

Series: AWM95
Australian Army commanders' diaries
[Vietnam]

Signals units

Item number: 6/1/14

Item: 103 Signal Squadron

Folio D-L

[1-31 Mar 1967]

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(FILE No.)

*ANNEX D to
COMMANDER'S DIARY*

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

SECRET

TO BE PASSED BY HAND

MARCH 1967

**ARCHIVAL
CATEGORY**

(FILE N

SCHEDULE

1. 1 ATF WING 0 (OP LEETON)
2. 1 ATF OPO 2/67 (OP LEETON)
3. 5 RAR OPO 8/67 (OP LEETON)
4. 5 RAR FRAG 0 1/67 (OP LEETON)
5. 1 ATF OPO 3/67 (OP PORTSEA)
6. COORD CONF - OP PORTSEA
7. 5 RAR OPO 9/67 (OP PORTSEA)
8. ADDENDUM TO 1 ATF OPO 3/67
9. 1 ATF FRAG 0 1 (OP PORTSEA)
10. 5 RAR FRAG 0 2/67 (OP PORTSEA)

OUT/14-23/01
Mar 67

PRIORITY

010001Z

14TF

SRAR BRAR 489 354 1 Fa Regt 1/83 BN
1 Fa Sqdn 3545 Sqdn 14RU 161 Recce Pt HQ Coy
Sigs Sq A @ 14TF USAF USAF Ann Opstent
14LSC AFV

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G233

File

WNS 00 @ LEETON @ Set a coy def loc on HORSESHOE MAN comm
wire EAST of DAT 00 - PHUOC LOI - PHUOC HAI comm no loc 10372 Bty
- 3545 Sqdn - 14RU within base area @ 0 Gp 14TF conf room
021400H Mar 67 @ For HQ Coy ensure tables and chairs
aval for 0 Gp @ Ack

1 of 1

S. MATTHEWS Ops 1
C. BEAN 3
C. BEAN 3

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~~103 Sic Sec~~

2
9

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Copy Number

1 ATF
NUI DAT

2 Mar 67

OPS 87

Op 0 2/67 (Op LEETON)

Maps: Vietnam, 1:25000.

1. Sit.

a. En Forces. Annex A.

b. Friendly Forces. The loc of ARVN/RF/PF units are as fols:

(1)	3/43 ARVN Bn (-)	YS 489593
(2)	One Coy 3/43 Bn	YS 500570
(3)	3A/181 Arty P1	YS 477597
(4)	612 RF Coy	YS 515536
(5)	615 RF Coy	YS 502577
(6)	32, 33 and 34 PF P1s	YS 477597
(7)	35 PF P1	YS 575536

c. Atts and Dets.

In sp from 160800H Mar 67 ARVN/RF/PF units as allotted.

2. Msn. 1 ATF is to assist the Vietnamese authorities to maint con of Southern Phuoc Tuy Province.

3. Exed.

a. Concept of Ops.

- (1) Estb a permanent coy def loc on HORSESHOE HILL, YS ⁴⁹⁶²4691.
- (2) Clear the timber from 50 to 52 Eastings and from the coast to the 63 Northing.
- (3) Erect a wire fence EAST of DAT DO YS 4960 and PHUOC LOI YS 5057.
- (4) Reloc certain sub units of 1 ATF within the 1 ATF base area.

b. 5 RAR.

(1) Grouping.

- | | | |
|-----|---|-------------------------------------|
| (a) | Under comd from 051500H Mar 67 until 151600H Mar 67 | One tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt
Engr elm |
| (b) | In DS | One bty 1 Fd Regt |
| (c) | In sp and at pri call | One bty 1 Fd Regt |
| (d) | In sp from 060730H Mar 67 until 151800H Mar 67 | One H13 |
| (e) | In sp at 060730H Mar 67 | One airmobile coy |
| (f) | In sp at 070800H Mar 67 | One airmobile coy |

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(2)

(2) Tasks.

- (a) Estb a coy def loc on HORSESHOE HILL BY 101000H Mar 67.
- (b) Ptl your allotted TAOR. Ptl's to remain within line BRAV.
- (c) Maint ambushes WEST of HOA LONG, as frequently as possible by day and ni.
- (d) Vacate present D Coy base area by 061000H Mar 67.
- (e) Maint one coy on 30 mins notice to move as 1 ATF standby from 030630H Mar 67.
- (f) Place the coy on HORSESHOE HILL under op con 1 ATF from 151800H Mar 67.

c. 6 RAR.

(1) Grouping.

- (a) Under comd from 160700H Mar 67 A Sqn 3 Cav Regt (-) and 1 Engr elm
- (b) In DS One Bty 1 Fd Regt
- (c) In sp from 160700H Mar 67 One H13
- (d) In sp from 160800H Mar 67 ARVN/RF/PF Units

(2) Tasks.

- (a) Ptl your allotted TAOR. Ptl's to remain inside line BRAVO.
- (b) From 160800H Mar 67 be prep to erect a wire fence EAST of DAT DO and PHUOC LOI. Details of fence later.
- (c) Provide protection for engr elms clearing the timber from 50 to 52 Eastings and from the coast to the 63 Northing.

d. A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.

(1) Grouping.

- (a) One tp under comd 5 RAR from 051500H Mar 67 until 151600H Mar 67.
- (b) Sqn (-) one tp under comd 6 RAR from 160700H Mar 67.

(2) Tasks.

- (a) Provide protection for the engr elms on:
 - (i) The by pass rd.
 - (ii) HORSESHOE HILL until 15 Mar 67.
 - (iii) Clearing the timber from 50 to 52 Eastings and from the coast to the 63 Northing.
- (b) Provide a screen for 5 RAR during the occupation of HORSESHOE HILL and for 6 RAR during the erection of the wire fence EAST of DAT DO.
- (c) Provide escort for the stores convoy into HORSESHOE HILL or about 8 Mar 67.

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(3)

(d) Maint one tp on 20 mins notice to move in 1 ATF base area, by ni, as 1 ATF standby.

e. Arty.

(1) 1 Fd Regt.

(a) Grouping.

(i) One bty in DS each 5 RAR and 6 RAR.

(ii) One bty in sp and at pri call 5 RAR.

(iii) In sp from 060800H Mar 67 1 ARU

(b) Tasks.

(i) Fire sp as required.

(ii) Reloc 103 Fd Bty to an area to be selected within 1 ATF base area.

(iii) Vacate 103 Fd Bty area by 311800H Mar 67.

(2) 1/83 Bn.

(a) Grouping. No change.

(b) Tasks. Fire sp as required.

f. 1 Fd Sqn.

(1) Grouping.

(a) One elm to be under comd 5 RAR from 051500H Mar 67 until 151600H Mar 67.

(b) One elm to be under comd 6 RAR from 160700H Mar 67.

(c) One elm to be in sp 103 Fd Bty from 060800H Mar 67.

(2) Pri of Tasks.

(a) Cont constr Route 2 by pass rd.

(b) Cont drainage vic KANGAROO LZ.

(c) Constr a rd into HORSESHOE HILL.

(d) Estb a WP in HORSESHOE HILL.

(e) Clear timber and assist 5 RAR estb a coy def loc on HORSESHOE HILL.

(f) Clear timber for erection of fence EAST of DAT D0 starting on or about 15 Mar 67.

(g) Clear timber from 50 to 52 Eastings and from the coast to the 63 Northing after completion pri f.

(h) Assist 103 Fd Bty to constr its new base area.

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g. 3 SAS Sqn.(1) Grouping. No Change.(2) Task.

(a) Foster 1 SAS Sqn from 2 Mar 67, to incl ptls. Areas separately.

(b) By day, man the OPs on NUI DAT. By ni, maint two tps in the position vacated by D Coy 5 RAR from 061000H Mar 67.

(c) Vacate existing area by 16 Mar 67.

(d) 1 SAS Sqn is to occupy D Coy 5 RAR position on NUI DAT as soon as possible but not later than 16 Mar 67.

h. 161 Recce Flt.(1) Grouping.

(a) One H13 in sp 5 RAR from 060730H Mar 67 until 151800H Mar 67.

(b) One H13 in sp 6 RAR from 160700H Mar 67.

(2) Tasks.(a) Rotary Wing.

(i) One ac for LO to II FFORCE V at 0730 hrs daily.

(ii) One ac for 1 ATF standby.

(iii) As required by inf bns.

(b) Fixed Wing. Vis recce by day and by ni.i. 1 ARU.(1) Grouping. In sp 103 Fd Bty from 060800H Mar 67.(2) Task.

(a) Assist constr new 103 Fd Bty base area from 060800H Mar 67.

(b) Occupy 103 Fd Bty present loc by 061800H ~~Mar~~ 67.

(c) Maint ambush ptls in your allotted TAOR.

j. Coord Instrs.(1) Bdrys. Annex P.(2) Timings. Annex B.(3) Air.(a) RAAF.

(i) Cont to provide tac and log sp.

(ii) Maint two UH1B on staddby:

(aa) At KANGAROO LZ when SAS ptls are out.

(bb) At VUNG TAU when SAS ptls are not out.

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(5)

(iii) Be prep to assist maint of group on HORSESHOE HILL.

(iv) Provide airlift for 120 daily from LUSCOMBE FIELD to VUNG TAU and return.

(b) US Army Ayn.

(1) Provide one lt fire team on KANGAROO LZ during those periods when SAS ptls are out.

(ii) Provide one air mobile coy to lift one rifle coy of 5 RAR at 060730H Mar 67.

(iii) Provide one air mobile coy to lift one rifle coy of 5 RAR at 070730H Mar 67. Air mobile coy to remain for stores lift to HORSESHOE HILL or retrg with inf.

(iv) Provide CH47 for fwd loading tasks after 8 Mar 67. DAQMG to advise requirements.

(c) USAF.

(i) Vis recce.

(ii) Cont air strikes on known and suspected VC forces bases and instls.

4. Admin and Log.

a. Gen. Unit admin is to be normal except as varied below:

b. Material and Svcs.

(1) Ammo. Arty. Resup fire sp base dir from 1 ALSG by air or rd commencing on 17 Mar 67.

(2) POL. Dieso. Initial estb of stocks at HORSESHOE HILL is to be a unit responsibility. Resup by bulk tanker from 1 ALSG on demand.

(3) Rats.

(a) For all pers outside 1 ATF base area. Combat Rats.

(b) All resup is to be coord by inf bas as required.

(c) Tinned equivalent or fresh rats is to be provided for the coy def loc on the HORSESHOE HILL as soon as practicable.

(4) Water.

(a) Initially and until WP estb in HORSESHOE HILL resup is to be by air. Basis of sup to be 5 gals per man per day. 5 RAR is to coord.

(b) Resup to 6 RAR as required after 16 Mar 67.

(c) In the event of the WP failing water will be del dir to HORSESHOE HILL from 1 ALSG. 1 ATF will arrange and coord.

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(6)

(5) Ipt.

(a) Once the rd is through to the HORSESHOE HILL all def stores are to be lifted by rd and air.

(b) Initial estimate is for:

(i) 101 loads wiring stores.

(ii) 2 loads CGI and timber (tropical hut).

(iii) 12 loads CGI and timber (revetting).

(iv) 4 loads miscellaneous.

(c) No convoy before 8 Mar 67.

(6) Stores.

(a) 10,000 yds Catwire type 2 with single apron.

(b) 4,000 yds low wire entanglement.

(c) CGI and timber for revetment.

(d) CGI and timber for one tropical hut 60 ft by 20 ft.

(e) One Scale A Kitchen.

(f) Water storage facilities.

(7) Postal and Canteen. As arranged by Inf bns.

c. Med.

(1) After 16 Mar 67 5 RAR is to ensure RMO visits HORSESHOE HILL not less frequently than twice weekly.

(2) Med ord is to be provided by 5 RAR after 16 Mar 67.

(3) Med evac from HORSESHOE HILL by hel.

5. Comd and Sig.

a. Loc. HQ 1 ATF remains present loc.

b. Frequencies. A 1 ATF air net is to be estb. The net is to be used by all ac flying tac tasks for 1 ATF. The frequency is 40.30 mc/s

c. Callsigns HORSESHOE HILL Coy 151800H - ²²310800H Mar 67 - 18.
220800H - 310800H Mar 67 - 45.

d. Pts of Origin. Additional points of origin:

060800H to 070800H Mar 67

BEER 4962

070800H to 080800H Mar 67

TOOL 5061

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(7)

e. Q Hr. Password. No change.

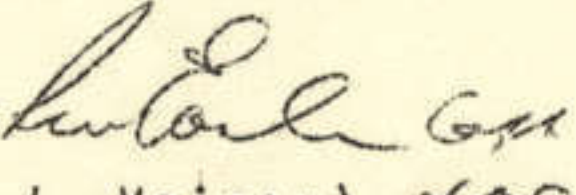
ACK

S.C. Graham
Brig
Comd

Annexes: A. En Forces.
B. Timings.
P. TAOR.

Distr: List Z

Authentication


(S.J. Maizey) for
Maj
S3

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ANNEX A TO
1 ATF Op O 2/67 OF

2 Mar 67

EN FORCES

1. Although the main towns and villages in the area between LONG TAN (YS4965) and PHUOC HAI (YS5153) are nominally under GVN control the area and people are largely VC dominated. Domination is maintained by a continuous VC presence in the area and the small ARVN/RF/PF forces employed in static security roles are completely ineffective. The VC forces which have made this possible are:

- a. D445 Bn.
- b. C25 Coy, Long Dat District Coy.
- c. Village Guerilla Squads from:

Long Tan	An Ngai
An Nhut	Long Dien
Phuoc Tho	Phuoc Tinh
Phuoc Thanh	Long Hai
Phuoc Hoa Long	Phuoc Hai
Phuoc Loi	Hoi My
Tam Phuoc	Phuoc Loi

2. a. D445 Bn has operated continually in this area and mounted two large operations as recently as 17 Dec 66 and 17 Feb 67. These operations appear to have had the aim of demonstrating the ineffectiveness of the local GVN forces and showing the people that the VC are the real strength in the area. Although suffering moderate to heavy casualties during the battles on 17 Feb 67 the aim was partially achieved and the battalion remains as an effective fighting force; it is likely to react offensively against any operation which successfully cuts its supply from the DAT DO area.

b. After the battle on 17 Feb 67 D445 is believed to have withdrawn to the TAN RU area (YS4568) but there has been one report of its being located East of the SONG RAI at YS6563. In either case it is less than a nights march from the operational area.

3. C25 Coy, strength about 100, is located in the LONG HAI MOUNTAINS, probably in the area YS4752. This company has always cooperated with D445 Bn when it has operated in the DAT DO area but is usually restricted to an area West of Route 44.

4. The guerilla squads listed in para 1c above maintain pressure on the civilian population and organize collection of food and supplies, taxes, and intelligence. They conduct sniping and mining attacks against GVN/FWMAF and organize road demolitions.

5. The presence of C25 Coy and guerilla forces astride 1 ATF communication routes into the operational area will offer the VC opportunities to mine and booby trap the road and to snipe at vehicles. This activity is likely to increase if the operation seals successfully the resupply routes from DAT DO. The possibility of interference by C25 Coy should not be underestimated especially in view of recent reports that the Commanding Officer of D445 Bn has taken command of C25 Coy.

6. The VC have maintained their interest in the DAT DO area mainly because of its value as a procuring and provisioning centre and because of its proximity to the jungle bases along the SONG RAI and in the MAY TAO. Control of the area gives the VC access to the main population centres of PHUOC TUY, and to the rice, fish, salt and fruit producing region. It also gives them free access to the towns' market where they are able to purchase unlimited quantities of medical supplies, cloth, batteries and other supplies obtained in VUNG TAU and SAIGON.

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- 2 -

7. Because of its value as a resupply base Group 84 has been active in the area and the following units have been identified:

K1A, Purchasing and Food Supply Agency at DAT DO and GAY CAM (YS5863).

K5, Purchasing and Food Supply Agency at PHUOC LOI.

In addition a transportation company and a corridor security company probably operate in the area but have not been positively identified. Many PW, ralliers and agents have given information that the main supply routes from the area are:

a. Via Route 52 to the vicinity of LONG TAN.

b. Via Route 23 to vicinity YS5561.

c. Via various routes and tracks to the area of the SONG RAI (YS5959).

These routes however are general axes of movement rather than the exact path.

8. Some indication of the extent of the resupply occurring in the area can be seen by the fact in addition to the Group 84 activities a main force battalion was twice during 1966 employed for about three weeks on a rice carrying mission south of Route 23.

9. The 275 Regt is currently located in the area YS6679. This is about two days march from the operational area and it is unlikely that any main force units will be encountered for at least two weeks after the operation commences. Some reaction after that date is possible but unlikely until the operation begins to have some telling effect on the VC 5th Div operational capability. This is not likely to happen in the first two months.

