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Item number: 7/4/53

Item: 4 Battalion Royal Australian Regiment

Map

1-30 September 1971

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION IVANHOE
DATED 4 NOV 71

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS
OPERATION IVANHOE

Date/Time (a)		Activity (b)	Serial of Event in Annex D/Annex E (c)
19 Sep 71		Day 1	
Locstats.	HQ 4 RAR/NZ	Courtenay Hill.	
	V Coy	Nui Dat (op con 1 ATF).	
	B Coy	Nui Dat (R&I).	
	C Coy	CHQ, 8Pl YS 417911, 7Pl YS 406911, 9Pl YS 413900.	
	D Coy	YS 495861.	
	Sp Coy(-)	Courtenay Hill, Aslt Pnr Pl YS 485893, Mor Pl, 2 Sects Nui Dat, Sect FSB DEBBIE, sect FSB ROBIN.	
	1Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	TA10A, 10B, 12 YS 424868, TA 11, 19J YS 415873, TA13 YS 450903.	
	104 Fd Bty	G20, 80, TA1B FSB DEBBIE, G20A, 84, TA82, TA41 FSB ROBIN.	

Tasks

V Coy. Op con to HQ 1 ATF as Ready Reaction Force until 22 Sep 71. Deployment 22 Sep to area East of Route 2 across to the 49 Easting.

B Coy. Completed R&I and pre-op preparation. Deploy 20 Sep by UHI PZ Eagle Farm, LZ old FSB TRISH secured by Aslt Pnr Pl. Insertion not before 1000hrs to permit ground mist to clear.

C Coy. Complete bunker destruction in present area and return to Nui Dat pm 19 Sep 71 for R&I.

D Coy. To search SE of present location within FSBs DEBBIE and ROBIN gun range. Priority to area bounded by 49 Easting and 88 Northing.

/Sp Coy(-)

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(a)	(b)	(c)
	Sp Coy(-). Maintain one platoon in ambush in De Courtenay Plantation East of Route 2, South of Province boundary.	
	1Tp A Sqn. Maintain presence West of Route 2 in rubber plantations area and North of the Province boundary in the rubber plantations ambushing by night. Other tasks as directed.	
0322	Report from LO at DUC THANH that NGAI GIAO hamlet had been receiving enemy fire. Mortars and B40s suspected. Requested MORTREP and 105mm illum. Total 11 rounds fired in support.	N/A
0900	Friendly patrol clash between 10Pl, 11Pl D Coy. Platoons were moving off from resupply area when 11Pl bumped rear 10Pl vic YS 490861. 11Pl lost 1 KIA, 1 WIA. Investigation submitted.	N/A
0934	Dustoff complete from LZ YS 495861.	N/A
1000	D Coy 3 RAR placed under op con until further notice to close the gap to the North-East of the battalion AO and West of 3 RAR. D/3 RAR to ambush North of the 88 Northing between 52 and 658 Eastings. To be inserted by air into LZ YS 525892 secured by Aslt Pnr Pl. B Coy now to search in a southerly direction in the area bounded by 87 Northing between the Civilian Access line to the West and D Coy (50 Easting).	N/A
1103	9Pl C Coy completed the destruction of bunker system at YS 413900 located 17 Sep 71.	N/A
1156	VR located possible mortar base plate position and firing position for 75mm RCL vic YS 463829 used against GNAI GIAO Hamlet and 626 RF Post at YS 459841. Track leads East along tree line at YS 477829, then SSE to YS 478926. Track then divides.	N/A
1238	7Pl C Coy completed destruction of a bunker system YS 406911 located 15 Sep 71.	N/A
1335	12Pl D Coy located an East-West track used in the last hour. Stream/track crossing being examined for use.	N/A
1425	VR aircraft sighted one man who ran into patch of scrub and has not emerged. Sect 1Tp despatched to check the area. No result.	N/A
1440	Cavmobile request submitted to move B Coy from Nui Dat to YS 4783 on 20 Sep 71.	N/A
1510	D/3 RAR complete at YS 525892 following deployment by air.	N/A

/1601

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(a)	(b)	(c)
1601	C Coy Transland 215 cancelled due to very low cloud and lateness of the hour. 1Tp A Sqn deployed to move C Coy to Nui Dat for R&I preparation.	N/A
1720	C Coy complete at Nui Dat.	N/A
20 Sep 71	Day 2	
0630	OC 1Tp A Sqn escorted to NGAI GAIO (green road). Moving to Nui Dat for APC servicing.	N/A
0705	TA10B, TA11 in attempted road ambush at YS 461821. RPGs, AK47s fired. One crewman WIA by stones. 1 VC KIA, 1 AK47 CIA, 174 rounds 7.62mm (short).	D/1
0815	1 Tp A Sqn located two sleeping areas with 12 sleeping sites in each. 1 RPG rd located.	N/A
0840	11Pl D Coy at YS 506848 located a West to East track used previous day.	N/A
1010	B Coy Cavmobile by 2Tp A Sqn complete at YS 475837.	N/A
1015	12Pl D Coy 3 RAR at YS 529885 located a lightly used West to East track made by 2-5 people. Used last 2 days. On track about each 10 metres there were white chalk marks consisting of an arrow pointing East. Under the arrow is the letter 'I'.	N/A
1041	Aslt Pnr Pl at YS 473886 located an West to East track used in the last 12 hours by 4 to 6 people moving West.	N/A
1125	7Pl C Coy 3 RAR located a South to South/East track made by up to 15 persons in last 24 hours at YS 547913.	N/A
1220	A25 of 161 (Indep) Recce Flt located broken branches stacked at YS 385883. Also reported a suspected bunker system at YS 389889.	N/A
1338	11Pl D Coy in contact at YS 514854 with large group of enemy. Enemy moved North/East. Pink Team (Fox White 26) called to the area. 2 NVA KIA.	D/2
1409	11Pl too close to enemy for Pink Team to engage. 10Pl receiving rounds fired by enemy, high into trees.	N/A
1452	Pink Team departed area to refuel.	N/A
1500	10Pl D/3 RAR found a North/West track at YS 518885 approx six days old. Movement from the South/East by about 6-10 people.	N/A
1540	Sabre 26 on station.	N/A

/1558

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(a)	(b)	(c)
1558	Comd 1 ATF advised V Coy would be released from under op con if required. Required.	N/A
1625	11Pl D/3 RAR at YS 538889 located a North to South track used by 4 to 6 people in the last 36 hours. Also located an old bunker system. Sounds of chopping approximately 300m to the West being investigated.	N/A
1745	OC V Coy briefed by CO at Courtenay Hill on redeployment and task. To search in the area bounded by 85, 88 Northing, the Civilian Access line and the 50 Easting. B Coy South; D Coy East; Sp Coy(-) to North.	N/A
1810	11Pl D/3 RAR checked out chopping noises but found nothing.	N/A
1812	Fox 26 reported a heavily and recently used track at YS 523863. Movement East to West in both directions.	N/A
1832	DS Possum (A29) reported blue smoke coming from trees 300-400 metres South of 11Pl D Coy (YS 510857) considered to be from Pink Team rockets.	N/A
1856	DS Possum checked smoke area. One entry point for 2.75mm rockets. No other holes. Also smoke 400m South-East of 6Pl B Coy (YS 483831).	N/A
1905	Cavmobile request to move V Coy from Nui Dat to YS 4587. Top cover required (210630H) . To operate North of B Coy (85 Northing) between Civil Access and 50 Easting.	N/A
1906	1Tp A Sqn to operate in rubber plantation East of Route 2 North of V and D Coy, West of D/3 RAR and East of Sp Coy.	N/A
2140	Pink Team offered by Comd 1 ATF for 210800H . weather permitting. Accepted.	N/A

21 Sep 71 — Day 3

Locstats:

HQ 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC)	Courtenay Hill.
V Coy	Nui Dat (1 ATF RRF).
B Coy	CHQ, 4Pl YS 487838; 5Pl YS 484842; 6Pl YS 484832.
C Coy	Nui Dat, Post operational Administration.
D Coy	CHQ, 10Pl YS 508856; 11Pl YS 510857; 12Pl YS 507855.
D Coy/3 RAR	CHQ YS 530885; 10Pl YS 519886; 11Pl YS 535884; 12Pl YS 530885.

/Sp Coy(-)

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(a)	(b)	(c)
	Sp Coy(-)	Courtenay Hill; Aslt Pnr Pl YS 474886; Mor Pl 2 Sects Nui Dat; sect FSBs DEBBIE ROBIN.
	1Tp A Sqn	TA10A, 10B, 12 YS 505896; TA11 Courtenay Hill; TA13, 19J YS 493887.
	104 Fd Bty	G20, 80, TA1B FSB DEBBIE; G20A, 84, TA82, TA41 FSB ROBIN.
0120/ 0531	CAM MY Village reported incoming 60mm Mor rounds. 105mm How from FSB DEBBIE fired in support. As the LO at XUEN LOC did not have communications with CAM MY and reports received on our direct link with CAM MY were confusing, details of the attack were not known for two days. (10 x 105mm HE, 10 x 81mm HE fired - no illumination because of very thick ground mist).	N/A
0710	Fox White 26 (Pink Team) BIEN HOA 3 Cav Bde (US) landed at Courtenay Hill for briefing.	N/A
0745	11Pl D Coy located a SW to SE track used last 12 hours by approx 10 persons wearing canvas boots moving East then North. (vic YS 514858, Pl following track).	N/A
0808	V Coy deployment by 2 Tp A Sqn complete. CHQ, 1, 2Pl YS 465877, 3Pl YS 453861. All callsigns moving East.	N/A
0851	12Pl moving North along a branch track (11Pl followed to East) when enemy initiated contact from a bunker system (YS 513857).	D/3 E/1
0910	12Pl requested Bushrangers, Task Force advised that USAF avail at 25 minutes. Pink Team (Fox 26) on station with JADE 07 co-ordinating all allotted air support.	D/3
0940	12Pl still receiving RPG rounds.	D/3
0940	Bushrangers inbound.	D/3
0940	11Pl 150m East of 12Pl D Coy.	D/3
0945	Fox 26 can see people breaking to the North and is engaging.	D/3
0945	10, 11Pls moving up to join 12Pl D Coy.	
0951	11, 12Pls D Coy advancing into enemy positions.	D/3
0955	LOAH ac received hits from ground fire and withdrew from area.	D/3
1000	YS 510856 given as winch point for Dustoff.	D/3

/1003

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(a)	(b)	(c)
1003	11Pl in contact. Smoke delivered by DS Possum (A24) to CHQ.	D/3
1017	D Coy 5 casualties.	
1022	11Pl 20m from bunkers and 12Pl 30m from bunkers.	D/3
1024	Dustoff requested. Resupply 1000 link, 500 7.62 ball to CHQ by A24.	D/3
1105	JADE 01 inbound.	N/A
1112	Litter casualty Dustoff complete. Remainder (3) to wait KIA not yet recovered.	D/3
1116	Both 11, 12Pl commencing to withdraw. Contact too heavy Bushrangers and Cobras to be used. Winch point too close for UASF strikes. Smoke dropped to 12Pl by A24. KIA can not be recovered.	D/3
1128	6Pl B Coy contacted 2 enemy at YS 487832. One enemy KIA, one WIA and escaped. 1 AK47 CIA.	D/4
1134	5Pl B Coy at YS 498843 located fresh sign of movement East and South.	N/A
1136	Enemy moving around flanks of 11Pl, 11Pl using suppressing fire.	D/3
1140	6Pl B Coy located a telephone cable in the contact area at YS 487832 and is following cable to North.	N/A
1146	Napalm to be used on bunker system. Coy regrouped at safe distance. Smoke resupply to 12Pl by A24 also water for marker balloons plus additional balloons.	D/3
1146-1240	Bushranger, Pink Teams and Aerial Rocket Artillery ac engaged bunker system.	D/3
1243	Napalm strike delivered (little too far East).	D/3
1250	Bushrangers, Cobras and Pink Teams continued strikes against bunker system.	D/3
1300	12Pl D Coy has movement to SE and believe enemy are trying to out-flank them.	D/3
1311	B Coy confirmed enemy KIA as NVA from documents CIA.	C/4
1315	Fox 26 reported heavy concentration to the rear of the bunker system - 50m from 12Pl location.	D/3

/1325

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(a)	(b)	(c)
1325	D Coy ready to recieve Dustoff. (YS 510856).	D/3
1326	A24 reported enemy on high ground near CHQ (YS 508861).	D/3
1327	D Coy requested Dustoff ac to collect casualties. Area secure.	D/3
1341	Dustoff One inbound 5 minutes.	D/3
1345	11Pl married up with CHQ, 10Pl D Coy.	D/3
1400	D Coy Dustoff less KIA complete. Total casualties 1KIA, 4 WIA, 1 Shock.	D/3
1403	6Pl B Coy sighted one enemy rolling up cable from the North. No result.	D/5
1424	A24 dropped 500 link, 200 M16, 200 ball to D Coy.	N/A
1430	D Coy KIA body recovered.	N/A
1502	D Coy located second body from contact on 20 Sep 71.	D/1
1506	A37s from USAF commenced further airstrike on bunker system.	D/3
1509	Pink Team taking .50 cal fire from Eastern feature, 2 Cobras engaging (YS 511844).	D/3
1520	CHQ, 11, 12Pls D Coy to move forward to bunker system. 10Pl to remain in reserve in the area of the winch point.	D/3
1525	JADE 07 reported that aircraft were taking intensive .30 cal fire, requested permission to use 500lb, 750lb bombs. Clearance given if approach is from the East.	D/3
1540	D Coy(-) commenced to move towards bunker system.	D/3
1545	6Pl B Coy at YS 492832 receiving incomming 60mm mortar rounds and ground fire.	D/5
1546	JADE 07 reported bodies on the ground from the napalm. Cobras engaging enemy running out of area.	D/3
1552	6Pl taking casualties from mortar fire and believe the base plate to be to the East.	D/5
1554	Bushrangers moved to assist 6Pl B Coy.	D/5
1600	6Pl have enemy on both sides. 4Pl moving to assist 6Pl.	D/5
1603	Fox 26 reported taking ground fire in bunker area.	D/3

/1604

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1604	4Pl B Coy in contact.	D/5
1610	A37s from USAF commencing bombing strikes 'YS 508861).	D/3
1612	B Coy reported mortars ceased firing.	D/5
1615	4Pl reported 2 enemy KIA. 6Pl have enemy all round its location.	D/5
1620	11Pl in contact, enemy 20m to their front.	D/3
1622	CHQ, 12Pl D Coy in contact.	D/3
1627	D Coy reported heavy contact, a number of casualties. Requested JADE to be on coy internal net. One team of Bushrangers and Cobras in support of B Coy contact diverted to D Coy.	D/3
1633	2 RAAF Dustoff are on stand-by.	N/A
1635	6Pl has 7 casualties. No LZ in area. Winch will be required.	C/5
1637	CHQ, 12Pl D Coy withdrawing, 11Pl is having a difficult time extracting CHQ to winch point. Enemy in a well established bunker system with prepared fire lanes, concentrating their fire against M60 numbers. CHQ requested Opdem of ammunition and smoke.	D/3
1643	FSB ROBIN firing East of 6Pl. 4Pl B Coy to secure winch point.	D/5
1650	D Coy requested Dustoff ac.	D/3
1651	B Coy Dustoff request for 7 WIA.	N/A
1657	D Coy not ready to recieve Dustoff ac - diverted to B Coy.	D/3
1705	4Pl in contact at YS 493833.	D/5
1710	12Pl(-) in 10Pl location. 10Pl(-) moved to assist in extraction of remainder of 12Pl.	D/3
1712	6Pl closing to 4Pl contact location.	D/5
1725	OC B Coy advised B Coy will consolidate in one NDP if possible, but not more than 2 NDPs. Airstrike acceptable after Dustoff completed.	N/A
1727	US Dustoff ac on station. Directed to listen-out on D Coy internal for advice of preparedness for extraction of casualties.	N/A

/1730

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1730	5Pl in CHQ B Coy location.	D/5
1730-35	D Coy re-grouped and consolidated. Dustoff effected, Opdem of ammunition made by A24. 3 Aust KIA left in contact area, unable to be recovered without taking more serious casulaties.	D/3
1735	CHQ B Coy secured area. Dustoff in progress, Pink Team firing during winching process. 6Pl located some bunkers but has not investigated.	D/5
1735	B Coy has 15 casulaties, 3 to remain on duty.	D/5
1743	Dustoff continuing. Pink Team engaging contact area. B Coy to attempt to recover packs left by 6Pl.	D/5
1746	D Coy informed by CO that artillery and further airstrikes would be used. D Coy complete to move South at least 400m for safety. Further Opdem received - require further resupply.	D/3
1808	Napalm strike on bunker system.	D/3
1820	B Coy Dustoff in last phase now. Pink Team given full ground clearance.	D/5
1829	B Coy proposed NDP YS 494838.	N/A
1830	B Coy Dustoff with last litter. US LOH to attempt to hover at low level for 2 WIA to board aircraft. Not successful.	D/5
1837	LFT still working in support B Coy.	D/5
1841	FSB ROBIN firing in support of B Coy.	D/5
1841	D Coy having moved 300m South came into heavy contact with enemy to SW. YS 511852.	D/3
1846	FSB DEBBIE firing Danger Close for D Coy.	D/3
1850	B Coy Dustoff complete, 4 and 6Pls moving to 5Pl location.	D/5
1851	B Coy reported all enemy contacted appeared to be NVA.	D/5
1851	D Coy in all round defence, encircled by enemy, except to SE, who are attacking aggressively. Coy low on ammunition and need urgent resupply.	D/3
1855	B Coy engaging suspected mortar base plate position reported by Pink Team. FSB ROBIN firing.	D/5

/1858

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1858	D Coy requested all available support. Terrain distance and darkness prevents APC assistance (No tanks). D Coy unable to mark position for air support, or accept ammunition resupply because of heavy and sustained enemy ground fire. Artillery continuing on Danger Close proceedure.	D/3
1903	D Coy reported that enemy may have followed-up from first bunker system. 11Pl suspects there is another bunker system to the South because of apparent fire lanes.	D/3
1948	A24 in support of D Coy to provide Artillery Radio Relay.	D/3
1951	OC D Coy and FO cannot talk to each other in the present situation (any movement or talking draws aimed enemy fire). Coy informed that A15 from 161 (Indep) Recce Flt would conduct relay system with one set on Bty Net and another on Coy internal Net. 161 Recce Flt will continue system until no longer required.	D/3
1956	Rake 24 and JADE 24 on station to North and available if required.	N/A
1957	4, 6Pls approaching CHQ, 5Pl B Coy location. Priority maintdem required 22 Sep 71.	N/A
2105	OC 11Pl WIA. Will require Dustoff ac at first light.	D/3
2107	RMO, at Nui Dat, via Bn Comd Net DO prescribed treatment for OC 11Pl. (shoulder wound).	D/3
2115	D Coy continuing artillery fire, enemy activity quietening down. Casualties Aust 5 KIA, 9 WIA.	D/3
2204	HQ 1 ATF advised Pink Team would be available from 220800 hrs weather permitting.	N/A
22 Sep 71	Day 4	
0200	A19 leaving "on station" (relay and flares for D Coy).	N/A
0645	Pink Team (Fox White 26) briefed and on station.	N/A
0705	D Coy reported 2 NVA KIA on the perimeter had been dragged away during the night.	N/A
0706	OC V Coy warned of task to join and relieve D Coy. Coy to concerntrate at YS 492872 with 1Pl. APCs to RV with 3Pl at AP XA BANG YS 472863. CHQ, 2Pl move direct. V Coy route to D Coy direct by foot (SE). Task , to extract 3 KIA and equipment from the contact area. D Coy will provide guides.	N/A

/0756

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
0756	D Coy reported Pink Team had completed VR of immediate area and did not sight enemy. Dustoff for OC 11Pl requested.	N/A
0800	D Coy reported movement on the perimeter to NE.	N/A
0811	Pink Team located at YS 505866 two new bunkers built in last 24 hours.	N/A
0817	3Pl V Coy at RV (XA BANG).	N/A
0842	D Coy Dustoff complete.	N/A
0853	B Coy Dustoff of two of the three WIA who remained on duty completed.	N/A
0815	10Pl D/3 RAR located a staging camp for approximately 15 persons at YS 520884. A very newly made foot print was also found on the creek bank.	E/2
0937	Transport Officer (Lt Wellard) transferred to D Coy (11Pl)	N/A
0952	Bushranger from No 9 Sqn sighted one enemy 400m SSE of 4Pl B Coy (YS 500834). Engaged, results unknown.	N/A
0955	V Coy complete at YS 492872.	N/A
0955	JADE sighted bunker system, hut, one man at YS 494866. Engaged by Pink Team.	E/3
1021	D Coy reported a bunker, constructed within last 2 days, on coy Western perimeter (YS 511852).	E/4
1057	Because of terrain and possible enemy interdiction, decision taken to fly V Coy to South of D Coy. PZ YS 491873 to be secured by 1 Tp A Sqn. LZ YS 521840, PZ time 221230H.	N/A
1121	JADE 04 reported a 20 element bunker system at YS 500834. Area of sighting and firing by Bushranger.	N/A
1128	D Coy located 1 NVA KIA, 1 RPG 2, 2 B40 rounds and boosters.	N/A
1151	Documents captured by 6Pl B Coy identify elements of C9, 3 Bn 33 NVA Regt.	N/A
1233	Artillery LZ prep completed LZ YS 521840. HFT working.	N/A
1236	B Coy reported two tracks leading North between YS 493823 and YS 490833 very recently used.	N/A
1311	V Coy Transland complete. Locstat V Coy YS 512840.	N/A

/1331

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1331	B Coy confirmed that suspected bunker system at YS 500834 was in fact logs and ant hills. Heavy damage by air.	N/A
1401	Cavmobile request to move C Coy from Nui Dat to YS 4587. Task, to ambush in AO vacated by V Coy.	N/A
1415	Pink Team reported a bridge at YS 509834 with an West to East with intensive use.	N/A
1425	Pink Team at YS 503839 reported freshly cut trees, logs to 8ft length.	N/A
1437	Pink Team at YS 501847 reported smell of cooked fish. Also track made by 15-20 people in the last 18 hours going SE; small track made by 5-8 people moving East.	N/A
1512	4Pl B Coy located new camouflaged bunker YS 493830. Total 6 bunkers and one hut. Tracks heading West, NE, SE.	E/5
1636	Aslt Pnr Pl at YS 477882 located an East-West track along the edge of unworked rubber. Made by three persons in last 2 to 3 days.	N/A
1710	Airstrikes at YS 505865, YS 507861 complete (12 x 500lb bombs on each tgt).	N/A
1739	V Coy married-up with D Coy.	N/A
1855	V Coy reported one man wounded by shrapnel from 105mm Hows (DF adjustment).	N/A
1905	6Pl B Coy located what appeared to be a tunnel at YS 548853. Fresh foot print found, movement in the area prevented further search.	E/6
2015	CO briefed OCs V and D Coy on activities for 23 Sep. a. D Coy adv to winch point area commencing 0900hrs. b. D Coy secure L of D for V Coy. c. V Coy attack 2pls up with 2pls reserve. d. Co-ord by OC D Coy and his FO. e. Suppositions. (1) No enemy between NDP and objective - must therefore adv on wide front. Beware of flank attack. (2) FO D Coy to complete all adjustments prior to 0800hrs. (3) Pink Team works between 0800/0900hrs prior to arty commencing. (4) V Coy Dustoff completed by 0800hrs (shrapnel wound from 105mm). f. CO airborne.	N/A
2122	Pink Team on station at 0730 hrs weather permitting.	N/A

/23 Sep 71

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
23 Sep 71	Day 5	
0822	V Coy Dustoff completed.	N/A
0857	B Coy tunnel reassessed as collapsed well.	N/A
0900	Pink Team not available. VR of D Coy contact area conducted by A29. No sign of enemy.	N/A
0925	V, D Coy moving from NDP covered by artillery programme, ... Jade 06 on station.	N/A
0945	Jade 06 departing area as weather deteriorating. Jade 03 listening out on Comd Net if required.	N/A
1000	V Coy having difficulty locating winch point despite guides. Heavy damage caused by artillery. Timings to be revised when winch point located.	N/A
1045	B Coy located numerous tracks made by about 12 Pl sized group SE from NDP (vic YS 492831).	N/A
1053	V Coy estimated bunker system 100m away.	N/A
1105	D Coy located winch point V Coy redeploying to L of D.	N/A
1225	V Coy crossed L of D. Moving one pl at a time.	N/A
1252	V Coy making slow progress. Very heavy rain and ground damage.	N/A
1318	V Coy advanced about 100m. Going difficult - debris and fallen trees - no enemy sign.	N/A
1446	V Coy slightly West of system.	N/A
1504	D Coy despatched guides to V Coy from 12Pl.	N/A
1550	12Pl linked up with 2Pl, V Coy too far West.	N/A
1600	B Coy after continuing search during the day located a very well prepared main track. Cut with saws and following compass bearing. Trees blazed. Main track disintergrates into a number of smaller tracks. No indication of final direction of movement can be ascertained. However the area had been prepared for a very lage force to move quickly and with heavy loads. Direction N/NE to S/SW.	N/A
1615	V Coy Dustoff (NBC) completed by D Coy at winch point by No 9 Sqn RAAF.	N/A
1625	V Coy returning to L of D - will move forward again but with guides.	N/A

/1645

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1645	CHQ, 9Pl C Coy deployed by APC to YS 468872. 7, 8Pls still moving in APCs.	N/A
1655	DS Possum located West to East track used in last two days by 15 plus persons.	N/A
1657	7Pl C Coy deployed at YS 467872.	N/A
1715	8Pl C Coy deployed at YS 487874.	N/A
1725	V Coy located 1 Aust pack.	N/A
1738	12 packs located but not to be touched until checked by Splinter Teams.	N/A
1802	V Coy located three KIA from 11Pl D Coy. Bodies not touched by enemy troops.	N/A
1909	Dustoff from D Coy complete.	N/A
1930	V, D Coys briefed by CO to complete search, recovery of equipment, reports and destruction of installations. Then to search from present locations across the high ground to NW to YS 5087. V Coy to secure LZ in YS 4987 for extraction by No 9 Sqn of D Coy to Nui Dat. V Coy to take maintdem.	N/A
1850	177 RF Coy (CAM MY) requested artillery support against attack from a reported 2 NVA Coys.	N/A
2010	Pnr Gun on Courtenay Hill defensive perimeter threw M26 grenade after sounds of wire cutting were heard. No further reports or sounds heard.	N/A

24 Sep 71 — Day 6

Locstats — HQ 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn — Courtenay Hill.

V Coy	CHQ, 3Pl YS 513856; 1Pl YS 510860; 2Pl YS 510858.
B Coy	CHQ, 6Pl YS 494829; 4Pl YS 488831; 5Pl YS 495825.
C Coy	CHQ, 9Pl YS 479874; 7Pl YS 476867; 8Pl YS 491873.
D Coy	CHQ, 10Pl YS 502856; 11Pl YS 503856; 12Pl YS 502857.
D/3 RAR	CHQ, 12Pl YS 524874; 10Pl YS 518870; 11Pl YS 529876.

/CP/Sp Coy(-)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
	CP/Sp Coy(-)	Courtenay Hill; Tracker Pl YS 419900; Mor Pl 2 sects Nui Dat, sect FSBs DEBBIE, ROBIN.
	1 Tp A Sqn	TA10A, 13 YS 485896; TA10B, 11 YS 496888 TA19J, 12 YS 503896.
	104 Fd Bty	G20, 80, TA41B FSB DEBBIE; G20A, 84, TA82, TA41 FSB ROBIN.
0350	RP Gun on Courtenay Hill reported movement/noise vacinity of POL point. Illumination fired. No results.	N/A
0740	V, D Coy commenced searching bunker system.	E/1
0755	11, 12Pls located most of the missing equipment. 12 bunkers located. Number of Chicom grenades around the area. No equipment, codes, ammunition taken by enemy.	E/1
0850	B Coy Dustoff complete (NBC). 4Pl back in installation at YS 493830.	E/5
1000	V Coy ordered to move South to the bunker system at YS 511852 to search and destroy system. D Coy to complete task at present location. Then move to grids indicated on 25 Sep 71.	N/A
1029	VR report by Jade at 0905 hrs, fresh SE foot track made by approximately 20 persons at YS 537792, 537795, 533798 made in the last 24 hours.	N/A
1057	3Pl V Coy located three bunkers at YS 511852.	E/4
1106	B Coy continued to locate and follow tracks. Confirmed the plotted tracks in the area. Generally North, NE to South, SE.	N/A
1138	3Pl now located 13 bunkers at YS 511852.	E/4
1150	As D Coy will complete bunker destruction before V Coy: a. D Coy to search West then NW to LZ at YS 492873, be prepared to marry up with 8Pl C Coy, search for bunker system reported by Pink Team at YS 4986. b. V Coy to complete destruction. Search along high ground to YS 5087. Take maintdem on top feature 265. c. C Coy (8Pl) to secure and control LZ YS 492873.	N/A
1211	Transland 222 for D Coy extraction from YS 492873 to Nui Dat on 25 Sep 71 submitted.	N/A
1250	A24 sighted an East/West track used by about 20 persons at YS 483822.	N/A

/1255

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1255	7P1 C Coy at YS 473865 located a cache of 25 sandbags of padi rice (approx 375 litres). Rice emptied into swamp. CHQ at YS 476874 located an old Russian rifle in a log. Hidden about 2 years.	E/7
1337	D Coy demolition complete.	N/A
1430	Troops from 177 RF Coy contacted 3 VC while checking a reported bunker at YS 462938. 1 VC KIA.	N/A
1547	D Coy at YS 505856 located a North/South track used by a squad size group in last 12-24 hours.	N/A
1555	CHQ, 6P1 B Coy recovered all missing equipment from 6P1 contact left intact by enemy.	N/A
1657	1 ATF patrol at YS 503934 located a blazed trail used by 10 people moving NE approximately 1 day ago. Ambushing in suitable site.	N/A
1813	V Coy demolition complete (YS 511852).	N/A
2150	D Coy Transland 222 to be delayed until 261130H to provide flank protection for V Coy.	N/A

25 Sep 71 — Day 7

0855	2P1 V Coy investigating sounds of persons chopping wood. Nil result.	N/A
0950	12P1 D/3 RAR located a light track used by 15-20 persons 2 to 3 days ago moving SW at YS 528874.	N/A
1041	11P1 D/3 RAR located a track made by 2 - 3 persons five days ago moving SW at YS 535847. 10P1 D/3 RAR at YS 520875 located a North - South track 5 - 7 days old made by 15 - 20 persons moving South.	N/A
1220	1 Sect 1 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt had mine incident at YS 486895. TA11A extensively damaged. 1 WIA.	C/6
1230	2 Sect 1 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt had mine incident at YS 490895. TA12B extensively damaged. 2 WIA.	C/7
1232	All APC movement to cease until area checked by mine teams. Mines appear to have been in location for some time and detinators inserted recently. No fresh sign in the area.	N/A
1312	Dustoff of 3 casualties from 1 Tp A Sqn complete.	C/6,7
1400	C Coy at YS 483874 located a North to South track used by 4 to 5 persons up to 7 days ago.	N/A

