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Authority NND 873341		
By AB	NARA Date 5/2/06	ARMY
HEADQUARTERS	101ST AIRBORNE DIVISION	
APO 96347		

AVBD-C

21 May 1967

SUBJECT: Combat Operation After Action Report, Operation SUMMERALL (MACV/RCS/J3/32)

THRU: Commanding General
I Field Force Vietnam
APO 96350

TO: Commanding General
US Military Assistance Command Vietnam
APO 96222

1. (U) Name of Operation: Operation SUMMERALL.
2. (U) Dates of Operation: 300001H March 1967 through 292400H April 1967. (Phase I: 30 March 1967 - 2 April 1967; Phase II: 3 - 16 April 1967; Phase III: 17 - 29 April 1967)
3. (U) Location: KHANH HOA, PHU YEN, DARLAC Provinces.
4. (U) Command Headquarters: 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division
5. (U) Reporting Officer: Brigadier General S.H. Matheson, Commanding General, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division.
6. (C) Task Organization:

a. The task organization of the Brigade at the initiation of Operation SUMMERALL was as shown below:

1-327 Inf	Bde Troops
Engr LZ Clearing & Demo Tms	Bde HHC (-)
	A/2-17 Cav
2-327 Inf (-)	A/326 Engr (-)
Engr IZ Clearing & Demo Tms	MP Plat
	Sqd, 272 MPC
2-502 Inf	42 Inf Plat, Sct Dog
G2/327 Inf (OPCON)	181 MI Det
Engr LZ Clearing & Demo Tms	20th Cml Det
	HB-1, 245th Psy Ops Co
2-320 Arty	406 RRD
B/1-30 Arty (155)	LRRP Plat
B/3-18 Arty (8 th SP)(GS reinf)	TACP
A/4-60 Arty (M42, M55)(AWSP)(-)(reinf)(GS)	FSE

b. The task organization was changed during operations southwest of KHANH DUONG by the addition of two CIDG Companies (IAC THIEN CIDG Camp) in direct support; one company with 1-327 Inf and one company with 2-502 Inf. The task organization was again changed during operations southeast of KHANH DUONG by the release of one CIDG Company from 1-327 Inf and by the addition of one Intelligence Platoon (KANH HOA Sector) in direct support of 1-327 Inf. On 11 April 1967 B/3-18 Arty terminated general support reinforcing mission to the Brigade. On 15 April B/6-32 Arty commenced general support reinforcing mission to the Brigade.

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7. (C) Supporting Forces:

- a. 2-320 Arty: Employed in a direct support role.
 - b. C/6-16 Arty: Provided general support reinforcing fires; redesignated from B/1-30 Arty on 11 April 1967.
 - c. B/3-18 Arty (8" SP): Provided general support reinforcing fires through 11 April 1967.
 - d. B/6-32 Arty (8" SP): Provided general support reinforcing fires from 15 April 1967.
 - e. 10th Aviation Battalion: Provided two airmobile companies in general support. These companies flew troop lift, combat support and resupply missions.
 - f. 180th Assault Support Helicopter Company: Provided six flyable CH-47 aircraft on a mission support basis for use in displacing and resupplying artillery units.
 - g. 163d Aviation Company: Provided three O-1 aircraft for visual reconnaissance, artillery adjustment, and radio relay.
 - h. 5th Air Commando Squadron: Provided airlift support for Psy War Operations.
 - i. 245th Psy Ops Co: Provided one loudspeaker and leaflet dissemination team in direct support.
 - j. 7th USAF: Flew 86 tactical fighter missions totaling 190 sorties. 27 of these sorties were immediate requests which were processed through the Air Force Tactical Air Request Net with an average reaction time of 25 minutes. In addition, 6 Combat Sky Spot missions (12 sorties), 5 flareship (AC-47) sorties, 75 reconnaissance sorties, 34 Psychological Warfare sorties and 311 transport sorties were flown in support of the Brigade. 9 B-52 sorties were flown in support of the Brigade. FAC's flew 212 sorties in forward aircontrol, artillery adjustment and visual reconnaissance missions.
 - k. 18th Engineer Brigade: Provided general engineer support.
 - l. 54th Signal Battalion: Provided general support.
 - m. 498th Med Det: Provided responsive, rapid, evacuation support to the Brigade throughout the operation.
 - n. 3d Bn, 45th Regt (ARVN): Operated in close mutual coordination and cooperation with the Brigade in operations southwest of KHANH DUONG.
 - o. LAC THIEN CIDG Camp: Provided two companies in direct support of Brigade operations in the SUMMERALL AO.
 - p. BUON BLECH CIDG Camp: Conducted independent search and destroy operations in the western portion of SUMMERALL AO.
 - q. 23d Recon Co (ARVN): Conducted reconnaissance operations north of Route 21 in the west portion of SUMMERALL AO.
 - r. KHANH HOA Sector: Provided one Intelligence Platoon in direct support of Brigade operations southeast of KHANH DUONG.
8. (U) Intelligence: See Inclosure 1, Intelligence.