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ANNEX B TO
1 ATF Op 0 2/67 OF

2 Mar 67

OUTLINE TIMINGS

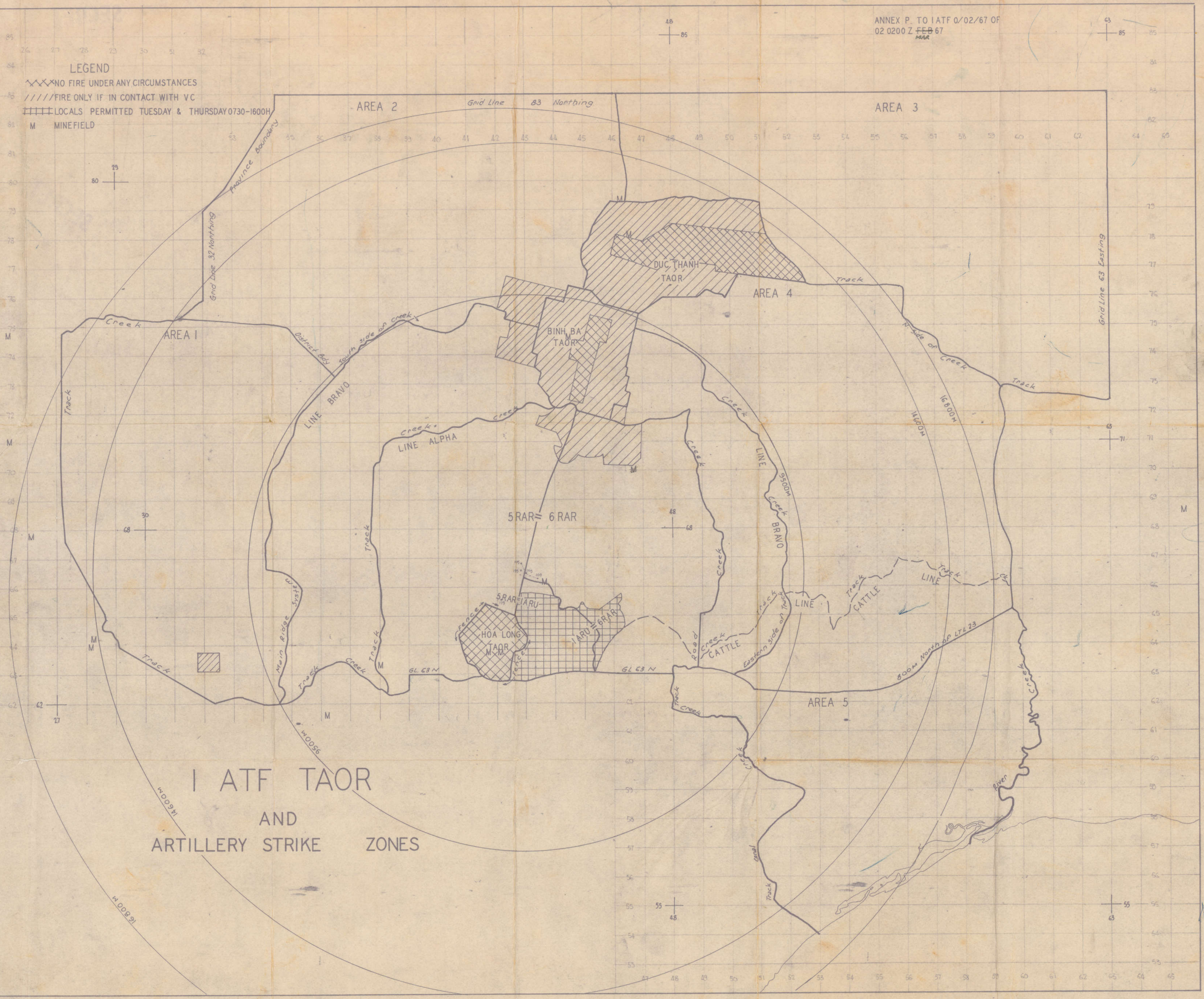
- 3 Mar 67 Combined inf/arty/engr recce of HORSESHOE HILL.
- 6 Mar 67 Rifle coy 5 RAR move to HORSESHOE HILL.
3 SAS Sqn to man OPs on NUI DAT by day. Not less than two tps on position by ni.
103 Fd Bty commence new base area assisted by 1 ARU.
- 7 Mar 67 Air lift stores to HORSESHOE HILL Plus additional inf as required.
- 8 Mar 67 Rd resup may commence.
- 15 Mar 67 Coy def loc on HORSESHOE HILL occupied.
Coy to come under op con 1 ATF.
- 16 Mar 67 6 RAR commence constr of wire fence.
SAS vacate existing area, occupy NUI DAT.
- 31 Mar 103 Fd Bty vacate existing area.
1 ARU commence occupation.
- 6 ^{Apr}~~Jun~~ 67 1 ARU in occupation present 103 Fd Bty area.

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LEGEND

- XXXX NO FIRE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES
- //// FIRE ONLY IF IN CONTACT WITH VC
- |||| LOCALS PERMITTED TUESDAY & THURSDAY 0730-1600H
- M MINEFIELD

I ATF TAOR AND ARTILLERY STRIKE ZONES



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AWM95
6/1/14
Map No. 57

CONFIDENTIALCopy No 30 of 815 RAR
AP AN PHU
SOUTH VIETNAM

OPS 512

040600 Mar 67

OPO 8/67 (OP LEETON)

Ref: A. L8015 VIETNAM. Sheet 6430 III SE BINH BA (SE), Edition 1 AMS, 1:25,000
 B. L8015 VIETNAM, Sheet 6430 II, XUYEN MOC (SW), Edition 1 AMS, 1:25,000
 C. L8015 VIETNAM, Sheet 6429 IV NE VUNG TAU (NE), Edition 1 AMS, 1:25,000
 D. L8015 VIETNAM, Sheet 6429 I NW DATDO (NW), Edition 1 AMS 1:25,000

Time zone used throughout this order : HOTEL

1. Situation.a. En Forces. Annex A.b. Friendly Forces.(1) 1 ATF Concept of Ops.

(a) 1 ATF is to assist the Vietnamese authorities to maintain control of the SOUTHERN Phuoc Tuy Province.

(b) Establish a permanent coy def loc on Horseshoe Hill vic 4961.

(c) Clear the timber line from the 50 to 52 Easting and from the coast to the 63 Northing.

(d) Erect a wire fence EAST of Dat Do vic 4960 and Phuoc Loi vic 5057.

(e) Relocate certain sub units of 1 ATF within the 1 ATF base area.

(2) 6 RAR. Tasks are:

(a) Patrol TAOR to line BRA'0.

(b) From 160800H erect the wire fence.

(c) Provide protection for the engrs clearing the timber

(3) ARVN/RF/PF Forces.

(a) 3/43 ARVN Bn (-) 489593

(b) One coy - '43 Bn 500570

(c) 3A/181 Arty Pl 477597

(d) 612 RF Coy 515536

(e) 615 RF Coy 502577

(f) 32, 33, 34 PF Pls 477597

(g) 35 PF Pl 575535

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c. Atts and Dets.

(1) Under comd from 051500H
to 151600H

One tp and two mor APCs from
A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.

Engr Elm

One combat engr team

(2) Remaining in DS

103 Fd Bty RAA

(3) In sp from 051600H until
081600H

Five TCVs

(4) In sp from 060730H until
151800H

One H13

(5) In sp at 060730H

One Airmobile Coy

2. Mission. 5 RAR is to assist the Vietnamese authorities to maintain control of SOUTHERN Phuoc Tuy Province.

3. Execution.

a. Gen Outline.

(1) D Coy plus the Recce Pl establish a def loc on Horseshoe hill by 151800H.

(2) Patrol the new TAOR to line BRAVO.

(3) Maintain ambushes WEST of HOA LONG as often as possible by day and night.

(4) Vacate present D Coy base area by 061000H and hand over to 3 SAS Sqn by 091000H.

(5) Maintain one coy on 30 minutes notice to move as 1 ATF standby from 030030H

b. A Coy.

(1) Grouping. Normal atts excl SBs.

(2) Tasks. Annex B.

c. B Coy.

(1) Grouping.

(a) Normal atts excl SBs

(b) Under comd from 051500H

One combat engr team

(c) Under comd from 060700H until rel 091000H.

One tp and two mor
APC A Sqn 3 Cav Regt

(2) Tasks.

(a) Annex B.

-2-

/(b) At 060700H

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(b) At 060700H mount in the tp from A Sqn 3 Cav Regt and with the two mor APCs move to the Horseshoe feature.

(c) Clear the Horseshoe Feature, estb an LZ for the air mobile coy by 061000H and hand over to D Coy on their arrival.

(d) When D Coy are in position act as a screen for D Coy while they are estb their base by denying the en access to the Horseshoe TAOR.

(e) With the tp of A Sqn 3 Cav Regt provide, within the horseshoe TAOR three night ambush patrols up to and incl night 8/9 Mar.

d. C Coy.

(1) Grouping. Normal atts excl SBs.

(2) Tasks. Annex B.

e. D Coy.

(1) Grouping.

(a) Normal atts excl SBs.

(b) Under comd from arrival at the Horseshoe Feature on 6 Mar until 151600H

Engr elms

(c) Under comd from 060900H

Recce Pl

(d) Under comd when rel by B Coy on 9 Mar until 151800H

One tp and two mor APCs A Sqn 3 Cav Regt

(e) Under comd from 091200H

Sect Aslt Pnr Pl

(f) In sp from 060730H until 081600H

Five TCVs

(g) In sp from 061000H until rel on 6 Mar

One airmobile coy

(h) In sp from 060730H to 150800H One H13

(2) Tasks.

(a) Vacate D Coy base area Nui Dat by 061000H and have the base ready for handover to 3 SAS Sqn by 091000H.

(b) Estb an ech base loc in Admin Coy area by 061000H.

(c) Move from D Coy by 5 RAR tot to Luscombe Fd by 061000H.

(d) Marry up with the Recce Pl at Luscombe Field at 061000H.

-3-

(e) At 061000H

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- (e) At 061000H be prepared to fly into the Horseshoe Feature when ordered by Bn HQ.
- (f) On reaching the Horseshoe Feature take over the feature from B Coy and estb a def base loc on the Horseshoe Feature by 151800H.
- (g) At 091000H be prepared to take under comd the tp of A Sqn 3 Cav Regt, the mor sect and an infantry pl from C Coy. This group will still be required to patrol the Horseshoe Feature TAOR by day.
- (h) Until 151800H restrict your patrolling to daily clearing patrols.
- (i) Until 091000H maintain close contact with B Coy screen which will be protecting you while you estb your base.
- (j) Be prepared to rotate your pls for a rest in 5 RAR base from 101000H.

f. Mor Pl.

(1) Grouping.

- (a) Pl less one sect remains in the base area.
- (b) One sect in APCs placed under comd B Coy from 060700H until 091000H
- (c) The APC sect move under comd D Coy at 091000H.

(2) Tasks.

- (a) Base Area Sects. Base area def.
- (b) APC Sect.
 - i. Load stores less mors into the mor APCs at 051500H.
 - ii. Load mors and move to B Coy by 060700H
 - iii. Provide fire sp for B Coy during the move to the Horseshoe Feature.
 - iv. Be prepared to move on patrol with B Coy and the tp of APCs.

g. Reece Pl.

(1) Grouping. Under comd D Coy from 060900H.

(2) Tasks.

- (a) Move to and join D Coy at Luscombe Field by 061000H.
- (b) While under comd D Coy, as directed by OC D Coy.

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h. Aslt Pnr Pl.

(1) Grouping. One sect under comd D Coy from 091200H.

(2) Tasks.

(a) Destroy all grenade blinds on D Coy range by 061000H.

(b) Move by helicopter to the Horseshoe Feature by 091200H.

(c) Be prepared to take to the Horseshoe Feature those items of Aslt Pnr Pl equipment needed to carry out the Aslt Pnr tasks as directed by OC D Coy.

(d) Annex B.

i. Band. Tasks. Annex B

j. A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.

(1) Grouping.

(a) Under comd 5 RAR from 051500H until 060700H

One tp and two mor APCs

(b) Pass to under comd B Coy from 060700H until 091000H

One tp and two mor APCs

(c) Pass to under comd D Coy from 091000H until 151600H

One tp and two mor APCs

(2) Tasks.

(a) Two mor APCs move to the mor pl lines at 051500H and load mor stores. These mor APCs load the mors at 060630H and move to B Coy lines by 060700H.

(b) One tp of APCs moves to B Coy lines at 060700H and B Coy mount up.

(c) At 060715H assume convoy comd and on orders from 5 RAR move with the mor APC and B Coy to the Horseshoe Feature.

(d) At 060700H provide one sect APCs to escort three engr dozers across country from 1 Fd Sqn to the Horseshoe Feature.

(e) At 060730H provide one sect APCs to escort engr plant and stores vehs from a SP at the junc of Route TL2 Canberra Ave SOUTH to the Horseshoe Feature. The TCVs will return to 5 RAR and carry out a minimum of two more trips and will require escort both ways

(f) Provide APC escort for stores vehs departing 5 RAR on 7/3 Mar. Stores vehs will operate between 0800 - 1600H.

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k. Arty.

- (1) Recce and layout a Fd Bty gun position at the Horseshoe Feature.
- (2) Obtain approval for D Coy FO on the Horseshoe Feature to be an authorised OP for 1 Fd Regt.

l. Engrs.

(1) Grouping.

(a) Under comd B Coy from
051500H

One combat engr team

(b) Under comd D Coy from
arrival at the Horseshoe Feature
on 6 Mar until 151600H

Three TD 15 B
One Cat 12 Grader
One $\frac{3}{4}$ ton LR and Tlr
One offr and 13 ORs

(2) Mov.

(a) At 060700H the three TD 15 Bs will depart 1 ATF base and move cross country to the Horseshoe Feature protected by a sect APCs.

(b) At 060730H the remainder of the engr plant and pers report to the junc of Route TL2/Canberra Ave SOUTH in preparation for the move to the Horseshoe Feature at 060730H.

(3) Pri of Tasks.

(a) Construct a rd into the Horseshoe Feature by 081600H.

(b) Clear fire lanes on the WEST of the Horseshoe Feature.

(c) Clear fire lanes on the NORTH side of the Horseshoe Feature.

(d) Clear the timber and brush from the SOUTH side of the Horseshoe Feature.

(e) Assist D Coy with the construction of bunkers.

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m. 161 Recce Flt

- (1) Grouping One H13 in sp 5 RAR from 060730H until 151800H.
- (2) Tasks
 - (a) Provide air obsn with CO 5 RAR over B Coy and the engr plant moving across country from 060700H to 060930H.
 - (b) Remain on standby at Tiger 5.
 - (c) Be prepared to assist in recce, liaison visits and air resup.

n. Air

- (1) RAAF Two HUIBs are on call to 5 RAR to assist in the maint of the D Coy group on Horseshoe Hill.
- (2) US Army Avn At 061000H on orders from 5 RAR provide one air mobile coy to lift D Coy (+) from Luscombe Field to the Horseshoe feature.

o. Coord Instrs

(1) Timings

- (a) 060715H B Coy and sect Mor Pl depart for the Horseshoe Feature by APCs
- (b) 061000H D Coy (+) flies to the Horseshoe feature by air mobile coy on orders from 5 RAR
- (c) Other timings. Annex B.

(2) 1 ATF and Horseshoe Feature TAOR. Annex P.

(3) Rules of Engagement No change.

(4) Regrouping/^{for} 5 RAR base Def Annex B.

(5) TAOR Patrolling - Relief of D Coy Patrols. Annex B.

(6) Route. SP, SOUTH along TL 2 to HOA LONG 4264 then SOUTH to XA LONG DIEN 4359 then EAST to DAT DO 489602 then NORTH along TL 52 to the Horseshoe feature.

(7) SPs

(a) B Coy B Coy lines.

(b) Rd Convoy The first rd convoy of engr plant and TCVs will depart from junc route TL2/CANBERRA Ave SOUTH. Subsequent TCV convoys will depart from Admin Coy.

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(8) Emplan ing Offr Adj 5 RAR (Callsign 9B)

4. Administration and Logistics.

- (a) D Coy Ech Move to Admin Coy by 061000H.
- (b) Handover of NUI DAT to 3 SAS Sqn
- (1) G recce by 3 SAS Sqn 051000H
 - (2) Q handover to 3 SAS Sqn 091000H
 - (3) All stores except tentage (less the orderly room), kitchen refrigerator, and 200 gal water containers are to be removed.
 - (4) The Asst QM is to prepare the necessary documentation for handover by 091000H.
 - (5) The RQMS is to ensure the coy is ready for inspection and handover by 091000H.
 - (6) C Coy is to provide ten men as a work party to the RQMS between 0830 and 1630 hrs on 6, 7 and 8 Mar.
- (c) Rations Three days combat rations are to be carried by all personnel operating in the Horseshoe Feature from 6 Mar.
- (d) Water
- (1) Initially until the WP is estb at the Horseshoe feature resup will be by air/rd
 - (2) 300 jerrycans are to be moved to the Horseshoe feature in the stores veh
 - (3) ^{The} /Basis of resup is 5 gal per man per day
- (e) POL A Sqn 3 Cav Regt and Engrs are to provide their own requirements for POL
- (f) Ammo
- (1) Claymores are to be carried by B Coy and D Coy
 - (2) Explosives are to be moved to the Horseshoe feature in the first rd convoy
- (g) Tpt
- (1) Grouping In sp from 051600H until 071600H. 5 TCVs
 - (2) Tasks
 - (a) At 051600H five TCVs are to report to the TO 5 RAR for loading under the direction of OC Admin Coy.

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(b) At 050715H the loaded TCVs will move under the direction of the TO to CANBERRA Ave SOUTH where they will join up with the engr vehs and move at 060730H under the protection of A Sqn 3 Cav Regt to the Horseshoe feature.

(c) On rel at the Horseshoe feature the APCs are to escort the vehs to and from 5 RAR. This convoy will continue on 7 and 8 Mar.

(d) The initial loading of the TCVs is to be:

- i. Two for water.
- ii. One for sandbags.
- iii. One for picquets.
- iv. One for explosives - (To travel last and
(the detonators to
(be carried in another
(vehicle.

(e) The build up will then be for Coy stores and wire.

(f) The TO 5 RAR is to org all soft skinned convoys, and arrange 13 vehs for tpt for D Coy to move from NUI DAT to LUSCOMBE FIELD by 061000H

5. Command and Signals.

a. Bn HQ. Remains present location.

b. Radio.

(1) Current SOI apply.

(2) Bn Comd Net.

(a) Frequency Main 45.2 Alt 55.1

(b) Deletions From 060900H - Recce Pl - Callsign 61.

(3) Additions to D Coy Net. From 060900H - Recce Pl Callsign 61.

(4) AQ Flick Net. With effect from 061000H this net will be operative to D Coy and will be maintained continuously as the D Coy/5 RAR Admin link.

c. Line.

(1) Temporary internal company line is to be laid at the new D Coy position.

(2) Permanent internal line will be laid by Sig Pl line section when ordered.

(3) Line will not be laid from 5 RAR to D Coy at this time.

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(4) A switchboard 993 GT and sufficient telephones are to be taken by D Coy

(5) All excess telephone equipment is to be returned to the Signal store.

d. Additional Points of Origin.

(1) 060800H to 070800H BEER 4962.

(2) 070800H to 080800H TOOL 5061

e. Codes, Q Hours. As issued.

f. Nicknames. As issued.

Ack Instrs. ACK.

J. A. Warr
(J.A. Warr)
for Lt Col AOD
CO

ANNEXES.

- A. Enemy
- B. 5 RAR Allocation of Tasks.
- P. 1 ATF and Horseshoe TAOR.