/1535

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1535	Recovery vehicle arrived 1 Tp A Sqn location.	N/A
1659	B Coy completed demolition of bunker system at YS 493830.	E/5
1710	D Coy Transland 222 now to be at 261300H. PZ to be controlled by 8Pl C Coy who is at the OZ. V Coy maintdem will be accepted by 8Pl for V Coy.	N/A
1930	3 Sect 2 Tp and recovery crews from A Sqn arrived at Courtenay Hill with damaged APCs. To remain overnight.	N/A
2003	V Coy(-) just into NDP at YS 505876 (CHQ, 3Pl)	N/A
26 Sep 71	Day 8	
1030	5Pl B Coy following a heavily blazed trail prepared for heavy movement used by 10 persons moving West in last 36 hours. (YS 486825).	N/A
1115	10Pl D Coy RV with 8Pl C Coy at YS 492872.	N/A
1157	5Pl B Coy at YS 485826 located a well used North to South track used in both directions.	N/A
1225	D Coy complete at YS 492872 with 8Pl C Coy.	N/A
1258	CHQ, 3Pl V Coy at YS 492872 for maintdem.	N/A
1424	Transland 222 complete D Coy Nui Dat.	N/A
1555	12Pl D/3 RAR located start of a bunker system at YS 519861. 3 bunkers completed, 3 under construction. About 2 weeks old.	E/1
1815	Following extraction of D Coy AOs were adjusted accordingly: a. V Coy to take over C Coy AO. b. B Coy No change. c. C Coy to take over D Coy AO. e. D/3 RAR continue to move South after completing demolitions.	N/A
1824	Dustoff for NBC from D/3 RAR completed (YS 524860).	N/A
27 Sep 71	Day 9	
0130-0200	V Coy at YS 485863 saw a light approximately 500m from the company. Fire could not be employed as 8Pl C Coy were located at YS 502859. Possible mine laying party. Fresh tracks found during daylight search.	N/A
0835	A23 completed NBC for V Coy at YS 429874.	N/A
0845	5Pl B Coy located bunkers at YS 478819. Blood soaked bandages located. 6Pl B Coy located an unoccupied bunker system at YS 496830. Very old but renovated system.	E/8 E/9

/0935

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
0935	3Pl V Coy located sign of 3 to 6 people where light was sighted during the night. No sign of digging. Track from NE to SW following a directional marker (stick) in a tree.	N/A
1108	D/3 RAR completed demolition of bunker system YS 519861.	N/A
1138	8Pl C Coy located 4 fighting pits in poor condition at YS 496867. Destroyed.	E/10
1300	D/3 RAR located a bunker system (YS 515857) 300m South of previous system. 7 bunkers 250m square. Australian compass, 3 hats and other equipment located. RPG round and one bunker prepared for demolition (D Coy contact area).	E/1
1505	5Pl B Coy located fresh sign of a small party having used a well formed North to South track today. One person wearing ARVN boots, one wearing sandals, one bare footed.	N/A
1603	D/3 RAR following a line of det cord to West from bunker system.	N/A
1731	D/3 RAR located 4 bunkers. Possibly further bunkers/bunker systems to West or SW. Search to continue. Total 10 bunkers located.	E/1
1955	Track report from C Coy. Track located at YS 496859 was a well cut North/South track with smaller tracks joining from the East. Track had had heavy use and trees had abrasion marks about 4ft from the ground. Main movement North. About 3 to 4 feet wide, cleared to ground level, last used 3 to 4 days ago.	N/A
28 Sep 71	Day 10	
0842	D/3 RAR located further 7 bunkers to NE.	E/1
0905	D/3 RAR found 2 more bunkers. Total 24 bunkers, 12-15 spaces and timber prepared.	E/1
0930	Sapdem of explosives to D/3 RAR by DS Possum.	N/A
1130	D/3 RAR Transland 229 from YS 521840 to Luscombe submitted for 291400H.	N/A
1350	D/3 RAR completed demolition of bunker system.	N/A
1500	C Coy maintdem completed LZ prepared with explosives/chain saws. Coy redeploying.	N/A
1706	1Pl V Coy reported a track made by 10 persons moving NW to SW about 4 days previously.	N/A

/1845

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1845	Activities for 29 Sep 71: V Coy a. continue searching South. b. Be prepared to assist C Coy YS 5084. B Coy a. Complete search of AO. b. Require LZ for resupply. C Coy a. Proceed to YS 5084. b. V Coy and D/3 RAR prepared to assist if required. D/3 RAR a. To be extracted 1400hrs. b. Be prepared to assist C Coy YS 5084.	N/A
1900	12Pl D/3 RAR at YS 531849 located a track with movement to NE made by 30 to 40 persons 5 to 6 days previously.	N/A
29 Sep 71	Day 11	
1005	8Pl C Coy at YS 508853 located a NE - SW track made by 12 people moving SW in last 4 to 5 days.	N/A
1011	Transland 232 for C Coy movement from PZ YS 521841 to LZ YS 407868 for 011600H. 1 Tp A Sqn to secure LZ. Task, to re-establish presence West of Route 2 to interdict resupply and courier routes. Also to re-balance the battalion from heavy bias East of Route 2.	N/A
1106	Track reports from D/3 RAR: a. 10Pl at YS 514841 located a track with movement to the East. Used 7 to 14 days previously. b. 11Pl at YS 528842 located a South to North track used by a number of people about 7 days ago.	N/A
1109	8Pl C Coy at YS 511851 found newly cut logs for bunkers and one fighting pit. Destroyed by hand. 9Pl C Coy at YS 503848 located a 40 x 20m, 4 bunker system. Destroy by hand.	E/11 E/12
1326	D/3 RAR complete at YS 521840 (PZ).	N/A
1525	Transland 229 complete. D/3 RAR at Nui Dat and ceases to be under op con 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn.	N/A
30 Sep 71	Day 12	
0830	C Coy directed to search South about 500m, then to move East to YS 522840 to arrive by 011500H.	N/A
1028	Tracker Pl at YS 480909 sighted two people dressed in black, one with pack, one wearing boots moving from South to North. No weapons sighted, no shots fired. (Civil Access Area).	N/A

/1350

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1350	OCs V, B Coys, A Sqn 3 Cav briefed on Operation VALIANT.	N/A
	Coys continued searching during the day without significant sightings.	
1 Oct 71	Day 13	
1105	1 Tp A Sqn moving to RV with B Coy (YS 489817).	N/A
1200	A Sqn(-) 3 Cav Regt under op con to 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn until 061800H.	N/A
1232	B Coy and 1 Tp A Sqn completed marry-up procedure. B Coy to move West of Route 2 to interdict routes into DUC THANH.	N/A
1305	1 Tp A Sqn moving with B Coy to West of Route2.	N/A
1421	Task for B Coy complete. CHQ, 6Pl B Coy YS 419797; 4Pl YS 427817; 5Pl YS 420818.	N/A
1640	Transland 232 complete. C Coy at YS 407868, LZ secured by 1 Tp A Sqn.	N/A
1905	PF Post at NGAI GIAO in contact with estimated company. FSB ROBIN fired in support.	N/A
2 Oct 71	Day 14	
0520	Flare set off at FSB ROBIN. Hand held flare fired and 2 people observed near the perimeter. 50 cal fired and people fled into rubber tree line to the South.	N/A
1045	Advice received that AO BIRDSVILLE East of the 54 Easting had been given to 3 Bde 1 US ACD. (Air Mobile) Down to the 80 Northing.	N/A
1355	3 VC KIA found buried near XA NGAI GIAO had been killed by artillery and were credited to 104 Fd Bty. (YS 463799).	N/A
2215	2 Sect 1 Tp A Sqn sentry heard movement and engaged with .30 cal. No result possible animal.	N/A
2400	Operation IVANHOE concluded.	N/A

Locstats	HQ 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn	Courtenay Hill
	V Coy	CHQ, 2Pl YS 486832; 1Pl YS 496827; 3Pl YS 481829.
	B Coy	CHQ, 6Pl YS 418796; 4Pl YS 409797; 5Pl YS 393800.

/C Coy

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
C Coy	CHQ YS 415862; 7Pl YS 416865; 8Pl YS 404888; 9Pl YS 407883.	
D Coy	Nui Dat (1 ATF RRF).	
Sp Coy(-)	Courtenay Hill; Tracker Pl YS 483907; Mor Pl 2 sects Nui Dat; sect FSBs DEBBIE, ROBIN.	
A Sqn(-) 3 Cav Regt	TA9A, 9D, 10B,11 Nui Dat; TA84 YS 443853; TA42 YS 463783; TA9E YS 466867; TA10A, 13 YS 428920; TA 12, 19J YS 432912; TA23, 19M YS 425934.	
104 Fd Bty	G20, sect Mor Pl, TA41B FSB DEBBIE; G20A, sect Mor Pl, TA82, TA41 FSB ROBIN.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

ANNEX D TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION IVANHOE
DATED 4 NOV 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACTS/INCIDENTS
OPERATION IVANHOE

Serial (a)	Date/Time (b)	Location (c)	Unit/Sub Unit (d)	Activity (e)	Reference (f)
	Sep 71				
1	200705	YS 461821	10B, 1 sect 1 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	Contact. The four APCs were proceeding North along Route 2 when an RPG 7 was fired at the leading APC but struck the road in front of the vehicle. Six more RPG 7 rounds and small arms were fired at the two leading APCs with hits by the small arms rounds only. The enemy (est 20 - 30) broke contact when heavy and continuous .30 and .50 cal MG fire was returned. A search of the contact area, suspected withdrawal route made and 1 VC KIA and an AK47 recovered. One crewman was slightly wounded.	Appendix 1
2	201330	YS 511856	11/D Coy	Contact. Platoon were checking a North to South track when a large enemy party (15) bunched together approached from the North. Pl initiated contact killing one enemy instantly. The VC deployed quickly and returned rapid fire and withdrew on orders of commander. The enemy withdrew to East then North. 105mm How and Pink Teams were used. 2 NVA KIA, 1 AK47, 2 Chicom grenades CIA (Second body located 21 Sep 71).	Appendix 2
3	210857	YS 513857	12/D Coy	Contact. The coy had just commenced moving from its NDP when heavy small arms was directed at 12Pl from a well established and co-ordinated bunker position. 11Pl had moved passed the location just before fire was directed at 12Pl. 12Pl suffered 1 KIA and 2 WIA in the initial burst of fire. The coy redeployed and 12Pl extracted the casualties back to a winch point 60m West of contact area. The enemy and D Coy probed the area during the	Appendix 3

/morning

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
3 cont				morning. Pink Teams, LFTs, and artillery were employed during the day. At 1540 hrs, the casualties having been extracted, D Coy moved forward to attack the position. Extremely heavy and co-ordinated MG and small arms fire was received from the front and the flanks of the coy. 11Pl suffered 3 KIA and 1 WIA later DOW. The coy eventually extracted itself back to the winch point but was unable to extract the KIA. FGA, Pink Teams and artillery were employed, however the effect of some of the fire power was nulified by D Coys proximity to the bunker system. Heavy automatic fire was directed at all aircraft attacking the system. At 1746 hrs D Coy was ordered to withdraw South from the contact to enable the full employment of all types of fire support. The enemy followed up and eventually D Coy was pinned against another bunker system about 300m SSW of the winch point. The coy was covered by enemy on all but the NE perimeter. Under cover of darkness all fire ceased except for artillery support. The enemy withdrew during the night. .Results, En 9 KIA and (KBA. Own 5 KIA, 9 WIA.	Appendix 3
4	211128	YS 487832	6/B Coy	Contact. The platoon was following a telephone cable laid alongside a well defined track. Two enemy were seen approaching the platoon. One of the two NVA was killed, 1AK47 CIA.	Appendix 4
5	211403	YS 490833	6/B Coy	Contact. The platoon was continuing to follow the telephone cable when another enemy was sighted and fired on without result. The telephone cable was abruptly cut. At 1600hrs the Pl Recce Gp were examining a proposed NDP when enemy were observed by the Recce Gp to the North NE and East. The Recce Gp fired at the enemy and withdrew to the pl main body. 60mm Mor fire was then received	Appendix 5

/causing

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
5 cont				causing 15 casualties. 4Pl moving very rapidly from the North to support 6Pl had running fights with small enemy parties before th pl reached 6Pl. 4Pl reported 2 en KIA during movement. Pink Teams, LFTs and artillery was used in support of the engagement. Although only one body was located the enemy group were thought to have suffered more casualties. 1 NVA KIA (BC), 6 NVA WIA (Poss).	Appendix 5
6	251220	YS 486895	1 sect 1 Tp A Sqn	Mine Incident. TA11A was moving in the fifth lane of rubber trees from the road when a mine was detonated. An estimated 70lb explosives with a pressure device constituted the mine. Crater dimensions: 6ft wide; 3ft deep. The APC was extensively damaged. One crewman injured.	N/A
7	251230	YS 490895	2 sect 1 Tp A Sqn	Mine Incident. TA12B with the remainder of 2 sect was moving to assist TA11A and unknowingly also moved in the fifth lane of trees. 60lb explosives and a pressure device were used to construct the mine. Crater dimentions: 5ft wide 4ft deep. The APC was extensively damaged. Both mines were in an area where there were no mine markers although many mine incidents had occured West of the area. APCs had not used lane 5 and there was not a track in the lane. It is considered that the mines had been in position for some time and that the detonators had recently been inserted.	N/A

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 1 TO
ANNEX D TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION IVANHOE
DATED 4 NOV 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
20 Sep 71	0705	YS 461821	11 Sect 10B	1 Tp, A Sqn 3 Cav Regt

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
4 vehs	Escort 10A to South to RV returning via Route 2 to the Hill	21t	Lawrence	Capt	Earle

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
Enemy	RPG 7s (suspected) small arms	Estimated 20-30	Mainforce, RPG 7 (warhead captured) and AK50s, AK47s(captured 1 AK50.

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Sighted
	Max	Min	Hrs	Mins	
20-30m	200	20	-	15	En engaged leading C/S, 11A with an RPG

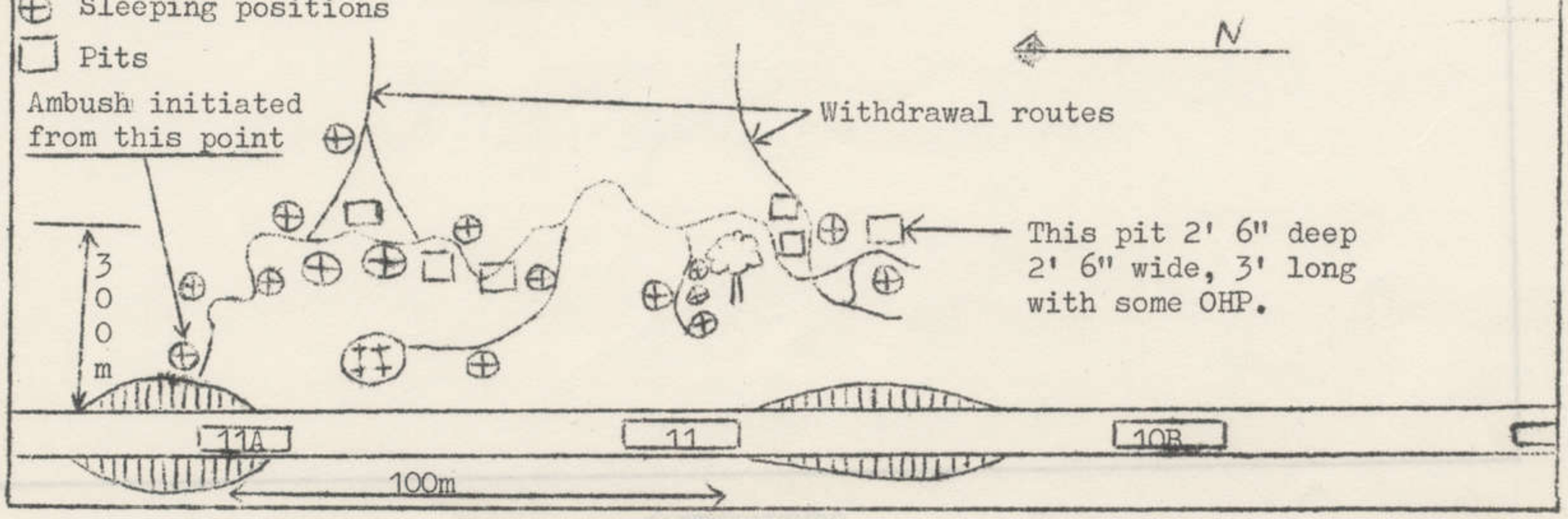
Terrain Description

The terrain was undulating with grass about 5' tall covering the area. There were no trees for approx 300m East of the road.

Narrative

The APCs were proceeding from South to North along Route 2 when the leading C/S was engaged by an RPG which detonated on the road in front of the veh. Several other RPGs and small arms fire then were directed at the leading two C/Ss, but only a number of SA rounds struck the second veh. The en broke contact when they were engaged with heavy 30 and 50 cal MG fire. The en were suspected to withdraw to the East from their ambush position on the Eastern side of the road. The APCs then swept the area and with the assistance of an ac found 1 VC KIA and 1 AK47. Comd 11A received a slight cut above the right eye and was taken by road to Nui Dat for treatment.

Sketch The ambush area was covered with numerous sleeping bays which were also used as firing positions.



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
50 cal and 30 cal MGs	300 rds 50 cal, 120 rds 30 cal
Supporting Fire Employed	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
Nil	Nil
Enemy Casualties	**Friendly Casualties**
1 KIA 1 AK47 (CIA)	1 WIA (slight headwound)

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. Local Commander.

Had problems with comms which hampered a more rapid initial deployment of all C/Ss and passage of info. A very well set up AP which would have been more effective if the leading C/S had been hit by the RPG and thus halted, causing the road to be blocked.

b. Platoon Comments.

Nil

c. Coy Comments.

Nil

d. Unit Comments.

Initial quick reaction by sect comd in deploying the vehicles and causing the ambushers to be engaged preventing the ambush being successful.

e. Lessons Learned.

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 2 TO
ANNEX D TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION IVANHOE
DATED 4 NOV 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
20 Sep 71	1330	YS 511856	11	D

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
	Search and Destroy	2Lt	G. Mackay	2Lt	G. Mackay

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
Friendlies	M60, M16	15+ (est)	NVA AK47

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Lenght of Engagement		How was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
20m	20	50	-	30	Movement

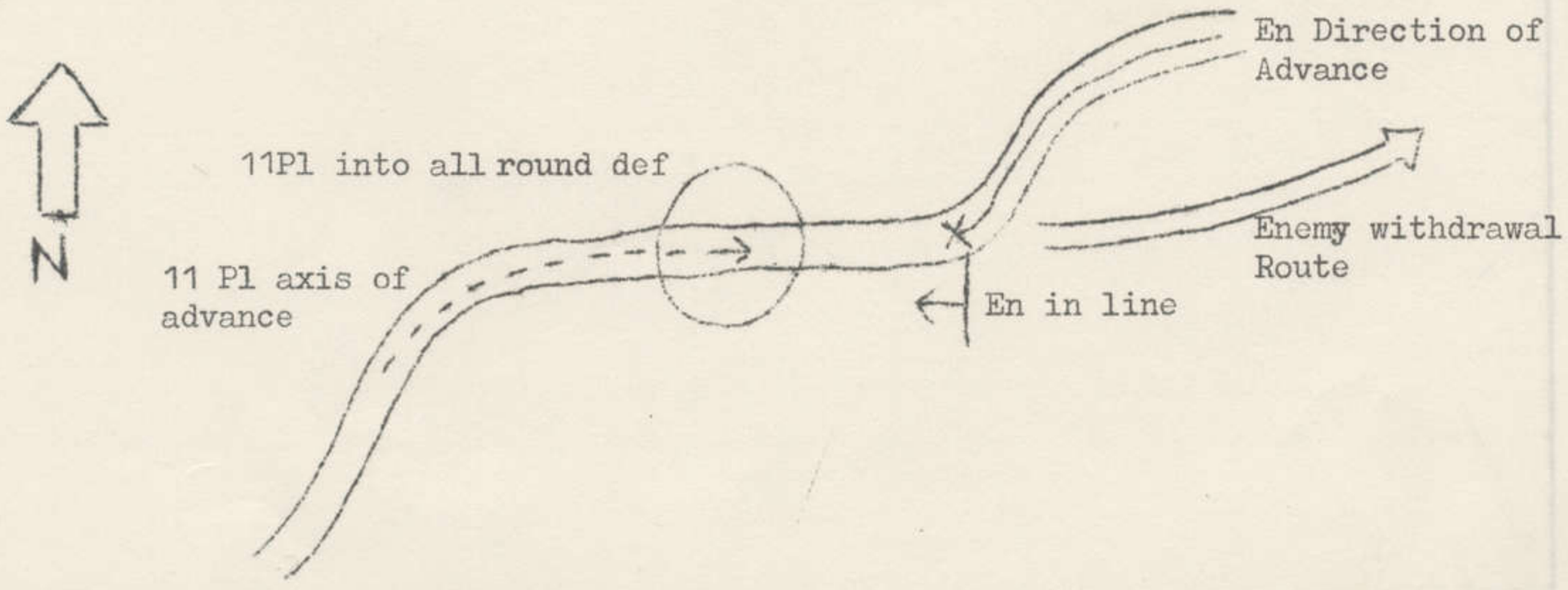
Terrain Description

Fairly open, good visibility and movement.

Narrative

1. 11Pl were checking an E - W track when the enemy approached round a bend 20m to the front.
2. 11Pl opened fire, killing 1 VC instantly, and then went to ground. The enemy deployed speedily and returned (rapid) fire. They were then ordered to withdraw by verbal orders of their commander.
3. The enemy withdrew E then N. Arty was fired onto their withdrawal route, and Pink Team assisted.
4. The platoon followed up, searched the area and located 1 en KIA and an AK47, pack and 2 x Chicom grenades. He was dressed in greens.
5. A further follow up failed to locate more enemy, and the pl formed an NDP.
6. A second NVA KIA was located in the area 21 Sep 71.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
M60, M16, SLR	M60 - 200, M16 - 100, SLR - 100
Supporting Fire Employed	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
Pink Team, Arty	Unk
Enemy Casualties	**Friendly Casualties**
2 KIA	Nil

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. **Local Commander**

Nil

b. **Platoon Comments**

(1) Max fire power fwd.

(2) Max Arty, quickly to rear of combat area.

c. **Coy Comments**

This enemy was aggressive. Their combat drills appear to be similar to ours, and are executed very quickly. On this occasion their their return of fire was fast. Automatic weapons predominated.

d. **Unit Comments**

It is interesting to speculate why they withdrew so soon after the engagement began. (NVA did not wish to have the system located).

e. **Lessons Learned**

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 3 TO
ANNEX D TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION IVANHOE
DATED 4 NOV 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
21 Sep 71	0857	YS 513857		D

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
	Search and Destroy	Major	J.H. Taylor	-	-

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
Enemy	RPG 2 (840)	Bn	3/33 NVA Regt

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Sighted
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
20M	15	150	11	00	RPG fire

Terrain Description

Heavy canopy, mostly good movement. Patches of thick undergrowth.

Narrative

1. At 210857 hrs, 12Pl was fired on by enemy in a well established bunker system. The weapon used to initiate the contact was an RPG 2, followed by intense small arms fire. At that time 1 friendly was KIA and two WIA. (See sketch 1).

2. 12Pl immediately went to ground and returned fire. They then extracted using fire and movement. (See sketch 1).

3. 11Pl had passed close to this contact location a few minutes previous but had not drawn fire. On 12Pls contact, 11Pl went into all round defence approx 250m to 12Pls East. (See sketch 1).

4. Whilst 12Pl extracted to a position approx 60m South of the contact grid, CHQ and 10Pl closed up to within 100m of 12 Pl and requested artillery and air support. A winch point was cleared and secured for the extraction of casualties. (See sketch 1).

5. Air support in the shape of Pink Teams, Bushrangers, light and heavy fire teams, were quickly in the contact area, and under the direction of Pl comd 12Pl, worked into within 40m of the pl. Ground fire was received. (See sketch 1).

6. By 1000hrs the situation was: 12Pl 60m South of contact area, 11Pl 250m East of 12 Pl, CHQ and 10Pl 100m South of 12Pl. (See sketch 1).

7. At approximately 1130 hrs 11Pl flanks were probed by an estimated squad sized force. 11Pl initiated the contact and pinned the enemy force for some time. The enemy withdrew towards the bunker system, taking their casualties with them. At approx 1330hrs 11Pl was ordered to close up on CHQ/10Pls position. (See sketch 2).

/8.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Narrative (Cont)

8. Throughout this time heavy air support continued, under the co-ordination of Jade 07, who reported seeing many enemy in the area of, and to the North of the contact area. FGA aircraft delivered napalm and machine gun ordnance into these areas also. (See sketch 2).

9. At 1630 hrs, Delta Coy moved to attack the system. The order of battle was: Left assault 12Pl, Right assault 11Pl. The TAC Gp of CHQ co-ordinated the move forward of the whole between the two pls, moving in bounds of 25m. 10Pl remained at the winch point. (See sketch 3).

10. After moving approx 50m the attacking force received intense enemy fire, not only from the bunkers located initially, but also from flank locations. (Subsequent investigation located empty AK47, cartridge cases behind trees and in folds in the ground) Heavy casualties were taken by the leading section of 11Pl (3KIA immediately and a fourth DOW). Because of the thickness of foliage and the effects of arty/air support, 12Pl was virtually unable to give any assistance to 11Pl. 11Pl's leading section was unable to move forward, because their gun was out of action and in a fire-lane. Fire directed into one bunker is known to have neutralised it, however. (See sketch 4).

11. The gun was eventually extracted and the remainder of the section moved back about ten metres. With approval of CO 4 RAR/NZ the assualting force extracted back and regrouped. 12Pl were ordered to the winch point with the casualties. Once secure there, 11Pl and TAC Gp followed. (See sketch 4).

12. During the withdrawal to the winch point 12Pl reported that they had seen enemy movement to their western flank. This was not seen by 11Pl or TAC Gp.

13. On arrival at the winch point, Dustoff requests were sent and effected. The 3 KIA remained where they had fallen (15m from the bunkers). Meanwhile preparations were made to withdraw a further 400m South to allow for a FGA sortie, using hard ordnance. An ammunition resupply was also effected at this time..

14. At 1815hrs the move South began, 10Pl leading, followed by 11Pl, 12Pl and TAC Gp remained at the winch point, finally leaving at 1825hrs at which time napalm was brought down on it.

15. Almost at once the rear elements of 12Pl reported that the enemy were following up. 10 and 11Pl were ordered to go to ground quickly and form a rapid defensive perimeter. This they did, and 12Pl/TAC Gp reformed then.

16. At once the enemy who were following bumped the perimeter, and a fierce fire-fight followed, in which 3 enemy were seen to fall. (See sketch 5).

17. As the engagement progressed, the defensive perimeter received fire from N, W and E. Some fire appeared to come from the South, but was quickly silenced. (See sketch 5).

18. It was now apparent that the perimeter had forced up against another bunker system though the extent of it was unknown. One b nker was engaged by heavy machine gun fire, and the fire from is ceased abruptly. (See sketch 5).

19 Artillery fire was brought in to within 100m at all cardinal points. Any mov, orders, or signals caused the enemy to fire into the perimeter. At this time pl comd of 11Pl was hit by AK47 fire. The order was given to remain still and silent, and as the dark increased the enemy fire became less accurate, eventually going very high and then stopping altogether. (See sketch 5).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 4 TO
ANNEX D TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION IVANHOE
DATED 4 NOV 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
21 Sep 71	211128	YS 487832	6	B

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
25	Search of an area	2Lt	D.N. McDaniel	2Lt	D.N. McDaniel

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
6Pl	M16, M60	2	Black clothes AK47

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
30m	10	15	-	2	Sighted moving along telephone wire

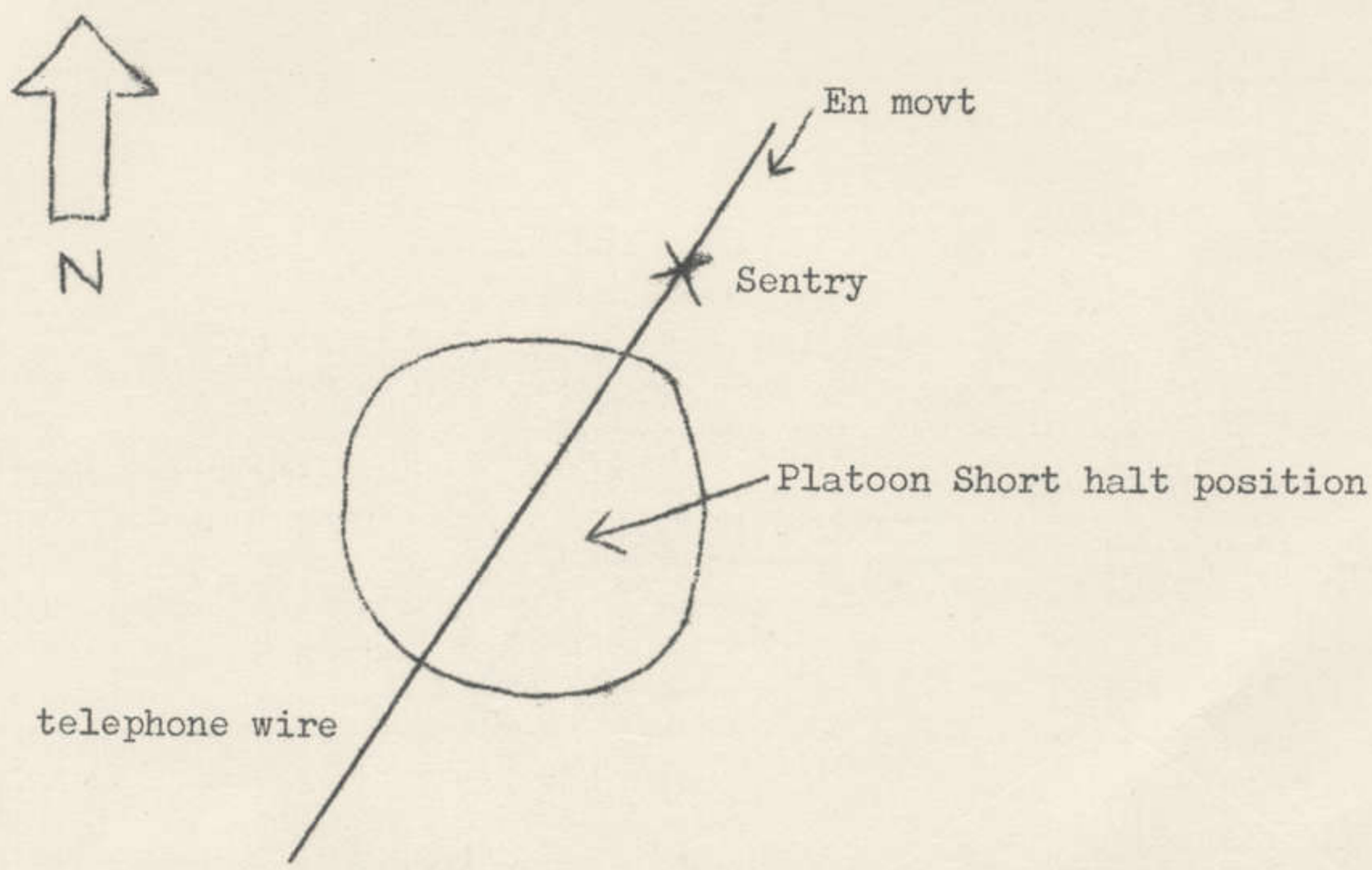
Terrain Description

Secondary jungle

Narrative

The platoon had discovered a telephone wire and had began to follow it. A short halt position was adopted prior to recommencing the follow up. Two enemy approached the position from the North East observed by the sentry and engaged. 1 NVA was KIA and the other withdrew North East. The enemy appeared to have been checking the wire.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
M16, M60	M16 20, M60 50
Supporting Fire Employed	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
Nil	Nil
Enemy Casualties	Friendly Casualties
1 KIA (BC)	Nil

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. Local Commander

Nil

b. Platoon Comments

Nil

c. Coy Comments

Nil

d. Unit Comments

With the deployment of two sentries on each post both NVA may have been eliminated. Moreover, especially as the pl was following a major track with a telephone cable and halted astride the track/cable, double sentries would have offered greater security to the pl.

e. Lessons Learned

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Narrative (Cont)

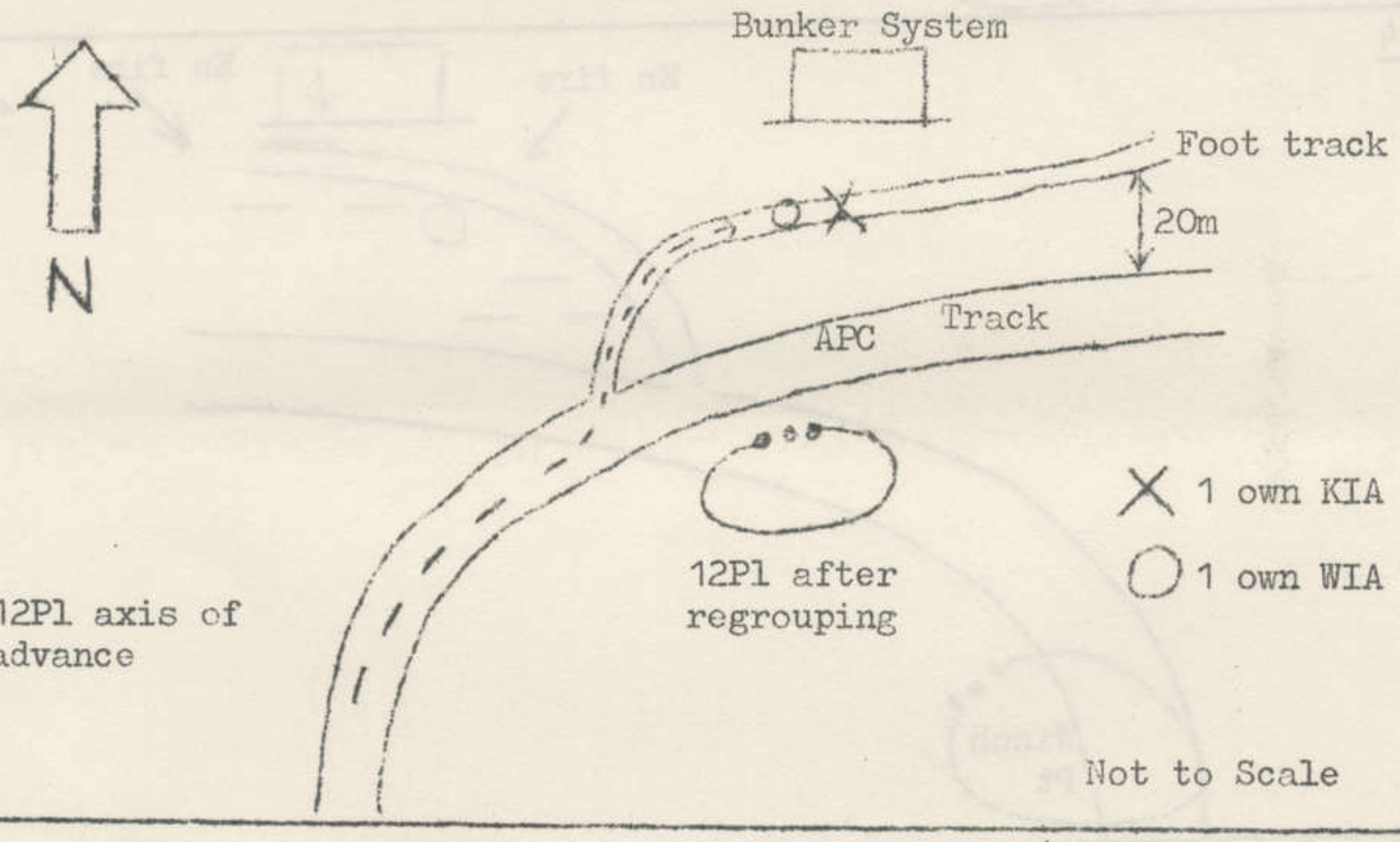
20. Enemy voices were heard from the area of the bunker system to the West. It appeared that some kind of discussion/O Gp was in progress. This too eventually ceased, and it was estimated that the enemy had gone South. (See sketch 5).

