "Rice Bowl" area with small unit patrolling activities and continues civic actions programs in the Bde TAOR. 1/503 Inf continued occupying location of suspected VC HQ (YT 6952) last night with one company which returned to the base at 081030H. Five platoon size patrols were conducted north of the Bn base on 8 Dec. 2/503 Inf occupied SUNG NHON 2 (YT 8145) with one company last night. Bn recon plt screened the road the morning of 8 Dec between SUNG NHON 1 and SUNG NHON 2 linking up with forces remaining overnight. Two plt size patrols were conducted Northwest of Bn base on 8 Dec. 1/RAR continued search and destroy operation south and southwest of VO XU with three companies while one company continued to secure bridge at YT 845389. 1/2 Inf conducted two plt size patrols in the areas north and east of CHINH TAM 2. TF Red conducted one plt and one squad sized patrol north of DONG HIEP (YT 6739). E/17 Cav commenced movement of 2 long range patrols of fire team size on 8 Dec. They will cross LA NGA River tonite and conduct reconnaissance of suspected VC locations west of the river within the Bde TAOR. One long range patrol base is located at YT 6726 to report any VC activity in that portion of the TAOR. There is no change in CP locations.

a. Major Unit Actions (Operation "New Life" '65 continuing.)

RESULTS: <u>FRIENDLY</u>	<u>ENEMY</u> (CUMULATIVE)
KHA-None	KIA- 19 confirmed 9 possible
WHA-None	VCC- 144
EQUIP-None	RALLIERS- 18
	SUSPECTS- 3 today 185 total
	EQUIP- None today

II. (C) Plans Summary: 1/503 Inf will conduct a 3 day patrol using A Co, to the north of the Bn base along Hwy #20. B Co will patrol northwest of the Bn base. 2/503 will conduct a mounted reconnaissance using D/16 Armor and two platoons of C south of Bn base and then west into SUNG NHON 2 (YT 8145) on 8 Dec. B Co will continue search and destroy operations in sector remaining overnight in a company base vic YT 883432. 1/RAR will continue search and destroy operations south and southwest of VO XU using 3 companies and will continue to secure bridge at YT 845389 with remaining company. 1/26 Inf and Co A 1st Engrs will move per 1st Div order from Vo Dat to Bien Hoa. On 8 Dec 1/2 Inf will extract TF Red from DONG HIEP (YT 6739). Elements extracted will not be replaced. One plt will patrol west of CHINH TAM 3.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

III. (C) Other Activities:

a. Air Sorties: 8 TAC air sorties flown and expended

b. Arty Fires: 96 missions, 531 rounds expended

c. Visitors: Lt Col D'Arci and Lt Col McLeon, instructors at the Australian Army Staff College visited Bde today and were oriented on current operations.

d. Civic Actions:

(1) Civic Action Activities:

(a) 5 MEDCAP teams report treating 291 villagers.

(b) 173d Engrs continued work on roads in the Vo Dat area.

(c) 152 families of refugees were evacuated from the THAN DUC area to Vo Dat with all their belongings.

(2) Psy War Activities: One mobile loudspeaker unit worked in the THAN DUC area controlling refugees.

e. Logistics: The Brigade Supply Operations Center at Vo Dat received 84 tons of supplies by 6 C-130 sorties from Bien Hoa. Units not accessible by road were re-supplied with 17 tons of water, rations and ammunition by helicopter from Vo Dat.

f. Other Information: OV-1A (Mohawk) has been in direct support of the Bde for the last two days.

WILLIAMSON
Brig Gen

DISTRIBUTION:

4-CG, USAFV

2-CG, III Corps

2-COMAAFV

2-ARVN 10th Div

2-1st Bde, 101st Div

2-173d Abn Bde (Sep) (Rear)

1-CG

1-DCO

1-XO

1-C1

2-C2

1-C3

1-C4

1-C5

1-LOC

2-ea Bn

2-ea Sep Co/Btry

OFFICIAL

Byrd
MINTURN
C3

CONFIDENTIAL

11/RAR 92

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
081745 December 1965
VO DAT, RVN
Interrogator: SP6 Mayer
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-329

Name: HO KIM VIET (no ID card)
Date of Birth: 1937 Age: 28
Place of Birth: Quang Ngai
Residence: Sub-Hamlet Nghia Pho, Vo Xu
Occupation: Charcoal maker
Weapon: Source states his weapon was taken by the village XO
Function with VC: Member of the guerrilla squad in Vo Xu
Family: No family in Vo Xu, source's parents are in Quan Ngai except for his brother
Circumstances of Capture: Captured on 042030 Dec 65, at an ambush site set up by
Local Forces in Vo Xu

Information:

Source admitted that he was a village guerrilla assigned to the 1st Squad, Vo Xu Village guerrilla platoon.

Source states he is a friend of NGUYEN TU HO (presently held in the IPW cage).

Source stated that he has followed the VC for only 3 months (from Sep 65) and that VO LOI is his unit commander.

Source states that the guerrilla unit in Vo Xu is consisted of 1 platoon with 2 squads.

VO XU Guerrilla Platoon:

VO LOI, Leader, Carbine
LUONG THONG, Assistant, Automatic rifle (French)
NGUYEN TAM, Political Officer, no weapon

1st Squad:

NGUYEN TUNG, Squad Leader, Mauser
NGUYEN TAM, Assistant, Mauser
BAU, Member, Mauser
HO KIM VIET (source), Member, Mauser
BONG, Member, Mauser
HO CU, Member, Mauser
CAO TRA, Member, Mauser
NGUYEN NAY, Member, Mauser and 1 grenade
BANG, Member, Mauser
MAI TAM, Member, Mauser

2d Squad:

Source states that the 2d Squad consisted of 10 members but only knew:

NGUYEN PHO, Squad Leader
NGUYEN RON, Assistant

Source states that he has a brother who is an ARVN paratrooper:

HO KIM LONG, 3rd Paratrooper Squad, Camp PHAM CONG, BAY HIEN

Source stated he was forced to join the VC and that life with the VC was hard and the food was scarce.

Comments: Source seemed sincere during interrogation and the information furnished corresponds to information already received. Recommend evacuation to Prov. Hqs.

KENNETH R. BROWN, 1st Lt, AIS, OIC IPW Section

C-2
91

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D ABN BDE (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
8 December 1965
Interrogator: Lt Wickham
Map: VO XU, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-328

Name: NGUYEN TU HO
Age: 34
DOB: 1 May 1931
POB: Binh Dong, Binh Son District, Quang Ngai Province
Education: 5 years of primary school
Occupation: Soldier
Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured by Local Force at ambush site set up in VO XU on 042030 Dec. 1965

Information:

Source joined the Army (North Vietnamese Infantry) at the age of 20. Source was in the 1st Company, 84th Regt. from Oct. 1950 until Aug. 1952. He was then transferred to the 375 Bn in Area 5. He was with the 375th Bn. until Oct. 1954. In Oct. 1954 this Bn became the 90th Regt. While with the 90th source went through a NCO school lasting approximately 3 months. In Feb. of 1961 source left the 90th to go to school in NGHE AN Province. This was a combination of a military and political school. In March 1961 he left for South Vietnam with the 120th Bn. Source arrived South Vietnam in Oct. 1961, in KHANH HOA Province. From Oct. '61 until Oct. '62 source stayed there. In Oct. '62 he went to Quang Duc Province and stayed there until Sept. 1963. In Sept. 1963 he went to LAN DONG Province and stayed there until Dec. 1964. In Dec. 1964 source went to Vo Xu Village, TANH LINH Province. Source has been in this area since that time.

Source states that he was the Platoon Leader of the 1st Platoon of the 421st Company of HOAI DUC District. Source states there were 32 persons in the platoon, broken down as follows:

Plt. Leader: Mr Ho - Armed with - Carbine
XO : Nguyen Chi Thanh - Armed with - Carbine

1st Squad:

Squad Leader: LE THANH - Armed with - Thompson
Asst. : VO VAN TIEN - Armed with - Thompson
VO QUANG BIEN - Armed with - Mauser
NGUYEN CAM - Armed with - Mauser
HUYNH LUONG - Armed with - Mauser
NGUYEN SAU - Armed with - Carbine
TRAN TY - Armed with - Mauser
LUU VAN GIANG - Armed with - M-1
LE MINH - Armed with - Carbine

2nd Squad:

Squad Leader: LE QUANG TAM - Thompson
Asst. : LE VAN MINH - BAR
Soldiers : NGUYEN HON - Ammo Bearer
NGUYEN VAN BA - Carbine
NGUYEN THE - M1
NGUYEN CONG BANG - Mauser
NGUYEN TRUNG - Mauser
NGUYEN TRINH - Mauser
HO VAN BE - Mauser
PHAM HUCI - (wounded, now in Dispensary)

3rd Squad:

Squad Leader: TRAN BAY - Thompson
Asst : TRAN KIM DINH - Thompson
Soldiers : DO CAO TRI - BAR
NGUYEN SON - Mauser
NGUYEN QUOC HUNG - Mauser
TRINH DUNG - Carbine
TRAN BINH - Ammo Bearer
PHAM LA - Mauser

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-328 (cont'd) 8 December 1965

Source also had an extra Squad attached to his platoon consisting of 11 men. This squad was to be part of a new 3rd Platoon they were intending to form. He had this squad assigned to VO XU Village. They worked with Mr Loi. Mr Loi is the guerrilla leader of VO XU Village. This squad consisted of:

- Squad Leader: NGUYEN XUAN ANH
- Asst. Sq. Ldr: TRAN BANG
- Soldiers : TRAN SAU
- HUYNH LAP
- NGUYEN THIANG

The above are all of the names source can remember, as this is due to the fact that they had just been assigned to him. They were armed with the same types of weapons as his platoon. Source feels that this squad is working with Mr Loi at the present time.

Source states his platoon was the 1st Platoon of the ANH THUA Company (sometimes called the TU NGOC THUA Company).

Breakdown of the ANH THUA Company:

Commanding Officer: TU NGOC THUA

Mr Thua is 28-30 years old, a 2/Lt., 1.60 meters tall, rather thin and white.

XO: NGO QUYEN

Political Adviser: NGUYEN HUU NGHIA

Source states this company has only 2 platoons.

1st Platoon: Mr Ho's

2nd Platoon: Approx. 32 men

Platoon Leader: NGUYEN THANH

XO : NGUYEN SAU (recently replaced NGUYEN MIEN)

1st Squad Leader: HUYNH SON

Asst. : (?) TAM

Soldiers : (cannot remember)

2nd Squad Leader: Mr Chi

Asst. : (?)

Soldiers : (cannot remember)

3rd Squad Leader: HO TRUNG KY (used to be in the RVN Hamlet militia)

Asst. : LB HONG PHUOC

Soldiers : (?) TRUYEN

" : NGUYEN TINH

" : (?) TUYEN

" : NGUYEN DU

Besides the 2nd Platoon there are 6 men. This little Detachment was assigned to the area around YT7624. These 6 men used to belong to Mr Thua, but now they belong to Mr Lau.

Source states that during the period of the American advance on Chanh Duc, he and 3 other soldiers hid near the bridge at (YT480380) to act as observers for their company. Because of this, he went in a different direction from his platoon and thereby source is not sure exactly where his men are at the present. After observing at the bridge source and party set up camp in a rice field outside of VO XU. On 042030 Dec. 65 source and liason runner Mr VIET were captured in Vo Xu, remainder of group escaped capture. Source was to meet Mr VIET and give him the situation report to be relayed to Mr Loi.

Source states that he thinks some of his men are now with Mr Loi and that some are scattered along the river and forest areas around Chanh Duc. Source thinks Mr Loi is now somewhere in the Sung Nhon I and Sung Nhon II area. Source says Mr Loi couldn't have very many men because the Allied Forces captured a lot of them.

Source states that if we want to capture Mr Loi we will have to set an ambush 500 meters from the Eastern end of VO XU and run it down to the road going to the Pagoda in Vo Xu. He is sure Loi returns to the village at least every other night. Approximate time of return 8-11 pm.

Source states that within the past 4 months the two districts of Hoai Duc and Tanh Linh were organized by the VC into 1 district, Hoai Duc. Within this district there are 2 hard core district companies which are - Company 1(421) and Company 2(432).

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-328 (cont'd) 8 Dec 1965

Company 432:

Company Commander: NGUYEN QUY
 XO : unknown
 Secretary : Nam
 No of Troops : Approx. 110
 Weapons : Armed similar to 421st company
 Quartering Areas : Duy Can Village area. Source states that he thinks Mr Quy is still around the Duy Can area. Probably in the forest south of Duy Can or around Bien Lac Lake. Source states there are many sampans on and around Bien Lac Lake, for the VC to use for escape.

Source states that at times the 186th Bn has TAN LINH and HOAI BUC Districts as its operational areas. Source states that this Bn. went back to Phoc Long Province in order to join the 120th Bn. (sometimes called the 375th or 40th Bn) to make a Regt. This Regt. is to be in charge of Area 6. Area 6 is made up of NINH THUAN, BINH THUAN, PHUOC LONG, LAN DONG, TUYEN DUC, QUANG DUC and BAMB THOUT. This Regt. is to be the mobile Regt. for the area.

In 1961 the 120th Bn. was made up of the following:

- 1st Company - B81
- 2nd Company - B82
- 3rd Company - B83
- 4th Company - B84 (weapons company)

Commanding Officer in 1961 was Mr TRAN CONG CHUNG

The 186th had one company of PAWN when it arrived in South Vietnam Sept 1964. Since then the PAWN companies' personnel have been dispersed throughout the Bn. as cadre. This Bn. has four companies, with the fourth company the weapons company. In July 1965 the commanding officer of the 186th was a Mr Truong Son. He is now a Major and the combat commanding officer for Area 6. He is around 38 to 40 years old and he is from central Vietnam.

XO: (?)

Political Advisor: Mr Len

1st Company CO: Mr Minh

2nd " " : (?) (one source knew died)

XO: Nguyen Tan

3rd Company CO: Huynh Dien

4th Company CO: (?)

Source states that the only PAWN in the area are the ones that were dispersed throughout the 186th. Source says the last time he knew of the 186th being in this area was in July 1965. They were here from approx. Feb '65 until July '65. They went back to LAN DONG at that time.

Source states, that the PAWN with the 186th wear the grey colored uniforms, that their packs are many colors; some grey, some black, some white and some brown. Source says the 186th has M-79's. He does not know how many because he saw only one. The troops in the Bn carry grenades. Some carry 2 some carry only one.

The 120th and the 186th have 81 m/m mortars; 60 m/m mortars; machine guns; DK 57's (from picture source drew it appears to be a recoilless rifle); 50 cal. MG's; Russian RP-46 7.62's (the 3rd company has these); maybe the Russian Geryunov 7.62 m/m (a friend wrote in a letter that they had these); the 3rd company has the Chicor 7.62 m/m DWA DEBYAREV Auto. Rifle Type 53 (the old type using the drum type clip); cadre have the German 9 m/m pistol; the Chicor K 50's (most of the troops are equipped with these); some troops have Thompsons and M-79's.

Each company has 2 60m/m mortars. Each weapons company has from 3 to 4 81 m/m mortars.

The 186th and 120th Bn's have C.10 radios, a back pack radio that has a 5-10 kilometer range (either the SCR/300 or the PRC/10; a round radio weighing 9-10 kilos (same type as our PRC/6); Area Hqs uses a handcranked radio that is 15 watts. This radio gives them both a voice and a cw capability. This radio is most probably the Russian 304 or 305 or the US AN/GRC 9.

Source states that during the time the 186th was in this area (Feb. 1965 until July 1965) they stayed in the area of Sung Nhon I and Sung Nhon II and Mebu.

Miscellaneous Information:

According to source the area north and northeast of the Song La Nga was for production for Province. The area south and southwest of the river (VO XU, CHANH DEC and DUY CAN) was to be used by the local forces.

Source states that the village militias did not have any part in securing the area. All they did was to stand guard at the Hamlets, etc.

Source states that, in his opinion, the area around YI7750 is under Montagnard group of approx. 80-90 men armed with rifles and carbines. Doesn't know the unit designation but knows this is a District Force for TANH LINH.

On or about June 1963 the 141 PAVN company came to the area of the boundary line between BINH TUY and LONG KHANH (YI7753). Source states he does not know where this company is now but knows that it belongs to Area 6.

Source states that the guerrillas of Sung Nhon I, Sung Nhon II and Me Du had the responsibility of securing their villages. They didn't have any Local Main Force elements to help them. All these guerrillas were responsible to a Mr Lau. In fact all forces in the Rice Bowl area are responsible to Mr Lau.

Source states that Mr Nam Lau is the District Chief. He is 38 years old, holds the rank of sub-captain(?), has a limp in his right leg when walking and has white hair.

Source states that Sung NhonII is a reeducation center for the people.

Comments:

Source is a commanding cadre of VC District Forces. Source had a weapon (was captured with it). Recommend evacuation to the Military Interrogation Center, Saigon for strategic interrogation. Source has served with VC for an extended period of time and seems willing to undergo further interrogation.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
CIC, IPW Section

11RAR

172d MI Det IPW Section
 173d Abn Bde (Sep)
 VO DAT, RVN
 061000 December 1965
 Interrogator: Asp Hung (RVNAF)
 Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
 Xa Lac Tanh, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 III,
 Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-328

Name: NGUYEN TU HO
 Alias: NGUYEN VAN DANH
 Date of Birth: 1 May 1931
 Place of Birth: Huyen, Binh Son, Quang Ngai
 Occupation: Fisherman
 Parents:
 Father: Nguyen Tuan (deceased)
 Mother: Tran Thi Mung
 Residence: Huyen, Binh Son, Quang Ngai
 Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured by Local Forces of Vo Xu on 042030 December 1965 at Vo Xu.

Information:

District Hard Core Forces of Hoai Duc:

6 months previous the company of source belonged to Tan Linh district, and this district only had 1 company that of the source which was a hard core unit with the designation 432.

The district of Hoai Duc also had 1 hard core company (source doesn't know designation).

In the past 4 months, these two districts, Hoai Duc and Tanh Linh, were organized by the VC into 1 district, Hoai Duc, consisting of 2 hard core district companies which are Company 1 (421) and Company 2 (432).

District Hard Core Company 421:

Company Commander: Tu Ngoc Thua
 Company XO : Ngo Quyen
 Secretary : Le Ba Nghia
 Number of Troops : Approximately 95
 Weapons : 4 MMG
 4 Thompsons
 10 Carbines
 2 M-1
 30 Mausers
 Approximately 30 incendiary grenades

Composition: Consist of 2 Platoons (1 and 2)

Quartering Areas: Before the combined US-Vietnamese operation, this company was quartered in Chanh Duc (YT790370).

Road of Retreat of Company 421:

During the period of the American advance on Chanh Duc, source and 3 other soldiers hid near the bridge (YT480380) to act as observers for their company. Because of this, they ran in a different direction from their company. After that they set up camp in a rice field to the north of Vo Xu. On 042030 Dec 65, source was captured along with 1 other person and the remainder of the group got away.

Source states that during practice periods, the company commander said that in the event of a Vietnamese attack, the company would retreat as follows:

From Chanh Duc (YT790370), retreat to sub-hamlet Nghia Duc, Vo Xu (about 26 Nov 65); there the commander would divide into 2 groups: Group 1 would go through sub-hamlet Nghia Tinh, Vo Xu and across the La Nga River (YT830404).

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-328, dtd 6 Dec 65, (Cont'd)

Group 2 would go through sub-hamlet Nghia Pho and across the bridge over the La Nga River (YT834407), around 27 Nov 65.

Lastly they would retreat to B. R'Dai Mountain (YT850660) (?). Source stated that now Company 421 was probably quartered there.

District Hard Core Company 432:

- Company Commander: Nguyen Quy
- Company XO : Unknown
- Secretary : Nam
- Number of Troops : Approximately 110
- Weapons : Armed exactly like Company 421
- Composition: 3 Platoons

Quartering Areas: Before the combined US-Vietnamese operation this company was quartered at Duy Can. Source doesn't know where it is now.

Hoai Duc District Committee:

- District Commander and District Chairman: Luong Nam, alias: Lao
- District Leader: Tu
- District Political Member: Thanh (this man was called back to VC Dist. 6)

Statement of Activities of Company 421:

- To organize and build guerrilla forces in Hamlets and Sub-Hamlets.
- Organize defenses in Hamlet and Sub-Hamlet (to fight US-Vietnamese Forces).
- Propagandize the people into following and helping the MTDIGPMNVN. ?

