

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Infantry units

Item number: 7/1/92

Item: 1 Battalion Royal Australian
Regiment

Narrative

Annexes

Maps

[1-31 Oct 1968]

PART 1

COVERING LETTER

Reference No.

To: OIC, Military History Section, AHQ.

1. I enclose Commanders Diary (AF C 2118) (Adapted) as indicated at Part 2.

2. Please return receipt below.

(Signature)

Appointment

(OC Unit or senior staff officer)

PART 2

AF C 2119 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965**SECRET**

ORIGINAL

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Strike out where

not applicable

COMMANDERS DIARY

OF

Unit or Formation 1st BATTALION THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN REGIMENT

From 1 OCTOBER 1968

To 31 OCTOBER 1968

INDEX

Narrative (AF C 2118)

ANNEXES

- * A Duty officer's log
- * B Messages connected with log
- C Operation orders and instructions issued
- D Operation orders and instructions received
- * E Sitreps issued
- F Orders of battle and location reports issued
- G Intelligence reports and summaries issued; appreciations made
- H Administrative orders and instructions issued
- I Administrative orders and instructions received
- J Administrative reports and bulletins; ammunition returns; field strength returns
- * K Standing orders issued
- L Commander's policy and demi-official letters
- M Action reports (if required)
- N Other papers, eg, maps and diagrams, air photos, reports from sub units
- O Periodical summaries of operations
- Z Top Secret Supplementary Diary

Enclosure Numbers

..... to

..... to

1 to 7

1 to 4

..... to

..... to

..... to

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..... to

1 to 2

1 to -

..... to

† NIL

† RETAINED

† Despatched to

on

* Only to be included during operations.

† Cross out whichever is not applicable.

PART 3

COMMANDERS DIARIES INSTRUCTIONS

AIM

1. The aim of a Commanders Diary is to provide data on which to base future improvements in Army training, equipment, organization and administration, and to furnish historians with a record of the activities of units and formations in operational and non-operational periods in peace and in war.

GENERAL

2. Entries are to be made daily on AF C 2118 (Adapted) each entry being initialled by the officer detailed to keep it.
3. Commanders Diaries will conform with the rules for drafting orders given in "Staff Duties (Australia)", Chapter 2, Section 12.

RESPONSIBILITY

During Non-operational Periods

4. A Commanders Diary is to be compiled by commanders of all formations.

During Operational Periods (1)

5. A Commanders Diary is to be compiled in duplicate by:
 - a. Commanders of all formations.
 - b. Each branch of the staff at formation headquarters commanded by a brigadier or above.
 - c. Heads of services not below the rank of lieutenant colonel.
 - d. Personal staffs and officers holding special appointments.
 - e. Unit commanders.
 - f. Commanders of a detachment of a unit when so ordered.

COMPILATION

6. Both original and duplicate copies are to consist of:
 - a. Cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted).
 - b. Index as printed on cover.
 - c. Narrative (AF C 2118) (Adapted).
 - d. Annexes as shown in the Index.
7. All details of the unit or formation (if a detachment is concerned, the name of the parent unit), period covered and enclosure numbers of the annexes are to be shown on the cover. If there has been a change of command since the last report, the date of assumption by the new commanding officer is to be included.
8. The annexes are to be assembled in the groups shown on the cover. If there are no enclosures for a particular day, the date will be entered on the cover. If additional annexes are convenient for a particular headquarters, they are to be entered at B.

for operations form Annex "Z", "TOP SECRET" the document. It is to be prepared and disposed of as

CONTENTS

as well as map references), establishment, equipment and orders given. The day's fighting, including company movements. Commander with regard to equipment, tactics, organization

tential importance. Officers, men and equipment. Equipment captured. Equipment employed in the time not accounted for. The type of

and to save work as much information as possible is to be entered. Orders issued and received, routine returns, etc. All and the time of receipt or despatch is to be given.

The annexes, but need not give a precis of any of them.

(continued on back cover)

COMBAT DIARIES

DISPOSAL

13. **Original Commander's Diary.** This is to be forwarded monthly, unless otherwise ordered, by the seventh day of the succeeding month direct to AHQ.

14. **Duplicate Commander's Diary.** This must be clearly marked as a duplicate. It is to be sent separately from the original to AHQ one month after the original has been despatched but not before the former has been acknowledged.

15. When overseas, both copies of diaries are to be sent through the Army Records organization in the overseas theatre but at different times.

16. **TOP SECRET Supplementary Diaries.**

a. The documents referred to in Paragraph 9 together with a list of them made out on AF C 2118 (Adapted) must be placed in separate cover (AF C 2119) (Adapted). All details must be filled in and the cover clearly marked in red: "ANNEX Z — OFFICER ONLY". It may be convenient to group the papers by appendices.

b. Supplementary diaries must be forwarded under the normal rules for TOP SECRET correspondence, to AHQ. The inner envelope must be plainly marked:

TOP SECRET

ANNEX Z to

Commanders Diary of..... (Formation or Unit)

From.....to..... (Dates)

c. The duplicate supplementary diaries must be despatched as shown in Paragraph 14 as soon as receipt of the original has been acknowledged.

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 316950	1 Oct	0915	D Inf returned to KWINANA and spoke with COs 1 and 3 RARs. The coys continued searching.	
	1 Oct		B Coy found an "L" shaped en camp which had been used within the last 48 hours. The camp was of coy size and contained 12 large bunkers. It was marked for an air strike and B Coy withdrew.	
	1 Oct		No other incidents took place during the day.	
	1 Oct	1700	Brig RL. HUGHES visited KWINANA.	
316950	1 Oct		Ni locs: A Coy 271918, B Coy 306942, C Coy 305927, D Coy ptls 289889 and 282887.	
	1 Oct	1800	Maj CAMPBELL left for NUI DAT to move to LONG BINH and Capt SMITH assumed comd of A Coy.	
	2 Oct		A Coy continued searching AO 5, reaching the boundary of AO 11 by evening. B Coy completed their search of AO 1. C Coy swept south through AO 4. 10 Pl searched north and west of CEDAR.	
	2 Oct		During the day Gen McDonald and D Inf visited the CO and Maj CHINN arrived.	
	2 Oct	0940	An air strike was conducted against the camp discovered by B Coy.	
	2 Oct		The Ops Offr and IO visited FSPB GREY to liaise with the Thais reference the movement of A and B Coys through rubber.	
	2 Oct		Ni locs: A Coy 257919, B Coy 279937, C Coy 288909, D Coy ptls at 288889 and 283887.	
	3 Oct	0745	Two LOs (Capt ALTHAM and 2Lt SALMON) flew into FSPB GREY.	
	3 Oct	0800	Ops Offr visited A and B Coys to brief them on the day's activities.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR.....OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP.....

UNIT/FORMATION.....1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER.....Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
YS 250921	3 Oct	0915	A Coy commenced their sweep through AO 11.	
	3 Oct	1025	B Coy commenced sweep of AO 10 while A Coy commenced patrolling south towards the river.	
	3 Oct	1500	B Coy found a 1 or 2 week old VC grave. The VC was probably killed during the attack by 1/274 on FSPB GREY, on 21 Sep.	
	3 Oct	1730	Maj CHINN assumed the duties of Ops Offr from Maj PATTERSON.	
	3 Oct	1615	Auto wpn fire was heard about 1000m south of CEDAR and engaged with mors. More of the same was heard at 1816 hrs and a single shot from a bearing of 4200 mils and at 800 m was heard at 1900 hrs.	
267905	3 Oct		Ni locs: A Coy 244905, B Coy 257919, C Coy 286908, 7 Pl 288904, 8 Pl 283906, sect 10 Pl 290889, sect 11 Pl 282887.	
	4 Oct		A and B Coys continued to ptl south through AO5. C Coy maintained ptls in the same general area. D Coy sent 11 Pl to search the general area of 2887 for signs of the en who were firing auto wpns during the evening and ni of 3 Oct.	
	4 Oct	1045	Brig R.L. HUGHES visited the CO.	
	4 Oct	0900	Maj PATTERSON left BnHQ for R and R.	
	4 Oct	1220	6 Pl, leading B Coy, heard voices to their front and whilst deploying 2 pairs of local VC moved into their loc. 1 VC was KIA and one WIA. After engaging the area with arty B Coy	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			commenced a sweep of the area.	
266906	4 Oct	1530	5 Pl fired on two local VC killing one.	
255895	4 Oct	1558	3 Pl fired on one VC. During the following sweep they located an en base camp of 9 bunkers in which was found a bag of docus, a bag of med supplies, some clothing, 20lb of dried fish, 400lb of rice and one transistor radio.	
267908	4 Oct	1730	B Coy found an en base camp covering a 75m square area. It contained five bunkers with connecting tunnels. Docus, two transistor radios and two small bags of rice were found.	
	4 Oct	1815	1 VC approached B Coy and tried to retrieve the body of a VC killed by 5 Pl at 1530 hrs.	
			6 Pl engaged the en with M 60. The MG had a stoppage and the en escaped.	
	4 Oct		Ni locs: A Coy 256889, B Coy 268906, C Coy 206908, 9 Pl 288904, D Coy ptls 289889 and 283887.	
	4 Oct		During the day Maj I.L.G. CAMPBELL marched out of the unit.	
	5 Oct		A, B and C Coy continued to move south, crossing the SUOI CAU MOI and with the aim of clearing south to the FIRESTONE TRAIL.	
257889	5 Oct	0855	A Coy were ambushed from the south side of creek while crossing it. 2 or 3 VC opened up with claymores and AK.47s. 1 Pl had already crossed but were unable to intervene due to thick bamboo. Cas for this action were: WIA: 2785826 Pte A.P. HOBAN shrap to right eye, 217627 Pte J.W. PATCHETT shrap wound to left shoulder, 2786965 Lcpl R.P. NICHOLSON	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			shrap wound to left upper arm, 55393 Cpl W.R. McWHIRTER (who remained on duty) shrap wound to first finger of left hand. 217514 Pte N.A. McINERNEY received multiple frag wounds and died of these wounds 7 Oct 68.	
YS 264876	5 Oct	1338	After 102 Bty engaged the area 1 Pl swept in and found a bunker system. 2 Pl came under auto fire from the front and left flank from en who were in a bunker system. Due to thick bamboo Maj ADAMSON, OC A Coy, withdrew 2 Pl, engaged the camp with arty and assaulted with 1 and 3 Pls. The en fled, leaving behind significant radio eqpt, a printing press and typewriter.	
277882	5 Oct	1510	4 VC moving from the north were engaged by 7 Pl. Two VC were killed and an AK.47 and M1 carbine were recovered.	
KWINANA	5 Oct	1045	The QMG and TF Comd visited KWINANA, speaking to COs 1 and 3 RARs.	
	5 Oct	1730	B, C and D Coy Comds were air lifted to KWINANA for orders. The CO stated that a 3rd VC offensive was considered imminent and that the Bn would be committed to a blocking role until approx 11 Oct. B Coy were to replace D Coy in FSPB CEDAR, A Coy was to remain in in ambush posns in the general area of DIGGERS REST. C and D Coys were to ptl south in AOs 9 and 8 respectively then return to take up blocking posns in the north of their AOs. In the case of B and C Coys the move was to start ASP.	

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	5 Oct		Ni locs: A Coy 268873, B Coy 278879, C Coy 278881, D Coy 282887, 288889.	
	6 Oct	0625	B Coy commenced their move towards CEDAR, finally freeing D Coy who moved south at 0900 hrs.	
	6 Oct	0730	C Coy started moving to the east. CO, BC and IO visited A Coy and Maj ADAMSON received verbal orders for the Bn's deployment.	
	6 Oct	1000	Capt JACOBS, A Coy FO who was to assume comd of 102 Bty during the absence of Maj ANDREWS on R and R, arrived at KWINANA.	
	6 Oct	1100	Deputy Comd, Col DUNSTAN visited the CO.	
	6 Oct		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 272878, 1 Pl 265879, 3 Pl 275887, B Coy CEDAR, C Coy 304860, D Coy 277852.	
	7 Oct		A Coy maintained their ambush posns of 6 Oct. B Coy continued in defence of FSPB CEDAR. C and D Coys continued moving south.	
	7 Oct	1139	10 Pl, acting as rear guard for D Coy, fired at 1 VC moving to their rear. A sweep of the area produced no results.	
	7 Oct	1445	11 Pl fired on two VC moving on a track. It is believed one VC was hit although a sweep of the area produced only one bag of rice.	
	7 Oct	1450	TF Comd visited the CO.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	7 Oct		Ni locs: A Coy 272878, 1 Pl 265879, 3 Pl 275887, B Coy CEDAR, C Coy 394854, D Coy 273821, 10 Pl 274823, 12 Pl 269824.	
	7 Oct	1945	217514 Pte McINERNEY DOW.	
	8 Oct		A Coy maintained ambush posns. 5 Pl B Coy ambushed at 295892 during the day, with no incidents. B and D Coys continued patrolling in AOs 8 and 9.	
302849	8 Oct	0940	7 Pl fired on two en. A later sweep found one who had been wounded; he tried to escape and was killed. C Coy then probed south east as they thought there might be a camp there.	
301847	8 Oct	1114	7 Pl struck a coy sized base camp and came under fire from about 20m. Capt SMITH was unable to close further with the en and tried to withdraw 7 Pl, however it was not possible for them to get out their cas which were then 2 KIA and 5 WIA. Eventually, after a LFT (BOUNTY HUNTER 18) brought fire to within 50m of 7 Pl they were able to withdraw with their wounded but were forced still to leave behind the bodies of Lcpl SLATTERY and Pte EVANS.	
			During this phase C Coy was subjected to sniper fire from trees but they managed to shoot down one en. 1 VC KIA (poss).	
	8 Oct	1240	The DUSTOFF attempting to winch out the C Coy cas was hit by en fire and forced to return to VUNG TAU for damage assessment. Another winch point was selected further to the north	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			and eventually, by 1444 hrs, all cas were out. The CO in POSSUM directed LFTs and during this phase the camp was engaged by BOUNTY HUNTER 18 and MUSTANG 22. After the DUSTOFF was complete the camp was hit by 102 Bty, Mor Pl of 3 RAR from KWINANA and two air strikes. BDA was carried out by POSSUM.	
			The cas for this action were. KIA: 2787079 Pte J.M. SLATTERY and 1732701 Pte P. EVANS; WIA: 1201652 Pte B. COLLINS gunshot wound to right hand, 2786683 Pte R.J. HOOK gunshot wound to right arm, 1201715 Pte V.R. NISSEN multiple frag wounds to right thigh and left side, 39405 Lcpl J.A. AMOS gunshot wounds to the left of neck, 38803 Pte F.W. CANTWELL gunshot wound to right temple.	
270815	8 Oct	1300	11 Pl found 5 freshly laid animal snares. In the area of 275811 there were three new tracks running north south and east west.	
285824	8 Oct	1311	10 Pl D Coy ambushed one VC, killing him and capturing 1 AK.47.	
	8 Oct		Ni locs: A Coy 272878, 1 Pl 265879, 3 Pl 275887, B Coy CEDAR, D Coy 284837, 10 Pl 283838, C Coy 299850, 11 Pl 283833.	
	8 Oct	2000	CO gave verbal orders to D Coy to move to the vicinity of 292848 to 296847 where they were to RV with C Coy. Both coys were then to reenter camp from the west.	

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF - C 2119 (Adapted).

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	9 Oct		A Coy maintained ambush posns. B Coy sent 4 Pl to ptl and ambush in the general area of the creek and track junction used by 5 Pl on 8 Oct.	
	9 Oct	0700	D Coy moved north to link with C Coy as planned.	
	9 Oct	0800	The first of a planned series of three air strikes took place on the camp. A fourth air strike was called in when the extent of the target became apparent. This strike was completed by 1205 hrs.	
286838	9 Oct	1000	Whilst moving to join with C Coy 11 Pl D Coy found an en camp which showed signs of use as recent as five hours ago. The camp consisted of 10 old bunkers in an area of 50m x 50m.	
	9 Oct	1057	10 Pl linked up with C Coy in assembly area. D Coy were to maintain security of this area as well as securing the start line for C Coy.	
	9 Oct	1300	Covered by arty and mors C Coy moved to start line.	
	9 Oct	1334	C Coy reached bunker system, meeting no opposition.	
	9 Oct	1350	C Coy recovered the bodies of Lcpl SLATTERY and Pte EVANS as well as the body of a VC killed in the contact of 080940. By last light C Coy, assisted by D Coy who had moved up, located 34 bunkers. Bomb damage slowed the search. 10 - 12 packs, 3 bags of docus and one badly damaged AK.47 was found. From one of the bunkers which had been hit.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

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COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	9 Oct	1400	There was a strange smell. CO visited C and D Coys and gave orders for the period 9 - 10 Oct: C Coy were to search area of the camp and northwards. D Coy were to search area of the camp and to the south. The Coys were then to secure LZs (C Coy at 308858 and D Coy at 290832) prior to extraction.	
	9 Oct	1445	The bodies of soldiers KIA were lifted out by Albatross.	
	9 Oct	1720	Albatross, approaching camp from the south, came under fire from a posn 1700m due south of the camp. This area was then engaged by arty from FSPB GREY.	
	9 Oct		Ni locs: A Coy 272878, 1 Pl 265879, 3 Pl 275887, B Coy CEDAR, C Coy 303845, D Coy 302845.	
275887	9 Oct	1909	3 or 4 VC were ambushed by 3 Pl when moving west. Range of opening fire was 5m; claymore, M 60 and grenades were used. Two bodies could be seen on the track and there was moaning of wounded in the area.	
	10 Oct	0625	3 Pl found 2 VC KIA during sweep and recovered 2 AK.47s, one field telephone and 40lbs of rice.	
	10 Oct	0700	Tracker Team left KWENANA for A Coy to assist 3 Pl in following up trails from the scene of the ambush.	
	10 Oct	0800	C Coy recommenced search of en camp and areas to the north.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 BAR

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	10 Oct	0800	D Coy completed search of areas south of the camp and south through AO 9.	
	10 Oct	0830	6 Pl patrolled from CEDAR and established an ambush posn at 295892.	
276888	10 Oct	0930	3 Pl discovered an en camp of 50 bunkers.	
305846	10 Oct	0947	A ptl from 9 Pl discovered a small en camp which they believed might be occupied. The sect adjusted arty fire onto the camp site and returned to C Coy.	
301838	10 Oct	1030	12 Pl discovered a small camp containing 6 old bunkers. It may have been used by people stopping for a meal that morning.	
	10 Oct	1215	Tracker Team was air lifted from A to C Coy to accompany 8 Pl in their search of the camp at 305846 which was found to be unoccupied. It contained three bunkers. A small amount of docus were recovered and tracks in the area indicated movement out to the south east.	
	10 Oct	1500	Ops Offr, BMaj CHINN flew into C Coy to brief them on the extraction planned for 11 Oct.	
	10 Oct	1515	Gen McDONALD and TF Comd visited KWINANA and spoke with the CO.	
	10 Oct	1617	6 Pl returned to CEDAR.	
	10 Oct	1700	Maj CHINN flew into A Coy and then B Coy to brief them on extraction. A Coy was to be extracted on 11 Oct and B Coy on 12 Oct.	
	10 Oct		Ni locs: A Coy 272878, 1 Pl 265879, 2 Pl 274880, B Coy CEDAR, C Coy 305857, D Coy in	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF - C 2119 (Adapted).

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION.....1 RAR.....

MONTH AND YEAR.....OCTOBER 1968.....

REFERENCE MAP.....

COMMANDING OFFICER.....Lt Col P.H. BENNETT.....

