

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 1ST BATTALION 12TH INFANTRY
4th Infantry Division
APO San Francisco 96262

AVDDB-12I

2 August 1970

SUBJECT: OPERATIONS REPORT - Lessons Learned, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry,
for the Period Ending 30 July 1970. (ICS CS FOR - 65R2) (U)

TO: Commanding Officer
2d Brigade, 4th Infantry Division
APO San Francisco 96262

1. (G) Significant Organization or Unit Activities.

a. During the reporting period, the "Red Warriors" were primarily engaged in search and destroy operations and road security.

b. Task Organization as of 1 May 1970: Companies A, B, C, D, E, 1/12 Infantry with B Battery, 4th Battalion, 42d Artillery, (DS), and the 2d Platoon, Co G, 4th Engineer Battalion attached.

c. Chronological Task Organization Changes.

3 May	Add	G-1/12
10 May	Delete	A-1/12
11 May	Add	A-1/12
11 May	Add	1/12-1st Bde control
11 May	Delete	G-1/12
12 May	Add	G-1/12
14 May	Delete	A-1/12
15 May	Add	A-1/12
15 May	Add	1/12-2d Bde
22 May	Delete	D-1/12
23 May	Add	D-1/12

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8 Jun	Delete	D-1/12
11 Jun	Add	D-1/12
15 Jun	Delete	A-1/12
17 Jun	Add	A-1/12
19 Jun	Add	C-1/22, B-2/35
21 Jun	Delete	C-1/22, B-2/35, D-1/12
1 Jul	Delete	D-1/12
4 Jul	Add	3D-1/12
4 Jul	Delete	10-1/12
5 Jul	Delete	C(-)-1/12
5 Jul	Add	D(-)-1/12
15 Jul	Add	A-1/22, until 19 Jul
25 Jul	Delete	A-1/22
25 Jul	Add	D-1/22
30 Jul	Delete	D-1/22
30 Jul	Add	-1/14

c. Commanders and Principal Staff.

(1) Bn CO	1 May 70 to 17 Jul 70	LTC Norris P Sterling
	17 Jul 70 to 30 Jul 70	MAJ Donald R Pastella
	30 Jul 70 to 31 Jul 70	LTC Arthur M Harris
(2) Bn XO	1 May 70 to 17 Jul 70	MAJ Donald R Pastella
	17 Jul 70 to 31 Jul 70	MAJ Thomas L Nicholson
(3) Bn S-1	1 May 70 to 12 Jul 70	CPT Frank K Williams
	12 Jul 70 to 31 Jul 70	1LT Douglas J Hancock
(4) Bn S-2	1 May 70 to 9 Jun 70	CPT James R Childs
	9 Jun 70 to 31 Jul 70	Vacant
(5) Bn S-3	1 May 70 to 13 Jul 70	MAJ Ronald W Marley
	13 Jul 70 to 31 Jul 70	MAJ Chester Garrett
(6) Bn S-4	1 May 70 to 12 Jun 70	CPT Cecil W Boatwright
	12 Jun 70 to 4 Jul 70	1LT Jack Bloomer
	4 Jul 70 to 22 Jul 70	Vacant
	22 Jul 70 to 31 Jul 70	CPT Blynn Scott

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(7) Bn S-5	1 May 70 to 5 Jul 70 5 Jul 70 to 31 Jul 70	1LT Rodney L Williams Vacant
(8) CO HHC	1 May 70 to 28 May 70 28 May 70 to 31 Jul 70	1LT Louis J Perry 1LT Carl F Hamilton
(9) CO Co A	1 May 70 to 19 Jul 70 19 Jul 70 to 31 Jul 70	CPT Benjamin D Koerselman 1LT Richard Ciccolella
(10) CO Co B	1 May 70 to 28 Jun 70 20 Jun 70 to 31 Jul 70	CPT Gary P Conklin CPT Don A Smith
(11) CO Co C	1 May 70 to 27 Jun 70 27 Jun 70 to 31 Jul 70	CPT Richard T Rhoades CPT Wade H Nettles
(12) CO Co D	1 May 70 to 31 Jul 70	CPT Ernest M Jones
(13) CO Co E	1 May 70 to 1 Jul 70 1 Jul 70 to 31 Jul 70	1LT Richard Kline 1LT Thomas Drummond

e. Mission.

The mission of the "Red Warriors" during the reporting period was to conduct aggressive Search and Destroy Operations to locate, capture and/or destroy enemy forces, installations, material and to conduct operations to support the GVN Pacification Program.

f. Intelligence.

From 1-10 May 1970 and from 16 May to 31 July 1970 the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry was OPCON to the 2d Brigade, see 2d Bde PERINTREPS for the period. From 11-15 May 1970 the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry was OPCON to the 1st Bde. See 1st Bde PERINTREPS for the period.

(1) Terrain: From 5 May to 16 May 1970 on Operation Binh Tay I, the area of operation was covered with multiple conopied dense undergrowth forest with

patches of cultivated areas and cut down tree which enable traffic-ability to some extent. Elevation runs from 129 meters in the Tenle Song River Valley to 671 meters to the east southeast. Availability of LZ's was good. Cross country movement conditions were fair to good. Observation and field of fire were excellent. Concealment from aerial observation was excellent and cover was abundant. During the period 17 May to 31 July the 1ST Bn, 12TH Inf on Operation Putnam Paragon, the area of operations was north and northwest of AnKhe is characterized by steep hills. In this region slopes average between 30 and 50 percent, but may be as high as 70 percent. Elevations vary from less than 200 meters in river valleys to 1019 meters at BR 495899. Elevation gradually declines as it is traced south into the AnKhe plateau. The plains are generally rolling with local relief between 50 and 100 meters. As these plains are traced south, they gradually flatten out into the AnKhe plateau. The AnKhe plateau starts in the vicinity of FSB Kannack (BR 4265), and continues south. Local relief is less than 200 meters and average elevation is approximately 450 meters.