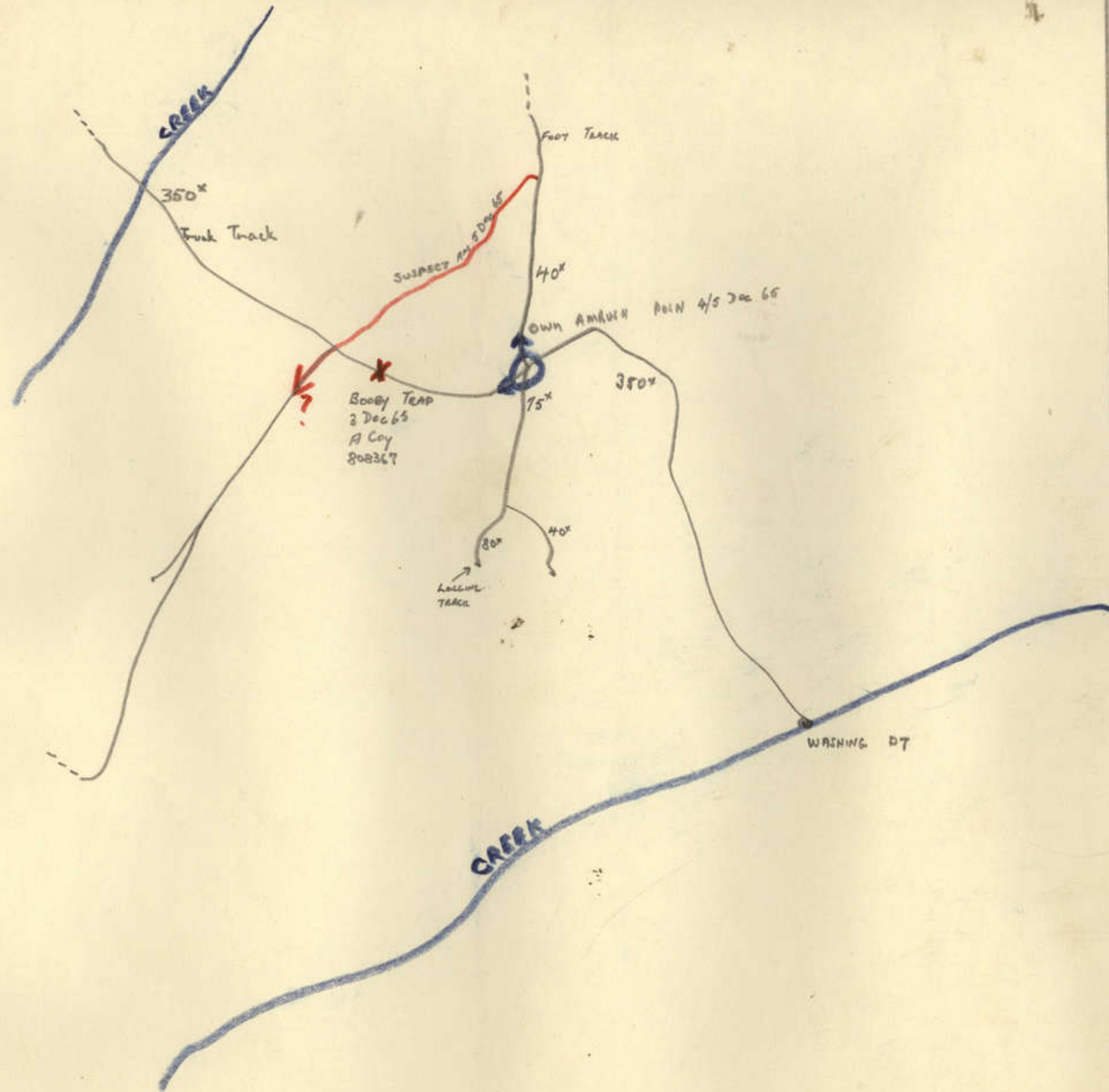
Comments:

Source is a Commanding Cadre of VC District Forces. Source had a weapon (was captured with it). Recommend evacuation to the Military Interrogation Center, Saigon for intensive strategic interrogation due to his having served with the VC for such an extended period of time.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

RICE

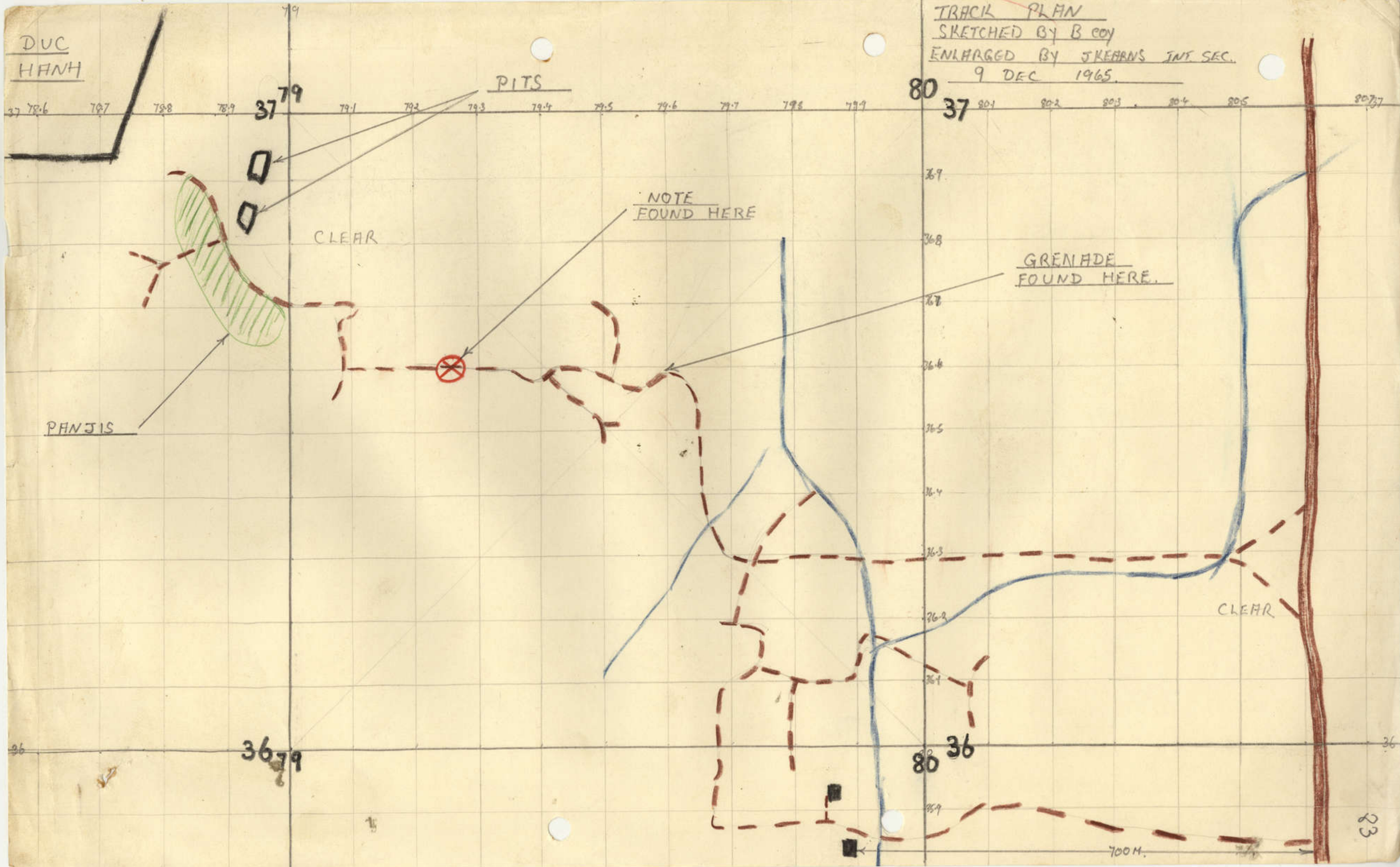
DATE	FOUND		GRID REF.	SHIPPED		REMAINING		TOTAL		REMARKS
	POW	U/POW		POW	U/POW	POW	U/POW	C. FEET	TONS.	
30 NOV.	1000		808335	90cf.		900		1000	25	1 TON = 40 CUB FT.
1 DEC		750	808339.	660		334	750	1750	44.	
2 DEC	500		807336	1000	750	1750	3000	2250	56.	
		2000	" "					4250	106.	
	500		" "	500	2000.	1250	1000	4750	119.	
	750		" "					5500	138	Incl 250x60 kilo bags.
		500	" "					6000	163.	
		500	834344.					6500		
		500	827342			1250	2000	7500	188	1 CUB FT PADDY = 44.87 lb.
		500	817356							1 " " POLISHED = 62.86 lb.
3 DEC.	100		800337.			1350	2000	7600	191.	1 " " SALT = 71.31 lb.
4 DEC.				1350	2000	1350	2000			44 CF PADDY = 1 TON (SHORT)
9 DEC.		100	805364				190			30 " POLISHED = 1 TON
		90.	" "							28 CF SALT = 1 TON.
10 DEC.					190.			7790.		



↑
VO XU

DUC
HANH

TRACK PLAN
SKETCHED BY B COY
ENLARGED BY J KEARNS INT SEC.
9 DEC 1965



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

82

VAB-SB

9 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 207
2. Period Covered: 081800 to 091800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
4. Time and Date of Issue: 091800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Para 5a through 12 on following pages)

1/RAR

No major contact was made with the VC in the Brigade TAOR. In the general Phoung Lam area (YT 7248) where the 1/503 Infantry is operating, the VC are avoiding contact. In the hilly area North of Than Duc (YT 8743) there is strong evidence of a major VC force; a recent SPAR report, associated with RED HAZE emissions, prisoners' statements and agents' reports indicate this VC force could be of at least regimental strength. In the general area south of Vo Xu (YT 8238), although more rice caches were discovered, no significant enemy forces are in evidence.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 2 Regiments
- (b) 5 Battalions and possibly 4 more
- (c) Possibly 7 Companies

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Battalions.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

a. The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.

b. The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.

c. The enemy will reestablish his control over this area immediately upon our departure if adequate ARVN forces are not maintained in this area.

CONFIDENTIAL

INTSUM Number: 207 (Continued)

5a. Ground Activity:

- (1) (1850 hrs) B Company 2/503 Inf located 14.4 tons of salt, 25 - 5 gallon cans of gasoline, and 20 - 5 gallon cans of fish oil vic YT 851457.
- (2) (2218 hrs) 1/503 Inf sighted lights on the hill vic YT 7649. The lights went out when; first 50 caliber fire and then 4.2 inch mortar fire was placed on the location. (This is the fourth time in the past few days that these lights have been observed)
- (3) (0955 hrs) B Company 2/503 Inf located 4.6 tons of polished rice vic YT 853453.
- (4) (1058 hrs) 2/503 Inf reported killing one VC vic YT 846451. The VC armed with a carbine, was wearing; a Pistol Belt with canteen and 2 grenades, a khaki uniform and a bush type hat.
- (5) (1045 hrs) 3/319th Arty turned in numerous documents and items of clothing found in a hut, on 071300H Dec, vic YT 778390.
- (6) (1354 hrs) Company A 1/RAR found approximately 2.1 tons of paddy rice vic YT 802368.
- (7) (1430 hrs) 1/RAR reported a rallier turned himself over to Company B YT 847430. Action is being taken at this time to investigate ralliers statement of 7 VC with 5 weapons who desire to surrender.
- (8) (1455 hrs) Company A 1/RAR found approx 2.3 tons of paddy rice vic YT 808368.
- (9) (1505 hrs) 1/RAR reported the wives of VC guerrillas in conjunction with the rallier, are trying to get the VC in the jungle area to come out and surrender. (YT 845410)
- (10) (1540 hrs) Co B 1/RAR recovered one shotgun, vic YT 845425, when the rallier pointed it out in the jungle.
- (11) (1618 hrs) 2/503 Inf reported apprehending three men, seven women, and four children vic YT 846453.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

- (1) (2240 hrs) RED HAZE results indicated significant emissions at YT 833493 and YT 811469.
- (2) (0855 hrs) 10th ARVN Div stated a refugee reported a VC concentration from YT 895485 to YT 895525 to YT 920480 to YT 853453.
- (3) (1020 hrs) (Late Entry) Assistant District Chief of Dinh Quan informed the 1/503 Inf that; at 080900H Dec, while enroute to Phuong Lam, he was stopped by 20-30 VC, dressed in mixed uniforms and carrying, Czech Russian and M-1 rifles, in the village located at YT 656462. This village, he stated, is used by the VC as a tax collection station.
- (4) A FAC reported his aircraft received ground fire from vic YT 836460 while directing an air strike. (1403 hrs)
- (5) (1605 hrs) (Late Entry) Information obtained from the Tanh Linh Special Forces Detachment through the 5th Special Forces Group disclosed that: two different ralliers had reported an unidentified VC Regiment located vic YT 8644, YT 8645 and YT 8646. Also, two unidentified Battalions from Lam Dong and Long Khanh province are located in the same area. The alleged mission of these two Battalions is to attack operation "New Life" activities. (Date of information is 6 December 1965.)

(6) (1605 hrs) 5th Special Forces group indicates that the last reported location of the 5th Regiment was at YT 9723 on 9 Dec. (OB comment) The 5th Regiment may have moved to the North and may be the unit reported at YT 8644, YT 8645 and YT 8646.

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel:

(1) KIA By:	Confirmed	Possible
Ground Forces	1	0
(2) Captives	Rallier	Suspect
VC	1	14

b. Equipment Losses: 14.4 tons of salt, 9 tons of rice, 25 - 5 gallon cans of gasoline, 1 shotgun, 20 - 5 gallon cans of fish oil, 1 carbine, 2 grenades, and 73 documents.

7. New Obstacles: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identification: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to mostly cloudy, hot and humid.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

Raymond E. Marshall
 RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
 Major, Infantry
 G-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

11/23R 79

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
091245 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Hung (RVNAF)
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

CONSOLIDATED RALLIER INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-203
65-NL-204

Name: HO SAY (65-NL-203)
Date of Birth: 1946
Place of Birth: Duc Pho, Quang Ngai Province
Occupation: Farmer
Residence: VO XU
VC Position: Sub Hamlet Guerrilla

Name: MAI TOI (65-NL-204)
DOB: 1 March 1941
POB: Pho Hiep, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai
Occupation: Farmer
Residence: Nghia Tinh Hamlet, VO Xu Village
VC Position: Sub Hamlet Guerrilla

Consolidated Information:

VC Rice Caches:

About 15 days ago, source and a number of citizens of Nghia Duc, were forced by the chairman, VO XU, to transport rice from their sub-hamlet to a cache in the area of Rjunh Mt. (YT790330)

Storehouse:

This rice cache is a house in which each compartment is 6 meters square, made of wood, tin roof, and situated next to a small stream (YT790330), in a southerly direction from VO XU.

In this cache, source saw about 30, 100 kg, bags. He doesn't know where the rice were purchased or which unit it used to supply.

Guerrilla Forces of VO XU:

- Hamlet Idr: VO LOI
- Hamlet Sub Idr: CAO SAU
- Platoon Idr: Unknown
- Nr. of Troops: About 30
- Weapons: 1 Thompson
- 1 Carbine
- A number of Mausers
- (Provisions not known)

Administration of VO XU:

- Chairman: Nguyen Can
- Sub Chairman: Le Chay
- Secretary: Vo Ky

Comments: Source is only a sub-hamlet guerrilla. Weapon was a spear.
Recommend evacuation to Chieu Hoi Center, Ham Tan, Binh Tuy Province.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
6 December 1965

CONSOLIDATED SCREENING REPORT NR 14

The below named persons were screened and determined to have no new information of tactical value.

HUYNH DEN	65-NL-158
NGO HUU THUAN	65-NL-159
TRINH NGON	65-NL-160
NGUYEN MEN	65-NL-161
Nguyen Chau	65-NL-266

Comments:

They have served in the hamlet militia of Vo Xu, but have been forced to do so and are not active VC. Recommend they be evacuated to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
091015 December 1965
Interrogator: SP6 West
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

1/RAR

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-343

Name: DOAN QUANG VINH
Date of Birth: 1947 Age: 18
Place of Birth: Thanh Binh, Binh Dinh Province
Residence: Hamlet #2, Me Pu Village
Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured by 1/RAR on 071100 Dec 65 at Vo Xu

Information:

Source stated that the VC first came to Me Pu in Dec 64. Source stated that all the young men of Me Pu were forced to attend a reeducation school from about 10 May to 10 June 1965, in the jungle. Source was blindfolded and forced to walk for 3 days through the jungle to get to the school. The school was not held inside a building. Mr Binh was the leader at the school and he carried a pistol. Subjects taught were propaganda such as don't follow the enemy. The first day of school they received mortar fire and were forced to move to a new location a half days march from the first location. One person was injured from the mortar fire. At the school there were approximately 25-30 VC dressed in khaki pants with different kinds of shirts, armed with Mauser rifles with a few 45 cal. machineguns.

Each person in Me Pu was charged one (1) piastre per month tax. Because source had no education, he was put into the village militia. Source claims he only served in the village militia for 5 days.

Source has an older brother who serves in the RVN popular forces at VO XU. Source stated that all of the VC and guerrillas and some of the militia left Me Pu about 10 days ago because they were told if the Americans captured them, they would slit their stomachs open. Source was in the process of moving to Vo Dat when he was captured.

Personalities Obtained: Thuan Duc Village chairman Qui Ban (lived in #2).
Village guerrilla unit of 30 men, 10 from each of 3 sub hamlet's platoon leader Quy, lived in Hamlet #2, armed with shotgun.

Guerrillas of Hamlet #2

	<u>Weapons</u>
MAN, Asst Plat Idr	Garand
TRAN, Guerrilla	"
DU, "	"
CHUC, "	"
DAI DUONG "	"
DUNG "	"
AN "	"
PHAM DAI "	"
TY "	"
QUA "	"
DAN "	"
TU "	"
LUU "	"
THE " Hamlet unknown	"

Thuan Duc Village militia unit of 30 men, 10 from each of 3 sub hamlets.

Sub Hamlet #2

	<u>Weapons</u>
NHO, Idr	Sticks and Gongs
CHUC, Member	" " "
KHAM, "	" " "
KE, "	" " "
PHUOE "	" " "
TRAN KIM SON "	" " "
DOI "	" " "
CAU "	" " "
HUON "	" " "
XUAN "	" " "

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-343 (Cont'd) 9 December 1965

Interrogators Comment:

Interrogator feels source may be lying to receive milder treatment. Since source served in the hamlet militia I recommend he be evacuated to Province Headquarters for further interrogation.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

75
1/RAR

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D ABN BDE (Sep
VO DAT, RVN
10 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Hung
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

RALLIER INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-351

Name: NGUYEN VAN HOI
Function w/VC: Than Duc Village guerrilla
DOB: 1931 at Dai Loc, Quang Nam
Occupation: Farmer
Residence: Sub Hamlet 3, Than Duc (Me Pu)
Date & Place of Rally: 9 December 1965, 1400 hours at Sub Hamlet 3 Than Duc
Weapons: 1 shot gun and 7 rounds of ammo
Circumstances of Capture: Source rallied to B 1/RAR at 091600 Dec 1965 at coord. YTB43340. Source rallied with a shotgun.

Information Obtained:

Guerrilla force in (Me Pu)

Cadre:

Guerrilla Unit Leader: NGUYEN THANH
Assistant : NGUYEN HOC
Platoon Leader : HUA NAM

Strength: Approximately 17 men (one young lady by the name of NGUYEN THI QUI, cook)

Weapons: 2 carbines
6 Mausers
4 Shotguns
5 Grenades

Reasons for Ralling.

Source knew when the Americans entered Than Duc. The guerrilla force (including source) ran to a hiding area in the jungle mountain at DANG-CO YTB65450, The next day planes bombed the area. Source was scared to death, carrying his weapon he returned home, and 4 days later he rallied with his weapon.

On his way here source saw 3 village guerrillas killed.

Source rallied with his shotgun. Source was sincere during interrogation.

He is only a village guerrilla.

The information is limited because the source was only a low level guerrilla. Recommend source be evacuated to Province Headquarters.

CHARLES K WILSEY
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det, IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
6 December 1965

74
1/RAR

CONSOLIDATED SCREENING REPORT #13

The below named individuals were screened and classified as suspects:

PHAN THIM	65-NL-311
LE CONG VINH	65-NL-334

Comments:

The above named suspects have no information of tactical value. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R. BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

1/RAR

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D ABN Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
6 December 1965
Interrogator: Sp4 Rodgers
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-336

Name: Nguyen Tu
Age: 36
DOB: 1 Nov 1930
POB: Quang Ngai
Residence: Vo Xu
Occupation: Farmer
Marital Status: 1 wife; Vo Thi Xu, age: 29 yrs
1 child; Nguyen Thi The, age: 1 yr
Circumstances of capture: Source was captured by 1/RAR on 061400 Dec 1965
at Vo Xu.