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			ambush between 287812 and 289815.	
	11 Oct	0730	to 1100: Bn completed the fly out to NUI DAT, leaving B Coy to remain with 161 Bty at CEDAR.	
	12 Oct	0700	An interdominational church service was held, during which the CO addressed the Bn reminding them of the 23 years of service and tradition that the Bn had seen.	
	12 Oct		This was the 23rd anniversary of the formation of 1 RAR.	
	12 Oct		During the day a knock-out touch football competition was held and won by Admin Coy.	
			Bar-b-ques were held at all kitchens.	
	12 Oct	1030	A debrief of the op was held.	
	12 Oct	1630	to 1730: B Coy returned to NUI DAT.	
	13 Oct		B Coy had a stand-down day.	
	13 Oct		A Coy began a Road Runner Op.	
	14 Oct		A Coy continued Road Runner Op.	
	15 Oct		4 Pl, sect mors, sect trackers with a tp from A Sqn 3 Cav Regt cleared the road to XUAN MOC and assumed ni ambush posns west of XUAN MOC.	
	15 Oct		A Coy continued Road Runner Op.	
	15 Oct		A dining-in was held to to farewell Comd 1 ATF, Brig R.L. HUGHES.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF - C 2119 (Adapted).

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	15 Oct		Warning Order was issued to A Coy for Op DIAMOND PIN.	
	15 Oct		Maj GEEVES (CMF) arrived at 1 RAR for a short stay.	
	16 Oct		A Coy continued Road Runner Op.	
	16 Oct		TAOR ptls had nothing significant to report.	
	17 Oct		A Coy continued Road Runner Op.	
	18 Oct	1410	Op DIAMOND PIN was cancelled - Task was to secure FSPB WILTON on 21 Oct instead.	
	18 Oct		B Coy commenced Road Runner Op with which they were to continue till 22 Oct.	
	18 Oct		Maj PATTERSON assumed comd of A Coy.	
	19 Oct		Aslt Pnr Pl were inserted in to the TAOR by APC and then moved onto NUI NGHE.	
	19 Oct		D Coy held their Mini-Olympics on 3 RAR's oval.	
	20 Oct		Maj PATTERSON of A Coy gave orders for Op CAPITAL, during which A Coy were firstly under op control 4 RAR.	
	20 Oct		Details of Op PETERBOROUGH were received from 1 ATF.	
	20 Oct	1300	A conference with reps from 1 ATF and 1 Fd Sqn determined the requirement for Op PETERBOROUGH. 5 Pl B Coy were to escort an Engr recce party fom LONG TAN village north to BINH GIA.	
	21 Oct	1030	Aslt Pnr Pl returned from NUI NGHE.	
	21 Oct	1030	5 Pl B Coy left on Op PETERBOROUGH.	

1 B P Coy-275/65-55m

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)

Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	21 Oct		All MPC Series 641 currency was changed for the new series, series 661.	
	21 Oct		Sp Coy left for the Peter Badcoe Club.	
	21 Oct		2Lt R.J. SUTTON marched out of the unit.	
	21 Oct		The allowance review committee interviewed a cross section of the Bn.	
	21 Oct		A Coy moved to secure FSPB WILTON by 1700 hrs.	
	22 Oct		2Lt T.E. STANNUS marched into the unit and Maj C.J. ADAMSON marched out.	
	22 Oct		Gen Sir JOHN WILTON KBE CB DSO CCOSC arrived in the unit for lunch in the Offr's Mess.	
			He was accompanied by Gen McDonald and Brig Pearson.	
	22 Oct	1800	5 Pl returned from Op PETERBOROUGH.	
	23 Oct		Normal TAOR ptls were despatched but had nothing to report.	
	24 Oct		Ptls within the TAOR had no significant reports.	
	25 Oct		Nothing was reported from recce and observation ptls within the TAOR.	
	26 Oct		TAOR ptls had nothing to report.	
	26 Oct		A Coy returned to rejoin the Bn. Orders were given for Op CAPITAL.	
	27 Oct		The normal TAOR ptls found nothing significant to report during their recce and obsn.	
	28 Oct		Op CAPITAL began.	
	28 Oct	0645	CO, BC and IO left Tiger 5 in the C and C ship.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF-C 2119 (Adapted).

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1. RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
	28 Oct	0700	Arty preparation of LZ commenced.	
	28 Oct	0735	A Coy air assaulted into the LZ. They met no opposition.	
	28 Oct	0815	to 1115: B Coy moved and secured LZ (RACETRACK). C Coy secured FSPB LION. 102 Bty occupied the posn and D Coy completed their fly in to LION. BnHQ completed move to RACETRACK where B Coy was relieved to move towards the south and clear AO 1 and then AO 3. A Coy commenced move into AO 5 and D Coy into AO 4.	
	28 Oct	1646	C Coy reported the voices of about 12 people in the vicinity of 621817. Mor Pl at RACETRACK engaged the area with no known results.	
	28 Oct		Ni locs: BnHQ RACETRACK, A Coy (-) 620834, 1 Pl 611836, 3 Pl 621835, B Coy 585815, C Coy LION, D Coy (-) 637805, 11 Pl 632798, 12 Pl 640806.	
	29 Oct		B Coy commenced patrolling in AO 3, putting particular emphasis on searching for river crossings on the SONG RAI. They had no contact with en.	
	29 Oct	1100	D Coy patrolled through AO 4 without incident.	
	29 Oct	1100	The Comd 1 ATF visited the CO and informed him that a B 52 strike was to go in on a feature between 670824 and 696842. It was to go in between 0600 hrs and 1100 hrs on 30 Oct. CO ordered Capt SMITH, OC C Coy to commit one pl to fly in and assess the damage. The pl was to be accompanied by Capt SMITH and his FO. D Coy was ordered to	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF-C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
609843	29 Oct	1225	move west of the 64 easting to avoid the air strike. 3 Pl discovered an en base camp of coy size which had not been used for at least a year.	
607844	29 Oct	1330	A Coy found an en camp. It was part of the complex discovered by 3 Pl. 3 houses were found with bunkers underneath and evidence showed it had been used by 6 - 12 people within the previous few hours. The whole complex was 400m square. A Coy were ordered to use engr mini team to destroy with an air strike to follow. Destruction was to take place on 30 Oct.	
	29 Oct		During the day 2Lt SALTER marched from D Coy to Sp Coy and 2Lt MYERS from Sp Coy to BnHQ. Maj B.R. HONNER marched out from Admin Coy to C Coy.	
	29 Oct		Ni locs: A Coy (-) 607844, 1 Pl 607845, 3 Pl 608843, B Coy (-) 581834, 6 Pl 582835, D Coy (-) 639812, 10 Pl 636815, 12 Pl 636812.	
	29 Oct	2120	TF advised that the B52 strike would be delayed 48 hours. C and D Coys were ordered to continue patrolling in their AOs.	
	30 Oct		A Coy remained in the en base camp area while waiting for engr stores to be delivered for demolition. B Coy continued their search of the east bank of the SONG RAI but heavy going which	

This form is to be enclosed with the annexes in AF - C 2119 (Adapted).

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			was impassable in places forced the search to be at some distance from the river.	
			C Coy continued patrolling around FSPB LION, and 9 Pl was sent out to 599805. Standing ptls continued.	
			D Coy started patrolling in AO 7.	
	30 Oct	1345	Gen McDonald and Brig Pearson visited the CO till 1415 hrs.	
609345	30 Oct	0925	3 Pl discovered a coy size en base camp measuring 200m x 100m. It contained two comd bunkers 10' x 12' and comms trench with overhead protection. It showed no recent use except for a small caretaker party.	
645836	30 Oct	1416	10 Pl reported that they were 50m south of an en occupied base camp. Maj HAMMAT deployed the rest of D Coy around the camp and on tracks from it to the north and west.	
	30 Oct	1454	A Coy completed the demolition having blown 10 large bunkers and 4 small bunkers. At 605854 1 Pl found an old camp which had not been used for some time. The bunkers in it were not usable.	
	30 Oct	1530	Maj HONNER arrived at FSPB LION to take over C Coy and Capt RAGGATT assumed comd of Admin Coy.	
	30 Oct	1625	10 Pl entered the en camp and found it unoccupied. Fresh tracks of 2 - 4 men led east south east towards creek. The camp contained one bunker and one wpn pit with fire places	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

COMMANDERS DIARY NARRATIVE

AF - C 2118 (Adapted)
Revised Jun, 1965

UNIT/FORMATION 1 RAR

MONTH AND YEAR OCTOBER 1968

REFERENCE MAP

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

Place and grid reference	Date	Time	Event or information	Annex letter and enclosure number
			and tables. It measured 75m x 50m and was newly built.	
	30 Oct	1700	An air strike went in on an en base camp at 607844. A second air strike followed immediately. Results: 7 bunkers damaged, 2 bunkers uncovered.	
	30 Oct		Ni locs: A Coy 614857, 1 Pl 605854, B Coy 586854, D Coy 633834, 10 Pl 635830, 12 Pl 629835.	
	31 Oct		A, B and D Coys continued patrolling in their respective AOs. C Coy patrolled in AOs 1 and 2.	
635831	31 Oct	0905	D Coy found an unoccupied en base camp measuring 100 x 75m and containing 6 bunkers with another six under construction.	
601853	31 Oct	0930	2 Pl discovered an unoccupied en base camp which, although unused for six months was in good condition. It contained 12 houses with bunkers underneath and was marked with marker balloons for an air strike.	
644829	31 Oct	1128	11 Pl moving with D Coy HQ heard voices and sounds of chopping at 644829. A recce party from 11 Pl moved forward to investigate but were seen. The recce party rushed the en who were in a camp. 1 VC was KIA and 1 VC who had been badly wounded was captured but later DOW (KIA). 1 BAR was captured as well as two transistors and a sewing machine. In this loc 18 bunkers were found.	

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

Revised Jun. 1965

COMMANDING OFFICER Lt Col P.H. BENNETT

1 B P Coy—275/65—55m

ANNEX C/1

MESSAGE FORM

Canberra

File No. R569-1-39....

IMMEDIATE

13 11 00 Z Oct 68

FROM: 1 RAR

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: B COY, SP COY

G.1607

INFO: LIST C LESS SERIALS 2 AND 5,
BC

OP INSTR 3/68 (OP HUNTING HORN)

REF: 1 RAR G.1603 OF 130610Z Oct 68.

ONE. SITUATION.

ALFA. EN FORCES CLN ANX A.

BRAVO. FRIENDLY FORCES CLN

FIRST. OP CAPITAL IN AO DICKSON CONTINUES

SECOND. A SQN 3 CAV REGT IS TO CONDUCT A ROUTE CLEARING
OPERATION WITHIN AO IVAN WITH UNDER COMD 150630H UNTIL REL
ONE COMBAT TEAM 1 FD SQN. UNDER OP CON FROM 150630H UNTIL
REL IS ENGR RECCE OFFR 1 FD SQN CMM C SQN 1 ARMD REGT LO.

TWO. MISSION CLN 1 RAR IS TO PROVIDE ONE RIFLE PL CMM ONE MOR SECT WITH MFC
CMM TRACKER TEAM TO SUPPORT A SQN 3 CAV REGT IN THE CONDUCT OF THE ROUTE
CLEARING OPERATION WITHIN AO IVAN.

THREE. EXECUTION CLN

ALFA. GROUPING. UNDER COMD A SQN 3 CAV REGT FROM 150630H UNTIL
REL ONE PL B COY CMM ONE SECT MOR PL WITH MFC CMM ONE TRACKER TEAM.

BRAVO. TASKS CLN

FIRST. PROVIDE GROUND PROTECTION TO A SQN 3 CAV REGT AND
ENGR RECCE/COMBAT TEAM.

SECOND. ESTABLISH AMBUSHES AT NIGHT.

THIRD. PROVIDE MOR FIRE AND TRACKING SP AS REQUIRED.

CHARLIE. COORD INSTR CLN

FIRST. OP EXPECTED TO COMMENCE 150630H PROBABLE DURATION
TWO DAYS.

SECOND. AO IVAN ANX B.

THIRD. US ADVISER XUYEN MOC IS C/S TIPSYP FARMER 13 ON
51.50 M/CS.

FOURTH. ORDERS AT A SQN 3 CAV REGT 141400H UNLESS OTHER-
WISE NOTIFIED. PL COMD OC TRACKER TEAM AND MFC TO ATTEND.

FIFTH. ASST OPS OFFR TO REP CO 1 RAR AT ORDERS ABOVE.

FOUR. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS CLN A SQN 3 CAV REGT RESPONSIBILITY.

FIVE. COMMAND AND SIGNAL. 1 ATF SOI TO APPLY CMM FURTHER DETAIL BY A SQN
3 CAV REGT.

ANXS. ALFA. EN SIT.

BRAVO. AO IVAN.

PAGE 1 OF 1 PAGES

CLASSIFIED
YES

DRAFTSMAN
CHINN

OFFICE

OPS OFFR

TEL NO

EMPEROR

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIGNATURE AND RANK

[Signature] MAJ

CONFIDENTIAL

ANNEX A TO
1 RAR OP INSTR 3/68
DATED 13 OCT 68

ENEMY SITUATION -- ROUTE 23
PERIOD 1 JUL -- 8 OCT 68

General

1. Route 23 from DAT DO to XUYEN MOC is amber. The area is the scene of continual VC activity.
2. The area remains important to the enemy for the following reasons:
 - a. Easy access to the farmers in legal areas. This allows them to move in and out of both population centres virtually at will.
 - b. Access to vital rice supplies at harvest times, which occur during early November and December this year. 1 ATF operations at this time of the year will cause concern and difficulties to the enemy.
 - c. Route 23 lies across the main NORTH-SOUTH movement routes from the LONG GREEN - LIGHT GREEN - SONG RAI and HO TRAM areas to the areas of THUA TICH and the NORTHERN Province Border.

Enemy

3. Enemy likely to be met would be elements of D445 in up to platoon strength. These units would be engaged mainly on resupply missions. It must be remembered that elements of D445 in company size, and possibly C25, LONG DAT Company, are within easy striking distance of Route 23. Given time they could be expected to conduct harassing and ambush on the road.

Mines

4. Mine areas are listed in Appendix 1 to this Annex.

Conclusion

5. Small groups of enemy could be surprised close to the road. They will be either guerilla forces or transportation groups of impressed civilians.
6. The farmers in the area will have to be treated with caution and undergo a check. It is known there are numbers of illegal residents among them as well as enemy trying to move into DAT DO or XUYEN MOC.

Note: All information of road blocks, mines and contacts given in this Annex is taken from an area 1000 metres to either side of Route 23.

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APPENDIX 1 TO
ANNEX A TO
1 RAR OP INSTR 3/68
DATED 13 OCT 68

ENEMY ACTIVITY ROUTE 23

Activity

1.	<u>Date</u>	<u>Grid Reference</u>	<u>Activity</u>
a.	3 Sep 68	YS494604	Road block. Cleared with no incidents.
b.	6 Sep 68	YS555615	Culvert partly dug away.
c.	9 Sep 68	YS500607	Civilians at DAT DO EASTERN Check point ignored an enemy sign forbidding movement. A mine detonated killing eight civilians, and wounding two civilians and two PF.
d.	16 Sep 68	YS500607	Contact at check point from unk size enemy force. 1 enemy KIA (BC).
e.	21 Sep 68	YS624651	Two road blocks with warning signs. Cleared without incident.
f.	22 Sep 68	YS500607	Small contact with unk sized enemy force. Nil results.
g.	23 Sep 68	YS607640	Estimated two companies attacked 611 RF Company OP with SA and B40.
h.	2 Oct 68	YS497607	Road block - cleared without incident.
i.	4 Oct 68	YS497607	Estimated enemy platoon sighted moving NORTH. Not engaged.

Mines

- 2.
- a. Suspected - YS575635.
 - b. Mine Incidents - YS522614 and YS525638.
 - c. Known Minefields - YS598635, YS602639 and YS608640.

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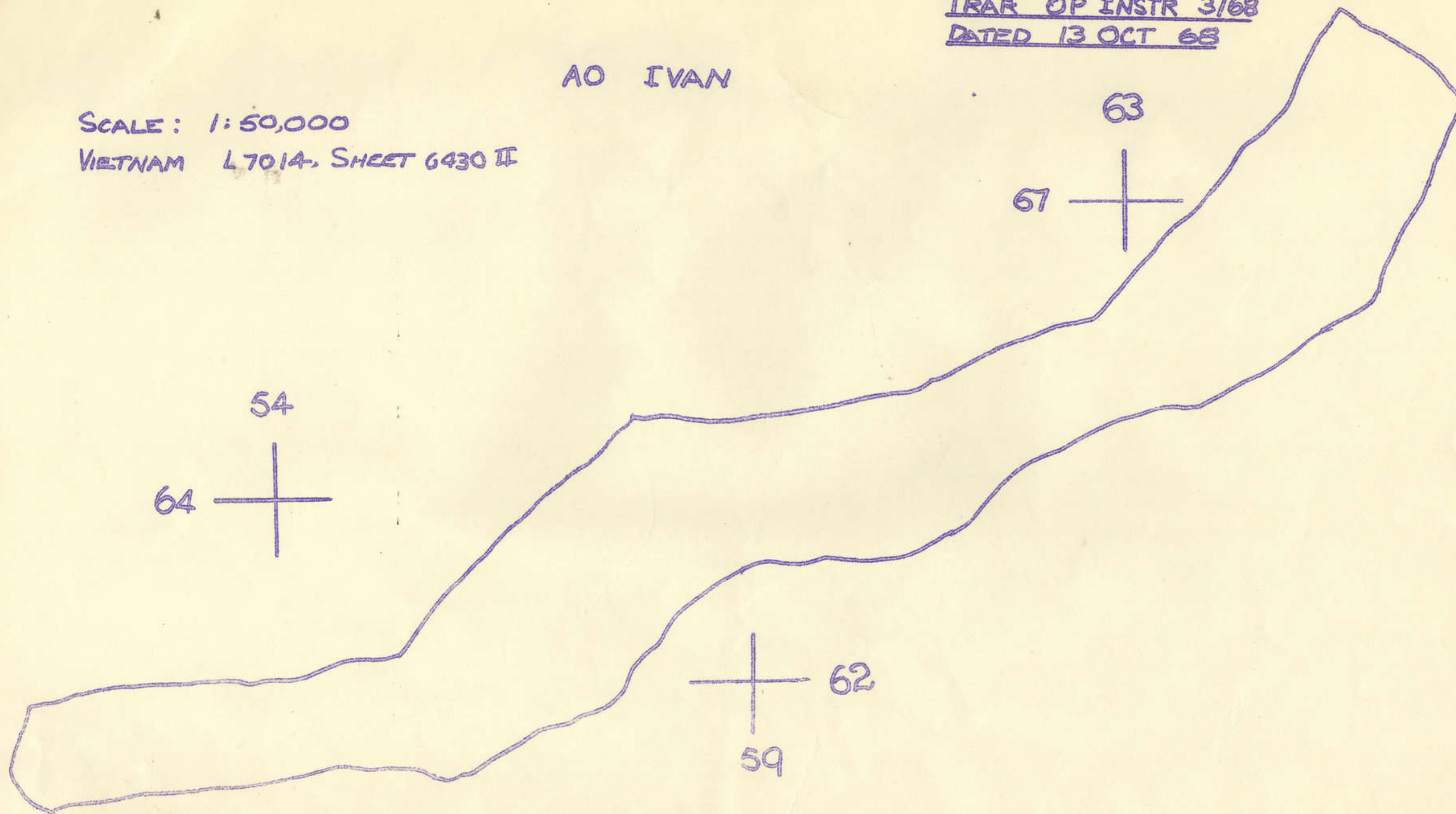
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ANNEX B TO
IRAR OP INSTR 3/68
DATED 13 OCT 68

AO IVAN

SCALE: 1:50,000

VIETNAM L7014, SHEET 6430 II



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ANNEX D/1

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000002

Copy No of 97

HQ 1 ATF
NUI DAT

20 Oct 68

OPS 1606

Op Instr 61/68 (Op PETERBOROUGH)

To: Lt Col P.H. BENNETT, CO 1 RAR

MAP: VIETNAM, Series L7014, Sheet 6430 II, 1 : 50,000.

Time zone used throughout this instruction: HOTEL.

1. Situation.

a. Enemy Forces. No change from Annex A to Frag O No 1 to OpO 59/68 dated 19 Oct 68.

b. Friendly Forces.