21. No further enemy movement was heard during the night, and a search of the perimeter on the morning of 22nd revealed 1 en body (1 x RPG 2 loaded and ready) heavy drag marks to N, NE and E, and heavy blood trails to E. A heavy track lead to the South, but it was difficult to tell if it was used during the night, because it had had constant use.

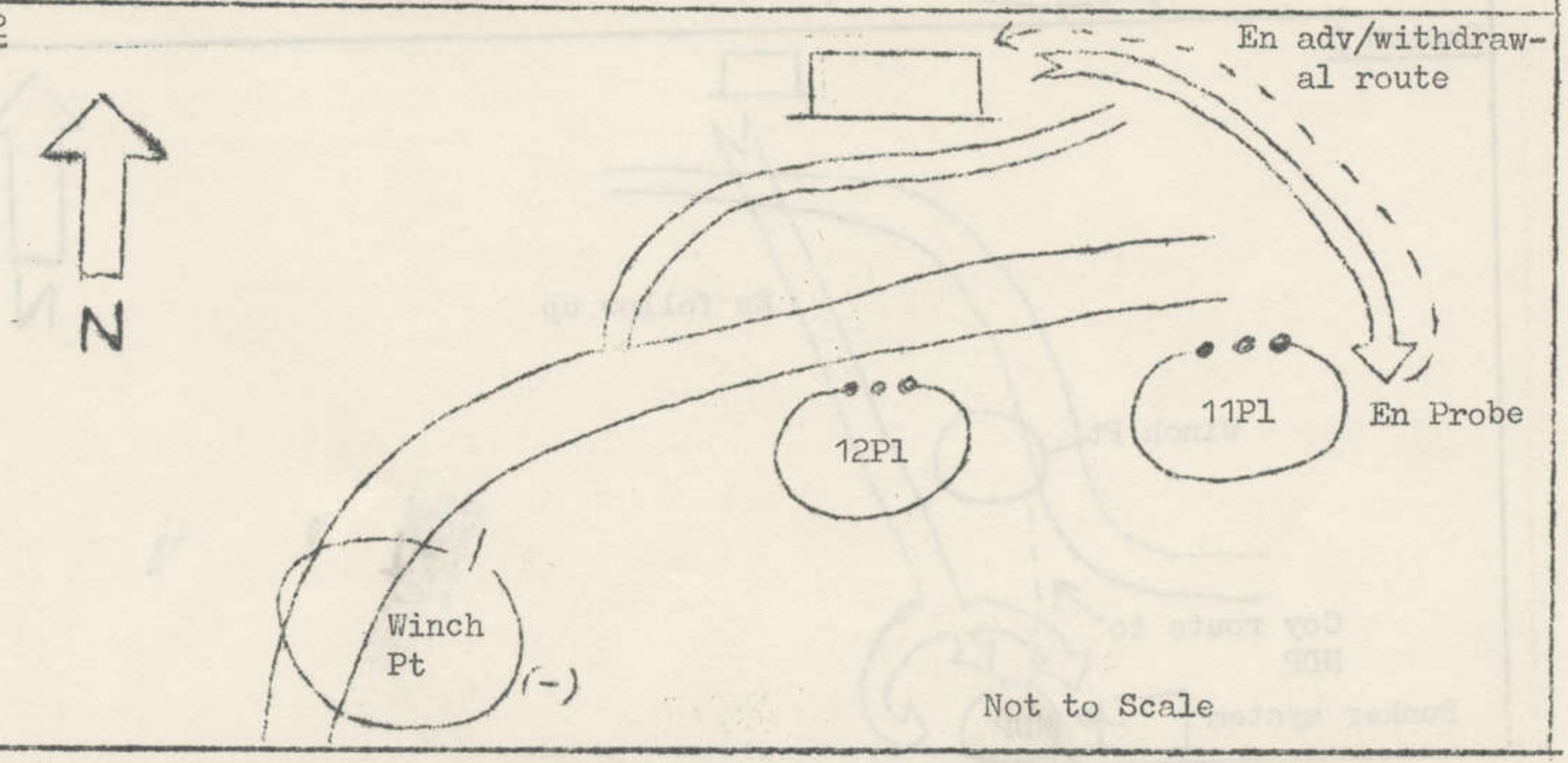
22. On the afternoon of 22nd D Coy was joined by V Coy and on 23rd both Coys advanced to the N contact area. All packs and equipment were recovered, including weapons, radio equip and documents, none of which appeared to have been touched.

23. The 3 KIA were recovered and evacuated 231725H.

Sketch 1

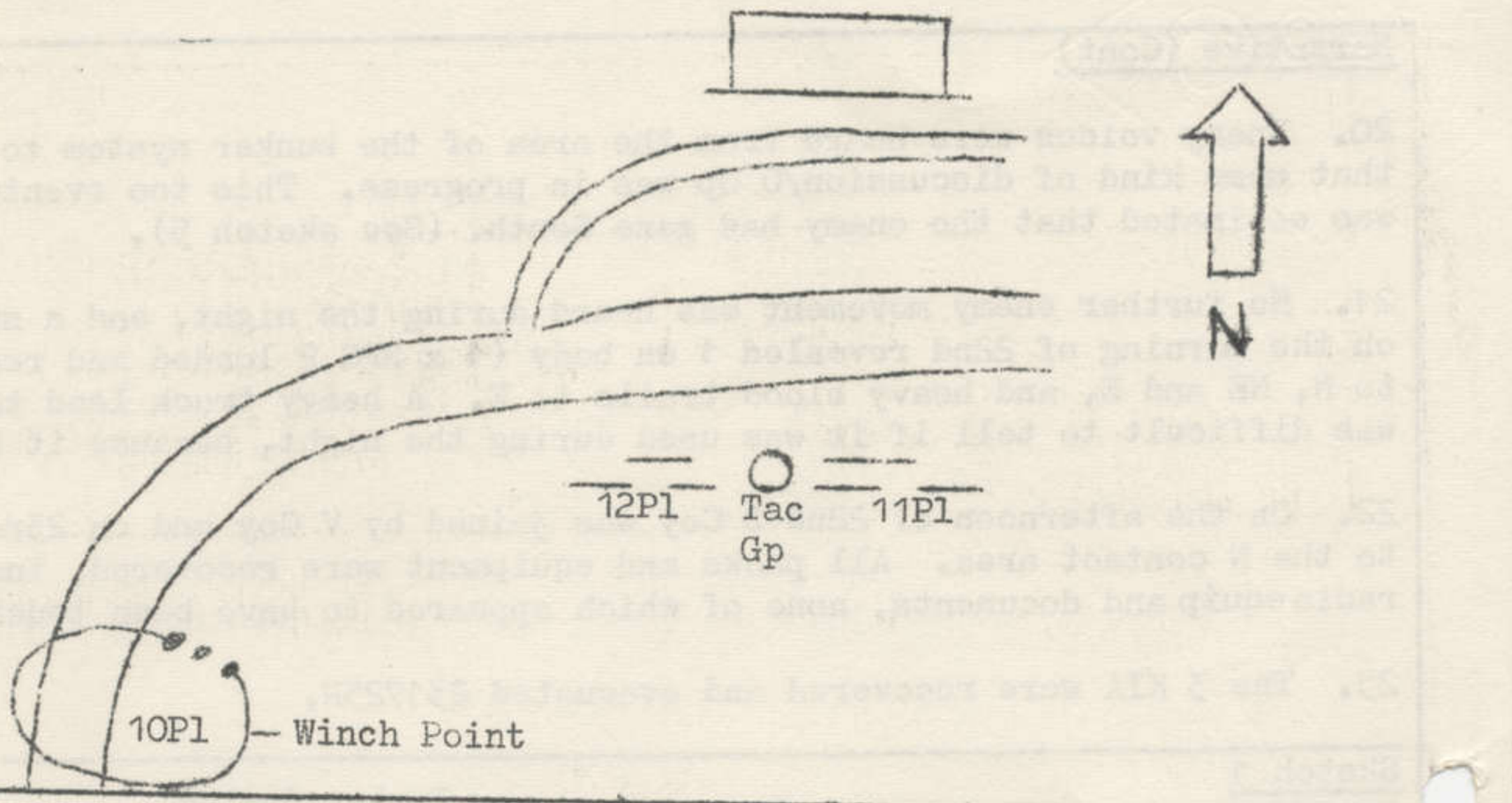


Sketch 2

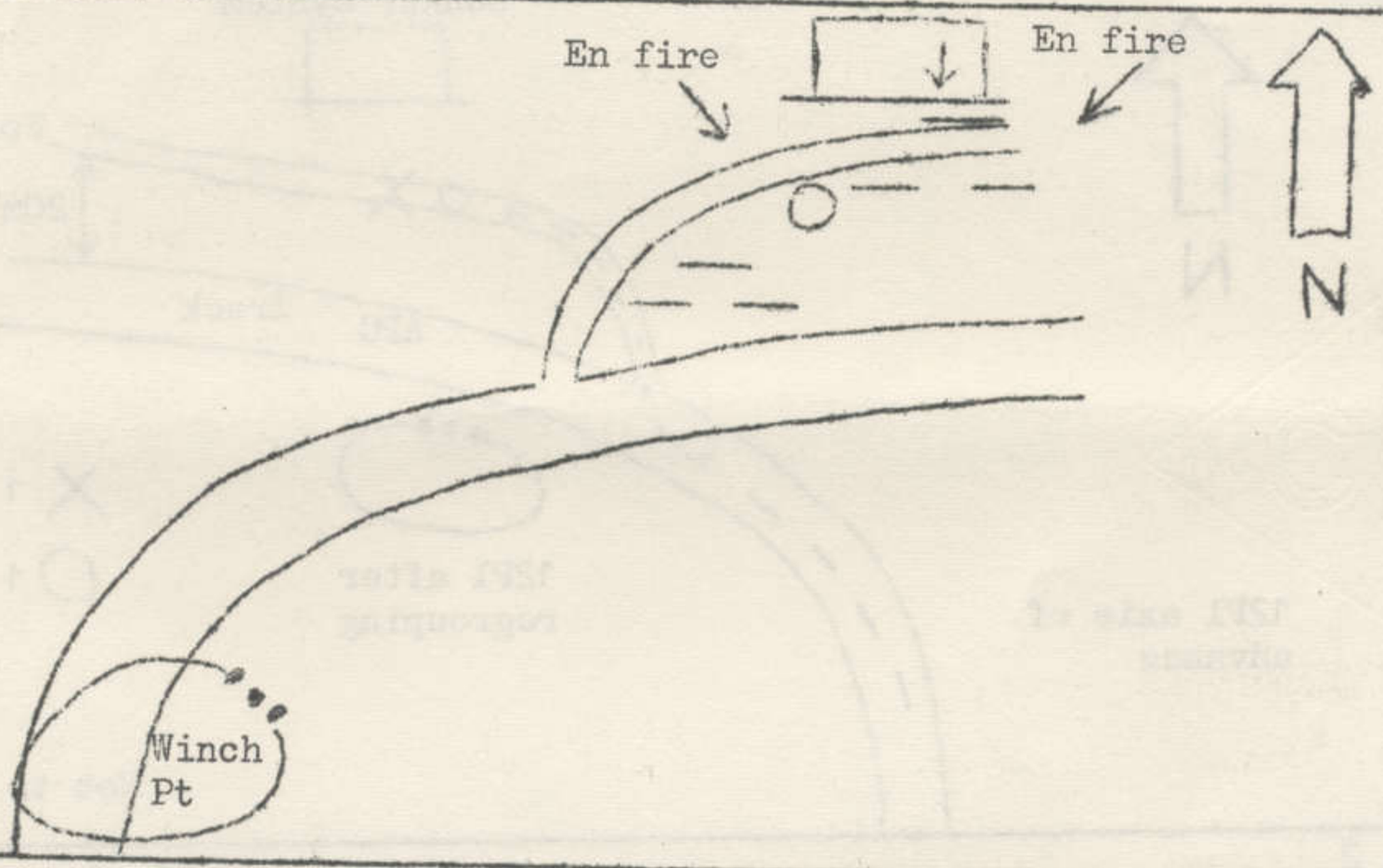


AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

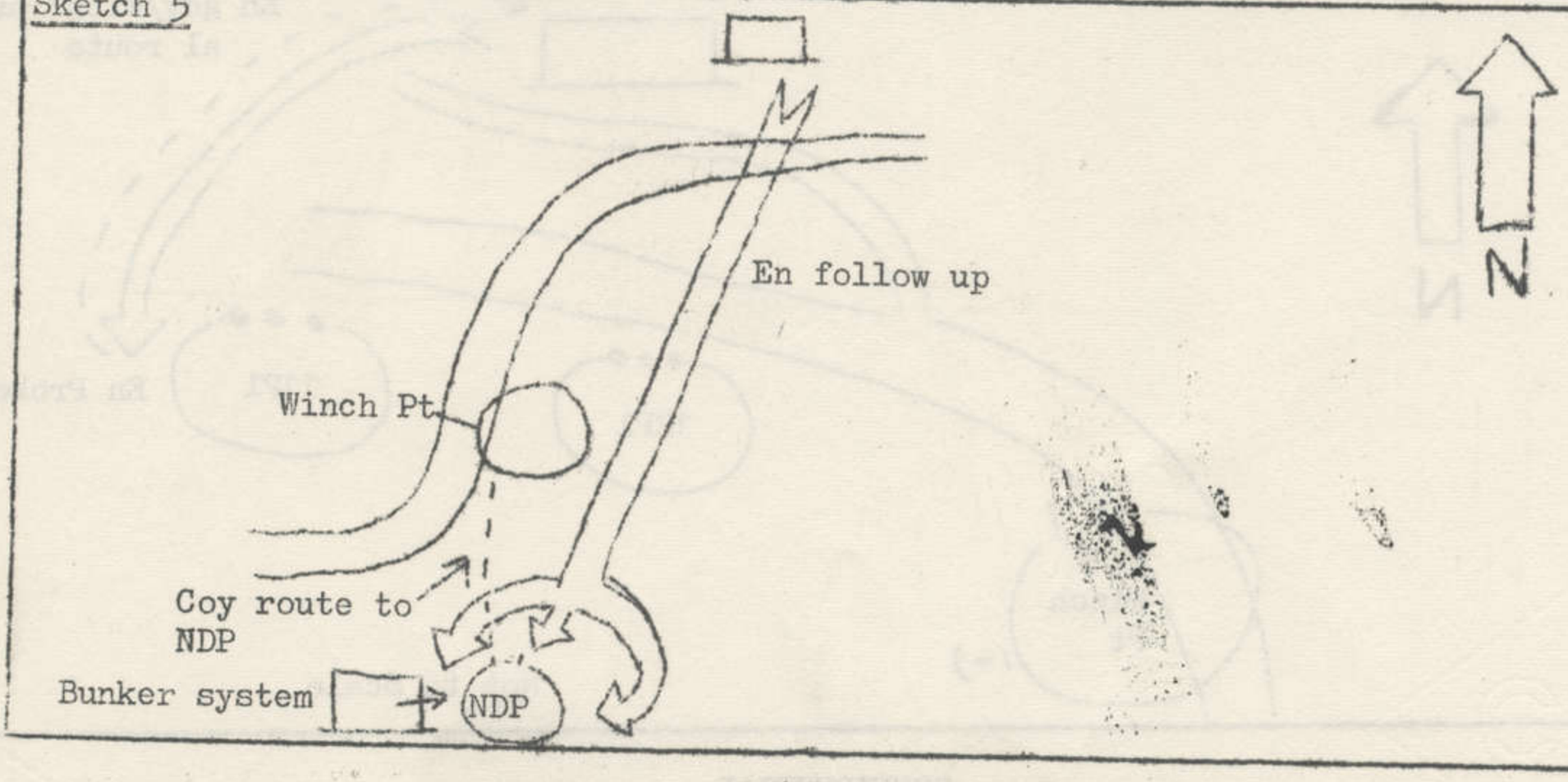
Sketch 3



Sketch 4



Sketch 5



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
All Pl/Coy weapons, artillery, napalm, gunship ordnance, FGA ordnance (less bombs)	2 First lines
Supporting Fire Employed	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
7 Cobra teams, 4 Pink. 7 x A37. 30/40 aircraft employed	967 HE, 120 flashette. 5300 rockets. 143,000 canon
Enemy Casualties	**Friendly Casualties**
18 (9 KIA (NVA) 9 KBA)	5 KIA 9WIA

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. Local Commander

(1) Target aquisition/indication is very difficult in close country. Correcting by sound is not effective.

(2) There is a requirement for an infantry wpn which can be carried easily and fired in close country and will be effective against bunkers. The RPG 2 or RPG 7 type of weapon would be ideal.

(3) Because of the time and space involved the coy attacked wearing packs. In future these will be dropped at a pack base (such as the winch point).

b. Platoon Comments

Nil

c. Coy Comments

Nil

d. Unit Comments

(1) Concur with above.

(2) The value of the marker balloon was again proved in identifying own troops to aircraft.

(3) Rearward passage of information must be continuous.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

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APPENDIX 5 TO
ANNEX D TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION IVANHOE
DATED 4 NOV 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
21 Sep 71	1403	YS 4983	4 & 6	B

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
4Pl 26, 6Pl 25	Search of an area	Maj	Hogarth	Lt 2lt	Ballantyne McDaniel

Initiated By	Wpns	En strength	En Identification and Weapons
6Pl	All Pl wpns	Unk	Mixed and black dress, AKs MGs 60mm mors

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
20m	5	150	3	-	seen during fol up

Terrain Description

Secondary growth and disused coffee/cashew plantation.

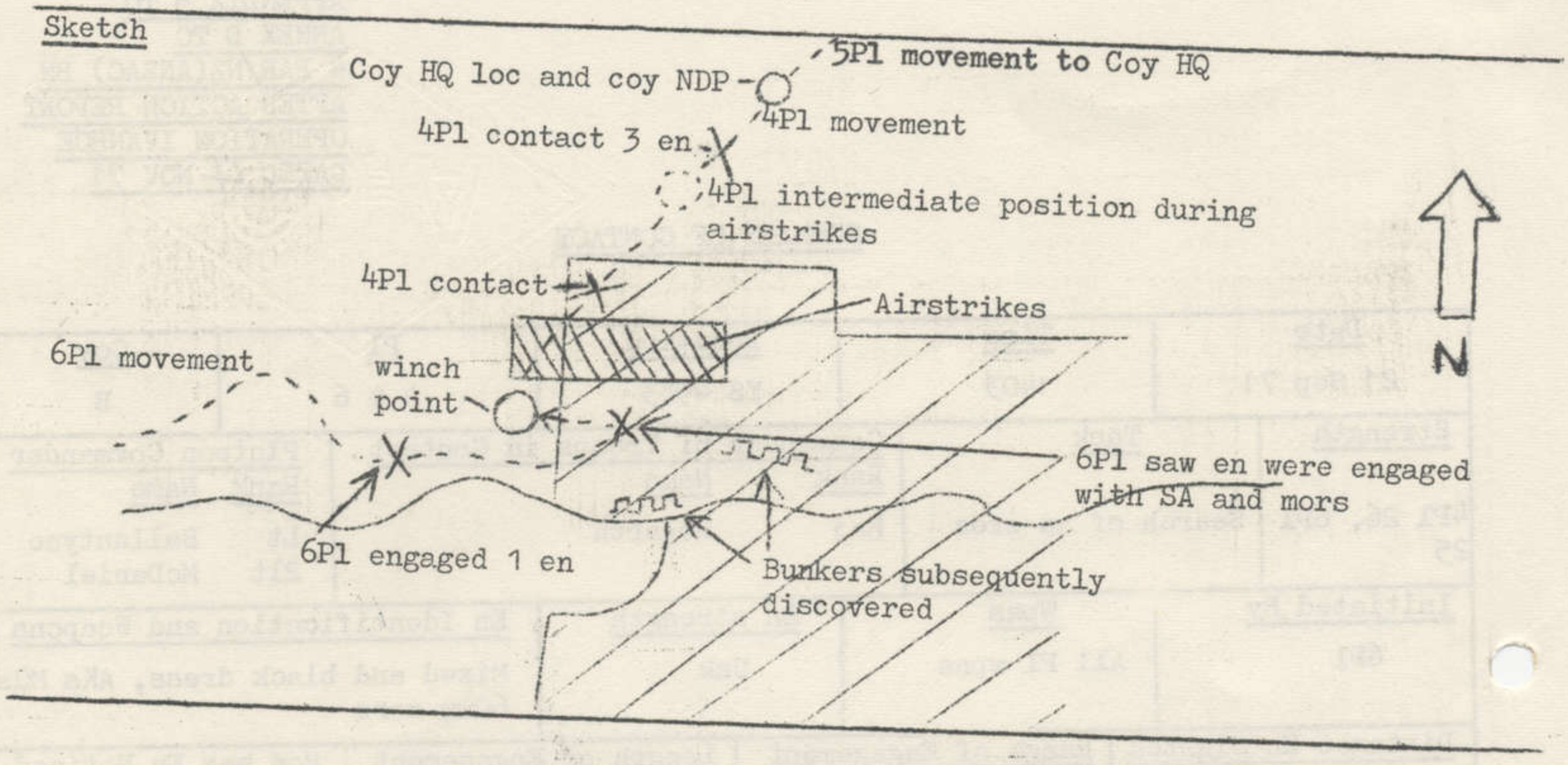
Narrative

6Pl were following up the telephone wire discovered prior to their previous contact. At 1408 hrs they observed and engaged one enemy who was moving West rolling up the wire. On engagement the wire was cut and the en withdrew East. 6Pl continued to follow the track made by the enemy and at 1600 conducted a recce for their night loc. The recce party observed enemy to their East, South East and North engaged them and withdrew to the main body. The main body were at this time engaged by SA fire and by a light mortar North at their position. 6Pl sustained considerable casualties from the mortar. They continued to engage the enemy. 6Pl was ordered to wdr West and 4Pl was sent to their assistance to endeavour to hit the enemy from the North. As 6Pl withdrew they engaged the area of the suspected base plate with M79 and continued to engage the enemy. They formed a defensive position around a winch point.
4 Pl en-route engaged a party of three enemy who were rapidly withdrawing North. One body was found but no detailed search was made. Artillery was used to the East of the contact area and3 Pink teams in turn engaged the area. They reported seeing "many" enemy and engaging them. They indicated that they had "got some".
On completion of the airstrikes the Pink teams conducted armed recconnaisance to the East. 6Pl who had used the airstrikes to complete their withdrawal were now reorganised and 4 Pl were ordered to proceed to their winch point and conduct the evacuation. En-route they again engaged one man, no results are known.
Medevac aircraft were called in from a holding area once 4 and 6Pls had married and secured the winch point. 12 casualties were evacuated by winch and the company reconcerntrated after dark.
A later search of the area revealed two fresh bunker complexes around the contact area.

/Sketch

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used SLR, M16, M60, M79	No of Rounds Fired (Approx) 2000
Supporting Fire Employed Arty, gunships	No of Rounds Fired (Approx) Arty 50, gunships 3 first line
Enemy Casualties 1 en KIA (BC) 6 en KIA (poss) 6 en WIA (poss)	Friendly Casualties 15 WIA

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. Local Commander

Nil

b. Platoon Comments

Nil

c. Coy Comments

En cas assesment from own forces and from US Army gunships. Other considerations precluded a search of the area for 2 days.

d. Unit Comments

Nil

e. Lessons Learned

1. Light mors are an extremely effective wpn against troops in the open

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

ANNEX E TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION IVANHOE
DATED 4 NOV 71

SUMMARY OF INSTALLATIONS AND CACHES
OPERATION IVANHOE

Serial (a)	Date/Time (b)	Location (c)	Unit/Sub Unit (d)	Activity (e)
1	210857 Sep	YS 5185	D Coy/4 RAR/NZ	Bunker systems located by D/4 RAR/NZ on 27/28 Sep 71, located by D/3 RAR in GS 5185.

(e)

The bunkers located were in a 'Y' shaped bunker complex covering an area in excess of 200m in radius from central bunkers. The central HQ bunker was located in a gully at YS 516857. A system composed of 6 completed bunkers and 2 incomplete bunkers (scene of contacts 21 Sep) was located approx 150m slightly South of due East from the HQ position. A further outlying position was located to the NE near a knoll approx 200m from the HQ position, this consisted of 9 completed bunkers and 6 prepared bunker sights (and was located by D/3 RAR). The third outlying system from the HQ position was about 250m due North and was composed of 3 completed and approx 7 prepared bunker sights (loc by D/3 RAR). All told the complex consisted of 24 bunkers, the majority of which were 7' x 5' x 4' each with 2' OHP and 12 - 15 prepared bunker sights where ground had been cleared and cut wood for revetting/OHP stacked nearby. Each outlying system was connected to the HQ position by a good track and the majority of bunkers had good fire lanes up to 5' in width, cut covering the most likely approaches. Camouflage wasn't particularly good but by virtue of the existing canopy and secondary growth, the bunkers were difficult to see until very close (10 - 12m). The entry to the complex was from North and exit apparently to the South or South-West. The complex was 1-2 weeks old upon discovery and was last used on 21-22 Sep 71. The systems were in excellent condition and were destroyed by demolition. Demolition commenced on the 24 Sep and was completed on 28 Sep.

Recovered were:

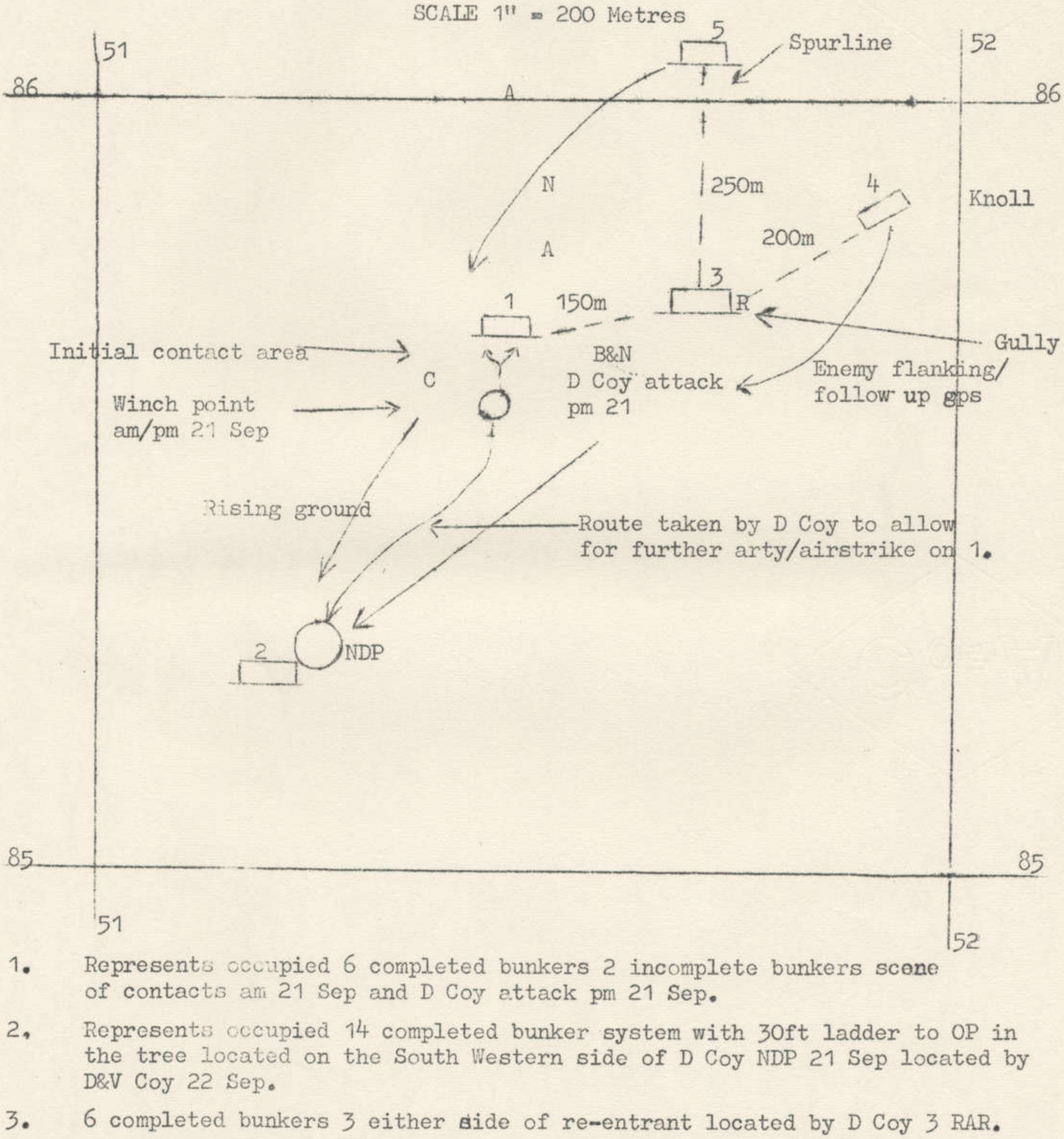
4 x RPG rds
1 x 82mm Mortar rd
5 x Chicom grenades
5 x black shirts
1 x NVA water bottle and carrier
5lbs corn
5 pr black trousers

/Diagram

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

DIAGRAM GS5185 ILLUSTRATING CONTACT AREA AND BUNKER SYSTEMS

The diagram and legend have been compiled to amplify the additional information available regarding D Coy's activities on the 21 Sep.



