

DAILY STAFF JOURNAL OR DUTY OFFICER'S LOG

(AR 220-346)

PAGE NO. 1

NO. OF PAGES 9

ORGANIZATION OR INSTALLATION

LOCATION

PERIOD COVERED

S3 2d Bn (Abn), 501st Inf

AN LO, RVN

FR 602 303

FROM

TO

HOUR  
0001

DATE  
19 Feb 68

HOUR  
2400

DATE  
19 Feb 68

ITEM NO.	TIME		INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, JORD, ETC	ACTION TAKEN	INITIALS
	IN	OUT			
1	0010		<del>XXXXXXXX</del> Journal opened.		
2	0010		Fr B Co: Rear receiving sniper fire fr 90° approx 20 rds - nocasualties.		
3	0025		Fr B Co: Ref mess, ge No 2 only 10 rds Semi auto - fr 65° AZ.		
4	0026		Fr B Co: Lot of movement on west and southw of compound, don't know if the occupant is vc.		
5	0120		Fr B Co: Sitrep Neg.		
6	0226		Time hack with B Co.		
7	0230		Fr B Co: Sitrep Neg.		
8		0300	Comme check with 3d Bde.		
9	0430		Fm B Co: Sitrep Neg.		
10	0515		Comme ck with 3d Bde.		
11	0530		Fm B Co: Sitrep Neg.		
12	0630		Fm B Co: Sitrep Neg.		
13	0755		Bn CO S3 Arty LNO reported for PK-17. To be briefed on today attack, by personnel at 3d Bde, hdqtrs.		
14	0805		Fr Recon: Moving at this time.		
15			Fr S3 Air: Air strike req 1100 hrs, nlt tot 1130 will have to be sky spot, therefore no real heavy stuff. Lift of A & C Co is still		

DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS  
DOD DIR 5200.10

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ACTION TAKEN

INITIALS

15 Cont

to be briefed on today's attack, by personnel at 3d Bde, Hdqtrs.

16

0805

Fr Recon: Moving at this time.

17

Fr S3 Air: ~~SIX~~ Air strike req 1100 hrs. NLT

TOT 1130, will have to be sky spot. Therefore

no real heavy stuff. Lift at A & C Co in

still schedule for 0830, however very bad weather

may delay it.

18

0812

Fr D Co to 3d Bde: LZ now secure.

19

0855

Fr Recon: Have linked up with D Co.

20

0900

Fr D Co: Have a plat on sally, 1 evac, will

depart with Recon in 10 min.

21

0901

To S3 air: Have FO's of A & C get on Freq

35.75.

22

0920

Fr S3: B Co 1ACD: You will have friendly operating

in your AO. Headed for the following coord

612 280, 618 260, 630 270. They will be

impossible to tell from VC, D Co will get

fr 3d Bde S3. Give to S3 Air for A & C. By

telephone.

23

0943

1st lift 81am off

24

0954

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An Lo RVN

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ITEM NO.	TIME		INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, ETC.	ACTION TAKEN	INITIALS
	IN	OUT			
24	1003		Del Ent: 8lmort lift is complete to Sally	Bde	
25	1012		2 Chinooks on ground at LZ Sally A Co		
26	1025		2 Hook loads departed Evans for Sally.		
27	1031		2 hooks landed Sally that closes out A Co	Bde	
28	1040		Fr S3 Air: 2 Hooks of C Co departed.		
28	1058		Last 2 chinooks landed at Charlie departed now.	J Bde	
29	1105		B Co send plat to Vic YD 625308 to investigate possible landing site.	Bde	
30	1050		Fr E Co CO: observed 4 vertical column of smoke possible rocket launching site vic 655316.		
31	1130		B Co element moving out to investigate possible launching site.	J	
32	1145		B Co location R 3.2 D 0.4 from Bow 622306		
31			FO with plt from B Co report 2 VC moving north vic 624323.	1150	
32	1210		B Co SITREP Negative	J Bde	
33	1125		B Co has picked up 1 detainee to be brought to this location.	Bde J	
34	1235		1/6 trench found leading to open field. Coordinates 62 5314, detainee states that there are mortar positions located 638305.		
35	1245		C Co began moving.		
36	1314		Fr A Co: observed 1 man in K ba???		