(1) 4 RAR Ptls as shown on 1 ATF R617/1/4 of 17 Oct 68.

(2) Op CAPITAL, in AO DICKSON and AO HACKETT, continues.

2. Mission. 1 RAR is to provide protection for engr recce party in 4 RAR Ptl AO and AO PELICAN.

3. Execution.

a. General Outline. Engr recce party is to recce the route for proposed land clearing project between LTL 52 and Route 327.

b. Grouping.

(1) Op con from 211000H Oct

Engr recce party,
1 Fd Sqn

(2) In sp from time of arrival
at FSPB WILTON

104 Fd Bty, 12 Fd Regt

c. Tasks.

(1) Provide one pl str fighting ptl to escort engr recce party over route shown at Annex P.

(2) Coordinate move through 4 RAR Ptl AO with 4 RAR.

d. Coordinating Instructions.

(1) Timings.

(a) Op to commence 211030H Oct.

(b) Op expected to conclude by 231200H Oct.

(2) Tpt to start point to be provided by 1 Fd Sqn.

(3) All requests for fire within 4 RAR Ptl AO are to be cleared by both 4 RAR and 1 RAR until ptl enters AO PELICAN.

(4) 1 RAR is to pass LOCSTATS of ptl to 1 ATF CP and 4 RAR Rear CP hourly while moving.

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(5) Route. Annex P.

(6) AO PELICAN. Annex P.

(7) Ptl is to remain within fd gun range at all times.

4. Administration and Logistics. 1 RAR is responsible.

5. Command and Signal. Ptl to operate on 1 RAR comd net.

Desmond Cpt
for
(C.M.I. PEARSON)
Brig
Comd

Annex: P. Route and AO PELICAN.

Distribution:

List Z

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ANNEX D/2

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000002

Copy No of 97

HQ 1 ATF
NUI DAT

Oct 68

OPS 1565

Op Instr No 60/68 (Op DIAMOND PIN)

To: Maj P.R. BADMAN, OC C Sqn 1 Armd Regt

MAPS: A. VIETNAM, Series L7014, Sheet 6430 - I, II, III and IV.

1. Situation.

a. Enemy Forces. Annex A.

b. Friendly Forces.

- (1) 3 RAR and 4 RAR continue operations in AO DICKSON.
- (2) A Sqn 3 Cav Regt and Atk elms of 1 RAR, 3 RAR and 4 RAR continue ROAD RUNNER operations on Route 15.
- (3) RF/PF posts are loc at:
 - (a) XA BANG (YS453838).
 - (b) XA CAM MY, YS465924 (close to Northern bdry of AO RAPIER).

c. Atts and Dets.

- (1) Under comd from 220700H (Oct)

Coy, 1 RAR.
one sect mor pl
two combat teams,
1 Fd Sqn
one mini team
one tp A Sqn 3 Cav
Regt
two M125A1 mor carriers,
sp wpns tp, A Sqn 3
Cav Regt
- (2) Under op con from 220700H

one H13, 161 (Indep)
Recce Flt
- (3) At priority call from 220630H

one H13, 161 (Indep)
Recce Flt
- (4) On call from 220700H

104 Fd Bty, 12 Fd Regt
161 Fd Bty, 12 Fd Regt

2. Mission. You are to conduct reconnaissance in force in AO RAPIER.

3. Execution.

a. General Outline. You are to develop your own concept of operations and carry out the following tasks:

- (1) Deploy to AO RAPIER by road.
- (2) Conduct RIF operations in AO RAPIER.
- (3) Conduct engr recce of LTL 2 between YS438915 and YS460835.

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(4) Conduct night ambushes in area North of track (YS396867 to YS458901).

(5) Deploy an LO to XA BANG military post (YS453838) by 211700H.

(6) Re-investigate areas in which V Coy and W Coy, 4 RAR found caches during Op HAWKESBURY, i.e. vic YS472894, YS471892, YS335717.

b. A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.

(1) One tp op con to C Sqn 1 Armd Regt from 220700H.

(2) Two M125A1 mor carriers op con to C Sqn 1 Armd Regt from 220700H.

c. 1 Fd Sqn. Provide two combat teams under comd C Sqn 1 Armd Regt from 220700H and one mini team op con tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt from 220700H.

d. 161 (Indep) Recce Flt. Provide at priority call one H13 from 220700H.

e. 1 RAR.

(1) Coy under comd C Sqn 1 Armd Regt from 220700H.

(2) One sect mor pl under comd C Sqn 1 Armd Regt from 220700H.

f. 9 Sqn RAAF. Be prep to resupply C Sqn 1 Armd Regt.

g. Coord Instrs.

(1) Operation is to commence on 22 Oct 68.

(2) AO RAPIER. Annex B.

(3) Liaison. 1 ATF LO loc at BLACKHORSE is C/S 78 on the 1 ATF Comd Net.

4. Administration and Logistics.

a. C Sqn 1 Armd Regt is responsible for resupply.

b. Coord conference held daily at 1400 hrs in DAQMG office HQ 1 ATF.

c. Med. DUSTOFF, on call, through HQ 1 ATF.

5. Command and Signal.

a. Current 1 ATF SOI to apply.

b. The LO at XA BANG is to be C/S 24 on the 1 ATF Comd Net. Comms are to be opened at 211730H. Communications are to be provided by 1 ATF.

/3.

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2.

Ack Instructions: Ack to EBONY 50.

John D Keldie
may for
(R.L. HUGHES)
Brig
Comd

Annex: A. Enemy Situation.
B. AO RAPIER.

Distribution:

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1 RAR ANNEX A TO
4
1 ATF OP INSTR 60/68
DATED 15 OCT 68
16

ENEMY SITUATION

General

1. That portion of LTL 2 within AO RAPIER, between XA BANG Post vic YS453838 and the COURTENAY Plantation airstrip vic YS455915, lies across a major enemy route. Enemy guerrilla and main force units have crossed LTL 2 continually in the past six months. Their interest in, and use of, the area has been evidenced by the number of road blocks built, mine incidents and small contacts with 1 ATF elements.

Road Blocks and Mine Incidents

2. See Appendix 1 to this Annex.
3. A point to note about mine incidents in the area is that some of the mines have been deliberately laid on tracks, and LTL 2 itself, after 1 ATF elements have been through the area.
4. The bulk of mine incidents have occurred on LTL 2 immediately South of the AO boundary but they must be considered for operations in AO RAPIER.

Enemy

5. Recent 1 ATF operations in the West have had several contacts with groups of enemy who have moved from East to West through AO RAPIER. One large transportation group, contacted by 3 RAR at YS370867 on 10 Oct 68, came from the vic YS4489 heading SW to vic YS4187. Their foot tracks and wheeled vehicle tracks were found with a vehicle turnaround point at YS441890. Aerial VR continues to report foot traffic along this axis and the axis of the North Western AO RAPIER boundary and the SUOI SOC. The enemy continued to use this area in spite of 1 ATF operations in the Northern and Eastern HAT DICH.
6. Operations in the North East Province Border area have uncovered large, recently occupied enemy camps. While it is probable that the occupants moved to the North some elements could have moved West to avoid contact.
7. There is a possibility that enemy Main Force, in platoon or company strength, could have been cut off from their units in AO GARRAN and AO DOWNER and remain in AO RAPIER.
8. Enemy groups likely to be met in AO RAPIER will be guerrilla squads, possibly platoons, in camps in the vic of gardens in the area. Past experience has shown these guerrillas usually stay close to the food supplies in this particular area.

Civilians

9. Within the DUC THANH AO civilians are allowed to work above the 80 Northing during daylight hours. They are not supposed to be in the area during curfew hours.
10. North of the DUC THANH AO civilians in the area are illegal residents and squatters on the plantations. They also supply the enemy with food from their gardens, willingly and otherwise.
11. Civilians living in houses in the small hamlet at YS458884 are illegal residents. Also, several reports have been received that the hamlet itself is a Commo Liaison Station, food collection and distribution point. The reports state that there are several tunnels and caches in the hamlet and vic.

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APPENDIX 1 TO
ANNEX A TO
1 RAR 1 ATT OP INSTR 60/68
DATED 15 OCT 68
16

MINES AND ROAD BLOCKS

Unit	Date	Grid Reference	Activity
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	12 Jul 68	YS455872	Road block of grass and mud.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	12 Jul 68	YS455869	Road block of grass and mud.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	14 Jul 68	YS463818	Road block on LTL 2 made of grass and bushes.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	14 Jul 68	YS459834	Culvert blown on LTL 2, further rd block 200 metres North.
1 RAR	23 Jul 68	YS465781	Pressure type mine laid by local defence det causing light damage to APC.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	30 Jul 68	YS465796	Roadblock of logs and mud.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	3 Aug 68	YS416879	Tank C Sqn hit mine - damage to front suspension.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	6 Aug 68	YS464791	Tank hit M16 mine on LTL 2 - laid after move of C Sqn to NUI DAT - no damage or cas.
4 RAR	7 Aug 68	YS464796	2 Tp C Sqn cleared road block made of logs - 2 en seen and engaged. Nil results.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	17 Aug 68	YS464797 YS464795	VR sighted 2 road blocks, one of mud and other of logs.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	18 Aug 68	YS462819) YS462818) YS462821)	C Sqn reported road blocks at these locs.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	18 Aug 68	YS453856	Road block LTL 2 - five more reported further along the road.
3 RAR	20 Aug 68	YS4471	Elms of 2 Tp A Sqn clearing road block and were fired on by unk number of en. Fire returned. Nil results.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	21 Aug 68	YS463814	Road block seen by VR.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	23 Aug 68	YS464800	Road block.
Arty	25 Aug 68	YS465796	Road block of logs and trench across road.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	30 Aug 68	YS463815	Road block.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	1 Sep 68	YS462815	Road block.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	4 Sep 68	YS464808	Road block with trench dug on each side of road.

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(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	11 Sep 68	YS463798	2 road blocks of branches, 3 to 4' high, covering whole road.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	11 Sep 68	YS462812	Road block, three trenches.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	15 Sep 68	YS465796	Tank hit mine - minor damage.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	15 Sep 68	YS464798	C Sqn located a mine - 20 lbs explosives.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	18 Sep 68	YS464804	Tank hit mine. Mine poss 155mm blind.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	19 Sep 68	YS465791	Engrs found booby trapped grenade.
RAAF	29 Sep 68	YS463802	Road block logs and mud.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	1 Oct 68	YS465798	Trenches blocking road.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	4 Oct 68	YS465799	Road block.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	11 Oct 68	YS464798	Culvert blown.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	12 Oct 68	YS464806	Road block of dirt.
ALO	13 Oct 68	YS463814	Road block.

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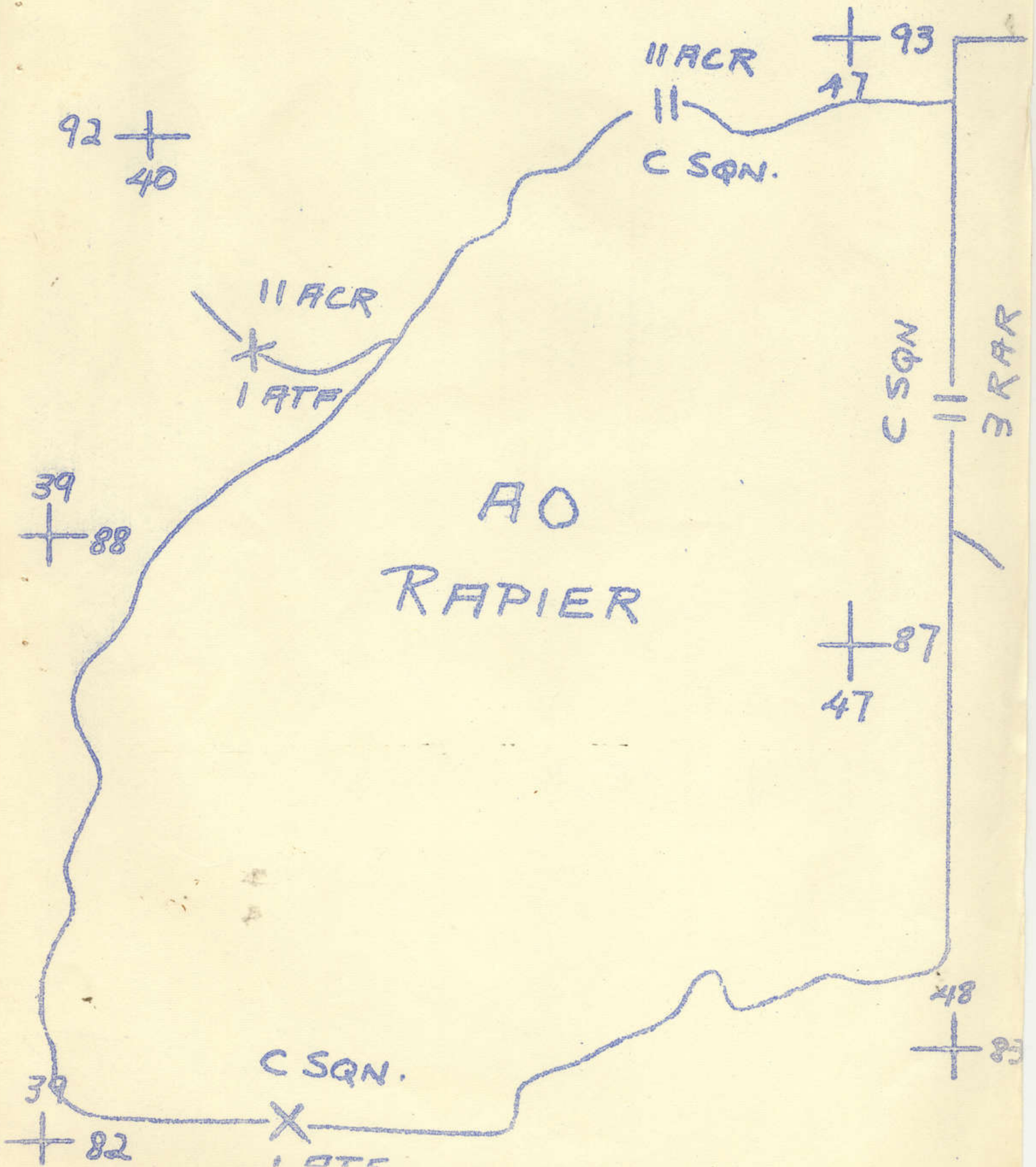
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+97
40 OP DIAMOND PIN

+97
48

REF. MAPS: .
6430 I, II, III, IV.

ANNEX B
TO OP. INST 4/68
DATED 16 OCT 68



ANNEX C/2.

Copy No.....of.....

1 RAR
AF AN PHU

16 Oct 68

OPS 1629

Op Instr No 4/68 (Op DIAMOND PIN)

TO: Maj K.A. PATTERSON, OC A Coy 1 RAR.

Reference: A. 1 RAR G.1624 of 150325Z.

B. Maps VIETNAM Series L7014 Sheet 6430 - I, II, III and IV.

1. Situation

a. En Forces. Anx A.

b. Friendly Forces

(1) OP CAPITAL in AO DICKSON continues.

(2) ROAD RUNNER ops continue on Route 15.

(3) C Sqn 1 Armd Regt is to conduct a recce in force in AO RAPIER (Anx B) with:

(a) Under comd from
220700H (Oct)

One coy, one sect
mor pl, 1 RAR.
Two combat teams,
one mini team 1 Fd
Sqn.

(b) Under op con from
220700H

One tp, two mor
carriers, sp wpns
tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.

(c) At priority call
from 220630H

One H13, 161 (Inden)
Recce Flt.

(d) On call from
220700H

104 Fd Bty, 12 Fd
Regt, 161 Fd Bty,
12 Fd Regt.

2. Mission

Your Coy with one sect Mor Pl is placed under comd C Sqn 1 Armd Regt from 220700H (Oct) to support C Sqn 1 Armd Regt's movement to/from and operations in AO RAPIER.

3. Execution

a. Gen outline. OC C Sqn 1 Armd Regt has been instructed to develop his own concept of operations and carry out the following tasks:

(1) Deploy to AO RAPIER by road.

(2) Conduct recce in force in AO RAPIER.

(3) Conduct engr recce of LTL 2 between YS 438915 and YS 460835.

(4) Conduct night ambushes in area NORTH of track YS 396867 to YS 458901.

(5) Re-investigate areas in which V and W Coys 4 RAR found caches during Op HAWKESBURY in vic YS 472894, YS 471892.

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2.

b. Coord Instrs

- (1) Op is to commence 22 Oct 68, expected duration 5 days.
- (2) AO RAPIER - Anz B.
- (3) Orders are to be issued 21 Oct 68 by OC C Sqn 1 Armd Regt. You and your MFC are to attend. CO 1 RAR is to be represented by the Ops Offr.


4. Administration and Logistics

- a. C Sqn 1 Armd Regt is responsible for resupply.
- b. Med. DUSTOFF, arranged by C Sqn 1 Armd Regt.


5. Command and Signal

- a. Current 1 ATF SOI are to apply.
- b. Further details by C Sqn 1 Armd Regt.

Ack Instrs: AC.


(P.H. BENNETT)
Lt Col
CO

Authentication.


(D.A. CHURN)
Maj
Ops Offr

Annexures: A. En Sit.
B. AO RAPIER.

For Info: Sp Coy, Admin Coy.

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ENEMY SITUATION

General

1. That portion of LTL 2 within AO RAPIER, between XA BANG Post vic YS453838 and the COURTENAY Plantation airstrip vic YS455915, lies across a major enemy route. Enemy guerilla and main force units have crossed LTL 2 continually in the past six months. Their interest in, and use of, the area has been evidenced by the number of road blocks built, mine incidents and small contacts with 1 ATF elements.

Road Blocks and Mine Incidents

2. See Appendix 1 to this Annex.

3. A point to note about mine incidents in the area is that some of the mines have been deliberately laid on tracks, and LTL 2 itself, after 1 ATF elements have been through the area.

4. The bulk of mine incidents have occurred on LTL 2 immediately South of the AO boundary but they must be considered for operations in AO RAPIER.

Enemy

5. Recent 1 ATF operations in the West have had several contacts with groups of enemy who have moved from East to West through AO RAPIER. One large transportation group, contacted by 3 RAR at YS370867 on 10 Oct 68, came from the vic YS4489 heading SW to vic YS4187. Their foot tracks and wheeled vehicle tracks were found with a vehicle turnaround point at YS441890. Aerial VR continues to report foot traffic along this axis and the axis of the North Western AO RAPIER boundary and the SUOI SOC. The enemy continued to use this area in spite of 1 ATF operations in the Northern and Eastern HAT DICH.

6. Operations in the North East Province Border area have uncovered large, recently occupied enemy camps. While it is probable that the occupants moved to the North some elements could have moved West to avoid contact.

7. There is a possibility that enemy Main Force, in platoon or company strength, could have been cut off from their units in AO GARRAN and AO DOWNER and remain in AO RAPIER.

8. Enemy groups likely to be met in AO RAPIER will be guerilla squads, possibly platoons, in camps in the vic of gardens in the area. Past experience has shown these guerillas usually stay close to the food supplies in this particular area.

Civilians

9. Within the DUC THANH AO civilians are allowed to work above the 80 Northing during daylight hours. They are not supposed to be in the area during curfew hours.

10. North of the DUC THANH AO civilians in the area are illegal residents and squatters on the plantations. They also supply the enemy with food from their gardens, willingly and otherwise.