1. Represents occupied 6 completed bunkers 2 incomplete bunkers scene of contacts am 21 Sep and D Coy attack pm 21 Sep.

2. Represents occupied 14 completed bunker system with 30ft ladder to OP in the tree located on the South Western side of D Coy NDP 21 Sep located by D&V Coy 22 Sep.

3. 6 completed bunkers 3 either side of re-entrant located by D Coy 3 RAR.

4. 9 completed bunkers and 6 prepared bunker sites located by D Coy 3 RAR.

5. 3 completed bunkers and approx 7 prepared bunker sites located by D Coy 3 RAR.

B. BOMB DAMAGE.

N. NAPALM DAMAGE.

A. ARTILLERY DAMAGE.

R. ROCKET DAMAGE.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
2	220815 Sep	YS 520884	10/D/3 RAR	Loc a staging camp which was used five days ago by approx 20 persons. A foot-print which had been made this mornirg was also noticed. The movement was to the South along a major track. An empty ink bottle, 1 cell battery ofa 25 set, a ration tin and miscellaneous rubbish was found.
3	220955 Sep	YS 494866	Jade AC	Sighted a bunker system 400m SSE of V/4 RAR. Bunkers, one hut, trenches and a latrine were sighted. One pers was seen and engaged by Pink Team with unknown results. At 1126H movement was noticed in the bunker system and was engaged by Pink Team with unknown results.
4	241100 Sep	YS 511852	3/V/4 RAR	Found a bunker system 16 x 50m in size. System contained 3 x 4 man bunkers and 11 x 2 man bunkers. Entry/exit points to East and West. System was in excellent condition 3 - 7 days old and used in the past 24 - 48 hours. System to be destroyed.
5	221512 Sep	YS 493830	4/B/4 RAR	Found a system of 6 bunkers (3' x 3' x 4') with approx 2' OHP. The complex was 1 - 2 weeks old and last used in the previous 24hrs. Entrance/exits were to the West, North and North East and the system was in very good condition.
6	221910 Sep	YS 493853	6/B/4 RAR	Found a tunnel. Footprints were found. They were made today. Movement was engaged by arty. NFI.
7	241255 Sep	YS 473865	7/C/4 RAR	Located a rice cache on a platform 3 ft above the ground and covered by plastic. Platform was approx 6 months old and rice had been in place for 1 month at the most. Rice was stored in 25 x 15 litre bundles in US sandbags, the rice being wrapped in plastic inside the bags. The rice was short grained, unpolished, qty 6401bs approx. Rice to be destroyed.
8	270845 Sep	YS 478819	5/B/4 RAR	Found a bunker system of 1 bunker 5' x 5' x 4' and 5 fighting pits 2' x 5' x 4'. The system was old and had been renovated approx one week ago, with use in the last 3 - 4 days. Found in the system was a field dressing and a qty of plastic which has been destroyed

/9

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
9	270845 Sep YS	496830	6/B/4 RAR	Found a bunker system consisting of 5 fighting pits 4' x 2' x 2' with 9" OHP in a 30m x 30m diamond shape. The system was approx 1 week old and had been used in the last 24-48 hours. System was destroyed.
10	271138 Sep YS	496867	8/C/4 RAR	Found 4 fighting pits. The pits were in a line 50m long and measured 4' x 2' x 3' There were no tracks in the area, and the system had not been used for 12 months. Destroyed.
11	291109 Sep YS	511851	8/C/4 RAR	Located a weapon pit 6' x 3' x 4' with 18" OHP and entry/exit points to the East and West. The pit was new and in good condition and had been used in the last 3 days. Two pieces of paper with writing were found in the pit. The pit will be destroyed ASP.
12	291109 Sep YS	503848	9/C/4 RAR	Loc a bunker system 40m x 20m in an area consisting of 4 bunkers 6' x 2' x3' with 18" OHP and entry/exit points to the North, East and South. The system was six months old and estimated to have been used in the last 5-7 days, as fresh saw cuts and a new sleeping area were found. The system was destroyed. To the East at YS 506849 an E/W track was located which appeared to come from the bunker system. The track was used by 10-12 pers in the last5-7 days moving in an unk direction.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

ANNEX F TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION IVANHOE
DATED 4 NOV 71

ARTILLERY REPORT
PERIOD 19 SEP - 2 OCT

Safety Trial

1. The trial on safety distances for impact of initial rounds was continued throughout the period. From the results the only possible conclusion is that our formula is successful and that it definately decreases by a considerable amount the time taken for effective fire to be produced on a target. It is recommended 1 ATF SOPs be ammended to incorporate the provisions outlined in our trial.

Rounds Fired

2. The following rounds were fired in sp of 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn during the period:

a.	Contact missions	12 fired	599 HE
b.	H&I Missions	4 fired	279 HE
c.	DFs	20 fired	696 HE
		Total	1574 HE

3. In addition to these rounds A Bty fired approx 500 rds in Sp of D Coy 4 RAR/NZ.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

ANNEX G TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION IVANHOE
DATED 4 NOV 71

SUMMARY AIR SUPPORT 21 SEP 71
OPERATION IVANHOE

USAF Support

1. Aircraft On Station.

Aircraft On Station	Used	Not Used	Remarks
a. 7 Cobra Teams	6	1	ac emergency
b. 4 Pink Teams	4	-	
c. 2 Medevac Teams	1	1	Completed by RAAF
d. 7 pairs A37s	4	3	2 pair ac diverted to other targets due to lack holding time and fuel shortage. 1pr emergency.
Total on station	40ac		
Total used	30ac		
Not used	10ac		

2. Summary of Ordnance Expended.

HE Rockets 2.75mm	967
Fletchette Rockets	120
40mm HE	5,300
3.62 mini (nails)	143,500
BLU 32 Napalm	28
MK 82 HE 500lb bombs	4

3. Jade Report. The summary of Jade FAC operations for 21 Sep in support of 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn is attached as Appendix 1. Jade 01, 04, 06, 07 flew in support on 21 Sep 71.

RAAF Support No 9 Sqn

4. Aircraft On Station	Sorties	Remarks
a. Dustoff	9	(a) 1 x sortie aborted, tactical reasons. (b) US Medevac took 1 KIA, 3 WIA. (c) Total (incl b) 2 KIA, 20 WIA.

/Bushranger

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

b.	Bushranger	16	(a) BR 73 aborted twice due stoppage.
c.	Opdem	5	(a) 3 sorties to Courtenay Hill (ammo). (b) 2 sorties for 12 Fd Regt.

5. Summary of Ordnance Expended.

a.	HE Rocket 2.75mm	115
b.	Mini Gun	79,500
c.	M60	12,550

6. DS Possum (A24) 161 (Indep) Recce Flt. Available from 0700 - 2000hrs and was air borne for 11 hours,20 minutes.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 1 TO
ANNEX G TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION IVANHOE
DATED 4 NOV 71

JADE OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF 4 RAR ON 21 SEP 71
OPERATION IVANHOE

0900 C/S 43 in contact at YS 476858.

0930 Jade 07 left VR to support C/S 40.

0935 Requested additional Air Support - Bushrangers and Hawk 05 scrambled.

0950 Hawk 05 sent home (zero alpha says not required).

1000 Bushrangers expend (43 & 42 required additional support).

1005 Pink Team arrives - reports ground to air fire plus evidence of many people to 42 & 43's front (North). Cobra kills one enemy at old bomb crater YS 515861.

1030 Low bird hit by fire forced to leave. Heavy fire team expends at YS 515858. Pirk Team arrives and reports movement to 42 & 43's front (North). Jade 07 departs to refuel.

1045 Jade 01 requested to leave VR area and take 07's place.

1100 Jade 07 back on station - Jade 01 resumes VR.

1115 Heavy fire team expends on YS 515858. Contact broken.

1120 Pink Team reports heavy movement of people at YS 515859 and YS 516860. Engaged with M60 four (4) KBA. Heavy fire team expends on same areas.

1130 C/S 23 in contact. Pink team switched to their location.

C/S 42 & 43 in contact. Supported by Bushrangers and two heavy fire teams.

1220 Hawk 05 expends on YS 515859 (bunker system).

1230 Pink Team reports one (1) KBA by napalm. Heavy fire teams expended on YS 515857 and YS 516860 (nails).

1330 Jade 07 departs and Jade 01 on station. C/S 42 & 43's contact broken.

1340 Bushrangers expended at YS 515858.

1400 Pink Teams VR's C/S 42 & 43's front (North) - no movement noted - VR position YS 506866 and received ground to air fire - many people moving in area - expended and saw three (3) KBA. Departed due to possible damage from ground fire.

1415 Heavy fire team expended on YS 506866.

1430 Jade 01 departs area (low on fuel)

/1440

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

1440 Jade 07 on station.

1430 - 1600 Pink Teams VR - no movement noted - heavy fire teams expended on YS 515858 and YS 515860 (nails) - Bushrangers expended on YS 515858.

1510 Hawk 01 expended four MK 82's on YS 508862 and four BLU 32's on YS 506865 - received ground fire from both locations (.30 cal).

1600 Hawk 05 expended on YS 515858 (bunker system to C/S 43's front).

1630 C/S 42 and 43 moving North - receiving heavy ground fire.

1640 C/S 42 & 43 regrouping. Bushrangers and heavy fire teams provided support.

1715 Contact broken. Medevac 11 at C/S 40's location - C/S 42 & 43 moving through location of new position approximately 500m South.

1730 Jade 07 departs and Jade 01 on station. Medevac 09 requests cover - Bushranger on station for cover but could not contact Medevac 09 again.

1735 Medevac 09 on station with Cobra cover - two or three pick up were made.

1750 OUTCAST (two Cobras) were sent back - could not use - they informed us they would be on standby.

1800 C/S 40 moving South. Purple smoke at C/S 42's old position - C/S 40 confirms not friendly - Bushrangers expended on smoke.

1805 Rapp 15 departs area with emergency.

1815 Hawk expended on YS 514858 to YS 513856 - received heavy ground fire from YS 513856 - suppressed with Nap, HE rockets and 7.62 guns.

1820 C/S 40 in contact - people followed from old location.

1835 C/S 40 contact broken.

1845 Arty fired in support.

1900 Possum 15 with flares was requested to support airstrike.

1920 Hawk 03 sent home with fuel unbalance.

2010 Jade 01 departed area - all C/S's quiet - Jade 04 remained on station until 2130 with no reported activity.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

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4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn
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20 Oct 71

See Distribution List

4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
052400 AUG - 182400 SEP

References: A. Map Series L7014, SVN Sheet 6430 I, XA CAM MY, 1:50,000.

B. Map Series L7014, SVN Sheet 6430 II, XUYEN MOC, 1:50,000.

C. Map Series L7014, SVN Sheet 6430 III, XUAN LOC, 1:50,000.

D. Map Series L7014, SVN Sheet 6430 IV, XUAN LOC, 1:50,000.

E. 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn Ops 9 dated 22 Aug 71.

Name and Type of Operation

1. Operation NORTH WARD was a battalion search and ambush operation.

Locations

2. Operation NORTH WARD was conducted throughout the area of AO BIRDSVILLE together with part of the TRAC Special Zone in LONG KHANH Province on the northern boundary of PHOUC TUY Province.

Control Headquarters

3. Battalion Headquarters remained at COURTENAY HILL YS 4590.

Task Organization

4. 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn Group consisted of:

a. Remaining under command: Det 104 Sig Sqn.

b. Under op con: 2 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt 6 Aug - 11 Sep.
1 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt 12 - 18 Sep.

/c.

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c. Remaining in DS: 104 Fd Bty RAA.
1 RW AC 161 (Indep) Recce Flt.

d. Remaining in support: 1 Tp (-) 1 Fd Sqn RAE.

Intelligence

5. Annex A.

Mission and Tasks

6. To destroy VC/NVA elements in AO BIRDSVILLE.

Concept of Operations

7. The concept of operations was to maintain a strong infantry presence along the known re-supply and courier routes in the North of the Province - East and West of Route 2. APCs would be used to ambush likely routes in the rubber plantations to the North and South of COURTENAY HILL.

8. Initially two companies were deployed West of Route 2 below the 87 Northing to reintroduce the blockade of VC re-supply routes into the VIET COUNG Rubber Plantation. Additionally also to ensure VC from the Operation IRON FOX area to the North had not moved South into AO BIRDSVILLE.

9. As additional companies became available following Rest and Instructional periods, companies were located either side of Route 2, to the 39 Easting to the West of the road; initially to the 51 Easting East of the road: eventually out to the 53 Easting. The search pattern was generally from North to South.

10. The operation was interrupted for a period of 10 days either side of the Lower House Elections of 29 Aug. At the request of the Province Chief a company (C Coy) was deployed to the NUI DINH HILLS (YS 3566), a company (D Coy) was deployed to the HAT DICH (YS 3572) and a further company (B Coy) was deployed West of DUC THANH (YS 4677). Consequently only V Coy and Tp A Sqn were available in the Courtenay area.

11. Liaison was effected with the RF at CAM MY and with District HQ at XUAN LOC throughout the operation. During the SVN Lower House election period a communication link with CAM MY was reestablished and thereafter maintained.

Execution

12. Sequence of Events. Annex B.

13. Contacts and Incidents. A Summary of contacts and incidents during the operation is attached as Annex C.

14. Installations and Caches. A summary of installations and caches is attached as Annex D.

15. Artillery. BC 104 Fd Bty's report on artillery during the operation is attached as Annex E.

/Results

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Results

16. Summary of Major Casualties.

a. Enemy.

(1)	KIA (Body Count)	10
(2)	KIA (credited)	1 (V COY CONTACT 25 JUN)
(3)	WIA (blood trail)	1
	Total ELIMINATIONS	~~12~~ 11

Amdt 1 1/11

b. Own Troops.

		Aust	NZ	Total
(1)	KIA	Nil	Nil	Nil
(2)	WIA	Nil	Nil	Nil

17. Enemy Casualties and Captured Weapons. Appendix 1 to Annex A.

18. Captured and Destroyed Equipment, Munitions and Food. Appendix 2 to Annex A.

Lessons Learned and Re-Learnt

19. A lone enemy or a small party of enemy have little chance of survival if attacked by an aggressive section, let alone an aggressive platoon.

20. Field latrines should be sited to suit the length of halt;

a. Short halts require inner latrine.

b. Long halts (two or more nights) necessitate an inner latrine for night use and an external latrine for day use. The approaches of the external latrine being covered by a minimum of one sentry but preferably two sentries.

21. When a sub unit withdraws to allow the use of artillery, the commander must appreciate the Gun/Target line and avoid masking or limiting the fire.

(J.C. HUGHES)
Lt Col
CO

/Annexes

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Annexes: A. Intelligence.

B. Sequence of Events.

C. Summary of Contacts and Incidents.

D. Summary of Installations and Caches.

E. Artillery After Action Report.

Distribution:	Copy No (incl Annex A to E)	Distribution:	Copy No (incl Annex A to E)
V Coy	1	Mor Pl	36
B Coy	2	Aslt Pnr Pl	37
C Coy	3	Tracker Pl	38
D Coy	4	RMO	39
Sp Coy	5	QM	40
Admin Coy	6	Chaplain	41 - 42
A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	7	RSM	43
104 Fd Bty RAA	8	Comds Diary	44 - 48
12 Fd Regt RAA	9	Spare	49 - 56
1 Fd Sqn	10	File	57
161 (Indep) Recce Flt	11		
No 9 Sqn RAAF	12	For Information:	
HQ 1 ATF	13 - 27	1 RAR Townsville	58
NZ Component	28	3 RAR Woodside	59
CO	29	9 RAR Enoggera	60
2IC	30	D Inf AHQ Canberra	61
Ops Offr	31 - 32		
Adjt	33		
IO	34		
RSO	35		

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ANNEX A TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

References: A. 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn Weekly Intelligence Review 718/35 dated 11 Aug 71.

B. 718/36 dated 18 Aug 71.

C. 718/37 dated 25 Aug 71.

D. 718/38 dated 1 Sep 71.

E. 718/39 dated 8 Sep 71.

F. 718/40 dated 15 Sep 71.

General

1. Although there was no evidence prior to the commencement of the operation of any sizeable VC group active within the Northern PHOUC TUY Province area; small groups from Rear Services were conducting re-supply tasks, and recce elements from both District and Main Force units were operating in the area.

2. The District Forces of CHAU DUC were reported to have re-established bases in the NUI DINH's and the CHAU PHA Valley at the time of deployment.

Re-supply Areas/Activities

3. The Route 2 Rubber Plantations, with their inhabitants residing in isolated hamlets continue to remain a lucrative food supply souce to the VC and have been recognised as such, with the formation of "The BA LONG Rubber Plantation Peoples Revolutionary Committee".

4. This was confirmed from documents CIA following D Coy's ambush at YS 438862 on 16 Aug in which mention was made of senior cadre of BA LONG (P) HQ, and members from CHAU DUC and CAO SU Districts. Of the 2 VC KIA, one was from the Provincial HQ, the second from CHAU DUC. Documents indicated that nearly 6000 lb of rice and $(VN)50,000 had been collected from the plantations in the area. Only 650 lb of rice, a quantity of pumpkins and tobacco were located in a cache in the ambush area.

5. Elements of C5 Purchasing and Requisitioning Coy of J85 Transportation Bn were identified from documents CIA by V Coy at YS 504877 on 15 Aug. There was evidence that they were seeking to establish a staging area near the plantations. In another V Coy contact on 22 Aug a member of K7 (poss 814 RSG) was KIA in the vicinity YS 4983. It is possible he was from the group contacted on 15 Aug. C5 Coy had previously been contacted on 6 Aug by C Coy at YS 434865, though only a small cadre - lying up close to the rubber hamlets in order to maintain a personal link with the people. This group had contributed to the re-supply of 274 Regt in the past.

/6. Village Officials

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6. Village Officials of CAM MY during the operation reported that tappers had been approached whilst working in the areas YS 4690 and YS 4889 by a group of 5 VC who had demanded that each tapper contribute one days wages per month, and food to the VC organisation. On 27 Aug 4 persons were engaged at YS 485897 who had runoff when challenged and refused to halt when called upon to do so. A member of the VCI from CAM MY was killed and 3 others escaped into the bush to the EAST after returning fire. The one killed normally worked a garden on the (WESTERN) side of Route 2 - by himself and was therefore an ideal contact man.

7. On 11 Sep at YS 483907 on the Eastern edge of the Courtenay Plantation 3 members of the CHAU DUC District were killed by Tracker Pl, a fourth was wounded, leaving a blood trail as he was assisted escape from the ambush by a fifth member of the group. The documents CIA also indicate that this was an important element of the Finance and Economy Section of CHAU DUC District. BAY GIANG, the Deputy Chief of F & E, and executive of a number of important appointments in the District Forces, and NAM THANG - Treasurer and member of the Civil Affairs committee were tentatively identified from the documents as being two of the three accounted for.

8. Each had several aliases, and had travelled extensively during this year throughout the CHAU DUC District - from THAI THIEN (VC HAT DICH Village) on Route 15, south through villages along the road and into HOA LONG. Then North, again contacting villages/local guerillas, to the Plantation Area. It appears they were on their way to BA LONG Province (BARIA Sub-Region) to submit a report when ambushed.

Base Areas

9. On 10 and 11 Aug, at YS 476864, YS 475859 in the swampy area at the head of the SOUI TAM BO, V Coy contacted a group from CHAU DUC Engr Cell, documentry evidence CIA also suggests that some elements of C2 Engr Coy of BA LONG (P) ex members of the disbanded D 65 Engr Bn were also in the group.

10. A camp located near the second contact area suggested that this was their base - the area is damp, difficult to move rapidly in - unless familiar with the higher ground and naturally unsuited to the employment of armour in the wet season. It affords good cover from aerial observation and is close to the known VC re-supply village of XA BANG.

11. The proximity of the base to Route 2 (which is the target area allocated to C2 Engr Coy) suggests that they were responsible for the emplacing and subsequent arming of the mine on Route 2 at YS 458899 which damaged a US vehicle on 4 Aug.

12. These VC engineers are probably also responsible for the maintenance of the anti-tank mines positioned just to the North in the Courtenay Plantation. It would appear that most of the mines are sown in position, well covered to ensure they are not exposed by the elements. Later when the time is considered opportune the mines are armed. Two US type bangalore torpedoes found wrapped in VC plastic at YS 514863 by D Coy on 16 Sep probably were stores cached for the VC engrs.

/The Threat

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The Threat

13. The main threat that existed was the possibility of an increase in mine laying near Route 2 area; and the ever present menacing of the local plantation hamlets by the VC to obtain finance and supplies.

Enemy Losses

14. A list of VC/NVA casualties and weapons captured is attached as Appendix 1.

Installations and Caches

15. Instalations and Caches located by the unit are summarised in Annex D.

Captured Equipment

16. A summary of equipment including munitions captured is attached as Appendix 2.

Enemy Activities

17. As the operation progressed into Sep evidence was located by C Coy in the area of the SOUI CA/SOUI SOC that elements of 274 VC Main Force Regt (probably from 1 Bn) had returned to the vicinity of their former base camps.

18. Freshly constructed and recently occupied bunker systems were located at YS 402899 and YS 406911. In the latter system, a lecture area with diagrams of tanks and methods of destruction, was located. The fact that the VC were undergoing AT training is certain to be a result of the coys of 1 Bn recent mauling by the Centurion tanks from C Sqn 1 Armd Regt when working with 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn on 25 Jun (C2 Coy at YS 421855) and elements of Bn HQ (at YS 394911) on 30 Jul.

19. In the NUI LE area D Coy during the second week of Sep found a fresh sign of movement of at least squad sized groups of enemy generally moving from EAST to WEST, and navigating with the assistance of compasses. No identification could be obtained from a contact on 14 Sep at YS 512871 or the 1 enemy KIA at YS 515867 on 15 Sep, at the time, as no documents were CIA.

20. However it is apparent that a new and active force had commenced reconnoitering the area. (Subsequently these contacts were assessed to have been with elements from 33 NVA Regt probably 1 Bn).

Assessment

21. A number of important links were severed within the Rear Services Groups by Operation NORTH WARD. Particularly around in the vicinity of the NGYUEN HIEP, XA BANG, and COURTENAY PLANTATIONS.

22. The locating of a base of the CHAU DUC Engrs on the SOUI AM BO, and subsequent patrolling and ambushing the area of XA BANG/SOUI TAM BO are considered responsible for discouraging further attempts to mine Route 2 by the VC during the period of the operation.

/23.

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23. A number of searches of the areas of the rubber plantation hamlets by National Police Field Force from DUC THANH District during early Sep, and the subsequent detaining of a number of illegal residents also assisted to check VC re-supply activities in the area.

24. The location and destruction of fresh bunker systems hastily vacated by elements of 274 Regt continued the aim of denying them a chance to re-establish themselves on or near the SOUI SOC/CA. An area which they could operate against Route 2 in Northern PHOUC TUY Province.

25. The elimination of two senior executives from CHAU DUC District Forces on 11 Sep, and the capturing of a number of documents, and a sizeable amount of currency; is a most significant contribution to the deteration of a once effective District Force.

26. The sign located and the contacts in the area of NUI LE, during the final stages of the operation confirmed the presence of an unidentified force having recently moved into the area - and this information was subsequently exploited in a suceeding operation.

27. There was firm indication during this final phase that enemy initiated activity was increasing in the area, with an ABF on BLACKHORSE of 6 x 107mm rockets early in 14 Sep 71. As a result Operation IVANHOE was mounted to counter the threat to the security of PHOUC TUY Province, and in particular, the civil population of DUC THANH District.

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APPENDIX 1 TO
ANNEX A TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY ENEMY CASUALTIES AND CAPTURED WEAPONS

Enemy Casualties

a.	KIA (BC)	10
b.	KIA (credited)	1
c.	WIA (blood trail)	1

Captured Weapons

a.	AK 47	5
b.	SKS	1
c.	K 54	2
d.	Mosin Nagant	1
c.	Browning Shotgun	1

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APPENDIX 2 TO
ANNEX A TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY ENEMY MUNITIONS EQUIPMENT AND FOODSTUFFS

Captured Munitions

a.	7.62mm SA (Short)	266
b.	7.62mm SA (Nato)	1400
c.	RPG Rockets	5
d.	Bangalore Torpedoes (US)	2
e.	Fuse Flare (US)	1
f.	M28 Grenades	2
g.	9mm SA	12
h.	Dets Electric	Qty
i.	105mm Shell	1
j.	200lb Bomb	1
k.	AK47 Magazines	5
l.	9mm Magazines	1
m.	K54 Magazines	4
n.	Claymore Grenades	Qty
o.	M1 Carbine Mags	2

Captured Equipment

a.	Machette (Aust)	1
b.	Gas Masks	1
c.	Webbing (Sets)	2
d.	Packs	8
e.	Pouches	7
f.	Holsters (K54)	2
g.	Belts Pistol	4
h.	Belts (NVA)	1
i.	Water Bottle Carrier (US)	1
j.	Water bottles	3
k.	Shirts	11
l.	Trousers (prs)	9
m.	Shorts (prs)	11
n.	Bush Hat	1
o.	Raincoat	1
p.	Socks (prs)	10
q.	Female underwear	Qty
r.	Singlet	1
s.	Handkerchief	1
t.	Boots Canvas (prs)	4½
u.	HCM Sandals (prs)	5
v.	Thongs (prs)	3
w.	Boots US (prs)	1
x.	Boots ARVN (prs)	1
y.	Clothing Misc	Qty
z.	Torches	3

/a. Batteries

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aa.	Batteries torch	18
ab.	Batteries Radio	25
ac.	Wire electrical	Qty
ad.	VC Bottle lamp	3
ae.	Torch head	1
af.	Para silk	Qty
ag.	Cans 2 gal	2
ah.	Cigarette lighters	4
ai.	Tents	3
aj.	Hammocks	5
ak.	Mosquito nets	1
al.	Plastic sheets	6
am.	Cam silk (pieces)	1
an.	Poncho VC	1
ao.	Plastic bags	20
ap.	Wallet	1
aq.	Compass US	1
ar.	Wrist watch	1
as.	Pens	2
at.	Pliers	1
au.	Sun newspaper	1
av.	Cooking utensils	Qty
aw.	Toilet gear	Qty
ax.	Food bowls	6
ay.	Soap	Qty
az.	Chopsticks (prs)	1
ba.	Plastic Chinese games board	1
bb.	Spoons	1
bc.	Tobbacco (lbs)	2¾
bd.	Cigarettes (pkts)	10
be.	$VN	42,160
bf.	Scissors (PRS)	1

Captured Foodstuffs

a.	Pumpkins	Qty
b.	Flour (lbs)	15
c.	Rice (lbs)	723
d.	Corn (bags)	2
e.	Salt (lbs)	6½
f.	Condensed milk (cans)	8
g.	Chillies (lbs)	2
h.	Salmon (cans)	6
i.	Brown sugar (lbs)	2
j.	Garlic (lbs)	½
k.	Food misc (packets)	4
l.	Food misc	Qty

Captured Medical Surplies

a.	Pills	Qty
b.	Crystals (lbs)	½
c.	Personal med kit	1
d.	Phails	1
e.	Syringe needles	2
f.	Vitamin pills (bottles)	2
g.	Field Dressing	1
h.	Med supplies misc	Qty

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ANNEX B TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS
OPERATION NORTH WARD

Date/Time (a)	Activity (b)	Serial of Event in Annex C/ Annex D (c)

Period 6 - 15 Aug 71

V Coy, located at NUI DAT, deployed to YS 4784 on 7 Aug 71 after R & I. Coy conducted search and ambush from 88 Northing South to 85 Northing between the Civil Access line on the West to the 50 Easting.

B Coy remained at NUI DAT after R & I and was 1 ATF Ready Reaction Force from 2 - 9 Aug 71.

C Coy conducted search and ambush tasks West of Route 2 from the 82 Northing, South to 85 Northing until extracted to NUI DAT on 9 Aug to beccme 1 ATF Reaction Force 10 - 15 Aug 71.

D Coy conducted search and ambush tasks South from 87 Northing between SOUI CHA RANG and the 45 Easting.

Sp Coy remained COURTENAY HILL with one pl deployed Courtenay area.

6 Aug 71 — **Day 1**

0001 — Locstats.