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9. (C) Mission: Headquarters, I Field Force Vietnam directed the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division to move from the base camp vicinity PHAN RANG on 28 March 1967 to a base camp vicinity KHANH DUONG and, on 31 March to initiate operations to search out and destroy enemy units and installations in the SUMMERALL AO. After the initiation of the operation, the SUMMERALL AO was extended to the southeast and the Brigade's mission was modified to include the conduct of search and destroy operations in the HON BA area. Inclosure 2, Operations Schematics.

10. (C) Concept of Operation: Operation SUMMERALL consisted of search and destroy operations conducted in three phases:

a. Phase I of Operation SUMMERALL commenced on 30 March 1967 with the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry (-) conducting an airmobile assault into the HAROI base area in the eastern portion of SUMMERALL AO with two companies to exploit a B-52 strike and conduct search and destroy operations. This one battalion (-) airmobile assault constituted a plan to deceive the enemy as to where the actual Brigade main effort would be made. In conjunction with this airmobile assault, one company of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry, OPCON to the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, established positions on critical terrain along Route 21 between KHANH DUONG and DUC MY to secure the highway for the daily conduct of logistical convoys.

b. Phase II of Operation SUMMERALL was conducted in the southern portion of the SUMMERALL AO in the vicinity of BUON MI GA during the period 3 - 16 April 1967. On 3 April the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry and the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry conducted airmobile assaults in the BUON MI GA area and initiated search and destroy operations. In conjunction with these airmobile assaults, the 3d Battalion, 45th ARVN Regiment moved overland from BAN ME THOUT and initiated search and destroy operations west of BUON MI GA in close mutual coordination with the Brigade. On 4 April the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry (-) terminated operation in the HAROI area and conducted airmobile/overland extractions to KHANH DUONG. On 6 April the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry conducted airmobile assaults south of KHANH DUONG and commenced search and destroy operations. One company of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry assumed the security mission for daily logistical convoys on Route 21 between KHANH DUONG and DUC MY. On 15 April the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry (-) conducted airmobile extractions to KHANH DUONG. On 16 April one company of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry assumed the Route 21 security mission.

c. Phase III of operation SUMMERALL was conducted in the southeastern portion of the SUMMERALL AO in the vicinity of HON BA area during the period 17-29 April. On 17 April the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry conducted airmobile assaults into the HON BA area and commenced search and destroy operations. The 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry and the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry reoriented in their respective zones and commenced search and destroy operations toward the HON BA. On 21 April two CIDG companies and two Mike Force companies from Company E, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne) initiated search and destroy operations in the southern portion of SUMMERALL AO in close coordination with the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry. On 26 April the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry terminated operations in the SUMMERALL AO and conducted airmobile extractions to KHANH DUONG to conduct maintenance and prepare for future operations. On 27 April the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry conducted airmobile assaults into the southeast corner of the adjusted SUMMERALL AO and initiated search and destroy operations toward the west into the HON BA area. The 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry reoriented and continued search and destroy operations toward the south and west. On 28 April one company of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry assumed the Route 21 security mission. The company of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry conducted overland movement to KHANH DUONG and commenced maintenance and preparation for future operations. Operation SUMMERALL terminated on 292400H April 67 and the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry and the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry conducted airmobile/overland extractions to KHANH DUONG

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and commenced maintenance and preparation for future operations.