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APPENDIX 1 TO
 1 RAR OP INSTR 4/68
 DATED 16 OCT 68

MINES AND ROAD BLOCKS

Unit	Date	Grid Reference	Activity
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	12 Jul 68	YS455872	Road block of grass and mud.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	12 Jul 68	YS455869	Road block of grass and mud.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	14 Jul 68	YS463818	Road block on LTL 2 made of grass and bushes.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	14 Jul 68	YS459834	Culvert blown on LTL 2, further rd block 200 metres North.
1 RAR	23 Jul 68	YS465781	Pressure type mine laid by local defence det causing light damage to APC.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	30 Jul 68	YS465796	Road block of logs and mud.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	3 Aug 68	YS416879	Tank C Sqn hit mine - damage to front suspension.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	6 Aug 68	YS464791	Tank hit M16 mine on LTL 2 - laid after move of C Sqn to NUI DAT - no damage or cas.
4 RAR	7 Aug 68	YS464796	2 Tp C Sqn cleared road block made of logs - 2 en seen and engaged. Nil results.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	17 Aug 68	YS464797 YS464795	VR sighted 2 road blocks, one of mud and other of logs.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	18 Aug 68	YS462819) YS462818) YS462821)	C Sqn reported road blocks at these locs.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	18 Aug 68	YS453856	Road block LTL 2 - five more reported further along the road.
3 RAR	20 Aug 68	YS4471	Elms of 2 Tp A Sqn clearing road block and were fired on by unk number of en. Fire returned. Nil results.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	21 Aug 68	YS463814	Road block seen by VR.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	23 Aug 68	YS464800	Road block.
Arty	25 Aug 68	YS465796	Road block of logs and trench across road.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	30 Aug 68	YS463815	Road block.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	1 Sep 68	YS462815	Road block.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	4 Sep 68	YS464808	Road block with trench dug on each side of road.

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2.

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	11 Sep 68	YS463798	2 road blocks of branches, 3 to 4' high, covering whole road.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	11 Sep 68	YS462812	Road block, three trenches.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	15 Sep 68	YS465796	Tank hit mine - minor damage.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	15 Sep 68	YS464798	C Sqn located a mine - 20 lb explosives.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	18 Sep 68	YS464804	Tank hit mine. Mine poss 155mm blind.
C Sqn 1 Armd Regt	19 Sep 68	YS465791	Engrs found booby trapped grenade.
RAAF	29 Sep 68	YS463802	Road block logs and mud.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	1 Oct 68	YS465798	Trenches blocking road.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	4 Oct 68	YS465799	Road block.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	11 Oct 68	YS464798	Culvert blown.
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	12 Oct 68	YS464806	Road block of dirt.
ALO	13 Oct 68	YS463814	Road block.

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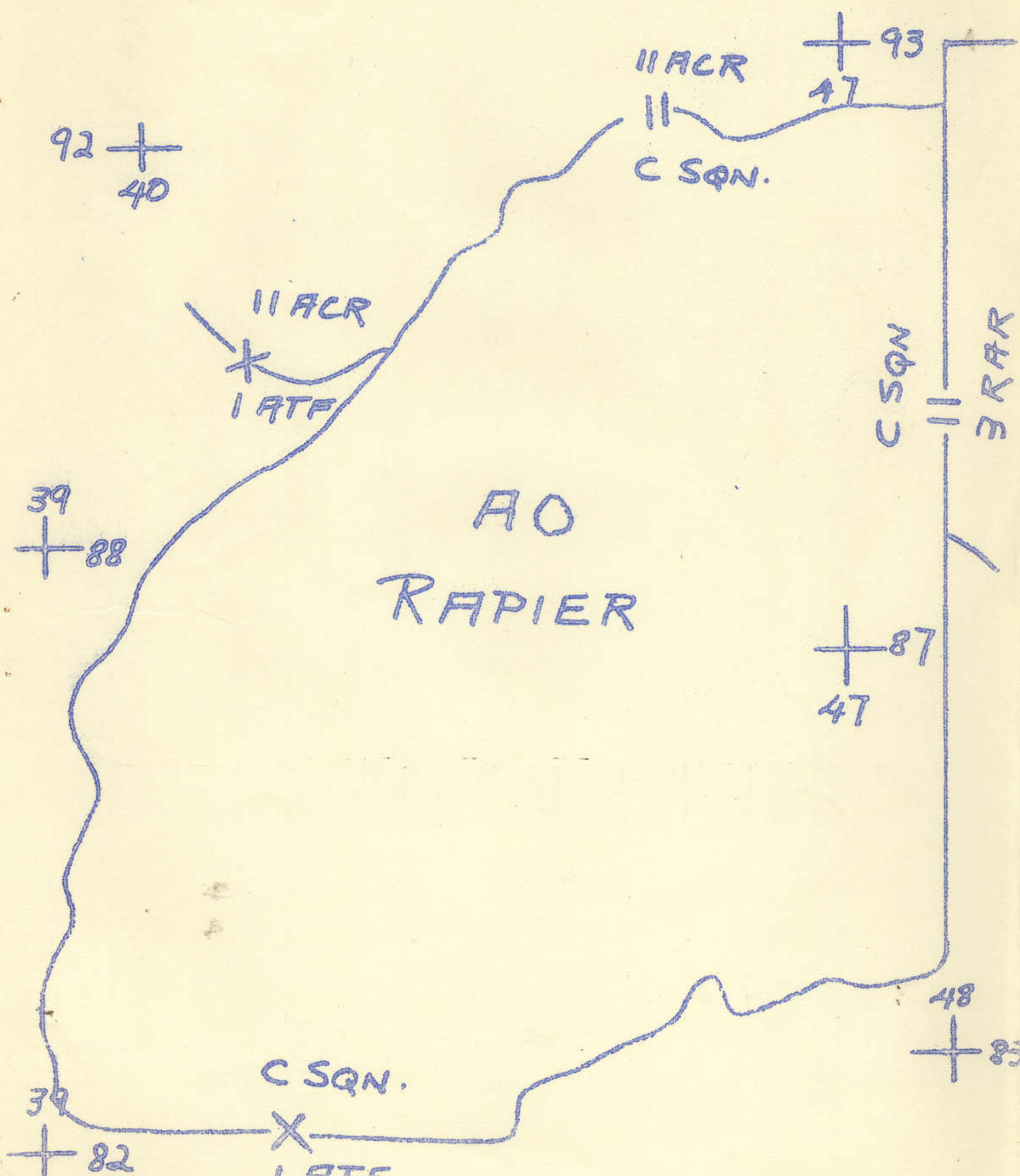
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+97
40 OP DIAMOND PIN

+97
48

REF. MAPS: .
6430 I, II, III, IV.

ANNEX B
TO OP. INST 4/68
DATED 16 OCT 68



ANNEX C/3.

MESSAGE FORM

Oct 68

PRIORITY

16 0710 Z

FROM

1 RAR

CONFIDENTIAL

TO.

A Coy, Sp Coy, A Sqn 3 Cav Regt

G.1648

INFO

Admin Coy, CO, 2IC

Warning Order (.) Op DIAMOND PIN cancelled **task** now to secure FSPB
WILTON YS 5377 on 21 Oct 68 for fly in of 4 FAR DS Bty on 22 Oct (.)
Mer Sect U Comd (.) Written orders issued 19 Oct 68 (.) No move before
210530H (.) All move by APC

DAVIES

Adjt

Emp

Dave

Capt.

ANNEX 2/4.

CONFIDENTIAL

R569-1-40

Copy No 09 of 16 copies

1 RAR
AP AN PHU

20 Oct 68

OPS 1657

Op Instr 5/68 (Op CAPITAL)

To: Maj K.A. PATTERSON OC A Coy

Reference: A. Map VIETNAM Series L7014, Sheets 6430 I and II.
B. HQ 1 ATF OpO 59/68 (Op CAPITAL).
C. 1 ATF Op Instr 62/68 (Op PISTOL BALL) Copy to A Coy only.

Time zone used throughout this order: HOTEL

1. Situation

a. En Forces. Anx A.

b. Friendly Forces

(1) 3 RAR is to be extracted by air from AO DICKSON to NUI DAT commencing 220730H.

(2) 4 RAR is to receive A Coy 1 RAR with one sect Mor Pl 1 RAR under op con from time of arrival FSPB WILTON 22 Oct 68. Tasks for 4 RAR:

(a) Deploy by ground and air into AO HACKETT.

(b) Conduct RIF ops in AO HACKETT.

(3) C Sqn 1 Armd Regt task Op PISTOL BALL (Ref C) in vicinity FSPB WILTON 23 Oct 68.

(4) A Sqn 3 Cav Regt provides one tp and two mor carriers under op A Coy 1 RAR.

(5) 12 Fd Regt

(a) 161 Fd Bty return: NUI DAT by air 22 Oct 68.

(b) 104 Fd Bty redeploys from FSPB FLINDERS to FSPB WILTON on 22 Oct 68.

(6) 1 Fd Sqn

(a) Two combat teams remain under comd 4 RAR.

(b) One combat team to under op con A Coy 1 RAR.

(7) US Army Avn to provide six CH 47 for redeployment 104 Fd Bty to FSPB WILSON 22 Oct and transfer of gun ammo FSPBs FLINDERS/BASS to WILTON on 22 Oct 68.

c. Atts and Dets

(1) Under comd A Coy
from 210630H Oct 68

One sect Mor Pl

(2) Under op con from 210630H
Oct 68

One tp and two mor carriers
A Sqn 3 Cav Regt, one
combat team 1 Fd Sqn

CONFIDENTIAL

.../2.

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2.

- (3) At priority call from
210630H (for deployment)

One H13
161 (Indep) Recce Flt

2. Mission. A Coy 1 RAR is to support 4 RAR ops AO HACKETT by securing FSPB WILTON on 22 Oct 68.

3. Execution

a. Grouping as given para 1 sub para c above.

b. Tasks

(1) Deploy by rd to seize and estb FSPB WILTON (YS 5476) by 211700H Oct 68.

(2) Comd FSPB WILTON until rel by HQ 1 ATF.

c. Coord Instr

(1) Recce by UH-1 approved for 201130H Oct 68 TIGER FIVE.

(2) Liaison visit HQ 4 RAR at FSPB TRETHAM YS 505866 approved for 211130H Oct 68 (approx).

(3) AO HACKETT Anx B.

(4) Pl activities should be restr to immediate open country about FSPB WILTON unless otherwise directed by 4 RAR.

4. Administration and Logistics

a. Def Stores

(1) Fol to be del to FSPB WILTON by rd on 21 Oct, qty 140 coils concertina, qty 600 pickets 8 ft, qty 20,000 sandbags.

(2) Stores to be provided by 21 Engr Sp Tp.

(3) TFMA tpt, timings later.

5. Command and Signal

a. No change except Points of Origin for AO HACKETT to be issued separately 20 Oct.

b. 4 RAR SOI to be issued 20 Oct.

Ack Instrs: ACK by phone.

(P.H. BENNETT)
Lt Col
CO



Authentication

(D.A. CHINN)
Maj
Ops Offr

Anxs: A. En Sit.
B. AO HACKETT.

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.../3.

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3.

For Info: Admin Coy
Sp Coy

Copy Nos
2
3

Internal: CO
2IC
Ops Offr
BC
Adjut
IO
Comds Diary
Spare

4
5
6
7
8
9
10 - 13
14 - 16

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ANNEX A TO
1 RAR OP INSTR 5/68
DATED 20 OCT 68

SITUATION - ENEMY FORCES

1. Enemy units have continued to avoid contact by moving SOUTHEAST and NORTHEAST away from our operations. The SOUTHEAST move has been indicated by heavy track activity noted by aerial VR. People Sniffer readouts also increased markedly on 16 Oct 68 along the SONG RAI, vic YS5781, YS5872 and YS5873. Track activity is also heavy to the NORTH-EAST. On 17 Oct 68 People Sniffer readouts in the area YS6091 - YS6086 - YS6591 - YS6586 gave five major hotspots indicating the presence of large groups. A second People Sniffer Mission on 18 Oct 68 recorded two hotspots at YS619908 and YS612902, plus extensive bunkers at YS612902.
2. Documents captured to date identify elements of Rear Services Group 84, but readout of some of these also indicates the presence in the area of elements of LONG KHANH District Guerilla units. Although several of the enemy killed have been NVA soldiers, and tentatively identified as members of 274 VC Regt, the Main Force units will probably continue to avoid contact. However, small parties of local guerillas, transport, rear service and administrative elements can be expected to be encountered.
3. Small parties of enemy troops may be caught between our leading elements and the SONG RAI, which is now in full flood and presents a considerable obstacle to movement. However, there are indications that some enemy troops have already crossed the river and are now located between the SONG RAI and Route 328. This area, and further EAST towards BAU HAM Lake (YS6784) is a traditional base area for 84 Rear Services Group and Ba Bien Province Units/sub-units.

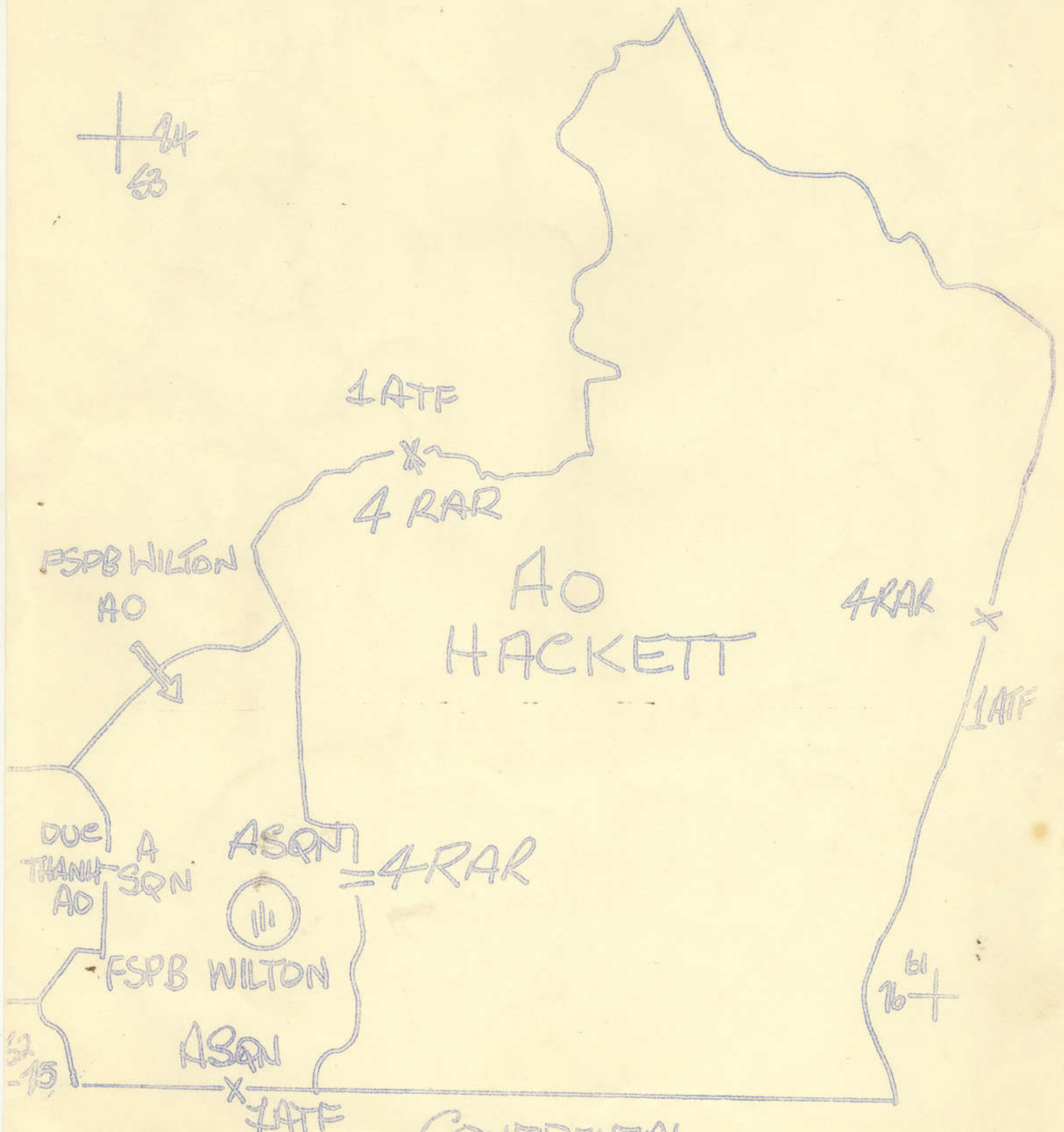
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QP CAPITAL

MAP: VIETNAM
SERIES L1014
SHEETS 6430 II
SCALE 1:50,000

ANNEX B TO
1RAR OP INST 5/68
DATED 20 OCT 68

84
53



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ANNEX C/5

MESSAGE FORM

Oct 68

PRIORITY

26 0200Z

FROM

1 RAR

CONFIDENTIAL

TO

A Coy, B Coy, C Coy, D Coy, Sp Coy, Mor Pl,
Atk Pl, Admin Coy, CO, Ops Offr, 2IC, IO, RMO,
QM, TO, A Adj, BC.
102 Fd Bty, 1 Fd Sqn, 161 (Indep) Recce Flt.

G.1696

Warning Order (.) OF CAPITAL RIF Ops AO WATSON (.) Orders
Bn conference room 270900H (.) No move before 280600H excl
A Coy (seperate instrs)(.) Maps issued 270845H comm deployment
by air (.) ACK

DAVIES

Adj, t

Emp

P. Davies

Capt

ANNEX C/6.

MESSAGE FORM

PRIORITY

26 0700Z Oct 68

FROM: 1 RAR

CONFIDENTIAL

TO: A COY B COY C COY D COY SP COY MOR PL
A-TK PL ASLT PNR PL CO 2IC OPS OFFR
ADJT IO QM RMO TO A/ADJT BC 102 FD BTY
1 FD SQN 161 (INDEP) RECCE FLT

G.1700

OP CAPITAL LIF OPS AC WATSON (.) 1 RAR WING ORDER G 1696 CTH 02 (.)
ONE (.) AIR PLANNING CONF IN CONF ROOM 271100 HRS WITH AIR STAFF/AHC
COMD (.) OPS OFFR BC ONLY TO ATTEND (.) ANTICIPATE AIR COORD CONF
WITH ALL COY COMDS AT 271400 HRS CONF ROOM (.)
TWO (.) FURTHER ADMIN DETAIL CMM TFMA INCL UNIT AND SUB-UNITS ECHS
DEPLOYS NOT BEFORE 3 NOV 68 INTO FSPB LION TO BE ESTB BY 1 RAR 28 OCT

CHINN

OPS OFFR

EMPEROR

Maj

ANNEX C/7.

CONFIDENTIAL

4 RAR

Copy No 18 of 70 copies

Ops 1703

1 RAR
AP AN PHU

OpO 18/68 Op CAPITAL.

261325 H Oct 68

Ref: A. 1 ATF OpO 59/68 (OP CAPITAL) of 10 Oct 68.
B. Frag O No 3 to ref A of 250730Z Oct 68.
C. Map VIETNAM Series L7014, 6430 Sheets I and II, 1:50,000.

Time zone used throughout this order: HOTEL.

1. Situation:

a. En forces. Anx A.

b. Friendly Forces

(1) 3 RAR continues Op HARVEST in AO EVERGLADE.

(2) 4 RAR

(a) Cont ops in AO WODEN.

(b) Prep to rel remainder of force in FSPB WILTON to NUI DAT by rd commencing 270800H.

(c) Prep to extract to NUI DAT by air commencing 300730H.

(3) C Sqn 1 Armd Regt grouping no change except A Coy 1 RAR, 3 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt, A Bty 2/35 Arty (US) come under op con C Sqn 1 Armd Regt for mov. from FSPB WILTON to NUI DAT. Tasks:

(a) Cont ops as ordered by 4 RAR until 270800H.

(b) Comd and con extraction of force from FSPB WILTON to NUI DAT on 27 Oct 68.

(4) A Sqn 3 Cav Regt cont ops as ordered by 4 RAR and pass to op con C Sqn from commencement of extraction FSPB WILTON on 27 Oct 68.

c. Atts and Dets

Under comd from 280630H

Remaining in DS

In sp from 280630H and at priority call from 280830H to 281030H.