(2). Vegetation. Area of Operation in Putnam Paragon were multi-canopied. Dense undergrowth forest is the predominant vegetative type. This dense forest transists into clear woodland forests in the valley. Clear forests are randomly scattered throughout the dense forest, but are especially abundant along major streams and rivers that cover the AnKhe plateau. Small brushwood area (less than 1 kilometer square) are also scattered throughout the area. A few open areas are spaced throughout the area. Most are located along streams. Many streams run through the narrow, steep canyons into the Song Con River in the east and the Song Ba River in the west which traverses the flat plains of the AnKhe

plateau.

(3). Weather. From 5 May to 16 May 70 on operation Binh Tay 1, the area was in transition from the northeast monsoon, which began in March and is completed in May passing over warm tropical waters arrived over the area as a very moist, unstable tropical air mass which produced extensive, convective clouds and heavy rainshowers and thunderstorms. The month of May is a wet season. Rainfall increases primarily in the afternoon and evening rainshowers and thunderstorms. During the period 17 May to 31 July the 1ST Bn, 12TH Inf. on Operation Putnam Paragon, the weather in the area was light and variable circulation prevailed over the area with cloudiness through the reporting period. May was characterized by cloudy skies, scattered showers and morning fog, sometimes extending into the afternoon hours. Scattered rain showers during May to the end of July. Ground fog in the low areas predominated during the reporting period. This ground fog normally would disperse by 0900 hours daily.

g. Operations:

(1). Concept of Operations. At the beginning of the reporting period the 1/12 Infantry was providing security for D Co. 4th Engineers out FSB Aquarius. On May 3 and 4 the Battalion moved to Camp Radcliff in preparation for move overland for LZ Meredith on May 5 with final destination Cambodia as part of operation Binh Tay 1. Destination was changed to LZ Oasis enroute. The 1/12 conducted CA into Cambodia on May 7 and 8. Upon return from Cambodia on 12 May the battalion participated in operation Putnam Paragon from 22 May until the end of the reporting period on 31 July 70.

(2). The following significant events occurred during this reporting period:
May: 1 May 70 - Vicinity 425615 on route 50 Engineer truck in the convoy

the mine was on the right side of the road going north. One M1 suffered lacerations of the face and legs, (Engr). The right front wheel was blown off as was the right front fender. Engine and body also damaged. Blast crater was 4' in diameter and 2½' deep. 7 May 70 - CA of 1/12 into Cambodia, one of the slicks carrying A Co. personnel crashed vicinity YA 7343. Four members of A Co. 81mm mortar section were killed. Two birds diverted to secure the downed bird. Went down due to mechanical failure. During initial sweep of LZ A Co. received S/A fire from 1 individual wearing a yellow shirt and carrying an AK-47. A Co. returned fire with negative results and negative casualties. 8 May 70 - A Co. SP'd FSB Invasion moving east finding: vicinity YA 604437 1 hooch, 100 lbs. rice; YA 603436 signs of NVA platoon stop; YA 606440 remains of village destroyed by 7 May A/S; YA 608439 600 rds. SKS, 4 BAR magazines, 20 sets new NVA fatigues, 1 shovel, 1 US entrenching tool, 21 hooches, 14 bunkers, 3 drum type magazines for MG, 1 bypod for .30 cal MG, 50 rds. .30 cal MG, 1000lbs unpolished rice, 60 pigs. YA 610440 2 hooches, 600 lbs rice; YA 610442 1 hooch, 2,200 lbs rice; YA 613448 8 hooches, 1,500 lbs rice; YA 610441 1 hooch, 900 lbs rice; YA 614447 1 hooch, 4000 lbs rice; YA 607448 1 hooch, 2500 lbs rice. Total for Co. A: 90 pigs, 17800 lbs. rice, 1 SKS, 600 rds SKS, 14 Bunkers, 42 hooches. B Co. vicinity YA 595445 found 1 hooch; vicinity YA 594448 found 6 hooches and 150 lbs. corn. Recon vicinity YA 605455 found 12 hooches, 5 sets fatigues, 2 green and 3 tiger, 2 sets webgear, 2 ammo pouches, US belt, NVA shoes,

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50 pigs, 200 chickens and 1 Chicom grenade. 9 May 70, Co A moving west from FSB Invasion found: Vic 594440 - 2 hooches, 1000# rice, 2 NVA fatigues and 50# corn. Vicinity 593437 - 1 hooch, straw mats, baskets, vases and 60# rice. Vicinity 575441 - 3 hooches, 1 cross-bow, 200# rice. Co B - Vicinity 591449, large village complex; 10 large sleeping hooches, 25 animal hooches, 1550# rice, 200# salt, 3 French single-shot muskets, 1 home-made rifle, 10 - 60mm mortar rounds, 19 - 82mm mortar rounds, 2 B-40 detonators, 4 - 9mm pistol rounds, 1 M-60 round, numerous cross-bows, chickens, dogs, pigs, banana knives, pottery and cooking utensils, 3 AK-47 magazines, 4 books, 1 NVA canteen, NVA ruck, 2 NVA ammo pouches, NVA entrenching tool, pith helmet, 1000# rice, 2 82mm mortar swabs, bottle with white pills, 45 caliber pistol holster, 1 bayonet, and AK-47 cleaning kit. Vicinity 589455 - 6 hooches, 5# rice. Vicinity 578449 - 3 hooches. C Co, Vicinity 593450 found a hooch containing 600# of rice and 3 green fatigue shirts. Vicinity 591458 found 3 hooches, and 25# of grain. Vicinity 592457 found 3 hooches, Vicinity ~~598463~~ found 2 hooches, Vicinity 595464 found 2 hooches, and Vicinity 578467 found 12 hooches, 30 bunkers, 10 pith helmets, 5 US helmets, 3 OD uniforms, 15 chickens, 35 pigs, 40 bundles of punji stakes, 1 US ruck and 1 US 5-gal water can. They also found 2 NVA rucks, 1 NVA pistol belt, 3 French single-shot weapons and 2 AK-47 rounds. Vicinity 577466 found 8 hooches. 10 May 70 - A Co, Vicinity 571441 found 3 hooches, 4x6x4-4 ft. off the ground, 1 hooch contained 2000# of rice. B Co moving to NW of FSB found 3 hooches, 1 was 10x10x3 containing 25# unpolished rice and 10 gards, 1 sleeping hooch was 10x6x4, and the 3rd hooch was 6x10x5 ft. Vicinity 570451 found 1 hooch 8x15x8 with 3400# of unpolished rice in 4 baskets and the hooch was surrounded by punji stakes. Vicinity 567454 - 8 bunkers, 5x5x4 ft. and 3 ft. of O/H, There were also 7 - 2 man fighting positions with connecting trenches which overlooked