V Coy	NUI DAT
B Coy	NUI DAT
C Coy	CHQ, 9 Pl YS 432852 7 Pl YS 427853 8 Pl YS 430868
D Coy	CHQ, 10 Pl YS 410871 11 Pl YS 404871 12 Pl YS 361910 (Op con C Sqn (-))
Sp Coy	CHQ, Tracker Pl at Courtenay Hill Aslt Pnr Pl YS 450905 Mor Pl (-) NUI DAT 1 Sect Mor Pl FSB Debbie

/C Sqn (-) 1 Armd Regt

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(a)	(b)	(c)
	C Sqn (-) 1 Armd) Regt — Sqn HQ, 1 Tp, 5 Tp YS 357904 Sect 2 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt YS 361910 (OP con C Sqn (-))	
	104 Fd Bty, 12 Fd Regt — 1 sect FSB Debbie 1 sect NUI DAT	
	HQ 4 RAR/NZ — Courtenay Hill	
0905	8 Pl C Coy in contact with two VC at YS 434865 in a staging camp. 1 VC KIA 1 AK50 CIA	D/1 C/1
1142	Tracker Pl moved to East of Route 2 to conduct trg for the tracking dogs. To return 1900hrs. D Coy re-supplied in night location by APC.	N/A
1230	5 Tp C Sqn 1 Armd Regt arrived Courtenay Hill as 1 ATF Reaction Troop (From Operation IRON FOX AO North West of Courtenay Hill).	N/A
7 Aug 71	Day 2	
0615	V Coy deployed by APCs (2 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt) to vic YS 4784 to conduct search and ambush operations.	N/A
0815	Aslt Pnr Pl out for patrol to West of Courtenay, to return 081000H.	N/A
0842	NBC from 2 Pl V Coy backloaded by 2 Tp from YS 455866.	N/A
1009	UHI from No 9 Sqn RAAF completed Dustoff (NBC) for 12 Pl D Coy.	N/A
1025	Dustoff 9 Pl C Coy completed by No 9 Sqn RAAF from YS 430844 Snake bite.	N/A
1755	11 Pl D Coy reported suspected CHI COM mine, Investigating Team to be inserted 8 Aug to examine the object.	N/A
2310	1 Pl V Coy at YS 473851 fired claymore at movement in and across creek, nil results from search.	N/A
8 Aug 71	Day 3	
0741	Aslt Pnr Pl back at Courtenay Hill.	N/A
0883	ATO, chinese linguist inserted by winch to 11 Pl D Coy loc YS 401856 to examine CHI COM mine. Suspected mine identified as a plug for an aerial flare.	N/A

/0825

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(a)	(b)	(c)
0825	Dustoff NBC for CHQ C Coy at YS 440844 by UHI No 9 Sqn RAAF complete.	N/A
0916	C Coy advised RV for extraction for R & I YS 454858, time 090900H.	N/A
0920	ATO and party backloaded from 11 Pl location	N/A
2005	2 Tp A Sqn advised of continuing daily tasks to escort M CT (92 T) each morning while tank clears Route 2 from Courtenay Hill turnoff to end of sealed road. Approximately 1 hr daily	N/A
9 Aug 71	Day 4	
0955	3 Pl V Coy at YS 477865 located fresh sign of movement by 5 people moving East to West and 1 or 2 tracks to the South. Also a number of lay-up spots and old camp. 12 lb explosive located (possible old mine) in a tin wrapped in plastic.	N/A
10 Aug 71	Day 5	
0845	3 Pl V Coy in contact at YS 476864 with two VC, 1 VC KIA, 1 AK47 CIA.	C/2
1115	11 Pl D Coy at YS 435833 located South East to North track used by approximately 4 persons in last 24 hours moving to South-East, then to North on return trip.	N/A
1148	3 Pl V Coy backload of captured equipment completed by Possum.	N/A
1935	5 Tp C Sqn placed at 1 hour notice UFN to move and support 3 RAR contact.	N/A
2140	Tracker Pl reported torch light in rubber 200m north of AP. Not engaged due to range.	N/A
2103	FSB Debbie reported possible movement by 3/4 persons on perimeter. Movement South to North on eastern side of FSB then North to East. 81mm Mors fired with Nil results.	N/A
11 Aug 71	Day 6	
0830	12 Pl D Coy at YS 419858 located East West track used by groups of 4 - 6 people moving both ways in last 12 hours.	N/A
1022	12 Pl D Coy moving to check an old bunker system.	N/A
1108	3 Pl V Coy in contact at YS 475859 with 2 to 3 VC in a camp later destroyed.	C/3 D/2
1213	2 Tp A Sqn ordered to search in area of XA BANG YS 465859, cut off possible escape from 3 Pl contact.	N/A

/1440

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(a)	(b)	(c)
1440	12 Pl D Coy at YS 420875 located two graves but only one body about one month old, AK 47 also in grave. Credited to V Coy contact 25 Jun 71.	N/A
1940	11 Pl D Coy reported two people observing their perimeter at YS 136828. Contact initiated when one weapon observed. Tracks located next morning.	C/4
2145	Sig Sect gun position reported sounds of wire being cut and movement.	C/5
12 Aug 71	Day 7	
0020	FSB DEBBIE observed lights and heard noises South and West of position.	N/A
0733	11 Pl D Coy located an old tunnel at YS 420876 7 - 10 ft long.	D/3
1015	V Coy maintdem completed by UHI No 9 Sqn RAAF.	N/A
1500	2 Tp (-) completed re-supply task to D Coy (YS 416861, YS 430826).	N/A
1710	Backload from D Coy, backload completed by APCs.	N/A
13 Aug 71	Day 8	
0130	Sp Coy reported movement on West perimeter wire.	N/A
0808	Tracker Pl completed clearing patrol around Courtenay Hill, NTR.	N/A
1420	Cavmobile request for B Coy 160500H for redeployment to YS 435765 from NUI DAT.	N/A
14 Aug 71	Day 9	
1135	OC B Coy to Courtenay Hill for briefing on next task, Search and ambush 16 Aug 71. To deploy by APC to YS 4376 and search North and not West of 41 Easting. TA 82, sect mors and sect 2 Tp to form mini FSB SALLY at YS 436766 and be responsible for their own protection. Boundary clearance and Mouse Trap along 44 Easting obtained from DUC THANH.	N/A
1744	5 Tp C Sqn to revert to under command C Sqn (-) from under operational control 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn with effect 150900hrs	N/A
15 Aug 71	Day 10	
0240	12 Pl D Coy at YS 445851 fired claymores at movement on perimeter.	C/6

/0745

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(a)	(b)	(c)
0745	Sect 2 Tp A Sqn completed Dustoff of Pl Comd 10 Pl (NBC) from YS 438877.	N/A
0900	5 Tp C Sqn (-) depart Courtenay Hill for NUI DAT.	N/A
1420	1 Pl V Coy in contact with estimated 7 VC at YS 504877. Camp and bunker system located after a search of the area.	C/7 D/4
2200	C Coy to deploy to AO KINGSGROVE for search and ambush tasks by TCV at 160800H. Search East to West and complete task 191500H. Boundary clearance obtained through HQ 1 ATF. Communications to open 160700H and work through OB at NUI DAT.	N/A
2200	B Coy to deploy by APC to YS 4376 to conduct search and ambush tasks to the North. Not to move West of 41 Easting. TA 82 and sect 2 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt to form a mini FSB vic YS 436766 to support B Coy to be responsible for own defence. Boundary clearance for B Coy obtained from DUC THANH.	N/A

Period 16 - 22 Aug 71

V Coy continued search and ambush operations East of Route 2 in the same AO.

B Coy deployed 16 Aug to conduct search and ambush tasks between 41 Easting and Civil access line to the East; and searching North from 76 to 85 Northing.

C Coy deployed into AO KINGSGROVE to conduct search and ambush operations from East to West. Returned to NUI DAT 20 Aug for R & I.

D Coy continued to search to South to the 41 Northing in the same AO.

Sp Coy(-)/CP remained Courtenay Hill.

Locstats

HQ 4 RAR/NZ	Courtenay Hill.
V Coy	CHQ YS 478853, 1 Pl YS 501876, 2Pl YS 489870, 3 Pl YS 478860.
B Coy	NUI DAT.
C Coy	NUI DAT.
D Coy	CHQ YS 415864, 10Pl YS 438862, 11Pl 419857 12 Pl YS 428852.

/Sp Coy(-)

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(a)	(b)	(c)
	Sp Coy(-) Courtenay Hill, Mor Pl(-) NUI DAT sect FSB Debbie.	
	Sect 104 Fd Bty 12 Fd Regt FSB DEBBIE.	
	2 Tp(-) A Sqn 3 Cav Regt YS 430878, 2 Sect Courtenay Hill, 3 sect FSB DEBBIE.	
16 Aug 71	Day 11	
0620	B Coy insertion by APC to YS 4376 completed.	N/A
0659	FSB SALLY in action at YS 436766.	N/A
0800	C Coy(-) deployed to AO KINGSGROVE.	N/A
1051	2 Tp A Sqn at YS 480900 were sighted by a man dressed in a blue shirt and black trousers riding a bicycle. The man dismounted and left the bicycle and disappeared to the West in a Mine Area Prohibited to APCs.	N/A
1155	6 Pl B Coy sighted one man dressed in black at YS 442778, no action taken as no weapon was sighted.	C/8
1214	11 Pl D Coy located a camp at YS 433847 with 6 sleeping spaces.	D/5
1452	10 Pl D Coy located a cache of pumpkins and 15 bags of rice (650lb of polished rice) cache ambushed.	N/A
1500	Sect 2 Tp A Sqn RV with 1 Pl V Coy to backload documents from camp located 15 Aug 71.	N/A
1927	10 Pl D Coy contacted 2 VC at YS 438862, result 2 VC CIA (DOW) 2 grenades CIA.	C/9
17 Aug 71	Day 12	
0851	2 Tp A Sqn commenced re-supply task for D Coy.	N/A
1047	6 Pl B Coy located East/West-North/South track at YS 428787 No fresh sign.	N/A
1146	D Coy re-supply completed (CHQ, 11 YS 415862, 10, 12 YS 432860).	N/A
1515	V Coy re-supply complete (by No 9 Sqn RAAF).	N/A
1630	Dustoff NBC for 5 Pl B Coy completed by Possum from YS 419789.	N/A

/18 Aug 71

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
18 Aug 71	Day 13	
1158	Sect 2 Tp A Sqn located previously reported tunnel system at YS 443925. No recent use. Engineers to destroy	N/A
1245	3 Pl V Coy located a base camp with 15 sleeping spaces built above the swamp at YS 475870.	D/6
1250	6 Pl B Coy located bunker system at YS 435807.	D/7
1330	3 Pl V Coy located sleeping area with three sleeping spaces YS 475869.	D/8
1330	6 Pl B Coy at YS 436808 [illegible] two unoccupied bunkers in poor condition.	D/9
1500	2Tp A Sqn APC suffered extensive damage from a CHICOM mine, no cas	C/10
1815	C Coy ordered to remain in AO KINGSGROVE to inclusive night 19/20 Aug 71. D Coy to move to new locations for search and ambush tasks from 19 Aug 71, YS 4387, 4386, 4287.	N/A
19 Aug 71	Day 14	
0828	Companies advised early return to Australia. No change to modus operandi or standards.	N/A
0840	5 Pl B Coy following well defined and well used track to East. Torn rags on bushes. Used less than one week ago.	N/A
1035	2 Pl V Coy at YS 478878 located East to West track used in last 3 or 4 days. Track heavily used in past.	N/A
1153	12 Pl D Coy at YS 428870 located a sleeping area for 3 persons who had been eating Australian rations. At YS 426870 a track leading to the West used in last 3 days.	N/A
2203	Sig Sector gun position reported movement on perimeter wire.	N/A
20 Aug 71	Day 15	
1005	Tracker Pl departed for five day patrol in rubber East of Route 2.	N/A
21 Aug 71	Day 16	
1250	11 Pl D Coy at YS 432852 located sign made 48hrs previously by 2 people moving South.	N/A
1540	Maintdems for 2 Pl and 3 Pl V Coy completed by 2 Tp A Sqn.	N/A
1544	11 Pl D Coy at YS 427855 located sign of 2 to 4 people moving along East to West track 2 or 3 days previously. Footmarks were in an old APC track and disappeared into the creek line.	N/A

/1605

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1605	B Coy ordered to search area YS 422782 with no movement beyond 50 Northing. Sect 104 Fd Bty will be at YS 434766 on 23 Aug 71 to provide support if required, also to consider re-supply problems.	N/A
1635	Demolition of tunnel completed by Mine Team 1 Fd Sqn with 2 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt.	N/A

22 Aug 71 — Day 16

1230	1 Pl V Coy at YS 490836 located a track. 1 Pl and CHQ heard noises, following up.	N/A
1254	1 Pl V Coy at YS 490836 contacted 3 VC, 1 VC KIA, 1 AK47 CIA.	C/11
2005	Sp Coy Courtenay Hill reported one person in front of the Sig Pl gun post. M26 grenade thrown, illumination used. Movement continued until 2100hrs.	C/12
2210	TA 22 2 Tp A Sqn at YS 451879 engaged sounds of movement near his ambush position, Nil result.	C/13

Period 23 - 31 Aug 71

V Coy continued search and ambush operations in the same AO until 28 Aug when they relieved Sp Coy at Courtenay Hill. Ambush operations were also conducted East and West of Route 2 in DE COURTENAY Plantation.

B Coy continued to search to North to 80 Northing.

C Coy remained at NUI DAT until deployed to NUI DINH Hills vic 3565, for search tasks.

D Coy returned to NUI DAT 23 Aug to R & I. Deployed vic 3571 on 28 Aug to search North to 865 Northing from insertion point between province boundary and 40 Easting.

Sp Coy(-) returned to NUI DAT 28 Aug for R & I. Sect Mor Pl deployed to FSB ROBEN 25 Aug 71.

CP remained Courtenay Hill.

2 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt conducted re-supply, convoy escort, ambush and road clearing (mines) as directed.

104 Fd Bty 12 Fd Regt Sect deployed to FSB ROBIN YS 434766 23 Aug 71.

Locstats

V Coy — CHQ, 1 Pl YS 486833, 2 Pl YS 478876 3 Pl YS 470864.

/B Coy

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)		(b)	(c)
	B Coy	CHQ, 6 Pl YS 424811, 4, 5 Pl YS 425809.	
	C Coy	NUI DAT.	
	D Coy	CHQ YS 415864, 10 Pl YS 428875, 11 Pl YS 410869, 12 Pl YS 408877.	
	Sp Coy(-)/CP	Courtenay Hill, Mor Pl(-) NUI DAT sect FSB DEBBIE.	
	Det 104 Fd Bty 12 Fd Regt	FSB DEBBIE.	
	2 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	HQ YS 456901, 1 Sect YS 450903, 2 Sect YS 456877, 3 Sect YS 448865.	

23 Aug 71 — Day 17

0030	Movement sighted on the Sig Pl Sector of the perimeter of Courtenay Hill.	C/12
0230	Voices between Sig Pl and Sp Sectors of Courtenay Hill perimeter M79s and hand illumination fired.	C/12
0720	Search of Courtenay Hill perimeter revealed scuff marks 40m from Sig Pl gun position.	C/12
0755	TA 82/Sect Mor Pl departed FSB DEBBIE for FSB ROBIN YS 434766.	N/A
0853	D Coy RV with 2 Tp A Sqn at YS 417875 for fly out by UHI from No 9 Sqn RAAF to NUI DAT for R & I. PZ secured by 2 Tp A Sqn (ATR 213).	N/A
1010	D Coy complete at NUI DAT	N/A
1035	2 Tp(-) A Sqn departed to DUC THANH to escort road supply convoy to Courtenay Hill.	N/A
1120	TA 82, Sect Mor Pl(81) at FSB ROBIN.	N/A
1326	2 Tp(-) A Sqn completed tasks with road convoy to DUC THANH. 2 Tp complete at Courtenay Hill.	N/A

24 Aug 71 — Day 18

0928	4 Pl B Coy found movement of small groups of 2 to 3 people using tracks in last 2 to 3 days YS 423795. No direction of movement and area may be used as a navigational aid (Rubber/ Jungle edge)	N/A
1047	6 Pl B Coy at YS 416819 reported number of tracks. Major track about 5 days old, used by approximately 6 persons moving North East.	N/A
1955	4 Pl B Coy heard sound of voices 200m to East. Sensors also activated YS 420797.	C/12

/25 Aug 71

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
25 Aug 71	Day 19	
0825	Tracker Pl returned Courtenay Hill after five day ambush patrol on suspected VC re-supply point vic YS 487886, nil results.	N/A
0935	6 Pl B Coy at YS 400811 following a West to East track last used 7 days previously. Track deteriorated to East, checking to West.	N/A
1315	PZ time for C Coy Transland 216 by UHI/No 9 Sqn RAAF for insertion LZ 346645, H Hour 1330hrs. Task to search area of NUI DINH, and to prevent VC movement in and out of hills.	N/A
1416	Transland 216 complete. C Coy at YS 346645.	N/A
1800	Aslt Pnr Pl moved out on 5 day search and ambush task East of Route 2 in Courtenay Plantation.	N/A
2235	TA 22 2 Tp on Courtenay Hill heard noises on perimeter, illumination fired. Nil result. No sign found during search next day.	N/A
26 Aug 71	Day 20	
1430	Sect 2 Tp A Sqn to DUC THANH to escort road convoy to Courtenay Hill.	N/A
1606	Sect 2 Tp A Sqn completed task of escorting convoy back to DUC THANH and returning to Courtenay Hill.	N/A
27 Aug 71	Day 21	
1010	Orders for V Coy deployment to Courtenay Hill issued CHQ, 1 Pl to redeploy by UHI of No 9 Sqn RAAF from YS 483805 at 281000H. V Coy to relieve Sp Coy. 2 Pl, 3 Pl to patrol to Courtenay Hill ambushing at YS 464888 and YS 469897 night 27/28 Aug 71. To be at Courtenay Hill not later than 281200hrs.	N/A
1050	Aslt Pnr Pl in contact with 4 VC at YS 485897. 1 VC KIA.	C/15
1149	Sect 2 Tp A Sqn ordered to join Aslt Pnr Pl and secure area of contact.	N/A
1225	Tracker Team with dog moved by Sect 2 Tp A Sqn to Aslt Pnr Pl contact area. Not to search North of 905 Northing and East of 50 Easting.	N/A
1310	IO, TA 85 to CAM MY to see Village Chief re Aslt Pnr Pl contact.	N/A

/1324

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1324	6 Pl B Coy at YS 435800 found 10 piles of grass 4 to 5 feet wide, 6 foot long, 6 inches deep. Drains around grass. Tracks to North and very old track North West. Possible thatchor fodder preparation area.	N/A
1444	Alst Pnr Pl and Tracker Team at YS 490899 located rest area used by VC. VC party split up at this point and track lost.	N/A
1530	Sect Tracker Pl located an SKS rifle and ammunition and grenade launcher hidden in a tree at YS 449904. Had been in position approximately 12 months. Serviceable except for broken, white ant eaten stock.	N/A
1605	7 Pl C Coy Dustoff of 4 NBC completed at YS 367638 by No 9 Sqn RAAF.	N/A
1755	Aslt Pnr Pl at YS 483899 found fresh bicycle tracks and an area of rubber which was not recently worked. Track East to West made last 12 hours.	N/A
1950	FSB DEBBIE reported two orange coloured lights approximately 3 feet apart on bearing 3700mils about 300m from FSB, NFI.	N/A
	Precautions for SVN Lower House Elections. All road movement ceased. Radio communications established with 177 RF at CAM MY. Unit to provide assistance in event of major contact only.	N/A
28 Aug 71	Day 22	
1000	PZ time for V Coy HQ, 1 Pl to Transland 223 from YS 483805 to Courtenay Hill by UHIs of No 9 Sqn RAAF. V Coy tasks; security of Courtenay Hill (Bn CP) and patrolling DE Courtenay Plantation area.	N/A
1022	Transland 223 complete (V Coy).	N/A
1227	A 28 161 (Indep) Recce Flt complete NBC Dustoff for 9 Pl C Coy from YS 368646.	N/A
1457	Bushrangers conducting LZ preparation at YS 346710 for D Coy insertion.	N/A
1500	H Hour for D Coy insertion into LZ YS 346710. Transland 223 from NUI DAT (Eagle Farm). Task to search and ambush to North with attention to vic YS .	N/A
1540	Transland 222 complete D Coy YS 346710.	N/A
1654	6 Pl B Coy reported hearing voices to South East. No results from search of area.	N/A

/1712

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1324	6 Pl B Coy at YS 435800 found 10 piles of grass 4 to 5 feet wide, 6 foot long, 6 inches deep. Drains around grass. Tracks to North and very old track North West. Possible thatchor fodder preparation area.	N/A
1444	Alst Pnr Pl and Tracker Team at YS 490899 located rest area used by VC. VC party split up at this point and track lost.	N/A
1530	Sect Tracker Pl located an SKS rifle and ammunition and grenade launcher hidden in a tree at YS 449904. Had been in position approximately 12 months. Serviceable except for broken, white ant eaten stock.	N/A
1605	7 Pl C Coy Dustoff of 4 NBC completed at YS 367638 by No 9 Sqn RAAF.	N/A
1755	Aslt Pnr Pl at YS 483899 found fresh bicycle tracks and an area of rubber which was not recently worked. Track East to West made last 12 hours.	N/A
1950	FSB DEBBIE reported two orange coloured lights approximately 3 feet apart on bearing 3700mils about 300m from FSB, NFI.	N/A
	Precautions for SVN Lower House Elections. All road movement ceased. Radio communications established with 177 RF at CAM MY. Unit to provide assistance in event of major contact only.	N/A
28 Aug 71	Day 22	
1000	PZ time for V Coy HQ, 1 Pl to Transland 223 from YS 483805 to Courtenay Hill by UHIs of No 9 Sqn RAAF. V Coy tasks; security of Courtenay Hill (Bn CP) and patrolling DE Courtenay Plantation area.	N/A
1022	Transland 223 complete (V Coy).	N/A
1227	A 28 161 (Indep) Recce Flt complete NBC Dustoff for 9 Pl C Coy from YS 368646.	N/A
1457	Bushrangers conducting LZ preparation at YS 346710 for D Coy insertion.	N/A
1500	H Hour for D Coy insertion into LZ YS 346710. Transland 223 from NUI DAT (Eagle Farm). Task to search and ambush to North with attention to vic YS .	N/A
1540	Transland 222 complete D Coy YS 346710.	N/A
1654	6 Pl B Coy reported hearing voices to South East. No results from search of area.	N/A

/1712

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1712	2 Tp A Sqn night ambushes moved to vic YS 455897 and YS 441891 to provide increased support to FSB DEBBIE and Courtenay Hill. Intelligence reports indicated possible strong enemy forces vic CAM MY with task disrupting VN Lower House Elections.	N/
1855	C Coy reported sounds of chopping vic YS 339653. Artillery fired results unknown.	N/A
29 Aug 71	Day 23	
0907	A 28 161 (Indep) Recce Flt completed Dustoff NBC for 3 Pl V Coy returned to Courtenay Hill.	N/A
1032	Aslt Pnr Pl re-joined Sp Coy at Courtenay Hill.	N/A
1100	OC V Coy assumed responsibility for defence of Courtenay Hill from OC Sp Coy.	N/A
1145	Sp Coy(-) departed Courtenay Hill for NUI DAT for R & I by USAF CH 47.	N/A
1300	Sp Coy complete NUI DAT.	N/A
1446	1 Pl V Coy at YS 474901 located VC posters from LONG KHANH Revolutionary Movement. Written in English for FWMF aimed at discrediting US activities and achievements following President Nixon's speech of 7 Oct 70.	N/A
1500	9 Pl C Coy at YS 357651 located an 80 x 80m 'X' shaped 8 bunker system.	D/10
30 Aug 71	Day 24	
1008	A24 (161 Indep Recce Flt) completed Dustoff of NBC at YS 369734 for 7 Pl C Coy.	N/
1230	4 Pl B Coy tree positioned sentry sighted one man dressed in greens with armband moving from East to West at YS 426799.	C/16
2105	Base Defence reported 60mm Mor, MG and small arms firing from CAM MY. Requested by RF from CAM MY to assist with illumination.	N/A
2205	6 Pl B Coy at YS 419799 reported that sensors had recorded movement to flank. Type of movement could not be identified.	N/A
31 Aug 71	Day 25	
0907	VR aircraft reported a new folding bicycle, a box of clothing and three new weapon pits at YS 489870. Checked by 2 Tp A Sqn found to be bicycle destroyed by V Coy and latrines dug by V Coy.	N/A

/1028

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c
1028	B Coy complete at YS 419795 for re-supply by UHI No 9 Sqn.	N/
1330	9 Pl C Coy completed demolition of bunker system YS 357651 by using explosives.	N/
1654	PW interrogation report of PW captured 25 Aug 71 at YS 245783 by PRU from BIEN HOA. From CHAU DUC group of 8 persons who on 23 Aug 71 had a camp at YS 336653 passed to C Coy 8 Pl located YS 338656.	N/
2040	CHQ B Coy recorded possible movement to South-East moving North West on sensors. Possibly animals.	N/A

Period 1 - 8 Sep 71

V Coy remained Courtenay Hill until deployed on 4 Sep to conduct search and ambush operations East of Route 2 vic XA BANG YS 4886.

B Coy continued searching and ambushing to the North within the same AO.

C Coy completed search tasks in NUI DINH hills and returned to NUI on 4 Sep. Redeployed on 5 Sep to conduct search and ambush operations West of SOUI CHA RANG and South of the 88 Northing.

D Coy continued moving North conducting search and ambush in same AO until redeployed on 8 Sep to vic YS 5188 to conduct operations East and South of DE Courtenay Plantations.

Sp Coy(-) redeployed to Courtenay Hill 4 Sep.

Locstats

V Coy	CHQ, 2 Pl Courtenay Hill, 1 Pl YS 451893, 3 Pl YS 473885.
B Coy	CHQ YS 424792, 4 Pl YS 426799, 5 Pl YS 428796, 6 Pl YS 419799.
C Coy	CHQ, 9 Pl YS 349646, 7 Pl YS 339668, 8 Pl YS 335653.
D Coy	CHQ, 11 Pl YS 356772, 10 Pl YS 369779, 12 Pl YS 340770.
Sp Coy(-)	NUI DAT, Mor Pl(-) NUI DAT, sect FSB DEBBIE, ROBIN.
CP	Courtenay Hill.

/104 Fd Bty 12 Fd Regt

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)		(b)	(c)
	[redacted]	[redacted]	
	2 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	HQ, 2 Sect YS 437872, 1 sect YS 428881, 3 sect YS 450903.	
1 Sep 71		Day 26	
0740		92T (MCT) on fire from overheated road wheel bearings. Damage slight but will require workshop repairs to replace bearings.	N/A
1239		8 Pl C Coy reported that the area of PW report of CHAU DUC camp at YS 336653 had been searched without results.	N/A
2 Sep 71		Day 27	
0530		C Coy advised to check for caves in area of YS 3365. Suspected CHAU DUC camp location.	N/A
		1 Pl V Coy returned to Courtenay Hill after five day search and ambush patrol West of Route 2, South and West of Courtenay Hill and FSB DEBBIE.	N/A
0859		3 Pl V Coy returned to Courtenay Hill at completion of a five day ambush/search patrol East of Route 2 and Courtenay Hill.	N/A
1045		D Coy re-supply by No 9 Sqn RAAF completed at YS 356772 for CHQ, 11 Pl; YS 369779 for 10 Pl; YS 341770 for 12 Pl.	N/A
1250		D Coy backload completed.	N/A
1550		8 Pl C Coy reported that old caves at YS 332654 and YS 331654 had been found. Neither occupied in past six months.	D/11
3 Sep 71		Day 28	
0815		6 Pl B Coy at YS 419799 reported suspected movement to North-West. Possibly animals.	N/A
0830		11 Pl D Coy at YS 360781 located small camp.	D/12
0839		Transland 239 to move C Coy from YS 346645 to Eagle Farm on 041500H submitted to HQ 1 ATF. C Coy to redeploy to North of AO BIRDSVILLE 5 Sep 71.	N/A
1550		Transland 239 altered to have 7 Pl C Coy extracted from YS 345659.	N/A
1455		Dustoff from C Coy completed at YS 330649.	N/A

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
4 Sep 71	Day 29	
1624	Transland 239 complete C Coy complete at NUI DAT.	N/A
1710	2 Pl V Coy at YS 478876 reported sighting one man near platoon position.	C/17
5 Sep 71	Day 30	
	Companies continued search and ambush operations. No significant sightings or redeployments during the day.	
6 Sep 71	Day 31	
1125	8 Pl C Coy located a 500lb bomb minus explosive at YS 433864. About 1 year old.	N/A
2005	6 Pl B Coy reported sighting a light at YS 436834 in vic of vehicle sighting earlier in day.	N/A
7 Sep 71	Day 32	
0932	6 Pl B Coy completed search in the area of light report.	N/A
1025	6 Pl B Coy contacted 1 VC moving North at YS 440835.	C/18
1130	6 Pl B Coy located small camp at YS 439836.	D/13
8 Sep 71	Day 33	
0726	Tracker Pl secured PZ at YS 522889 for insertion of D Coy by aircraft No 9 Sqn RAAF. Transland 246.	N/A
1031	V Coy advised of RV YS 455870 at 091400H for TCVs to transport company to NUI DAT for R & I preparation.	N/A
1100	D Coy Transland 246 completed. Locations: CHQ, 10 Pl YS 524889; 11 Pl YS 526888; 12 Pl 524886.	N/A
1230	Sect 2 Tp A Sqn completed water re-supply to Tracker Pl at YS 515889.	N/A
1230	5 Pl B Coy at YS 433847 located a rest camp, 15 x 30 x 30m.	D/14
1400	Sect 2 Tp A Sqn at YS 482908 located fresh digging containing 1 pr black pyjamas; mosquito net, small arms swab bag, part Australian pack 18" square, empty US and Australian ration tins, 8" x 2" x 1" bottles wrapped in plastic. In location about 7 days. No fresh sign around the area.	N/A
1445	11 Pl D Coy at YS 538888 located an old camp with a very old automatic shotgun set as a booby trap.	D/15

/1830

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1830	Tracker Pl sighted one man dressed in black at YS 497895.	C/19
2200	4 Pl B Coy engaged flashing light near night position YS 428851.	C/20
2215	9 Pl C Coy in contact 2 or 3 VC at YS 398880. Nil results.	C/21
9 Sep 71	Day 34	
0645	4 Pl B Coy reported nil results from a search following contact.	N/A
0655	9 Pl C Coy search revealed nil sign in contact area.	N/A
0925	Tracker Pl returned to Courtenay Hill for re-supply before returning to the East of Route 2 for search and ambush tasks. To remain in DE Courtenay Rubber Plantation.	N/A
0953	2 Tp A Sqn departed Courtenay Hill for re-supply for C Coy YS 402871.	N/A
1105	2 Tp completed re-supply for C Coy. Two sections to remain to complete the backload.	N/A
1341	11 Pl D Coy at YS 533887 found an AK 47 magazine which had been in the area about two or three weeks.	N/A
1352	TCVs at RV with V Coy for movement to NUI DAT.	N/A
1435	2sects 2Tp A Sqn completed water re-supply to 4, 6 Pls.	N/A
1500	V Coy departed RV for NUI DAT.	N/A

Period 9 - 18 Sep 71 .

V Coy deployed to NUI DAT on 9 Sep for R & I and became 1 ATF Reaction Force 15 - 21 Sep 71.

B Coy completed search and ambush task and returned to NUI DAT on 13 Sep for R & I.

C Coy continued search and ambush tasks in AO.

D Coy continued search and ambush tasks to South West of AO.

Sp Coy(-)/CP remained Courtenay Hill.

Locstats .

V Coy — CHQ YS 467868, 1 Pl YS 475860, 2 Pl YS 478876, 3 Pl YS 465863.

/B Coy

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)		(b)	(c)
	B Coy	CHQ, 5 Pl YS 426849, 4 Pl YS 428851 6 Pl YS 433844.	
	C Coy	CHQ, 8 Pl YS 404880, 7 Pl YS 403888, 9 Pl YS 398880.	
	D Coy	CHQ YS 524889, 10 Pl YS 518887, 11 Pl YS 540882, 12 Pl YS 521880.	
	CP/Sp Coy(-)	Courtenay Hill, Mor Pl(-) NUI DAT, sects FSB ROBIN, DEBBIE.	
	104 Fd Bty 12 Fd Regt	Sect FSBs DEBBIE, ROBIN.	
	2 Tp A Sqn 3 Cav Regt	HQ, 2 sect YS 429873, 1 sect YS 450903, 3 sect YS 437877.	