Three combat teams 1 Fd Sqn

102 Fd Bty, 12 Fd Regt

One H13, 161 (Indep) Recce Flt

2. Mission. To conduct RIF ops in AO WATSON commencing by 281200H.

3. Execution.

a. Gen Outline

(1) A Coy flies in, secures BZ SLOW TIME, fol by B Coy which moves to secure Bn HQ Gp LZ RACE TRACK. C Coy lands SLOW TIME and moves to secure FSPB LION.

(2) Mor Pl flies into RACE TRACK with Bn HQ Gp which takes over security from B Coy.

(3) C Coy secures FSPB LION, fol by 102 Fd Bty and D Coy fly-in.

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.../2.

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2.

(4) A, B and D Coys commence RIF ops.

b. A Coy

(1) Grouping

Remaining under comd

FO's party, MFC,
interpreter

Under comd from 280630H

One combat team, 1 Fd
Sqn

Reverting to under comd
Mor Pl 1 RAR from arrival
NUI DAT 27 Oct

One sect, Mor Pl 1 RAR

(2) Tasks

(a) Conduct air aslt into SLOW TIME and secure SLOW TIME for fly-in of B and C Coys.

(b) Conduct RIF ops in AOs 5, 8, 11 and 14.

c. B Coy

(1) Grouping

Remaining under comd

FO's party, MFC,
interpreter

Under comd from 280630H

One combat team, 1 Fd
Sqn

(2) Tasks

(a) Second coy to fly-in to SLOW TIME.

(b) Secure Bn HQ Gp LZ RACE TRACK.

(c) On Bn HQ Gp taking over def of RACE TRACK, conduct RIF ops in AOs 1, 3, 6, 10 and 13.

d. C Coy

(1) Grouping

Remaining under comd

FO's party, MFC,
interpreter

(2) Tasks

(a) Third coy to fly-in to SLOW TIME.

(b) Secure FSPB LION for fly-in of 102 Fd Bty, D Coy and from 3 Nov, HQ 1 ATF, TFMA incl echs. One 106mm RCL and one 90mm RCL less crews are allotted from A-Tk Pl for def FSPB LION.

(c) Ptl in AOs 1, 2 and 3 as FSPB LION Ptl AO fol exit of B and D Coys into other AOs.

e. D Coy

(1) Grouping

Remaining under comd

FO's party, MFC,
interpreter

Under comd from 280630H

One combat team, 1 Fd Sqn

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.../3.

3.

(2) Tasks

(a) Fly-in to FSPB LION fol securing by C Coy and fly-in of 102 Fd Bty.

(b) Conduct RIF ops in AOs 4, 7, 9 and 12.

f. Sp Coy

(1) Grouping. See pl grouping below.

(2) Tasks

(a) Fly-in to RACE TRACK, secured by B Coy.

(b) Take over security of RACE TRACK from B Coy.

(c) Provide protection for Bn HQ at RACE TRACK.

g. Mor Pl(1) Grouping

Reverting to under comd
from arrival A Coy at
NUI DAT 27 Oct

One sect Mor Pl

(2) Tasks

(a) Mor Pl less one sect to be deployed with Bn HQ Gp at RACE TRACK.

(b) One sect remains NUI DAT.

(c) Provide fire sp as directed incl C Coy securing of FSPB LION.

h. A-Tk Pl(1) Grouping

(a) Two 106mm RCL with vehs and crews remain under op con A Sqn 3 Cav Regt for convoy escort tasks from NUI DAT.

(b) Remainder incl dogs and handlers with Bn HQ Gp.

(2) Tasks

(a) As directed by RSO for def of RACE TRACK fol fly-in.

(b) Provide 2 x 90mm RCLs for local def RACE TRACK.

(c) Assist with local protection Bn HQ.

(d) Provide tracker team for tasks as directed.

(e) Provide one 106mm RCL and one 90mm RCL less crews to C Coy.

i. Aslt Pnr Pl

(1) Grouping. Bn HQ Gp.

(2) Tasks

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4.

- (a) As directed by RSO for def of RACE TRACK fol fly-in.
 - (b) Assist with local protection of Bn HQ.
 - (c) Const Bn CP.
 - (d) Carry one COBRA and two chain saws.
 - (e) Have two flame throwers on standby at NUI DAT.
- j. Interpreters. One under comd each rifle coy and Bn HQ Gp.
- k. Base Def. SOP. Assume con Bn CP at 271200H Oct and take over responsibility standing ptl FORT COURAGE YS 431683 from ni 27/28 Oct inclusive.
- l. 102 Fd Bty
- (1) Move to FSPB LION by air morning 28 Oct.
 - (2) Bty recce offr moves with C Coy in securing FSPB LION.
 - (3) 104 Fd Bty at FSPB FLINDERS provides:
 - (a) LZ prep SLOW TIME.
 - (b) Fire sp for B Coy in securing RACE TRACK.
 - (c) DF requirements SLOW TIME, RACE TRACK until 102 Fd Bty deploys FSPB LION.
 - (4) Fire plan issued separately.
 - (5) Provide fire sp as required.
- m. Combat Engr Teams 1 Fd Sqn
- (1) Grouping. One combat team under comd each A, B and D Coys from 280630H.
 - (2) Tasks. Be prep to const winch sites, LPs and to destroy en installations.
- n. Air Sp
- (1) 161 (Indep) Recce Flt. One H13 in sp from 280630H and at priority call from 280830H to 281030H to relieve C and C UH-I while refuelling.
 - (2) 9 Sqn RAAF
 - (a) AHC incl C and C UH-I
 - (b) Resupply sorties and DUSTOFF back up.
 - (3) US Army Avn. Normal DUSTOFF and LFT on request through HQ 1 ATF.
- o. Coord Instr
- (1) AOs. See marked maps and Anx B.
 - (2) Liaison. 1 ATF LO at XUAN LOC (YT 4509).
 - (3) Timings. Fly-in to AO WATSON to commence 280730H Oct.

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.../5.

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5.

(4) Air Mov. Air coord conf 271400H, air mov table to be issued separately.

(5) Order of Fly-in. A Coy, B Coy, C Coy, Bn HQ Gp, 102 Fd Bty, D Coy.

(6) LZ - PZ. PZ - KANGAROO
LZ - A, B, C Coys SLOW TIME.
LZ - Bn HQ Gp RACE TRACK
LZ - D Coy FSPB LION

(7) LZ Assy Areas - SLOW TIME

A Coy NE side of LZ and NORTH of track
B Coy SOUTH side of LZ
C Coy EAST side of LZ and SOUTH of track.

4.

Administration and Logistics

a. General

- (1) It is planned that fwd TFMA will be deployed on 3 Nov 68.
- (2) 1 RAR will deploy a fwd echelon on 3 Nov 68.
- (3) Resup will be direct from NUI DAT until fwd TFMA is established.

b. Ammo

- (1) Normal first line is to be carried.
- (2) Reserve of one first line is to be held under con of OC Admin Coy at TIGER 5.
- (3) Reserve is to be relocated with the fwd echelon when it deploys.

c. Rats

- (1) Each soldier is to carry four days combat rats.
- (2) Each soldier is to carry an emergency ration.

d. Water

- (1) Every soldier is to depart NUI DAT with four full water bottles.
- (2) Maximum use is to be made of natural sources and water from these sources is to be filtered and sterilized.
- (3) It is anticipated that a water point will be established in the FSPB when fwd TFMA is deployed.

e. Radio Batteries. Three batteries per radio are to be carried.

f. Def Stores. The delivery of def stores to FSPB and Bn HQ on 28 Oct has been arranged. Bids for additional stores are to be submitted as normal.

g. Med

- (1) RAP is to be loc with Bn HQ.

CONFIDENTIAL

.../6.

CONFIDENTIAL

6.

(2) Malaria Precautions. The following are to be strictly observed:

- (a) Paludrine is to be taken twice daily as per SOPs.
- (b) Shirts with sleeves rolled down are to be worn at all times.
- (c) Mosquito nets are to be used whenever possible and are to be erected by 1830 hrs and tucked in all around bedding.
- (d) Mosquito repellent is to be applied to exposed skin every three hours during the hours of darkness.
- (e) Dapsone trial is to continue during the operation and coy trials officers are to draw supplies from Bn 2IC.

(3) Anti miting

- (a) To be carried out under supervision of an offr/NCO before departure and to be reapplied every 7 days.
- (b) Each section kit bag is to contain a tin of anti mite spray.

h. Special Stores. Four marker balloons are to be held at Bn HQ under con of AQ.

5. Command and Signals

a. Bn HQ

(1) CO's party in RAAF C and C UH-1 AM 28 Oct at TIGER FIVE. Join Bn HQ at RACE TRACK on completion D Coy fly-in.

(2) Bn HQ move to RACE TRACK fol fly-in of Sp Coy. Ops Offr to operate in H-13 when C and C UH-1 is refuelling.

b. Comd FSPB LION. OC C Coy on arrival 28 Oct until arrival 1 ATF not before 3 Nov 68.

c. Comd RACE TRACK. RSO from arrival 28 Oct.

d. Radio. SOIs. Comms normal.

e. Line. Sig Pl in RACE TRACK, C Coy in FSPB LION for present grouping.

f. POC issued separately.

g. Nicknames

LZ YS 593821 SLOW TIME
LZ YS 598817 RACE TRACK
LZ YS 613818 FSPB LION

Ack Instrs: ACK by tele Bn HQ.

Authentication

(P.H. BENNETT)

Lt Col

CO

(D.A. CHINN)

Maj

Ops Offr

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.../7.

Anxs: A. En Sit.

B. AO Boundaries.

Distribution:

	<u>Copy No</u>
A Coy	1
B Coy	2
C Coy	3
D Coy	4
Sp Coy	5
Admin Coy	6
Mor Pl	7
Sig Pl	8
A-Tk Pl	9
Aslt Pnr Pl	10
12 Fd Regt	
1 Fd Sqn	11 - 12
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	13
No 9 Sqn RAAF	14
	15 - 16
3 RAR	
4 RAR	17
5 RAR	18
6 RAR	19
9 RAR	20
	21
HQ 1 ATF	
	22 - 46
CO	
2IC	47
Ops Offr	48
BC	49
Adjt	50
IO	51
QM	52
A Adjt	53
TO	54
RMO	55
CP	56
RSM	57
WO Caterer	58
RP Sgt	59
	60
Comds Diary	
Spare	61 - 64
File	65 - 69
	70

ENEMY FORCESGeneral

1. The area of AO WATSON is a traditional operational area for elms of Rear Services Group 84. It lies astride two major supply routes from the NORTH:

- a. Astride Route 328 to the SOUTH.
- b. Along the Province border to the WEST.

Enemy Forces

2. Within the gen area the fol en elms may be loc:

- a. 274VC Regt. The probable str of this Regt is 1150 men, with about 300 in each of its three bns. Elms are possibly loc in the northern area of AO WATSON where it may be trying to avoid contact with 4 RAR ops in AO WODEN. If contacted these elms are likely to employ the usual tactic of delay and withdrawal by ni, probably to the NORTH.
- b. Group 84. This Rear Service Group has long operated in this area. Docu and returnee reports have indicated that large quantities of wpns and ammo have come into the area from the NORTH, and are likely to be stored in Caches. This is borne out by the large caches of ammo found by ARVN elms in late Aug in the area YS 6289-6290. Caches are likely to be well cam and probably guarded, or booby trapped.
- c. VC Farmers. Gardens within the local area are cultivated by farmers who are members of, or controlled by, food production units of Group 84.

3. Recent Activity. A PEOPLE SNIFFER mission was flown on the afternoon 25 Oct 68 with the fol results:

a. Hotspots were recorded at;

- (1) Centre of mass YS 622937, radius 500 metres.
- (2) Centre of mass YS 650935, radius 500 metres.
- (3) Centre of mass YS 658883, radius 400 metres.
- (4) Vic feature at YS 648917.
- (5) YS 664933, YS 663923, YS 662915, and YS 623886.

b. Sightings:

- (1) All associated with max readings indicating either occupied or recently occupied posns, and all newly const with OHP where there was at least one bunker.

YS 610870
YS 609880
YS 609898
YS 609915
YS 637858
YS 637883

- (2) Tunnel entrance at YS 644903.
- (3) Hy track activity between bunkers at YS 610870 and YS 609880.
- (4) Hy dual wheel truck traffic up to one week old running generally EAST-WEST in the area bounded by the 66-68 EASTINGS and 90-93 NORTHINGS.

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2.

- c. The hel flying the mission was fired on from YS 613800.
4. Base Camps and Mine Warfare: Appendix 1 shows all known loc of base camps and mines loc in the period 1 Apr-30 Sep 68. Appendix 2 shows all such info recorded during Oct 68.
5. LPs. Appendix 3 indicates the loc of LPs recorded in the area by SAS ptls.
6. Met data is attached at Appendix 4.

Appendices

- Appendix 1. En locs recorded 1 Apr-30 Sep 68.
- Appendix 2. En locs recorded Oct 68.
- Appendix 3. LPs.
- Appendix 4. Met data.

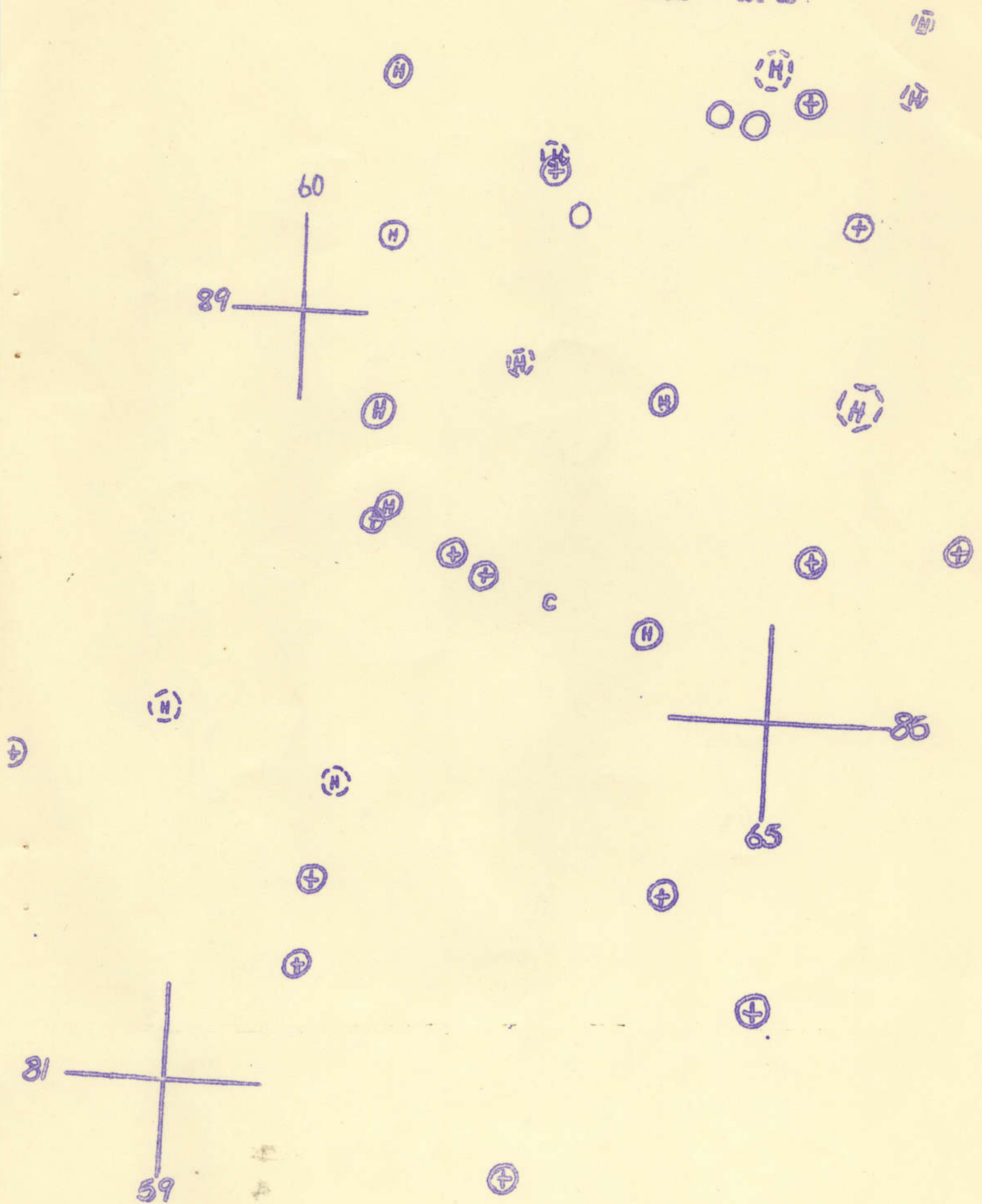
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EN INCIDENTS OCT 68

APPENDIX 2 TO ANNEX A



TO 1 RAR OPO 18/68

DATED OCT 68

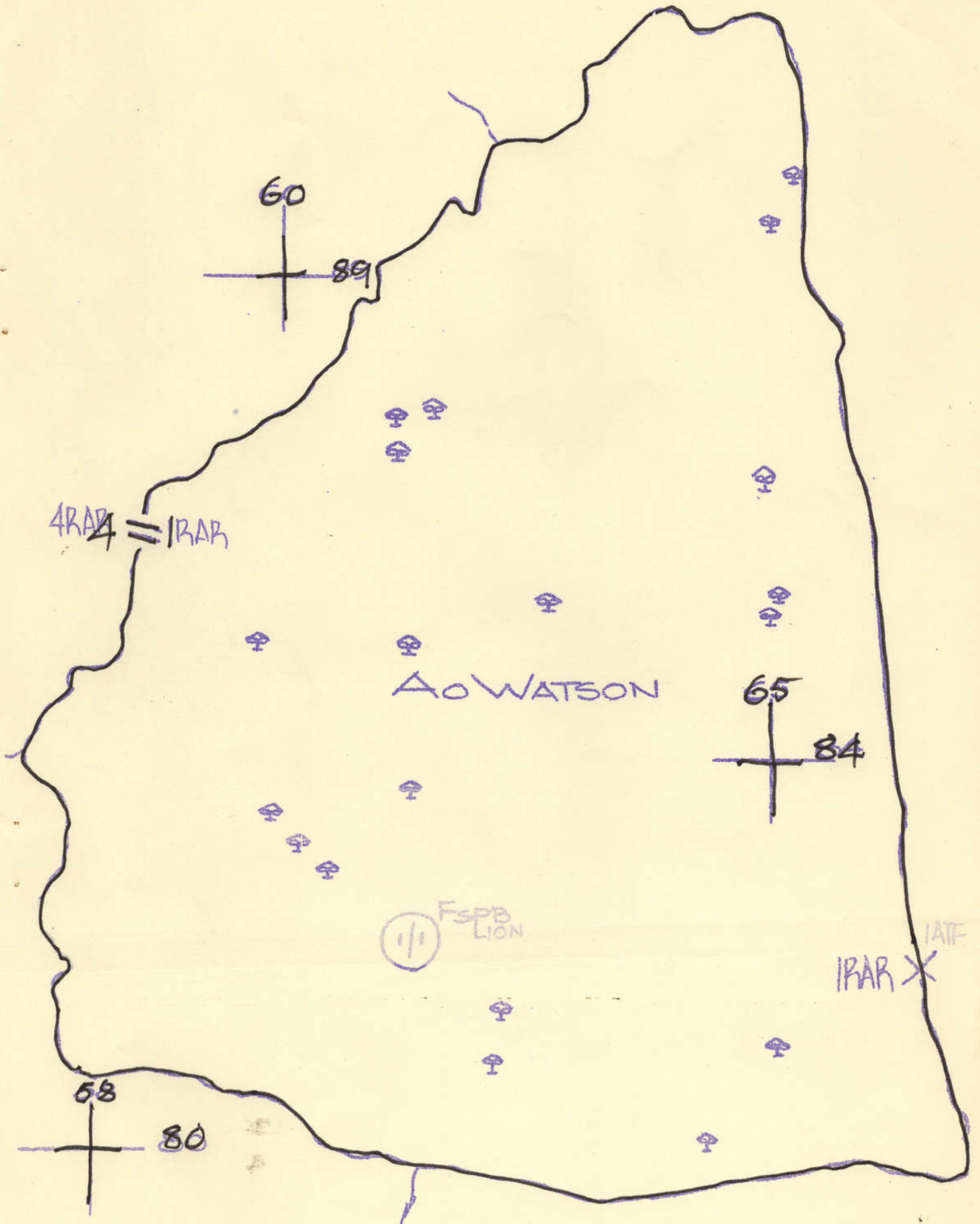


LEGEND

-  BASE CAMP
-  HIT BY AIR/ARTY
-  CONTACT

-  HOT SPOTS (PEOPLE SNIFFER)
-  OCCUPIED BASE CAMP WITH HOT SPOT

APPENDIX 3 TO
ANNEX A TO IRAR
OFO 18/68
DATED OCTOBER 68



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APPENDIX 4 TO AMEX A
TO 1 RAR OFO 18/68
DATED 2 OCT 68