a trail network which was oriented N - S. Vicinity 570453 - B Co located a 20-hooch village, 20x15x10 ft., 20 bunkers, 4x8x4 ft., with 2-3 ft. O/H. The area was 100mx100m and could accommodate 100 people. Vicinity 564458 sighted and engaged 3 individuals approaching from the east, the enemy returned 2 frags. Individuals were wearing green fatigues, negative headgear, and 2 of them carried AK-47's. Results: 2 NVA KIA, 1 AK-47, 2 rucks - CIA, 1 NVA WIA who fled east. C Co - Vicinity 576474 sighted and engaged 2 individuals wearing green fatigues, pith helmets, pistol belts and carrying AK-47's. Individuals fled to the NE. Vicinity 562473 found 5 storage hooches with 500 - 1000# of unpolished grain, 3 pig-pens, 3 chickenscoops, 50# of corn, 2-5# salt, 4 NVA pith helmets, 1 NVA rucksack, 5 AK-47 magazines. Vicinity 560473 - 6 bunkers, 3x5x2 ft. with 2 ft O/H, and 2 bunkers, 4x3x2 ft. with 1 ft. O/H. 11 May 70 - B Co, Vicinity 574459 - 3/B sighted one individual wearing black pajamas and a straw hat, NEG weapon. C Co, Vicinity 562475, 1st platoon ambush received sniper fire. 1st platoon moved from vicinity 562473 to reinforce and were pinned down. The final results were: 2 NVA KIA, 1 SCS CIA, 2 US EM KIA, and 4 US EM WIA, also 1 US heat casualty. 12 May 70 - A Co found 3 trails all approximately 13 inches wide. Vicinity YA 437643 oriented E-W, Vicinity YA 441646 oriented E-W, Vicinity YA 442651 oriented E-W. Vicinity YA 444654, 5 hooches, 8x12x6 ft. containing approximately 4 tons of unpolished rice, the last recent use was 2 days old. B Co, Vicinity YA 437636 located a large blood spot estimated at 3 days old. On a trail oriented NS, not visible from the air. Vicinity 449638, trail oriented EW, 24 inches wide, used within the last 7-10 days, by 6 individuals moving W, intersected by a NS trail 18 inches wide with negative recent use. 3/B squad conducted RIF to the north, 150m north of 455644 were engaged by 3 NVA, and pinned down resulting in 1 US KIA. 3/B(-) was employed on the left flank and the 2d platoon moved up the right side

of the SEL. At this time the enemy broke contact. R/L was employed to the NE of the SEL. The 2d Platoon pushed through the SEL 100-125m with negative findings. 2/B turned around were started back in opposite direction when they received S/A fire from the NE and were pinned down. 3/B tried to move to the right flank and received 1 US WIA and 1 US KIA. The enemy moved between 1st Platoon and 3d Platoon pinning both elements down. The CP was located on the left flank 25-100m from the 2d Platoon and 125m from the 3d Platoon. The enemy moved southward in a U-shaped formation flanking B Co. The CP begin to receive fire from 3 directions. The east and west flanks were A/W fire and BAR fire from the NW and N. Artillery was employed on the SEL to relieve the pressure on the 2d Platoon. The results, 1 US KIA, 1 MIA which was found KIA 13 May 70, 1 WIA and 1 HRC-77 was lost. 13 May 70, B Co remained in assigned A.O., working the SEL from which they received fire on 12 May 70. Vicinity YA 455644 found 1 enemy KIA by 3/B from the contact of 12 May 70. Individual wore green fatigues, web-gear, negative headgear, unit insignia. B Co also located their MIA from 12 May 70 contact, KIA. C Co, Vicinity 464612 found 20 hooches, 15x25x6 ft. with a bunker, 4x3x6 ft. with 2 ft. O/H; found 1 radio (sany), last use a month ago by company size element. 14 May 70, A Co chops to the 3/506TH ARVN INF. A Co found 5 large hooches, a rifle range, 6 82mm rounds, 1 51 cal. barrel, documents, 12 oil drums, hospital complex (20 hooches), 20-30 cases of medical supplies. US losses were 2 KIA and 6 WIA. Enemy losses were 20-25 enemy KIA and WIA, no body count was possible because the company was not able to sweep the KRL. B Co swept AO. Vicinity YA 457648 and found 1 NVA green fatigue shirt covered with blood, fresh within the previous 24 hours, 1 bag of flashlight batteries. Also found a rope bridge, 40 ft. long across the stream. Inside the shirt was a claymore bag containing a Timex watch and plastic bags containing company size rosters, 25 names, rank and serial number, passes to base camp that were

signed and stamped, pictures of a man's family in a wallet, and a diary type notebook. Individual was believed to be a first-sergeant. 15 May 70, 1/12 was extracted from Cambodia to Vietnam. 16 May 70, 1/12 conveyed from New Plei Djarend to Battalion Area at Camp Radcliff. 22 May 70, A Co, BR 314652, received 5-6 rounds of sniper fire from the south at a range of 50m., negative casualties. Sweeping SEL, A Co found a trail oriented E-W, 18 inches wide, with a SW branch also 18 inches wide. Fresh footprints and expended cartridges were found. B Co, vicinity BR 316654, found 1 hooch, 5x7x5ft. with negative O/H. Also 9 bunkers, two men. The fighters were 5x3x5ft. with negative O/H. One bunker was 5x3x5ft. with 2ft O/H. The fighters were oriented to the north; last recent use was 2-3 days by 10-15 individuals. The hooch was 7 days old. Recon, BR 316666, found 10 hooches, 8x8x6ft., 1 hooch, 20x8x6ft.; 2 bunkers, 5x2x4ft., with 2ft. O/H; 2 bunkers, 10x2x4ft. with 2 ft O/H. Last used 24 hours before. Also a trail 24 inches wide covered with punji stakes, less than 24 hours old. 23 May 70, A Co, BR 314644, observed a flashing light at about 15 meters. 4.2 inch mortars were employed on the position and the light went out. Vicinity BR 319635, 1 hooch, 4x5x4ft, with 18 inches O/H. A lean-to was attached to the hooch, lean-to was 6x3x4ft, 18 inches O/G. Last used by 3-4 individuals in past 24-48 hours. 1/A, BR 308637, found 1 hooch, 4x6x6ft, 18 inches O/G, containing 500lbs of unpolished rice, and farm implements; negative recent use, 9 mos. old. Vicinity BR 308636, found 4 hooches, 4x6x6ft, 18 inches O/G, last used 7-14 days ago by 2-3 individuals; 2lbs of flour and woven baskets containing cloth were found. 1/A also found 2 hooches, 6x12x10ft, and 2 fighters, 6x6x6ft, with negative recent use, 6 months to 1 year old. 3/B, BR 326650, found a small perimeter of 40 bunkers, 3x4x4ft, with light brush camouflage,