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Copy No 30 of 81

ANNEX A TO 5 RAR
OPO 8/67 DATED 040600H

EN FORCES

1. Although the main towns and villages in the area between Long Tan (YS4965) and Phuoc Hai (YS5153) are nominally under GVN control the area and people are largely VC dominated. Domination is maintained by a continuous VC presence in the area and the small ARVN/RF/PF forces employed in static security roles are completely ineffective. The VC forces which have made this possible are:

- a. D445 Bn.
- b. C25 Coy, Long Dat District Coy.
- c. Village Guerilla Squads from:

Long Tan	An Ngai
An Nhut	Long Dien
Phuoc Tho	Phuoc Tinh
Phuoc Thanh	Long Hai
Phuoc Hoa Long	Phuoc Hai
Phuoc Loi	Hoi My
Tam Phuoc	Phuoc Loi

2. a. D445 Bn has operated continually in this area and mounted two large operations as recently as 17 Dec 66 and 17 Feb 67. These operations appear to have had the aim of demonstrating the ineffectiveness of the local GVN forces and showing the people that the VC are the real strength in the area. Although suffering moderate to heavy casualties during the battles on 17 Feb 67 the aim was partially achieved and the battalion remains as an effective fighting force; it is likely to react offensively against any operation which successfully cuts its supply from the Dat Do area.

b. After the battle on 17 Feb 67 D445 is believed to have withdrawn to the Tan Ru area (YS4568) but there has been one report of its being located East of the Song Rai at YS6563. In either case it is less than a nights march from the operational area.

3. C25 Coy, strength about 100, is located in the Long Hai Mountains, probably in the area YS4752. This company has always cooperated with D445 Bn when it has operated in the Dat Do area but is usually restricted to an area West of Route 44.

4. The guerilla squads listed in para 1 c above maintain pressure on the civilian population and organize collection of food and supplies, taxes, and intelligence. They conduct sniping and mining attacks against GVN/FWMAF and organize road demolitions.

5. The pressure of C25 Coy and guerilla forces astride 1 ATF communication routes into the operational area will offer the VC opportunities to mine and booby trap the road and to snipe at vehicles. This activity is likely to increase if the operation seals successfully the resupply routes from Dat Do. The possibility of interference by C25 Coy should not be underestimated especially in view of recent reports that the Commanding Officer of D445 Bn has taken command of C25 Coy.

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6. The VC have maintained their interest in the Dat Do area mainly because of its value as a procuring and provisioning centre and because of its proximity to the jungle bases along the Song Rai and in the May Tao. Control of the area gives the VC access to the main population centres of Phuoc Tuy, and to the rice, fish, salt and fruit producing region. It also gives them free access to the town's market where they are able to purchase unlimited quantities of medical supplies, cloth, batteries and other supplies obtained in Vung Tau and Saigon.

7. Because of its value as a resupply base Group 84 has been active in the area and the following units have been identified.

K1A, Purchasing and Food Supply Agency at Dat Do and Cay Cam (YS5863).

K5, Purchasing and Food Supply Agency at Phuoc Loi.

In addition a transportation company and a corridor security company probably operate in the area but have not been positively identified. Many PW, ralliers and agents have given information that the main supply routes from the area are:

- a. Via Route 52 to the vicinity of Long Tan.
- b. Via Route 23 to vicinity YS5561.
- c. Via various routes and tracks to the area of the Song Rai (YS5959).

These routes however are general axes of movement rather than the exact path.

8. Some indication of the extent of the resupply occurring in the area can be seen by the fact in addition to the Group 84 activities a main force battalion was twice during 1966 employed for about three weeks on a rice carrying mission south of Route 23.

9. The 275 Regt is currently located in the area YS6679. This is about two days march from the operational area and it is unlikely that any main force units will be encountered for at least two weeks after the operation commences. Some reaction after that date is possible but unlikely until the operation begins to have some telling effect on the VC 5th Div operational capability. This is not likely to happen in the first two months.

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Copy No 30 of 81
ANNEX B TO 5 RAR
OPO 8/67 DATED 040600H

ALLOCATION OF TASKS 6 - 16 MAR

Serial	Date	A Coy	B Coy	C Coy	D Coy	Sp Coy	Admin Coy	Remarks
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)
1	6 Mar (Mon)	TAOR ptls (note a)	Ptl vic Horshoe feature	Duty coy stand by coy (note b)	Estb base at Horshoe feature	Recce Pl under comd D Coy (note c)	(note d)	Notes: a. Separate task table to be issued. Ptls to depart on return of C Coy from ptl at approx 1000 hrs. b. Duty coy on 30 mins notice to move if required as reaction force. Nil requirement to provide NORTH rd block on 6 Mar. Duties now include provision of a pl to protect the AP AN PHU water point which will be operating at night. One pl to occupy A Coy base by night. Radio to be on the Bn Comd net. c. Aslt Pnr pl to occupy D Coy base at NUI DAT by night. Radio to be on Bn Comd net. d. Band to occupy NORTH rd block from 0645 hrs.

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(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)
2	7 Mar (Tues)	TAOR ptl	Ptl vic Horseshoe feature	Duty coy standby coy (note a)	Estb base at Horseshoe feature	Recce Pl under comd D Coy (note b)		a. C Coy to take over NORTH rd block. Pl to occupy A Coy base by night. b. Aslt Pnr pl to occupy D Coy base by night.
3	8 Mar (Wed)	TAOR ptl	Ptl vic Horseshoe feature	Duty coy standby coy (note a)	Estb base at Horseshoe feature	Recce Pl under comd D Coy (note b)		a. Pl of C Coy to A Coy base by night. b. Aslt Pnr pl to occupy D Coy base by night.
4	9 Mar	TAOR ptl (note a)	Duty coy standby coy (note b)	One pl to relieve B Coy One pl on standby One pl TAOR ptl (note c)	Estb base at Horseshoe feature	Aslt Pnr pl sect to D Coy (note d)	(note e)	a. To return to base by 1700H. b. Assume duties/standby on return to base less NORTH road block and morning close TAOR ptl. c. One pl on standby to be under comd B Coy if reaction coy reqd. Pl details issued separately. d. Sp Coy to provide morning Close TAOR ptl. e. Band to man NORTH rd block.

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a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)
5	10 Mar	Duty Coy standby coy (note a)	Beach R & R note d	One pl vic Horseshoe feature one pl TAOR ptl one pl relieve pl of D Coy (note b)	Return one pl to have 24 hrs rest (note b)	Aslt Pnr sect with D Coy Recce pl ptl (note c)		<p>a. One pl to occupy C Coy base by night.</p> <p>b. Details of relief of a D Coy pl issued separately.</p> <p>c. Ptl details issued separately.</p> <p>d. Details published in 5 RAR R487-11-7.</p>
6	11 Mar	Beach (note a)	Duty coy standby (note b)	"	changeover of pls for 24 hr rest	Aslt Pnr sect changeover Recce Pl ptl (note d)	(note e)	<p>a. Details published in 5 RAR R487-11-7.</p> <p>b. Assume duties on return from BEACH at approx 1100 hrs. Take over NORTH rd block from Band at 1330 hrs.</p> <p>c. Details to be advised.</p> <p>d. Details of changeover to be advised.</p> <p>e. Band to man rd block until 1330H</p>
7	12 Mar	Nil tasks (note a)	Duty coy standby	" (note b)	changeover of pl for rest	Aslt Pnr Pl sect with D Coy (note)		<p>a. Return from beach at approx 1100H One pl to C Coy base during night.</p> <p>b. Pl returns/ from TAOR ptl.</p> <p>Recce Pl returns from ptl.</p>

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	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)
8	13 Mar	One pl vic Horseshoe feature (note a)	TAOR ptl (note c)	Duty coy standby coy (note a)	Estb base at Horse shoe feature (note b)	Aslt Pnr sect with D Coy		<p>a. A Coy to man NORTH rd block and send out morning and afternoon TAOR ptls. C Coy to undertake remaining duties on return to base.</p> <p>b. Pl to return to Horseshoe feature details to be advised.</p> <p>c. Ptl details advised separately.</p>
9	14 Mar	One pl vic Horseshoe feature (note a)	TAOR ptl	Duty coy standby coy (note a)	Estb base at Horse shoe feature	Aslt Pnr sect with D Coy		<p>a. A Coy pl to protect water point Ni 14/15 Mar.</p>
10	15 Mar	One pl ni Horse shoe feature	TAOR ptl	Duty coy standby coy	"	Recce Pl ptl (note a)		<p>a. Ptl details issued separately.</p>
11	16 Mar	"	TAOR ptl	"	"	"		

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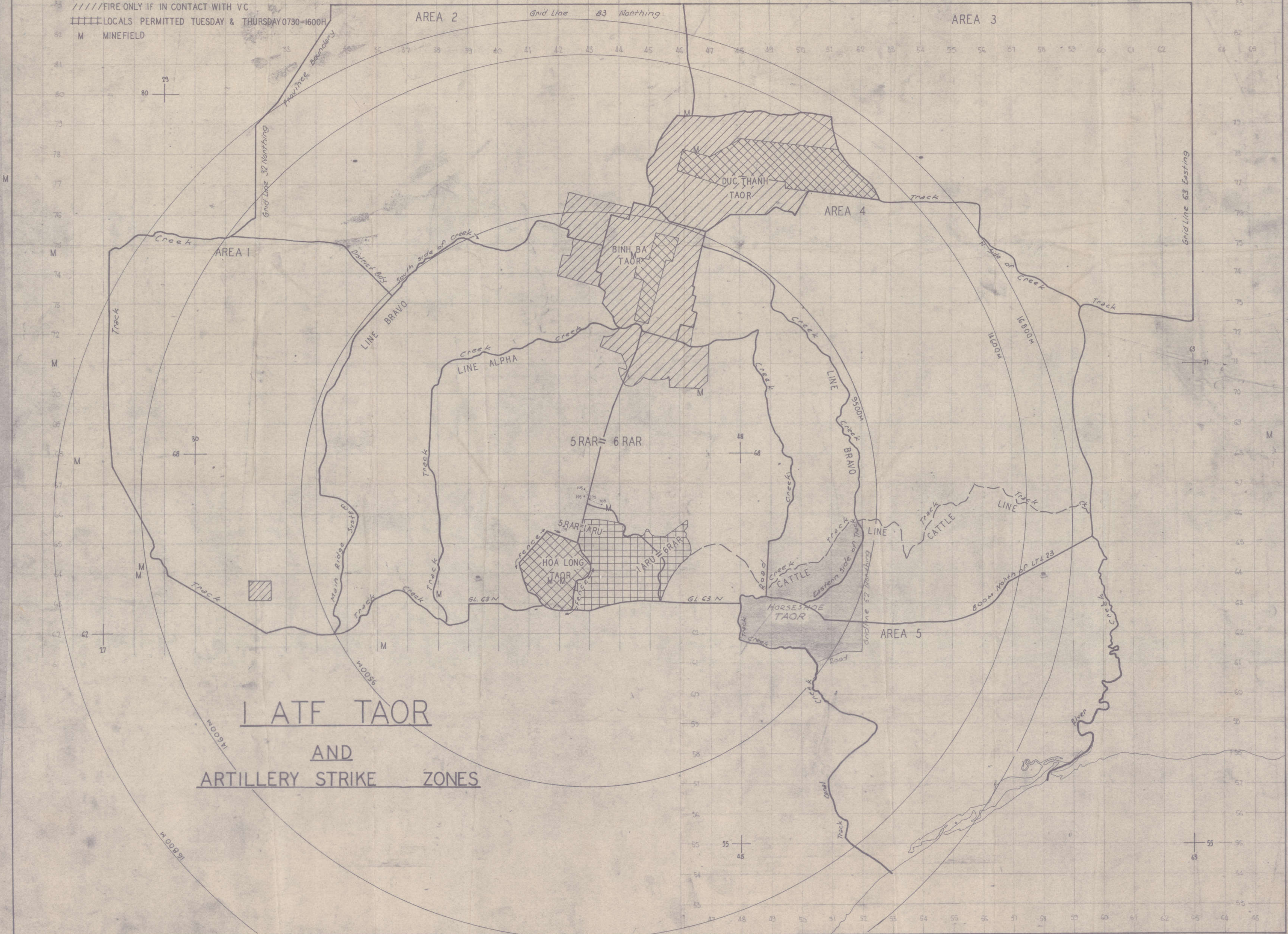
<u>Distribution</u>	<u>Number of Copies</u>	Copy No ³⁰ .. Annexes A B P	incl
A Coy	2	1 - 2	
B Coy	2	3 - 4	
C Coy	2	5 - 6	
D Coy	2	7 - 8	
Sp Coy	1	9	
Recce Pl	1	10	
Aslt Pnr Pl	1	11	
Mor Pl	1	12	
Sig Pl	1	13	
Admin Coy	3	14 - 16	
A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	3	17 - 19	
1 Fd Regt	5	20 - 24	
103 Fd Bty	2	25 - 26	
Bty A 1/83 US Arty	1	27	
161 Fd Bty RNZA	1	28	
1 Fd Sqn	1	29	
103 Sig Sqn	1	30	
6 RAR	1	31	
3 SAS Sqn	1	32	
1 ARU	1	33	
Det 1 Div Int Unit	1	34	
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	1	35	
1 ATF Pro Sect	1	36	
1 ATF CA Sect	1	37	
1 ATF	24	38 - 61	
1 ATF ATOC	2	62 - 63	
CO	1	64	
2IC	1	65	
Adjt	1	66	
Asst Adjt	1	67	
IO	1	68	
OC Sp Coy	1	69	
OC Admin Coy	1	70	
RSM	1	71	
Comd's Diary	6	72 77	
File	1	78	
Spare	3	79 - 81	

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ANNEX 'P' TO 5 RAR OPO 8/67
DATED 040600H

LEGEND

- XXXX NO FIRE UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES
- //// FIRE ONLY IF IN CONTACT WITH VC
- |||| LOCALS PERMITTED TUESDAY & THURSDAY 0730-1600H
- M MINEFIELD

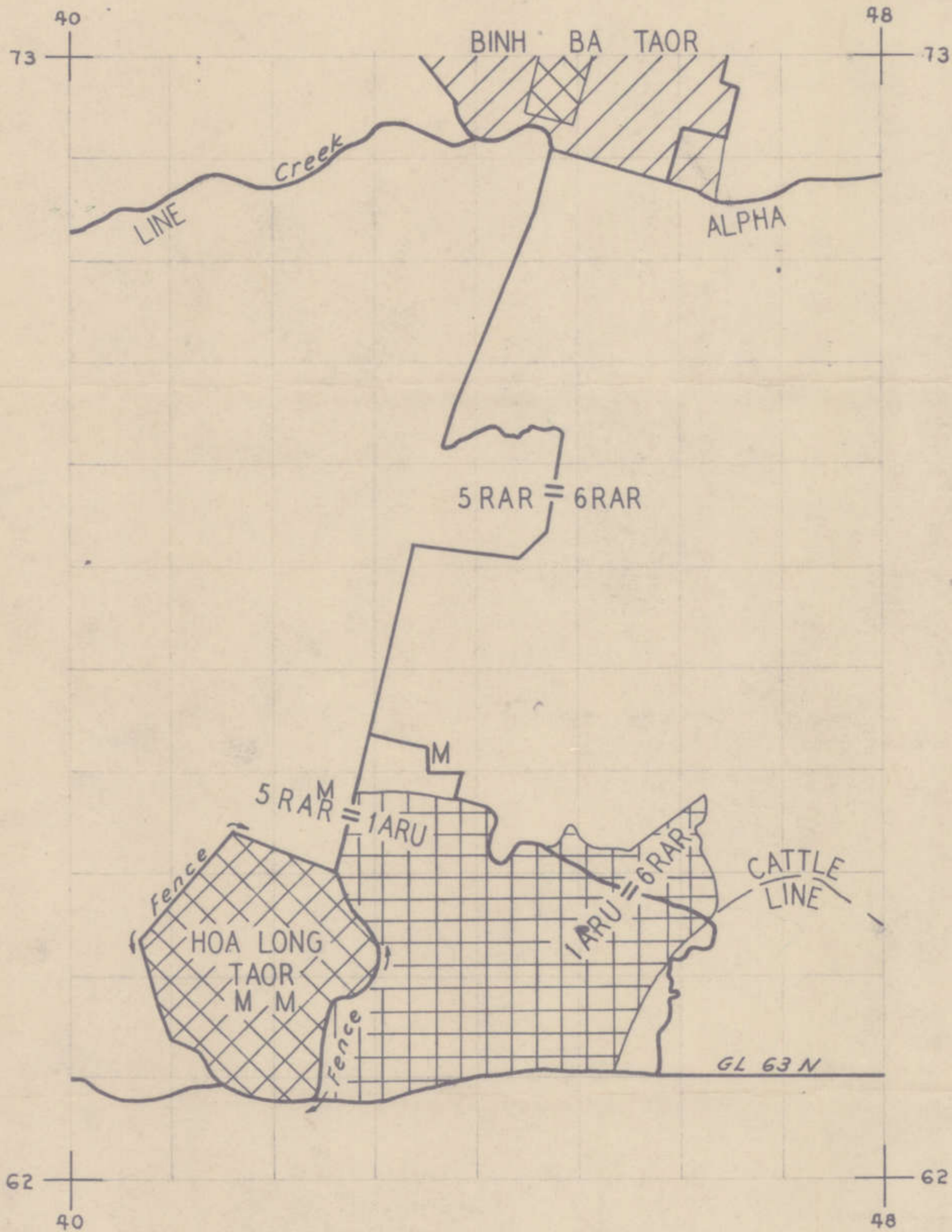


LA TF TAOR
AND
ARTILLERY STRIKE ZONES

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IATF TAOR (MAR. 67) AND ARTILLERY STRIKE ZONES 1ST AMENDMENT



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AFV/F7-12/1122

LEGEND

- XXX No Fire under any circumstances
- //// Fire only if in contact with VC
- |||| Locals permitted Tuesday & Thursday 0730-1600H
- M Minefield

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Copy No 30 of 76

5 RAR
AP AN PHU
SOUTH VIETNAM

OPS 601

142130H Mar 67

Frag 0 1/67 (OP LEETON)

Ref : No change from OPO 8/67 (OP LEETON)

Time Zone used throughout this order : HOTEL.

1. Situation.

a. En Forces. No change.

b. Friendly Forces.

(1) 1 ATF Concept of Ops.

(a) OP LEETON. No change.

(b) OP PORTSEA. The op is scheduled to commence not before 18 Mar and has the fol tasks.

i. Search and destroy the enemy in the area EAST of Dat Do to the Song Rai River.

ii. Open Route 23 from Dat Do to the Song Rai River and later to Xuyen Moc.

iii. Open Route 327 from Duc Thanh.

iv. Clear Route 328 to the sea.

v. Repair and extend the existing airfield at Xuyen Moc.

vi. Relocation of certain villages and squatters.

c. Atts and Dets.

(1) Remaining under comd

One tp and two mor APCs from A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.

One TD 15B

One combat engr team.

(2) Under comd from 160700H

One combat engr team

Two mor APCs from A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.

(3) Remaining in DS

103 Fd Bty RAA.

(4) Remaining in sp

One H13.

2. Mission. 5 RAR is to complete OP LEETON and prepare for OP PORTSEA.

3. Execution.

a. Gen Outline.