MET DATA

DATE	1st LIGHT	SUNRISE	SUNSET	LAST LIGHT	MOONRISE	MOONSET	ILLUM
28 Oct	0558	0644	1831	1918	1304	-	44 pc
29 Oct	0558	0644	1831	1918	1359	0127	61 pc
30 Oct	0558	0644	1830	1917	1436	0214	70 pc
31 Oct	0558	0664	1830	1917	1513	0301	79 pc
1 Nov	0558	0644	1829	1917	1558	0329	84 pc
2 Nov	0558	0644	1829	1917	1635	0416	91 pc
3 Nov	0558	0644	1829	1917	1712	0503	96 pc
4 Nov	0558	0645	1828	1916	1750	0549	99 pc
5 Nov	0558	0645	1828	1916	1829	0636	100 pc
6 Nov	0558	0645	1828	1916	1912	0726	99 pc
7 Nov	0558	0646	1827	1915	1958	0816	97 pc
8 Nov	0558	0646	1827	1915	2047	0908	93 pc
9 Nov	0559	0647	1827	1915	2138	1000	87 pc
10 Nov	0559	0647	1827	1915	2230	1051	80 pc
11 Nov	0559	0647	1827	1915	2323	1140	72 pc
12 Nov	0559	0647	1827	1915	-	1227	63 pc
13 Nov	0559	0647	1827	1915	0014	1310	54 pc
14 Nov	0600	0648	1827	1915	0104	1351	44 pc
15 Nov	0600	0648	1827	1915	0155	1431	34 pc
16 Nov	0600	0649	1827	1915	0245	1510	24 pc
17 Nov	0600	0649	1827	1915	0336	1552	15 pc
18 Nov	0601	0650	1827	1915	0430	1637	8 pc
19 Nov	0601	0650	1827	1915	0528	1726	3 pc
20 Nov	0602	0651	1827	1915	0631	1822	-
21 Nov	0602	0651	1827	1915	0737	1923	1 pc
22 Nov	0603	0652	1827	1916	0846	2028	4 pc
23 Nov	0603	0652	1827	1916	0953	2136	11 pc
24 Nov	0604	0653	1827	1916	1054	2241	19 pc
25 Nov	0604	0653	1827	1916	1150	2340	29 pc
26 Nov	0605	0654	1827	1916	1237	-	39 pc
27 Nov	0605	0654	1828	1917	1320	0036	50 pc
28 Nov	0606	0655	1828	1917	1359	0127	61 pc
29 Nov	0606	0655	1828	1917	1436	0214	70 pc
30 Nov	0606	0655	1828	1917	1513	0301	79 pc

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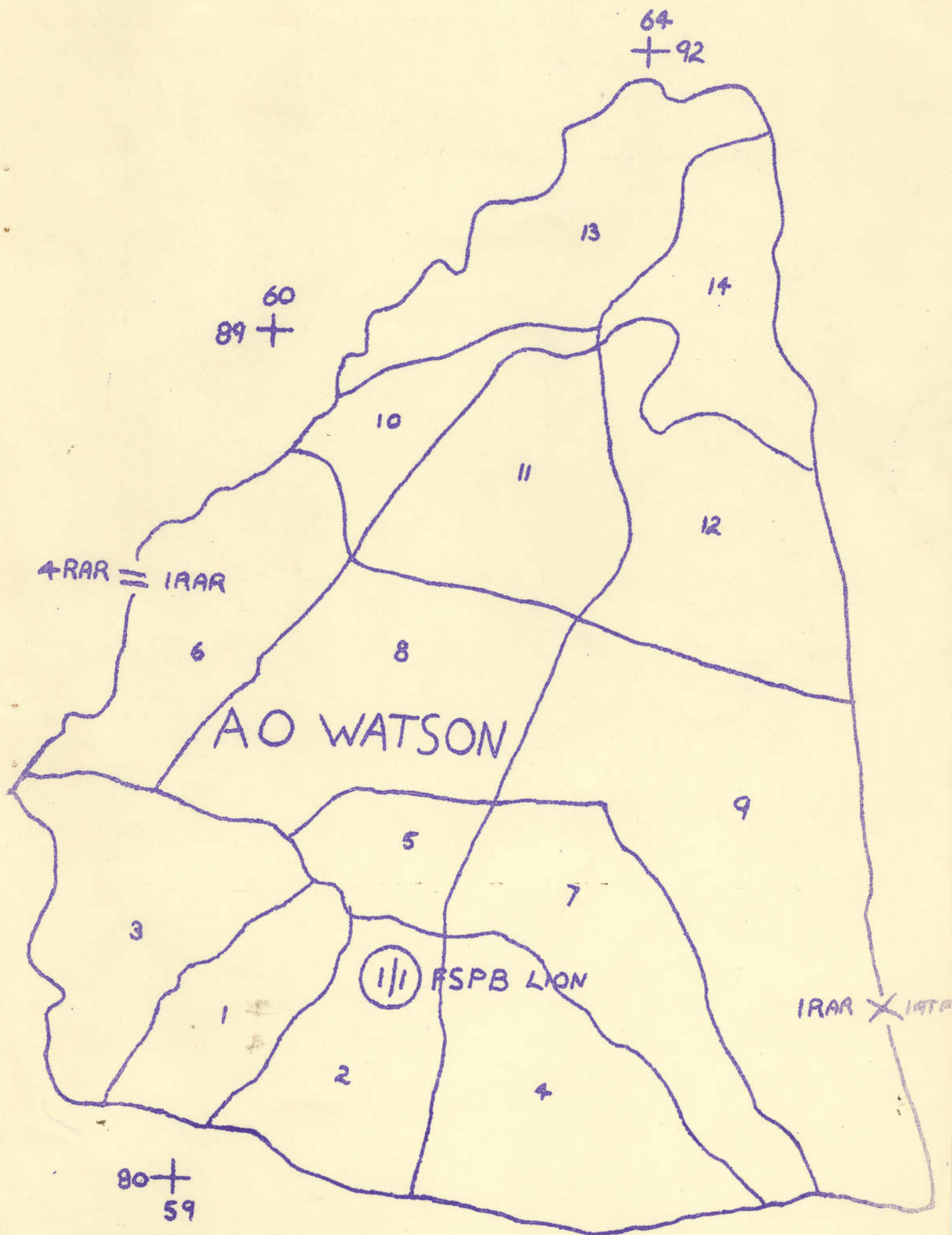
ANNEX B TO

IRAR OP O 18/68

DATED OCT 68

REF MAPS: 1:50000

6430 I, II



ANNEX D/4

MESSAGE FORM

Int Sect 0000001

R569/2/113

IMMEDIATE

250730Z OCT 68

From: 1 ATF

CONFIDENTIAL

To: LIST Z

OPS1642

Info: LO XUAN LOC

FRAG 0 NO 3 TO OPO 59/68 (OP CAPITAL) .

ONE . ENEMY SITUATION . ANNEX A .

TWO . 1 RAR CLN

ALFA . GROUPING CLN

FIRST . UNDER COMD FROM 280630H TWO COMBAT

TEAMS 1 FD SQN .

SECOND . REMAINING IN DS 102 FD BTY CMM 12

FD REGT .

THIRD . IN DS FROM 280630H ONE H13 CMM 161

(INDEP) RECCE FLT .

BRAVO . TASKS .

FIRST . DEPLOY TO AO WATSON BY AIR ON 28

OCT 68 .

SECOND . CONDUCT RIF OPERATIONS IN AO WATSON .

THIRD . DESTROY EN INSTALLATIONS DISCOVERED IN
AO WATSON .

THREE . 3 RAR . CONTINUE OP HARVEST IN AO EVERGLADE .

FOUR . 4 RAR CLN

ALFA . CONTINUE OPS IN AO WODEN .

BRAVO . BE PREP TO REL 161 FD BTY FROM FSPB WILTON TO NUI
DAT COMMENCING 260800H .

CHARLIE . BE PREP TO REL REM OF FORCE IN FSPB WILTON TO NUI
DAT BY RD COMMENCING 270800H .

DELTA . BE PREP TO EXTRACT TO NUI DAT BY AIR COMMENCING
300730H .

FIVE . C SQN 1 ARMD REGT CLN

ALFA . GROUPING CLN NO CHANGE EXCEPT A COY 1 RAR CMM 3 TP
 A SQN 3 CAV REGT CMM A BTY 2/35 ARTY (US) COME UNDER OP CON C SQN
 1 ARMD REGT FOR MOV FROM FSPB WILTON TO NUI DAT .

BRAVO . TASKS CLN

FIRST . CONTINUE OPS AS ORDERED BY 4 RAR
 UNTIL 270800H .

SECOND . COMD AND CON EXTRACTION OF FORCE FROM
 FSPB WILTON TO NUI DAT ON 27 OCT 68 .

THIRD . PROVIDE ONE TK TP UNDER OP CON 3 RAR } *omit*
 FROM 280800H UNTIL REL .

SIX . A SQN 3 CAV REGT CLN

ALFA . CONTINUE OPS AS ORDERED BY 4 RAR .

BRAVO . PASS TO OP CON C SQN FROM COMMENCEMENT OF EXTRACTION
 FSPB WILTON ON 27 OCT 68 .

SEVEN . 12 FD REGT CLN

ALFA . 102 FD BTY REMAINING IN DS 1 RAR .

BRAVO . 104 FD BTY REMAIN DS 4 RAR AT FSPB FLINDERS .

CHARLIE . 161 FD BTY RETURN TO NUI DAT BY AIR COMMENCING
 260800H .

DELTA . SECT 161 FD BTY IN DS 3 RAR FROM 270630H .

EIGHT . A BTY 2/35 ARTY (US) CLN

ALFA . REMAIN DS 4 RAR UNTIL REL FOR RETURN TO NUI DAT ON
 27 OCT 68 .

BRAVO . PASS TO OP CON C SQN 1 ARMD REGT FROM COMMENCEMENT
 OF RD MOV TO NUI DAT UNTIL REL ON 27 OCT 68 .

NINE . 1 FD SQN CLN PROVIDE TWO COMBAT TEAMS UNDER COMD 1 RAR FROM
 280630H UNTIL REL .

TEN . 161 (INDEP) RECCE FLT CLN PROVIDE ONE H13 IN DS 1 RAR FROM
 280630H .

ELEVEN . COORD INSTRS CLN

ALFA . AO WATSON . ANNEX B .

BRAVO . AIR PLANNING TABLES FOR AIR MOVES ISSUED
SEPARATELY .

CHARLIE . 1 RAR TO COMMENCE OPS IN AO WATSON BY 281200H .

DELTA . 161 FD BTY EXTRACTS FROM FSPB WILTON COMMENCING
260800H .

ECHO . FORCE IN FSPB WILTON TO BE EXTRACTED BY RD
COMMENCING AT 270800H .

TWELVE . ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS CLN

ALFA . 1 RAR RESPONSIBLE UNTIL DEPLOYMENT OF FWD

TFMA .

BRAVO . TFMA IS TO INCLUDE UNIT AND SUB UNIT ECH

CHARLIE . NO CHANGE FROM 1 ATF SOP .

THIRTEEN . COMMAND AND SIGNAL CLN NO CHANGE FROM 1 ATF SOI

Page 3 of 3 pages Classified Yes Drafter's Name Office Tele No.

KELDIE OPS EBONY 33

Releasing Officer's Signature and Rank

Signature and Rank
John S. Keldue
MAJ

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ANNEX A TO
1 ATF FRAG 0 NO 3 TO
OP0 NO 59/68
DATED 25 OCT 68

ENEMY SITUATION - AO WATSON

Reference: A. VIETNAM, Series L7014, Sheets 6430 II (XUYEN MOC) and 6430 I (XA CAM MY), 1:50,000 - Enemy Installations 1 Apr - 30 Sep 68.
B. Annex A to HQ 1 ATF Op0 No 59/68 (Op CAPITAL).
C. Annex A to HQ 1 ATF Frag 0 No 2 to Op0 No 59/68.

1. Small enemy parties have been reported in the area, and track activity continues. Elements of 84 Rear Services Group, VC administrative and political cadres of BA BIEN Province and protection groups may be encountered. In addition contact may be made with the THUA TICH Happy Farmer's Association who are so painstakingly cultivating small plots throughout the area.

2. However, it is possible that elements of 274 VC Regt may be located in the Northern portion of the AO, trying to avoid contact with 4 RAR's operations in AO WODEN

3. A PEOPLE SNIFFER Mission was flown in AO WATSON between 251300H-251500H Oct 68 with the following results:

a. Hotspots recorded at:

- (1) Centre of mass YS622937, radius 500 metres.
- (2) Centre of mass YS650935, radius 500 metres.
- (3) Vic feature at YS648917.
- (4) YS664933, YS663923 and YS662915.
- (5) Centre of mass YS658883, radius 400 metres.
- (6) YS623886.

b. Sightings as follows:

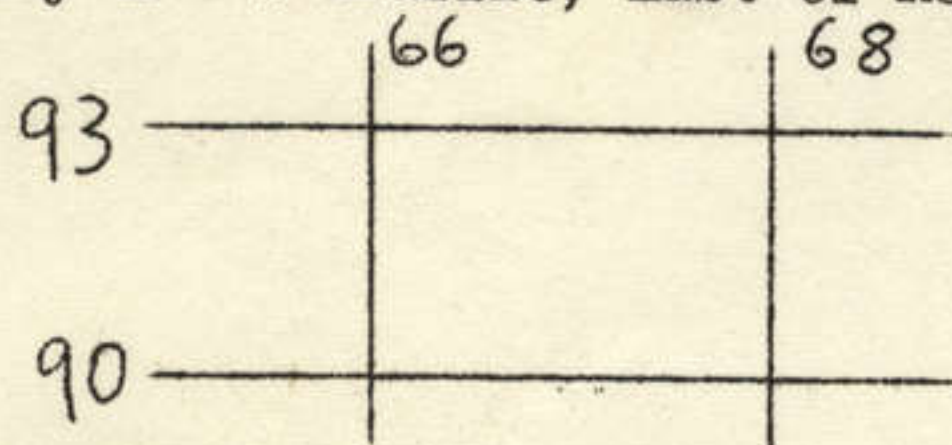
(1) All associated with maximum readings indicating either occupied or recently occupied posns, and all newly constructed with OHP:

YS610870 - at least one bunker
YS609880 - at least one bunker
YS609898 - at least one bunker
YS609915 - at least one bunker
YS637858 - at least one bunker
YS637883 - at least one bunker

(2) Tunnel entrance at YS644903.

(3) Heavy track activity between bunkers at YS610870 and YS609880.

(4) Heavy dual wheel truck traffic up to one week old, generally E - W traffic, East of Route 330 in area:



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4. At 251310H a low flying helicopter was fired at from Route 328 near YS613800. Five shots were fired, the flashes were seen, but the aircraft was not hit. The shooter was probably a disgruntled VC farmer.

5. Attached as Appendix 1 is a list of enemy base camps and incidents reported in the area of AO WATSON for the period 1 - 24 Oct 68.

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APPENDIX 1 TO

ANNEX A TO

1 ATF FRAG 0 TO OPO 59/68

DATED 25 OCT 68

XUYEN MOC

UPDATE AO 1 OCT - 24 OCT

Serial	Location	Date	Incident
1	YS657902	1 May 68	A/S en B/Camp.
2	YS645911	5 Jul 68	B/Camp seen by VR.
3	YS642913	8 Jul 68	B/Camp seen by VR.
4	YS625905	20 Jul 68	A/S en B/Camp.
5	YS652914	28 Aug 68	A/S en B/Camp.
6	YS637912	5 Sep 68	1 en dressed in black sighted.
7	YS643913) YS646911)	6 Sep 68	VR sighted 2 B/Camps.
8	YS620864	1 Oct 68	2 A/S on en B/Camps.
9	YS596891	1 Oct 68	RAAF helicopter received ground fire. No damage.
10	YS695823	2 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
11	YS573843	3 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
12	YS559845	3 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
13	YS603823	3 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
14	YS565829	3 Oct 68	VR sighted B/Camp.
15	YS654866	7 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
16	YS604832	8 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
17	YS566812	8 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
18	YS627862	8 Oct 68	SAS contacted 8 en. Results 6 en KIA (BC).
19	YS669868	10 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
20	YS608869	10 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
21	YS617866	11 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
22	YS690883	12 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp
23	YS686874	12 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp
24	YS628902	14 Oct 68	POSSUM engaged 2 occupied huts. Nil results.
25	YS625801	15 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
26	YS681834	16 Oct 68	SAS contacted 5 en. Results 3 en KIA (BC), 1 en WIA.
27	YS568854	18 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
28	YS564834	19 Oct 68	V/4 RAR contacted 1 en. Nil results.
29	YS563830	20 Oct 68	12/D/4 RAR were engaged by unknown number of en. Results 1 en WIA.
30	YS568828	20 Oct 68	V/ 4 RAR contacted unknown number of en. Results 1 NZ WIA.

/2.

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2.

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
31	YS516830	21 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
32	YS704876	23 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
33	YS650820	24 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.
34	YS640832	24 Oct 68	A/S en B/Camp.

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ANNEX D/3

10

MESSAGE FORM

000002 R569/2/113

IMMEDIATE

190300Z OCT

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FROM: 1 ATF

OPS 1596

TO: LIST Z

INFO: LO BLACKHORSE, 11 ACR, RTAVF

FRAG 0 NO 1 TO OPO 59/68 (OP CAPITAL) .

ONE . SITUATION . ENEMY . ANNEX A .

TWO . 3 RAR .

ALPHA . 3 RAR IS TO BE EXTRACTED BY AIR FROM AO DICKSON
TO NUI DAT COMMENCING 220730H .

BRAVO . ON ARRIVAL NUI DAT BE PREP TO PROVIDE THE FOL CLN
FIRST . FROM 260600H (OCT) ONE COY FOR OPERATIONS
ON ROUTE 15 WITH C SQN 1 ARMD REGT .
SECOND . FROM 260600H (OCT) ONE COY FOR 1 ATF
REACTION FORCE DUTIES .
THIRD . FROM 260600H (OCT) ONE PL FOR CAVMOBILE
DUTIES ON ROUTE 15 .
FOURTH . FROM 26 OCT 68 CMM AS REQUIRED CMM ENGR
PROTECTION PARTIES .

THREE . 4 RAR CLN

ALPHA . GROUPING CMM NO CHANGE EXCEPT A COY 1 RAR OP CON
FROM TIME OF ARRIVAL FSPB WILTON ON 22 OCT 68 .

BRAVO . TASKS .
FIRST . DEPLOY BY GROUND AND AIR INTO AO HACKETT .
SECOND . CONDUCT RIF OPERATIONS IN AO HACKETT .

FOUR . A SQN 3 CAV REGT CLN PROVIDE ONE TP AND TWO M125A1 MOR CARRIERS
UNDER OP CON A COY 1 RAR FROM 210630H UNTIL REL .

FIVE . A COY 1 RAR .

ALPHA . GROUPING CLN

FIRST . UNDER COMD FROM 210630H CMM SECT MORS
1 RAR .