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ITEM NO.	TIME		INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, ETC.	ACTION TAKEN	INITIALS
	IN	OUT			
36	continued		shot at C Co objective in C Co area.	CO	
37	1425		Fr C Co: have obj in sight	TAC CP	
38	1445		Fr C Co: On obj 2 neg contact # Co on obj 1		
39	1530		Recon see some NVA off to the right at C Co: going		
40	1530		Fr D: Still have a friendly down, cannot get CO evacuated. 630 255 D Co wounded by SA fire.		
41	1535		A Co: Have two LMG to direct front, one of them is 15m in front of 3rd Plt, have them pinned down.		
42	1540		Fr D Co: Receiving heavy fire now.		
43	1545		Fr C Co: Shifting to the right ALPHA is advising have seen some NVA here equipped.		
44	1540		Fr A Co: Fire slackened up when ARA fire went over. When ARA left, NVA opened up again.		
45	1547		To CO E Co: Take a couple of readings and see what direction fire is coming from.		
46	1538		Fr D Co: CO was only slightly wounded. Does not require medivac, bleeding has stopped.		
47	1540		C Co: 640 245 A Co: 645 255		

~~SECRET~~

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	IN	OUT			
48	1542		Fr D Co: 3d Plat cannot move.		
49	1559		Bn CO: Believe there is sniper between A & D.		
50			Recon at L 5.0 U 4.0		
51			A Co: Have 2 casualties, think need eva, one in 1st Sgt, hit him in the elbow.		
52			Still have some wounded, can't get them out.		
53	1615		Fr A Co: 2 KIA-6WIA, that I know of trying to work out to the north to secure LZ. Just East of Obj 1, have personnel between C and m position.		
54	1618		C Co: Have 1 killed and 4 wounded, that I heard of. Request ship- am in good position for it.		
55	1620		From V Co: Are on your left, receiving fire.		
56	1624		Fm A Co to C Co: Have overrun our bunker, receiving fire from you, cut it out.		
57	1625		Fire at 6525.		
58	1630		Fr A Co: Believe we are engaged with <del>with A Co</del> again.		
59	1640		Fr A to CO: Still firing over my <del>troops</del> troops. Some NVA there, if you stop firing, we can get them.		

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ITEM NO.	TIME		INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, ETC.	ACTION TAKEN	INITIALS
	IN	OUT			
60			C Co: 2d Plat tied in with A Co 3d Plat moved up from the rear, hear mortar fire landing on the enemy.		
61			Sniper has got about 3 of 36 element.		
<del>62</del>			Some of the Mtr rds hit close to me, need med evac.		
62			1655 A co medivac is prepared. 1st lift still here, 3 wia's ad 4 kia's.		
63			To A Co fr 6: You are on the edge of Blue.		
64			C Co's 3d Platoon has a Plat CP pinned down w/4 slightly wounded around them.		
65			C Co will need 1 med evac when I can get my wounded out.		
66			EFr C Co: Your perimeter for tomig t will be NW of your present loc.		
67			C Co needs a Dust Off. Need more than thought, have to secure an LZ.		
68	1810		D & CP Loc fr case R 4.8-U 5.6. <del>CONFIDENTIAL</del>		
<del>69</del>			moving to that loc for Rcn.		
69	1815		C Co requires medevac 2 pers - ship on station.		
70	1835		Medevac completed for all elements.		
71	1937		CP lof fr case R 4.2 U 5.5 YD 632 265 All elements (A,C,Rcn,D) closed in perimeter.		

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18 Feb

ITEM NO. TIME IN OUT INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, ETC. ACTION TAKEN INITIALS

72 2000 Fr 3: R supply req will be sent to you approx one hr. Plan on water, C-rations are Class V. Also request a C & C ship in addition to a log ship for tomorrow.

73 2020 To Bde Fr Bn CO: Recap of today's action: A and C got to obj 1 and 2 w/o any indication of enemy activity after a good prep was fired A passed three 1 into black (edge of Black) C Co moved three 2 to just south of boundary between Blue and Black w/D and CP group following D Co: NVA let A & C pass thru 1 and 2, ~~plan~~ probably as a result of the prep at the time I was engaged heavily immediately ~~follow~~ following A and C were heavily engaged. Terrain consist of Island. Wooded rising up out of the rice paddies, each one being heavily fortified. Results: Friendly CAS: 5 KIA, 18 WIA (evaced) 1 WIA (not evaced) minor.

74 0940 ~~XXXX~~ B Co reports sighting an individual(s) moving to its front.