(1) OP LEETON.

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- (a) A Coy (-). TAOR patrolling.
- (b) B Coy. Standby/duty coy.
- (c) C Coy (+). Build a wire fence from Horseshoe feature at Phuoc Loi.
- (d) D Coy. Continue with prep of the Horseshoe feature.

(2) OP PORTSEA.

- (a) A Coy in APCs clear AO ALICE.
- (b) B Coy. Patrol the TAOR.
- (c) C Coy (+). No change.
- (d) D Coy. No change.

b. A Coy.

(1) OP LEETON.

(a) Grouping. One pl under comd C Coy from 160700H. This pl will revert to under comd D Coy from 1800H to 0700H nightly.

(b) Tasks.

i. Continue patrol programme. See 5 RAR R569-1-9(A) of 10 Mar.

ii. All patrols must be capable of returning to the base within 12 hours.

(2) OP PORTSEA

STANDBY COY ON 30 MINS TO MOVE

(2) OP PORTSEA.

(a) Grouping.

- i. Under comd Sect mor pl in APCs
One combat engr team
- ii. Reverting to under comd One pl from C Coy.
- iii. In Sp One tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.

b. Tasks. Clear AO ALICE.

c. B Coy.

(1) OP LEETON.

(a) Grouping. No change.

(b) Tasks. Duty/standby cov. 5 RAR R569-1-9(A) of 10 Mar refers.

(2) OP PORTSEA.

(a) Grouping. No change.

(b) Tasks.

- i. Provide a five day foot patrol inside Line ALPHA
-2- /in the NW

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- i. Remaining under comd One sect Aslt Pnr Pl
- ii. Under comd from 161800H to 0700H nightly One pl A Coy.
- iii. In loc One sect M r Pl

(b) Tasks. No change.

(2) OP PORTSEA.

(a) Grouping.

- i. Rel to under comd A Coy One pl A Coy
- ii. Under comd from 1800H to 0700H nightly One pl C Coy.

(b) Tasks. No change.

f. Mor Pl.

(1) OP LEETON.

(a) Grouping.

- i. Pl less one sect remains in the base area.
- ii. One sect in loc D Coy.

(b) Tasks.

- i. Base Area Sects. Base area def and sp for the A Coy patrols.
- ii. D Coy Sect. Support of C Coy and D Coys.

(2) OP PORTSEA.

(a) Grouping.

- i. Pl less two sects in base area.
- ii. Sect in loc at D Coy.
- iii. Sect in APC under comd A Coy.

(b) Tasks.

- i. Base Area Sect. No change.
- ii. A Coy Sect. Be prepared to move in APCs from the base in sp of A Coy.
- iii. D Coy Sect. Be prepared to move with C Coy to give C and D Ccys when wiring means move out of range.

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g. Aslt Pnr Pl.

(1) OP LEETON.

(a) Grouping.

- i. One sect/^{remains} under comd D Coy.
- ii. One sect under comd C Coy from 160700H.

(b) Tasks. C Coy sect to assist C Coy in the construction of the wire fence.

(2) OP PORTSEA. No change from OP LEETON.

h. Recce Pl.

(1) OP LEETON.

(a) Grouping. Under comd C Coy from 160700H.

(b) Tasks. With the aid of APCs patrol the Horseshoe TAOR and protect the C Coy wiring party. OC Recce Pl is to comd the APC/Recce Pl gp.

(2) OP PORTSEA.

(a) Grouping. No change.

(b) Tasks. Patrol by foot and protect the C Coy wiring party.

i. A Sqn 3 Cav Regt

(1) OP LEETON.

(a) Grouping. No change.

(b) Tasks.

i. At 160700H move C Coy (+) from their lines to the Horseshoe feature.

ii. Provide two APCs to assist C Coy with the loading of def stores.

iii. Provide tpt to the Recce Pl to protect the C Coy wiring party and patrol the Horseshoe TAOR.

(2) OP PORTSEA.

(a) Grouping. As for OP LEETON except:

- i. Under comd A Coy Two Mor APCs
- ii. Under comd 5RAR One ACV

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(b) Tasks.

- i. Move A Coy to AO ALICE.
- ii. Provide one tpt to A Coy to search AO ALICE.
- iii. When ordered provide two mor APCs to move a sect of mors in sp of C Coy and to carry def stores to C Coy.

j. Arty.

- (1) OP LEETON. No change.
- (2) OP PORTSEA. Details later.

k. Engrs .

(1) OP LEETON .

(a) Grouping .

- i. Remaining under comd D Coy. One engr combat team.
- ii. Under comd C Coy from 160700H. One TD 15B One engr combat team.

(b) Tasks .

- i. C Coy team. Daily mine clearing.
- ii. D Coy team. No change.
- iii. Clear a path for the wire fence.

(2) OP PORTSEA .

(a) Grouping. Under comd A Coy. One engr combat team.

(b) Tasks. A Coy C Coy D Coy teams - mine and booby trap clearing.

l. 161 Recce Flt. No change.

m. Air. No change.

o. Coord Instrs.

(1) Timings.

(a) 160700H. C Coy (+) move to commence fence construction.

(b) D Day OP PORTSEA. Not before 18 Mar.

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(2) AO ALICE. South of the Soug Ba Dap and EAST of Route TL 44 excl PHUOC HAI.

(3) Wire Fence.

(a) Type.

i. Two double cat wire fences approx 100 metres apart.

ii. There is to be a single apron on the outside of each fence.

(b) Location.

i. Details later.

ii. Rough location - SE from the Horseshoe feature to LTL 23 then SOUTH along the EAST BUND of Dat Do to 502577 on the Phuoc Loi bund thence along the Phuoc Loi bund to Route TL 44.

(c) Gaps. Details later.

(d) Def Stores. In loc at the Horseshoe feature.

(e) Wiring Stores. Available from the Asst QM from 151600H.

(4) A Coy, B Coy Patrols. Details later.

5. Administration and Logistics.

a. Water. For tps operating near the Horseshoe all water is to be drawn from the Horseshoe feature.

b. Rations.

(1) OP LEETON. Three days combat rations to be carried by the C Coy group.

(2) OP PORTSEA. Three days combat rations to be carried by the A Coy group and Bn HQ and 5 days for B Coy.

6. Command and Signals.

a. Rear Area Comd. Capt BADE.

b. Bn HQ.

(1) OP LEETON. Remain present location.

(2) OP PORTSEA.

(a) Personnel as per SOP less following:

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- i. RP's. CO's escort to go on op.
- ii. Sp Coy ord and clerk.
- iii. RMO and RAP elm.
- iv. Int dutyman. One Int dutyman required on op.

(b) Sig pl linesmen to be returned to Nui Dat when line tasks for Bn HQ and D Coy is complete.

(c) Bn HQ to move to Horseshoe feature.

c. Radio.

(1) Current SOI apply with amendments as detailed below.

(2) Bn Comd Net.

(a) Frequencies. Main 45.6, Alt 55.1.

(b) Deletions. From 160700H - Recce Pl.

(3) Additions and deletions to coy internal nets will be made as required. Pls use their own callsigns regardless of net joined.

(4) AQ Flick Net. Frequency 37.8.

(5) C Coy Comd Net. Frequency. Main 57.2
Alt 45.2

(6) Rear Base Def Net.

(a) Frequency. 43.2 (Admin Coy Net).

(b) Callsigns.

Control	90
A Coy	1ØB
B Coy	2ØB
C Coy	3ØB
D Coy	4ØB

(c) Effective from commencement of OP PORTSEA until completion of OP PORTSEA.

(d) When any coy vacates its base loc for any operation, the coy rear details will join the Bn Comd net using the callsigns shown allocated to companies in Para 5 c. (6) (b) above.

d. Line.

(1) Normal Bn HQ line will be laid.

(2) Line to be laid from Bn HQ to D Coy.

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(3) Sig Pl linesmen to continue on linelaying within D Coy Horseshoe feature.

- e. Point of Origin Code, Q Hour. As issued.
- f. Codes. As issued.
- g. Nicknames. To be effective at commencement of OP PORTSEA. Time to be advised.

<u>Nickname</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	<u>Issued By</u>
BOOT BRUSH	Move/Moving	All callsigns
TIE PIN	Clearing Ptls Out	"
HAT BAND	" " In	"
SHIRT TAIL	Stand To	"
SHOE LACE	Stand down	"
CHIN STRAP	Ambush	"
BOOK WORM	Lift ambush	"
BULL WHIP	Harbour	"
STICKY TAPE	Cordon in posn	"

Ack Instrs ACK.

J. A. Warr

(J.A. Warr)
Lt Col
CO
ADD

CONFIDENTIAL

<u>Distribution:</u>	<u>Number of Copies:</u>	Copy No <u>30</u> of <u>76</u>
A Coy	2	1 - 2
B Coy	2	3 - 4
C Coy	2	5 - 6
D Coy	2	7 - 8
Sp Coy	1	9
Recce Pl	1	10
Aslt Pnr Pl	1	11
Mor Pl	1	12
Sig Pl	1	13
Admin Coy	3	14-16
A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	3	17-19
1 Fd Regt	5	20-24
103 Fd Bty	2	25-26
Bty A 1/83 US Arty	1	27
161 Fd Bty RNZA	1	28
1 Fd Sqn	1	29
103 Sig Sqn	1	30
6 RAR	1	31
3 SAS Sqn	1	32
1 ARU	1	33
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	1	34
1 ATF	24	35-58
CO	1	59
2IC	1	60
Adjt	1	61
Asst Adjt	1	62
IO	1	63
OC Sp Coy	1	64
OC Admin Coy	1	65
RSM	1	66
Comd's Diary	6	67-72
File	1	73
Spare	3	74-76

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Amdt No 1 (new efforts Annex A)
inserted
20 Mar 67

Copy No.

1 ATF
170200Z Mar 67
OPS 342

5

Op O 3/67 (Op PORTSEA)

Maps: VIETNAM, 1:50,000, Sheets 6429 IV, 6430 III, 6430 II, 6430 I.
1:25,000, Sheets 6429 IV NE, 6430 III SE, SW, NE;
6430 II NW, NE, SW, SE; 6429 I NE, NW.

Time Zone: HOTEL

1. Sit.

a. En Forces. Annex A.

b. Friendly Forces. The fmns and units shown below are in sp on a coord and coop basis.

(1) 18-31 Mar. One sqn 11 ACR is to op in AO SILVER.

(2) 18 Mar - 15 Apr.

(a) One ARVN regt of two bns is to op in AO COPPER and STEEL.

(b) One br coy plus elms II FFORCE V engrs are to op in AO LEAD.

(3) 1-15 Apr. Mech Hy Bde 9 Div is to op in AO BRONZE.

(4) Op LEETON is to cont except that 5 RAR is to erect the wire fence EAST of DAT DO and as far as PHOUC LOI in lieu of 6 RAR. HORSESHOE HILL coy does not come under sp con 1 ATF.

c. Atts and Dets.

(1) In sp from 201200 Mar

one airmobile coy

(2) In sp from 210800 Mar

four CH47

(3) In sp as aval

RF Coys)
PF Pls) From PHOUC
Junk Fleet) TUY Province

2. Msn. 1 ATF is to:

a. Conduct a search and destroy op in AO TIN, NICKEL, and ZINC

b. Repair and open Route 23 from DAT DO to XUYEN MOC.

c. Resettle squatters EAST of DAT DO and BINH GIA.

3. Exec.

a. Concept of Ops. The op is to be conducted in two phases.

(1) Phase 1. 21 to 31 Mar 67.

(a) Sqn 11 ACR is to conduct a search and destroy op in AO SILVER. Area of main interest is bounded by Eastings 55 to 58 and Northings 67 to 70.

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(b) Engrs are to op in AO LEAD and repair Route 23 from DAT DO to SONG RAI, YS 599637.

(c) ARVN regt is to conduct a search and destroy op in AO COPPER.

(d) 1 ATF is to conduct a search and destroy op in AO TIN and NICKEL.

(e) Squatters EAST of DAT DO are to be resettled.

(2) Phase 2. 1 to 15 Apr 67

(a) Comp Bde 9 Div is to:

(i) Conduct a search and destroy op in AO BRONZE.

(ii) Repair and open Route 327.

(iii) Protect PHUOC TUY Province forces during resettlement of squatters EAST of BINH GIA.

(iv) Block en escape routes from AO ZINC or be prep to conduct a search and destroy op in AO ZINC.

(b) ARVN regt is to conduct a search and destroy op in AO STEEL.

(c) Engrs are to repair and open Route 23 from SONG RAI to XUYEN MOC, on arrival XUYEN MOC repair airfd.

(d) 1 ATF is to either:

(i) Conduct a search and destroy op in AO ZINC, or

(ii) Block en escape routes from AO ZINC.

b. 5 RAR.

(1) Grouping.

(a) Phase 1.

(i) Under comd from 210630 Mar One combat engr team

(ii) In DS One bty 1 Fd Regt

(iii) In loc HORSESHOE HILL Comp arty elms

(b) Phase 2.

(i) In DS One bty 1 Fd Regt

(ii) In loc HORSESHOE HILL Comp arty elms

(2) Tasks.

(a) Phase 1.

(i) Cont Op LEETON.

(ii) Maintain one rifle coy and one sect mortars in 1 ATF base area as TR res until required for protection of fire sp base.

(iii) Maint two fighting ptls NW of 1 ATF base area. Ptls are restricted to line ALPHA.

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(b) Phase 2.

- (I) Cont Op LEETON.
- (II) Res.
- (III) Provide one rifle coy to protect the gun base.

c. 6 RAR.(1) Groupings.(a) Phase 1.

- (I) Under comd from 210630 Mar A Sqn 3 Cav Regt less two
tps.
Two combat engr teams.
- (II) In DS One Bty 1 Fd Regt.
- (III) In sp from 210700 Mar One H13 161 Recce Flt
- (IV) In sp from 220700 Mar One airmobile coy
9 Sqn RAAF

(b) Phase 2.

- (I) Under comd from 311800 Mar A Sqn 3 Cav Regt less one
tp
two combat engr teams.
- (II) In DS One bty 1 Fd Regt
- (III) Remaining in sp One H13 161 Recce Flt.

(2) Tasks.(a) Phase 1.

- (i) Conduct a hel aslt into AO TIN.
- (ii) Conduct a search and destroy op in AO TIN and NICKEL.

(b) Phase 2. Be prepared to either:

- (i) Conduct a search and destroy op in AO ZINC.
- (ii) Block en escape routes from AO ZINC.

d. A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.(1) Grouping.(a) Phase 1.

- (i) One tp in sp engr elm from 210730 Mar.
- (ii) One tp to be maint in 1 ATF base area from 210730 Mar.
- (iii) Sqn minus two tps under comd 6 RAR from 210630 Mar.

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(b) Phase 2.

(i) One tp Is to be maint in 1 ATF base area from 010730 Apr.

(ii) Remainder sqn is under comd 6RAR from 311800 Mar.

(2) Tasks.

(a) Phase 1.

(i) Provide close protection for engr elms in AO LEAD.

(ii) Assist province forces wherever possible to resettle squatters EAST of DAT DO.

(iii) TF res.

(iv) As required by 6 RAR.

(b) Phase 2.

(i) TF Res.

(ii) As required by 6 RAR.

e. Arty.

(1) 1 Fd Regt. 105mm How.

(a) Cont Op LEETON.

(b) Provide fire sp for inf bns, SAS Sqn and engr.

(c) Be prepared to coord all arty loc HORSESHOE HILL.

(2) A Bty 2/35 Arty Bn. 155mm How.

(a) Loc of gun pos. HORSESHOE HILL from about 23 Mar.

(b) Fire sp as required.

(3) 1/83 Arty Bn. 175mm guns and 8 in how. Fire sp as required.

(4) Det 131 Div Loc Bty. Cont current msns.

f. Engr.

(1) 1 Fd Sqn.

(a) Grouping.

(1) Phase 1.

(aa) One combat engr team under comd 5 RAR, from 180630 Mar.

(bb) Two combat engr teams under comd 6 RAR, from 210630 Mar.

(ii) Phase 2. Two combat engr teams under comd 6 RAR from 311800 Mar.

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(b) Tasks.

- (i) Continue Op LEETON.
- (ii) In conjunction with br coy and II Field Force V engrs, repair and open Route 23 from DAT DO to XUYEN MOC.
- (iii) Clear AO LEAD of timber and foliage.
- (iv) Provide LO to F Force engrs.
- (v) Assist inf and armd to loc and clear mines and booby traps in their allotted AO.

g. 1 SAS Sqn.

(1) Grouping. In sp from 210700 Mar. One bty 1 Fd Regt

(2) Tasks.

(a) Maint four surv ptls for EW NW of 1 ATF base area from 21 Mar to 31 Mar.

(b) Maint two surv ptls for EW NE of 1 ATF base area from 21 Mar to 15 Apr.

h. 161 Recce Flt.

(1) Complete move to NUI DAT by 24 Mar.

(2) Be prep to host additional ac sp.

(3) Rotary wings.

(a) Provide one H13 in sp 6 RAR for both phases.

(b) Maint one H13 on KANGAROO LZ as 1 ATF standby.

(c) Additional sp on demand.

(4) Fixed Wing. Vis recce.

i. 1 ARU.

(1) Grouping. Cont to sp 103 Fd Bty for Op LEETON.

(2) Tasks.

(a) Provide one standing ptl at 1 ATF WP from 161830 Mar. Str 1 Offr 15 OR. Timings 1830 - 0700 hrs nightly. Maint a radio on 5 RAR rear net.

(b) Maint one ptl in your allotted TAOR.

(c) Cont Op LEETON.

j. Coord Instr.

(1) AO - Bdry. Annex P.

(2) D Day. 21 Mar 67.

(3) Timings. Annex B.

(a) Phase 1. 21 - 31 Mar.

(b) Phase 2. 1 - 15 Apr.

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(4) Air.

(a) 9 Sqn RAAF.

- (i) Cont to sp Op LEETON.
- (ii) Provide max hel effort, in conjunction with the airmobile coy at 220700 Mar to hel aslt 6 RAR to AO TIN.
- (iii) Provide tac and log sp as required.
- (iv) Maint two UH1B on strip alert at VUNG TAU during daylight hours.

(b) US Army Avn.

- (i) Provide one lt fire team daily on standby at KANGAROO LZ.
- (ii) Provide one air mobile coy in sp from 201200 Mar.
- (iii) Provide four CH47 ac in sp from 210800 Mar.

(c) USAF.

- (i) Vis Recce.
- (ii) Cont air strikes on known and suspected VC forces, bases and installations.

4. Adm and Log.

a. Phase 1.