SECOND . UNDER OP CON FROM 210630H ONE TP A SQN
3 CAV REGT CMM TWO MOR CARRIERS, A SQN
3 CAV REGT CMM ONE COMBAT TEAM CMM
1 FD SQN .

THIRD . AT PRIORITY CALL FROM 210630H (FOR
DEPLOYMENT) ONE H13 CMM 161 (INDEP) RECCE
FLT .

BRAVO . TASKS CLN

FIRST . DEPLOY BY RD TO SEIZE AND EST FSPB WILTON
(YS 5476) BY 211700H .

SECOND . COMD FSPB WILTON UNTIL REL BY HQ 1 ATF .

SIX . 12 FD REGT .

ALPHA . 161 FD BTY RETURNS TO NUI DAT BY AIR ON 22 OCT 68 .

BRAVO . 104 FD BTY REDEPLOYS FROM FSPB FLINDERS TO FSPB
WILTON ON 22 OCT 68 .

SEVEN . DET 131 DIV LOC BTY .

ALPHA . SVY PARTY REMAINS IN SP 161 FD BTY UNTIL ARRIVAL
NUI DAT ON 22 OCT 68 .

BRAVO . SVY PARTY REMAINS IN SP 104 FD BTY .

EIGHT . 1 FD SQN .

ALPHA . TWO COMBAT TEAMS REMAIN UNDER COMD 4 RAR .

BRAVO . TWO COMBAT TEAMS REMAIN UNDER COMD 3 RAR UNTIL
ARRIVAL AT NUI DAT ON 22 OCT 68 .

CHARLIE . ONE COMBAT TEAM REMAINS ON STANDBY AT NUI DAT .

DELTA . PROVIDE ONE COMBAT TEAM UNDER OP CON A COY 1 RAR
FROM 210630H UNTIL REL .

NINE . 2 SAS SQN CLN NO CHANGE .

TEN . 161 INDEP RECCE FLT CLN NO CHANGE EXCEPT H13 IN DS 3 RAR REL
ON ARRIVAL 3 RAR AT NUI DAT ON 22 OCT 68 .

ELEVEN . US ARMY AVIATION CLN

ALPHA . PROVIDE SIX CH47 FOR DEPLOYMENT OF 104 FD BTY AND
REDEPLOYMENT OF 161 FD BTY ON 22 OCT 68 .

BRAVO . PROVIDE CH47 FOR TRANSFER OF GUN AMMO FROM FSPB
BASS AND FSPB FLINDERS TO FSPB WILTON ON 22 OCT 68 .

TWELVE . COORD INSTRS .

ALPHA . AO HACKETT . ANNEX B .

BRAVO . AIR PLANNING TABLE . ANNEX C CMM ISSUED
SEPARATELY .

CHARLIE . A COY 1 RAR TO SECURE FSPB WILTON BY 211700H .
DELTA . EXTRACTION OF 3 RAR TO COMMENCE 220730H .
ECHO . REDEPLOYMENT OF 104 FD BTY TO COMMENCE 220730H .
FOXTROT . 161 FD BTY NOT TO EXTRACT UNTIL 104 FD BTY ARE IN
ACTION AT FSPB WILTON .

THIRTEEN . ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS . NO CHANGE EXCEPT CLN

ALPHA . 161 FD BTY IS TO TRANSFER 800 RDS OF PACKED HE
TO 104 FD BTY ON 22 OCT 68 .

BRAVO . 104 FD BTY DEPLOYS TO FSPB WILTON WITH ALL AVAL
AMMO .

CHARLIE . AVGAS REFUELLING POINT CLOSES 211800H . EQPT
AND OPERATOR TO BE EXTRACTED TO NUI DAT WITH 3 RAR
ON 22 OCT 68 . AFTER 211800H ALL AC REFUEL
NUI DAT .

DELTA . DEF STORES CLN

FIRST . FOL TO BE DEL TO FSPB WILTON BY RD ON
21 OCT 68 CMM QTY 140 COILS CONCERTINA
COILS CMM QTY 600 PICKETS 8 FT CMM QTY
20,000 SAND BAGS .

SECOND . STORES TO BE PROVIDED BY 21 ENGR SP TP .

THIRD . TFMA PROVIDE TPT . TIMINGS LATER .

FOURTEEN . COMMAND AND SIGNAL CLN NO CHANGE EXCEPT CMM HQ 3 RAR RETURN
TO NUI DAT ON 22 OCT 68 CMM ADDTL POINTS OF ORIGIN FOR AO HACKETT
ISSUED SEPARATELY

John A Keldie
MAJ

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BNX A TO
1 RAR OP INSTR 168
DATED 20 OCT 68
ANNEX A TO 1 ATF
FRAG 0 NO 1 OF OPO 59/68
DATED 19 OCT 68

SITUATION - ENEMY FORCES

1. Enemy units have continued to avoid contact by moving SOUTHEAST and NORTHEAST away from our operations. The SOUTHEAST move has been indicated by heavy track activity noted by aerial VR. People Sniffer readouts also increased markedly on 16 Oct 68 along the SONG RAI, vic YS5781, YS5872 and YS5873. Track activity is also heavy to the NORTHEAST. On 17 Oct 68 People Sniffer readouts in the area YS6091 - YS6086 - YS6591 - YS6586 gave five major hotspots indicating the presence of large groups. A second People Sniffer Mission on 18 Oct 68 recorded two hotspots at YS619908 and YS612902, plus extensive bunkers at YS612902.

2. Documents captured to date identify elements of Rear Services Group 84, but readout of some of these also indicates the presence in the area of elements of LONG KHANH District Guerilla units. Although several of the enemy killed have been NVA soldiers, and tentatively identified as members of 274 VC Regt, the Main Force units will probably continue to avoid contact. However, small parties of local guerillas, transport, rear service and administrative elements can be expected to be encountered.

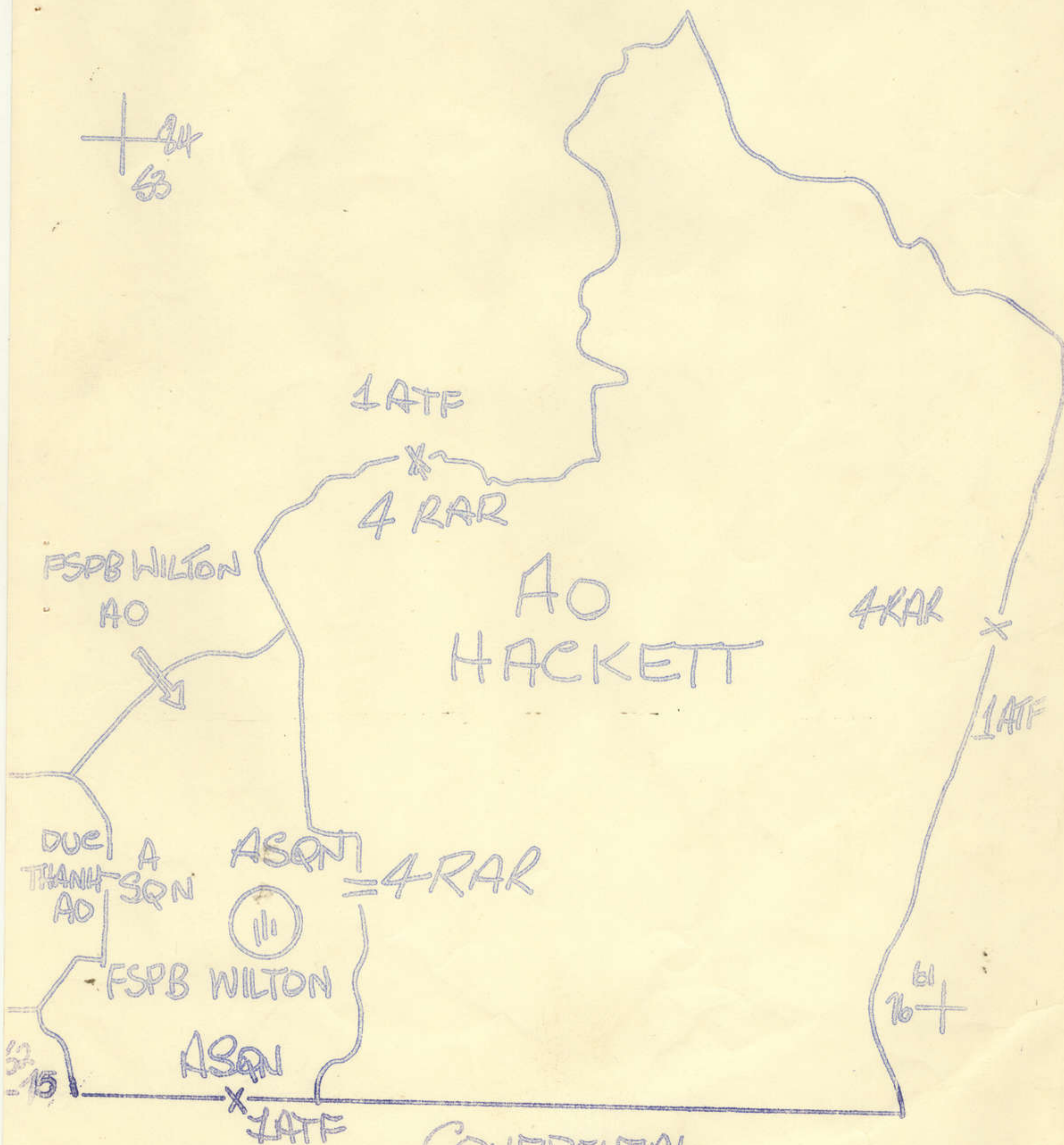
3. Small parties of enemy troops may be caught between our leading elements and the SONG RAI, which is now in full flood and presents a considerable obstacle to movement. However, there are indications that some enemy troops have already crossed the river and are now located between the SONG RAI and Route 328. This area, and further EAST towards BAU HAM Lake (YS6784) is a traditional base area for 84 Rear Services Group and Ba Bien Province units/sub-units.

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OP CAPITAL

MAP: VIETNAM
SERIES L1014
SHEETS 6430 II
SCALE 1:50,000

ANNEX B TO
1RAR OP INST 6/68
DATED 20 OCT 68



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CONFIDENTIAL1 RAR
AP AN PHU

15 Oct 68

R569-1-34

List C

SUMMARY - AFTER ACTION DEBRIEF
OPERATION WINDSORCO

1. The purpose of the debrief was to discuss lessons learned and consider recommendations for inclusion in the After Action Report.

A Coy

2. Tactical Air Support was considered to be a last resort in view of its relative inaccuracy and delay imposed on use of artillery. The CO affirmed however that there would be no change in existing policy on use of air strikes.
3. White Phosphorous proved most effective and adequacy of stocks at FSPBs was enquired into. BC 102 Fd Bty is requested to advise on this at the next unit Daily Conference.
4. Communications
 - a. New frequencies were not as good as the old frequencies, especially Tac/Air which was characterized by distortion and static. RSO is to investigate.
 - b. Interference from the C and C helicopter was noticeable. The CO advised that fitment of new console equipment soon should solve this problem.
 - c. Background noise in the CP was heard over the Command Net. RSO and Adjt are to resolve this problem.
5. Search Time in Camps etc is generally inadequate to allow full and thorough search of camps and environs, which would invariably result in more enemy gear being located.
6. Money Boxes
 - a. Use of helicopter winches was recommended to avoid using LP. 1 ATF policy on winch use however is that they are to be used only in case of extreme emergency involving saving of life.
 - b. It was suggested that a rope with weighted net or harness could be used.

C Coy

7. Delay between artillery/gunship fire is too long. Closer co-ordination is required on gunship location and checkfires.
8. Ammunition Resupply was effected on one occasion by free drop, the link belt not being in containers but loose in bags. The CO directed that all ammunition in resupply must be boxed.
9. Dustoff techniques were compared between RAAF hovering and US Army landing, the US Army carrying out its mission much quicker. The difference was considered to be due to relative degrees of experience and different training emphasis.
10. Smoke grenades often do not go off, especially GREEN. It was suggested that faulty packaging could contribute to dampness. The CO directed that:

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- a. GREEN and YELLOW were not to be used - green because of its faulty primers and ineffective contrast, yellow because when nearly dissipated could be taken for white.
- b. An ammunition examiner be called to inspect present stocks. Replacement of complete stocks is to be effected if necessary.

11. WP 80. It was suggested that scale of M26 grenades carried might be varied in favour of WP 80/equivalent.

12. Ambushing. It was suggested that if sub units could be left static for 2 or 3 days to ambush tracks results could be rewarding.

D Coy

13. Communications

- a. It was proposed to try a balloon carrying a dipole aerial to improve communications.
- b. Possum communications were often distorted. This could be due to the boom microphone not being close to the user's lips.
- c. The "CLICK" system of code signals on the Coy net in ambushes was proposed. OC D Coy and the RSO are to prepare a report with recommendations.

14. White Phosphorous

- a. White phosphorous for the M79 is required. It is very effective against bunkers.
- b. The use of smoke to cover movement during attacks on bunkers is also very effective.

15. Techniques

- a. Ambushing techniques require revision.
- b. Covering during searching of bunkers etc needs emphasis.

Admin Coy

16. Patrol Commanders - TAOR require careful selection.

17. Communications. Changes in frequencies must be advised to all affected in 1 RAR.

Ops Offr

18. Locstats and directives passed on the Comd Net should be logged by Coy operators for information their OCs.

19. Liaison. The extension of AO PENRITH into the Binh Son rubber plantation necessitated close liaison. In the event the occupants of the FSPB were in fact unaware of the extension. Close liaison must be effected with friendly forces where weapons could fire into, or activities have an effect on any AO variation.

20. Communication Difficulties - C and C Helicopters. It was suggested that deployment of a Tac HQ early in an insertion could overcome any C and C helicopter communications. The CO ruled that the Ops Offr would make use of Possum to co-ordinate if the problem arose in future.

21. Airstrikes in several instances were subject of request for ground clearance inside 1 RAR AO at short notice. It was considered that 1 RAR should be consulted at the planning stages of air strikes in the unit AO.

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22. Details in Contact Reports. In particular, details of dress, weapons, range of opening fire, and direction of movement of enemy must be included as soon as possible after contact is reported.

23. Locstats on Contact. On the suggestion that locstats should be given by sub-units adjacent to the sub-unit in contact, the CO directed at all sub-units within 1000 metees of a contact were to give locstats immediately.

24. Enemy Grenades, Explosives are not to be returned with other Money Box items, but destroyed in situ unless its safety is certain. (Refer 1 ATF SOP Chapter 2, Sect 1, Part 10 (e) and 1 RAR SOP Chapter 2, Sect 3, Part 65 (b)).

25. Air Safety. Warnings given to all aircraft on artillery or mortar fire, or demolitions are to use clear terminology eg "artillery", not appointment titles or callsigns.

CO

26. Time in areas is desirable to allow ambushes and results, as suggested by C Coy.

27. Ambushing techniques **need** to be improved. Killing areas are to be completely dominated by fire.

28. It is time to impress on soldiers that several aimed shots are better than bursts of automatic fire sprayed in the direction of enemy. Possibly practice is required in aimed shooting.

29. Track information is required:

a. Location of tracks.

b. Direction of tracks.

This helps relocate a track correctly.

30. It is desirable to spend max time searching camps, as indicated by A Coy.

31. Officers or the CSM are to man the PZ set on extraction. OCs are to be contactable by radio when away from Coy HQ.



(D.A. CHINN)

Maj

Ops Offr

For information:

BC 102 Fd Bty.

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ANNEX M/2

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R569-1-34

1 TIL
AL AM PHU

17 Oct 68

Distribution below

1 RAR AFTER ACTION REPORT 9/68 - OPERATION WINDSOR

- Reference:
- A. 1 RAR After Action Report 8/68 - Operation HAWKESBURY of 26 Sep 68.
 - B. 1 ATF OpO 53/68 of 26 Sep 68.
 - C. 1 ATF Frago 1 to OpO 53/68 of 29 Sep 68.
 - D. 1 RAR OpO 17/68 of 27 Sep 68.
 - E. Map VIETNAM Series L7014 Sheets III and IV: 1 : 50,000.

Name and Type of Operation

- 1. Operation WINDSOR - reconnaissance in force in AO MAITLAND.

Dates of Operation

- 2. 29 Sep - 12 Oct 68.

Location

- 3. AO MAITLAND - South BIEN HOA Province.

Control Headquarters

- 4. HQ 1 RAR, under command 1 ATF.

Task Organization

- 5. Under operational control from 290630H Sep 68
Remaining in direct support
In direct support from 290630H Sep 68
In support from 270700H Sep 68 until completion of deployment
- Engr Combat Team,
1 Fl Sqn
102 Fd Bty, 12th
Regt
One H12, 161 (Indon)
Recce Flt
One AHC, US Army Av

Intelligence

- 6. Annex A.

Mission

- 7. To conduct reconnaissance in force operations in AO MAITLAND.

Concept of Operations

- 8. The concept of operations was based on two factors:
 - a. HQ II FFV directive requiring 1 ATF to establish blocking positions in the northern HAM DICH area in an attempt to contain 274 VC Regt in PHUOC TUY Province, as well as denying access to SAIGON through the traditional infiltration route from the EAST.
 - b. The results of Operation HAWKESBURY in the same area in the period 12 - 24 Sep, when main elements of 274 VC Regt, 84A NVA Arty Regt and 67 Engr Bn had been able to avoid contact, withdrawing from the area, but whose re-infiltration on withdrawal of Operation HAWKESBURY forces was anticipated.

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9. 1 RAR's concept of operations was a reconnaissance in force by three rifle companies, commencing in the NORTH of the AO and developing into the SOUTH. Fire support was to be provided from one FSPB secured by the fourth rifle company, the FSPB containing the direct support field battery, one section of the Mortar Platoon, as well as the direct support field battery of 3 RAR operating in the adjacent AO. HQ 1 RAR was located in a second FSPB shared with HQ 3 RAR, containing 3 RAR mortar platoon and secured by support company platoons of both battalions.

Execution

10. Annex B - Sequence of Events.

Results

11. Casualties

- a. VC - 8 KIA (BC), 3 WIA (blood trails), 1 KIA (possible).
- b. Australian - 2 KIA, 1 DOW, 13 WIA.

12. Installations and Equipment

Annex A.

Lessons Learned

13. Coy Operations. The comments contained under the same headings in reference A applied again. An A Coy platoon ambush in position for 3 days engaged an estimated 3-4 VC who entered the ambush on the third night, killing two and possibly wounding one. Due to the tempo of the operation, it was not possible to extend the scale of ambushing in the AO, which showed areas of extensive enemy use, neither was it possible to devote enough time to the thorough searching of all camps/bunker systems and their environs.

14. Destruction of Enemy Camps. Again, due to the tempo of the operation, the destruction of enemy camps by the most efficient and economical means, engineer combat teams, was not always possible, and air strikes were employed on camps marked by balloon, artillery smoke registration or light helicopters after coys had left the areas. This method of destruction is not as thorough as ground force destruction which is preferred.

15. Airstrike Co-ordination. On several occasions ground clearance was sought by 1 ATF for airstrikes at short notice into 1 RAR AO. Whilst some strikes may have been planned as a result of intelligence submitted by 1 RAR, the strikes were not subject of co-ordination with 1 RAR in the planning stages and most were refused ground clearance due to the proximity of coys, some of which had platoon ambushes close to the proposed air strike targets.

16. Liaison. The extension of AO MAITLAND notified by reference C was subject of a liaison visit by the Ops Offr 1 RAR on 2 Oct 68 to FSPB GREY in YS 2093. The visit revealed that the RTAVF unit in that FSPB was not aware of the extension of the AO. Two LOs were positioned with RTAVF units during operations in the extended area.

17. Use of Artillery. Artillery, apart from its normal role, was used to engage enemy camps with smoke prior to attack and sweeping, to clear suspected tree snipers from C Coy's objective of 10 Oct using CVT, to indicate airstrike targets by smoke and confirm night locations by mark missions, all to good effect. Use of delay fuse HE also proved of value in the destruction of a number of bunkers. Breaks in the continued neutralization of enemy positions occurred, as in Operation HAWKESBURY, due to FAC and light fire teams not being completely confident of artillery/mortar targets. This situation was alleviated on several occasions by the use of the direct support light helicopter to co-ordinate fire support.