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8 bottles of insulin, 20lbs of unpolished rice, pots and pans, NVA C-4, and 1 VC map was found. The area had been used by a company size element within the last 3 days. A N-S trail, 24 inches wide, was located. 25 bundles of NVA C-4 were found, which the ICS said were used for satchel charges. Also found one cooking hooch, 8x5x4ft; 1 sleeping hooch, 8x5x4ft; two man capacity. D Co, BR 371668, found a trail running E-W, 18 inches wide; negative recent use. Vicinity BR 377670, found a corn field, 50x25m. The corn was approximately 8 inches high and in rows. 1/3 of the field had been used in the last 3 days. 24 May 70, 3/A found 4 graves estimated to be 3 weeks old. Individuals were not Montagnards. A ruck was found about 200m to the east containing school supplies and books. 3/A, BR 298641, found a Montagnard village. The central hooch was 6x8x8ft. There were 25 smaller hooches, 4x5x6ft, 4 of which were under construction. All hooches were 18 inches off the ground. Thirty pigs and many chickens were in the area. The village was built 6-8 months ago and used in the last 2 weeks by 15-20 individuals. 2/A, BR 314628, detected movement 200m to their south. S/A were employed on the SEL, BR 314626. Sweeping the SEL, 2/A found 1 hooch, 8x5x6ft, 18 inches O/G, approximately 2 months old. Last used by 1-2 individuals 4-7 days before. The hooch contained a small amount of peas and corn, 1 AK47 magazine, bayonet, and a kerosene lantern. A stay-behind ambush later engaged 2 individuals resulting in one NVA killed and one AK47 CIA. Individuals were wearing gray fatigues, NVA Belt and boots; negative headgear. Vicinity BR 314622, 2/A found 1 hooch, 6x8x6ft, 18 inches O/G, 2-3 months old, last used 24 hours previously by 2-3 individuals. Hooch contained 1500lbs of unpolished rice which was booby trapped with punji stakes. 3/B, BR 310595, found an empty rice storage hooch, 8x5x8ft, 2 mos old, negative recent use. 2/B, BR 324639, found 2 storage hooches, both 2 months old. One was 5x6x5ft, containing 300lbs of unpolished rice. The

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sweep of area revealed 7 hooches, 6x10x8ft; 4 bunkers, 4x6x4ft, with 2ft 0/H; 200 pounds unpolished rice, 10 cross-bows, 8 knives, 10 rounds SKS ammo, 5 pigs, and 50 chickens. They also saw 25 men, 2 women and a child, all wearing loin cloth.

29 May 70, A Co, BR 334591, found 2 fragmentary grenades, booby trapped, in their LZ. Booby traps were destroyed. B Co, 1/B found 1 bunker, 6x8x8ft, and 2 hooches, 8x8x8ft, 6 months old. Area contained documents, a diary and records, 70lbs polished rice, 15lbs salt, mortar amb, gauze scissors, and children clothing.

C Co, 3/C conducted CA to vicinity BR 278692 in reaction to heavy snappy reaction. 3/C found, in BR 281694, 3 NVA KIA wearing khaki shirts, green trousers, sandals; 1 wore a pith helmet. NVA killed by GS, 2 AK47 CIA, 1 82mm base plate CIA, 2 rucks and documents. One individual spotted wearing jungle fatigues and sandals carrying AK47. 3/C secured until extraction. D Co, BR 334618, Bulldog 16, resupplying D Co, received G/A fire. Took 10 hits resulting in doorgunner WIA. 30 May 70, A Co, 3/A spotted and engaged 4 individuals 200m SE of a storage hooch containing 100lbs of unpolished rice. 3/A found and followed heavy blood trail resulting in capture of Montagnard VC without weapon and seriously wounded. The Montagnard had been shot by sniper in 3/A. Interrogation by KCS revealed that 3 MVC that escaped carried AK47 and posed as ARVN. Their mission was to carry food, mortar tubes and SKS ammo. B Co, 2/B located a village in Vicinity BR 348662 consisting of 9 hooches, 8x12x8ft, 13 bunkers, 5x8x5ft; found in area: 19 piglets, 10 pigs, 10 hogs, 10 chickens, 12 60mm mortar rounds, 1 ID card and various documents. C Co, 3/C exploiting SKL of Scorpion G/S from 29 May, BR 278694, found 9 hooches, 8x12x8ft, and 9 bunkers, 6x8x4ft; contained 6 rucksacks. MAJ Marley, airborne in LOH received