(1) Gen. Normal unit procedures except as varied below.

(2) Material and svcs.

(a) Ammo. Arty. Resup of fire sp base dir from 1 ALSG by air or rd will cont.

(b) POL.

(i) Dieso. Engrs. 1,500 gal daily resup by rd from 1 ALSG commencing 22 Mar.

(ii) Mogas. Engrs. 500 gal weekly resup by rd from 1 ALSG commencing 25 Mar.

(c) Rats. Engrs. Combat rat resup every fourth day by rd from TFMA commencing 25 Mar.

(d) Water.

(i) D Coy 5 RAR. 1,000 gal to replen bulk holdings HORSESHOE by rd from TFMA on 19 Mar.

(ii) Engrs. 600 gal daily resup by rd from 1 ALSG commencing 22 Mar.

(e) Tpt.

(i) All 1st line, second line, and Force tpt moves to be once daily and coord by HQ 1 ATF.

(ii) All rd mov EAST of BARIA YS3860 is to be escorted.

(iii) Units are to be prepared for all load carrying tpt heavier than 3/4 ton to be pooled for special tasks.

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(f) Engr Stores.

- (i) Wiring 5 RAR. Dumping programme cont by air dir from ALSG until 19 Mar, either to HORSESHOE or designated LZ's.
- (ii) Defence - Arty. By rd from ALSG to HORSESHOE on 19 Mar.
- (iii) Culverting - Engrs. Assembled by 21 Sp Tp TFMA and del by rd convoy as required. 24 hrs adv wng.

(3) Med.

- (a) A DUSTOFF hel is to be positioned daily on 1 ATF DUSTOFF pad.
- (b) Casevac is to be by hel or DUSTOFF dependent on the pri.

(4) CA. CA is responsible for the coord of:

- (a) Provision of and building the hamlets.
- (b) Supervision of constr.
- (c) Supervision of resettlement programme.

b. Phase 2. Details later.

5. Cmd and Sig.

a. Loc of HQ. HQ 1 ATF remains present loc.

b. L0.

(1) L0 teams are to be provided as follows:

<u>UNIT</u>	<u>UNIT TO PROVIDE</u>
Sqn 11 ACR	HQ AFV
Comp Bde 9 Div	HQ AFV
F Force Engr	1 Fd Sqn
ARVN Regt	HQ AFV

(2) With the exception of the engr L0, the team is to consist of:

- One Major or Capt
- One Batman
- Two sigs
- One PRC 25 set

c. Radio. Annex C.

d. Points of Origin. Additional pts of origin are:

210800 to 220800	VEGETABLE	5255
	SWIMMER	4556
220800 to 230800	ATHLETE	5456
	DISEASE	5360
	BEVERAGE	4455

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230800 to 240800	DRUG	5258
	MEAT	4654
240800 to 250800	CITY	5358
	FISH	4754
250800 to 260800	CAR	5560
	BIRD	4752
270800 to 280800	RANK	5759
	SHIP	4651

e. Q Hour Password. No change.

ACK

S.C. Graham
Brig
Comd

Annexes: A. En Forces.
B. Timings.
C. Sig Diagram
P. AO- Bdrys

Distr: Att.

Authentication

S. J. Maizey
S.J. Maizey
Maj
S3

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DISTRIBUTION

	<u>Copy Number</u>
5 RAR	1 - 2
6 RAR	3-- 4
A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	5
1 Fd Regt	6
1/83 Arty Bn	7
1 Fd Sqn	8
103 Sig Sqn	9
547 Sig Tp	10
1 SAS Sqn	11
161 Recce Flt	12
1 ARU	13
HQ Coy 1 ATF	14 - 15
Det 1 Div Int Unit	16
1 ATF CA Sect	17
67 GL Sect	18
1 ALSG	19
11 ACR	20 - 21
9 Inf Div	22 - 23
SA 18 ARVN Div	24
SA Phuoc Tuy Province	25
II F Force V	26 - 41
AFV	42 - 45
NZ Force V	46 - 46
Comd	47
Ops 1	48
Ops 2	49
Int 1	50
CP	51
Arty (Tac HQ and Arty Int)	52 - 53
DAAG	54
DAQMG	55
USAF ALO	56
US Army Avn LO	57
Avn Ops Centre	58 - 59
ST	60
File	61
Diaty	62 - 63
Spare	64 - 70

TOTAL	70

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ANNEX A TO

1 ATF OP O 3/67

OF 170200Z MAR 67

EN FORCES

1. The South Eastern sector of PHUOC TUY Province is completely VC controlled and is used extensively by them for resupply activities. Both the Provincial Forces and the VC 5th Div are dependent upon supply routes through this area.
2. A map showing the confirmed VC communication routes in the area of operations (AO) is attached at Appx 1.
3. The two sources of the supplies moving through the AO are DAT DO (YS4959) and the beach area South of XUYEN MOC (YS6668). There is no indication of the volume of stores moving but it is known that both motor vehicles and ox-carts are regularly using Route 328. It is known that DAT DO is a source of the whole range of supplies normally available on the open market but there is little indication of the commodities being infiltrated across the beach. Sea infiltration is most likely to include small volume high priced goods from outside SOUTH VIETNAM, but there is some evidence that ammunition and weapons are entering this way.
4. A number of US/FWMAF operations through the area have periodically disrupted the resupply system but little permanent damage has been done. Recent returnees have indicated that resupply in PHUOC TUY is becoming increasingly difficult, but there are no signs that it is at all critical.
5. A document captured by 1 ATF on 16 Feb 67 stated that the VC planned a concerted effort to collect the 1966/67 rice harvest and rice harvest tax during the month of Mar 67. The collection was to be completed at village level by 10 Mar 67, at district level by 20 Mar 67 and from the Province, presumably to the main force, by 30 Mar 67. There is no reason to believe that the VC will use any other than the known communication routes, and rice caches in the AO could be full.
6. Apart from local guerillas and VC production workers in the AO, contact with the following forces could be expected:
 - a. D445 Bn, also 860 Bn. This battalion has operated continually in the South East corner of PHUOC TUY Province and was last contacted on 17 Feb 67 by 1 ATF at YS5457. D445 Bn usually operates from bases in the general vicinity YS5569. It is believed to have withdrawn to that area after the battle on 17 Feb 67, but there has been one report of its being located East of the SONG RAI at YS6563.
 - b. C23 Coy, XUYEN MOC District Company, strength possibly up to 100, operates in the area South of the village of XUYEN MOC. On one occasion some long range patrols contacted an unknown VC force in this area. The VC were well armed and equipped and reacted offensively in a professional manner. These VC were not main force and were probably C23 Coy.
 - c. C 25 Coy, LONG DAT District Company, could be contacted East of DAT DO but usually operates West of Route 44 in the LONG HAI mountain area. It is unlikely that this company would be contacted East of the SONG RAI (YS6062).
 - d. The VC BARIA Province Headquarters is located in the XUAN SON (YS5777) area. This headquarters, including the Province Rear Service Staff and security units is probably less than 200 strong. The headquarters is not concentrated but operates in independent cells probably scattered over an area of about four map squares. They will not stand and fight and if threatened will probably withdraw to the

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- 11 -

North East, but if this route is closed then they may move South into the area YS5773 where they were previously located.

e. Various administrative units of Group 84 are located in the AO. Purchasing and Supply Agencies operate close to the populated areas and it is probable that transportation units and "corridor security units" operate in the more secure VC areas. Unit C200 is known to operate motor vehicles along Route 328 during the hours of darkness but nothing is known of the location of its base.

f. (1) No mainforce units are thought to be in the area of operations but 275 Regt is located North of XUYEN MOC in the general area of YS6679.

(2) There is increasing evidence of there being a third regiment to the VC 5th Div and if this regiment exists it also could be located close to 275 Regt in the area YS6679.

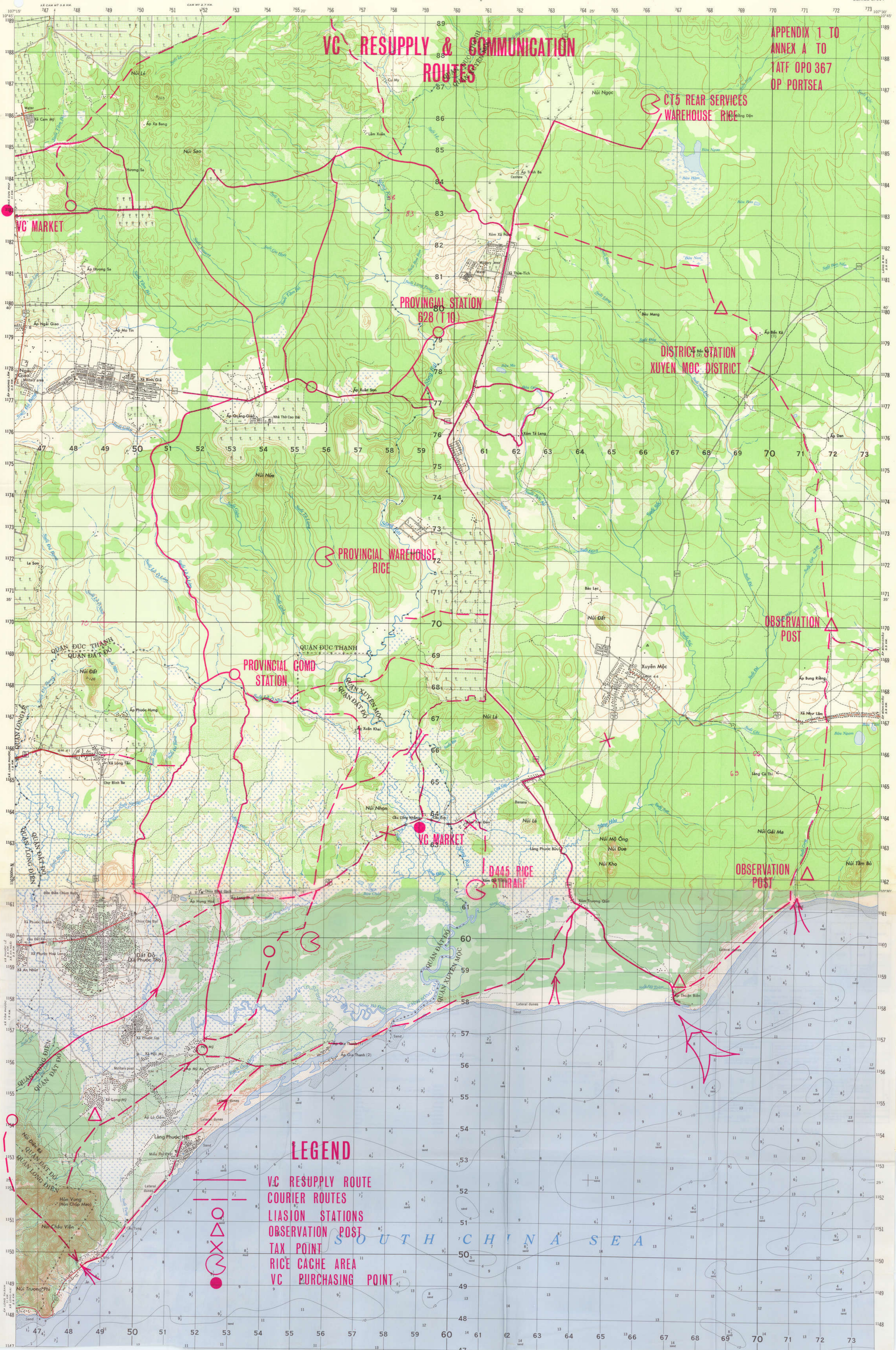
(3) The VC 89th Group (Artillery) is thought to be located North of the AO in the area of THUA THICH (YS6182). This Group consists of 75mm RCL, 81mm mors, 12.7 MG, and a heavier AA weapon possibly about .20mm. There have also been several reports of 105mm hows being sighted and heard in the area but the existence of 105mm hows cannot be confirmed.

7. Mainforce VC are unlikely to react offensively against US/Aust operations in the Southern sector of the AO but may do so in the North or North East. Mining along Route 328 is very likely particularly if the route is used continuously. If the VC react offensively their likely course of action is to draw a small force, company or less into an ambush probably East of Route 328. Mortaring or shelling of US positions, particularly command posts, can be expected.

8. A map showing the location of major VC installations and contacts is attached as Appx 2.


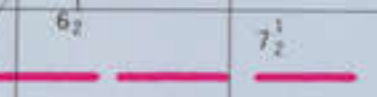





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APPENDIX 1 TO
ANNEX A TO
TATF OPO 367
OP PORTSEA

LEGEND

-  VC RESUPPLY ROUTE
-  COURIER ROUTES
-  LIASION STATIONS
-  OBSERVATION POST
-  TAX POINT
-  RICE CACHE AREA
-  VC PURCHASING POINT

S O U T H C H I N A S E A



SECRET

ENEMY INSTALLATIONS

30 OCT 66 - 12 MAR 67

APPENDIX 2 TO
ANNEX A TO
OPO 367
171000H MAR 67
OP PORTSEA

- LEGEND
- CAMP SQUAD SIZE
 - CAMP PLATOON SIZE
 - CAMP COMPANY SIZE
 - CAMP BATTALION SIZE
 - CAMP REGIMENT SIZE
 - UXB UNEXPLODED BOMB
 - ◇ EQUIPMENT
 - T TUNNEL
 - U CACHE
 - BRIDGE

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SOUTH CHINA SEA

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ANNEX B TO 1 ATF
Op O 3/67 OF
170200Z MAR 67

TIMINGS - OP PORTSEA

Mar 67

- 18 1/43 ARVN Regt commences security Route 2.
- 19
- 20 Sqn 11 ACR, A Bty 2/35, Engrs, 1/43 ARVN Regt moves to NUI DAT.
- 21 D Day 11 ACR to AO SILVER
6 RAR to AO NICKEL
Psywar effort, voice ac.
- 22 6 RAR to AO TIN
Engrs to AO LEAD after 6 RAR through 5361,5461.
- 23 A Bty 2/35 Arty to HORSESHOE HILL.
- 24.
- 25
- 26
- 27
- 28 Engrs at SONG RAI
- 29
- 30 Engrs across SONG RAI.
- 31

Apr

- 1 Phase 2 commences. 9 Div to AO BRONZE.
1/43 ARVN Regt to AO STEEL

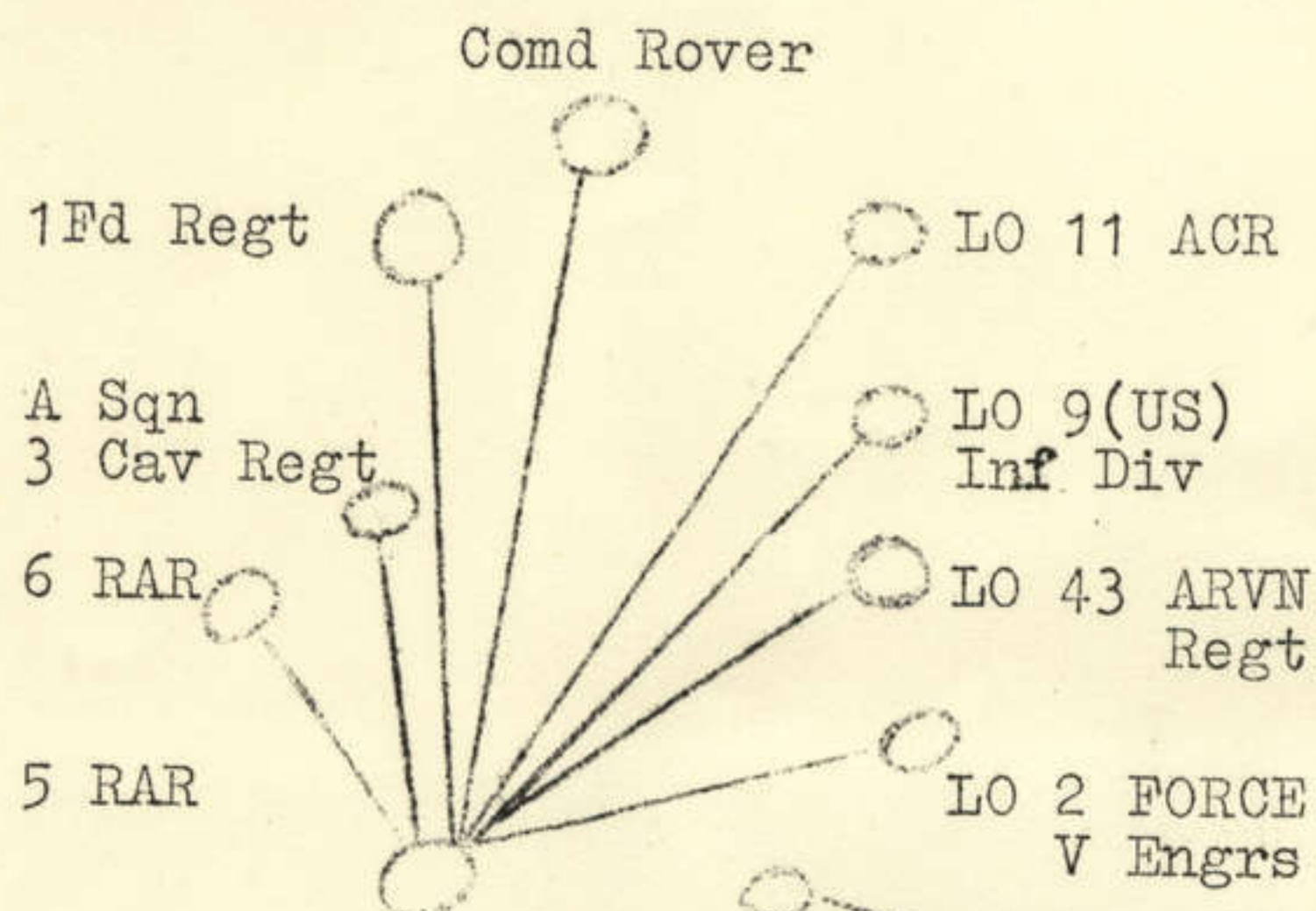
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C O N F I D E N T I A L

Anex C to 1ATF Op O 3/67 of Mar 67
Op PORTSEA - RADIO DIAGRAMS

1 ATF COMD NET



HQ 1 ATF HQ 1 ATF Aircraft

NOTE: All other stations normally on 1ATF comd Net are to MINIMISE during Op PORTSEA

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

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

Anex C to 1ATF Op O 3/67 of Mar 67
OP PORTSEA - RADIO DIAGRAMS

1. ATF COMD NET (See current 1ATF SOI)

1. Allocation of CALL SIGNS

- a. LO 11 ACR 1st Spare
- b. LO 9(US) Inf Div 2nd Spare
- c. LO 43 ARVN Regt 3rd Spare
- d. LO 2 FORCEV Engrs 4th Spare

2. Spare CALL SIGNS

- a. For March 67, the following additional spares are allocated to 1ATF Comd Net.