10 Sep 71 — Day 35

0831	12 Pl D Coy located a very well used North/South - East/West track at YS 537892. Area used by unit 2 to 3 months ago.	N/A
0908	2 Tp A Sqn at RV with B Coy YS 450848.	N/A
0940	B Coy at Courtenay Hill for re-supply prior to redeployment to vic SOUI CA YS 420930 (centre point) on search and ambush tasks against 274 Regt elements.	N/A
1015	10 Pl D Coy located a staging camp at YS 535881.	D/16
1021	11 Pl D Coy at YS 522899 located an East-West track used by 2 - 3 persons in the last 18 hours moving to West.	N/A
1150	10 Pl D Coy reported that the South track from the staging camp had not been used in last 2 - 3 weeks. Track very faint.	N/A
2145	Sp Sector Courtenay Hill defence reported suspected cutting of wire in front of position. Illumination fired with nil sightings.	N/A

11 Sep 71 — Day 36

0625	Tracker Pl at YS 483907 ambushed 4 VC. Tracking Team following up blood trail.	C/22
0707	Dogs with Tracker Team have a'point'.	N/A
0732	Dogs still pointing and do not wish to move.	N/A
0820	VC KIA body found (total 3 VC KIA).	C/22

/0850

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
0850	Tracker Team believe wounded VC has received assistance to take evasive action (YS 530907).	N/A
0900	Dogs loosing track.	N/A
1140	Aslt Pnr Pl(-) sect 2 Tp A Sqn checked areas YS 471927, YS 468912 for possible enemy defensive positions as reported by VN sources. Nil sign.	N/A
1145	B Coy 4 Pl located bed of twigs 3' x 4' and several feet deep 6 spider holes in circular formation. No recent enemy occupation YS 418898. 5 Pl at YS 422932 located no fresh sign in area. 6 Pl at YS 417920 located a North/East - South/West track used by numerous people last week.	N/A
1403	4 Pl B Coy at YS 429899 located a grave. The grave was investigated and pair of Ho Chi Minh sandals and pair of black trousers located in fresh soil above hard packed earth. Body presumed to be in this section because of smell. Not disturbed.	N/A
1530	9 Pl C Coy at YS 401899 located fresh timber cuttings and two occupied bunkers. Platoon withdrawn 500m and artillery employed on system. Number of enemy unknown.	D/17
1640	Preliminary document readout from Tracker Pl contact identify elements of CHAU DUC.	N/A
1755	Bushranger 71 from No 9 Sqn RAAF in area to assist in bunker engagement.	N/A
1855	Bushranger 71 departed area. Ordanance employed.	N/A
1945	9 Pl C Coy reported an East-West track with fresh sign of up to 30 people moving West.	N/A
2205	Document readout from Tracker Pl contact tentatively identify BAI GIANH Comd Finance and Economy Section CHAU DUC; a nurse and one male suspected to be Comd BINH BA Village.	N/A
12 Sep 71	Day 37	
0730	9 Pl C Coy moving back to area of bunker system YS 401899.	D/17
1008	9 Pl C Coy in area of bunker system. Area heavily damaged by 105mm and 81mm rounds.	N/A
1030	9 Pl C Coy sighted bunkers.	
1050	Total 4 bunkers located and searched. Small quantity of docu and equipment located. Also possible blood stains.	D/17

/1134

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1143	9 Pl C Coy in contact with one VC at YS 401898. Nil result	C/23
1145	D Coy complete at YS 520893 for re-supply by APC.	N/A
1204	1 Tp(-) departed Courtenay Hill for D Coy with re-supply.	N/A
1401	Opdem for explosives from C Coy received. New method of destruction using satchel charges to be used.	N/A
1432	Opdem delivered to C Coy by Possum 161 (Indep) Recce Flt.	N/A
1610	1 Tp(-) completed re-supply to D Coy. Two crewmen required medical attention for facial cuts. One member Dusted-off to NUI DAT by Possum.	N/A
1735	4 Pl B Coy in contact at YS 420894 with one VC. No result.	C/24
1920	A Sqn 3 Cav Regt advised TA42 at FSB DEBBIE and ROBIN was to be replaced by TA41.	N/A
1946	Document readout from 9 Pl bunker system tentatively identify K76C Field Hospital. Two surgical teams mentioned in conjunction with H13 (Rear services Gp 274 Regt).	N/A
2325	FSB ROBIN reported sighting one VC running away South from the perimeter after illumination had been fired. 50 calibre MG fired. Nil result. Motor scooter reported heard leaving area.	N/A
13 Sep 71	Day 38	
0746	1 Tp A Sqn, RF and National Police cordon around VIET CUONG Rubber Plantation. VN operation. 9 illegal residents, (4 male, 5 female) detained.	N/A
0850	5 Pl B Coy located West to East track made am 13 Sep at YS 420936. Trail too faint to follow.	N/A
0937	6 Pl B Coy located South to North track made by 5 persons in the last 24 hours.	N/A
1038	Sect 1 Tp completed move of 4 Pl B Coy from YS 422893 to YS 422922. 4 Pl to assist B Coy(-) in search and ambush of a more productive area.	N/A
1105	9 Pl D Coy located North - South track used in last 2 - 3 days by up to 10 people moving in both directions.	N/A
1156	Transland 206 submitted for movement of B Coy to NUI DAT for R & I. PZ YS 434926 to be secured by 1 Tp(-) A Sqn.	N/A

/1225

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1225	11 Pl D Coy at YS 504876 located a bunker system destroyed by V Coy. System contained fresh tracks and sign of occupation since destruction of system.	N/A
1430	C Coy completed demolition of bunker system after two misfires Ignited electrically using claymore leads and detonators.	N/A
1450	D Coy located well used track not used in past 10 days. East to West YS 502888.	N/A
1640	4 Pl B Coy sighted one man at YS 426920 but could not capture him as he was too far away. Could have been a civilian worker. Area in civil access.	N/A
1740	4 Pl B Coy sighted two men 200m East of their location YS 426922. Possibly civilians.	N/A
1842	Sect 1 Tp A Sqn at YS 415874 located North-South tracks made by up to 6 people in last few days moving South.	N/A
14 Sep 71	Day 39	
0833	Transland 206 amended. PZ time 1005hrs 4 UHIs.	N/A
0910	RF and National Police operation vic YS 459895 completed, 5 female detained.	N/A
1005	B Coy transland by No 9 Sqn RAAF commenced.	N/A
1132	11 Pl D Coy contacted 2 VC at YS 512871.	C/25
1445	Tracker Pl returned to Courtenay Hill after 5 day search and ambush patrol. To assume task of base defence from Aslt Pnr Pl.	N/A
1517	Aslt Pnr Pl departed Courtenay Hill for 5 day search and ambush task in DE Courtenay Plantation East of Route 2.	N/A
2115	Dustoff by UHI No 9 Sqn RAAF completed for NBC from Aslt Pnr Pl YS 466908.	N/A
15 Sep 71	Day 40	
1040	A28 from 161 (Indep) Recce Flt sighted 1 VC dressed in black with SKS rifle at YS 526823. Had attempted to conceal himself under broad leaved fern. Artillery fired into area with unknown results.	N/A
1130	7 Pl C Coy located an 'A' shaped 8 bunker system at YS 406911 System had been camoflaged that morning. System ambushed by 7 Pl.	D/18

/1140

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
1140	11 Pl D Coy in contact with 2 VC at YS 515867. 1 VC KIA, 1 AK47 CIA.	C/26
1420	9 Pl C Coy located an 'X' shaped 7 bunker system at YS 410901 built between 8 to 12 months previously.	D/19
1421	CHQ, 8 Pl C Coy located North-South track joining bunker systems YS 410901 and YS 406911 used by 7 to 10 persons.	N/A
1512	11 Pl D Coy at YS 515866 located a previously destroyed bunker system with signs of recent use.	N/A
1717	12 Pl D Coy at YS 510865 located a South to North track with recently made foot marks on surface.	N/A
16 Sep 71	Day 41	
0920	VR aircraft reported South to North track made by approx 20 persons at YS 564906 used last 24 hours.	N/A
1140	Sect Tracker Pl/Sect 1 Tp at YS 487876 located a West to East track about 2 days old made by 6 to 8 people and a resting area for same.	N/A
1320	10 Pl D Coy located two US bangalore torpedoes wrapped in 7 layers of plastic at YS 514863. Had been in location about 3 months. Buried.	N/A
1447	9 Pl C Coy completed demolition of bunker system at YS 410901.	N/A
17 Sep 71	Day 42	
0055	Torch light sighted from FSB DEBBIE. Illuminated and engaged with 30 cal MG from TA41B.	C/27
0725	No positive enemy sign in the area of torch light. Report from FSB DEBBIE following TA search.	N/A
0900	9 Pl C Coy located a circular 5 bunker system at YS 413900 with freshly cut camouflage. System ambushed.	D/20
1905	1 Tp A Sqn to remain in APs until 190700hrs (TA11,19J YS 415873, TA10A, 10B, TA12 YS424868).	N/A
1914	FSB DEBBIE reported a light 300m South of FSB. Engaged with 76mm and 30 cal. Light extinghished.	N/A
2135	D Coy reported a single signal shot 500m South-West of their location (approximately YS 488855).	N/A
2150	Two more shots heard by D Coy. Appear to be closer than earlier report.	N/A

/18 Sep 71

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)
18 Sep 71	Day 43	
0957	D Coy advised that their maintdem was delayed 40 minutes by bad weather (1140 hrs).	N/A
1045	D Coy complete at YS 495861 for re-supply.	N/A
1305	Transland 215 for extraction of C Coy from PZ at YS 416905 at 191500hrs by UHI of No 9 Sqn RAAF. PZ to be secured by 1 Tp A Sqn. C Coy to go on R & I.	N/A
1630	Orders for deployment for 1 ATF OP IVANHOE issued. Operation against 33 NVA Regt HQ and 3rd Bn. AO to be in AO BIRDSVILLE East of Route 2.	N/A
1800	Aslt Pnr Pl sighted one person dressed in dark clothing moving North to South. When sighted, moved rapidly into the West. No weapon sighted. Not engaged (Civilian access).	N/A
1842	VR Report 149. Track at YS 5680 showed recent (2 days old) sign of movement South of approximately 15 persons. At YS 542879 a number of tracks sighted under canopy and a fresh tree stump at YS 543878.	N/A
2400	Operation NORTH WARD concluded.	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACTS/INCIDENTS
OPERATION NORTH WARD

Serial (a)	Date/Time (b)	Location (c)	Unit/Sub-Unit (d)	Acitivty (e)	Reference (f)
	Aug 71				
1	060905H	YS 434865	8Pl/C Coy	Contact. 8Pl/C Coy saw 2 VC in a camp and being close to civilian access area, challenged. One man withdrew North, one man South. Pl pired at man moving South. One dressed in black shirt, green trousers and second man in greens. Result 1 VC KIA 1 x AK50 CIA.	Appendix 1
2	100845H	YS 476864	3 Pl/V Coy	Contact. 3Pl were in a day rest area when 2 VC approached the perimeter from the South-East. The VC sighted and fired at one member of the platoon who was occupying a field latrine which was located between two sentry positions. The soldier returned fire and withdrew into the perimeter. 1 VC KIA, 1 AK47 CIA.	Appendix 2
3	111108H	YS 475859	3Pl/V Coy	Contact. The platoon were parall-eling a track when the leading scout sighted 2 to 3 VC in a small camp. The scout commenced firing before the platoon was deployed and the VC escaped. 1 SKS, 5 RPG rounds, clothing, documents were CIA.	Appendix 3
4	111940H	YS 436828	11Pl/D Coy	Incident. A sentry sighted 2 VC observing the platoon NDP from a distance of 50m East of the platoon MG fire was used in conjunction with hand held and artillery illumination. The VC moved South following the contact. The direction of movement was thought to have been North to South. A search the next morning located the sandal tracks of two men. Nil result.	N/A

/5

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
5	112145H	Courtenay Hill	Sp Coy	Incident. The Sig Sect gun post reported the sounds of wire being cut and of movement on the West of Courtenay Hill. Illumination was fired but nothing unusual was sighted.	N/A
6	150240H	YS 445851	12Pl/D Coy	Incident. After movement was heard approaching the platoon from the East, 2 claymores were fired. A search the next morning showed no sign of casualties. 2 VC approached from the East and withdrew to the East.	N/A
7	151420H	YS 504877	1Pl/V Coy	Contact. Platoon heard movement and saw one VC who appeared out of a creek line. Engaged at 30m range and observed to fall. Return fire was received from the South from at least 3 more VC. Following a search of the area, a camp/bunker system was found. Nil result.	Appendix 4
8	161155H	YS 442778	6Pl/B Coy	Incident. A sentry sighted a man dressed in black who sighted the platoon as it moved into a harbour position. Man dropped to ground and was not found during the following search. Nil result.	N/A
9	161927H	YS 438862	10Pl/D Coy	Contact. Platoon were ambushing food cache when 3 VC approached from North along old APC tracks. 2 VC were WIA (CIA) and 1 VC WIA (possible) escaped. As the area was considered too dangerous for AC to land as third VC was thought to be in the area both VC DOW during the night. 2 grenades CIA.	Appendix 5
10	181500H	YS 445937	2Tp A Sqn	Mine Incident. An APC (TA23A) suffered extensive damage of sitting of a 35lb pattern CHICOM mine. The mine had a pressure release switch. No casualties in the crew.	N/A

/11

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
11	221254H	YS 490836	1Pl/V Coy	Contact. 1Pl were establishing a firm base when 3 VC dressed in black shirts and khaki trousers approached from the South. 1Pl initiated contact resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC), 1 VC WIA (BT), 1 AK47 and 2 packs CIA. Heavy storm washed away trail.	Appendix 6
12	222005H	Courtenay Hill	Sp Coy	Incident. Sentry on Sig Sector gun reported sounds of someone crawling within 30m of the gun. M26 grenade thrown, hand-held illumination fired. Sounds of rapid movement heard and what appeared to be human sighted. Further sounds were heard and grenades thrown, 2105hrs, 230030hrs, 0230hrs M79 fired at voices. Search revealed scuff marks of rapid movement down the very steep earth bank below the Sig Sector Gun.	N/A
13	222210H	YS 451879	2Tp A Sqn	Incident. Sentry engaged sounds of movement on the perimeter of the ambush position with claymores and MG. Nil results from search.	N/A
14	241955H	YS 420797	4Pl/B Coy	Incident. 4Pl/B Coy reported sounds of voices 200m East of their position. Sensors activated. M79 illumination fired. Nil results.	N/A
15	271050H	YS 485897	Aslt Pnr Pl Sp Coy	Contact. Platoon sighted 4 men sitting under a tree in an un-worked section of DE Courtenay Rubber Plantation. The 4 men, on seeing the platoon commenced to run away. After calling 3 times for the men to stop the platoon fired at the men who had split up. One going North, 3 East. One man was seen to be carrying a weapon on unknown type and fired at the platoon. A follow up of the three men with a Tracking Team was without result. 1 VC KIA.	Appendix 7

/16

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f
16	301230H Sep 71	YS 426799	4Pl/B Coy	Incident. Sentry positioned in a tree sighted one man dressed in greens with an arm band of an unknown colour moving East to West. Man was moving quickly and was without pack or weapon. He moved North before reaching 4Pl and disappeared into thick bush. A search by the sub unit did not find the man.	N/A
17	041710H	YS 478876	2Pl/V Coy	Incident. One man wearing green hat, green shirt sighted 30m outside platoon position. No weapon sighted. When man realized he had been sighted he moved to the East, the direction he had come from. Clearing patrol found tracks made by 1 to 2 persons moving East to West.	N/A
18	071025H	YS 440835	6Pl/B Coy	Contact. Platoon were following South to North track when one VC dressed in green shirt, dark trousers approached the platoon from the North. One shot was fired by the leading man, the VC turned and ran North, one shot was heard, the leading man fired again. On the follow-up the platoon located a hastily vacated camp for 2 to 3 persons. A quantity of personal equipment was captured.	Appendix 8
19	081830H	YS 497895	Tracker Pl Sp Coy	Incident. The platoon were preparing to move into an NDP when one man dressed in black, was sighted. The man was not fired at due to range and civil access Rules of Engagement.	N/A
20	082200H	YS 428851	4Pl/B Coy	Incident. 4Pl were in NDP when a sentry sighted a strong flashing light to the East of the position. The platoon was alerted and the light (suspected as being a strobe light) was also seen by the section commander. SA were fired and the light was extinguished. There was no evidence of movement located next morning.	N/A

/21

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
21	082215H	YS 398880	9Pl/C Coy	Incident. Sentry heard the sound of 2 to 3 people talking, at the same time observing a torch about 30m away from the NDP. M60 fired at the light without result. No result from a search conducted the next morning.	Appendix 9
22	110625H	YS 483907	Tracker Pl Sp Coy	Contact. The platoon was in an AP when 4 VC were seen to enter the killing area. The VC stopped to investigate something, possibly one of the claymores. Because of low scrub in the rubber plantation only the upper portion of the bodies but no weapons could be seen. Being civilian access area the VC were challanged, they commenced to flee when the ambush was sprung killing three. A Tracking Team with dog followed up the blood trail for about 800m before losing the trail. As the blood trail ceased abruptly the team suspected a fifth VC assisted the wounded member. Result 3 VC KIA 1 AK47, 2 K54 (CIA), 1 VC WIA (BT).	Appendix 10
23	121134H	YS 401898	9Pl/C Coy	Contact. The platoon was harboured in an enemy bunker system that had been heavily shelled. A sentry sited behind deadfall, had to change his position to fire his SLR after sighting a VC approaching the system. The VC saw the sentries movt and took cover before the sentry could fire. Five shots were fired into the area used by the VC. Because of the amount of deadfall the exit route could not be found.	Appendix 11
24	121735H	YS 420894	4Pl/B Coy	Incident. One member of the platoon was outside the perimeter relieving himself when he saw and fired from the unsupported squating position at one VC. No weapon sighted, dressed in camouflaged suit. No result.	N/A

/25

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
25	141132H	YS 512871	11Pl/D Coy	Contact. Platoon sighted one VC at Appendix distance of 45m who returned to 12 speak to second VC. Both VC were then seen squatting, talking through very thick undergrowth. Platoon engaged with nil results. Platoon followed trail to South after using artillery.	
26	151140H	YS 515867	11Pl/D Coy	Contact. Platoon contacted leading scouts of an apparent VC squad moving East to West. When 11Pl fired, leading man froze, second man returned fire and moved North passed the platoon. During clearing search by 11Pl the second man was shot and killed. Follow up of first man's tracks lead to squad sized North South track. 1 VC KIA 1 AK 47 CIA.	Appendix 13
27	170055H	FSB DEBBIE		Incident. Torch light sighted 300 metres to the South in rubber moving East to West. Spotlight used but nothing sighted. When spotlight extinguished light reappeared. 30 cal employed and light remained extinguished after second burst.	N/A

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 1 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
6 Aug 71	0905	YS 434865	8	C

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
35	Patrolling	Cpl	R.H. Templeman	Lt	P. O'Brien

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
8Pl	M60, M16, SLR	4 (Approx)	Black pyjamas AK47s

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
15m	5	15	-	10	Fwd scout heard movement

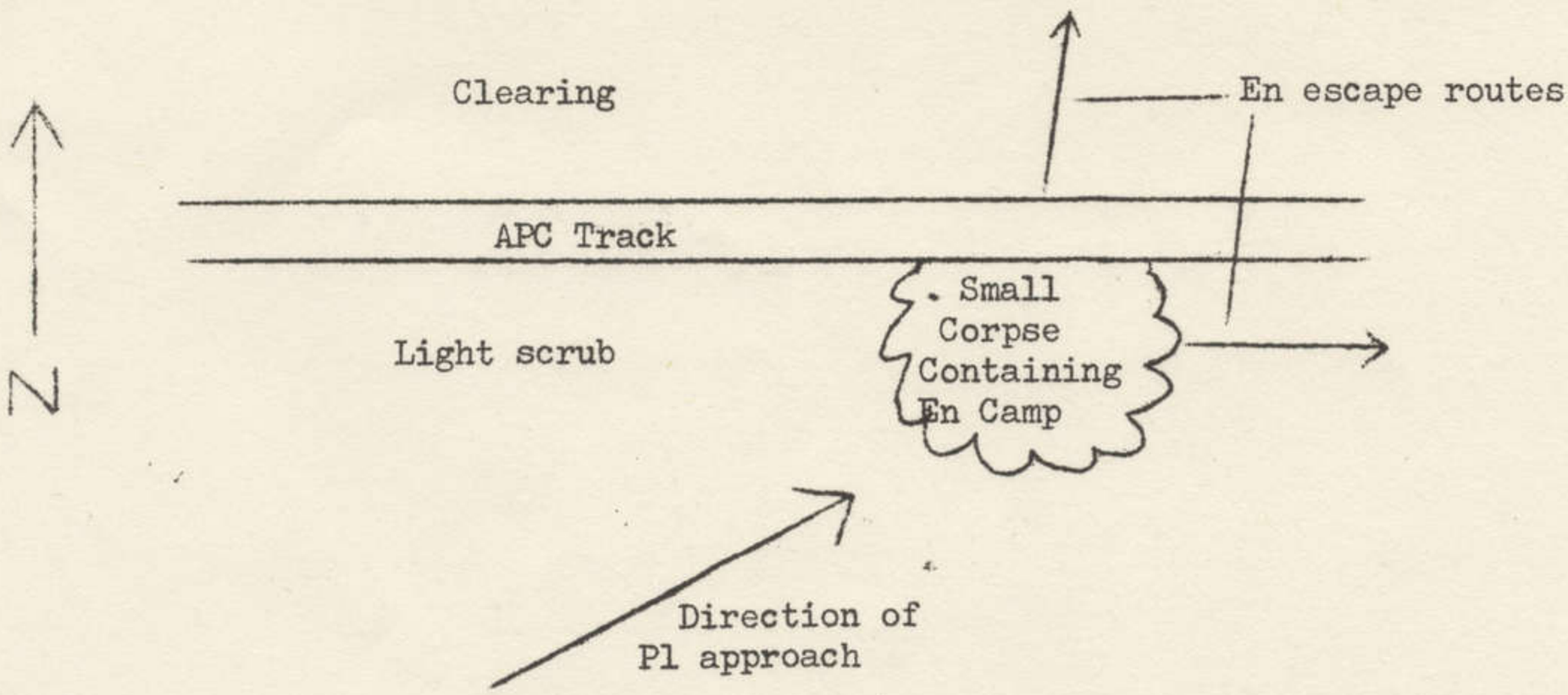
Terrain Description

Light Scrub

Narrative

Platoon was patrolling through light scrub when the forward scout heard movement. On investigating closer he saw a person dressed in black, challenged. The person began to run away and was fired on and killed. His weapon an AK47, and equipment were captured. A second enemy was seen but escaped.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
M60, M16, SLR	M60 400, SLR 20, M16 50.
Supporting Fire Employed	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
Nil	Nil
Enemy Casualties	**Friendly Casualties**
1 VC KIA, 1 AK47 CIA	Nil

ents and Lessons Learned

a. Local Commander

Nil

b. Platoon Commander

Nil

c. Coy Comments

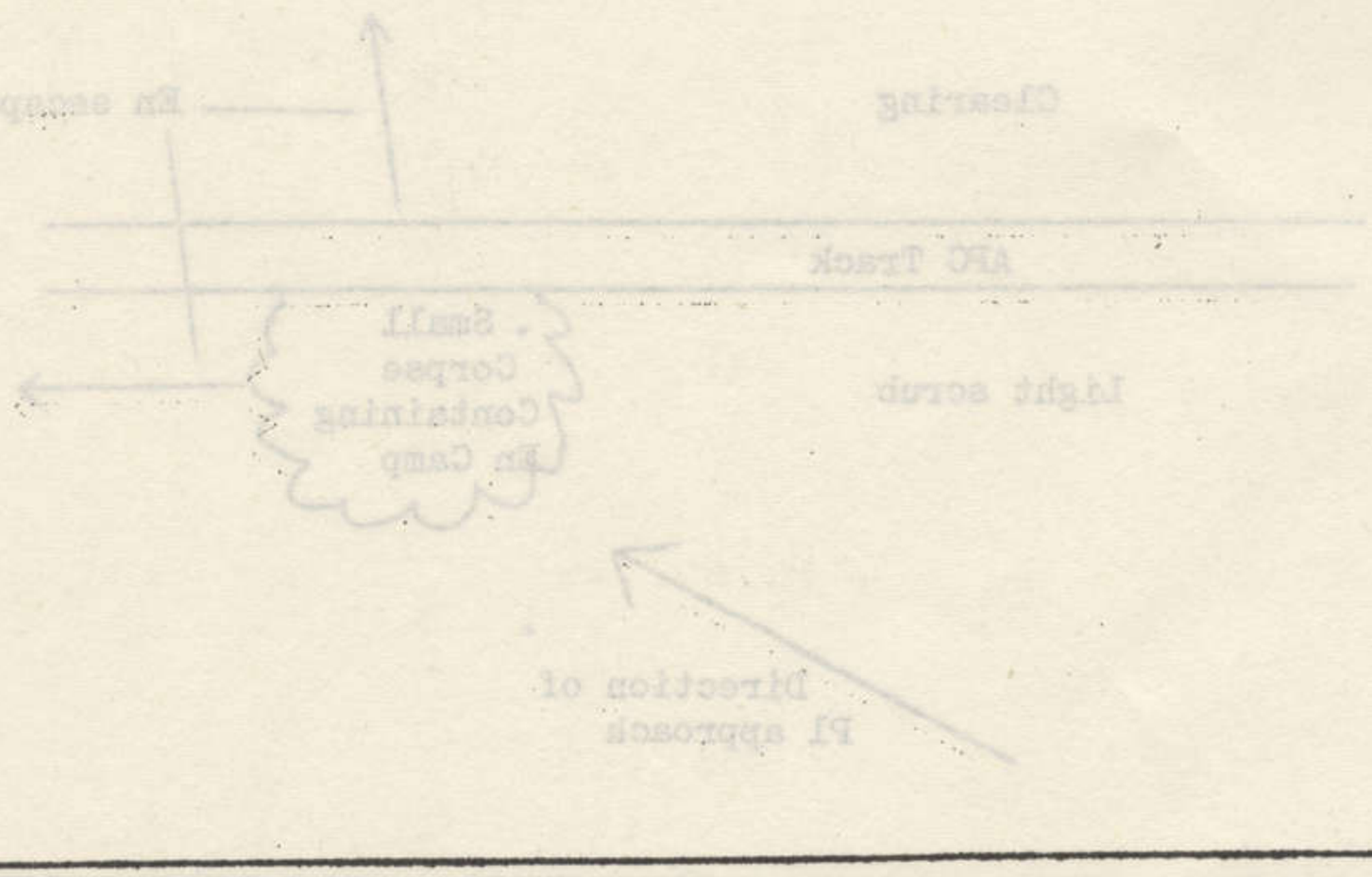
Nil

d. Unit Comments

Nil

e. Lessons Learned

Nil



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 2 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
10 Aug 71	0845	YS 476864	3	V

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
31	Search/Ambush	Sgt	C.T. Panui	Sgt	C.T. Panui

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
VC	AK47s	2	Dress: JGs. Wpns: AK47s

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How Was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
15 metres	15	50	-	10	VC fired first. Movt afterwards

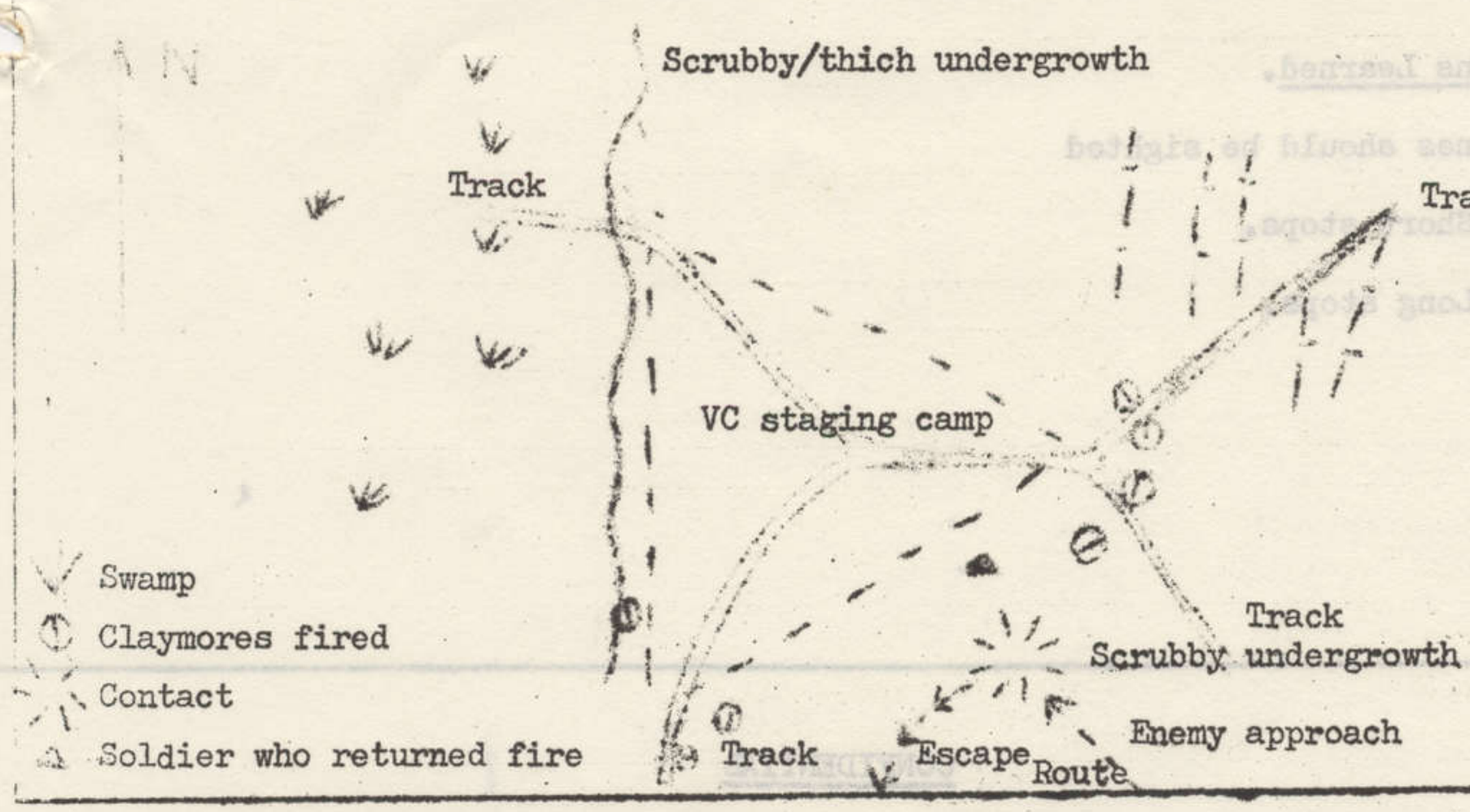
Terrain Description

Pl harbour established on VC staging camp. Ground sloped towards the West. Scrubby undergrowth North and South; bamboo East; swamp West.

Narrative

VC fired several shots as they approached pl posn between two sentry locs. Fire was returned with SA and M18. VC moving off the track. In fact, a soldier was just outside the pl posn answering the call of nature when the contact was initiated. Soldier returned fire immediately though en definitely fired first. After firing several shots soldier pulled back into pl posn.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
M60, M16, SLR, Claymores	1,800 rds, 8 Claymores(2 Banks)
Supporting Fire Employed	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
Nil	Nil
Enemy Casualties	**Friendly Casualties**
1 VC KIA (BC) 1 AK 47 (CIA)	Nil

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. **Local Commander.**

Results would indicate that too much ammo etc was expended however at the time it seemed quite justified because movement was being reported from the east, south and south west. Looking back on the contact now however, I would venture to say that a great deal of the reported movement was imagined.

b. Platoon Comments.

Pers should engage positive targets only.

c. Coy Comments.

The contact emphasises the importance of tactical crapping. In this case the soldier saw the enemy first but refrained from firing as he initially thought the person was the company interpreter, soldier fired when the suspect adopted a firing position with an AK 47, killing the enemy.

. Unit Comments.

Nil

. Lessons Learned.

Latrines should be sighted

(1) Short stops.