ground to airfire while guiding 3/C into BFL, and assisting in re-establishing communications. 31 May 70, B Co, 2/B captured 16, found 800# unpolished rice, 1 NVA rucksack vicinity BR 352607. B Co captured 2 Montagnards, 1 male, 1 female vicinity 368629. 1 Jun 70, B Co, 3/B found 3 M-16 ammo cans and 2 M-60 ammo cans buried under soil of their night location. Cans contained documents. In re-supply LZ, B Co received 1 B-40 rocket and 20 rounds AK. Red leg employed sweep provided negative findings. 2 Jun 70, B Co, received 3 rounds of 60mm mortar fire, 100m south of NL resulting in 1 US WIA. Gator 29 conducting shuttle for B Co received 10-0 rounds S/A fire resulting in another US WIA. 3 Jun 70, B Co captured 1 AK-47, 1 Chicom carbine, and 7 Chicom grenades while accounting for 2 NVA KIA. They received determined number of small arms rounds and 2 B-40 rounds from 10-20 individuals who fled. Thirteen satchel charges, 18 12oz. of beer and soda cans filled with TNT, 200 rounds loose AV ammo, 3 B-40 rockets and 1 pair wire cutters were also captured vicinity 353625. Recon found clothing cache vicinity 355639 including 12 sets NVA and Korean green uniforms, 10 khaki uniforms and 4 bags of black and blue uniforms, 5 NVA rucks, 4 rolls poncho plastic and assorted sewing materials. 5 Jun 70, A Co, vicinity 299661 found complex consisting of 5 hootches(5x10x8ft.), 5 bunkers(5x8x5ft.), classroom(30x10x10ft.) with 10 desks and a dispensary(8x10x8ft.). The area held assorted medicines. Area believed to be sapper training area. Area could accommodate 100 persons. Air strike in area may have caused evacuation one week ago. 6 Jun 70, A Co found 38 pigs, 25 chickens and 45# unpolished rice captured along with singer sewing machine in good condition in complex of 15 hootches(6x6x5ft.), 3 bunkers(6x6x6ft.) vicinity 289672. 10 June 70, C Co reported 1 scout dog killed in action when C Co engaged 1 individual with AK-47 vicinity 112763. 11 Jun 70, 2/C, vicinity BR 107782 received 20 rounds sniper fire, with negative findings.

of casualties. Swept HEL and a hootch and bunker complex, 12 hootches and 6 bunkers. One 20x50ft. mess hall, 20x40ft. hospital with stretcher, medical documents and miscellaneous medical supplies. Area used within 24 hours. Vicinity BR 112765, C Co(-) engaged point man of squad size enemy unit, negative casualties. CIA found 6 rucksacks containing 150# rice, and 150-200 unopened letters. 13 Jun 70, 2/C vicinity BR 103757 killed 1 NVA, found 1 AK-47, 2 magazines, 1 rucksack, and various medical supplies. 15 Jun 70, D Co secured downed ARVN helicopter vicinity BR 127816 until it was extracted. A Co conducted CA to vicinity BR 356608 to secure site of new FSB. 16 Jun 70, C Co CA'd from BR 112765 to BR 376676. One slick crashed in LB with negative casualties. D Co CA'd from BR 123811 to BR 355709 and began S/C Operations in new AO. Recon conducted CA from FSB Cheyenne to LA vicinity BR 392706 and began S/C operations. 3/B vicinity BR 397729 sighted 1 individual in green fatigues. Employed Redleg, SWNF. 2/B vicinity BR 392732 captured 5 Montagnards, 2 men, 1 woman, and 2 small children, they were evacuated. 3/B vicinity BR 394724 located a small village, estimated it had been occupied by 50 individuals in last 12 hours. The area contained 7 hootches and 1 bunker with numerous trails throughout the area. C Co found a village vicinity BR 353673 with 17 hootches, and 4 bunkers, area was 6 months old but used within the last 2 weeks. A trail network ran throughout the area. 19 Jun 70, an old woman was disguised by 3/B vicinity BR 400738. She stated that 5 Montagnards fled east and 3 VC fled north. 3/B vicinity BR 400740 engaged 3 VC at 1500, SWNF. Later in the afternoon at same location, 3/B engaged 1 individual and killed him. Capture 1 semi-automatic of Chinese manufacture. One US M4 was slightly injured by shrapnel from friendly M-79 fire. 20 Jun 70, vicinity BR 391748, 1/B found 5 hootches, some were still under construction. Area last used within 3-7 days. The VCS estimated area used by 50 Montagnards.

sacks and 2 unidentified weapons SWNP. 5 Jul 70, 24 Montagnards turned themselves in to A Co, and asked to be taken to An Khe for relocation. Co C conducted GA from LZ vicinity BR 381608 to FSB Armegodon. D Co conducted GA to LZ vicinity BR 381608 and began S/C operations. 6 Jul 70, 2/A vicinity BR 413747 spotted individual wearing green fatigues carrying an unidentified weapon, engaged with S/A SWNP. 7 Jul 70, 3/A vicinity BR 427738 observed 1 individual digging for food, engaged w S/A, SWNP. Six Montagnards Chie Hei'ed to Co C at FSB Armegodon. 8 Jul 70, vicinity BR 404754 2/A found two hootches used by 2 individuals who fled as 2/A approached. In the hootches were 2 rucksacks, 32 blocks of plastic explosive and miscellaneous documents and equipment. Vicinity BR 404753, 2/A found a village contained 38 hootches and 10 bunkers. Used within last 2 weeks. Estimated area could inhabit 100 individuals. D Co vicinity BR 362611 spotted 1 individual in black pajamas, engaged with S/A, SWNP. 9 Jul 70, Co A apprehended an elderly Montagnard woman vicinity BR 400750 and evacuated her to An Khe. 10 Jul 70, D Co vicinity BR 355612 received 8 rounds sniper fire and 7-8 60mm mortar rounds, negative friendly casualties, SWNP. 12 Jul 70, Co A vicinity BR 400750 observed movement, employed S/A and killed a Montagnard woman. In same location, 1 hour later, 2/A engaged 2 VTC with S/A, SWNP. Co B vicinity BR 363607 observed 7 VC/NVA approaching their position, set up a hasty ambush, employing vadler, SWNP. 13 Jul 70, 3/A vicinity BR 319750 received 20-30 rounds S/A fire from 2 individuals, returned S/A fire, SWNP. 15 Jul 70, Co B while conducting S/C operations received 5 rounds 60mm mortar fire, only 2 exploded, SWNP. 16 Jul 70, 3/A observed 1 individual vicinity BR 361619, employed vadler, SWNP. 18 Jul 70, 3/A vicinity BR 319750 observed 1 VTC.