	15/21	22/31
Spare 3	17	63
Spare 4	21	18

- b. For April 67, all spares are as allocated in 1 ATF SOIs.

3. 1ATF Air Net

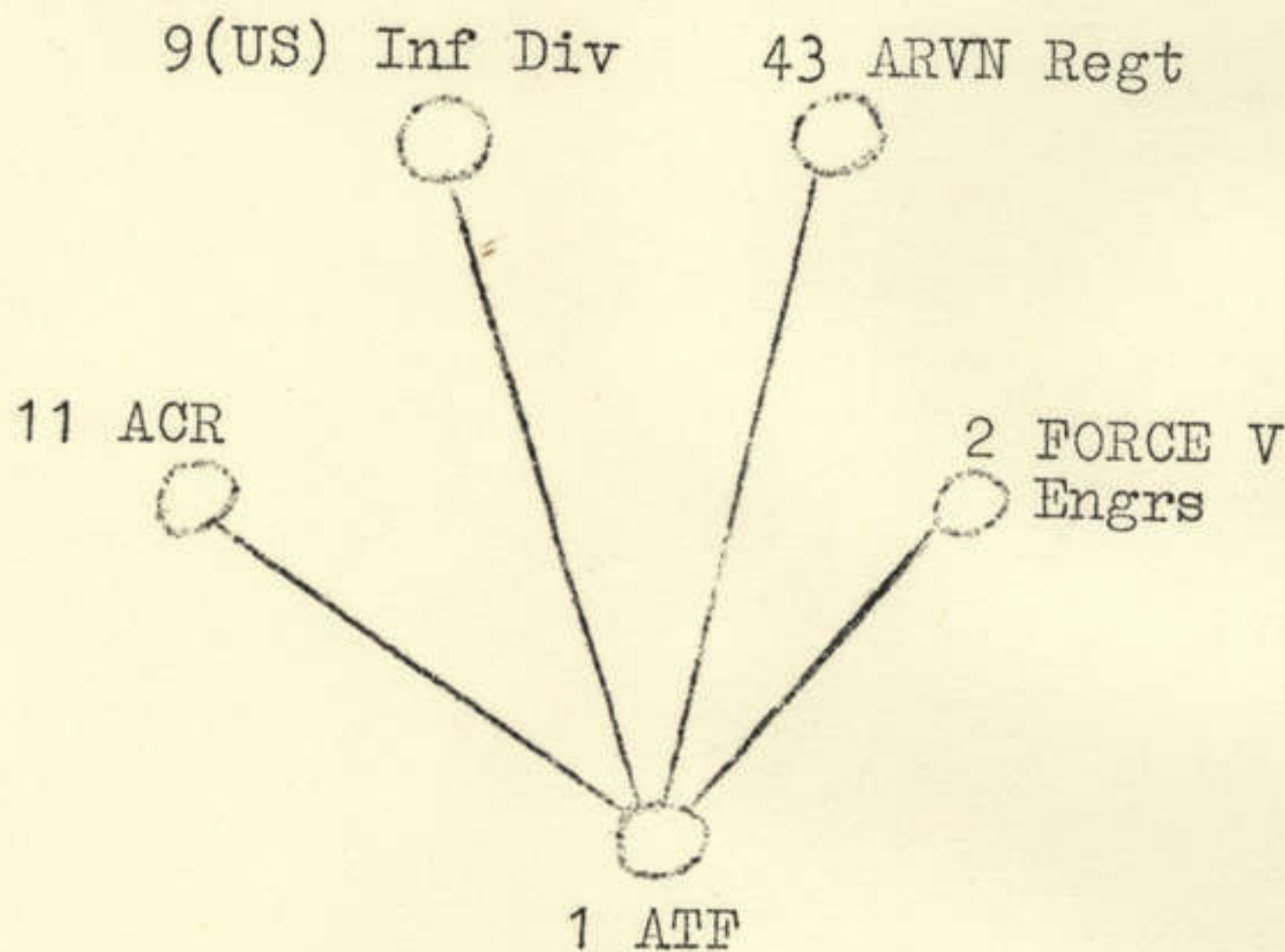
Frequency 40.30

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

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

Annex C to 1ATF OP O 3/67 of Mar 67
OP PORTSEA RADIO DIAGRAMS

OP PORTSEA COORDINATION NET



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

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

Annex C to 1ATF Op O 3/67 of Mar 67
OP PORTSEA - RADIO DIAGRAMS

OP PORTSEA COORDINATION NET

	15-31 Mar	1-15 Apr
1 ATF	07	61
11 ACR	19	41
9(US) INF DIV	31	37
43 ARVN REGT	16	09
2 FORCE V ENGRS	21	11

Callword MIKE X-RAY
 OSCAR LIMA

Frequency 55.3

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

SECRET

ANNEX PTO I ATF

OPO 3/67 OF 161200 MAR 67

AO BOUNDARIES
OPERATION PORTSEA

82
36

82
66



46
36

46
66

SECRET

MESSAGE FORM

cont 35/9. 6.

PRECEDENCE - ACTION

PRECEDENCE - INFO

DATE TIME GROUP

PRIORITY

-

190745Z

FROM: 1 ATF

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

TO: A Sqn 3 Cav Regt 1 Fd Regt
 1 Fd Sqn 103 Sig Sqn 547 Sig Tp
 5 RAR 6 RAR 3 SAS Sqn 1 ARU
 Det 1 ~~Div Int Unit~~ HQ Coy 1 ATF
 161 (Indep) Recce Flt 1 ALSG 67 GL Sec
~~Comd OPS 1 OPS 2 OPS 3 OPS 4 INT 1~~
~~INT 2 A rty Tac DAAG DAAG SIG ST~~
~~TEASO USAF ALO US Army Avn Offr~~
 LO 9 Inf Div (US) LO 11 ACR

ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER

G 381

INFO:

OP PORTSEA. A coordinating conference is to be held at HQ 1 ATF conference room 201500H Mar 67. ACK

Page 1 of 1 pages

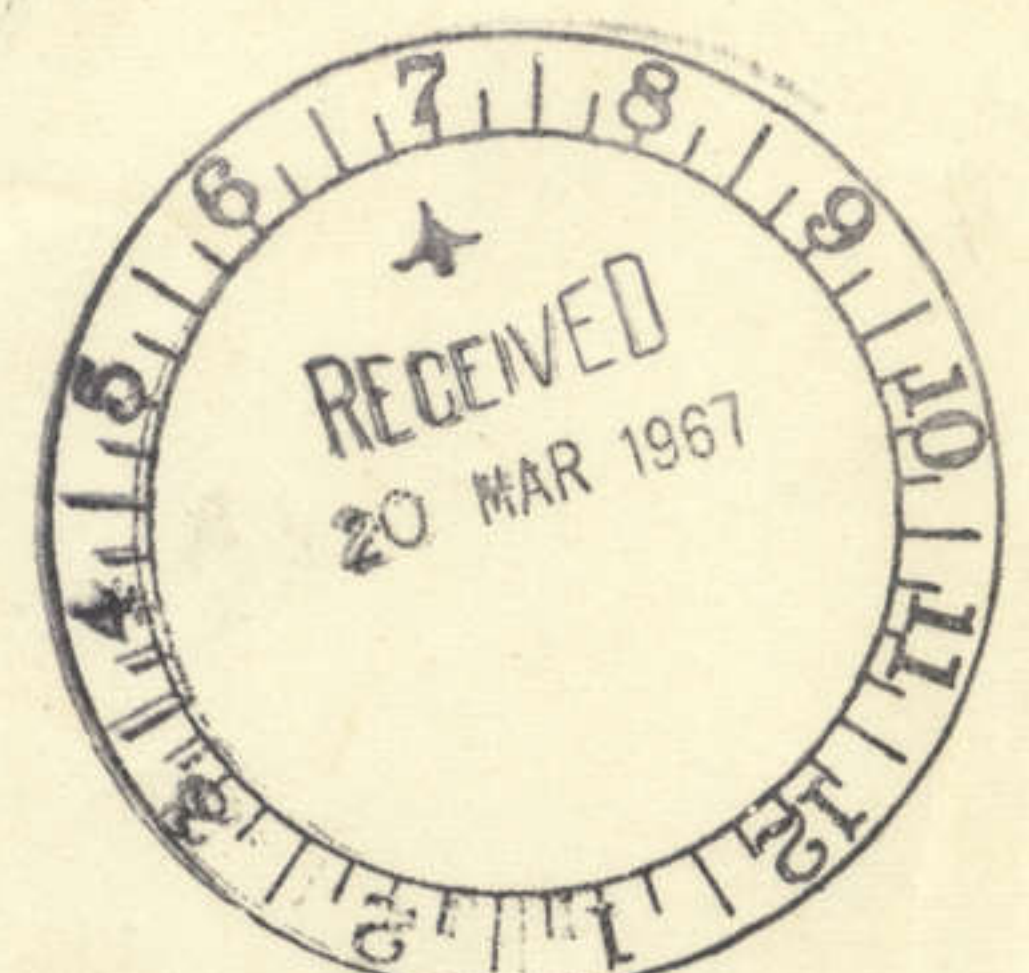
Classified
YES

RELEASING OFFICER'S SIG & RANK

1. acted
2. & info'd
RL

[Signature]

19 / 0755 +





103 SIGS

Handwritten scribbles and markings, possibly a signature or initials.

Page 1 of 1 pages
LET
STANDARD
REPLYING ON THE 210 2

CONFERENCE ROOM 201200H PER EA VCK
OF BOKSEEV A CONFIDENTIAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD AT HQ 1 VEE
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1 VVB 2 VVB 3 VVB 4 VVB 5 VVB
NO: 1 VVB 2 VVB 3 VVB 4 VVB 5 VVB
INFO: 1 VVB

381
ORIGINATOR'S NUMBER
SECRET
RECLASSIFICATION
120122
DATE TIME GROUP

BY/CLASS	-	120122
PRECEDENCE - PRIORITY	PRECEDENCE - INFO	DATE TIME GROUP
HERE VEE BOVI		

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PRIORITY
1 ATF
NUI DAT
20 Mar 67

Quote in Reply
R569-1-10

ADDENDUM TO ANNEX A (INT) TO 1 ATF OP 0 3/67
OP PORTSEA

Reference: A. 1 ATF OPS 342 of 170200Z Mar 67 (Op 0 3/67 Op PORTSEA)

Attached is additional information on the enemy situation. This information is intended to supplement and update Annex A of the above reference.

S. C. Graham
S.C. Graham
Brig
Comd

Enclosure: Addendum to Annex A (Int) Op PORTSEA

Distribution:

As for Op 0 3/67 (Op PORTSEA)

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ADDENDUM TO ANNEX A (INT)

OP PORTSEA

GENERAL

1. There have been sufficient indications since 16 Mar 67, to verify the movement SOUTH of 275 Regt. At present most of the regiment is held at YS 6371, with elements at YS 6861. The movement of the regiment has been from EAST of THUA TICH (YS 6181) South West to the TAN RU Area (YS 5873) and thence to its present location.

2. The purpose of its move is not certain, however in view of the mortar attack on XUYEN MOC (YS 6568) on 8 Mar 67, 2 separate sightings of armed VC SOUTH of XUYEN MOC in the past week, it may be that an attack on XUYEN MOC is contemplated. Agent reports of future VC intentions though reveal that the VC have moved down in order to transport supplies.

INDICATIONS

3. 9 Mar. VR reported considerable track move from the road junction at YS 630652 to the SOUTH. Tracks included those of wheeled vehicles and there were efforts made to camouflage the tracks.

4. 12 Mar. FAC received SA fire from YS 571681.

5. 13 Mar. An agent reported a Main Force VC Regt located from YS 580720 to YS 580750. One battalion was reported to have moved SOUTH of Route 23 and returned carrying rice.

6. 13 Mar. An agent reported a company of VC at YS 624649. One VC squad was also sighted at YS 649633 and were reportedly asking locals questions about the defence of XUYEN MOC.

7. On 18 Mar, a unit, B/15 was to be supplied with ammo and mines and move during the night 18/19 Mar from YS 278630 to YS 632637. The march was scheduled to take two days and the unit was to camp on the NORTH side of the SONG HOA at YS 654640. B/15 is a XUYEN MOC District unit with a strength of 30. (Source: Agent Report Evaluation Unknown).

8. During the night 14/15 Mar there was a recognisable Red Haze Pattern from square YS 5773 and the surrounding area (See para 5).

CONCLUSION

9. 275 Regt has moved SOUTH to the TAN RU and XUYEN MOC area for the purpose of transporting rice and supplies. It is also likely that a major sea-infiltration of stores is planned for this period. Normal defensive precautions would be taken which would account for the reports in paras 6 and 7.

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1 ATF

270200Z Mar 67

OPS

H36

Frag 0 1 (Op PORTSEA)

GROUPINGS AND TASKS

27-31 MAR 67

1. The fol groupings and tasks are to be effected and maint from the time of receipt of this Frag 0.

2. Groupings. Annex A.

3. Tasks.

a. 5 RAR.

(1) Cont Op LEETON.

(a) Maint one coy on HORSESHOE HILL.

(b) One coy on constr of barrier.

(2) Maint one coy at fire sp/engr base until relieved by 6 RAR. This coy is responsible for the coord of the def of the base.

(3) Maint two fighting ptls NW of 1 ATF base area. Ptls are restd to Line ALPHA.

(4) Maint the equivalent of one coy in 1 ATF base area on 30 mins notice to move.

(5) Provide one pl (from the coy at the fire sp/engr base) under comd A Sqn 3 Cav Regt, by day.

b. 6 RAR.

(1) Until 28 Mar.

(a) Search and destroy SW AO ZINC.

(b) On completion redeploy by air.

(2) After 28 Mar.

(a) Relieve coy 5 RAR at fire sp/engr base.

(b) Maint one coy in res at fire sp/engr base.

(c) One tp A Sqn plus one inf pl is to provide close protection of engr rd party by day.

(d) Protect fire sp/engr base from ground and mortar attack.

c. A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.

(1) One tp 1 ATF res on 30 mins notice to move.

SECRET

(2) Until 28 Mar.

- (a) As required by 6 RAR.
- (b) By day, close protection of engr rd party.
- (c) By ni, assist in the def of fire sp/engr base.

(3) After 28 Mar. As directed by 6 RAR.

d. 1 Fd Regt. Cont current tasks.

e. 1/83 Arty Bn. Cont current tasks.

f. 1 Fd Sqn. Cont current tasks.

g. 1 SAS Sqn. Cont current tasks.

h. 161 Recce Flt.

(1) Fixed Wing. Max aerial surv incl ni surv during moonlight.

(2) Rotary Wing. Cont current tasks.

i. 1 ARU. Cont current tasks.

j. 43 ARVN Regt.

(1) Cont to search AO COPPER.

(2) On completion search conc at BARIA for mov to AO STEEL on 1 Apr.

k. 11 ACR. Cont current tasks.

l. Force Engr. Cont current tasks.

m. Air.

(1) RAAF.

(a) Cont to sp current op.

(b) Max lift required AM 28 Mar.

(2) USAA.

(a) Chinook. Cont to sp.

(b) Iroquois.

(i) Provide two airmobile coys for hel lift 6 RAR AM 28 Mar.

(ii) Cont to provide one lt fire team.

(3) USAF. Cont to sp.

n. ST.

(1) Cont to sp with tp, arty and sup lift.


(2) Be prep to provide TCV lift 43 Regt from BARIA to AO STEEL. Details separately.

ACK

Annex: A. Grouping.

Brig
Comd

AUTHENTICATION


S.M. MAYZEY, Maj, OPS 1

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DISTRIBUTION

	<u>Copy Number</u>
5 RAR	1 - 2
6 RAR	3-- 4
A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	5
1 Fd Regt	6
1/83 Arty Bn	7
1 Fd Sqn	8
103 Sig Sqn	9
547 Sig Tp	10
1 SAS Sqn	11
161 Recce Flt	12
1 ARU	13
HQ Coy 1 ATF	14 - 15
Det 1 Div Int Unit	16
1 ATF CA Sect	17
67 GL Sect	18
1 ALSG	19
11 ACR	20 - 21
9 Inf Div	22 - 23
SA 18 ARVN Div	24
SA Phuoc Tuy Province	25
II F Force V	26 - 41
AFV	42 - 45 44
NZ Force V	45 - 46
Comd	47
Ops 1	48
Ops 2	49
Int 1	50
CP	51
Arty (Tac HQ and Arty Int)	52 - 53
DAAG	54
DAQMG	55
USAF ALO	56
US Army Avn LO	57
Avn Ops Centre	58 - 59
ST	60
File	61
Diaty	62 - 63
Spare	64 - 70

TOTAL	70

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Annex A to 1 ATF
Frag 0 1 to Op PORTSEA dated
270200Z Mar 67

GROUPING

Status of Comd	5 RAR	6 RAR	A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	1 Fd Regt	1 Fd Sqn
Under Comd	Sect Mortar APC Combat engr team	Two combat engr teams	One inf pl from fire sp/ enr base, by day only		
Under comd until 28 Mar 67		Tp plus sect mortar APCs A Sqn 3 Cav Regt			
Under comd after 28 Mar 67		A Sqn 3 Cav Regt less tp and sect mortar APCs			
In DS	103 Bty	101 Bty			
In sp		H13 161 Recce Flt Airmobile helo as nec		One pl 1 ARU	Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt plus inf pl, by day
In loc	Arty elms at HORSESHOE				

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~~119-1-1 (4)~~

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5 RAR
AP AN PHU
SOUTH VIETNAM

252200H Mar 67

OPS 690

R569-1-58

Frag 0 2/67 (OP PORTSEA).

Ref: No change from OPO 9/67 (OP PORTSEA).

Time Zone used throughout this order : HOTEL.

1. Situation.

a. En Forces. No change.

b. Friendly Forces.

(1) 1 ATF Concept of Ops.

(a) 101 Bty is to move to vic 5963 to sp ops to the EAST.

(b) C Coy 5 RAR is to provide protection for the fire sp base

c. Atts and Dets. Major additions to C Coy are:

(1) Under comd from 260830H to 280830H

Line Sect

(2) Under comd for local protection whilst in the fire sp base

One tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt
Elms of 11 ACR
101 Fd Bty
Tp 1 Fd Sqn

(3) Under comd from 260900H

Mor sect in APC from A Coy

(4) In sp

All Arty at HORSESHOE

(5) In sp from 260715H

One tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt

(6) In sp from 260830H until rel at the fire sp base

One tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt

2. Mission. 5 RAR is to coord and be responsible for the def of a fire sp base in vic 5963.

3. Execution.

a. Gen Outline.