(2) Long stops.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 3 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
11 Aug 71	1108	YS 476859	3	V

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
31	Search/Ambush	Sgt	C.T. Panui	Sgt	C.T. Panui

Initiated by	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
3 Pl	SA, M79, Arty	2 - 3	SKS, AK47s, RPGs

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
40 Metres	40	50	-	15	Movement

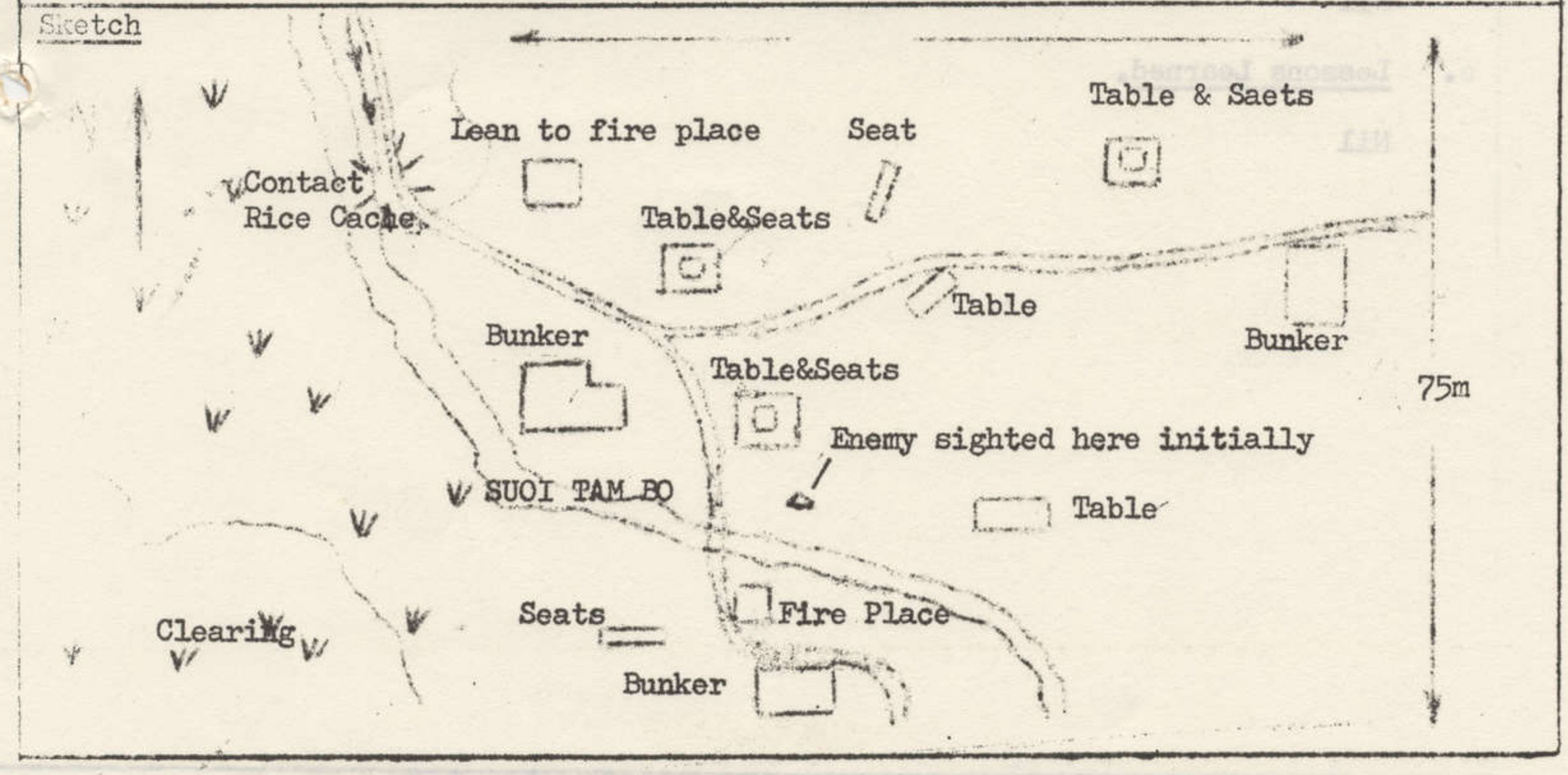
Terrain Description

Camp located next to SOUI TAM BO. Ground West of camp very swampy, East thin undergrowth, Nth and Sth thick undergrowth. Track Nth/Sth runs through the camp; approx 50m below camp track runs West.

Narrative

Enemy sighted in camp, engaged, enemy appeared to withdraw East, movement sighted behind one bunker. Area revealed sleeping spaces for 2 - 3 pers; probably caretaker group.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
SA, M79, M26	650 x SA, 12 x M79, 3 x M26

Supporting Fire Employed	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
Arty	30

Enemy Casualties	Friendly Casualties
1 SKS, 5 RPGs, Clothing, Webbing, Docs (CIA)	Nil

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. Local Commander.

Lead scout initiated contact prematurely. Remainder of c/s was still closing on the camp when contact was initiated. Though a large amount of ammo was expended, it was necessary because 'Pepper potting' was employed to clear the bunkers and ultimately the entire camp.

b. Platoon Comments.

Pers must be made aware of the necessity to hold their fire unless they feel that their position has been compromised. I feel certain that in this case the lead scout had not been seen, though at the same time he was extremely vunerable.

c. Coy Comments.

An unfortunate case of a lead scout firing defensively other than offensively.

d. Unit Comments.

Nil

e. Lessons Learned.

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 4 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Task	Location	Pl	Coy
15 Aug 71	1420H	YS 504877	1	V

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
29	Recce and Ambush	Lt	N.J. Fry	Lt	N.J. Fry

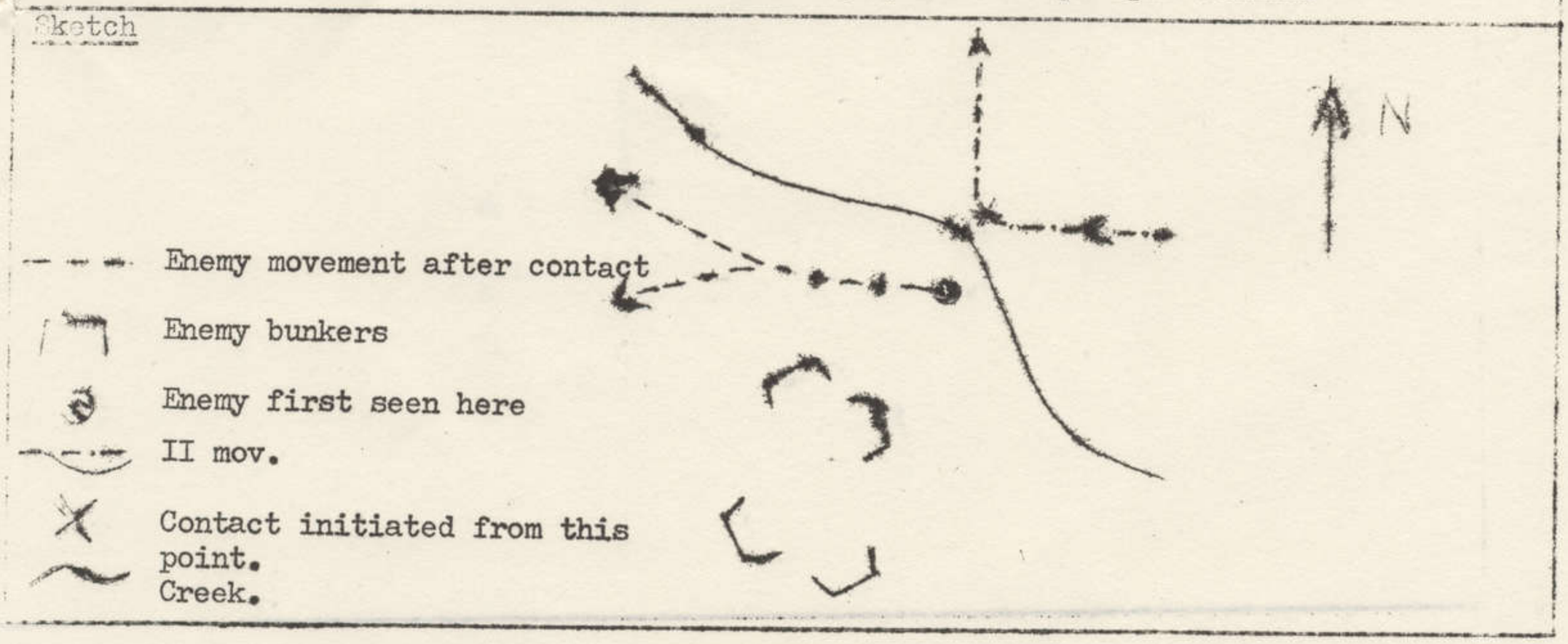
Initiated by	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
c/s 11	M16	1 in contact est 8 overall	C5K (AK47 & Carbines -

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
30m	30	50		20	Movement and noise

Terrain Description
Mainly thick bamboo, but very open on edges of creek. Steep banks on either side of stream. Southern side rising up to a small spur.

Narrative
C/S 11 was moving in an easterly direction along the creek line, at GR 504877 we made a change in direction by going North. It was at this point that one of the pers in the rear of the point section heard noise and saw movement down near the creek. He halted and moved forward to observe into the creek.. I pushed two scouts forward and they saw and fired upon an en in the creek. The en began firing back from further in the bush. I pushed forward using two sections. The en withdrew firing as they went. We pushed forward and moved through a new bunker system - which was still being built. It was unoccupied but they had left all their equipment except wpns behind.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds ired (Approx)
M60, M16, SLR, Grenades (Bunkers)	400 M60, 20 M16, 2 Grenades 20 SLR.
Supporting Fire Used	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
Nil	N/A
Enemy Casualties	**Friendly Casualties**
Not known, but enemy in creek definately hit by M16.	Nil

ents and Lessons Learned

. **Local Commander.**

Nil

. **Platoon Comments.**

Nil

. **Coy Comments.**

Nil

. **Unit Comments.**

Nil

. **Lessons Learned**

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 5 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
16 Aug 71	1927hrs	438862	10	D Coy

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
21	Ambush	Sgt	B.Porter	2Lt	K. Byrne

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
Friendlies	M60, M16	3	

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was enemy Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
20m	15	20	-	30	En walked into AP

Terrain Description

Open country, high savanna, crop bamboo, good visibility.

Narrative

1. At approx 1930 hrs 3 VC approached the AP from NE. En were heard, rather than seen because of the height of the grass. They were allowed to come close in order that positive identification could be made.

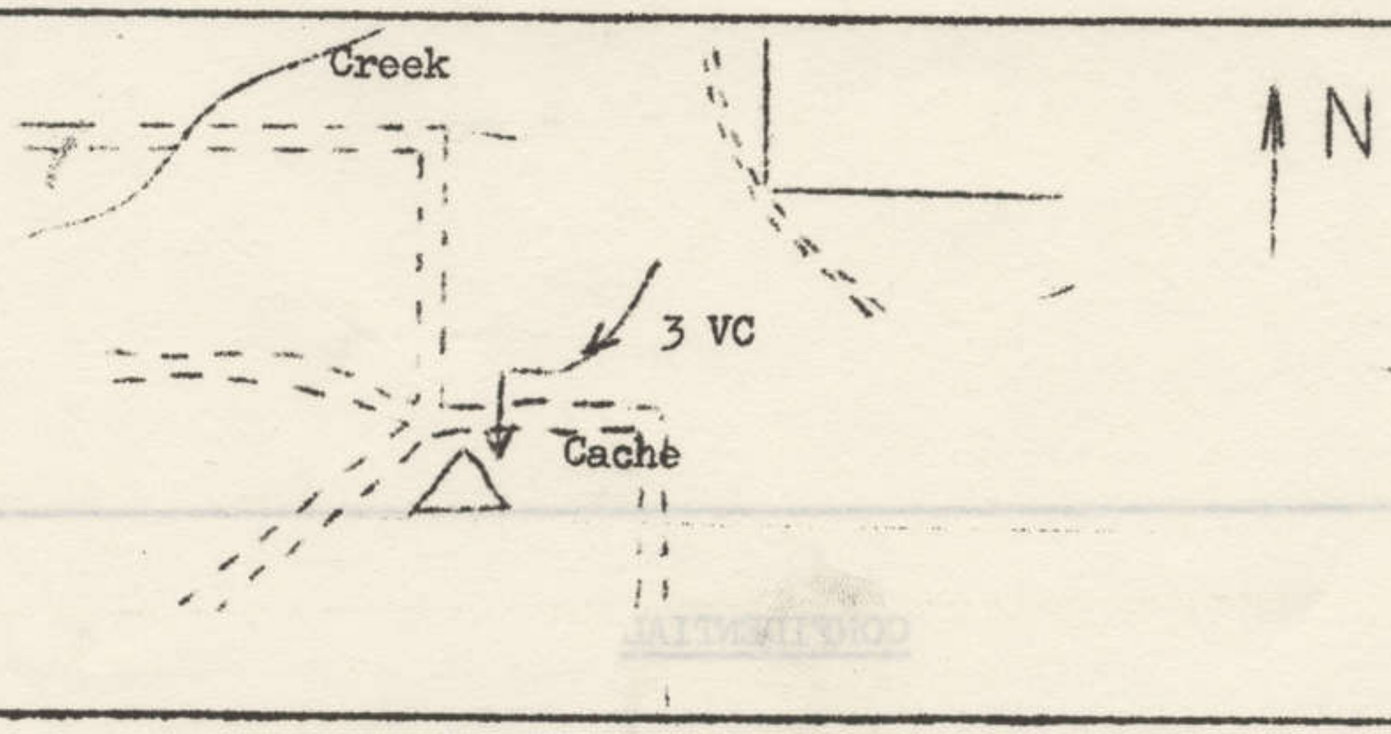
2. On identification, the M60 and pl weapons opened fire, severly wounding 2 en, who then cried out "CHIEU HOI". Fire was returned by en.

3. A sweep was made of the area and the two WIA brought into the perimeter. Movement was heard beyond the perimeter for sometime after the engagement. Dustoff was therefore advised of the tac sit, and aborted.

4. A search at first light failed to reveal further sign.

5. During thenight the 2 VC DOW. They were dressed in black, carried packs and basic webbing.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
GPMG, M16, SLR	M60 100, M16 20, SLR 20.
Supporting Fire Employed	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
105 Illum	24
Enemy Casualties	**Friendly Casualties**
2 VC WIA (DOW)	Nil

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. Local Commander.

(1) Quietness, alertness in ambush gets results.

(2) Decision to Dustoff must remain with the ground comd.

b. Platoon Comments.

Nil

c. Coy Comments.

(1) I concur with above. Whilst I would not willingly allow a wounded enemy to die through lack of medical attention, I would not jeopardise the safety of the Dustoff Aircraft and crew, or ground troops in such an uncertain situation as this.

(2) The ground comd must be given the final 'say'.

d. Unit Comments.

Nil

e. Lessons Learned.

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 6 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
22 Aug 71	1254 hrs	YS 490836	1	V

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
30	Fighting Patrol	Lt	Harris	Lt	Harris

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
Own Sentries	SLR, M60, M16	3	Not verified - AK 47

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
20m	20	20	-	4	Sentries sighted movt

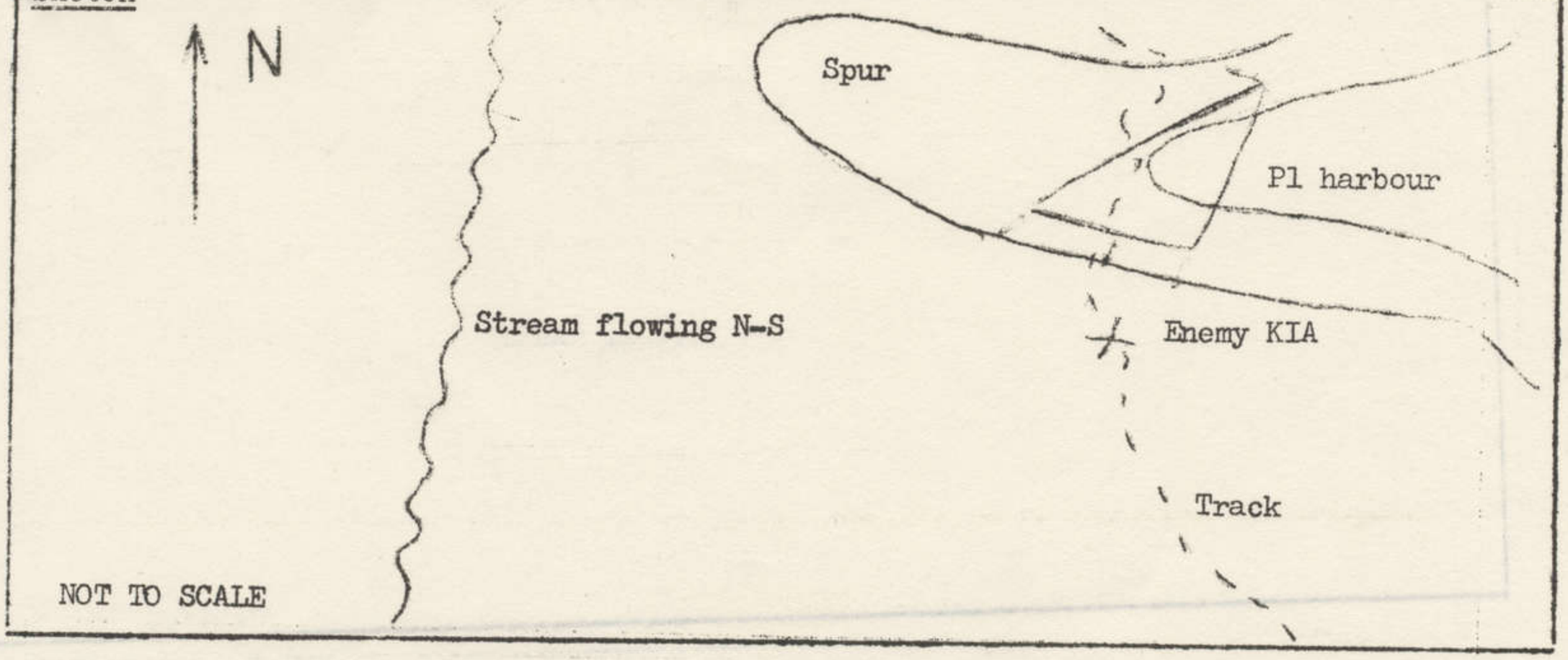
Terrain Description

Own troops were situated on a low spur rising from a re-entrant in the West to higher ground in the East. There was a shallow depression on the Southern front of the spur, with thick, tangled vegetation. Vegetation on the spur consisted of fairly clean jungle.

Narrative

At approx 1000hrs patrol found tracks made in past 24 hours by about 10 en moving S - N. Followed tracks North for 300m then deployed to investigate sound and movt immediately to Nth. Moved again after 1 hr and harboured 200m further on for lunch. Warned out by Coy HQ that 3 en possibly heading our way. Sentries saw moving 30m to their front, alerted rest of platoon. 3 en, about 3 yards apart were then seen moving North along track about 20m in front of Pl, 1 gun and 1 SLR opened fire. Other weapons along Sth flank of harbour then gave suppressive fire.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
Initial contact: SLR, M60. Suppressive Fire: SLR, M60, M16,M79	Initial Contact: 60 x 7.62 rounds. Suppressive Fire: 600 7.62 rds, 2 40mm grenades.
Supporting Fire Employed	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
Nil external	Nil
Enemy Casualties	**Friendly Casualties**
1 KIA (Body count) 1 WIA (Blood trail)	Nil

C ments and Lessons Learned

2. Local Commander

Enemy showed uncharacteristic stupidity in travelling along a track that had been used by a large number of our tps a short time previously. Apparently the e elm was familiar with the track and had not bothered to examine it carefully before using it. Quietness rather than tactical deployment was the decisive factor that made for a successful contact on our part.

• Platoon Comments

As above

3. Coy Comments

Even though the platoon was elerted by Coy HQ who had heard suspected enemy movement 500m to the SW their attention was principally directed to their North the line 1 pl had earlier suspected enemy. The vegetation, undulations in the ground and the staggered formation of the enemy no doubt lessened the enemy's casualties. Very heavy rain shortly after the contact washed away the heavy blood trail.

• Unit Comments

Nil

• Lessons Learned

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 7 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
27 Aug 71	1050	GR 485897 Courtenay Hill	Aslt Pnr Pl	Sp Coy

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
1 + 23	Ptl and Ambush	Cpl	J. Darlington	2Lt	Swarbrick

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
c/s 62	Unknown (Auto)	4	2 dressed black, 1 grey 1 shorts and shirt.

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Sighted
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
50m	75	150	-	3	Sighted squatting down in group on edge of rubber.

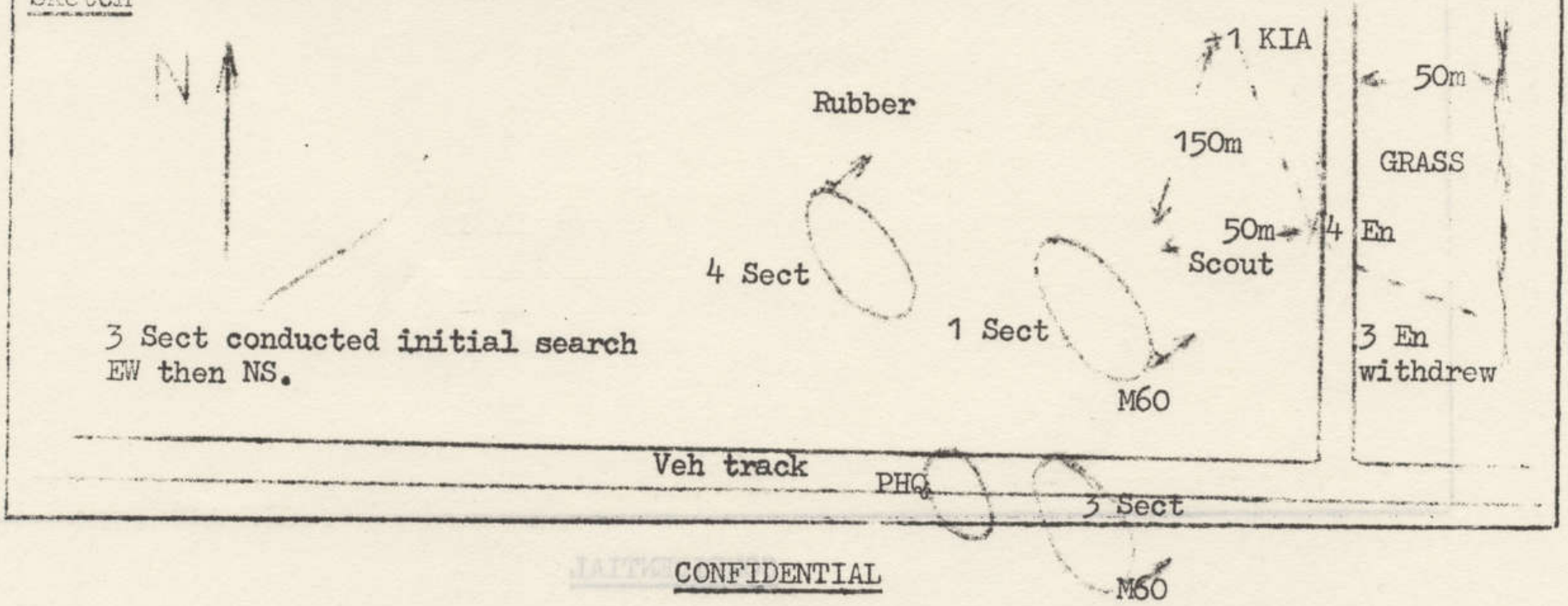
Terrain Description

Rubber plantation medium clean, bordered on savanah belt50m wide on East side. Further East bamboo, primary jungle. En contacted on first row of rubber near edge of savanah.

Narrative

C/s 62 was moving to area of contact GR to take up an AP. Pl mov was one up. Fwd scout sighted party of 4 on edge of rubber, en party recognized scout and fled 1 North and 3 East. Scout and all members of fwd sect challenged 3 times and then engaged. At that time return automatic fire was seen incoming (tracer rounds), most being high. Scout and sect comd engaged 1 mov N (later KIA) M60 and gp engaged area to East. A search was conducted revealing 1 en KIA to North of contact, nil result to East. C/s 62 received tracker team to follow up which revealed some sign, a rest spot and possible drag marks. 1 en KIA dressed in civilian clothing others as above.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
M16, SLR, M60	M60 48, M16 22, SLR 20.
Supporting Fire Employed	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
Nil	Nil
Enemy Casualties	**Friendly Casualties**
1 KIA	Nil

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. Local Commander

(1) Stay switched on regardless of type of terrain or opinion as to likliehood of contact.

(2) Difficulty of working civilian access areas with the corresponding need for Rules of Engagement.

b. Platoon Comments

(1) Need to cover as broad a front as possible when moving through rubber - 2 up in this case may have meant greater success.

(2) First contact, pl reacted quickly and aggressively once they were told to fire, at the same time adequate restraint was shown in relation to Rules of Engagement.

c. Coy Comments

Investigation shows en KIA was VCI from CAM MY Village. Considering the frequency of civilian activity in the area I believe their adherence to Rules of Engagement and their fire control was most satisfactory.

d. Unit Comments

Concur with C.

e. Lessons Learned

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 8 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
7 Sep 71	1025	YS 440835	6	B

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
6	Patrol	Lcpl	McCloskey	2Lt	McDaniel

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
6Pl	Unknown	2	Green shirt, remainder unknown

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
10m	10	-	-	1	Moving on track

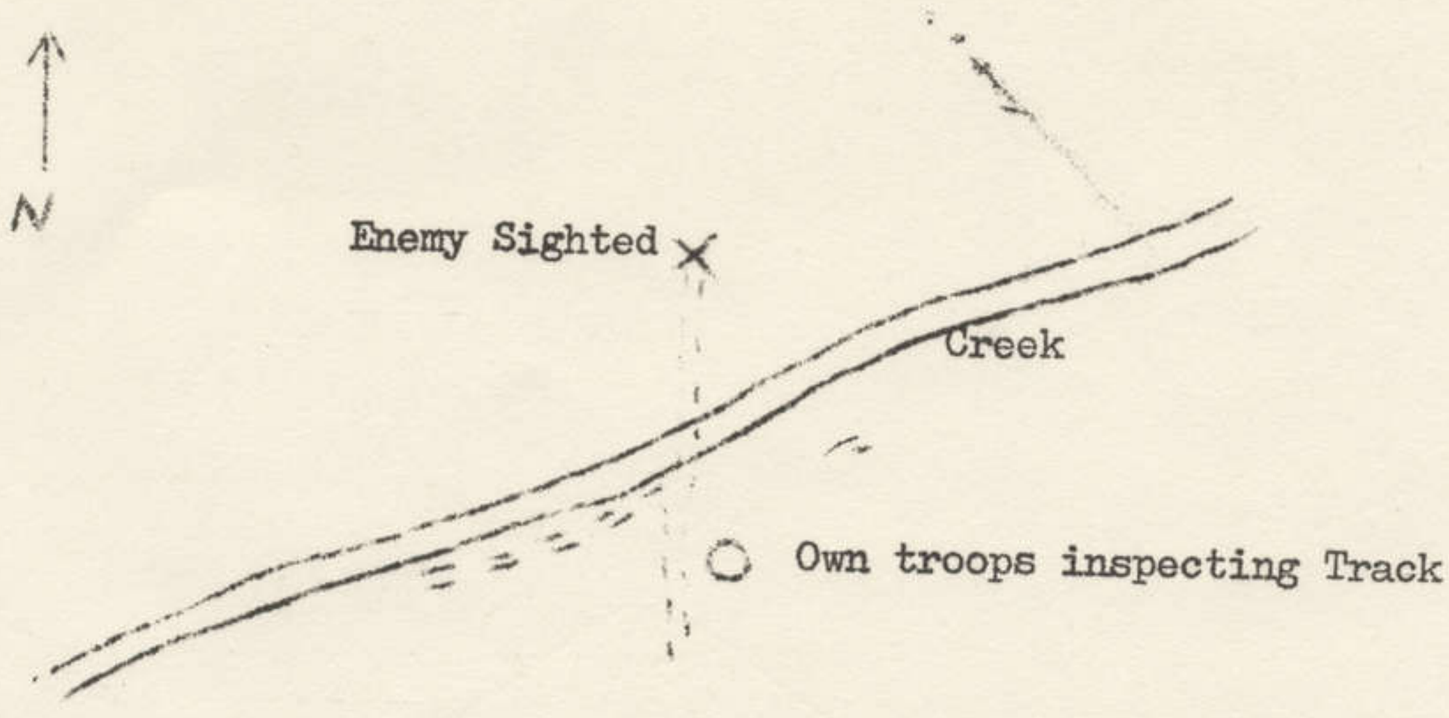
Terrain Description

Marshy re-entrant with narrow track.

Narrative

One VC sighted moving South towards pl, became alarmed when he saw pl and ran away North. One round of return fire recieved from vic of camp for two men. Exit track to North West from camp.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
M16	6
Supporting Fire Employed	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
Nil	Nil
Enemy Casualties	**Enemy Casualties**
Nil	Nil

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. **Local Commander**

Nil

b. **Platoon Comments**

Nil

c. **Coy Comments**

Nil

d. **Unit Comments**

Contact occurred in a civil access area. Consequently the platoon had an initial disadvantage.

e. **Lessons Learned**

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 9 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
6 Sep 71	2215	YS 398880	9	C

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
34	Ptl and Ambush	Lt	Grecian	Lt	Grecian

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
Own troops	Claymores, M60	2 - 3	Carrying a torch, talking

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
50m	35	50	-	10	Torch sighted, talking heard.

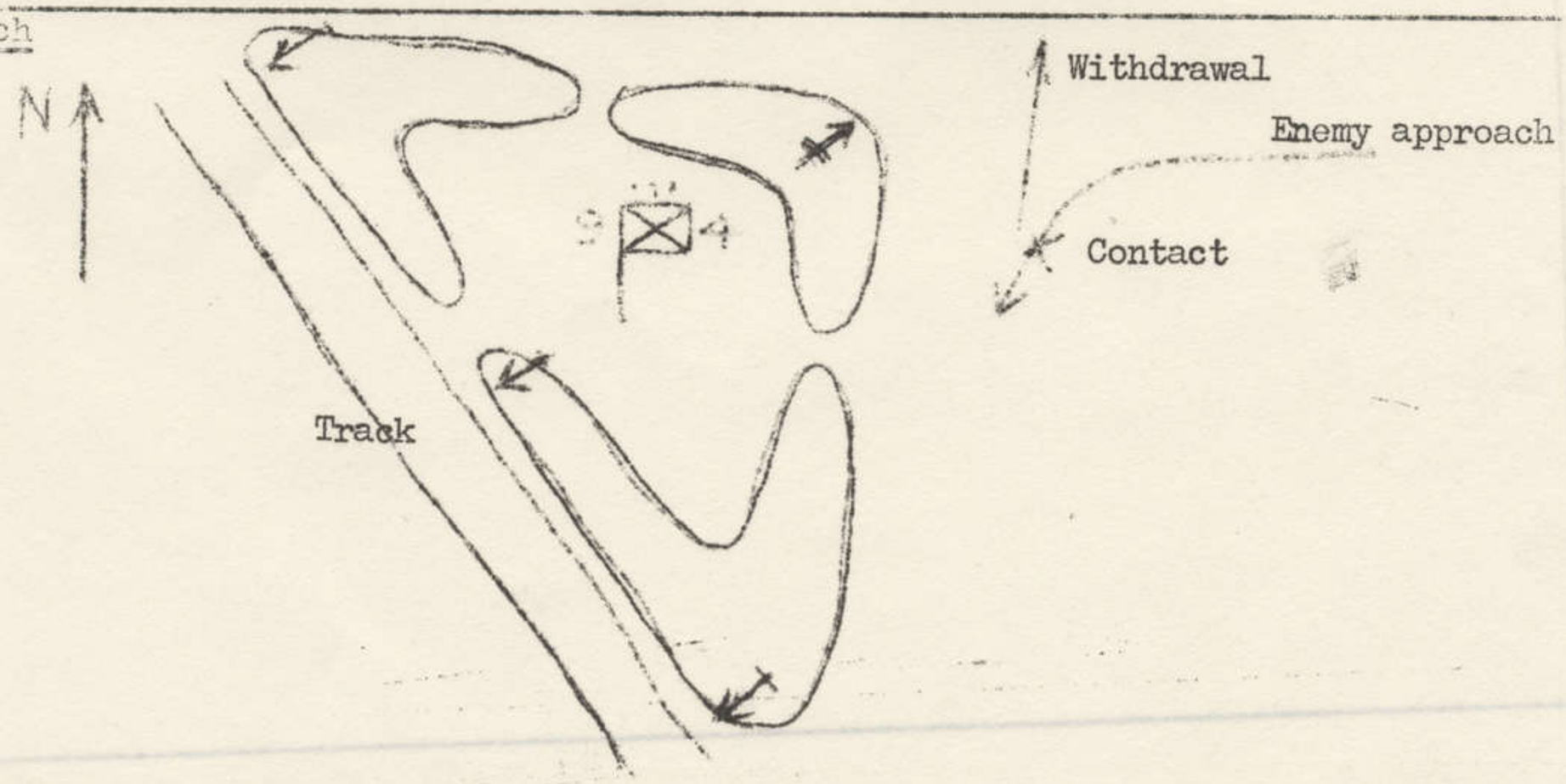
Terrain Description

Light timber with thick secondary scrub 5 feet high.