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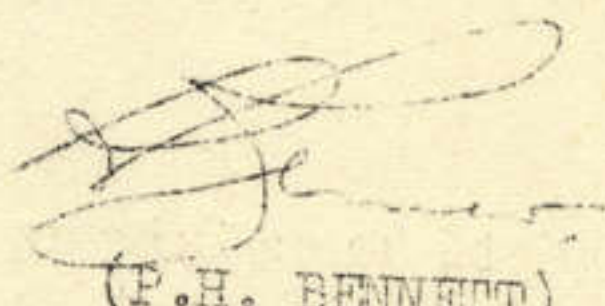
3.

18. Light Helicopter Support. The system of provision of light helicopter pilots was modified during the operation to that of pilots being relieved at midday, the relieving pilot flying until the end of the day and working again the next day from first light reconnaissance until relieved at midday. This system provides good continuity for successive days operations, particularly early morning activity.

19. Artillery Warning. Light helicopters operating in the 1 RAR AO experienced difficulty in getting clear and comprehensive artillery warning for 3 RAR's direct support battery and mortar platoon engagement of targets in the adjoining 3 RAR AO. The situation was at times hazardous as both FSPB were on, or adjacent to the common AO boundary and aircraft were often on approach/departure from these FSPB. 1 RAR FCC was normally able to provide the required warning but during a contact, the artillery and mortar links were fully occupied with 1 RAR response. The only satisfactory solutions for any future similar circumstances are for:

a. aircraft to be fitted with sets which guarantee communications to NUI DAT AWCC while still maintaining normal tactical communications with units being supported, or

b. holding points directly over FSPB at safe altitudes to be laid down while aircraft check both unit FCC artillery frequencies for clearances.


(P.H. BENNETT)
Lt Col
CO

Annexes: A. Intelligence.
B. Sequence of Events.

Distribution:

List C less Serial 30.

Internal:

CP
Commander's Diary (5).

For Information:

102 Fd Bty
1 Fd Sqn
161 (Indep) Recce Flt
HQ 1 ATF (13)
5 RAR
6 RAR
9 RAR
D Inf (2)

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ANNEX A TO
1 RAR AFTER ACTION REPORT 9/68
DATED 17 OCT 68

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

General

1. Op WINDSOR took place as an immediate follow-up to Op HAWKESBURY in the HAT DICH. The AO allotted to 1 RAR was in the WEST of the area.

Int Forecast

2. During Op HAWKESBURY elms of a number of en units had been contacted incl the fol main force units:
 - a. 274 VC Regt.
 - b. 84A NVA Regt.
 - c. 67 Engr Bn.
3. The main elms of these units had been successful in avoiding major contact during Op HAWKESBURY and had managed to withdraw from the operational area.
4. It was anticipated that these units would re-infiltrate on the withdrawal of friendly forces, particularly as the HAT DICH is of some importance to the en.

En Located

5. With one exception en contacted were in two distinct areas:
 - a. WEST of PSPB CEDAR from the spur NORTH of the SOUL CAU MOI SOUTH to the ~~PIEDSTONE~~ TRAIL.
 - b. Along the upper reaches of the SOUL LE and SOUL CA.
6. In the former area, where D Coy had successfully engaged various groups of en during Op HAWKESBURY, there was sufficient contact with and sign of en to suggest his level of activity there has not fallen since the previous op. This is most likely due to the area providing ideal routes between the area of the BINH SON rubber and the centre of the HAT DICH.
7. The second area had not previously been searched by 1 RAR but the size of the camp loc at YS 301845 and the ens energetic defence of it suggests that this area contains major instls.

Units identified

8. No contact was made with main force units. In all but one case en contacted belonged to MR4, serving in the staffs:
 - a. HQ MR4.
 - b. Ops Coord Committee - Binh Son area.
 - c. Organisation Section.
 - d. Propaganda Section.
 - e. Workers Proselytising Section.
- Additionally C240 coy under MR4 op control was identified and had tasks of interdiction against Route 15.
9. It is apparent that MR4 is based in this area which probably contains a major part of his HQ and admin echelons.

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10. Although not identified by docu it is apparent from the quantity and type of med sups captured that there is a hosp or med sup unit in the vic and that it is probably loc in the area described in sub-para 5 a.

Base Camps

11. The large en camp loc by C Coy at 301845 could have held a VC Bn and its installations were developed for def. Otherwise base camps found had been designed to provide protection and shelter, probably for only short duration, and any def fire could only be sited from the interlocking comm trenches.

12. Most camps had trenches and bunkers under const and in at least one case a camp had been fully const within the last three weeks.

13. This high level of new building suggests that that area was being developed to cater to increased en activity there, possibly to sp the loc of a new unit or fm.

Tracks

14. Despite intense friendly ground and air activity the en continue to use established tracks, regardless of the possibility of friendly ambushes.

Conclusion

15. At the time of Op WINDSOR 274 VC Regt or other main force units were not loc within AO MAITLAND but it is considered that this area houses important base complexes of MR4.

16. Although 1 RAR activities have gravely disrupted MR4 facilities in this region it is considered that its importance to the en would indicate that he will quickly reestablish his organisation there.

17. The failure to contact main force units during this op may well have been caused by the timing of Op WINDSOR which left insufficient time for those units to re-infiltrate back into the HAT DICH.

18. The details of contacts and incidents are shown at Appendix 1.

19. Appendix 2 lists the details of en cas.

20. Tracks found by 1 RAR are shown at Appendix 3.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 - Contacts and incidents.

Appendix 2 - En cas.

Appendix 3 - Track plan.

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APPENDIX 1 TO
1 RAR AFTER ACTION REPORT 9/68
DATED 7 OCT 68

CONTACTS AND INCIDENTS

NO.	INCIDENT OR CONTACT	GRID REFERENCE	D/TIME	DETAILS
1.	CONTACT	YS 319937	291400	C Coy contacted 4 en dressed in pale blue. Sweep revealed blood trail. Results: 1 en WIA.
2.	INCIDENT	YS 269948	301535	3 Pl found a timber platform 4'x2'x3' high, 1xplastic jerrycan, rice bag, 2 gall drum oil. Tracks generally leading NW.
3.	INCIDENT	YS 315949	010858	4 Pl located a bunker system, junction of EAST-WEST and NORTH-SOUTH track. B/C was eng by A/S.
4.	INCIDENT	YS 250921	031500	B Coy found a VC grave, approx 1 week old.
5.	INCIDENT	YS 288904	031700	7 Pl found a camp site, 4-6 man capacity. Hutches still erected, occupied within 3-5 days.
6.	CONTACT	YS 267905	041255	6 Pl sighted enemy bunkers, heard movement and voices. Contacted 2 en of 2 enemy dressed in black. Enemy withdrew EAST -- Results 1 en KIA (BC), 1 en WIA, 5 bks, docus, webbing, transistors, 1xradio transceiver. was eng by A/S.
7.	INCIDENT	YS 250902	041400	A Coy found enemy base camp, 16 bunkers 12'x6'x5' w/OHC. B/C was eng by A/S.
8.	CONTACT	YS 266906	041530	5 Pl contacted 2 enemy in black moving SOUTH-EAST - NORTH-WEST. Results 1 enemy KIA (BC).
9.	CONTACT	YS 255895	041600	A Coy moved into b/camp 9 bunkers 12'x6'x5' w/4'OHC. 3 Pl sighted enemy moving SOUTH-EAST after contact. Results of sweep of camp, 2xPPS, kitchen not completed, 400 lbs rice, 1xbag docus, 1xbag medical supplies, quantity of clothing, 20 lbs dried fish. B/C was eng by A/S.
10.	CONTACT	YS 268908	050915	A Coy were engaged by 2 enemy when crossing creek. 1 Pl after arty en area, sweep revealed a bk system 1x old 1 bk 12'x6'x5' area destroyed by arty. B/C was eng by A/S.
11.	CONTACT	YS 277882	051510	7 Pl contacted 4 enemy. Results 2 VC KIA (BC), 1xAK47, 1xm1, enemy moved NORTH after contact.
12.	CONTACT	YS 275845	071139	10 Pl covering track running EAST-WEST engaged 1 en dressed in black. Sweep revealed 1xbag rice, blood trail at point of contact and also further along trail. Results 1 enemy WIA.
13.	INCIDENT	YS 311873	071430	Patrol Pioneers found possible platform size position, 8 pits 4'6" deep w/OHC. Not used for 3-4 months. NORTH side of camp attack running WEST-EAST then NORTH. Used 3-4 days ago.

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APPENDIX 2 TO
ANNEX A TO
1 RAR AFTER ACTION REPORT 9/68
DATED 1 OCT 68

SUMMARY OF ENEMY CASUALTIES, WEAPONS AND EQPT CAPTURED
OF WINDSOR

1. Enemy Casualties
 - 8 KIA (BC)
 - 1 KIA (Poss)
 - 3 WIA
2. Weapons
 - 4 AK-47
 - 2 PPS SMGs
 - 1 M1 Carbine
 - 14 AK-47 Mags
 - 8 PPS Mags
 - 6 M1 Mags
 - 4 Chicom Hand Grenades
3. Ammunition
 - 900 x 7.62 mm Short
 - 100 x .30 M1
 - 200 x 7.62 mm Chicom Pistol (PPS)
4. Miscellaneous
 - 10 Transistor Radios
 - 1 Radio Transceiver
 - 60 Assorted Radio Valves
 - 220 Small Batteries
 - 3 Morse Keys
 - 3 Head Phones
 - 1 Field Telephone
 - 1 Voltage Regulator
 - 1 Flash Light
 - 1 Wire Cutters
 - 50 ft Wire (D10)
 - 1 Soldering Iron
 - 1 Silk Screen Printing Press
 - 1 Typewriter (Portable)
 - 1 Stapler and Staples
 - 1 Pair Scissors
 - 1 Set Hairclippers
 - 1 Cut Throat Razor
 - 15 lbs Medical Supplies
 - 60 lbs Documents
 - 5 Sets NVA Webbing
 - 1 Water Bottle
 - 1 NVA Oil Bottle
 - 1 Set NVA AK-47 Cleaning Brushes
5. Destroyed in Sit
 - 17 Packs containing clothing, rice, etc
 - .2 Gal Drum of Oil
 - 1 Plastic Jerry Can
 - 500 lbs Rice
 - 20 lbs Dried Fish

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OPERATION WINDSOR - SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

DAY 1 29 Sep

- a.m. - A, B, C Coys flew in to PALL MALL. D Coy into FSPB CEDAR.
Bn HQ into FSPB KWINANA (shared with HQ 3 RAR).
1300 - Bn complete in AO PENRITH.
1403 - C/S 3 in contact at YS 319937. 4 VC seen approaching coy loc.
1 VC WIA (1 blood trail).
Ni locs
A Coy 281950
B Coy 319938
C Coy 319930
D Coy FSPB CEDAR, 41A 289888, 43B 283887.
Locs at FSPB CEDAR
4 287886, 41 288887, 42 288889, 43 287887.

DAY 2 30 Sep

- a.m. - All coys continued search in respective AOs.
1535 - C/S 13 found a wooden platform. One empty plastic jerry can,
2 gals of oil, empty rice bag.
Ni locs
A Coy 275941
B Coy 318946
C Coy 313923
D Coy 41C 290888, 43A 283887.
2145 - Result of red haze was a complete farce. CO spoke to TF at
2300.

DAY 3 1 Oct

- a.m. - AO search continued.
0900 - C/S 21 found a complex bunker system at 315949. Recently used,
12 large bunkers, many small 1/2 man pits.
Ni locs
A Coy 271918
B Coy 306942
C Coy 302928
D Coy 41A 289889, 43B 282887.

DAY 4 2 Oct

- a.m. - AO search continues.
- Airstrike on B Coy camp at 316950. No BDA.
p.m. - A Coy not allowed to ambush in BINH SON rubber because of ground
clearance problem.
1715 - D Coy warned to provide two offr LOs for att to THAIS whilst we
op in BINH SON rubber.
Ni locs
A Coy 257919
B Coy 279937
C Coy 288909
D Coy 41C 288889, 43A 283887.

DAY 5 3 Oct

- a.m. - Coys continued in AOs.

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DAY 5 (cont)

3 Oct

- 0800 - Two LOs positioned at FSPB GREY because of our movements in BINH SON rubber.
- 1500 - At 250921, 1 grave, 1 VC found C/S 2.
- p.m. - Coys continued in AOs.
- 1706 - C/S 31 found 6 hoochies - ambush posn for 31.

Nil locs

A Coy 244905

B Coy 257919

C Coy 286908, C/S 31 288904

D Coy FSPB CEDAR, 41A 290889, 43A 282887.

DAY 6

4 Oct

- a.m. - Search continued.
- 1015 - C/S 12 located a freshly used N - S track at 253903. Ambushed. Nil result.
- 1216 - C/S 23 heard voices - contact 2 groups each of 2 VC at 267903. Opened fire at 30 m. 1 VC KIA (BC) remainder withdrew to EAST. C/S 2 searched body, withdrew and engaged area with arty.
- 1400 - C/S 1 loc en camp at 250902. 16 bunkers 12'x6'x5' with OHP. Some signs of recent use. Marked by a balloon. Air strike requested for 051400H.
- 1530 - C/S 22 fired on 2 VC at 20 m, at 266906. 1 VC KIA (BC) 1 AK47.
- 1600 - C/S 13 saw 2 VC. Fired on them at 254895. 1 VC KIA (BC) 1 VC WIA 2 SMG FPS 41. Sweep revealed base camp, 9 bunkers 12'x6'x5' with 4' OHP all very new. Kitchen not completed. 400 lb rice, 1 bag documents, 1 bag med supplies, clothing, 20 lb dried fish, 1 transistor.
- 1730 - C/S 2 discovered en bunker system at 267908. 5 old bunkers still in use - being used by a squad sized force (recently). One new bunker under construction - all bed deep, comms tunnels connecting them (at least 5' deep). Found, documents, two transistors, webbing and normal equipment, rice. Air strike requested.
- 1800 - C/S 23 observed one VC approaching body of VC killed in contact at 1530. MG had stoppage and en escaped.

Nil locs

A Coy 257890

B Coy 268906

C Coy 286908, C/S 33 288904

D Coy FSPB CEDAR, 41C 289889, 43B 283887.

DAY 7

5 Oct

- a.m. - Coys continued search.
- 0730 - OPDEM (ammo) to A Coy.
- 0830 - B Coy MONEY BOX collected.
- 0855 - C/S 1 fired on by two VC whilst crossing river at 258888. VC fired at 30 m and threw grenade. 5 own WIA. Cas dusted off, arty used.
- 0940 - Report from SHADY PUMPKIN 2 of "NEW" bunker system at 280866.
- 1400 - C/S 12 in contact with at least 4 VC at YS 259878, fired on from front and left flank. Thickness of bamboo hampered fwd mov so C/S 1 withdrew and engaged area with arty. Bunker system found during assault, NO further contact. Camp of bunkers 20'x8'x6' with 4' OHP and cook house. Printing press (silk screen), typewriter, 4 transistors, 400 lb rice, docus, med supplies.

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DAY 7 (cont)5 Oct

- 1510 - 2 VC walked into cut off group from C/S 31. 2 VC KIA, 2 wms
1 AK47 1 M1 Carbine.
- 1630 - Air strike on camp at YS 267908 - 1 bunker destroyed.

Ni locs

- A Coy 271876
B Coy 278879
C Coy 276879
D Coy 41A 288889, 43A 282887.

DAY 86 Oct

- a.m. - B Coy relieved D Coy at FSPB CEDAR. A Coy remained in last ni
loc to ptl from this area. C and D Coys began search in AOs
9 and 8 respectively.
- 1943 - TF asked if PYTHON still required on camp at YS 267908.

Ni locs

- A Coy 272878 C/S 11 265879, C/S 13 275887.
B Coy FSPB CEDAR
C Coy 304860
D Coy 277852.

DAY 97 Oct

- a.m. - AO search continues.
- 1115 - Air strike on camp at YS 267908.
- 1139 - C/S 41 acting as rear guard for D Coy fired on 1 VC moving on
E-W track at 275845. NTR.
- 1445 - C/S 4 in contact with 2 VC at YS 274827. Poss 1 en WIA.
- 1600 - Air strike on camp in square 2589.

Ni locs

- A Coy 272878 C/S 11 265879 C/S 13 275887.
B Coy FSPB CEDAR, C/S 22 295892.
C Coy 302855
D Coy 273821, C/S 43 269824, C/S 41 274823.

DAY 108 Oct

- a.m. - AQ search continued.
- 0940 - C/S 3 engaged 2 VC at YS 302849 moving EAST-WEST. Both escaped
towards suspected camp to SE. Suspected camp engaged by arty.
- 1030 - C/S 3 killed one of the VC in follow up - NOT same en, this one
in blue shirt and khaki trs - captured AK47.
- 1114 - C/S 3 in contact - 2 own KIA - fire too heavy to get bodies out -
C/S withdrew to evacuate 5 WIA and engage camp at YS 301845.
Employed LFT to cover pull back - dustoff hit by en in trees.
C/S 3 killed 1 VC sniper.
- 1309 - C/S 3 had moved far enough to engage camp with arty.
- 1311 - C/S 41 contact YS 285824. 1 VC KIA.
- 1700 - Air strikes on camp - C/S 3 clear.
- 1940 - CO briefed C/S 4 to move to an assy area to assist C/S 3.

DAY 119 Oct

- a.m. - C Coy continued to control air strikes on to camp at 301845.
D Coy moved to assy area to sp C Coy as required. Secured SL
for C/S 3. A Coy remained in loc.
- 1300 - C Coy commenced assault.

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DAY 11 (cont)

9 Oct

- 1334 - C Coy into trench system.
- 1345 - C/S 42 found 10 bunkers at YS 286838. Signs of activity 5 hrs old.
- 1351 - C Coy into bunkers found 1 VC body.
- 1415 - C Coy secured area. NO opposition - own 2 KIA recovered. Began search of system which was extensive.
- 1909 - C/S 13 sprang ambush at YS 275887. 2 VC KIA, 2 AK47, 1 telephone.

Ni locs

A Coy 272878 C/S 13 275887, C/S 11 265879.
B Coy FSPB CEDAR
C Coy 303845 en base area.
D Coy 302845.

DAY 12

10 Oct

- a.m. - Tracker teams inserted to C/S 13 to track escaped VC. Found a large 300 x 300m on bunker system YS 276888 - 50 bunkers.
- 0955 - C/S 33 loc a small camp. Hit it with arty and withdrew.
- 1020 - Trackers requested as suspected blood trail near C/S 33s camp. Trackers flown into C/S 3's loc. Moved to blood trail but it was only red sap from a vine - camp searched NTR.
- 1030 - C/S 43 found 6 old bunkers with OHP - used for a meal within last 24 hours.
- p.m. - C/S 3 completed bunker search - 67 bunkers many under reconstruction - all connected by comms trench. Moved off towards LZ for extraction on 11 Oct.

Orders issued for extraction.

Ni locs

A Coy 272878, C/S 11 265879, C/S 13 274880.
B Coy FSPB CEDAR
C Coy 305857
D Coy 287814.

DAY 13

11 Oct

- a.m. - Bn HQ (less Tac HQ), C Coy, A Coy and D Coy returned to NUI DAT by air.

Ni locs

B Coy FSPB CEDAR.

DAY 14

12 Oct

- p.m. - Mor Sect and B Coy returned to NUI DAT by air.

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MAPS: 1: 50,000

XA XUAN LOC

XA BINH BA

INT TRACE

APPENDIX I TO ANNEX A

AFTER ACTION REPORT 9/68

DATED OCT 68



MAPS

1:25,000

COMPANY ROUTES

XA XUAN LOC

XA BINH BA

ANNEX C TO I RAR AFTER ACTION
REPORT 9'68 DATED OCT'68