II. (C) EXECUTION:

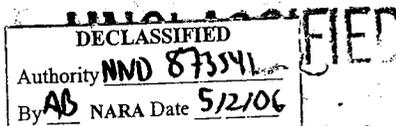
a. Operation SUMMERALL was characterized by small unit actions and sporadic contact with small enemy forces. The search and destroy tactics utilized consisted of saturation patrolling, night movement, night ambushes, and the use of small unit staybehind forces. The terrain over which operations were conducted included mountainous jungle and rolling, thickly forested hills.

b. Operation SUMMERALL was initiated seven days after the termination of Operation FARRAGUT in the BINH THUAN, NINH THUAN and LAM DONG Provinces. On 28 March, the Brigade began air and overland movements from PHAN RANG and TUY HOA to KHANH DUONG. The Brigade minus closed into KHANH DUONG on 29 March. Operation SUMMERALL commenced at 300001H March 1967.

c. Phase I: The three maneuver battalions of the Brigade were located at the Brigade Base Camp in the vicinity of KHANH DUONG. At 300900H March 1967, the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry (-) conducted an airmobile assault into the HAROI area northeast of KHANH DUONG to commence search and destroy operations. This airmobile assault was an attempt to deceive the enemy as to the Brigade's true objective, the BUON MI GA area. To further enhance the deception, a B-52 strike in the HAROI area was conducted immediately prior to the airmobile assault. In conjunction with the airmobile assault, Company A, 14th Engineer Battalion commenced road opening operations on a spur northwest of KHANH DUONG to Route 9B and then up Route 9B to the HAROI area (Inclosure 2, Tab A). One company of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry OPCON to the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry, conducted an overland move to location astride Route 21 between KHANH DUONG and DUC MY and established security positions to keep Route 21 open for daily logistical convoys. Troop A, 2d Squadron (Airborne), 17th Cavalry and the MP Platoon, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division commenced daily escort for engineer sweep teams and logistical convoys between KHANH DUONG and DUC MY. Contact within the AO during the period 30 March - 3 April was relatively light. On 30 March one NVA was captured. Interrogation of the PW indicated that the HAROI area was being used by enemy forces as a transient base rather than a primary installation. Three brief contacts on 31 March by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 3 KIA (BC), 1 NVA KIA (EST), and the capture of 2 individual weapons and miscellaneous supplies and small arms ammunition. On 1 April one company of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry conducted an airmobile assault north of the HAROI area and commenced search and destroy operations to the south. Another company surrounded and searched an inhabited hamlet resulting in the capture of 9 VC, 7 male detainees of military age, four individual weapons, and miscellaneous small arms and NVA equipment. Subsequent interrogation of the PW's led to the capture of 3 additional individual weapons and documents. 43 innocent civilians located in the hamlet were extracted by air to CUNG SON. 75 refugees were discovered moving southwest through the HAROI area and were extracted by air to KHANH DUONG. One brief contact on 2 April resulted in the capture of one individual weapon. On 4 April the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry (-) terminated search and destroy operations in the HAROI area and conducted airmobile and overland extractions to KHANH DUONG and prepared for future operations in the SUMMERALL AO.

d. Phase II: The second phase of Operation SUMMERALL began on 3 April with the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry and the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry conducting airmobile assaults southwest of KHANH DUONG in the BUON MI GA area and initiating search and destroy operations to the southwest and west respectively. Two CIDG companies from the IAC THIEN CIDG Camp conducted airmobile assaults to the south of BUON MI GA and commenced search and destroy operations to the north. One company in direct support of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry and the other company in direct support of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry. The 3d Battalion, 45th ARVN Regiment conducted overland assaults from BAN ME THOU to an area west of BUON MI GA and commenced search and destroy operations to the east in close mutual coordination with the Brigade.

