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TAB F: CHRONOLOGICAL SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

8 March

- 1300 - B/2/5 Cav - Reconned positions planned for night ambush and fired defensive targets to include some targets for deception only.
- 1500 H B/2/5 Cav - Received last Log (Aerial Resupply) at XT343145.
- 1900 H B/2/5 Cav - Moved from Log site northeast to night defensive position (NDP) XT349154 and dug in.
- 2200 H 1st Plat - Moved from NDP due west-northwest to XT343156 where the unit set up its night ambush in previously used plat FOB.
- 2200 H 2d Plat - Moved from NDP due south and then west to XT345147 where the unit set up its night ambush due east of an irrigation ditch.

9 March

- 0037 H 2 Plat - Sighted with starlight scope six enemy soldiers approaching its location from the west at a range of approximately 300 meters. Plat leader called company commander and requested artillery. Artillery began firing at 0400 H.
- 0040 H A/1/77 Artillery - Fired one round smoke and 24 rounds HE in response to 0037 H fire request from B/2/5 Cav.
- 0045 H 2d Plat - Engaged with organic weapons the six enemy soldiers who had approached to within approximately 25 meters of the platoon's location. Enemy returned fire and evaded to the south. The plat leader reported no friendly casualties and unknown enemy assessment. The Company Commander decided to leave the 2d plat at that location in order to conduct a first light check.
- 0230 - 1st Plat - Sighted five enemy soldiers approximately 600 meters to the southwest moving out of tree line. The plat leader observed through a starlight scope and noted that there were at least 200 enemy soldiers behind the original five soldiers. The plat leader called the company commander, reported at least 200 enemy in column moving due east, and requested artillery and ARA.
- 0300 - A/1/77 Artillery - Fired one round smoke and 49 rounds HE in support of the 1st Plat.
- 0300 H 1st Bde - ~~ARA~~ initially refused because the unit was not in contact.
- 0316 H 1st Plat - In contact with a large enemy force estimated to be at least 3 companies. ARA requested and approved (on station at 0325 H). The plat engaged two enemy who broke and ran from the artillery straight toward the plat location. One was KIA, the other WIA and later captured. The plat lost communications at this time due to both radios being damaged by the initial mortar and rocket fire.

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TAB F (CONT)

- 0316 H Almost immediately after the 1st Plat engaged the two enemy, both the 1st and 2d Plat came under heavy mortar and B-40 rocket fire. The NDP force attempted to support with small arms and 81mm mortar fire but they too came under heavy mortar, B-40 rocket, and sniper fire. The 2d Plat suffered more of its casualties in the initial mortar fire as they moved from the ambush location to the irrigation ditch for protection. The 2d Plat also became engaged with at least a company sized force from both east and west of the irrigation ditch
- 0325 H Spooky and ARA (requested at 0316 H) on station. Both experienced problems initially in attacking enemy targets as the heavily engaged friendly forces had difficulty in marking their positions. Tube artillery had to be shut off when aircraft arrived on station.
- 0330 H The battalion commander and S3 went airborne in the Command/Control helicopter.
- 0330 - Spooky had difficulty in engaging targets due to its inability to distinguish friendly from enemy positions. Therefore, Spooky was shifted to engage anti-aircraft targets on the periphery which were endangering ARA. The battalion commander decided to utilize ARA and Spooky in place of tube artillery because of their more rapid responsiveness and because of the close proximity of opposing forces to the friendly positions. The battalion commander also considered use of TAC AIR but decided against its use because the units in contact were having considerable difficulty in marking their locations. B/1/30 Artillery (155) fired 33 rounds HE and four rounds WP between 0550 H and 0700 H in response to request for blocking fires west of the point of contact.
- 0330 - 2d Plat - Attempted to mark its location initially with trip flares, 0400 H and heat tabs, and finally by soaking their shirts with insect repellent and igniting them. They were thrown outside the ditch. The final method was most successful. They also fired tracers to the west for marking.
- 0330 - 1st Plat - Was so heavily engaged that it could not reach its trip flares. 0500 H Heat tabs were also used unsuccessfully. Puddles of insect repellent were ignited but drew too much accurate enemy fire. The only strobe light available was at the Company NLP.
- 0400 H The battalion commander made the decision to reinforce the engaged units and ordered C/2/5 Cav to move from its location (XT270171), link up with the 1st Plat of B Co, and block to the north. He also requested airlift to move the 1st Plat, A/2/5 Cav from LZ Terri to reinforce the 2d Plat of B Co and to lift A/1/8 Cav at XT355125 into a position from which it could block to the south. The S3 requested TAC AIR and 1/9 Cav scouts for first light check.
- 0430 H C Co (- one plat) - Moved overland to link up with the 1st Plat of B Co. The company experienced some difficulty in navigation but accomplished the assigned mission prior to dawn.