loading 3 NVA across an open area. Engaged with S/A Redleg. Swept KEL and found 2 NVA rucksacks. 21 Jul 70, Co A conducted airlift from AO skip to FSB UTE. Co B conducted CA to AO skip and began S/C operation. 23 Jul 70, Co A (4-) conducted CA to vicinity BR 288668. S/A observed 2 individuals wearing green fatigues. Engaged with S/A resulting in 2 KIA and 1 pistol CIA. 1/A observed 2 individuals with weapons, engaged with S/A resulting in 2 KIA and 1 AK-47 CIA, also 7 rucksacks and miscellaneous documents CIA. 24 Jul 70, operations in General grid BR 2864 resulted in 10 KIA, 14 KIA by airstrikes, and 14 killed by gunships. 25 Jul 70, vicinity BR 318657 S/C engaged 3 individuals with S/A resulting in 2 WIC KIA and 1 NVA KIA. 26 Jul 70, Co B conducted a CA from BR 277654 to BR 304537. One slick on the first lift crashed due to mechanical failure, with negative serious injuries. Recon conducted a CA to FSB Warrior to secure S1's highshoot and TAG GP. 29 Jul 70, 1/D, 1-22, OPCON 10 1/12 conducted special mission to find suspected weapons cache. Vicinity BR 468632, 1/D, 1-22 found a VC village with 15 hootches and 1 bunker used in last 3-4 days by 4-5 individuals. Village was destroyed. No weapons cache was found.

g. Operations:

(1). Concept of Operations. At the beginning of the reporting period the 1/12 Inf was providing security for D Co 4th Engineers out of FSB Aquarius. On 3 and 4 May, the Battalion moved to Camp Radcliff in preparation for move overland for LZ Meredith on 5 May with final destination Cambodia as part of operation BINH TAY I. Destination was changed to LZ OASIS enroute. The 1/12 conducted CA into Cambodia on 7 and 8 May upon return from Cambodia on 12 May the Battalion participated in operation Putnam Paragon from 22 May until the end of the reporting period on 31 Jul 70.

and 3 VC. 21 Jun 70, at ER 391748 3/B found a hooch and bunker complex. Area used previous night by estimated platoon size element. Two recently used trails led out of the area. 22 Jun 70, the 1/12 GP, Co A and FSB conducted CA from FSB UTE to FSB Armageddon. Vicinity ER 363639 spotted one individual with SKS, engaged with S/A. Individual fled south without his weapon. 3/B spotted blood trail and 40m East found a hooch containing 300# unpolished rice. Recon conducted CA from FSB UTE to Armageddon. 23 Jun 70, one individual wearing green fatigues was sighted vicinity ER 355638 by 3/C. Engaged with S/A, SWNF. 24 Jun 70, 1/B vicinity ER 398735 found 1 KBA wearing green fatigues, 6-7 days ago. 26 Jun 70, B Co and 1 PF Platoon began joint operation by conducting CA from LZ Emelia to LZ vicinity 495644. 3/B at vicinity ER 505636 found 12 hooches and 3 bunkers. Estimated area occupied that morning by 40 Montagnards and 1 VC squad. Found fresh blood stains from gunship firing. Vicinity ER 363613, 2/C engaged and killed 1 individual. CIA LSKS and 1 pineapple type grenade. 28 Jun 70, B Co found bamboo thicket with about 2000 punji sticks. Three individuals from B Co received 8 rounds sniper fire, took 1 hit returned to An Khe, B Co SWNF. Vicinity ER 367602 Bulldog 21 received 5-6 rounds G/A fire with negative hits. Redleg was employed C Co SWNF. 29 Jun 70, 1/C vicinity ER 363597 engaged and killed one Montagnard VC, had negative weapon. Believed to be 3 more in area, C Co SWNF. At FSB Armageddon an OP from B Co to the North engaged 2 individuals resulting in 2 VC KIA, 1 weapon CIA. Swept REL found a blood trail. A tracker team was employed but lost trail 300m North. 30 Jun 70, vicinity ER 372602 C Co sighted 1 individual wearing green T-shirt with SKS. Engaged with S/A SWNF. 1 Jul 70, A Co conducted CA from LZ Emelia to vicinity ER 474595 and began S/C operations. Co C vicinity ER 360607 initiated an ambush on 4 individuals wearing green clothing, ruck-

h. Training:

(1) Unit Training. During the period of this report, all training was conducted by unit officers and NCO's, with two operations exceptions. Normal firebase training was conducted on a rotating basis. Weapons zero, M-79 and M-60 firing was conducted at Camp Radcliff and FSB UTE ranges. During the period of stand-down, GBR, artillery adjustment, airmobile operations, laws, crew drill, patrolling, map reading, communications, sapper techniques, SARDA, combat intelligence, and jungle penetration training was conducted. Duffle bag personnel conducted a class on the use of the DETECTOR SET, TR-3 and RC-3A. Instruction on the use of "Mechanical Ambush" was conducted during the month of July. Safety classes were conducted by all unit commanders.

(2) Schools: This Battalion relieved and filled quotas to Division Schools as follows:

<u>Schools</u>	<u>QUOTA</u>	<u>ATTENDED</u>	<u>GRADUATED</u>
(1) Division Combat NCO Leadership	17	11	9*
(2) Pre Recondo	5	0	0
(3) Sniper	5	5	5
(4) Mechanical AP's	3 (as instructors)		

*2 personnel in school at report time

i. Logistics:

(1). General resupply operations were good during the reporting period. Availability of aircraft was adequate with the only problem being caused by bad weather on several occasions.

(2). Supply Activities: Class I: A field mess was in operation on the Battalion primary Fire Support Base during the entire reporting period. Three hot meals per day were prepared for all elements at the Fire Support Base, with one hot meal per day prepared for all other forward elements at the Bat-

talion Trains. Total Consumption during the reporting period was 126,228 A-rations and 62,341 C-rations.