(1) A Coy. Continue wiring and return to the 5 RAR base at ni.

(2) B Coy. Continue to patrol the TAOR and provide one pl to D Coy.

(3) C Coy (+) Protection of the fire sp base.

(4) D Coy. No change.

b. A Coy.

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b. A Coy.

(1) Grouping. Sect mor in APC passes to under comd C Coy at the HORSESHOE 260900H.

(2) Tasks.

(a) Continue the wiring.

(b) Be prepared to move to 5 RAR base at night.

c. B Coy.

(1) Grouping. One pl under comd D Coy from 261715H.

(2) Tasks. Continue to ptl TAOR as ordered.

d. C Coy.

(1) Grouping. See atts and dets.

(2) Tasks.

(a) OC C Coy move to HORSESHOE from TIGER 5 at 260700H and move in APCs with 9 Pl, tp engrs and 101 Fd Bty from HORSESHOE at 260715H.

(b) At 260830H C Coy (-) under comd 2IC C Coy move to HORSESHOE and pick up sect mors in APC, water trailer and move to the fire sp base.

(c) Coord and be responsible for the def of the fire sp base vic 5963.

(d) Lay line to all elms in the fire sp base.

(e) Ensure elms in fire sp base use your internal net if the base is attacked.

(f) Restrict pting to clearing ppls until further notice.

(g) Estb a heli pad capable of landing CH47 ASP.

(h) Provide a pl for the protection of the engrs when they are clearing Route LTL 23 by day.

(i) Protect WP on Song Rai by day.

(j) Dig in by last lt 26 Mar. All pits are to have overhead cover.

e. D Coy.

(1) Grouping. Provide a mor sect to sp A Coy by day. This mor sect will return to D Coy each night using the 4 x trucks $\frac{1}{4}$ ton and ttrs.

(2) Tasks. No change.

f. Mor Pl.

(1) Grouping.

(a) Sect with A Coy in APC passes to under comd C Coy at the HORSESHOE at 260900H.

/(b) Sect with D Coy

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-3-

(b) Sect with D Coy moves to A Coy and passes under comd A Coy by day only. Return to D Coy by night.

g. Aslt Pnr Pl. One sect remains with D Coy.

h. Recce Pl. Be prepared to replace 9 Pl C Coy at 270830H.

i. A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.

(1) Grouping.

(a) Under comd C Coy from 260900H Two mor APC

(b) In sp C Coy from 260715H One tp APC

(c) In sp C Coy from 260830H until One tp APC
rel at the fire sp base.

(2) Tasks.

(a) The tp of APC at D Coy are to move C Coy (-) plus atts to the fire sp base.

(b) The two mor APCs with A Coy are to pass to under comd C Coy at 502608 at 260900H.

(c) At 260830H one tp of APC are to pick up C Coy (-) at 5 RAR and move to 502608. On arrival at that loc pick up two mor APCs and a 1 ton tlr and move to the fire sp base. Return to 1 ATF base on completion of this task.

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j. Engrs. Provide a WP on the SONG RAI.

k. Coord Instrs.

(a) Timings.

- (1) 260700H OC C Coy flies to HORSESHOE
- (2) 260715H OC C Coy plus 9 Pl, tp APC, 101 Fd Bty, tp 1 Fd Sqn depart from HORSESHOE to fire sp base.
- (3) 260830H C Coy (-) depart from 5 RAR base loc.
- (4) 260900H C Coy (-) arrive at HORSESHOE pick up mor sect one ton tlr and move to fire sp base.

(b) Fire Sp Base Loc. 590638.

(c) Defence. Within the fire sp base the general areas of responsibility are to be:

- (1) NORTH 11 ACR.
- (2) SOUTH AND SE 101 Fd Bty RAA.
- (3) EAST C Coy.
- (4) WEST Tp 1 Fd Sqn.

5. Administration and Logistics.

a. Rations. 5 days combat rations to be carried by C Coy.

b. Water. D Coy is to load the 1 ton tlr with water jerrycans and have it ready to move by 260900H.

c. Ammo. Max use is to be made of Claymores and comd detonated flares.

d. Def Stores. Each APC leaving from 5 RAR is to carry:

- (1) Two coils of dannet.
- (2) 12 pickets 8 ft.
- (3) 200 sandbags.

6. Command and Signals.

a. Fire sp base. Whilst in the fire sp base C Coy is responsible for local def and will comd if that area is attacked.

b. Bn HQ. Remain present location.

/c.

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-5-

c. Radio.

- (1) Current SOI with amendments as published in Frag O 1/67 (OP LEETON) dated 142130H Mar 67.
- (2) A Coy alt f. . . reallocated to C Coy rebroadcast link.
- (3) Additions to C Coy internal net as required. C Coy internal net is shown as Annex A.
 - (a) 11 ACR. Callsign 34.
 - (b) 1 Fd Sqn. Callsign E1 (Echo one)
 - (c) 101 Fd Bty. Callsign G1 (Golf one)
- (4) Rebroadcast Station.
 - (a) A rebroadcast station is to be established in D Coy HORSESHOE area by 260900H, by 103 Sig Sqn. See Annex B.
 - (b) Frequencies.
 - i. F1 - 57.60 mcs - C Coy only to rebroadcast stn.
 - ii. F2 - 45.60 mcs.
 - (c) Callsigns. 97.
 - (d) Maintenance. 103 Sig Sqn has agreed to maintain the rebroadcast station.
- (5) One RC 292 is to be delivered to C Coy in the base location by 260700H.

d. Line.

- (1) 5 RAR Sig Pl line section comes under comd C Coy and is to RV C Coy in base location by 260830H.
- (2) Line is to be laid within C Coy position to include 11 ACR, 101 Fd Bty and 1 Fd Sqn. Adequate line to be carried.
- (3) One switchboard 993 GT and 6 telephones to be delivered to C Coy by 260800H, by line sect.

e. Points of Origin, Q Hours, Codes. As issued.

f. Nicknames. As issued.

W. J. A. Warr

(J.A. Warr)
Lt Col
CO

- ANNEXES:
- A. C Coy Internal Radio Net.
 - B. Rebroadcast Link.

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D Coy	2	7 - 8
Sp Coy	1	9
Recce Pl	1	10
Aslt Pnr Pl	1	11
Mor Pl	1	12
Sig Pl	1	13
Admin Coy	3	14 - 16
A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	3	17 - 19
1 Fd Regt	5	20 - 24
103 Fd Bty	2	25 - 26
Bty A 1/83 US Arty	2	27 - 28
1 Fd Sqn	2	29 - 30
103 Sig Sqn	1	31
6 RAR	1	32
1 SAS Sqn	1	33
1 ARU	1	34
Det 1 Div Int Unit	1	35
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	1	36
1 ATP	24	37 - 60
11 ACR	2	61 - 62
CO	1	63
2IC	1	64
Adjt	1	65
Asst Adjt	1	66
IO	1	67
OC Sp Coy	1	68
OC Admin Coy	1	69
RSM	1	70
Comd's Diary	6	71 - 76
File	1	77
Spare	3	78 - 80

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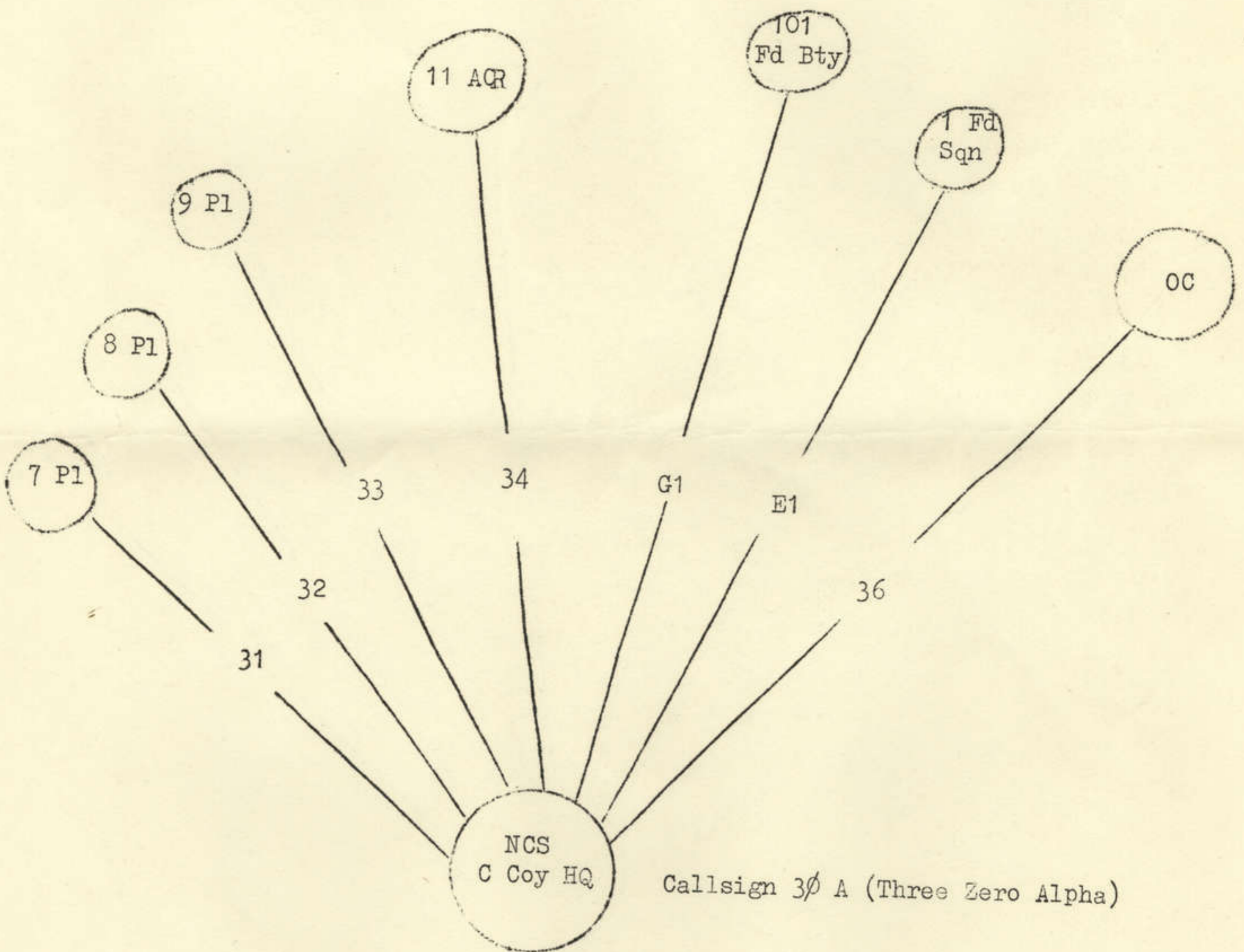
-7-

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ANNEX A TO 5 RAR
FRAG O 2/67 DATED

252200H

C COY INTERNAL RADIO NET
STATIONS AND CALLSIGNS



	<u>Frequency</u>	<u>Callword</u>
<u>Main</u>	57.2	PX (Papa (Papa X Ray))
<u>Alt</u>	45.2	RV (Romeo Victor)

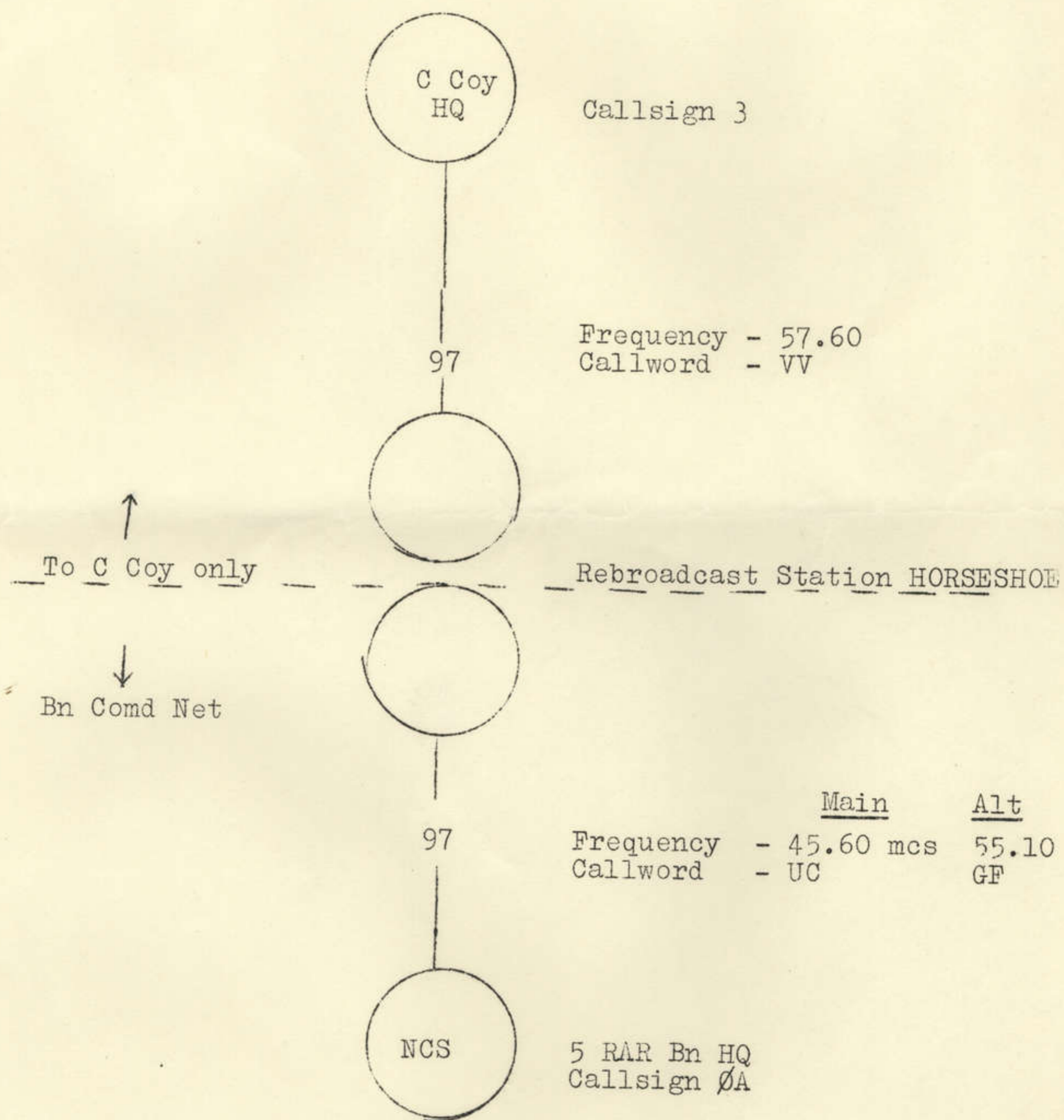
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-8-

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ANNEX B TO 5 RAN
FRAG O 2/67 DATED
252200H

REBROADCAST LINK



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103 sig sgum

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7

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5 RAR
AP AN PHU
SOUTH VIETNAM

191200H Mar 67

OPS 643

OPO 9/67 (OP PORTSEA)

Ref: No change from OPO 8/67 (OP LEETON).
Time zone suffix used throughout this order - HOTEL

1. Situation.

a. En Forces. Annex a

b. Friendly Forces.

(1) 1 ATF Concept of ops. The op is to be conducted in two phases.

(a) Phase 1. 21 to 31 Mar 67.

i. Sqn 11 ACR is to conduct a search and destroy op in AO SILVER. The main area of interest is bounded by Eastings 55 to 58 and Northings 67 to 70.

ii. Engrs are to op in AO LEAD and repair Route LTL 23 from DAT DO to the SONG RAI 599637.

iii. An ARVN Regt is to conduct a cordon and search op in AO COPPER.

iv. 1 ATF is to conduct a search and destroy op in AO TIN and NICKEL.

v. Squatters EAST of DAT DO are to be resettled.

(b) Phase 2. 1 to 15 Apr 67.

i. Comp Bde 9 Div is to:

(i) Conduct a search and destroy op in AO BRONZE.

(ii) Repair and open Route 327.

(iii) Protect PHUOC TUY Province forces during the resettlement of Squatters EAST of BINH CA.

(iv) Block en escape routes from AO ZINC or be prep to conduct a search and destroy op in AO ZINC.

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ii. ARVN Regt is to conduct a search and destroy op in AO STEEL.

iii. Engrs are to repair and open Route LTL 23 from the SONG RAI to XUYEN MOC and on arrival at XUYEN MOC repair the airfield.

iv. 1 ATF is to either:

(i) Conduct a search and destroy op in AO ZINC or

(ii) Block en escape routes from AO ZINC.

c. Atts and Dets.

(1) Remaining under comd

Two Mor APCs
One combat engr team
Engr elms

(2) Reverting to under comd
1 ATF from 201700H

One tp A Sqn 3 Cav
Regt

(3) In DS

1.3 Ed Dty RAA.

(4) In sp

One H13.

(5) In loc

Comp Arty elms.

2. Mission. 5 RAR is to provide ~~gen~~ sp to 1 ATF during Op PORTSEA.

3. Execution.

a. Gen Outline. 5 RAR is to:

(1) Continue with the prep of the HORSESHOE.

(2) Continue with the building of the fence.

(3) Maint one rifle coy and a sect Mors in 1 ATF base area as 1 ATF res until required for protection of the fire sp base.

(4) Maint two fighting ptls NW of the 1 ATF base area. These ptls are restricted to inside Line ALFA.

(5) Be prep during 1 ATF Phase 2 to provide the standby coy to protect the fire sp base.

b. A Coy. Tasks Annex B.

c. B Coy. Tasks Annex B.

d. C Coy. Tasks Annex B.

e. D Coy.

(1) Grouping.

(a) Remaining under comd

One sect Aslt Pnr Pl
Engr elms.

(b) Under comd from 201000H

One sect Mor Pl

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(2) Tasks. No change.

f. Mor Pl.

(1) Grouping.

(a) Pl less two sects remain in the base loc.

(b) One sect under comd D Coy from 201000H.

(c) One sect in APCs under comd of wiring Coy from 201000H.

(2) Tasks.

(a) Base Sect. Base def and on 30 mins standby as 1 ATF res.

(b) D Coy Sect. Fire sp for the HORSESHOE.