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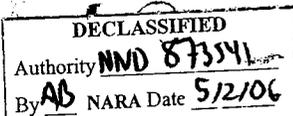
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The LRRP Platoon, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division conducted airmobile insertions west of KHANH DUONG and commenced surveillance of the area. On 4 April a light contact by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in the capture of one individual weapon. One LRRP team contacted approximately 50 VC resulting in 9 VC KIA (BC), 3 VC KIA (EST), 1 detainee and miscellaneous documents captured. A study of the documents and interrogation of the detainee indicated that the element contacted was a portion of the DARLAC Province Headquarters, and was partially composed of NVA personnel. On 5 April one company of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry conducted airmobile extractions to KHANH DUONG and from KHANH DUONG conducted overland move to assume the security mission of Route 21. The company of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry which was relieved of the Route 21 security mission conducted overland movement to KHANH DUONG and commenced preparation for future operations in the SUMMERALL AO. On 6 April the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry (-) conducted airmobile assaults to the south of KHANH DUONG and commenced search and destroy operations to the southwest. One company of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry assumed the mission of Brigade IAF and remained at KHANH DUONG. On 7 April the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry (-) conducted airmobile assaults to the northeast of BUON MI GA and commenced search and destroy operations to the north toward Route 21. A hut discovered by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry (-) resulted in the capture of one individual weapon. On 9 April the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry discovered 1 VC body which had apparently been killed by artillery fires approximately two days prior. On 10 April the LRRP Platoon, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division extracted to KHANH DUONG and commenced preparation for future operations in the SUMMERALL AO. On 11 April the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry conducted airmobile assaults south of KHANH DUONG and commenced search and destroy operations to the northeast. One CIDG company, LAC THIEN CIDG Camp terminated its direct support role to the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry and extracted to LAC THIEN. The LRRP Platoon, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division conducted airmobile insertions southeast of KHANH DUONG and commenced surveillance of the area. Two light contacts by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 NVA KIA (BC), 1 VC KIA (BC) and 1 individual weapon captured. Two light contacts by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry resulted in 1 US KIA, 3 US WIA and 1 enemy machine gun captured. On 12 April a light contact by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 2 NVA KIA (BC) and 2 individual weapons captured. Two light contacts by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry resulted in 2 VC KIA (BC). On 13 April a light contact by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 2 US WIA, 1 VC KIA (BC) and 1 individual weapon captured. A light contact by the LRRP Platoon, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division resulted in 2 VC KIA (BC) and 1 individual weapon captured. On 14 April a light contact by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 VC KIA (BC). Two light contacts by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry resulted in 1 US WIA and 1 enemy individual weapon captured. On 15 April the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry (-) terminated operations in the south portion of the SUMMERALL AO and conducted airmobile extraction to KHANH DUONG to commence preparation for future operations in the SUMMERALL AO. One CIDG company, LAC THIEN CIDG Camp terminated direct support to the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry and extracted to LAC THIEN. On 16 April one company of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry extracted to KHANH DUONG and then moved overland to assume the Route 21 security mission. The company of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry relieved of the Route 21 security mission returned overland to KHANH DUONG and commenced preparation for future operations.

e. Phase III: The third phase of Operation SUMMERALL commenced on 17 April. The 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry continued search and destroy operations to the northeast. The 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry reoriented in the AO and commenced search and destroy operations to the southeast. The 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry conducted airmobile assaults in the HON BA area in the southeast portion of the SUMMERALL AO and commenced search and destroy operations to the southeast. Two CIDG Companies, LAC THIEN CIDG Camp conducted airmobile assaults into the southeast portion of SUMMERALL AO, one company in direct support of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry and one