Information obtained: Source states that he lost I D card about 8 days ago (30 Nov 65)
Made application for new card immediately upon discovery
of loss. Source is hut-Hamlet guerrilla and can give no
information not previously obtained.

Comments: Source is sub-Hamlet guerrilla and had no weapon. Recommend
disposition to District Headquarters.

KENNETH R BROWN
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

AVAB-SB

10 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 208
2. Period Covered: 091800 to 101800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
4. Time and Date of Issue: 101800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Paragraphs 5a through 12 on following pages)

No major contact was made with the VC in the Brigade TAOR; VC forces are avoiding direct contact. Only one minor VC initiated action occurred--small arms firing into a defensive perimeter.

The discovery of other rice caches in the Than Duc area (YT 8743) is added evidence that the VC had a well established base area here as they had in the Vo Xu area (YT 8238). Reports of local VC guerrilla forces desiring to surrender indicates our operations have had a decisive effect on their morale. Activities to encourage this have been partially successful.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting ~~routes~~ of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 2 Regiments
- (b) 5 Battalions and possibly 4 more
- (c) Possibly 7 Companies

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Battalions.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

- a. The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.
- b. The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.
- c. The enemy will reestablish his control over this area immediately upon our departure if adequate ARVN forces are not maintained in this area.

CONFIDENTIAL

INTSUM Number: 208 (Continued)

5a. Ground Activity:

(1) (1840 hrs) Company C 1/26 Inf received seven rounds of small arms fire vic YT 710345.

(2) (1910 hrs) Support Battalion demolition teams destroyed six brick ovens vic YT 8344.

(3) (1015 hrs) A patrol from 1/2 Inf apprehended two VC suspects vic YT 720284. Suspects could not produce identification cards.

(4) (1100 hrs) 2/503 Inf located approximately 22.5 tons of paddy rice vic YT 867447.

(5) (1100 hrs) The reconnaissance platoon 2/503 Inf located approximately 2.5 tons of paddy rice vic YT 820450.

(6) (1100 hrs) D/16 Armor was informed by three local Vietnamese that 27 personnel were hiding in the woods vic YT 890470. D/16 Armor dispatched one of their elements to investigate and the 27 personnel composed of seven males, 14 females and six children are presently being interrogated to determine their status.

(7) (1230 hrs) 2/503 Inf located a VC campsite vic YT 853458 which appeared to have been used within the past two to four hours. The site consisted only of a temporary sleeping area for an estimated platoon sized element.

(8) (1245 hrs) 2/503 Inf located four huts and three bicycles vic YT 890483. (The huts were destroyed.)

(9) (1510 hrs) 2/503 Inf reported destroying 15 huts vic YT 873457. Fresh blood stains were found in the area, which appeared to have been occupied within the last 24 hours.

(10) (1530 hrs) Company C 1/RAR found and destroyed 3 small punji pits and one booby trap vic YT 760340.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

(1) (1830 hrs) (Reference the armed VC platoon desiring to surrender as reported in INTSUM 206, paragraph 5) A time for this platoon to surrender was established for 091500H Dec; however; at 0900 hours (instead of 1500 hours) nine members of the platoon came into Sung Nhon I to surrender, however, they were then chased from the area by three armed VC, who had entered the village during the evening prior to our forces arriving. Contact with this platoon was made today and a time for surrender has been set for 110900H Dec.

(2) (1030 hrs) The village chief of Phuong Lam informed the 1/503 Inf that; the village intelligence patrol discovered two VC KIA vic YT 778485, which he believed were killed by our previous artillery fire.

(3) (1300 hrs) 10th ARVN Div reported that approximately one VC company, firing 60mm mortars, made contact with the 2/8th Inf vic YT 952272 at 092055 hrs. The VC did not penetrate the friendly position and sporadic small arms fire was received until 0400 hours. (This information was obtained from LNO to 10th Div at the time noted; however, earlier reports on this action were received at 2215 hours and 0500 hours)

(4) (1335 hrs) FAC reported seven huts destroyed following an air strike, vic YT 895487.

CONFIDENTIAL

INTSUM Number: 208 (Continued)

(5) (1545 hrs) FAC reported 6 huts were destroyed following an air strike vic YT 855500.

(6) (1635 hrs) Company A 82d Avn reported one of their aircraft received automatic weapons fire vic YT 3320. Many personnel were sighted in the area where the fire came from. (Incident is outside the Brigade TAOR, III Corps notified.)

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel:

(1) KIA By:		Confirmed	Possible
Ground Forces		2	
(2) Captives	Rallier		Suspect
VC			*2

* NOTE: The 27 personnel reported in paragraph 5a, (6) are not included because it is believed that they are village Montagnards.

b. Equipment Losses: 25 tons of paddy rice, 3 bicycles, 26 huts, and six brick ovens.

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identification: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types of Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to mostly cloudy, hot and humid.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

for HR Van Zandt
 RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
 Major, Infantry
 C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

65-NL-41D

11RAR 69

172D MI DETACHMENT (Abn Bde)

10 December 1965

DOCUMENT EXPLOITATION REPORT

(Documents captured by 3rd Team/RAR on 061200 Dec 65, at VoXu Village)

GENERAL:

Total documents numbered 47 to include 41 lists of hamlet personnel, 3 miscellaneous documents, and 3 study notebooks.

COMMENTS:

The above documents are of no tactical value. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

DOCUMENT SCREENER: SP6 Richard E. Mayer

CHARLES K. WILSEY
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SB (S) 11 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

- 1. INTSUM Number: 209
- 2. Period Covered: 101800 to 111800 Dec 65
- 3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
- 4. Time and Date of Issue: 111800 Dec 65
- 5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Paragraphs 5a through 12 on following pages)

No Major contact was made with the VC in the Brigade TAOR. Only one minor VC initiated action occurred--small arms firing into a defensive position. Efforts today to persuade the VC platoon to surrender (reported in INTSUM # 208) were unproductive.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 2 Regiments
- (b) 5 Battalions and possibly 4 more
- (c) Possibly 7 Companies

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Battalions.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

- a. The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.
- b. The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.
- c. The enemy will reestablish his control over this area immediately upon our departure if adequate ARVN forces are not maintained in this area.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTSUM Number: 209 (Continued)

5a. Ground Activity:

(1) (1815 hrs) Company A 1/503 Infantry encountered two VC, vic YT 756551. A fire fight ensued and the VC withdrew to the North. The VC, armed with carbines, were wearing dark uniforms and one pack was seen. Voices were heard at 0035 hours in the same area.

(2) (2255 hrs) After sighting a Vietnamese male approximately 30 meters from their perimeter, vic YT 874218 the 2/503 Inf received two rounds of small arms fire into their positions.

(3) (1125 hrs) (Late Entry) A patrol from Company B 1/503 Inf found ten lightly covered "L" shaped bunkers vic YT 758499 on 101200H Dec. Bunkers appeared to be three or four weeks old.

(4) (1210 hrs) Reconnaissance platoon 2/503 Infantry reported finding a recently used VC camp and several documents, vic YT 901474.

(5) (1415 hrs) Company A 2/503 Inf discovered and destroyed a VC camp, vic YT 861447. The camp, estimated to have been used in the past seven days, consisted of 4 huts and several camp fire sites.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activity:

(1) (1825 hrs) 1/RAR reported that a local civilian was contacted by three VC, vic YT 905444 at 101500H Dec and asked about troop disposition in the area. The VC were wearing black pajamas, bush hats and were armed with carbines.

(2) (1900 hrs) The village chief of Vo Dat informed the MI Detachment that refugees from Sung Nhon I and II reported 30 VC were killed by "bombs" between Sung Nhon I and II on 6 Dec. (Validity of this report is questionable in that we have had several patrols within this area in the past 4-5 days.

(3) (2300 hrs) A SLAR Aircraft pilot reported one moving return at YT 733245.

(4) (1252 hrs) A helicopter pilot from A Company 82d Avn sighted four men swimming, vic YT 689348. When the helicopter made a low pass over them they got out of the water and evaded into the woods on the east bank.

(5) (1700 hrs) Another effort was made today to encourage the VC platoon to surrender. (See INTSUM # 208, para 5g (1)) Family members of the VC stated that five of the VC would not permit the remainder to surrender. Platoon was reported as having moved to GS YT 8449.

(6) (1728 hrs) An aerial observer sighted smoke rising from the wooded area vic YT 622224. A light fire team was dispatched and expended its ordnance on the target area.

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel:

(1) KIA By:	Confirmed	Possible
2d Air Div		30

(2) Captives: None

b. Equipment Losses: 48 documents and 4 huts.

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

66

INTSUM Number: 209 (Continued)

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identifications: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types of Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to mostly cloudy, hot and humid, light rainshowers
1600 - 1630 hours.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

Raymond E. Marshall

RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry
C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

65

1/RAR

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SC

11 December 1965

SUBJECT: SITREP for period 101800H to 111800H December 1965

TO: Commanding General
1st Infantry Division
ATTN: G3
APO U.S. Forces 96345

I. (C) Operations Summary: 173d Abn Bde (Reinforced) continues security operations and civic action projects in the "Rice Bowl" area. 1/503 Inf completed company sized clearing operations north of the Bn base along Hwy #20 (YT 7556) with Co A closing at 111400H. C Co conducted two platoon size clearing patrols northeast of the Bn base vic YT 7451 and YT 7450. 2/503 Inf conducted two mechanized screening and clearing operations from the Bn base. TF DELTA (1 plt-C Co 1 plt D/16) operated vic YT 825460, TF Echo (Recon Plt, 1 plt C Co, 1 sec D/16) conducted operations vic YT 870460. One plt sized patrol was conducted south and southeast of the Bn base. Co A continues search and destroy operations vic YT 870460 thru reporting period. 1/RAR continued clearing in sector Southeast of VO XU with 5 plt size patrols. 1/2 Inf conducted three plt size patrols north, south, and southeast of Bn base. E/17 Cav sent one plt to investigate report of personnel in LA NGA River vic YT 689348 at 111300H. Elements returned at 111510H without enemy contact. 14 other patrols operated in their sector.

Of four Long Range Reconnaissance Patrols put into position on 8 Dec one remains in vic YT 675265 to report VC activity. One LRRP was extracted today from LZ at YT 630350 completing a 72 hr mission West of the LA NGA River.

a. Major Unit Action-(Operation "New Life '65" continuing).

RESULTS: <u>FRIENDLY</u>	<u>ENEMY (CUMULATIVE)</u>
KHA-None	KIA-22 Confirmed, 30 (today) Possible, 39 total
WHA-None	VCC-144
EQUIP-None	RALLIERS-19
	SUSPECTS-186
	EQUIPMENT- (today only) 4 huts, 48 documents.

II. (C) Plans Summary: 1/503, 2/503, 1/RAR will continue clearing patrols in sector. 1/2 Inf will return to Bien Hoa moving by backhaul resupplies air-lift and road convoy departing 120900H. Civic action programs will continue in the "Rice Bowl" area.

III. (C) Other Activities:

- a. Air Sorties: 4 air sorties were flown and expended today.
- b. Arty Fires: 61 missions expending 940 rounds.
- c. Visitors: Catholic Priest from VO DAT Parish visited the Bde and had lunch.
- d. Civic Actions:
 - (1) Civic Action Activities:
 - (a) 6 MEDCAP teams reported treating 468 villagers.
 - (b) The MILPHAP team treated 156 villagers and inoculated 268 villagers for cholera, smallpox, and typhoid.
 - (c) 260 refugee families were evacuated from the THAN DUC area with all their belongings.
 - (2) Psy War Activities: One leaflet mission was flown in the 2/503 area. A surrender leaflet was dropped giving instructions on how to give up.
 - (3) Rice Rustling Activities: Two 2½ ton truck fulls of paddy rice were evacuated from the 2/503 area.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

e. Logistics: The Bde Forward Support Base was resupplied by 5 sorties of C-130 aircraft. Unit distribution of supplies to the 1/503, 2/503 and 3/319 was accomplished by 29 sorties by UH-1 aircraft. All other units were resupplied by road.

WILLIAMSON
Brig Gen

DISTRIBUTION:

- 4-CG, USARV
- 2-CG, III Corps
- 2-COMAAFV
- 2-ARVN, 10th Div
- 2-1st Bde, 101st Div
- 2-173d Abn Bde (Sep) (Rear)
- 1-CG
- 1-DCO
- 1-XO
- 1-C1
- 2-C2
- 1-C3
- 1-C4
- 1-C5
- 1-LOC
- 2-ea Bn
- 1-ea Sep Co/Btry

OFFICIAL

Williamson
WILLIAMSON
C3

CONFIDENTIAL

File

1/RAR 63

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SB

11 December 1965

SUBJECT: Challenges and Passwords (U)

TO: See Distribution:

1. (C) The following Challenges and Passwords are effective in the operational area for the date/time indicated:

<u>DATE/TIME</u>	<u>CHALLENGE</u>	<u>PASSWORD</u>
151800 to 161800 Dec	2	9 ✓
161800 to 171800 Dec	7	1 ✓
171800 to 181800 Dec	6	2 ✓
181800 to 191800 Dec	9	1 ✓
191800 to 201800 Dec	5	8 ✓
201800 to 211800 Dec	3	2 ✓
211800 to 221800 Dec	4	3 ✓
221800 to 231800 Dec	1	6 ✓
231800 to 241800 Dec	8	8 ✓
241800 to 251800 Dec	2	5 ✓
251800 to 261800 Dec	4	9 ✓
261800 to 271800 Dec	8	3 ✓
271800 to 281800 Dec	5	5 ✓
281800 to 291800 Dec	7	9 ✓
291800 to 301800 Dec	6	9 ✓
301800 to 311800 Dec	3	4 ✓

2. (U) Challenges and Passwords will be issued on a daily basis unless operational requirements necessitate further dissemination.

for *Robert J. Dingman*
RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry
C-2

DISTRIBUTION: Special

Regraded Unclassified after 311800
Dec. 65. Destroy by burning.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

62

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SB

12 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 210
2. Period Covered: 111800 to 121800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
4. Time and Date of Issue: 121800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Paragraphs 5a through 12 on following pages)

No major contact was made with the VC in the Brigade TAOR and they are avoiding direct contact; however, several VC sightings occurred. The sighting of three VC wearing khaki uniforms, steel helmets and web equipment in the Northeast sector of the 2/503 Infantry's TAOR, adds credence to the presence of previously reported Main Force elements in this general area. (See para 5a (6), this INTSUM and para 5 INTSUM number 207)

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 2 Regiments
- (b) 5 Battalions and possibly 4 more
- (c) Possibly 7 Companies
- (4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Battalions.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

- a. The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.
- b. The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.
- c. The enemy will reestablish his control over this area immediately upon our departure if adequate ARVN forces are not maintained in this area.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

5a. Ground Activity:

(1) (2110 hrs) Personnel at the Brigade water point fired on two moving personnel vic YT 739296.

(2) (2028 hrs) B Company 2/503 Inf heard movement and later, voices vic YT 865425. Illumination was fired, but nothing was seen.

(3) (1025 hrs) The 2/503 Inf apprehended one VC suspect who attempted to run when 2/503 Inf elements entered the village vic YT 830429.

(4) (1255 hrs) A patrol from Company C 1/503 Inf observed two personnel who jumped from trees when sighted, vic YT 721503. The personnel, unarmed and dressed in black without headgear, fled into the wooded area. (Artillery, 81mm mortar and 4.2 inch mortars were fired on this location)

(5) (1315 hrs) Company B 1/RAR sighted three personnel fleeing Northeast vic YT 837393. The personnel were unarmed and wore peasant clothing.

(6) (1520 hrs) Company B 2/503 Inf fired at three armed VC (possibly wounding one) vic YT 885462. The VC wore khaki uniforms, steel helmets and webb equipment.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activity: (1610 hrs) Local villagers informed the 1/RAR that on 9 Dec, approximately three kilometers Southwest of Vo Xu, they observed two persons carrying an artillery piece in two parts. Villagers could not recall any other information concerning this incident.

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel: 1 VC Suspect

b. Equipment Losses: None

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identifications: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types of Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to partly cloudy, hot and humid. Early morning ground fog clearing by 0730 hrs.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

Robert Hingross
for RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry

C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

60
1/RAR

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D ABN BDE (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
12 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Hung
Map:.. VO XU, 1:50,000
SHEET 6544 IV
SERIES L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-358

Name: Le Cong Phuong
VC Position: None
Weapon & Document: None
DOB: 12 January 1937
POB: Duc Pho District, Quang Ngai Province
Occupation: Farmer
Parents: Father: Le Van Tuan
Mother: Do Thi Toai (deceased)
Present Address: Nghia Duc Hamlet, Vo Xu Village
Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured for the 2nd time by 1/RAR on
12 0930 Dec 1965 at Vo Xu, near Nghia Duc Hamlet.

JP

Information Obtained:

1. Information obtained(See the report #65-NL-23)
2. The circumstance of capture in second time:
After being captured the first time, source was released by District and lived in his friend's house, named Mr Muor, who is living in the Baker Shop at Vo Dat Village.
Yesterday, 11 Dec 1965, the source heard that the Hoai-Duc district chief talking to the population at the Vo Xu market , calling everyone to come back home to Vo Xu to earn a living.
As there is army occupying, and controlling Vo Xu Village now.
So in the morning dated 12 December 1965, the source came back to Vo Xu Village in order to make charcoal that was unfinished before.
On the way back to Vo Xu, the source was captured by VN policemen near Nghia Duc Hamlet, approx. YTS20350.

Interrogator's Comment:

The source is not VC. The source doesn't have weapon, and does not give much information about VC. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

CHARLES K WILSEY
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D AEN BDE (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
12 December 1965
Interrogator: Asp Trach
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

59

1RAR

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-357

Name: Nguyen Chung
VC Position: Nghia Duc Hamlet guerrilla
DOB: 7 July 1937
POB: Pho Tan, Duc Pho, Quang Ngai Province
Parents: Father: Nguyen Doan
Mother: Do Thi Nhi
Occupation: Making charcoal
Present Address: Nghia Duc, Vo Xu, Tanh Linh, Binh Tuy Province
Weapon & Document: None
Circumstances of Capture: Captured on 120900 Dec 65 by 1/RAR at Nghia Duc hamlet approx. YF 815367, Vo Xu village, Tanh Linh District.

Information Obtained:

VC cadre in Vo Xu Village:

Vo Xu Village Chairman: NGUYEN CAN
Vo Xu Village Deputy Chairman: Chay
(was also head of Security Section)
Sub Security Chief: Tan
Finance man: Ba
Nghia Duc Guerrilla Hamlet Ldr: Pham Ly
Nghia Duc Hamlet Security Section Chief: Tay
Nghia Duc Hamlet Chief: Long
Nghia Duc guerrilla hamlet deputy chief: Nhi

VC Taxation in Vo Xu Village:

In Vo Xu village, the VC cadres usually forced population, who are making char coal, to pay taxes to the VC as follows:

1. 20 pi for one square meter of wood.
2. 12 pi for 100 Kgs of charcoal

The list of the charcoal owners, who paid VC tax that are living in Nghia Duc hamlet, Vo Xu Village:

1. Nguyen Nuoi, 40
2. Nguyen Thi Mat, 55
3. Phan Trung Kien, 40
4. Ho Lam, 50
5. Tu Cuong, 30
6. Chinese (name unknown) about 50 years old.
7. Ngo Ton Quyen, 55
8. Bin Bay (17)
9. Nguyen Tan Tan, 35

Interrogator's Comment:

Source was busy making charcoal. So VC excepted him to stand on guard, but he had to pay tax to the VC with his quantity of charcoal that he had made. The source doesn't know about VC group. The source is in military age, and wishes to join ARVN. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

CHARLES K WILSEY
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

58
1/RAR

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D ABN BDE (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
12 December 1965
Interrogator: Sp6 West
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-NL-356

Name: NGUYEN SAU
Age: 30
DOB: 10 Sept 1935
POB: Quang Ngai Province, Mo Duc District, Duc Vinh Hamlet
Residence: Duy Can Hamlet, Thon Kiem Sub Hamlet #3
Circumstances of Capture: Source was captured by 1/RAR on 111030 Dec 1965 at checkpoint. (coordinates YT809361) Source was picked up because his name appeared on a list of VC from the Vo Xu area.