(2). Class II: Utilization of Class II was increased primarily due to rugged type terrain and enemy contact. Total utilization during the period was as follows:

a. Fatigues	2000	sets
b. Boots	650	pr
c. Ponchoes	400	ea
d. Poncho Liners	350	ea
e. Air mattresses	1000	ea
f. Steel helmet with liners	105	ea
g. Rucksacks	300	ea
h. Underwear	1200	sets
i. Towels	975	ea
j. Socks	3600	pr
k. Blankets	50	ea
l. Axes	60	ea
m. Shovels	100	ea
n. Machetes	200	ea
o. Picks	75	ea
p. Water containers(plastic lug-a-jug)	450	ea
q. Water containers(55 gal blivets)	3	ea
r. Water containers(250 gal blivets)	1	ea
s. Insect repellent	5000	can
t. Foot powder	100 (2400 cans)	box

(3). Class III: During the reporting period the following amounts of fuel were utilized: Increase due to extensive travel on convoy to trains.

a. Mogas 15000 gal
b. Diesel 6000 gal

(4). Class IV: Re-establishing the primary Fire Support Base required the major utilization of Class IV items.

a. Concertina (boot types) 101
b. Barbed wire 45
c. Pickets 5359—6ft.
2155—3ft.
200—2ft.
d. Sandbags 211000

(5). Class V: During the reporting period, Class V expenditures were as follows:

a. 5.56mm Tracer 2,291
b. 5.56mm Ball 124,944
c. 7.62mm Linked 83,536
d. Cal. 45 Ball 4,400
e. Cal. 50 Linked 13,727
f. 40mm
1. 40mm Cann 385
2. 40mm WSP 111
3. 40mm CS 73
4. 40mm HE 2,346
g. 81mm
1. 81mm ILL 1,089
2. 81mm HE 4,069

3.	81mm	1,354
h.	4.2"	
1.	4.2" HE	3,214
2.	4.2" ILL	1,004
3.	4.2" WF	460
i.	Grenades	
1.	Green HD frag.	852
2.	Green HD frag.-M-33	N/A
3.	Green HD INC.	3
4.	Green HD WF	52
5.	Yellow Smoke	447
6.	Violet Smoke	1,732
7.	Green Smoke	430
8.	Red Smoke	62
j.	66mm LAW	135
k.	Claymore	240
l.	Clusters HH	
1.	Red Cluster HH	
2.	White Cluster HH	289
3.	Green Cluster HH	483
m.	White Parachute HH	428
n.	Trip Flares	1,343
o.	C-4	5,255#
p.	Bangalores	468
q.	TNT	N/A
r.	Cratering Chg	12

s. Elect. Blast Caps	53
t. Shape Chg 15	N/A
u. Shape Chg 40	8
v. N/E Blast Caps	536
w. Det Cord	26,100 ft.
x. Time Fuse	638 ft.
y. Fuse FD M557	3,214
z. 7.62 Ball 5/clip	N/A

(3). Transportation: The Battalion organic transportation is not adequate to move the entire element. Additional transportation must be obtained from DPO for any more than one Company Organic transportation was utilized to the maximum on a daily basis to move supplies and personnel.

j. Organization:

(1) General: None

(2) Strength authorized and assigned strength as of the end of the period were as follows:

(a) Authorized:

UNIT	OFFICER	WO	EM	AGG
HHC	015	802	147	164
Co A	006	000	158	164
Co B	006	000	158	164
Co C	006	000	158	164
Co D	006	000	158	164
Co E	004	000	096	100
TOTAL	043	002	875	920

(b) Assigned:

UNIT	OFFICER	WO	EM	AGG
HHC	013	001	156	170
Co A	004	000	114	118
Co B	004	000	118	122
Co C	004	000	125	129
Co D	003	000	126	129
Co E	001	000	083	084
TOTAL	029	001	722	752

(3). Replacements and rotations: The Battalion received a total of 28 officers and 312 enlisted replacements. During the same period our losses were 40 officers and 425 enlisted personnel.

(4). Casualties:

UNIT	MAY			JUNE			JULY		
	KIA	WIA	MIA	KIA	WIA	MIA	KIA	WIA	MIA
HHC	2	0	0	0	0	000	0	0	0
Co A	7	10	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Co B	3	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Co C	1	4	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Co D	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Co E	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

(5). Morale and personnel services-- Awards and Decorations

SS	PH	AM	BSW	"V"	"S"	"A"	ARCOM	"V"	"S"	"A"	IM	DFC
2	14	201		10	30	22		2	183	13	1	1

Promotions: Total promotions by grade during the reporting period were as follows:

<u>E-4</u>	<u>E-5</u>	<u>E-6</u>	<u>E-7</u>	<u>E-8</u>	<u>E-9</u>
151	117	5	0b	0	0

(6). Rest and Recuperation: During the reporting period the Battalion received and used 275 R&R allocations.

k. Civic Action:

(1). During this 3 month period the Civic Actions team of 1/12 Infantry concentrated it's efforts on further Vietnamizing it's program. This was done by encouraging Hamlet and Village officials to go to the District Officials for any assistance they needed. Also formal letters of request were written to district and file copies were kept of any request made. I believe this practice was accepted well by the Hamlet and Village Officials because now they had letters on record as far as what things they had requested. The effect this had on the Village of Cuu An and particularly An Binh (2) and

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An Dien hamlets to find out what things the people were interested in doing. One of the most significant results was the initiation of a revolutionary development team into the village. It is their job to assist the people with anything which needs to be done as long as the village chief has given his approval. The RED WARRIORS C.A. team was also involved in the consolidation of 2,000 Montagnards into Montagnard Heights. This project was coordinated through Division G-5 and the An Tuo District office. It entailed moving people from 1 area into another which was more secure and within a perimeter. The project was to stand for a model for those Montagnards who were living in the mountains or the surrounding area either by force or choice. It is hoped that after the word reaches the people in the outlying areas that they too will want to live in a secure area; to date the project and its philosophy are doing well in that none has moved out of the consolidation of 10 hamlets but close to 50 people have moved in just within the month of July. Through a combined operation of ARVN and 1/12, a tactical maneuver took place in the area around CU'u An village in which they held 3 suspected sympathizers of the VC. Problems encountered is that there is no consistency in the administering of policies and regulations given by the province. No one from province monitors the works of officials at district levels so often times the district officials are left to implement their own rules. The security in CU'u An village is also a critical problem in that there was 1 assassination and 6 kidnappings. The IF Platoon in the village was not able to subdue the attacks.

(2). Projects: We are currently building bridges. All of the hamlets have had roads through them. Most of the bridges have been washed out at one time or another. So the CA team has procured some cement and PSP to help rebuild these bridges.

2. (C) Lessons learned for period 01 May through 31 July 1970.