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company in direct support of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry. A light contact by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 US WIA, 1 VC KIA (BC) and 1 enemy individual weapon captured. Two light contacts by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry resulted in 2 VC KIA (BC) and 2 individual weapons captured. On 18 April a contact with approximately 15 NVA by one platoon of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 3 NVA KIA (BC). The LRRP Platoon, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division conducted airmobile extractions to KHANH DUONG and commenced preparation for future operations in the SUMMERALL AO. On 19 April two light contacts by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 2 NVA KIA (BC), 1 VC KIA (EST) and 1 individual weapon captured. On 20 April a light contact by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry resulted in 1 US WIA. The LRRP Platoon, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division conducted an airmobile raid on a suspected VC communication site to the south of KHANH DUONG with negative results. Upon completion of a search of the area the platoon extracted to KHANH DUONG. On 21 April two light contacts by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 NVA KIA (BC), 1 detainee and 2 individual weapons, miscellaneous documents, small arms ammunition and medical supplies captured. Two CIDG and Mike Force Companies, Company E, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), NHA TRANG commenced operations in the southeast portion of the SUMMERALL AO in conjunction with the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. On 22 April three moderate contacts by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 2 US KIA, 1 US WIA, 2 VC KIA (BC), 1 detainee (WIA), and 6 enemy individual weapons captured. Three light contacts by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry resulted in 3 US KIA, 3 US WIA, 3 VC KIA (BC) and 1 enemy individual weapon and 3 grenades captured. On 23 April a light contact by the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 VC KIA (BC) and 1 individual weapon captured. A search of the area of contact which occurred on 21 April by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 2 machine guns, 4 individual weapons, 1 pair binoculars and miscellaneous equipment and documents captured. The documents confirmed that elements of the 18B NVA Regiment were operating in that area. Two contacts by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 2 VC KIA (BC), 1 VC KIA (EST) and 4 individual weapons, 3 grenades and miscellaneous medical supplies captured. A light contact by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry resulted in 1 NVA KIA (BC) and 1 individual weapon captured. On 24 April four contacts by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 2 US WIA, 8 VC KIA (BC) and 1 machine gun, 1 individual weapon, 5 rucksacks, 1 satchel charge and 3 primed dynamite sticks captured. The LRRP Platoon, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division conducted airmobile insertions west of KHANH DUONG and commenced surveillance of the area. The platoon made light contact upon insertion resulting in 1 VC KIA (BC). On 25 April a light contact by the LRRP Platoon, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division resulted in 1 detainee (WIA) and 1 pistol captured. On 26 April the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry (-) terminated operations in the SUMMERALL AO and conducted airmobile extractions to KHANH DUONG and commenced preparations for future operations. The 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry activated a booby trap resulting in 2 US WIA. Three contacts by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry resulted in 3 VC KIA (BC), 1 VC KIA (EST) and 4 individual weapons captured. On 27 April the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry reoriented in its AO and commenced search and destroy operations to the southwest. The 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry conducted airmobile assaults into the southeast corner of the SUMMERALL AO and commenced search and destroy operations to the west. A light contact by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 US WIA. Two contacts by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry resulted in 1 US WIA, 3 VC KIA (BC), 2 NVA KIA (BC) and 1 individual individual weapon captured. One company of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry extracted to KHANH DUONG and commenced preparation for future operations. On 28 April one company of the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry moved overland to assume the Route 21 security mission. The company of the 1st Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry relieved of the security mission returned overland to KHANH DUONG and commenced preparation for future operations. A light contact by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 VC KIA (BC) and 1 individual weapon captured. On 29 April a light contact by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry resulted in 1 VC KIA (BC). The LRRP Platoon, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne

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Division conducted airmobile extraction to KHANH DUONG and commenced preparations for future operations. Operation SUMMERALL terminated at 292400H April 1967. On 30 April the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry (-) conducted airmobile/overland extractions to KHANH DUONG and commenced preparations for future operations. The 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry conducted airmobile/overland extractions to KHANH DUONG and commenced preparations for future operations. A contact by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 502d Infantry resulted in 2 VC KIA (BC) and 1 individual weapon captured. The two CIDG Companies, IAC THIEN CIDG Camp terminated direct support and extracted to LAC THIEN.

12. (C) Results:

a. The 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division accomplished its mission of conducting search and destroy operations to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces in the SUMMERALL AO.

b. The following losses were inflicted on the enemy during the operation: 72 VC/NVA KIA (BC), 10 VC/NVA KIA (EST), 1 NVAC, 11 VCC, 2 detainees, 3 machine guns, 54 individual weapons, 21 tons of rice, 3.25 tons of corn, and miscellaneous ammunition, equipment, and medical supplies.

c. Friendly Losses during the operation were: 7 US KIA, 43 US WIA, 1 UH-1D destroyed.