Information Obtained:

Source and his family have lived in Duy Can for 9 years and he has been farming land given to him by the government.
Source stated that the VC first came to his village, Duy Can, about June and shortly thereafter tried to force him into the hamlet guerrillas but since source had a deformed hand resulting from an accident at the age of 15, the VC let him join the hamlet militia instead.
Source said that the hamlet guerrilla platoon consisted of about 20 men, four or five being from each sub hamlet. There also was a guerrilla force of about 20 men in each sub hamlet.
When the VC heard the RVN forces were coming to Duy Can they told everyone to flee into the jungle. Since then most of the VC have rallied to the RVN forces in Duy Can and have entered the open arms program.
Source stated that Duy Can is made up of 4 sub-hamlets, having both a number and a name:

- 1. Thon Chinh - Sub Hamlet #1
- 2. Thon Lien - " " #2
- 3. Thon Kiem - " " #3
- 4. Thon Can - " " #4

Interrogator's Comment:

Source is not a VC and had no weapon. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

CHARLES K WILSEY
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

57

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAD-SB

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ 13 December 1965
INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 211
2. Period Covered: 121800 to 131800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
4. Time and Date of Issue: 131800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Paragraphs 5a through 12 on following pages)

The VC continued to avoid contact throughout the Brigade TAOR. Activities to encourage the surrender of VC forces paid dividends today as 24 VC surrendered with 11 weapons in the 2/503 Infantry's TAOR. Our efforts to exploit this success, continue.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with

the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 2 Regiments
- (b) 5 Battalions and possibly 4 more
- (c) Possibly 7 Companies

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Battalions.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

a. The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.

b. The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.

c. The enemy will reestablish his control over this area immediately upon our departure if adequate ARVN forces are not maintained in this area.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

5a. Ground Activity:

(1) (1800 hrs) A Company 2/503 Inf discovered a VC camp capable of accomodating an estimated 30 personnel, vic YT 825463. An unknown number of unarmed persons, wearing civilian clothing, fled west from the camp when 2/503 elements entered the area. One VC was apprehended.

(2) (2215 hrs) E/17th Cav heard eight to ten small arm rounds being fired vic YT 725332.

(3) (0050 hrs) E/17th Cav received one incoming round of small arms fire vic YT 718338. The area was checked with no results.

(4) (1140 hrs) 2/503 Inf apprehended three VC suspects, unarmed and dressed in peasant clothing, vic YT 845389. The suspects stated they came in as a result of the Psychological Warfare Surrender Broadcast on 12 Dec. (one claims he is a doctor and the other two said they are farmers)

(5) (1130 hrs) (Late Entry) 2/503 Inf reported 15 VC, carrying 10 weapons, surrendered at Song Nhon I (YT 8343) at approx 1000 hrs. Weapons consisted of two shotguns, seven model 98 Mauser rifles and one MAS 36 rifle.

(6) (1200 hrs) 2/503 Inf reported seven VC, one armed with a MAS 36 rifle, surrendered at Song Nhon II (YT 8245)

(7) (1320 hrs) The Reconnaissance Platoon 2/503 Inf reported two VC, unarmed and dressed in peasant clothing, surrendered vic YT 846389.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

(1) (1800 hrs) An agent report from the Military Security Service (RVN) lists the following: A rice cache is located at YT 625200, VC Western Regiment (Main Force) and dispensary is located vic YT 585165, VC Bn 307 is located vic YT 675055, VC Bn 303 is located vic YT 701050 and a food and equipment cache is located at YT 665442.

(2) (1805 hrs) An Agent reported a voice radio was being used at 1805 hrs vic YT 905621.

(3) (1100 hrs) An Agent of Hoai Duc Sub Sector reported that an unknown number of VC; using two oxen carts, moved equipment of a 105mm howitzer in one cart and a couple of wheels in the other, along a trail from Ba-Ta (YT8622) to vic YT 774339 on 9 Dec 65. They have subsequently moved this equipment to vic YT 800358 (B-2 Evaluation-- (This report adds to that information contained in para 5g, INTSUM Number 210, and is from the same source.)

CONFIDENTIAL

20.4
D 2.9

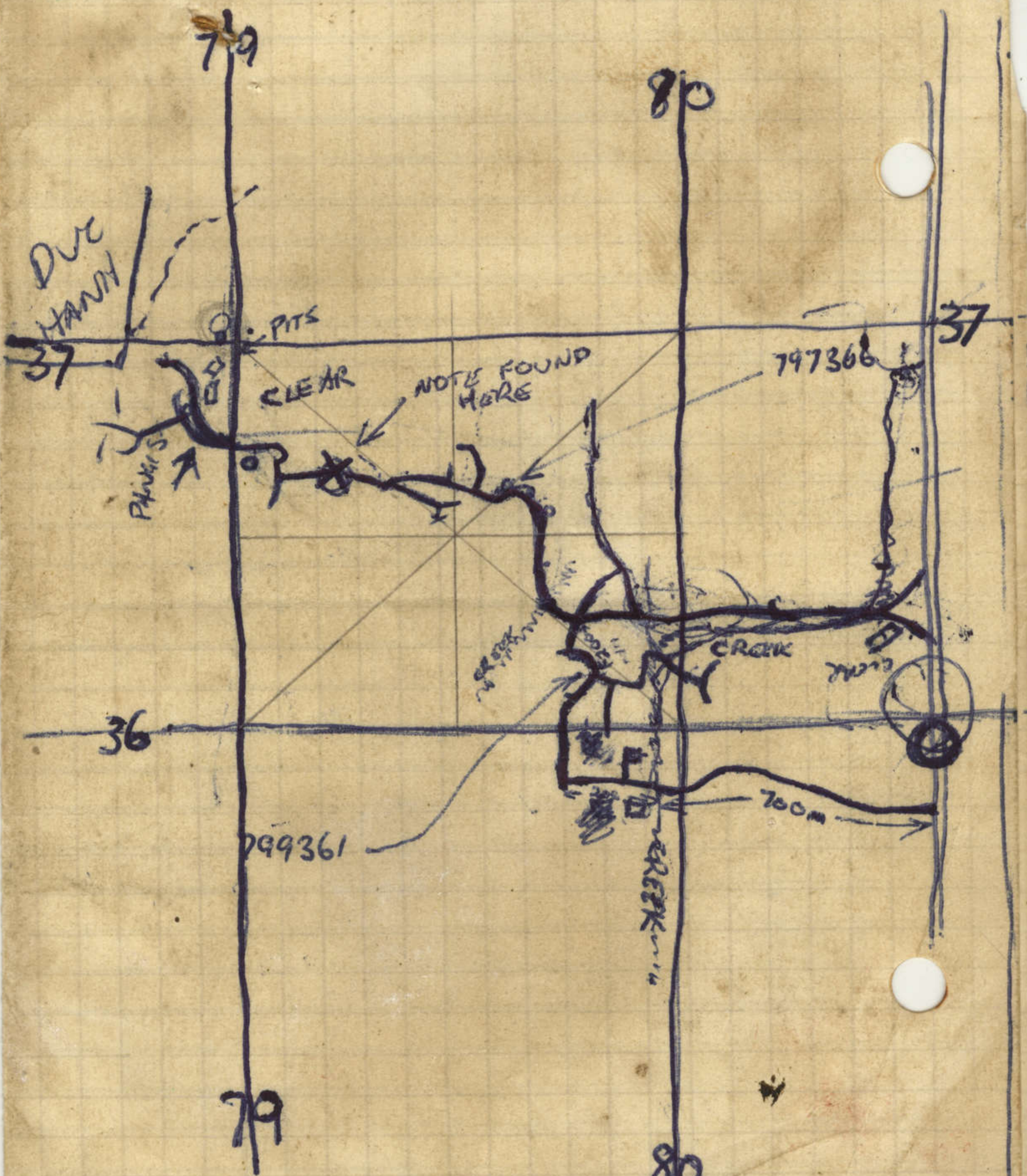
0.3
2.4

0.7
2.45

20.8
02.4

2 1.0 4
D 2.1 02.1

55



B Coy
9 Dec 65.

mcc

5 for 452

AWSS

- for 65

CONFIDENTIAL

54

INTSIM Number: 211 (Continued)

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel: 24 Ralliers, 3 Suspects, 1 VCC

b. Equipment Losses: 2 shotguns, 7 Mauser 98 rifles, and 2 MAS 36 rifles.

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identifications: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types of Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to partly cloudy, hot and humid.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

Robert J. Kingross
for RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry
C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

53

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SB

14 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 212
2. Period Covered: 131800 to 141800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
4. Time and Date of Issue: 141800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Paragraphs 5a through 12 on following pages)

No major contact was made with the VC in the Brigade TAOR. Two separate VC initiated actions occurred--activation of a single command detonated mine near a moving column of vehicles. Two more VC, armed with a carbine and one grenade, surrendered as instructed by our psychological warfare broadcasts; shirts off, weapons slung upside down. Efforts to further exploit this success continue.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time

with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 2 Regiments
- (b) 5 Battalions and possibly 4 more
- (c) Possibly 7 Companies

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Battalions.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

- a. The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.
- b. The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.
- c. The enemy will reestablish his control over this area immediately upon our departure if adequate ARVN forces are not maintained in this area.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

5a. Ground Activity:

(1) (0930 hrs) B Company 1/503 Inf apprehended 9 VC suspects dressed in peasant clothing, at a reported VC tax collection station, vic village of Trai Lam Cay (YT 655462) (See para 5g, (3) INTSUM # 207 on reported tax collection station) One of the suspects carried 38,000 piasters and another 30,000 piasters.

(2) (0930 hrs) A command detonated high explosive mine was activated and a burst of automatic weapons fire was received by a mounted (APC) platoon of 1/RAR near the road vic YT 6618. Three personnel, dressed in khaki trousers with black shirts, were seen disappearing in the woods on the west side of the road. A claymore mine frame, several pellets, pieces of explosives, several 30 caliber magazines, a yellow smoke grenade and foot prints of at least four personnel were found vic YT 663179. At YT 667186, approximately 200 feet of electric cord and one M-14 magazine containing 20 rounds of 7.62 ammunition were found.

(3) (0955 hrs) 2/503 Inf reported 2 VC, one carrying a U.S. carbine the other a grenade and both dressed in pajamas, surrendered at Sung Nhon II (YT 8245). (The VC surrendered with their shirts off and weapons slung upside down in compliance with instructions which have been given daily from our Psychological Warfare helicopter.)

(4) (1225 hrs) E/17th Cav found several small punji pits and punji stakes vicinity YT 799358.

(5) (1350 hrs) 1/RAR apprehended one VC suspect vic YT 696227.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

(1) (1910 hrs) An agent reported a voice radio was being used at 1815 hours, vic YT 696561.

(2) (1555 hrs) A FAC reported that the lead vehicle of the ARVN convoy hit a mine vic YT 700227.

(3) (1700 hrs) The village chief of Phuong Lam (YT 7248) informed the 1/503 Inf that he feared for his life and that of his familys' when the U.S. forces left because of the information he has provided our forces on VC activities and locations. He stated that he would probably send his family to Saigon and join them shortly thereafter.

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel: 2 Ralliers, 10 suspects

b. Equipment Losses: 1 U.S. Carbine, 1 grenade, 200 feet of electric cord, 20 rounds of 7.62 ammunition.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None
8. Administrative Activities:
9. New Identifications: None
10. Enemy Movements: None
11. Estimated Number and Types of Vehicles: None
12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:
 - a. Weather: Cloudy to mostly cloudy, hot and humid.
 - b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

for Robert J. Higgins
RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry
C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

56

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SB

15 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 213
2. Period Covered: 141800 to 151800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
4. Time and Date of Issue 151800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Paragraphs 5a through 12 on following pages)

No major contact was made with the VC in the Brigade TAOR. One incident occurred involving contact with three VC, dressed in black clothing and steel helmets. Another VC surrendered as a result of our psychological warfare broadcasts.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 2 Regiments
- (b) 5 Battalions and possibly 4 more
- (c) Possibly 7 Companies

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Battalions.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

- (a) The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.
- (b) The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.
- (c) The enemy will reestablish his control over this area immediately upon our departure if adequate ARVN forces are not maintained in this area.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTSUM Number: 213 (Continued)

5a. Ground Activity:

(1) (1906 hrs) Company C 2/503 Inf encountered 3 armed VC, wearing black clothing and steel helmets, vic YT 829452. A fire fight ensued and the VC fled Northwest.

(2) (0925 hrs) A rallier, unarmed and dressed in a white shirt and black pants, turned himself over to the 3/319th Artillery vic YT 783383. Rallier stated he surrendered as a result of our psychological warfare broadcasts.

(3) (Late Entry) (1035 Hrs) Company C 2/503 Inf found a Savage model U.S. shotgun, lying on the ground, vic YT 830459 at 141600H Dec 65.

(4) (1445 hrs) Support Battalion demolition teams destroyed 17 brick charcoal ovens vic YT 830445.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activity: None

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel: 1 Rallier

b. Equipment Losses: 1 Savage model U.S. shotgun

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identifications: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types of Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to partly cloudy, hot and humid.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

Raymond E. Marshall
RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry
C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

61

11RAR

52

172d MI Det IPW Section 48
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
151000 December 1965
Interrogators: SP6 Mayer, SP6 West
SP5 Kleiman, SP4 Koesiek
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000, Sheet 6544 IV,
Series L701

CONSOLIDATED INTERROGATION REPORT:

The below named returnees who turned themselves in to ARVN Forces in Vo Xu were interrogated:

TRAN DUC NGANH	65-NL-411
NGUYEN TRUNG	65-NL-412
TIEU LIEU	65-NL-413
NGO NGHIA	65-NL-414
NGUYEN THI HUYNH	65-NL-415
TON THI THE	65-NL-416
VO HAU MAI	65-NL-417
NGUYEN BA TAC	65-NL-418
BUI VAN NEN	65-NL-419
CHAU LUNG	65-NL-420
NGUYEN LIEN	65-NL-421
TO NHAT	65-NL-422
NGUYEN TOI	65-NL-423
HUYNH LOI	65-NL-424
VO NEN	65-NL-425
HUYNH THUONG	65-NL-426
NGO HAN	65-NL-427
CAO NGUYEN	65-NL-428

Information:

Approximately 20 days ago the VC told the young and old people who worked in same kind of position for the VC to evacuate Vo Xu, and if they did not, the VC would punish them when they (the VC) returned to Vo Xu.

The people evacuated to Me Pu on their own and at that time, the hamlet guerrilla guarded the gate and would let the people out of Vo Xu but would not let anyone enter Vo Xu.

After the people arrived in Me Pu, they spent approximately 5 days there and then most of the people who had evacuated from Vo Xu were formed into one group and led by the Me Pu VC cadre to Sung Nhon I.

At Sung Nhon I, the Vo Xu people (approximately 60), lived in houses for approximately 10 days, and then the people were formed into 4 groups corresponding to their sub-hamlets and led by 3 or 4 Vo Xu hamlet guerrillas to Sung Nhon II area. All 4 groups lived in the same general area. Some groups had only 100 meters between them. Each group consisted of approximately 20-30 persons.

The 4 groups left Sung Nhon I at approximately 1900 hours and walked to Sung Nhon II, arriving at approximately 2000 hours. Then waited until 2400 hours, and moved on into the jungle. The groups arrived at the destination at approximately day break (approximate location YB744).

The 4 groups stayed in this location for 8 or 9 days. There were 6 or 7 hamlet guerrillas who went from group to group and kept control.

3 days ago, the 4 groups left the above location, however, the hamlet guerrillas did not attempt to stop the groups. The groups departed at approximately 2000 hours, and arrived at Sung Nhon II about 2300 hours. The groups did not stop and moved on to Sung Nhon I, arriving at approximately 2400 hours. At Sung Nhon I, the groups split and the people made their own ways back to Vo Xu. The returnees were picked up by the ARVN and took them to a collection point.

Approximately 6 or 7 guerrillas armed with Mausers were at the location (approximate coordinates YB744). These guerrillas stayed at that location while the 4 groups left.

CONSOLIDATED INTERROGATION REPORT, dtd 15 Dec 65, (CONT'D)

All sources states they went to the mountains in small groups, with the exception of #424, who claims to have traveled with 30-40 others. All sources states they traveled the same route into the mountains, i.e., from Vo Xu to Me Pu, to Sung Nhon I, Sung Nhon II, then to the mountains. Sources states they were gone from 10 days to 2 weeks. Source #423 states that he bought food in Sung Nhon II before continuing to the mountains, and returned once during the daytime to Sung Nhon II to buy more food.

None of the sources claims to have any knowledge of numbers of guerrillas in Vo Xu. All claim they were too young (15-16) to work in party offices.

Source #419 states he returned to Vo Xu by the original evacuation route. Others claim they came back through the jungle in a small groups (5-6 persons). None of the sources claims any knowledge of when or how the VCs will return to Vo Xu. Source #425 states that there were a large group of people in Sung Nhon I when his group (6 persons) arrived there.

NGHIA PHO

Returnees from Nghia Pho ran off to the forest 10-20 days ago due to VC propaganda which said when ARVN arrived there would be a total mobilization. Returnees hid in the mountains NE of Sung Nhon II. 20-30 VC passed thru their hiding area 10 days ago going north into the mountains; With 17-18 weapons (type unk).

They heard the Psy-war chopper and read the dropped leaflets on 11 Dec 65 and decided to turn themselves in. They turned themselves in to the hamlet chief on 131500 Dec 65. VC sqd. ldr. in Nghia Pho is named Loi Guen (carries carbine). Including: Ni, Thang, Cuu, Pho, Vo, Giao, Thong, Miet, Viet. All were armed (mostly Mauser). On a few occasions they had to pay rice tax to the VC (10-20 liters - 2 months ago).

One civilian was injured by mortar fire, and was treated by a civilian medic in the hiding place.

The following persons from Nghia Binh hamlet, Vo Xu Village fled to the forest approximately on 30 Nov '65. Hid at approx. YTB67450. Hid with approximately 20 other civilians. Saw no VC while hiding. Returned home on 13 Dec 65 after noting 1st group returned home safely. (This person mentioned is Ton Thi The #65-NL-416). Also the VC told returnee if she didn't flee to the forest gov't troops would slit her belly. She fled to Me Pu. Stayed there 4 days and then fled to forest with Me Pu populace (40-50). After her return, ARVN soldier saw neighbors go to her house and when he found out she had just returned from the forest he brought her to the ARVN camp.

NGO NGHIA #65-NL-414 started working for VC 1 month ago. Forced to work in Finance Sectn of Vo Xu. Left Vo Xu for Sung Nhon I 10 days ago, and went right into the forest. Stayed in forest 100 meters North of Sung Nhon I. Stayed with 20 others. (NVC). Fled because of rumors among civilians that ARVN would capture everyone. (Fled for his life because he was working for the VC)

CAO NGUYEN #65-NL-428 was forced to work with VC during past 27 days as Ass't Hamlet Sqd Idr. Worked in Nghia Binh digging trenches and making bamboo stakes. Fled to forest 10 days ago. He was forced by VC. He was first taken to Me Pu by 3 VC. Stayed in Me Pu 2 days. Left Me Pu with 3 civilians towards the north 1 km. Hid there (87544) 1 day. After hearing a lot of mortar fire left towards Sung Nhon II. Took 8 days to get to Sung Nhon II due to heavy bombing and arty fire in the area. Stayed hidden in forest 1 Km east of Sung Nhon II for 2 days with 3 other civilians. They went thru Sung Nhon II to Vo Xu (took 2 days). Returned to Vo Xu 140700 Dec '65. Surrendered in order to live with family.

TRAN DUC NGAM #65-NL-411 went into the forest 4 Dec 65. Fled because populace rumor had it that the Allied Forces would take him away in a chopper and slit his belly. Left Vo Xu 13 days ago with 3 civilians. Swam across La Nga river and went to Sung Nhon I. Stayed there with 100 civilians and 2 or 3 VC (2 Mauser) for 3 days. 1st day left. They went north into the mountains. 2 days later he and 20-30 others went to Sung Nhon II and went due north 3-4 km to base of mountain at YTB23486. Stayed there 7 days. Took 2 days to get back to Vo Xu. Arrived Vo Xu 140800 Dec '65. Surrendered 140830 Dec '65.

CONSOLIDATED INTERROGATION REPORT, dtd 15 Dec 65, (CONT'D)

NGUYEN TRUNG #65-NL-412 left Vo Xu 12 days ago to hide in the forest. VC said ARVN would mobilize him if he didn't flee. Hid in forest at YB50399. Took him 3 hrs to get there from Vo Xu. Stayed there 12 days. Returned to Vo Xu 12 Dec '65. Saw no one while hiding for 12 days. Surrendered himself 131200 Dec '65 in Vo Xu.