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- 0507 H 1st Plat, A/2/5 Cav - Conducted a night air assault into XT360152 and linked up with the 2d Plat of B Co at 0515 H.
- 0545 - Contact was broken, with the enemy observed carrying numerous casualties
- 0600 H back toward Cambodia.
- 0550 - B/1/30 Artillery - Fired four rounds WP and thirty three rounds HE to
- 0700 H block enemy withdrawal to west.
- 0040 - A/1/77 Artillery - On LZ Terri fired a total of two rounds smoke and
- 0830 H 143 rounds HE in support as requested at 0037 H, and 0700 H.
- 0325 - Nine sections of ARA (A/2/20 Artillery at Tay Ninh) expended in close
- 0700 H support of engaged units as requested at 0316.
- 0622 H Medevac was requested for the 1st Plat. At 0625 H Medevac ships picked up all 1st Plat casualties and flew them to the 12th Evac Hospital at Cu Chi.
- 0658 H All 2d Plat casualties were extracted by the six lift ships and taken to the 12th Evac Hospital in Cu Chi.
- 0757 - TAC A/R - Five sorties of two F-100 jet fighters supported as requested
- 0900 H for first light attack at 0400; they engaged suspected targets between the point of contact and the Cambodian border. Many secondary explosions were observed.
- 0800 H I/9 Cav - Apache Scouts (light fire team) arrived on station to conduct a first light check. Apache experienced some delay due to mechanical difficulty and a mix up in radio frequencies.
- 0820 H A/1/8 Cav - Air assaulted into XT334149 and swept the battlefield to the southwest. C/2/5 Cav swept the battlefield to the northwest. The 1st Plat of A/2/5 Cav swept the battlefield in the immediate vicinity of the contact area. Upon completion of the search, C/2/5 Cav and A/1/8 Cav were relocated to continue their missions. B Co and the plat from A Co were returned to LZ Terri.

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1. TAC AIR - 10 F-100 Jet Fighters:
(from 0757 to 0900, 5 sorties of 2 each)

500 lb bombs: 12
750 lb bombs: 20
Napalm: 8
20mm cannon: Expended on each sortie

2. B Battery, 1/30 Artillery (155) at LZ Tracy:

HE: 33
WP: 4

3. A Battery, 1/77 Artillery (105) at LZ Terri:
(from 0040 to 0830)

HE: 143
WP: 0
Smoke: 2

4. A Battery, 2/20 Artillery (ARA):
(9 sections, 18 birds from 0325 to 0700)

10 lb rockets: 371
18 lb, VT rockets: 27
40mm HE Grenades: 75
Beehive (flechette) rockets: 76

5. B Company, 2/5 Cavalry:
(Organic Weapons)

81mm mortar
HE: 24
WP: 20
Illum: 20
M60 Machine Gun: 4,900
M79 Grenades: 420
Hand Grenades: 115
Claymore mines: 10
LAW's: 2
M-16: 16,400

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