13. (U) Administrative Matters:

a. Personnel and Administration: See Inclosure 3, Personnel and Administration.

b. Logistics: See Inclosure 4, Logistics.

c. Civic Action: See Inclosure 6, Civil Affairs.

14. (C) Special Equipment and Techniques:

a. During Operation SUMMERALL the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 327th Infantry established a forward aid station at its TAC CP for the purpose of processing routine medical evacuations. Instead of calling for a medical evacuation helicopter to evacuate routine patients, the battalions command or utility helicopters were utilized to extract the routine patients to the forward aid station where the battalion surgeon would treat the patients and determine if they should be returned to duty or be evacuated for further medical attention. This process reduced the loss of manpower to rifle companies and greatly negated the need for medical evacuation helicopters.

b. In mountainous, jungle terrain where LZ's are difficult to locate, extraction of caches can be accomplished by lowering from hovering helicopters, 32 gallon garbage cans attached to nylon ropes through the jungle canopy. This technique permits rapid intelligence evaluation and relieves the ground units of the burden of carrying the cache to an extraction location.

c. An area of six square kilometers where several contacts occurred was saturated with CS by throwing into the area 636 CS grenades and 30 bags of CS-1 from a helicopter. Upon completion of the saturation, one company using M-17 protective masks swept the area toward another company in a blocking position.

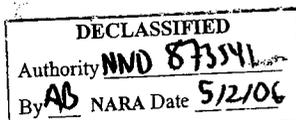
d. During the Operation SUMMERALL the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 320th Artillery conducted calibration at field firing positions using a sky-screen type chronograph. Approximately three hours was required to calibrate each battery.

15. (C) Commanders Analysis:

a. Lessons Learned

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(1) Preparation of a dry grass LZ by tactical air using fragmentation bombs presents little hazard of fire on the LZ which would render the LZ unusable for airmobile assaults.

(2) The new overprinted maps were highly accurate and proved extremely beneficial in terrain navigation. Extensive use of overprinted maps by the Brigade will be implemented during future operations.

(3) The use of CS contamination of old CP locations and artillery positions denies access of these areas to VC for periods up to seven days.

(4) The use of CS to force an enemy to evacuate an area or come out of hiding can aid search and destroy operations without interfering with the actions of troops on the ground.

(5) During Operation SUMMERALL the elements of the Brigade conducted operations in areas where FWWAF previously operated. VC occupied base camps in these areas revealed evidence that they had previously been entered by FWWAF. Information provided by these forces was used by the Brigade upon entering these areas.

(6) A calibration was conducted by the 2d Battalion (Airborne), 320th Artillery using a sky-screen type chronograph at tactical firing positions. This type of calibration required only three hours for each firing battery.

b. Commanders Notes:

(1) Movement into KHANH DUONG by the Brigade from PHAN RANG and TUY HOA was accomplished by both vehicular convoy and air movement over a two day period. Over 50% of the Brigade personnel and 75% of the Brigade vehicles conducted convoy movement, there by greatly reducing the amount of Air Force lift normally required to displace the brigade.

(2) Daily logistical convoy operation between KHANH DUONG and CAM RANH greatly increased the Brigade's logistical resupply capabilities as well as creating a psychological service for the Vietnamese civil population. Civil vehicular and pedestrian traffic on Route 21 increased daily. In addition, these convoys demonstrated to the Vietnamese inhabitants of the area that the FWWAF and the South Vietnamese government, not the Viet Cong, were in control of the area.

c. Recommendations:

(1) Because of the extensive use of artillery, calibration of artillery batteries at field firing positions using sky-screen type chronograph should be accomplished every two months (See Inclosure 8, Artillery).

(2) A unit, upon entering a new operation area, should be advised of all intelligence gained by FWWAF which have previously operated in the same area.



Inclosure:

- 1 - Intelligence
- 2 - Operation Schematics
- 3 - Personnel and Administration
- 4 - Logistics
- 5 - Communications
- 6 - Civil Affairs

S.H. MATHESON
Brigadier General, USA
Commanding

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