Comments:

All the above listed persons were very cooperative. They had no weapons nor knowledge of the VC of tactical value. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

CHARLES K. WILSEY
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

Normally carried out by a force of Regt strength.

45

(c) WITHDRAWAL

Object is to preserve the forces and prepare for counter attack. Ground will NOT be defended for its own sake.

Characteristics are:

- (I) Covering Fire - an independent force with min force and max firepower. Not exceed $\frac{1}{2}$ of force being covered. Covers by fire from the rear. May be divided into two echelons to cover by fire and movement.
- (II) Delaying Force - teams or squads in the front line. Task of maintaining normal appearance and delaying enemy. Prepared to be sacrificed.
- (III) Daylight Withdrawal - only done under extreme pressure.
- (IV) Night Withdrawal - most favoured method, similar to our own.
- (V) General - Not loss of face to run away to fight again
Not the action of a defeated enemy, but a tactical move prior to future offensive action.
We must use great SPEED to catch the enemy before he is ready to fight again.

(d) DEFENCE

Extremely strong fortifications. Similar system to our own. Extensive use of tunnelling and alternative positions. Generally, when he is prepared to stand firm in a defensive posn and NOT withdraw, then he is ready to resume the offensive.

(e) ADVANCE

Probing tactics to find weak points. Quick attacks from all directions and usually from the rear. Tough infantry capable of advancing 30 miles a day on foot.

1/RAR

44

172D MI Det, IPW Section
173D ABN BDE (Sep)
VO DAT, RVN
15 December 1965
Interrogator: Sp6 West
Map: Vo Xu, 1:50,000 Sheet
6544 IV Series L701

CONSOLIDATED RALLIER INTERROGATION REPORT

NGUYEN HUE	65-NL-398
TIEU MAI	65-NL-399
HO TRAN	65-NL-400
PHAM VANG	65-NL-401
NGUYEN DINH TAN	65-NL-402
NGUYEN THI MINH	65-NL-403
LE THO	65-NL-404
TRAN LUONG	65-NL-405
NGUYEN THI CHAU	65-NL-406
HUYNH CHUNG	65-NL-407
NGUYEN RAY	65-NL-408
TRUONG QUANG	65-NL-409
PHAN YEM	65-NL-410
Nguyen Mau	65-NL-429

The above named individuals could give no information of tactical importance. However they do possess information as to the structure of the VC organization in the village of Vo Xu. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters for exploitation in that area.

CHARLES K WILSEY
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

65-NL43D

1/RAR

See 43

172D MI DETACHMENT (Abn Bde)

15 December 1965

FILE

DOCUMENT EXPLOITATION REPORT

(Material captured by 1st Armored Personnel Carrier Troop, 1/RAR, on 140930 Dec 65, at coordinates YT663178. Claymore mine was electrically detonated in front of moving APC)

GENERAL:

Consist of one (1) smoke grenade (may be refilled), one (1) frame (claymore type), and one (1) bamboo frame, 2 pieces of explosive and 4 pieces of meta,

COMMENTS:

Recommend material be evacuated through channels of Technical Intelligen.

CHARLES K. WILSEY
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

CONFIDENTIAL
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SB

16 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

- 1. INTSUM Number: 214
- 2. Period Covered: 151800 to 161800 Dec 65
- 3. Issuing Unit, Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YT 722324
- 4. Time and Date of Issue: 161800 Dec 65
- 5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Paragraphs 5a through 12 on following pages)

No significant activity occurred throughout the Brigade TAOR:

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time

with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 2 Regiments
- (b) 5 Battalions and possibly 4 more
- (c) Possibly 7 Companies

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 PAVN Regiment, and 4 PAVN Battalions.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

(a) The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses.

(b) The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.

(c) The enemy will reestablish his control over this area immediately upon our departure if adequate ARVN forces are not maintained in this area.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTSUM No. 214 (Continued)

5a. Ground Activity:

(1) (0405 hrs) A company 82d Aviation sighted two personnel, vicinity the Brigade helicopter pads (YT 722324) who fled when observed.

(2) (0925 hrs) Company C 2/503 Tnf apprehended three VC suspects via Sune Mhon I (YT 0245).

(3) (1145 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav apprehended one VC suspect who was under the bridge at YT 627071.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activity:

(1) (1900 hrs) A helicopter from Company A 82d Aviation received automatic weapons fire vic YT 671320.

(2) (1410 hrs) A SPAR location, YS 328847, was received from the 1st Division. (The SPAR was as of 151026H Dec 65)

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel: 4 VC Suspects

b. Equipment Losses: None

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identifications: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types of Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Cloudy to mostly cloudy, hot and humid.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

Robert J. Marshall
RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry
C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

17

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SC

16 December 1965

SUBJECT: SITREP for period 151800H to 161800H December 1965

TO: Commanding General
1st Infantry Division
ATTN: G3
APO U.S. Forces 96345

I. (C) Operations Summary: 173d Abn Bde (Sep) continues security operations in "Rice Bowl" area, moves Bde Trains to Bien Hoa, provides road security for ARVN convoys passing through TAOR, and repositions forces vic Vo Dat.

Commencing at 1030 hours, Bde Trains moved from Vo Dat Airfield to Bien Hoa. E/17 Cav preceded convoy while armed choppers and Air CAP provided column cover. Convoy closed Bien Hoa at 1525 hours. E/17 Cav returned Vo Dat closing new CP location at 1800 hours.

2/503 Inf and supporting elements were repositioned to Vo Dat by combination motor convoy and helilift. Movement by air began at 1405 lifting five elements from Than Duc completing at 1520 hours. Remainder of bn personnel and vehicles moved by convoy using APC's from PWLH and D/16 Armor. Last land element closed Vo Dat at 1635 hours.

3/319 Arty & 8/6 Arty moved from Duc Hanh to Vo Dat thus positioning all Arty vic Vo Dat under control of 3/319 Arty.

1/RAR continued to secure the Airfield-Logistics complex conducting platoon size patrols in sector.

CP Location: 2/503 - YT 725328 E/17 - YT 758338
3/319 - YT 714341 D/16 - YT 726325

a. Major unit Actions: (Operation New Life '65 continuing)

RESULTS: FRIENDLY	ENEMY (CUMULATIVE)
KHA-None	KIA-Confirmed-22 Possible-39
WHA-None	VCC-143 total
EQUIP-None	RALLIERS-53 total
	SUSPECTS-4 today, 219 total
	EQUIP- None today

II. (C) Plans Summary: 173d Bde to initiate Operation SMASH 170700H Dec 65. Operation will begin with road convoy commencing 0700 hours, prepositioning three Bns in Xuan Loc by H-47 helicopters, and heliborne assaults by HUL into Hat Dich area. One Inf Bn will secure airstrip at Courtenay (YT 4591) and clear area for artillery base to occupy. Two Inf battalions will be introduced on separate LZ's West of Courtenay and conduct search & destroy operation in sector.

III. (C) Other Activities:

- a. Air Sorties- Four (4) TAC sorties flown in support of Bde today.
- b. Arty Fires- 41 missions, 323 rounds.
- c. Logistics- One sortie by C-130 aircraft was flown to resupply the Bde Forward Support Base with 4000 gallons of JP-4. All units were issued two days supply of Class I, II and IV. All units have a basic load of Class III & V. Distribution points for all classes of supply at Bde Forward Support Base were closed at 161800H Dec.

Thirteen (13) sorties by C-130 aircraft were flown to evacuate airfield control vehicles, the material handling Equipment, Collapsible POL Containers, Pallets and other miscellaneous material that had been used in the operation of the Bde Forward Support Base.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

IV. (C) Other Information: A command coordination meeting between CG, 173d Abn Bde (Sep) and CG 10th Div (ARVN) was held today. Security during passage of forces was coordinated and the plan for the future security of the Rice Bowl area was discussed.

WILLIAMSON
Brig Gen

Distribution:

- 4-CG, USARV
- 2-CG, III Corps
- 2-COMAAFV
- 2-ARVN, 10th Div
- 1-CG
- 1-DCO
- 1-XO
- 1-C1
- 2-C2
- 1-C3
- 1-C4
- 1-C5
- 1-LOC
- 2-ea Bn
- 1-ea Sep Co/Btry

OFFICIAL

Minturn

MINTURN
C3

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

38

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SB

17 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 215
2. Period Covered: 161800 to 171800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YS 448897
4. Time and Date of Issue: 171800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Paragraphs 5a through 12 on following pages)

No major contact was made with the VC in the new Brigade TAOR as we moved south of Xuan Loc YT 4609. Several contacts with small VC elements occurred. A FAC sighted several "white puffs" of smoke, possibly 40mm, around his aircraft while flying West of YS 328848. This is a previously reported SPAR location.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 1 Regiment (possibly 2)
- (b) 3 Battalions

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 Regiment.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

- (a) The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses; and conduct sniper actions throughout the Brigade TAOR.
- (b) The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTSUM Number: 215 (Continued)

5a. Ground Activity:

(1) (1130 hrs) Two VC fired at a Military Police vehicle vic YS 456879. The VC, dressed in black pajamas, fled west when the fire was returned.

(2) (1215 hrs) 1/503 Inf apprehended 1 VC hiding in a tree, vic YS 445888.

(3) (1430 hrs) 1/RAR apprehended four military aged male VC suspects and detained three children vic YS 360933.

(4) (1635 hrs) 2/503 Inf received approximately six rounds of small arms fire vic YS 362861.

(5) (1700 hrs) (Late Entry) Company B 1/RAR encountered a local force VC element, size unknown, vic YS 356931 at 1345 hrs.

(6) (1737 hrs) Elements of the 2/503 Inf, who had followed a trail of blood, discovered a pair of blood stained khaki trousers vic YS 367860.

(7) (1800 hrs) Elements of 3/319th Artillery discovered 9,000 cubic feet of bagged peanuts vic YS 442880.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activity:

(1) (1550 hrs) Four SPAR reports were received from the 1st Div at the following coordinates, at the time indicated: YS 455671 as of 170820H Dec, YS 551714 as of 170840H Dec, YS 364862 as of 170900H Dec and YS 559711 as of 170944H Dec.

(2) (1655 hrs) (Delayed Entry) Aerial observer reported a road block, covered by sniper fire, vic YT 5506 at 0917 hrs.

(3) (1730 hrs) The Regional Force Commander at Cam My (YS 4692) informed the 1/503 Inf that at YS 4887, and 200 meters around this point, is a VC supply area and when aircraft fly vic YS 487905 they can expect automatic weapons fire.

(4) (1745 hrs) (Delayed Entry) A FAC sighted "puffs of smoke", believed to be 40mm at 1100 hrs, during his flight just west of YS 328848. (This is the location of a previously reported SPAR)

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel: 1 VC captive, 4 suspects 1 VC KIA (possible)

b. Equipment Losses: 9,000 cubic feet of peanuts

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identifications: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types of Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Partly to mostly cloudy, heavy ground fog until 1000 hrs, hot and humid.

CONFIDENTIAL

LE

CONFIDENTIAL

36

INTSUM Number: 215 (Continued)

b. Terrain Conditions: The majority of the terrain, particularly in the eastern half of the TAOR is primarily rain forest mixed with secondary growth. Numerous streams are found throughout the area and generally run east to west. The southern portion of the 1/503 Infantry's TAOR is open with rubber plantations in the area.

HR Van Zandt

for RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry
C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SB

18 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 218
2. Period Covered: 171800 to 181800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YS 448897
4. Time and Date of Issue: 181800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Paragraphs 5a through 12 on following pages)

All Brigade units reported multiple contacts with enemy elements. In the 2/503 Infantry TAOR, contact was made with an estimated enemy battalion sized force. Uniforms were described as blue in color and several yellow scarfs were seen. All reports indicate an enemy main force element was engaged. In the 1/503 Inf TAOR, contact was made with enemy units up to squad size. Sniping action was predominately used by the VC in this area. Several VC sightings and light contact with local VC forces, up to squad size, occurred in the 1/RAR TAOR.

(Late Report) Following the airmobile assault by the 2/503 Inf on 17 December, freshly dug positions believed to have been prepared that day, were found along the periphery of LZ Prancer. These positions, plus the SPAR report in the same location, indicates the LZ was defended prior to the preparation by Tac Air and artillery.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 1 Regiment (possibly 2)
- (b) 3 Battalions

(4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 Regiment.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

(a) The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses; and conduct sniper actions throughout the Brigade TAOR.

(b) The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTSUM Number: 218 (Continued)

5a. Ground Activity:

(1) (2015 hrs) (Delayed Entry) The Brigade C-5 received three bursts of automatic weapons fire South of Chin Tham II, vic YT 672190 at approximately 170900H Dec 65.

(2) (0800 hrs) A patrol from Company A 1/503 Inf contacted ten VC; dressed in black pajamas, wearing U.S. type steel helmets and carrying packs, vic YS 438878. The VC fled West when fired on.

(3) (0910 hrs) D/16th Armor found approximately 1500 pounds of paddy rice, in a thatched house, vic YS 441899.

(4) (0950 hrs) 1/RAR made contact with a VC force, size unknown, vic YS 357904

(5) (0955 hrs) Company A 1/503 Inf found 500 pounds of polished rice and 900 pounds of paddy rice vic YS 422868. A machine gun position, several fox-holes and empty 30 caliber ammunition cases were also found in the area.

(6) (0946 hrs) The Reconnaissance Platoon 2/503 Inf engaged three to six personnel vic YS 371864. One heavy and one light automatic weapon was used by the VC.

(7) (1105 hrs) Company A 1/503 Inf apprehended 5 VC suspects of military age vic YS 422868.

(8) (1105 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav contacted a VC element, size unknown, vic YS 457875. One VC was KIA another KIA possible.

(9) (1112 hours) A patrol from Company A 1/503 Inf engaged approximately one VC squad vic YS 439865. The VC broke contact immediately.

(10) (1115 hrs) 50 caliber machine gun fire was received by Company C 2/503 Inf vic YS 383863.

(11) (1130 hrs) (Delayed Entry) At 171600H 2/503 Inf elements found several freshly dug positions, believed to have been prepared yesterday, on the west side of their LZ (YS 365860) Positions were also found on the South side of the LZ but appeared to be two to three months old.

(12) (1200 hrs) A patrol from the 1/503 Inf apprehended 7 VC suspects vic YS 439865. An informer stated the VC were moving South in groups of five, seven, ten and 15.

(13) (1230 hrs) E/17th Cav received sniper fire from vic YS 454868.

(14) (1315 hrs) E/17th Cav engaged approximately 7 VC, wearing blue trousers and fatigue shirts, vic YS 453864. One VC was KIA and another KIA (possible).

(15) (1315 hrs) 2/503 Inf reported to be in contact with an estimated VC Battalion vic YS 379865. The contact was first established by patrol elements of the 2/503 and action necessitated bringing two companies on line. The enemy chose to fight for approximately 2½ hours in spite of 13 air sorties and continuous volleys from five batteries of artillery. The enemy forces had established an ambush site on a likely avenue of re-inforcement; however, friendly forces circumvented this area and hit the ambush site from the rear. Two VC were observed wearing yellow scarfs; one was dressed in khakis, the other in black. (The two VC were somewhat taller than the normal VC soldier)

(16) (1345 hrs) 1/RAR found approximately one ton of paddy rice vic YS 365928.

(17) (1400 hrs) Company A 1/RAR engaged seven VC vic YS 353925. The VC fled North.

CONFIDENTIAL

42

INTSUM Number: 218 (Continued)

(18) (1417 hrs) Company B 2/503 Inf killed eight VC and captured one anti-tank weapon, B-40 (Still loaded), one model 1940 CHICOM rifle and several documents vic YS 375866. They reported a trench running East and West, along the road in this same area.

(19) (1422 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav found a VC tax collection hut with a VC flag painted on a piece of tin vic YS 454850. Signs were also found which read, "Punji stakes for Americans".

(20) (1428 hrs) Company B 1/503 Inf apprehended two VC suspects, and found several ML clips and three rounds of 7.96 ammunition, vic YS 438877.

(21) (1456 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav received small arms fire from three VC vic YS 456844. The VC withdrew to the South when the fire was returned.

(22) (1507 hrs) 1/RAR contacted one VC, who fled West, vic YS 366910.

(23) (1621 hrs) Troop E/17th Cav apprehended two VC suspects vic YS 460839.

(24) (1648 hrs) Company A 1/RAR engaged 12 VC vic YS 352923 and 2 VC were KIA and two model 98 Mauser rifles were captured. The VC withdrew to the Northeast after contact. One of the VC KIA wore a blue uniform the other fatigues, both wore rubber sandals.

(25) (1800 hrs) The Long Range Patrol reported elephant tracks on the trail vic YS 402960 at 1315 hrs.

(26) (1830 hrs) 2/503 Inf received mortar and small arms fire vic YS 363868.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

(1) (0400 hrs) A SLAR aircraft reported moving target vic YS 300903. (Artillery fire was placed on the location.)

(2) (0850 hrs) RRU reported a SPAR located at YS 660845.

(3) (0955 hrs) Villagers informed the 1/503 Inf that seven VC spent the night of 17 Dec in their village at YT 422868. The VC wore black uniforms, packs, steel helmets and were armed with small arms weapons. This morning, at dawn, the VC left the village heading North carrying green uniforms. The villagers further stated that there are many foxholes along the trails leading into the village and that a machine gun position, in the village is manned by the VC whenever they come.

(4) (1003 hrs) RRU reported SPAR locations at YS 530715, YS 572712 and YS 641824.

(5) (1030 hrs) RRU reported a SPAR located at YS 362840.

(6) (1230 hrs) An airborne fighter pilot sighted muzzle flashes in the vic of YS 372863 the area in which elements of the 2/503 Inf were receiving automatic weapons fire. Napalm was dropped, and 2/503 Inf elements found one VC body dressed in a black uniform.

(7) (1650 hrs) (Late Entry) An aerial observer sighted 15 elephants moving Northeast along the trail vic YS 395835 at 171100H Dec 65.

(8) (1722 hrs) 1st Division reported SPAR locations of YS 680848 and YS 662829.

(9) (1729 hrs) Aerial observer sighted unoccupied foxholes and trenches vic YS 390855.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTSUM Number 218 (Continued)

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel:

(1) KIA By:	Confirmed	Possible
Ground Forces	13	2
(2) Captives	Suspect	
VC	16	

b. Equipment Losses: 2.5 tons of rice, one B-40 rocket launcher, two Mauser 98 rifles, one AK 50 assault rifle, 350 rounds of small arms ammunition.

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identifications: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types of Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Mostly cloudy to overcast. Light rain throughout the day beginning at 1000 hours.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
Major, Infantry
C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

172d MI Det IPW Section
 173d Ang Bde (Sep)
 XA CAM MY, RVN
 182145 December 1965
 Interrogator: SP6 West
 Map: 6443 II, 1:50,000, Series L701

1/RAR

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-29-445

Name: MAI VAN VAN

Age: 33

Date of Birth: 1933

Place of Birth: Binh Thanh Hamlet, Go Dau District, Tay Ninh Province

Present Address: Cam Duong #2 Sub-Hamlet, Cong Tam Hamlet

Circumstances of Capture: Captured by 1/RAR, at YS355933, at 171645 Dec 65, while source and 2 other men were working in a sawmill at captured point in Cong Tam Hamlet

Information:

Source stated that he has worked for the owner of the sawmill for about 3 years (owner, SAU LY), and that after working in La Van Sub-Hamlet, Ngai Giao Village, for one year, they moved the sawmill to where source was captured and had been working there for one week.

Source states that approximately $\frac{1}{2}$ hour after being captured, a sniper fired 1 rd.

Source stated that in the last week, the sawmill truck was used about 6 times. Each time approximately 10 VC (2 women and 8 men) came, dressed in black shirts and pants, Ho Cui Minh sandals. The women carried carbines and the men carried various type rifles. They all had packs made of black material and some wore pistol belt.

Source states that the name of one of the women was UT LAN. The names of the men were: DUC, carbine; THUY, Mauser; UT LAN, is the guerrilla chief of both sub-hamlets.

Source states UT LAN, was the leader of these VC (age approximately 26). She and her group live in Cong Tam Hamlet, Cam Duong Sub-Hamlet 1 and 2. They live in a house for a few days and then change to another house.

Source states that on one trip, he and the 10 VC went in the truck carrying a load of pigs bought from the village to YS439957 (crossroad). Also, another time, they carried a load of lumber from a house in the village, to the abandoned ARVN post in the village to be used in the construction of defensive works. The third time, the truck carried about 10-15 sheets of tin roofing, to a point midway between Cam Duong and Suoi Co, YS3594 and YS4395 respectively. These were unloaded on the roadsides.