- a. Personnel-None
- b. Intelligence-None
- c. Operations

(1) MACHINE GUNS IN AMBUSHES

Observations: The M-60 Machine /Gun is not being used to effect maximum utilization of grazing fire in flat terrain on trails.

Evaluation: The first few seconds after an ambush is sprung are the most critical times of a successful ambush. In most cases the machine gun is usually set up to fire perpendicular across the trail. This makes it necessary for the machine gunner to make traverse his gun a long way to effectively cover his killing zone if there are more than one or two individuals on the trail.

Recommendations: The platoon leaders should instruct his people to set up an ambush with each machine gun set up parallel to the trail facing in opposite directions with the rest of the element set up as security for the machine guns. This makes maximum use of grazing fire down the trail and allows the gunner to have to make only small corrections in traverse of his gun to give him a large killing zone.

(2) WELL AIMED SHOTS

Observations: The average rifleman when making initial contact with the enemy has a tendency to put his weapon on automatic and just spray the area.

Evaluation: When the M-16 is put on full automatic and a long burst is fired it is very difficult to maintain accuracy. It has also been proven that most enemy KIA's are a result of one or two well aimed shots. However most rifleman still feel that it is better to use the M-16 on automatic.

Recommendations: Command emphasis on all levels must be placed on marksmanship. Zero ranges should be placed on all fire support bases and as each company rotates through they should be given refresher courses in basic rifle marksmanship with practical exercises on the range.

(3) EMPLOYMENT OF CLAYMORES IN AMBUSH

Observation: When companies are breaking down in 9-10 ambushes positions it is difficult to carry sufficient claymores so they must be utilized to their maximum extent possible

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Recommendations: The companies should work out of a temporary patrol base receiving enough resupply immediately upon setting up the patrol base to last 6 or 7 days. The resupply is then kept at the patrol base and the maneuvering elements come in every three days and receive the resupply without having resupply aircraft land and give their locations away.

(2) MACHINE GUN AMMUNITION

Observations: Most machine gun malfunctions are caused by poor condition of the ammunition.

Evaluation: The M-60 ammo bearers carry most of their link ammunition wrapped around themselves. This exposes the ammunition to the weather and causes it to corrode and get extremely dirty. The rough handling it this way also results in short rounds and the belt will not feed properly.

Recommendations: The M-60 ammunition will have to be carried in the ammo can it comes in. That will keep it dry and clean and serviceable at all times.

g. Communications:

(1) FIELD EXPEDIENT JUNGLE ANTENNA

Observations: Due to the limited range of the AN/PRC-25 radio in mountainous and jungle areas, with long and short whip antennas, it is necessary to carry a RC-292. As the RC/292 is difficult to carry in such terrain, a jungle antenna of wood and WDI/TT core wire is lighter and can be carried easier.

Evaluation: The jungle antenna is as good as the RC-292, can be assembled and disassembled in approximately the same length of time, and is lighter and more compact to carry.

Evaluation: When claymores are placed perpendicular to trail during an ambush their actual killing power is realistically only a single line through the claymore fan. This gives no depth to the kill zone. This is especially true when the claymore is close to the trail and the fan is still narrow when it crosses the trail.

Recommendation: Measures should be taken at the Division level to train personnel in the use of claymores with demonstrations which show how effective claymores can be when set properly. By placing two claymores back to back and connecting them with det cord, and placing a trip-flare between the claymores across the trail, the killing down the trail in both directions is increased to the maximum effective range of the claymore.

d. Organization: None

e. Training: None

f. Logistics:

(1) RESUPPLY IN THE FIELD

Observation: Resupply of elements in the field every third day gives the enemy a tactical advantage.

Evaluation: When an element in the field is resupplied it gives the enemy an exact fix on the element's location. The usual procedure now is to resupply every third day; so without the enemy even keeping visual contact with the element, they can keep a close fix of the element by just watching the resupply helicopters land.

Recommendation: When in terrain such as mountainous and triple canopy jungle, where a 292 would be used, a jungle antenna would be better because of it's weight and compactness.

h. Material: None

i. Other: None

ARTHUR M HARRIS
LTC, Infantry
Commanding

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CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS 1ST BATTALION 12TH INFANTRY
" RED WARRIORS "
APO San Francisco 96262

Handwritten:
To Sgt. Duggins

AVDDB-12I

20 May 1970

SUBJECT: Request for Correction of ORLL Report for Period February - April 1970.

Commanding Officer
2d Brigade, 4th Inf Div
ATTN: S-3
APO San Francisco 96262

1. Request that the ORLL Report for period February - April 1970, submitted by this unit on 2 May 1970, be corrected to reflect changes in quantity of enemy equipment captured on 23 February 1970.
2. Enemy equipment was captured by Co D, 1st Battalion 12th Infantry, vicinity BR 546756.
3. The reason for the inaccurate report was that the captured equipment was backhauled over a two (2) day period, and the cumulative total of the backhaul was obscure at the time the ORLL Report was submitted.
4. The following reflects the actual amount of enemy material captured compared to that reported:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>REPORTED</u>	<u>ACTUAL</u>
AK-47 Ammo	6,000 rds	24,000 rds
Chicom Mauser Ammo	9,300 rds	53,000 rds
.51 Cal Ammo	300 rds	3,000 rds
57mm R.R. Ammo	none reported	17 rds
75mm R.R. Ammo	1 rd	35 rds
60mm Mortar Ammo	6 rds	127 rds
82mm Mortar Ammo	34 rds	218 rds
B-41 R Ammo	13 rds	57 rds
B-40 R Ammo	9 rds	143 rds
122mm R Ammo	6 rds	6 rds
Detonation cord	500 ft	2,500 ft
Blasting caps	4,000	4,000
Full type fuses	none reported	10 cans
Anti tank mines	none reported	6

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ITEM

REPORTED

ACTUAL

Medical supplies	none reported	6
Tritenol	600 pnds	600 pnds
Chicom TNT	none reported	460-1/2 pnd bars
Electrical Blasting caps	6	6

5. This unit has re-emphasized its policy regarding handling and recording of captured enemy equipment in order to preclude a recurrence of inaccurate reporting.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

DONALD R. PASTELLA
MAJ, Infantry
Ex Executive Officer

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