(c) Wiring Coy Sect. Fire sp for the wiring coy by day and ni.

g. Aslt Pnr Pl. One sect under comd each D Coy and the wiring coy.

h. Recce Pl. Reverts to under comd 5 RAR 211700H.

i. A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.

(a) Grouping.

(1) Released from under comd One tp APCs
5 RAR from 201700H.

(2) Under comd 5 RAR Wiring Two Mor APCs.
Coy from 201000H.

(b) Tasks. Provide two Mor APCs to move a sect Mors in sp of the wiring coy and to carry def stores for the wiring coy.

j. Arty. No change.

k. Engrs.

(a) Grouping. Remaining under comd Engr elms
One combat
enr team

(b) Tasks.

(1) Continue with the prep of the HORSESHOE.

(2) Provide a fresh engr combat team to A Coy at 220800H and B Coy 270800H. These teams to report to the coys at the 5 RAR base loc. Combat engr teams are to rotate with the wiring coys.

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- l. 161 Recce Flt. No change.
- m. Air. No change.
- n. Coord Instrs.
 - (1) AO, Bdry's. Annex P.
 - (2) Bdry's. There will be no move EAST of the SOUI BA TUNG 5057 after 210600H until further orders.
 - (3) Wiring Coy Tasks.
 - (a) Continue to build the fence.
 - (b) With the engr combat team clear the route for mines and booby traps.
 - (c) Provide protection for the wiring coy and stores.
 - (d) Daily liaison with the HQ's DAT DO Sub Sector.
 - (4) Ptl Coy Tasks.
 - (a) Provide two fighting ptls to the NW of the 1 ATF base, inside Line ALPHA.
 - (b) Provide one pl to assist the wiring coy.
 - (5) Standby Coy Tasks.
 - (a) Remain on 30 mins notice to move.
 - (b) Carry out Duty Coy tasks as ordered.

4. Administration and Logistics.

- a. Rat. The wiring and ptl coys are to carry combat rat for the full period they are in the fd.
- b. Water. 1000 gal direct from ALSG to HORSESHOE on 19 Mar.
- c. Tpt. 5 RAR is to be prep to pass to under ccn 1ATF all vehs heavier than $\frac{3}{4}$ ton.

5. Command and Signals.

- a. No change from 5 RAR Frag 01/67 of 142130H.
- b. Nicknames. The fol nicknames are effective from 210600H.

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<u>Nickname.</u>	<u>Meaning.</u>	<u>Issued By.</u>
BOOT BRUSH	Move/Moving	5RAR
TIE PIN	Clearing Ptls Out	"
HAT BAND	" " In	"
SHIRT TAIL	Stand To	"
SHOE LACE	Stand Down	"
CHIN STRAP	Ambush	"
BOOK WORM	Lift ambush	"
BULL WHIP	Harbour	"
STICKY TAPE	Cordon in posn	"

c. Pts of Origin. Addls pts are:

(1) 210800H to 220800H	VEGETABLE SWIMMER	5255 4556
(2) 220800H - 230800H	ATHLETE DISEASE BEVERAGE	5456 5360 4455
(3) 230800H - 240800H	DRUG MEAT	5258 4654
(4) 240800H - 250800H	CITY FISH	5358 4754
(5) 250800H - 260800H	CAR BIRD	5560 4752
(6) 260800H - 270800H	RANK SHIP	5759 4651

Ack Instrs. ACK.

Hodgkinson Major
 (J.A. Warr)
 Lt Col
 CO

Annexes: A. En Forces.
 B. Forecast of Activities.
 P. AO and Bdrys.

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Mor Pl	1	12
Sig Pl	1	13
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Bty A 1/83 US Arty	1	27
161 Fd Bty RNZA	1	28
1 Fd Sqn	1	29
103 Sig Sqn	1	30
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OC Admin Coy	1	65
RSM	1	66
Comd's Diary	6	67-72
File	1	73
Spare	3	74-76

ENEMY ACTIVITY

General

1. The ground to the EAST of Dat Do is an important link for the passage of Viet Cong supplies from Dat Do District to D445 Battalion and to Group 84. Many ox cart tracks dissect the well covered area, facilitating the undetected movement of large quantities of rice to caches. Recently D445 Battalion announced to the people to Dat Do and Phuoc Loi that the Viet Cong had come in order to take over control of the Dat Do District. In mid February, D445 Battalion was ejected from this area with moderate losses. Despite this reverse, the Viet Cong are unlikely to cease their attempts to control the approaches to the heart of Phuoc Tuy. Units of the Fifth VC Division have shown interest in the area by sending reconnaissance and purchasing teams to Dat Do and Phuoc Loi. Hence the ground to the EAST of Dat Do is important to the Fifth Division and it may be expected that they will take steps to reassert their control over the area if it is threatened.

Viet Cong Forces in the Area of Operations

2. Since mid February only scattered sightings of Viet Cong have been made in the area between Route 44 and the Song Rai. Air reconnaissance has reported the following:

- 8 Mar 67 - 200 VC at YS5657.
- 12 Mar 67 - 60 people digging at YS5556
- 13 Mar 67 - Groups of 10 - 12 people between YS540549 and YS592577.

Agent reports of unknown reliability state various numbers of Viet Cong from tens to several hundred in the area around the mouths of the Song Rai and the Song Ba Dap. In all probability the following Viet Cong groups are located between Route 44 and the Song Rai:

- One company (possibly two) of D445 Battalion.
- The guerilla squads of
 - Dat Do
 - Phuoc Loi
 - Hoi My
 - Phuoc Hai

Two purchasing cells and one transport company of Group 84.

It is possible that one or more main force battalions would be sent to the area to help cover the extraction of supplies. However such main force would affect only a pursuing unit.

3. The area is known to contain numerous booby traps, mines, weapon pits and bases. Locations of installations are unknown, except for the two company base encountered by 6 RAR at YS5357. The area has been developed by the Viet Cong over several years. Probably the defences have been strengthened in early March in anticipation of an Allied thrust.

Enemy Capabilities

4. Recent actions in the area have shown that the Viet Cong can contain the efforts of a battalion if they choose to stay and fight. Local guerillas can play a major role as snipers - a role for which they are well trained. D445 Battalion can deploy 60 mm mortars, 57 mm recoilless rifles and 50 cal machine guns in support of each of its companies. If they are fighting a delaying withdrawal, the Viet Cong are capable of ambushing and inflicting heavy casualties on section and platoon sized groups.

/5. Although the Viet Cong

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5. Although the Viet Cong are in general land bound, they can embark platoon sized groups from the southern coast and from the rivers in order to escape or in order to harass friendly forces from the area.

Enemy Intentions

6. A captured document has revealed that the Viet Cong plan to collect and evacuate during March the 1966/67 rice harvest tax. Collection from the villages was ordered to be completed by 10 Mar 67 from district caches by 20 Mar 67 and evacuation from the Province to main force bases is to be completed by 30 Mar 67.

7. Other documents have shown that each of the following units have been given special monthly assignments:

- | | | |
|--------------------------|---|---|
| C25 District Company | - | Kill 50 ARVN
Shootdown 2 aircraft
Damage 2 military vehicles
Capture 6 weapons |
| Long Dat Recce Unit | | Attack 3 military vehicles
Kill 15 soldiers
Destroy 3 bridges |
| Long Dat Engineer Unit | | Attack three bridges and cut traffic on Route 44 for 1 - 2 days.
Prepare ambush positions along Route 44.
Attack two military vehicles. |
| Phuoc Hai Guerillas | | Kill 10 ARVN soldiers. |
| Hoi My Guerillas | | Kill 10 soldiers
Shoot down 1 aircraft. |
| Phuoc Loi Guerillas | | Kill 9 soldiers
Shoot down 1 aircraft. |
| Phuoc Thanh Guerillas | | Kill 10 soldiers
Shoot down 1 aircraft. |
| Phuoc Hoa Long Guerillas | | Kill 9 soldiers. |
| Phuoc Tho Guerillas | | Kill 9 soldiers
Shoot down 1 aircraft. |
| Long Tan Guerillas | | Kill 4 soldiers. |
| An Nhut Guerillas | | Kill 3 soldiers. |
| Tam Phuoc Guerillas | | Kill 6 soldiers. |
| An Ngai Guerillas | | Kill 10 soldiers. |
| Long Dien Guerillas | | Kill 12 soldiers. |
| Phuoc Tinh Guerillas | | Kill 7 soldiers. |
| Long Hai Guerillas | | Kill 6 soldiers. |
| Long My Guerillas | | Kill 3 soldiers |

8. Each of these units has also been given special tasks to sabotage communications on Routes 23, 44 and 52, to destroy strategic hamlets and to construct bases in protected areas. Viet Cong forces in Dat Do are experiencing trouble in keeping up their numbers and a new membership drive has been launched. Another captured document reports:

/"Although we fight

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"Although we fight for a just cause and we have many victories, we have difficulties in recruiting youths to replace our losses. It is necessary to find out why we cannot get youths to replace our forces."

9. The focal points of activity in the Long Dat District are to be Hoi My and Phuoc Loi. Continual attacks are to be launched on both Government outposts in order to take control of these villages. All these activities are to be undertaken in accord with an overall "Regional Expansion" plan. All the assigned tasks require the reconstruction of the ranks of the cadre.
10. Supply missions have also been assigned to District and village Quartermasters. Items most in demand are shovels, Claymore mines, 60 mm and 81 mm mortar rounds and 105 mm rounds for mines, small arms ammunition, medicines and rice.
11. Main force intentions appear to be to avoid contact and to prepare for operations in the coming monsoon, commencing in May. Neither 274 nor 275 Regiments are active in Southern Phuoc Tuy.

Enemy Reactions to 5 RAR Operations

12. The Fence. The fence is coming at a most inconvenient time for the VC, because of the rice collection programme. There should be numerous contacts near populated areas. The Viet Cong will probably attempt to dismantle the fence as it is being built and to steal tools and pickets and wire which they badly lack. Booby traps are likely to be encountered in the mornings and in places through which the Viet Cong think that the fence will run.
13. Between Hoi My and the Song Rai. One Viet Cong company could attempt to fight its way out of this area, supported by mortars, recoilless rifles and machine guns. Probably the Viet Cong will attempt to evade searching forces. If ordered as in mid February to fight a delaying withdrawal they will probably use a combination of ambushes and booby traps to maintain contact at a distance. If artillery is employed against them they will try to use hugging tactics as on Operation BRIBIE.
14. Horseshoe Hill. Protected by the screen of long range operations and manned by a full garrison, the Horseshoe should be the safest Australian base in Phuoc Tuy during the operation. However, enemy reconnaissance of the position has hardly begun and this must be anticipated. Probing attacks could easily follow in the wake of withdrawing friendly troops at the end of the operation.
15. 5 RAR Base - Ap An Phu. The main base will be exposed to the sort of situation which the Viet Cong favour for attacking an established base. On 26 Feb 67 the 25th Division base camp at Cu Chi, Binh Duong Province, received heavy fire from rifles, machine guns, rifle grenades and mortars resulting in 24 US KIA, 29 US WIA and 16 ARVN casualties. The Viet Cong used assault tactics during the engagement which lasted for some four hours. This particular contact is significant as it points out the ability and willingness of the Viet Cong to attack a base camp when conditions are in their favour, eg. when the strength of the base camp is depleted or defensive patrolling becomes slack. This type of raid with a limited aim is well within the capability of the Fifth VC Division. The Division will quickly learn of the deployment of 5 RAR and 6 RAR, hence patrols in the western TAOR will have a more exacting task than usual.

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FORECAST OF ACTIVITIES 21 - 31 MAR

Serial (a)	Date (b)	A Coy (c)	B Coy (d)	C Coy (e)	D Coy (f)	Sp Coy (g)	Admin Coy (h)	Remarks (i)
1.	21 Mar (Tue)	Duty/standby.	a. TAOR ptl. b. Pl at DAT DO.	DAT DO wiring.	HORSESHOE.	a. Recce Pl DAT DO. b. Pnr sects: (1) DAT DO. (2) HORSESHOE.		
2.	22 Mar (Wed)	Move to DAT DO. Assume wiring task. (Note a.)	a. TAOR ptl. b. Pl at DAT DO.	Return to base. (Note a). Assume standby role. (Note b.)	HORSESHOE.	a. Recce Pl returns to base with C Coy. b. Pnr sects: (1) DAT DO. (2) HORSESHOE. c. Send out close TAOR ptls.	Band to man N Rd block.	a. Changeover effected by ALBATROS commencing 0830 LUSCOMBE FIELD to LZ ECHO. b. C Coy to send pl to A Coy and B Coy by night. No other duty committments.
3.	23 Mar (Thu)	DAT DO wiring.	a. Return from ptl. b. Assume duty/ standby. c. Pl return from DAT DO.	a. Coy less 1pl TAOR ptl. b. Pl to A Coy wiring at DAT DO. (Note b.)	HORSESHOE	a. Pnr sects: DAT DO. HORSESHOE. (Note a.) <i>b Send out close TAOR ptls.</i>	Band to man N Rd block.	a. Pnr sect at DAT DO wiring to change with sect in base at 0830 hrs. b. Changeover of B Coy and C Coy pls by ALBATROS 0830 hrs from TIGER V.
4.	24 Mar (Fri)	DAT DO wiring.	Duty/standby.	a. TAOR ptl. b. Pl at DAT DO wiring.	HORSESHOE	a. Pnr sects: DAT DO. HORSESHOE.		
5.	25 Mar (Sat)	DAT DO wiring	Duty/standby	a. TAOR ptl. b. Pl at DAT DO wiring.	HORSESHOE	a. Pnr sects: DAT DO. HORSESHOE.		
6.	26 Mar (Sun)	DAT DO wiring.	Duty/standby.	a. TAOR ptl. b. Pl at DAT DO wiring.	HORSESHOE.	a. Pnr sects: DAT DO. HORSESHOE.		

Serial (a)	Date (b)	A Coy (c)	B Coy (d)	C Coy (e)	D Coy (f)	Sp Coy (g)	Admin Coy (h)	Remarks (i)
7.	27 Mar (Mon)	Return to base. (Note a and b).	Move to DAT DO assume wiring task (Note a).	a. TAOR ptl. b. Pl at DAT DO wiring.	HORSESHOE.	a. Pnr sects: DAT DO. HORSESHOE. b. Send out close TAOR ptls.	Band to man N Rd block.	a. Changeover by ALBAT- ROS from ECHO LZ to LUS- COMBE FIELD commencing 0830 hrs. b. Send pl to B Coy and C Coy bases by night
8.	28 Mar (Tue)	a. TAOR ptl less one pl. b. One pl to DAT DO wiring. (Note a).	DAT DO wiring.	a. Return from ptl. b. Pl returns from DAT DO. (Note a and b).	HORSESHOE.	a. Pnr sects: DAT DO. HORSESHOE. b. Send out close TAOR ptls.	Band to man N Rd block.	a. Pl return to base from ECHO LZ commencing 0830 hrs. Pl from TIGER V to ECHO LZ on return trip. b. Send pl to A Coy and B Coy base by night.
9.	29 Mar (Wed)	a. TAOR ptl. b. One pl DAT DO wiring.	DAT DO wiring.	Duty/standby.	HORSESHOE	a. Pnr sects: DAT DO HORSESHOE		
10.	30 Mar (Thu)	a. TAOR ptl. b. One pl DAT DO wiring.	DAT DO wiring.	Duty/standby.	HORSESHOE	a. Pnr sects: DAT DO. HORSESHOE.		
11.	31 Mar (Fri)	a. TAOR ptl. b. One pl DAT DO wiring.	DAT DO wiring.	Duty/standby.	HORSESHOE	a. Pnr sects: DAT DO. HORSESHOE.		

Duty Coy Tasks.

- a. Provide one rifle sect to man the NORTH rd block from 0645 hrs to 1700 hrs daily. Orders as published.
- b. Send one close TAOR ptl of sect str before 1200 hrs and one other after 1200 hrs. Details of bdrys published vide 5 RAR G513 of 3 Mar 67.
- c. Send two men to clean up the MAYFAIR Theatre between 0900 hrs and 1100 hrs daily.
- d. Provide eight men as a work party to report to the RSM at 0800 hrs daily.
- e. Occupy coy base posns that may be vacant by night from 1800 hrs to 0700 hrs..
- f. Provide a duty offr for the Bn CP and a runner for Bn HQ from 0730 hrs to 1830 hrs daily.

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AO's

ANNEX P OPO 9/67

DATED 191200H MAR

AO BOUNDARIES OPERATION PORTSEA



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ANNEX L

TO

COMMANDER'S DIARY

(MARCH 1967)

Schedule.

1. OC's DO letter for March 67.

TELEPHONE

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COMOS DIARY

FROM: Maj P.D. HIDD



AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES

Quote in Reply

DO/FH/4/67

ADDRESS

103 Sig Sqn
AFFO 4
GPO SYDNEY
NSW

29 Mar 67

Operations

This month we have begun operation "PORTSEA", a search and destroy operation covering most of the Eastern area of the TAOB, in conjunction with a squadron of 11th Arad Cav Regt, a brigade of 9th (US) Inf Div and 43rd ARVN Regt. It began about the middle of the month and is still continuing.

Radio

Operation "PORTSEA" has produced a couple of points of interest. Firstly 6 RAR is operating east of the SONG RAI with their headquarters at about 6261. This is the longest range over which we have operated the PRC-25, about 20,000 metres. It is a good path and the headquarters is static, but it does give an indication of what the set will do.

In this operation the other units I have mentioned are operating in support of 1 ATF and NO other controlling HQ has been appointed. Because of this and because it was considered that the command net would be overloaded if these extra stations were just added to it, a separate co-ordination net has been established linking 1 ATF, 11 ACR, bde 9th (US) Div and 43 ARVN Regt. We are providing the 1 ATF station on this net, as well as the operators to man it full time.

VHF frequencies are proving a problem on this operation. We have only a limited allocation and they are rather widely duplicated in other formations. When we have these other formations working with us we have the inevitable clashes, particularly as most of them are operating with VRC-12 range sets, putting out so much more power than we do.

Line

The programme of building all the lines in the area up on to pole routes is continuing slowly. I would say that at this stage we have almost half of the job completed.

/Camp construction

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- 2 -

Camp construction

We have had a ^{spirit} spirit of activity this month. The squadron headquarters building is built and occupied. We have concrete floors for the Sgts' and ORs' dining rooms and canteen. In addition, the 'Q' store and tech maint/tech store buildings are each half completed. Because of space restrictions it was necessary to build half of these buildings, move out of the existing marquee and then remove the marquee before the other half could be built. Tech maint has moved in and construction is just about to begin on the other half. The 'Q' store will take a little longer as we have a lot of shelves to build before moving in.

Bry

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