Source stated that in Cam Duong #1 Sub-Hamlet, there is a open trench 1m deep and 3.40m long running across the road in front of the abandoned ARVN post. In Cam Duong 2, a covered trench 1m deep and 4-5m long in front of the abandoned ARVN post

Comments:

Source is not a VC and seemed cooperative during the interrogation. No other knowledge of tactical value were obtained from the source. Source claims his ID card was taken by 1/RAR. Recommend evacuation to District Headquarters.

CHARLES K. WILSEY
 1st Lt, AIS
 OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
XA CAM MY, RVN
182100 December 1965
Interrogator: SP6 West
Map: 6443 II, 1:50,000, Series L701

30

1/RAR

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-29-444

Name: PHAM VAN THAI
Age: 36
Date of Birth: 12 April 1929
Place of Birth: Trung Thanh Hamlet, O Mon District, Phong Dinh Province
Present Address: Suoi Cat Sub-Hamlet, Gia Ray Hamlet, Xuan Loc District
Circumstances of Capture:
Capturing Unit: 1/RAR
Date/Time of Capture: 171630 Dec 65
Place of Capture: YS355933

Information:

Source stated that he has been in this area for about 15 days and is a buyer of country products and vegetables which he markets in Saigon.

Source has little knowledge of local conditions and no tactical information.

Comments:

Recommend source be evacuated to District Headquarters.

CHARLES K. WILSEY
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
XA CAM MY, RVN
182115 December 1965
Interrogator: SP6 West
Map: 6443 II, 1:50,000, Series L701

29

//RAR

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-29-443

Name: NGUYEN VAN TONG aka NGOC CHAU
Age: 31
Date of Birth: 1934
Place of Birth: Vinh Chanh Hamlet, Chau Thanh District, Long Xuyen Province
Present Address: Phuoc Le Hamlet, Long Le District, Phuoc Tuy Province
Circumstances of Capture:
Capturing Unit: 1/RAR
Date/Time of Capture: 171630 Dec 65
Place of Capture: YS355933

Information:

Source was in the French Army from 1952 to 1955, and in the 257th Admin Company, Popular Forces from 1958 to 1960 in Long Le District.

Source was hired by sawmill owner about 1 week ago and brought to this area. Source has no information of tactical value.

Comments:

1 Recommend source be evacuated to District Headquarters.

CHARLES K. WILSEY
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 HEADQUARTERS 173D AIRBORNE BRIGADE (SEPARATE)
 OFFICE OF THE INTELLIGENCE OFFICER
 APO U.S. Forces 96250

AVAB-SB

19 December 1965

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

1. INTSUM Number: 219
2. Period Covered: 181800 to 191800 Dec 65
3. Issuing Unit: Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), CP Location YS 451913
4. Time and Date of Issue: 191800 Dec 65
5. Summary of Enemy Activity for Period: (Paragraphs 5a through 12 on following pages)

No significant contact was made with the VC in the Brigade TAOR. Several freshly dug graves were found in the vicinity of yesterday's battle, YS 379865, along with many trails of blood and bloody pieces of clothing. Final tabulation of VC KIA during the Engagement on 18 Dec is 62 by body count.

13. Brief Discussion of Capabilities and Vulnerabilities:

a. Capabilities: The enemy has the capability of:

- (1) Conducting small unit patrolling activity
- (2) Interdicting routes of communication
- (3) Conducting battalion or regimental sized attacks at any time with the following forces within or near the TAOR:

- (a) 1 Regiment (Possibly 2)
- (b) 3 Battalions

- (4) Within 48 hours, he could reinforce these elements with 1 Regiment.

b. Vulnerabilities: The enemy is vulnerable to our superior fire power when located.

14. Conclusions:

- (a) The enemy will conduct small sized patrol reconnaissance of our perimeter defenses; and conduct sniper actions throughout the Brigade TAOR.
- (b) The enemy will attack units which do not appear to be maintaining adequate security.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

5a. Ground Activity:

(1) (1800 hrs) 3/319th Arty reported finding six - sixty kilo bags of paddy rice; three 55 gallon drums of paddy rice, and one 55 gallon drum of coffee beans vic YS 442880. At that time and place, they observed and fired upon an estimated 10 VC who fled.

(2) (2330 hrs) The Brigade LOC received three rounds of small arms fire vic YS 458917.

(3) (0825 hrs) Company C 1/503 Inf found 40 X 100 pound bags of peanuts vic YS 452873.

(4) (0840 hrs) 1/503 Inf found signs along the road vic YS 442867 which gave instructions to villagers on how to pay taxes to the VC.

(5) (0915 hrs) 1/503 Inf found ten X 100 pound bags of peanuts and four X 100 pound bags of paddy rice vic YS 456877.

(6) (1015 hrs) Company C 1/503 Inf sighted at a distance, one individual in a black or OD uniform moving Northwest from vic YS 417917. It could not be determined if individual was armed.

(7) (1115 hrs) Company A 2/503 Inf found three grenades, seven 81mm mortar rounds (Lot Number IOP 26-42) and six 60mm mortar rounds in two trenches approximately $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep and 250-300 meters long, with tunnels leading from them. Trenches were separated by a 100 foot gap and had firing steps in both directions to defend East and West. Numerous machine gun positions were found in the trenches along with expended 50 caliber ammunition. One round of sniper fire was received in this same general location, YS 374867.

(8) (1245 hrs) A wounded member of 2/503 Inf who remained overnight in the battle area of yesterday, vic YS 371867, reported that VC snipers came out of the trees at 2300 hrs and the VC forces moved out of the area at 0200 hrs after hearing what he believed to be the removing of bodies and equipment.

(9) (1350 hrs) A patrol from C Company 1/503 Inf discovered a 30 foot deep camouflaged shaft, with digging tools at the bottom, vic YS 435866.

(10) (1350 hrs) C Company 1/503 Inf found 4 huts containing bunks vic YS 448878. The area appeared to have been occupied within the last 48 hours.

(11) (1455 hrs) 2/503 elements received sniper fire from a single sniper, vic YS 376864.

(12) (1455 hrs) (Late Entry) 2/503 Inf counted 53 VC bodies in the area of yesterday's action, vic YS 379865. Some of the VC were wearing black shirts and khaki trousers, others were dressed in black. A few steel helmets and both yellow and blue scarfs were also seen. Today, several freshly dug graves were found in the area along with trails of blood and bloody pieces of clothing.

(13) (1215 hrs) (Late Entry) The Long Range Patrol reported that aircraft were receiving sniper fire from vic YS 431958.

b-f. Omitted

g. Other Activities:

(1) (1855 hrs) The Regional Forces Commander at Cam My (YS 4692) informed the 1/503 Inf that: The 305th Regiment has been refitting in GS YS 4287 and has subsequently moved to GS YS 3492. The regiment was badly beaten at Phuoc Tuy and has recruited many local rubber workers. A local guerrilla force was last located vic YS 4987 and was commanded by Ry (pronounced Z). The force was composed of 34 men (21 armed) and four women (one medic, three propagandists). This force is primarily a guide and guard unit and armament consists of one BAR, two M1's, three MAS 36's, one Thompson, two carbines and an unknown number of Russian rifles.

CONFIDENTIAL

46

(2) (0855 hrs) RRU reported a SPAR located at YS 561705.

(3) (1220 hrs) The Regional Forces Commander at Cam My (Xa Bang) (YS 4692) informed the 1/503 Infantry that: three VC were operating a contact point as of 1200 hours, at YS 447978 on Interprovincial Route #2; that during the morning of 19 Dec, 50 to 60 VC operated a tax collection point at YS 440955; that the village at YS 420940 is reported to house the families of guerrillas in U8 Company (Local Guerrilla Company) and that a rallier on 15 Dec stated he was a member of 814th AA Company of D800 Battalion of F800 Regiment and his company had 12 X 12.7mm AA machine guns and 16 Chinese advisors. The company commander's name is Quan and the XO's name is Sau. The battalion as of 15 Dec was in a rest and training area between YS 4283 and YS 3788.

(4) (1352 hrs) RRU reported a SPAR located at YS 658822.

(5) (1535 hrs) The Regional Force Commander of Cam My informed the MI Detachment that an unknown number of VC were located on hill 315, vic YS 465965.

(6) (1628 hrs) An aerial observer's aircraft received ground fire vic YS 4386.

(7) (1645 hrs) An aerial observer, after sighting a platform in a tree received heavy automatic weapons fire vic YS 419863. Tac Air was brought in and three personnel were observed running from the area.

6. Personnel and Equipment Losses:

a. Personnel:

(1) KIA By:

Ground Forces	Confirmed - 53
---------------	----------------

b. Equipment Losses: 3 grenades, seven rounds of 81mm mortar, 1400 lbs of peanuts, one 55 gallon drum of coffee beans, three 55 gallon drums of paddy rice, 400 pounds of paddy rice and six rounds of 60mm mortar.

7. New Obstacles or Barriers: None

8. Administrative Activities: None

9. New Identifications: None

10. Enemy Movements: None

11. Estimated Number and Types of Vehicles: None

12. Weather and Terrain Conditions:

a. Weather: Mostly cloudy and cool. Light to medium rain showers 1400-1530 hrs.

b. Terrain Conditions: No Change

Raymond E. Marshall
 RAYMOND E. MARSHALL
 Major, Infantry
 C-2

GROUP 4

CONFIDENTIAL

1/RAR 25

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
XA CAM MY, RVN
191345 December 1965
Interrogator: SP5 Kleiman
Map: 6443 II, 1:50,000, Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-29-441

Name: NGUYEN LAO (ID #004242)
Age: 28
Date of Birth: 1937
Place of Birth: Nhi Thuong, Quang Tri Province
Occupation: Farmer
Religion: None
Education: 2 months
Present Address: Thua Duc Hamlet, Xuan Loc District, Long Khanh Province
Circumstances of Capture: Captured in his house with wife and 6 children (oldest child - 12 years old)
Capturing Unit: 1/RAR
Date/Time of Capture: 181645 Dec 65
Place of Capture: YS355933

Information:

Source states last time the VC were in Thua Duc, was in Feb 65. Source was taken with 30 other villagers about 1km west of Thua Duc and was kept there 1 day and interrogated. VC wanted to know if the people had tunnels to hide ARVN troops and also wanted to know if the people had arms and ammunition. The VC wore black pajamas and khakis. Two (2) were armed with German 9mm Walther pistols (P38). Ten (10) were armed with either Russian 7.62mm Mossin-Nagant Carbines or ChiCom Mossin-Nagant Carbines. They all wore rubber sandals. Two (2) weeks later, 3 VC came into Thua Duc. They were dressed in black pajamas and khakis. They had 1 rifle and 2 hand grenades. They also wore rubber sandals. Approximately 2-3 weeks ago, 3 VC came into Thua Duc. They wore black pajamas and khakis with rubber sandals. They had 1 rifle and 2 hand grenades. No VC have been in Thua Duc in the past 2 weeks. Source has no information on EEI.

Comments:

Source answered questions willingly. Source does not appear to be VC. Recommend source be evacuated to District Headquarters.

CHARLES K. WILSEY
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

[Handwritten signature]

1/RAR

24

172d MI Det IPW Section
173d Abn Bde (Sep)
XA CAM MY, RVN
191400 Dec 65
Interrogator: SP6 West
Map: 6443 II, 1:50,000, Series L701

TACTICAL INTERROGATION REPORT NR 65-29-442

Name: TRAN BE (ID #004257, Xuan Loc Province)
Age: 23
Date of Birth: 15 February 1942
Place of Birth: Cat Son Village, Trung Luong District, Quang Tri Province
Present Address: Thua Duc Hamlet, Xuan Loc District
Circumstances of Capture: Taken from house by 1/RAR
Capturing Unit: 1/RAR
Date/Time of Capture: 171645 Dec 65
Place of Capture: YS355933
Documents: ID card #004257, Xuan Loc Province
Equipment: None

Information:

Source was not seen nor heard of any VC in the last 8 months. Source has no information of tactical value.

Comments:

Source was very cooperative during interrogation. Source was in the ARVN Regional Forces for 2½ years and got out in 1963. Recommend source be evacuated to District Headquarters.

CHARLES K. WILSEY
1st Lt, AIS
OIC, IPW Section

ISUM NO 1 OF NEW LIFE
NOV# 2DEC

IMP SSG
1RAR

25 NOV 1/RAR estimates approx 35VC were involved in the fire fight of yesterday. Local villagers stated that a few days ago 90VC were in VO XU and that the VC told the villagers THE AMERICANS will kill you when they come and if you give the americans the rice we will kill you.

26 NOV 1/RAR fired on 2 VC via XT 723371. VC moved north (0315). Sniper fire was also received during this time.

AsC Company 1/RAR approached village of VO XU (YT803374) they were fired on by an estimated 12 VC dressed in black pajamas. VC fled when fire was returned and 2 were observed wearing packs and helmet etc. (0650 hrs) Light resistance was met throughout the day via VO XU; however, 15 VC suspects, various documents and material were captured. Personnel are presently undergoing interrogation along with 2 civilian ralliers/escapees.

Rallier identified fortifications, tunnels and booby traps in and around VO XU village (YT 8037). He later accompanied 1/RAR to assist in detection of these obstacles.

27 NOV Throughout the day 1/RAR operations in and around the village of DOU HANH (YT 7837) resulted in 15 VCC and 25 suspects, majority of military age, approx 30 documents and various items of clothing were also uncovered.

28 NOV 1/RAR destroyed punji stake workshop at 1540 hrs. Approx 2800 pounds of rice were discovered later via 785 385; VCC led 1/RAR element to cache site. (1540)hrs

30 NOV At 2305 hrs 1/RAR reported 3 additional VC KIA from contact on the 29th via XT 855375 (Total is now 7 VC KIA)

1/RAR detained 26 suspects for evacuation to this location. one suspect had U.S. M 26 grenade with recent lot number (1052)hrs

1/RAR reported many Vietnamese locals moving grain from VO XU. West. (National Police-despatch dispatched 1330 to assist controlling civilian movement) (1105 hrs)

1/RAR discovered rice cache pointed out by VN nationals. Cache located via XT 808335, was approx 8 tons (3-5 to haul out rice this afternoon) later, another cache containing approx 12 tons of rice was discovered in the same general vicinity. (1154hrs)

1 DEC D Company 1/RAR discovered 15 tons rice via YT 808339.

2 DEC (1050 hrs) A rallier to the 1/RAR reported a VC Main Force Ba was operating in the vic of YT 857440 to YT830475. He further stated a VC hospital was located via YT 857471.

(1105hrs) 1/RAR discovered cache consisting of 7 tons of polished rice, 25 tons of paddy rice and 200 lbs of salt via YT 807346.

(1430hrs) 1/RAR discovered 16.5 tons of polished rice (250-60 kilo bags) and 7 tons of paddy rice via YT 808336.

Rallier turned himself over to the 1/RAR on via VO XU.

NOTE: VC KIA 14 VC KIA (Possible) 4 VCC 189

CONFIDENTIAL

Headquarters, 173d Abn Bde (Sep), C2 Section 22
Bien Hoa, RVN
241700 H Dec 1965

FOULH
CP

INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE: HAU NGHIA PROVINCE

References: Maps, VIETNAM, 1:50,000, Series AMS L701; Sheets 6242I and IV, 6243 I -II -III - and IV, 6244 II and III, 6342 IV, 6343 III and IV, 6344 III.

1. (U) MISSION: Omitted

2. (C) ENEMY SITUATION:

a. Characteristics of the Area of Operation.

(1) Military Geography.

(a) Topography.

1. The area under consideration is flat to gently rolling terrain with most elevations less than 50 meters above sea level. It is composed of rice fields and marshes which are inundated or have soft soil. The western area floods annually during the wet season, making ground operations very difficult. Vehicular movement in the rice growing areas is generally restricted to roadways. The northernmost part of Hau Nghia Province is covered in extensive forest and plantations, which offer ready concealment. Cross-country movement in the forests is fair for troops and poor for vehicles. In the plantations, movement is fair to good for both troops and vehicles.

2. Effect on Mission. Friendly vehicular movement in the marshy areas is restricted to the roads. Fields of fire and ground observation are restricted in forest areas. The area is particularly suitable for airmobile operations.

3. Effect on Enemy. The terrain favors small unit operations, providing good concealment in the brush and trees along the rivers and canals; however, massing of large groups could be easily detected due to a lack of large areas of cover and concealment. An exception to this would be in the northern portion of Hau Nghia in the forest area.

(b) Hydrography.

1. The major river systems in the area are the Oriental (Nam Co Dong) and Occidental Rivers (Vam Co Tay) and their tributaries; they are subject to tidal influence. These rivers are navigable by junk and sampan. Travel on tributaries by vessels larger than sampan is restricted from November to May, the dry season. The average depth of the Oriental is 10 feet, and the average width is 600 feet.

2. Effect on Mission. High water makes by-passes and fords around downed bridges difficult, while flooding of river bottom land restricts movement to roads.

3. Effect on Enemy. The rivers and canals are used by the VC to increase their mobility in the area. Waterways are used within enemy controlled territory for logistical support of base areas.

(c) Climate and Weather. (See Annex A)

1. The dry season extends from November to May. During this season the weather is generally clear with infrequent thunder-showers. It usually rains less than one inch per month during the dry season. See Annex A for additional details.

2. Effect on Mission. Ground and aerial observation will be generally unrestricted except during periods of thunder-shower activity. The dry season affords the maximum trafficability to the existing road network.

3. Effect on Enemy. During the dry season, enemy camps will often be close to streams which flow year-round.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE: HAU NGHIA PROVINCE (Continued)

(2) Transportation. Roads in the area are not fully secure, and should be travelled in convoy.

(a) National Route 1. Enters Hau Nghia Province three kilometers northwest of Ton Thoi Nhi (XT 7305) at XT 7108, goes through Cu Chi (XT 6313), Cap Gio Binh (XT 4523) to a point four kilometers northwest of Cap Gio Binh (XT 4225). Surrounding vegetation is mostly low-lying ricefields and rubber plantations. Off-road dispersal sites are few and scattered; sections of road that pass through the rubber plantations afford good dispersal sites. The entire route has a 14-20 foot wide bituminous treated surface in fair to good condition. The road is reasonably secured by day by Popular and Regional Forces; but at night the road is frequently subject to road blocks and harassment.

(b) Cholon (XS 8090) To Duc Hoa (XS 5996). The surrounding vegetation is mostly low-lying ricefields and marsh. This road is not secured but is extensively used by civilian traffic.

(c) Cu Chi (XT 6313) to Bao Trai (XT 5305). Surrounding vegetation is low lying ricefields and marsh. This road is secured by Regional and Popular Forces (subject to the same limitations as National Route 1)

(d) Bao Trai (XT 5305) to Ap Dong Hoa (XT 4909) to Duc Hue (XT 4307). This road is usually open, but is not secured.

(e) Bao Trai (XT 5305) to Duc Hoa (XS 5996). This road is heavily cut and is impassable.

(f) Duc Hoa (XS 5996) to Ap Song Tra (YS 5793). This road is usually open, but is not secured.

(g) Other roads in Hau Nghia Province would usually need securing and engineer effort to be opened.

(3) Economics.

(a) Hau Nghia Province is almost economically self-supporting. Its agricultural products are diversified among rice, sugarcane, vegetables, rubber, peanuts, tobacco, manioc, and pineapples; excess products being marketed in Saigon. About 60 per cent of the province is under cultivation with 85 per cent of this are used for rice growing. Other economic activity is based on local rice and sugar processing industries.

(b) Inflation in the province is caused more by hoarding and speculation than by any shortage of consumer items. Rising prices on the Saigon blackmarket have encouraged the rice farmers to sell their rice through other than legal channels. Large quantities of rice are being held back by the farmers and rice mills in anticipation of still higher prices. Even so, current prices are fairly stable; and rice and other foods are plentiful in the area.

(c) Effect on Mission. VC interdiction of the road and river system adversely affects the local economy by reducing income. Military operations will usually involve crop destruction (because the area is so densely cultivated) and compensation for damage will need coordination.

(4) Sociology and government administration.

(a) Hau Nghia Province was formed in 1908 (population approx 225,000). The area west of the Oriental river is not under government control and has been VC dominated since Sep 1964. The Province Capital is at Bao Trai (XT 5304). District Headquarters are at Trang Bang (XT 4819), Cu Chi (XT 6312), Duc Hoa (XS 5996); Duc Hue (XT 4307) is the District Headquarters responsible for the area west of the Oriental River under VC control. A Sector U.S. Advisor Team, numbering approximately 24 personnel, is situated at Province Headquarters; small sub-sector U.S. Adviser Teams work at District Headquarters.