Narrative

The gun position at the rear of the ambush heard talking and saw a torch light approaching from the SE. The enemy then at range of 40m from our position, changed direction towards the West. The rear claymores were fired and the M60 fired 150 rds into the area and along the suspected withdrawal route of the enemy. Search at first light found a track 45m out leading to the North.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
3 Claymores, M60	3 Claymores, 150 M60
Supporting Fire Employed	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
Nil	Nil
Enemy Casualties	**Friendly Casualties**
Unknown	Nil

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. Local Commander

En can come from any direction in an ambush.

b. Platoon Comments

All claymores can be fired from the manned gun pits at night. This includes flank claymores.

c. Coy Comments

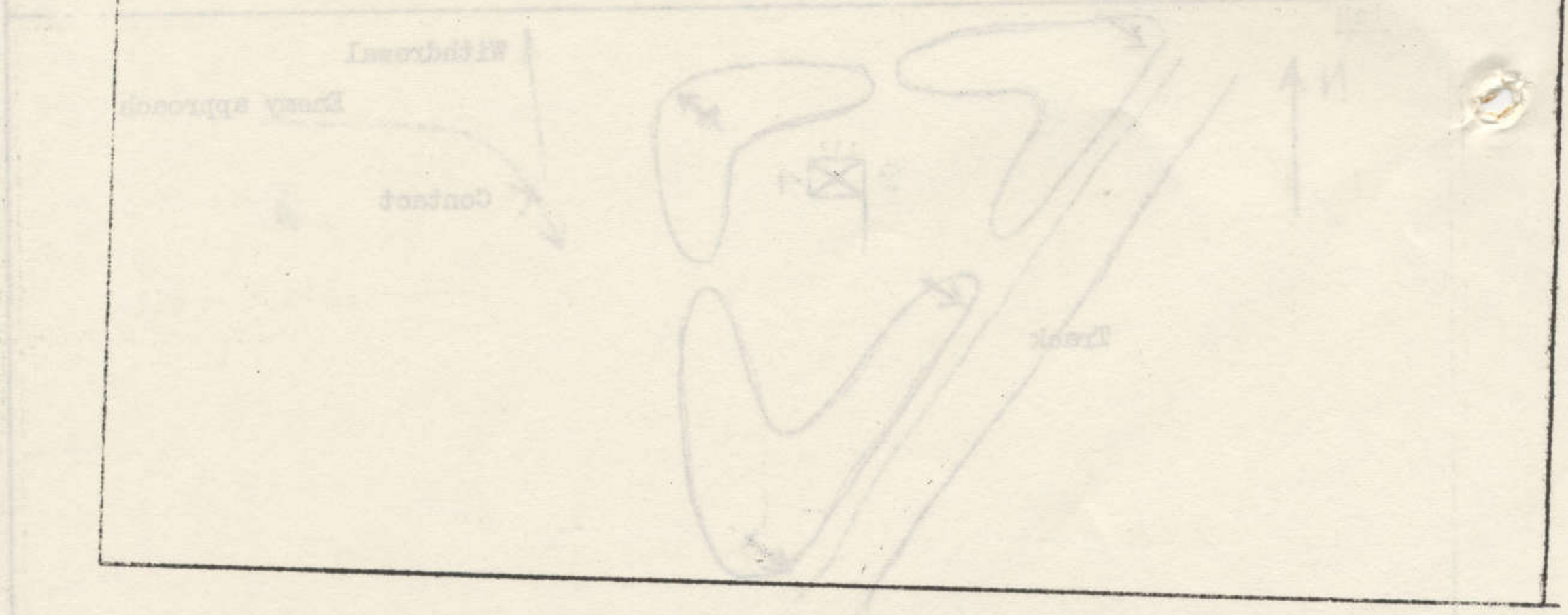
Nil

d. Unit Comments

Nil

e. Lessons Learned

Nil



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 10 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 26 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
11 Sep 71	0625	483907	Trackers	Sp

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
27	Patrol and Ambush	Lcpl	Philp	2Lt	Murphy

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
Lcpl Philp	Claymores/SA	4	LF AK47, 2 x K54

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
15m	10	10	-	3	Walked into ambush

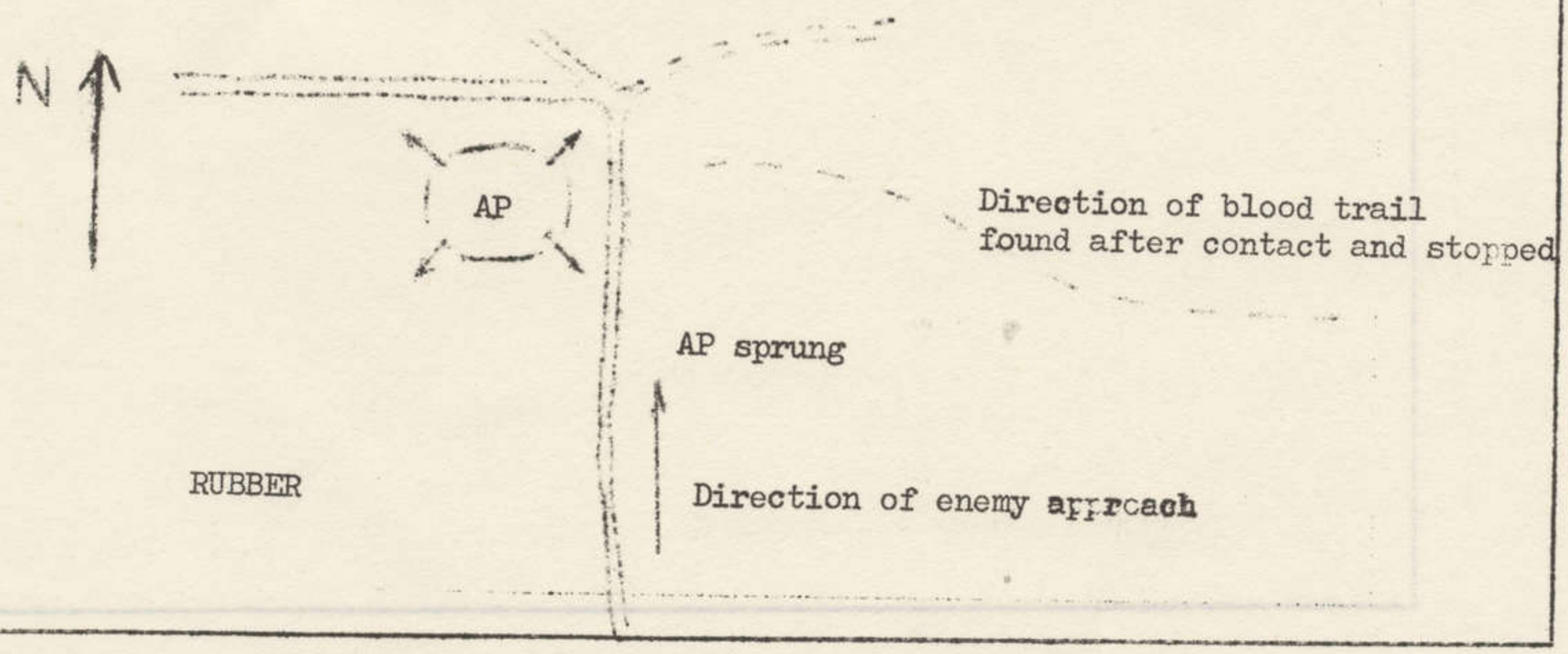
Terrain Description

Ambush set on edge of rubber. Tall grass and low scrub opposite rubber. En came along track between rubber and grass.

Narrative

4 pers were seen to enter the killing ground of Pl AP. Because of low scrub in rubber it sould not be seen if they were carrying weapons. They stopped and appeared to be looking towards a bank of claymores. Lcpl Philp challenged with 'Stop' - they immediately bolted and the area was swept with claymores and SA fire. 2 bodies were on the track in front of the claymores and a third about 10m into the scrub on the other side of the track and the 4th escaped leaving a heavy bloodtrail.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
Claymores/M60s SLRs M16s	350 - 400 rds
Supporting Fire Employed	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
Nil	Nil
Enemy Casualties	**Friendly Casualties**
3 KIA 1 WIA (BT)	Nil

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. **Local Commander**

Perhaps allowance for more flank (forward) coverage by claymores. Faster follow up of any escaping wounded. Follow up was effected approx 30 mins after initial contact.

b. **Platoon Comments**

Nil

c. **Coy Comments**

Nil

d. **Unit Comments**

Follow up should have been quicker, Tracker Pl now nominate reaction team.

e. **Lessons Learned**

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 11 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
12 Sep 71	1134	YS 401898	9	C

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
34	Patrol and Ambush	Lt	Grecian	Lt	Grecian

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
Own troops	SLR	1	Dressed in black and carrying an AK47

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was the En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
40m	25	40	-	5	Approached through the scrub towards the sentry

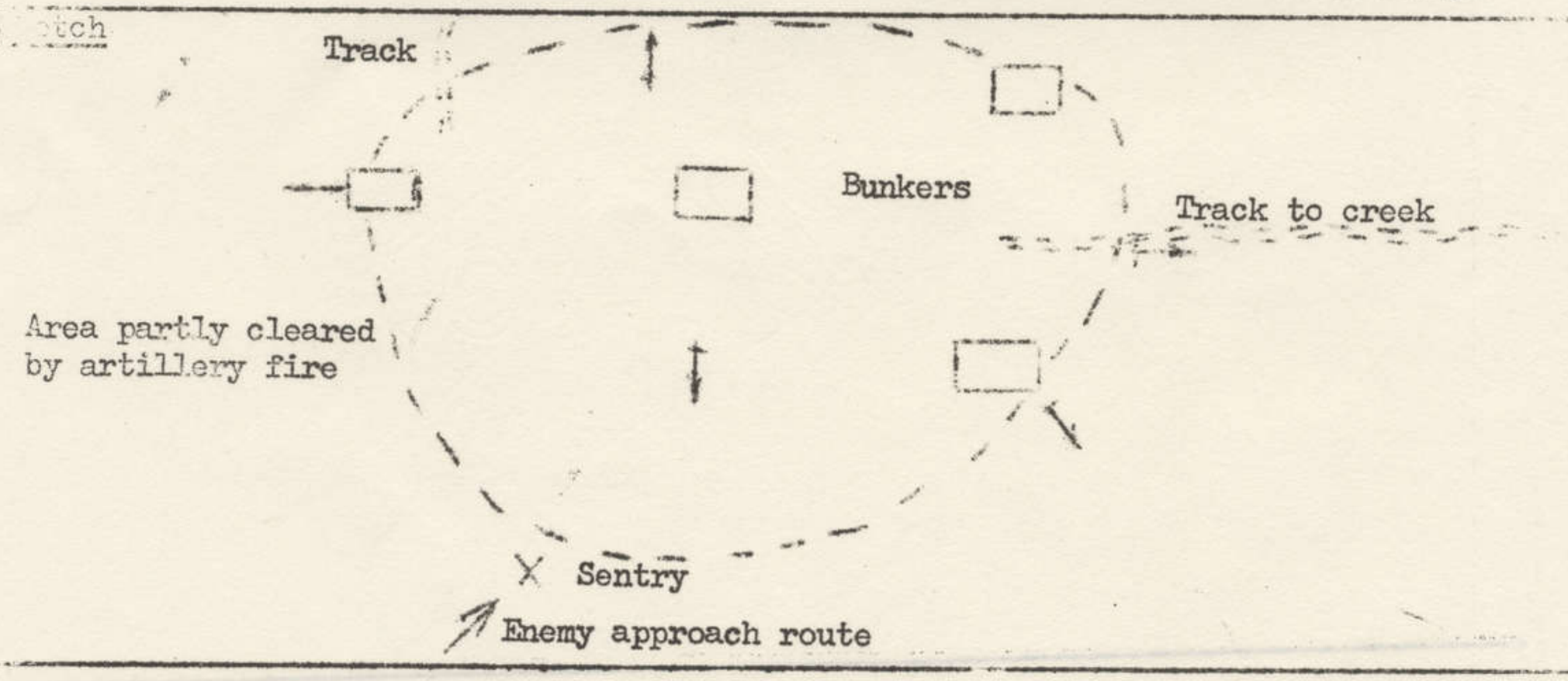
Terrain Description

The area was heavy secondary scrub that had been torn up by heavy artillery fire. There was a profusion of fallen timber in the area.

Narrative

The platoon had harboured in an enemy bunker system that had been heavily shelled. The sentry was sited behind deadfall. He saw the en through the deadfall and had to raise himself from the squatting position to fire his SLR. He was sighted by the en as he moved and the en took cover. The sentry fired into the area where the en took cover, and then withdrew to the platoon perimeter. A search of the area found nothing.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
SLR	5
Supporting Fire Employed	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
Nil	Nil
Enemy Casualties	Friendly Casualties
Nil	Nil

ts and Lessons Learned

Local Commander

Sentry should be sited so he can fire his weapon without having to move.

Platoon Comments

As above

Coy Comments

The size and profusion of fallen timber made it very difficult to site the sentry where he had cover from view and also good fire position.

Unit Comments

Nil

Lessons Learned

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

CONFIDENTIAL

APPENDIX 12 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
14 Sep 71	1132	512871	11	D

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
	Search and Destroy	Cpl	M. Kennedy	2Lt	G Mackay

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
friendlies	2 GPMG M60	estd squad	33 NVA Regt

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
40m	40	70	-	30	Movement

Terrain Description

Thick underbrush, tangled vine, good visibility, but poor movement.

Narrative

1. At 141130hrs, 4 sect of 11 pl sighted one enemy, who appeared to be resting. The sect was recce-ing to the East and were moving slowly and quietly, and had just emerged from a creek bed.

2. The section commander (Cpl Kennedy) believed that the enemy soldier may have heard or seen their movement, because he moved quickly from his resting place to another man five or ten metres from him, and together they moved away NE.

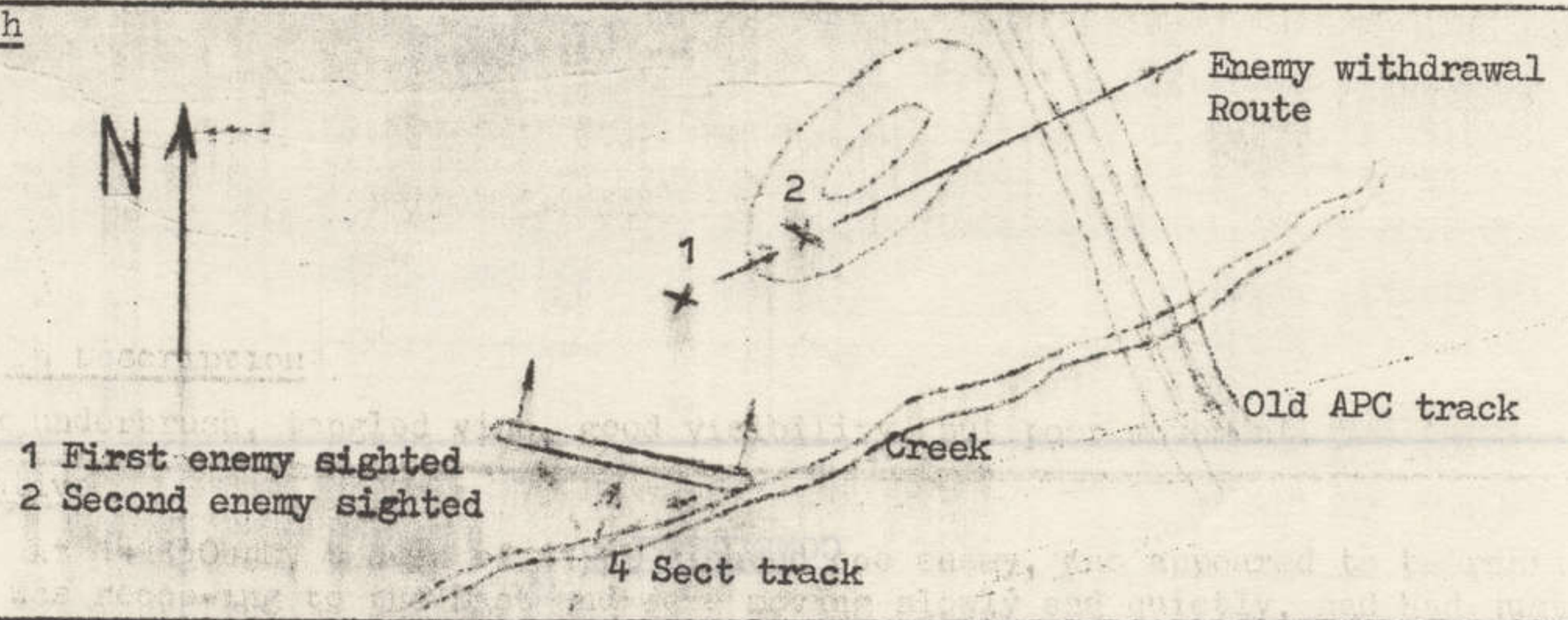
3. Concurrently, Cpl Kennedy brought up his section into extended line and fired into the area into which enemy were believed to have moved.

4. The section then swept and searched the area but nothing was found.

5. The enemy wore black clothing and carried packs. It is believed that they were the leading element of a squad sized group, who retired quickly the way they had come. A track was found, but later lost in heavy undergrowth.

6. Artillery was fired along likely withdrawal routes.

Sketch



CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used	No of Rounds Fired (Approx)
M60, M16, SLR.	M60 100, M16 100, SLR 50.
Supporting Fire Employed	**No of Rounds Fired (Approx)**
Arty onto withdrawal routes	50
Enemy Casualties	**Friendly Casualties**
Nil	Nil

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. **Local Commander**

(1) Need for speedy reaction to en sighting.

(2) Need for automatic weapons well forward.

b. **Platoon Comments**

As above

c. **Coy Comments**

(1) As above.

(2) Request for arty was slow, and could perhaps have turned the enemy back towards the contact area had it been used more swiftly.

d. **Unit Comments**

A more aggressive approach would possibly have resulted in a possitive result. Artillery request was not so much slow, but oversafe with small corrections. Consequently it was not as effective as it could have been.

e. **Lessons Learned**

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

APPENDIX 13 TO
ANNEX C TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF CONTACT

Date	Time	Location	Pl	Coy
15 Sep 71	1140hrs	515867	11	D

Strength	Task	Commander of Troops in Contact		Platoon Commander	
		Rank	Name	Rank	Name
	Search and Destroy	Cpl	M. Kennedy	2Lt	G. Mackay

Initiated By	Wpns	En Strength	En Identification and Weapons
Friendlies	M60	2	33 NVA Regt

Distance En Sighted	Range of Engagement		Length of Engagement		How was En Noticed
	Min	Max	Hrs	Mins	
20m	20	50	-	30	Movement

Terrain Description

Moderate undergrowth, good visibility, fairly rapid movement.

Narrative

1. 11Pl were moving from N to S down an old track, when the gunner of 4 sect saw one enemy approaching from E - W. He was "scrub bashing".

2. 4 Sect immediately opened fire and went to ground, and continued to fire into the contact area.

3. 6 Sect then swung off the track, formed extended line, and assaulted the contact area, using 4 Sections fire as cover.

4. During the assualt the enemy soldier (who had been wounded by the initiating fire) attempted to fire on the advancing 6 Sect. He was immediately killed.

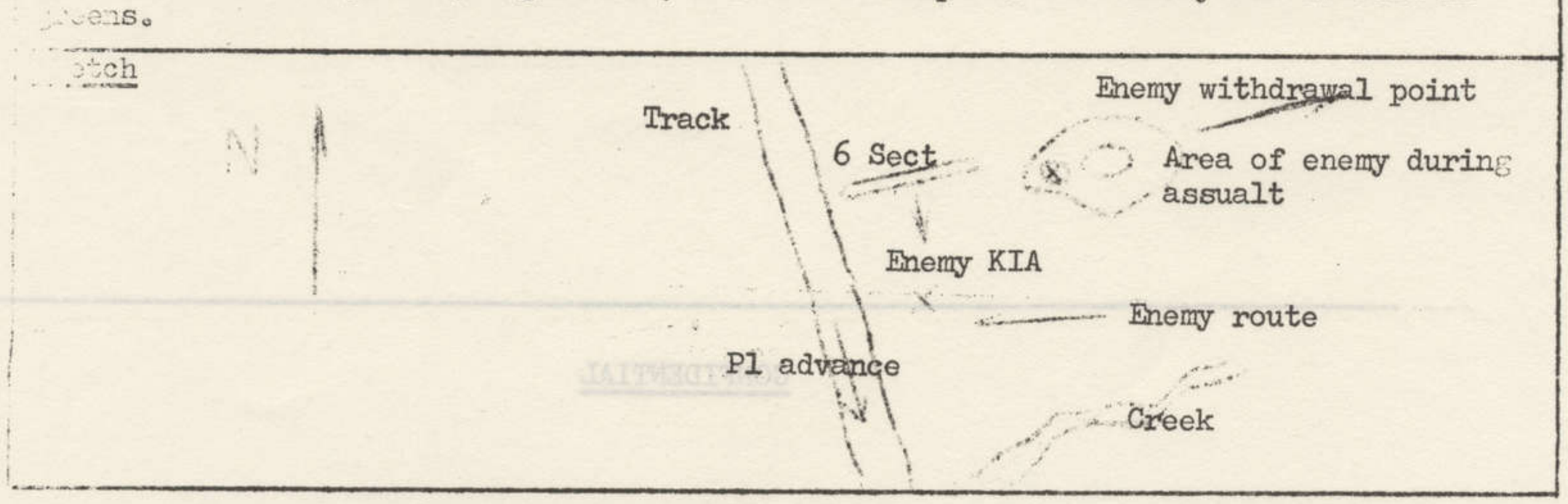
5. Fire appeared to come from high ground to the East during the assault. It was sporadic and quickly discontinued.

6. A search of the area failed to pick up any further sign of the enemy force.

7. The body was stripped and thoroughly searched, as was the clothing and equipment, with no result.

8. 1 AK47 was captured, 1 gas mask, 1 American compass. The enemy was dressed in greens.

Sketch



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

Own Type of Weapons Used M60, M16, SLR	No of Rounds Fired (Approx) M60 100, M16 100, SLR 100.
Supporting Fire Employed Arty on withdrawal routes	No of Rounds Fired (Approx) 100
Enemy Casualties 1 KIA (BC)	Friendly Casualties Nil

Comments and Lessons Learned

a. Local Commander

No Comment

b. Platoon Comments

(1) A requirement to guard flanks during an assualt. Reserve section would well have protected the assaulting section by fire.

c. Coy Comments

(1) As above.

(2) Arty was used extensively as cut off to E and SE. It had no apparent effect, but the impact area was not searched.

d. Unit Comments

Almost certainly a recce element of 33 NVA Regt.

e. Lessons Learned

Nil

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

ANNEX D TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD
DATED 20 OCT 71

SUMMARY OF INSTALLATIONS AND CACHES
OPERATION NORTH WARD

Serial (a)	Date/Time (b)	Location (c)	Unit/Sub Unit (d)	Activity (e)
1	060905 Aug	YS 434685	8/D Coy	9/D Coy loc a camp 50m square contain g 3 sleeping spaces 1 fire place. Entry/ exit points to the N, NE, S.
2	111111 Aug	YS 475860	3/V Coy	3/V Coy found a VC staging camp 50m x 25m consisting of 3 bunkers & 20 hootchie positions. The bunkers had 18" OHP. Enrty/ exit routes ran N, E, S & W. The age of the system is destroyed as some months old & was vacated 2 hrs prior to finding. Recovered were clothing, food, wpns, ammo & docus (incl map). Eqpt was backloaded & all sites were destroyed.
3	120730 Aug	YS 420876	11/D Coy	11/D Coy located a tunnel entrance 2' x 3' with a depth of 3'. The tunnel went along for 5' & ran N - S. The tunnel had not been used for 6 months & had the appearance of an incomplete project.
4	151420 Aug	YS 504877	1/V Coy	1/V Coy loc a 70 x 50m rectangular bunker system. System contained 1 hut 10 x 10m, 2 large bunkers 12 x 14m, six tables and 23 sleeping positions (mostly half finished. System last used two days ago and in good condition. Loc in the system were a qty of med supplies, maps and documents. System later destroyed, documents ident C5 Purchasing and Requisitioning Coy of J85 Tpt Bn, MR 7.
5	161214 Aug	YS 433847	11/D Coy	11/D Coy loc a linear camp, parallel to a creek. Camp consisted of six hootchie spaces with entry/exit points to the N and SW. Camp area last used approx one week ago.
6	181245 Aug	YS 475870	3/V Coy	3/V Coy loc and later destroyed a base camp consisting of 15 sleeping spaces built above a swamp. It was estimated to be six months old with parts 2 - 3 weeks old and last used today. Entry and exit points were to the NE, MW and W. A quantity of cooking utensils found and destroyed.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1030248

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
7	181250 Aug	YS 435807	6/B Coy	6/B Coy loc 15 bunkers 8 x 3 x 3 ft with 1½ ft OHP. Estimated to be 6 - 12 months old and in poor condition. Entry/exit point to NW. The area had been used in the last month as a camp site. A qty of old clothes were found and destroyed.
8	181330 Aug	YS 475869	3/V Coy	3/V Coy loc a small camp of three bivvies The camp had been hastily vacated.
9	181330 Aug	YS 436808	6/B Coy	Located two large bunkers 30 x 20 ft in very poor condition with 18" OHP. Exit/entry routes W, N and NE. Built and last used 6 - 12 months previously.
10	291500 Aug	YS 357651	9/C Coy	9/C Coy loc an 'X' shaped bunker system 80m square. It contained 8 bunkers with OHP, 2 wells and a drainage system. The two crossed lines of bunkers sere aligned E to W and N to S. The system is 8 - 10 months old and last used 8 months ago. The system was poor and destroyed.
11	021550 Sep	YS 331654	8/C Coy	8/C Coy loc a 10ft square cave and a 6 ft square cave but all signs were about 6 months old.
12	030830 Sep	YS 360781	11/D Coy	11/D Coy found an overnight camp consisting of four hammock spaces and a fire place. The camp had been used during the last 3 - 4 days.
13	071130 Sep	YS 439836	6/B Coy	6/B Coy found a 20m x 10m camp with a sentry and fighting pit. The camp was without OHP and entry/exit route ran S & NW. The camp is estimated to be 1 to 2 months old and was occupied upon discovery. Recovered from the camp were 1 x webb belt, 1 x Compass, 3 boots, qty of personal eqpt. The cmap was destroyed by burning.
14	081230 Sep	YS 433847	5/B Coy	5/B Coy loc a staging camp, 15 x 30m triangular shape consisting of five sleeping spaces and one senrty pit, all in poor condition with no OHP. Camp last used 3 - 6 months ago. Track ran E and W from the camp.
15	081445 Sep	YS 538888	11/D Coy	11/D Coy found an old camp in which there was one loaded auto shotgun (in very poor condition) set up to fire with a trip mechanism attached to the trigger. When released the round did not fire.

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(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
16	101015 Sep	YS 555881	10/D Coy	Found a staging camp for 30 pers which had been used approx 2 weeks previously. A track ran NE from the area.
17	111530 Sep	YS 401899	9/C Coy	Found a 80m x 50m bunker system of Y shape which consisted of 4 bunkers each 10' x 6' x 6' with 30" OHP. An entry point ran East & exit ran NE. The age of the system is three weeks & was last used 12 hrs prior to finding. The system was in a new condition. Recovered from the system were a qty of plastic, some greens, 3 medical phails and a syringe, pots & pans & a qty of docs. The docs were extracted, eqpt and bunkers destroyed.
18	151130 Sep	YS 406911	7/C Coy	Found a bunker system measuring 50m x 80m in an 'A' formation. The system consisted of 6 bunkers 5 x 5m & 2 bunkers 6 x 10m, with 2 fighting pits per bunker. Entry/ exit points were found on the W,S & N and a track led E from the system. Found in the area were a fire place (still warm) and a lecture area with diagrams of tanks, and methods of destruction. The system was estimated to be 1 to 3 months old and to have been used in the last 24 hours. System destroyed on 19 Sep 71.
19	151420 Sep	YS 410901	9/C Coy	Found a bunker system 120m x 100m of an 'X' shape consisting of 7 bunkers each 12' x 6' x 5' with 30" OHP. Entry/exit tracks ran East, West and North-west. The system is estimated to be 8 - 12 months old and hasn't been used since then. The condition of the system is good and was not destroyed until 16 Sep 71.
20	170900 Sep	YS 413900	9/C Coy	Located 5 bunkers, 10' x 6' x 4'. They were in good condition and had fresh camoflage. There were dry ashes in the fire place and footprints around the bunkers, found were six pieces of paper with writing (NFI), 2 containers of tools, 1 plastic map container (empty), and one (Aust) entrenching tool. The bunkers were destroyed on 19 Sep 71.

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ANNEX E TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) BN
AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WAR
DATED 20 OCT 71

ARTILLERY AFTER ACTION REPORT
DIRECT SUPPORT BATTERY COMMANDER'S REPORT

1. The ammunition expended by 104 Fd Bty in support of 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn during the reporting period was as follows:

a.	Contact missions	2226 HE	30 WP	80 Illum
b.	Fire Plans	549 HE	27 WP	
c.	A and I Targets	608 HE	6 WP	
	Total	3383 HE	63 WP	80 Illum
	Total - (all natures)	3526		

SAFETY OF OWN TROOPS
INDIRECT FIRE SUPPORT

General

2. On the 10 Jun, during Op Overlord, 4 RAR/NZ adopted as a trial the following criteria for safety of own troops.

Policy

3. An unadjusted DF may be planned no closer than 500m when either:

a. A mark mission has been fired to ascertian a locstat.

b. The Coy Comd concerned personally clears each target planned between 1000 - 500m.

c. The location of own troops has been verified by DS Possum.

4. The opening round of an opportunity target may be directed to impact at a distance no less than 500m for 105mm and 81mm and 750m for 155mm, to own troops when either:

a. Each target is cleared personally by the Coy Comd.

b. By direction of the CO.

5. In contact, the opening round may be directed to impact at any distance from own troops as approved by the Coy Comd, who is required to consider all the pertinent factors.

/5

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6. If necessary clearances cannot be obtained, tgts may be planned at no less distance from own troops as follows:

a. 1000m for 105mm and 81mm.

b. 1500m for 155mm.

Results

To date results have been quite satisfactory and have allowed effective fire to be brought onto the enemy with the minimum of delay. The trial is to continue.

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comds diary

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AUSTRALIAN ARMY

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4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) Bn
NUI DAT

R569-1-84

31 Oct 71

See Distribution List

AMENDMENT 1 TO
4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) AFTER ACTION REPORT
OPERATION NORTH WARD 5 AUG - 18 SEP 71

Reference: A. 4 RAR/NZ(ANZAC) R569-1-84 dated 20 Oct 71.

1. The following amendment is advised:

a. Delete. Summary of Major Casualties - Enemy. Sub para 16. a.

b. Insert. New sub para 16. a.

16. a. Enemy

(1)	KIA (BC)	10
(2)	KIA (Credited)	1 (V Coy contact 25 Jun)
(3)	Wia (BT)	1
Total Eliminations		11

(J.C. HUGHES)
Lt Col
CO

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OPERATION IVANHOE

3 BDE(US) BDAY INCL 3 BDE

FSB DEBBIE

FSB MAREE

SECTOR 4RAR

SECTOR 3RAR

3RAR

4RAR/NZ

WINCH POINT

Sp — D3

D3

D4

Sp

V

B 19-20 Sep
V 20-22 Sep
C 23-28 Sep

V Coy
D Coy(3)
D Coy
B Coy
C Coy
Contact Area

TỈNH LONG KHÁNH
TỈNH PHƯỚC TUY
QUẬN XUÂN LỘC
QUẬN ĐỨC THANH

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OPERATION NORTH WARD

B 4 10 Sep to 18 Sep

C 4 18 Sep

4 RAR/NZ

FSB DEBBIE

D 4 Aug 6 to Aug 23

C 4 5 Sep

4 28 Aug to 4 Sep

D 4 8 Sep to 18 Sep

V 4 Sep 4 to Sep 9

Y 4 Aug 7 to Aug 28

C 4 Aug 10 to Aug 15

D 4 Sep 8

B 4 Aug 16 to Sep 10

FSB ROBIN

D 4 Aug 28

C 4 Aug 16 to Aug 20

B 4 RRF Aug 2 to Aug 5

C 4 RRF Aug 10 to Aug 15

V 4 RRF Sep 15 to Sep 21

C 4 Aug 26 to Sep 4

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