(b) The majority of the population is ethnic Vietnamese. The main religious groups are Buddhist (45%), Cao Dai (35%) and Catholic (10%).

2
CONFIDENTIAL

17

INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE: HAU NGHIA PROVINCE (Continue)

1. Hau Nghia Province, the Catholics, who have expressed open dissatisfaction with past governments, are quiet at present. The only overt political activity, has been a series of VC initiated demonstrations against air and artillery attacks.

(c) As of now, the VC have succeeded in building up strong political machinery from COSVN, to village and hamlet level. Nearly all villages have 2 party chapters led by the village Committee. The personnel strength of these committees depends on the local situation, but as a general rule this strength has increased in recent years.

(d) Effect on Mission. The popular attitude in Hau Nghia Province could impede operations.

(5) Enemy Military Situation.

(a) Strength. Enemy forces within and on the periphery of Hau Nghia Province are: three probable regiments, two probable and two possible battalions, at least three possible local companies, and various low level local militia elements. In the likely Brigade TAOR along the Oriental River, enemy forces are: one probable regiment, one probable and one possible battalion, two local companies and no doubt some low level local militia.

(b) Composition and disposition:

1. VC forces in the area are listed at Annex B.
2. Imagery Interpretation Report is attached at Annex C.

(c) Activities and Movements.

1. The 506th Long An Provincial Mobile Battalion is composed of three infantry companies and a combat support company with a combined strength of 500 men. Its current area of operations is the Viet Cong Long An Province which includes the GVN provinces of Long An and Hau Nghia. In the recent attacks on Duc Lap (XT 5505) on 28 September and 27 October this unit was identified, operating in conjunction with the 267th MF Battalion. The recent pattern of attacks has been the simultaneous shelling with mortars and recoilless rifles of three or four supporting outposts and the physical assault of one or two others. This type of attack has occurred in Hau Nghia Province and recently in Long An Province. Between 28 September and 27 October attacks on Duc Lap, the 506th LF Battalion reportedly moved from Long An Province (Viet Cong) into the Dong Thap War Zone (Plain of Reeds) indicating the highly mobile nature of the unit. The base area for 506 Bn is along the Oriental River (usually within about 2 kilometers of the river, either side) from Rach Nhum (XT 460040) to the "Horseshoe" (XS 560090).

2. 2nd Independent Bn. This unit is reported to have been formed in July 65, from cadres provided by 506 Bn. Its strength is supposed to be some 400. However, to date the only reports received on it have co-located it with 506 Bn, and its existence must still be considered doubtful.

6. Logistics.

(a) The VC logistical system within Hau Nghia and Long An Provinces rests upon two bases. The first of these is material support secured from the population and resources of RVN. The main items provided in this manner are foodstuffs, clothing, medicines, and some communications equipment. The VC control the plantations in the north, eastern and south central portions of Hau Nghia and use them as sources of supply for critical items. In some cases, the supplies have been willingly given. In most cases, the support is probably given under duress. The second base of supply is the material support taken from the DRV, the main items being weapons and ammo.

CONFIDENTIAL

INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE: HAU NGHIA PROVINCE (Continued)

(b) While the VC logistical system is primitive, it has been effective. Sampans, oxcarts, bicycles, and 'Lambrettas' are used routinely to transfer supplies between communication liaison stations and base areas. There have been no reports of trucks being used in the area to transfer goods and troops.

(7) Technical Characteristics of Weapons and Equipment.

The Viet Cong have introduced into their inventory a new family of weapons of Chinese Communist manufacture. These weapons were first captured in December 1964 by RVNAF and are identified as copies of the Soviet AK assault rifle, the SKS semi-automatic carbine, and the RPD light machine gun. All three weapons use a CHICOM manufacture 7.62mm M43 intermediate cartridge of Soviet design. This cartridge is unlike any other 7.62mm round previously used in the RVN. Introduction of a weapons family which requires this round indicates a high degree of confidence in the logistical support system and is an indication of possible weapons standardization on the part of the Viet Cong. Also in December 1964, RVNAF captured an anti-tank grenade launcher of Chinese Communist manufacture. The launcher is a copy of the Soviet RPG-2 and utilizes a H.E.A.T. grenade that is capable of penetrating 6-7 inches of armor at 100 to 200 meters range.

(8) Significant Strengths and Weaknesses.

(a) Strengths.

1. The VC have a well established intelligence system in the Hau Nghia-Long An Province area which provides them with both political and combat intelligence and warning as to friendly plans and movements. Their security arrangements are stringent and generally effective. Being of the same ethnic groups as the government forces, individual VC have little difficulty in moving about the country.
2. The VC have established a high degree of control over the rural population. They draw from the people much of the manpower, intelligence, subsistence, supplies, shelter, and concealment, required to sustain their movement.
3. The VC are thoroughly familiar with the area.
4. The VC hit and run tactics are ideally suited for the type of campaigns they conduct, and the terrain is ideally suited for guerrilla operations.
5. The VC enjoy relatively free use of large areas of Hau Nghia-Long An Provinces. Additionally, they have support facilities and safe havens located in the adjacent country of Cambodia.

(b) Weaknesses.

1. The people are the greatest VC asset, hence their control is the primary goal of the VC. To lose the people's support would seriously impair the VC cause.
2. The VC are dependent upon externally provided support. Their crops are vulnerable to destruction. Their logistical system for sustained operations is dependent upon pre-positioned caches. Destruction or confiscation of these caches presents them with a logistics problem.
3. When concentrated, the VC are vulnerable to surprise and to attack from the air. They are without adequate air defense weapons or artillery support.

b. Enemy Unconventional and Psychological Warfare Situation.

- (1) Guerrilla. There are approximately 1,000 VC militia and guerrillas operating in Hau Nghia Province.
- (2) Psychological. VC propaganda efforts have been principally directed against allied forces and the VC are attempting to convince the Vietnamese people that the continuation of the war is caused by foreign nations. By

CONFIDENTIAL

61

CONFIDENTIAL

18

INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE: HAU NGHIA PROVINCE (Continued)

this tactic the VC are attempting to capitalize on the war weariness and apathy of the Vietnamese people.

(3) Sabotage. Incidents of road blocks and other sabotage acts have occurred on National Route 1. Increased friendly influence in the Province is likely to precipitate increased sabotage activity.

3. (C) Enemy Capabilities: The enemy can:

a. Attack any target in the likely Brigade area with up to one Regiment (probable), two battalions (one probable, one possible) supported by guerrillas and local force units up to company strength.

b. Reinforce an attack with up to three regiments and two separate infantry battalions. All reinforcing elements could be available within seventy two hours.

c. Defend his base areas with the forces listed in paragraph 3a above.

d. Restrict or deny use of LOCs through interdiction and sabotage.

e. Conduct harassing mortar, artillery and sabotage attacks against friendly military installations.

f. Ambush friendly convoys or patrols with one or more battalions at a time or place of VC choosing.

4. (C) Analysis of Enemy Capabilities:

a. The VC have demonstrated recently their capability of conducting multi-battalion attacks in the HAU NGHIA - LONG AN area. The pattern of these attacks has been the simultaneous placing of suppressing fire on mutually supporting outposts while physically assaulting one or more others. More such operations by the VC may be expected in the future.

b. To significantly reinforce units in the HAU NGHIA - LONG AN provinces, would strip the neighboring provinces of most VC striking power. Considering his vulnerability to friendly air strikes and superior ground fire power, it is not probable that the enemy would commit all of his strength in the area in one action at this stage of the war.

c. The VC can be expected to defend base areas and secret zones. This is especially true if avenues of withdrawal are denied. Having been in control of these areas for several years, the VC have had ample opportunity to prepare defensive position in depth, establish supply caches and prepare escape routes. When convinced that the positions are untenable the VC will attempt to exfiltrate.

d. The VC have been restricting the use of the road and waterway system for some time. They can completely deny friendly use of several of the principal routes if they are willing to forego the loss of revenue and loss of popular support that would result. Since VC goals are primarily political in nature, they have not chosen to fully exploit this capability.

e. VC capabilities 3e and 3f have been implemented in varying degrees for some time. As a consequence, friendly influence is currently restricted to several small pockets.

5 (C) VC Vulnerabilities:

a. The VC are vulnerable in their logistical system which is dependent on the local population for food supplies, and upon a long and intricate clandestine infiltration system for most war materials. The VC lack sufficient mechanical transport to maintain these long supply lines, again dependent upon the local population. Reliance on human and animal transport limits the size and quantity of war materials which can be delivered within a given time frame. The VC must re-position supplies in anticipation of an operation. The supply

5
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE: HAU NGHIA PROVINCE (Continued)

is complicated by the diversity of VC weapons, with the inherent maintenance and ammunition supply problems. Increased friendly pressure on land and sea routes of infiltration has further taxed a logistical system already incapable of maintaining sizeable forces in sustained combat.

- b. VC Forces, when concentrated, are vulnerable to air attacks, and to counterattacks by friendly forces whose air mobility provides the means of bringing superior forces to bear. The VC are also vulnerable to artillery.
- c. VC forces are vulnerable to sustained combat and aggressive pursuit.
- d. The VC are vulnerable to the use of defoliation efforts, and food crop destruction.

6 (C) Conclusions. Based on the above analysis, the following courses of action are available to the VC, and are listed in order of probable adoption:

- a. The VC will probably not oppose large-scale friendly operations in the area in a major confrontation. Enemy action will probably take the form of small scale attacks, patrolling actions, and ambushes.
- b. The VC will continue to conduct short duration attacks up to two battalions reinforced in size against friendly isolated outposts and district and province capitals.
- c. The VC will harass friendly units and installations using weapons up to 81mm mortars and 75mm recoilless rifles, and conduct guerrilla actions on the local level.
- d. The VC will defend their base areas in strength when the base is critical to their war effort, and especially when escape routes are denied to them. They will withdraw from lesser base areas when confronted with superior forces.

MARSHALL
C2

ANNEXES

- A. Climate, Weather and Tides
- B. Enemy Composition and Disposition - OB
- C. Imagery Interpretation Report

CONFIDENTIAL

6

GROUP 4

L1

Annex A (Climate, Weather and Tides) to INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATE - HAU NGHIA PROVINCE

1. (C) AIR OPERATIONS.

a. Flying Weather

(1) High-Level Operations (sky cover less than 3/8 below 10,000 feet and visibility 5 miles or more). Worst hours are 0400 to 0800 local and 1400 to 1800 local, when 10 to 15 favorable days per month can be expected, and best hours are nighttime hours, when 20 to 25 favorable days per month can be expected.

(2) Mid-Level Operations (ceiling above 5,000 feet and visibility 5 miles or more). Worst hours are 0400 to 0800 local, when 15 to 20 favorable days per month can be expected, and best hours are nighttime hours, when 25 to 30 favorable days per month can be expected.

(3) Low-Level Operations (Ceiling above 2,000 feet and visibility 3 miles or more). Worst hours are 0400 to 0800 local, when 20 to 25 favorable days per month can be expected.

b. Cloudiness (thunderstorms and fog). Clear to scattered clouds can be expected from late evening to early mornings. Broken to overcast stratus, ceilings frequently below 1,000 feet, can be expected from early mornings to midmornings near major rivers. Scattered cumulus, bases 4,000 feet can be expected afternoons. Broken afternoon cumulus, ceilings as low as 2,000 feet, occur occasionally. Locally, 1 or 2 thunderstorm days per month can be expected. Three to 6 foggy mornings per month can be expected. Fogs usually form about 0400 local and dissipate by 0800 local.

2. (C) GROUND OPERATIONS.

a. Precipitation. January and February are dry season months with mean rainfalls under $\frac{1}{2}$ inch per month on 1 or 2 rainy days per month. Monthly rainfalls have been as high as 2 to 5 inches and both months are completely dry occasionally. Record 24-hour rainfalls are 1 to 3 inches.

b. Temperature.

(1) Extreme Monthly Maximums: near 100F.

(2) Mean Monthly Maximums: near 90F.

(3) Mean Monthly Minimums: high 60s.

(4) Extreme Monthly Minimums: high 50s.

c. Relative Humidity.

(1) Mean Monthly: 70 - 75%.

(2) Extreme Minimums: 20 - 25%.

3. (U) LIGHT AND MOON DATA - See current tables published to all units.

4. (C) TIDES - The fact that the rivers in the area of interest are subject to tidal effects, will be of interest in planning river crossings etc. Tide Tables will be published to all units.

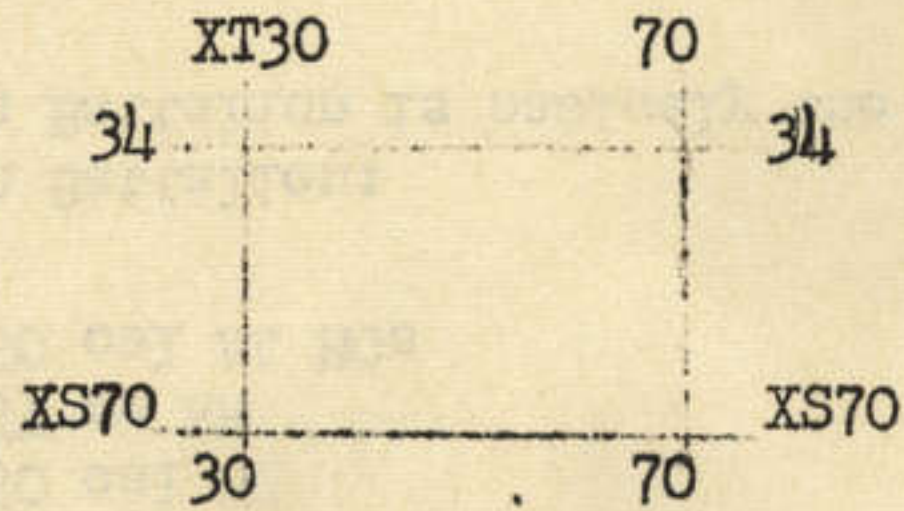
Annex A

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

ANNEX B (Enemy Composition and Disposition-OB) To Intelligence Estimate; Hau Nghia Province

A. Summary of enemy OB in area bounded by Coordinates as shown as of 23 Dec 65



No	Unit	Con- firmed	Prob- able	poss- ible	Total	Remarks
1	Regiments		3		4	
2	Battalions		2	2	4	
3	Companies			3	3	
4	Platoons					
5	Squads					
6	Unknown groups					

No	Unit	Date	Con- firmed	Prob- able	Poss- ible	Stre- ngth	Location	Remarks
1.	Dong Thap I							
	REGT							
a.	261st Bn	21/12		x		500	XS6576	
b.	263d Bn	21/12		x		500	XS6576	
2.	Dong Thap II			x			XT2706	
	REGT							
a.	269th Bn	21/12		x		500	XT3609	
b.	267th Bn	21/12		x		500	XT4114	
3.	Thu Do	13/12		x		2000	XT5729	
	REGT							
4.	506th Bn	21/12		x		500	XT4713	
5.	2ND INDEP BN				x	400	XT4994	
6.	QUYET THANG BN	6/12			x	450	XT6517	
7.	320th BN	16/12		x		500	XT5330	
8.	U/I Co	16/12			x	100	XT4822	(Guerrilla)
9	C 2 Co	10/12			x	80	XT5901	(Guerrilla)
10	C 22 Co	10/12			x	60	XT5891	(Guerrilla)

ANNEX B

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

ANNEX B (Enemy Composition and Disposition-OB) To Intelligence Estimate;
Hau Nghia Province

B. SUPPLEMENTAL DATA ON VARIOUS UNITS LISTED ABOVE

1. UNIT

a. DONG THAP I Regiment

Location: XS650760

Strength: 1500

CO: ?

Subordinate Units:

261st Battalion

263d Battalion

The following is a breakdown on the 263d Battalion:

Strength: 500

CO: ?

SUBORDINATE UNITS:

1st Company, 2nd Company, 3rd Company,

4th Company (Combat Support), 5th Company (Combat Support)

6th Company (Combat Support)

WEAPONS:

2 - 81mm mortars 3 - 57mm RR

3 - 60mm mortars 5 - 30 cal

3 - 75mm RR 45 - AR

The following is a breakdown of the 261st Battalion:

Strength: 500

CO: ?

SUBORDINATE UNITS:

3 Infantry companies and 1 combat support company.

WEAPONS:

3 - 81mm mortars 3 - 50 cal MG

5 - 60mm mortars 4 - 30 cal MG

3 - 75 RR 22 - ARs

3 - 57 RR

This unit was reported in northern Long An Province on 21 December 1965. This location is possible, but unlikely. Two battalions of this regiment were reportably reported as being located in Phouc Tuy Province in early December.

b. DONG THAP II REGIMENT

Location: XT279068

Strength: 2000

CO: SAU QUANG

Subordinate Units:

267th Battalion,

U/I Battalion

269th Battalion,

U/I Anti-Aircraft Battalion

The following is a breakdown on the 267th Battalion:

Strength: 400

CO: HAI LIEM

Subordinate Units: C1 thru C4 Companies. Strength: 95 each.

Weapons: 2 - 81 mm mortars 2 - 50 cal MG

4 - 60 mm mortars 1 - 57 mm RR

3 - 30 cal MG 2 - 50 cal AA MGs

The following is a breakdown on the 269th Battalion:

It is felt that the armament of the 269th Battalion is basically the same as the 267th's.

THU DO REGIMENT

Location: XT578295

Strength: ?

CO: ?

Subordinate Units: Unknown

ANNEX B

CONFIDENTIAL

h1

CONFIDENTIAL

ANNEX B (Enemy Composition and Disposition-OB) to Intelligence Estimate;
Hau Nghia Province

c. 506th Provincial Mobile Battalion

Location: XT470130

Strength: 450 to 500

CO: Muoi Xuong

Subordinate Units:

C 1 thru C 4 Companies

Each company has a strength of 100 to 120 personnel.

UNIFORMS: Blue, Green, and gray, steel helmets and bamboo hats.

WEAPONS: 2 to 4 - 81mm mortars

3 to 6 - 60mm mortars

5 - 50 cal MGs

10 - 30 cal MGs

5 - 57mm RR

2 - 75mm RR

15 - BARS (Type Unknown)

4 - Rocket launchers (Type unknown, maybe grenade

launchers)

4 - Bugles

27 - ARs

6 - PRC 10 radios

This unit has initiated two recent battles in Hau Nghia Province. The first one, 27 September, cost the unit approximately 100 KIA (Body count) and by 28 October they had received replacements, trained and conditioned themselves for another attack on Duc Lap. The unit lost 126 (Body count) in this attack. Since this incident, the unit has not been reported as engaging friendly troops. Due to the ability of the unit to reinforce, it is considered up to strength and combat efficient.

d. 2ND INDEPENDENT BATTALION

Location: XS495943

Strength: 400

CO: ?

Subordinate Unit: ?

This unit was formed in July 1965. This unit has not been involved in any contact with friendly forces. Therefore only reports of location are received on it. It is normally located in the same base area as the 506th Battalion.

e. 320TH PROVINCIAL MOBILE BATTALION

Location: XT536304

Strength: 400 to 700

CO: NGUYEN VAN THANH

Subordinate Units: C 354 Co,

C 355 Co,

C 356 Co,

C 357 Co

C 71 Co

Strength of each company has been reported as from 100- to 200.

Weapons: 2 - 50 cal AA MGs

3 - 60mm mortars

3 - 81mm mortars

6 - M79 Grenade Launchers

4 - 30 cal MG

4 - Czech SMGs

37 - Russian Rifles (Caliber unknown)

Unit also uses 12 kilo bags of explosives.

In mid 65 the unit was repeatedly hit by air strikes. It suffered many casualties and had low morale. Since then it has not been reported in any major VC action; therefore it is probably up to strength and ready for action.

CONFIDENTIAL

ANNEX B

ANNEX C (Imagery Interpretation Report) to Intelligence Estimate:
HAU NGHIA Province

MISSION DATA:

<u>MISSION NR</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PRINTS</u>	<u>SCALE</u>	<u>QUALITY</u>
5470	21 Dec 65	1-325 R&LSV	1:5,000	Fair

LOCATION: HAU NGHIA Province

AREA COVERED: XT3826, XT6124, XS3786, XS6186

MAP REFERENCE: NC 48-7, NC 48-3

SUMMARY: Roads in the area are predominately dirt and vary in condition from fair to impassable. Water ways provide a major means of transportation and in many places, due to sabotage and poor repair, are all that is available. Numerous foxholes and trenches were found and in most cases are located along roads and trails. The cultural activity is mainly farming with scattered fishing. The hamlets in this area vary from individual huts surrounded by mounds of dirt and heavy vegetation to larger villages surrounded by moats and defensive positions.

<u>ITEM NR</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
1	XS573876	Old fort with AW position
2	XS570880	Luong Hoa has numerous foxholes around perimeter.
3	XS577892	Bridge with check point
4	XS577898	Bridge with check point
5	XS577903	(2) possible bunkers
6	XS575928	Bridge out
7	XS570935 to XS577892	Road in poor condition, numerous cuts, holes, and bomb craters are in road
8	XS569936	Old triangular strong point
9	XS578942	Bunker along side of road at roadblock
10	XS582947 to XS570935	Numerous cuts in road
11	XT568006	Numerous foxholes along trails in area
12	XT580020 to XT573022	Numerous foxholes and AW positions along trails in area
13	XT572040 to XT577030 to XT565027	Foxholes and AW positions along trails in area
14	XT565045 to XT578048	Road cut
15	XT568050	Foxholes along road
16	XT578078	(2) triangular strong points along road
17	XT570078	Numerous foxholes around wooded area
18	XT589150	Triangular strong point
19	XT586152	Town of Phouc My has surrounding moat. Foxholes and AW positions also surround town
20	XS605960	Strong point along road
21	XS595960	Town of Duc Hoa has surrounding moat
22	XS600990 to XS605985	Foxholes along road
23	XT596036 to XT610030	Foxholes along road
24	XT605138	Ap Bao Tre has surrounding moat
25	XT610148 to XT607157	Road cut, foxholes along road
26	XT621161 to XT603180	Road cut

1

Annex C

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

<u>ITEM NR</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
27	XT606170 XT614171 XT612176 to XT616172 XT607170 to XT610167	(3) AA positions (Unoccupied) (3) AA positions (Unoccupied) Communication trench and numerous foxholes Communication trench and numerous foxholes
28	XS527949	Old triangular fort
29	XS535958 to XS544964	Road cuts
30	XS545987	Foxholes on both sides of road
31	XT538016 to XS553996	Road cut
32	XT528043	Military area
33	XT541048 to XT548051	Airstrip
34	XT532056 to XT536071	Numerous foxholes along both sides of road
35	XT539070 to XT545065	Numerous foxholes along both sides of road
36	XT535073 to XT536072	Numerous foxholes along both sides of road
37	XT539070 to XT540073	Numerous foxholes along both sides of road
38	XT536072 to XT537076	Numerous foxholes along both sides of road
39	XT529077 to XT530077	Numerous foxholes along both sides of road
40	XT537079 to XT537080	Foxholes scattered along both sides of road
41	XT539083 to YT543083	Foxholes scattered along both sides of road
42	XT546106 to XT547105	Trench system
43	XT544107 to XT545111	Trench system
44	XT542113 to XT548114	Numerous foxholes
45	XT547114 to XT547117	Trench system
46	XT547117 to XT544116	Trench system
47	XT546117 to XT546118	Trench system
48	XT539119	Old triangular fort
49	XT544149	Military area
50	XT544151	Old triangular fort
51	XT541154 to XT544156	Road cut
52	XT550192 to XT552118	Trench system
53	XT52450040	Cluster of individual farm plots with foxholes surrounding them and at each road intersection
54	XT52400000	Several foxholes along side of road between two farm plots
55	XT51680070	Foxholes along road
56	XT49500469 to XT50270460	Road cuts
57	XT52000800 XT52900865	Road cuts
58	XT51501040	(5) foxholes in open area of group of farm plots
59	XT522111 to XT525111	Several foxholes along trail
60	XT516152 to XT518150	Trench system

Annex C

2
CONFIDENTIAL

<u>ITEM NR</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
61	XT519151 to XT523151	Trench system
62	XT530150 to XT530148	Trench system
63	XT530151 to XT533151	Foxholes along road (both sides)
64	XT528151	Old triangular fort
65	XT513188	Military area
66	XT48002170 to XT47502250	Road cut with several foxholes in and along side of road
67	XT47302290	Strong point east side of road with numerous foxholes and emplacements
68	XT46701340 to XT48851050	Road interdicted with numerous foxholes and emplacements in road bed
69	XT46801320	Triangular fort surrounded by a moat filled with water, with numerous foxholes (3) foxholes at road intersection
70	XT46901320	Numerous foxholes along side of road
71	XT46751310	
72	XT47300890	Hamlet surrounded by moat filled with water. (2) emplacements one on each side of bridge entrance to hamlet. Foxholes are located on the embankment of the surrounding moat and throughout the hamlet.
73	XT49300478 to XT48400490	Road cut and interdicted with numerous foxholes in and alongside of road
74	XS49559437 XS48909498	Road cut Possible road cut
75	XS49489480	Trenches and foxholes in open field
76	XS49509500 XS49559537	(2) possible strong points with several foxholes and emplacements
77	XS51209100	(5) freshly dug rectangular holes in open field just off road
78	XS49409100 to XS50009180	Foxholes along side of road not on map
79	XS51009300 to XS52209340 XS51809380 to XS51409240	Foxholes and road cuts throughout area
80	XS51809425	(4) foxholes next to hut
81	XS50209520 to XS50909530 XS50609615 to XS50009580	Numerous foxholes along side of road
82	XS50909750 to XS50409815	Road cuts
83	XS47909860 to XS52000350	Road cuts
84	XT50750190	Road cut completely through and flooded from irrigation ditch
85	XT50170355	Strong point surrounded by ditch with numerous foxholes
86	XT49400570	Road cut
87	XT51700900 XT51650855 XT51650852	Foxholes along side of trail leading to a strong point
88	XT49551005 to XT48811270 to XT49901480	Road cuts
89	XT49901480	Bridge out, foot bridge intact
90	XT49701720 to XT49201750	Road cuts
91	XT49601736 to XT49501755	Trench system

CONFIDENTIAL

ITEM NR	COORDINATES	DESCRIPTION
92	XT50101935	Bridge intact, with check point
93	XT44201990	Road cuts
	XT42451955	
	XT41702005	
94	XT44221770 to XT43021660 to XT44351610	Road heavily cut and interdicted with foxholes and emplacements alongside of road
95	XT43021660 to XT40001590	Road heavily cut and interdicted with foxholes and emplacements alongside road
96	XT43901662 XT43021651	(2) triangular forts with numerous surrounding foxholes
97	XT43701585 XT43551505 XT43701540 XT44101540	Foxholes alongside of trail
98	XT44201200 to XT42001230	Numerous foxholes and emplacements along side of road
99	XT42700720	Military area not indicated on map
100	XT43400450	Road cuts
	XT43410418	
101	XT43410418 to XT40700350	Road cut
102	XT42830200	Group of individual type huts with numerous foxholes, trenches and emplacements located within the area
103	XT43400360 to XT43150026	Road cut; foxholes along side road
104	XS44009510 to XS46609690	Destroyed strong point along road consisting of numerous foxholes, emplacements and trenches
105	XT44500100 to XT45850150 XT45900440 to XT43700520	Numerous foxholes and trenches along roadside and also road cuts
106	XT44550570 XT46600500 XT45200554 XT45400569 XT45700553	Numerous foxholes and road cuts
107	XT46400920	Triangular fort not indicated on map along east side of trail
108	XT46450090 to XT46300979	Road cut
109	XT46300979 XT46400960	Strong point surrounded by moat Numerous trenches, foxholes and emplacements are located in hamlet
110	XT46001320 to XT44201200	Road cut, numerous foxholes alongside of road
111	XT46001320 to XT43871650	Road cut with numerous foxholes and emplacements along side of road
112	XS40009430 XS40569400 XS40389460 XS39909555 XS39009502	Foxholes along roads
113	XS40389460 XS39909430	Foxholes along road
114	XS39009502	Road intersection cut
115	XS40009670 XS30009670 XS40009830 XS30009830	Foxholes, emplacements, AA positions and trenches in area. Possible VC training area
116	XT30790500	Road cut and flooded
117	XT39300680 XT30400935 XT39000770 XT30950755	Road cut and flooded AW position

Annex C

4
CONFIDENTIAL

b

CONFIDENTIAL

8

<u>ITEM NR</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
118	XT38780845	Triangular strongpoint adjacent to road with several foxholes and AW positions
119	XT38480935 to XT37180902	Numerous foxholes along side of road
120	XT38780950	Several foxholes along road not indicated on map
121	XT37751450	Old triangular strong point surrounded by moat
122	XT38001430	River control check point
123	XT37601480	Old strong point surrounded by a ditch (2) AW positions
124	XT37601479 to XT37201490	Numerous foxholes along side of road
125	XT38202178	Rice shipping area, Numerous sarpan, and piles of rice
126	XS42059535	Possible AA position in open harvested rice paddy with stacks of rice shocks surrounding position
127	XS42409545	"L" shape trench next to hut
128	XS41879505	Bomb crater in dirt road
129	XS39909495	Dirt road cut; with bypass trail
130	XS40059500	Possible strong point at intersection of dirt roads containing (2) AW positions and several foxholes
131	XS40009528	Dirt road cut by bomb
132	XS41239513	(2) foxholes and (1) emplacement at intersection of dirt roads
133	XS41809545	(2) Unoccupied emplacements in field
134	XS41459600 XS41359580	Dirt roads destroyed by bombs
135	XS41209645	Military hamlet surrounded by a moat. Old triangular strong point within hamlet
136	XS40109690	Possible foxhole at trail intersection
137	XT40700211	Possible foxhole in open rice field near hut
138	XT41900330	Possible dugin emplacement
139	XT41200360 to XT41400363 XT41400363 XT41300420	(8) foxholes on one side of road (2) on the other (15) foxholes along road in inhabited area
140	XT40700345	Possible strong point at corner of road
141	XT40390415 to XT40640360	Foxholes along road
142	XT40400415	Trangular fort under construction, near inhabited area.
143	XT40250435	Road cut and flooded, vehicular bypass difficult
144	XT40190455	Bridge over drainage ditch
145	XT39950490	Inhabitated area with numerous foxholes throughout
146	XT40000482 to XT39350680	Road cut
147	XT41450485 to XT42450572 to XT40710880 to XT39170720	Roads cut throughout area
148	XT40200800	Possible AW position along side of dirt trail
149	XT40600960	AW position alongside of road
150	XT40251078	Foot bridge across stream
151	XT41751245 to XT41761268	Numerous foxholes along both sides of road
152	XT42001230	Numerous foxholes and emplacements at edge of hamlet
153	XT41651340 to XT41401380	Foxholes alongside of road
154	XT40801589	Ferry site

Annex C

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

<u>ITEM NR</u>	<u>COORDINATES</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
155	XT41141730	(5) emplacements in open rice paddy
156	XT40241920	Strong points enclosed by wall with AW positions at each corner
157	XT40401990	Hamlet with foxholes along each side of road through hamlet
158	XT41302050	Foot bridge across river
159	XT42002260	Foxholes located throughout hamlet

CONFIDENTIAL

Annex C

L

Addendum 1 (Additional Information) to Annex B (Enemy Composition and Disposition -OB) to Intelligence Estimate, Hau Nghia Province.

1. The information that is contained in this Addendum was obtained on 26 December and appropriate changes to the data contained in the Intelligence Estimate should be made.

2. The following locations have been reported as probable VC base areas; XS 475995, XS 491987, XT 411142 and XS 558925. (The above coordinates are given as centers of areas extending in a 500 to 1000 meter radius.)

3. The following VC Local Force Companies are reported to be operating in the following districts:

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Cu Chi	C 26	Unknown	N/A
Duc Hue	C 120	Unknown	N/A
Duc Hoa	C 2	XT 575036	25/12/65
Trang Bang	C 54	XT 482221	16/12/65

4. The following Main Force Battalions were reportedly located as follows:

267th Bn of Dong Thap II - XT 411141 - 25/12/65, and 506th Bn XT 542114 - 25/12/65.

5. Changes in OB:

a. The existence of the Tuo Do Regiment is extremely doubtful.

b. Forces most likely to be encountered in the TAOR are:

(1) Dong Thap II Regiment

(a) 267 Bn

(b) 269 Bn

(2) 506th Battalion

(3) 2nd Independent Battalion

(4) Quyét Thang Battalion (306th)

(5) Local District Companies:

(a) C 26

(b) C 120

(c) C 2

(d) C 54

(6) Plus local village and hamlet guerrilla forces.

c. Recent Activities:

(1) The most recent significant activity in the area of interest took place on the night of 17 and 18 Dec 1965. The VC simultaneously placed mortar fire on artillery positions at Duc Hoa (XS 593968), My Hanh (XT 630026), Bao Trai (XT 527047), and attacked outposts at My Hanh (XT 630026), and Duc Lap (XT 552061). It is believed that elements of the 2nd Independent Battalion, took part in the attack on the outposts; and that the weapons elements of the 267th Battalion, 506 Battalion, and C.2 Local Company, placed mortar fire on the artillery positions.

(2) On 161010 Dec 65 at XT 398144 the VC ambushed an ARVN company with the following results: 50 KIA, approximately 30 WIA. The ARVN lost a number of small arms, 1 60mm mortar and 10 PRC/10 radios to the VC. This ambush

CONFIDENTIAL

Addendum 1 (Additional Information) to Annex B (Enemy Composition and Disposition -OB) to Intelligence Estimate, Hau Nghia Province.

was probably executed by the Quyet Thang Battalion, (306th) previously reported.

(3) On 22 Dec 65 two small ambushes were set up at XT 561060 during daylight hours. Results: 3 National Police KIA.

d. Miscellaneous Information:

(1) The area immediately adjacent and East of the Song Vam Co Dong (XT 4703 to XS 4997) is reported to be heavily booby-trapped and to have numerous bunkers with overhead cover.

(2) Curfews in effect in the area of interest:

(a) Villagages and Towns: 2200-0500.

(b) Countryside: 1900-0500.

(c) River Traffic (Song Vam Co Dong): Darkness to daybreak, except from coordinates XT 460044 - XT 427080. The area between these two points does not have a curfew on river traffic. There is a sugar refinery located at Ap Tan Hoa (XT 439054) and the workers are allowed to transport sugar cane to the refinery during the hours of darkness. Therefore this stretch of the river is not a specified strike zone (unless one is fired upon).

(3) Specified Strike Zone - The entire area West of the Oriental River except immediately West of the Sugar Refinery where there is a small PF element located (AT 438053).

Marshall
MARSHALL
C2

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

Addendum 1 (Additional Information) to Annex B (Enemy Composition and Disposition -OB) to Intelligence Estimate, Hau Nghia Province.

1. The information that is contained in this Addendum was obtained on 26 December and appropriate changes to the data contained in the Intelligence Estimate should be made.

2. The following locations have been reported as probable VC base areas; XS 475995, XS 491987, XT 411142 and XS 558925. (The above coordinates are given as centers of areas extending in a 500 to 1000 meter radius.)

3. The following VC Local Force Companies are reported to be operating in the following districts:

<u>DISTRICT</u>	<u>UNIT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Cu Chi	C 26	Unknown	N/A
Duc Hue	C 120	Unknown	N/A
Duc Hoa	C 2	XT 575036	25/12/65
Trang Bang	C 54	XT 482221	16/12/65

4. The following Main Force Battalions were reportedly located as follows:
267th Bn of Dong Thap II - XT 411141 - 25/12/65, and 506th Bn XT 542114 - 25/12/65.

5. Changes in OB:

a. The existence of the Tuo Do Regiment is extremely doubtful.

b. Forces most likely to be encountered in the TAOR are:

(1) ✓ Dong Thap II Regiment

(a) 267 Bn

(b) 269 Bn

(2) ✓ 506th Battalion

(3) 2nd Independent Battalion

(4) Quyet Thang Battalion (306th)

(5) Local District Companies:

(a) C 26

(b) C 120

(c) C 2

(d) C 54

(6) Plus local village and hamlet guerrilla forces.

c. Recent Activities:

(1) The most recent significant activity in the area of interest took place on the night of 17 and 18 Dec 1965. The VC simultaneously placed mortar fire on artillery positions at Duc Hoa (XS 593968), My Hanh (XT 630026), Bao Trai (XT 527047), and attacked outposts at My Hanh (XT 630026), and Duc Lap (XT 552061). It is believed that elements of the 2nd Independent Battalion, took part in the attack on the outposts; and that the weapons elements of the 267th Battalion, 506 Battalion, and C.2 Local Company, placed mortar fire on the artillery positions.

(2) On 161010 Dec 65 at XT 398144 the VC ambushed an ARVN company with the following results: 50 KIA, approximately 30 WIA. The ARVN lost a number of small arms, 1 60mm mortar and 10 PRC/10 radios to the VC. This ambu

CONFIDENTIAL

h

CONFIDENTIAL

Addendum 1 (Additional Information) to Annex B (Enemy Composition and Disposition -OB) to Intelligence Estimate, Hau Nghia Province.

was probably executed by the Quyét Thang Battalion, (306th) previously reported.

(3) On 22 Dec 65 two small ambushes were set up at XT 561060 during daylight hours. Results: 3 National Police KIA.

d. Miscellaneous Information:

(1) The area immediately adjacent and East of the Song Vam Co Dong (XT 4703 to XS 4997) is reported to be heavily booby-trapped and to have numerous bunkers with overhead cover.

(2) Curfews in effect in the area of interest:

(a) Villagages and Towns: 2200-0500.

(b) Countryside: 1900-0500.

(c) River Traffic (Song Vam Co Dong): Darkness to daybreak, except from coordinates XT 460044 - XT 427080. The area between these two points does not have a curfew on river traffic. There is a sugar refinery located at Ap Tan Hoa (XT 439054) and the workers are allowed to transport sugar cane to the refinery during the hours of darkness. Therefore this stretch of the river is not a specified strike zone (unless one is fired upon).

(3) Specified Strike Zone - The entire area West of the Oriental River except immediately West of the Sugar Refinery where there is a small PF element located (AT 438053).

Marshall
MARSHALL
C2

CONFIDENTIAL

Platypus 2

JGD/JDO'S

117/1/12(G)

1st Battalion
The Royal Australian Regiment
BIEN HOA
24 Dec 65

G2
173 AB Bde (Sep)

REPORT ON RALLIER - LE VAN HUNG

1. LE VAN HUNG rallied to B Coy, 1 RAR at CHANH DUC Village, TANH LINH District, BINH TUY Province on 27 Nov 65.
2. The rallier escorted members of the Company to the site where he had hidden his weapon (7.92 MAUSER) and at the same time a number of rounds of ammunition and a CHINESE stick grenade were recovered.
3. LE VAN HUNG proved useful in assisting with the interrogation of suspects in both CHANH DUC and DUC HANH villages. He also provided information on the location of a VC 420 Bn and of a VC hospital (passed to 173 Bde) he VAN HUNG has remained with B Company since 27 Nov 65 and has continued to provide general assistance.
4. Before his conscription into the VIET CONG he underwent training as a Malaria Control Worker in BIEN HOA.
5. The rallier at present does NOT possess an Identity Card.
6. It is recommended that LE VAN HUNG be returned under the CHIEU HOI Program to CHANH DUC village. It is requested that he be suitably rewarded for turning in his weapon and ammunition.

J. J. Dermody Capt
S2 1 RAR

Platypus 2

JGD/JDO'S

117/1/12(G)

1st Battalion
The Royal Australian Regiment
BINH HOA
24 Dec 65

C2
173 AB Bde (Sep)

REPORT ON RALLIER - LE VAN HUNG

1. LE VAN HUNG rallied to B Coy, 1 RAR at CHANH DUC Village, TANH LINH District, BINH TUY Province on 27 Nov 65.
2. The rallier escorted members of the Company to the site where he had hidden his weapon (7.92 MAUSER) and at the same time a number of rounds of ammunition and a CHINESE stick grenade were recovered.
3. LE VAN HUNG proved useful in assisting with the interrogation of suspects in both CHANH DUC and DUC HANH villages. He also provided information on the location of a VC 420 Bn and of a VC hospital (passed to 173 Bde) he VAN HUNG has remained with B Company since 27 Nov 65 and has continued to provide general assistance.
4. Before his conscription into the VIET CONG he underwent training as a Malaria Control Worker in BINH HOA.
5. The rallier at present does NOT possess an Identity Card.
6. It is recommended that LE VAN HUNG be returned under the CHINH HOI Program to CHANH DUC village. It is requested that he be suitably rewarded for turning in his weapon and ammunition.

J. J. J. J. Capt
S2 1 RAR