75 2140 Fr B Co: Received 3 incoming rds of M-79. Hit the Berm, ~~we~~ believed they were fired from about 60m down the underbrush on North

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	IN	OUT			
75	Cont		side of river.		
76	2157		D Co instructed to call H & I on grid 643 255 with 4.2 Mort Flat.		
77	2157		Kilo 6 said most person perimeter has one Sqd ready to shoot Illum.		
78	2240		Air support requests for YD 643 255, 650, 250, 652 249 for 0900, 1000, 1100, resp to Bde.		
79	2305		Fr Bde: Due to possible compromise, day 20 KACQY 242 auth numerical code will not be used for period 200001 to 202400 Feb 68. Day 30 of KAC QY 242 will be off.		
80	2310		B Co rpts receiving sporadic sniper fire also one trip flare set off and personnel engaged possible hits- unable to confirm.		
81			Journal Closed.		

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

TYPED NAME AND GRADE OF OFFICER OR OFFICIAL ON DUTY

SIGNATURE

CPT. MADRS, CPT. Armor

*Beun L. Madrs*



## 2D BATTALION (AIRMOBILE), 501ST INFANTRY UNIT HISTORY FOR 1968

### GENERAL

The 2d Battalion (Abn), 501st Infantry began the new year in the III CTZ operating in the vicinity of Cu Chi, RVN. In January, the entire Battalion was airlifted to Hue in northern I CTZ. During the remainder of the year, the Battalion operated within a 50 kilometer radius of Hue.

Operations during the year included, reconnaissance in force, search and destroy, cordon and search, and security missions. Contact was sporadic and ranged from encounters with individual trail watchers to engagements with reinforced platoons in well prepared defensive positions.

During the year the Battalion was commanded by three different individuals: LTC Richard Tallman (1 Jan-27 Apr 68), LTC J. A. Meiter (27 Apr-4 Nov 68), and LTC J. C. Wilson (4 Nov-).

Also during the year, the Battalion was reorganized from an airborne to an airmobile configuration while continuing to perform all missions assigned.

### JANUARY 1968

During the first portion of January 1968, the 2d Battalion (Abn), 501st Infantry operated in the vicinity of Cu Chi, RVN and participated in both Operations Uniontown and Normandy. No significant contact was made during this period; however, numerous mines and booby traps were encountered.

On 26 January 1968, the Battalion was airlifted to Hue in northern I CTZ, RVN. The Battalion CP was located in the vicinity of what is now called Camp Eagle. The remainder of the month was unusually quiet.

### FEBRUARY 1968

On 2 February, the Battalion was placed under the operational control of the 3d Brigade, 1st Air Cavalry Division and remained in this status for approximately two weeks. During this period, the Battalion initially provided security for Camp Evans and subsequently conducted limited operations in the rocket belts around Camp Eagle and Camp Evans.

On 17 February, the 2-501 was assigned the mission of providing security for the An Lo Bridge located northwest of Hue. While enroute to the An Lo Bridge, the Battalion received a change in mission and proceeded to LZ Sally where it marshaled with the 3d Brigade, 1st ACD in preparation for Operation Jeb Stuart.

The lead elements of the 2-501 initiated their phase of Operation Jeb Stuart on 19 February by moving South toward Hue with the mission of

clearing all approaches into Hue from the northwest in conjunction with the 9-7 and 2-12 Cavalry. During the move to Hue, elements of the Battalion were continuously harassed by snipers and squad and platoon sized delaying forces.

Upon closing to the northern portion of the wall around Hue, the Battalion established defensive positions and conducted search and destroy operations in the immediate vicinity. Results of the operation were: 95 enemy killed, 29 captured and 12 weapons sized.

#### MARCH 1968

The operations during March were characterized by aggressive daylight patrols and sweeps and numerous night ambushes in the area to the West of Hue.

Although numerous booby traps were encountered initially, and enemy body counts of fourteen were not uncommon for the night ambushes, enemy contact decreased as the month passed. The enemy was successfully repelled from the villages adjacent to Hue and forced out into the densely vegetated foothills.

#### APRIL 1968

On 1 April the 2-501 deployed to Utah Beach north of Hue and subsequently established Firebase Hardcore southwest of this area. During operations in this area over 60 NVA were killed.

During the period 21-25 April, the Battalion conducted extremely successful cordon and search operations in Quang Dien District resulting in over 85 NVA KIA and numerous weapons captured. The most notable result of these operations was the egress of NVA/VC units from the area.

#### MAY - SEPTEMBER 1968

In early May the Battalion returned to its former operational area West of Hue and began the slow task of identifying and destroying the VC infrastructure.

As the operations of the 2-501 expanded to include the area adjacent to the initial operational area, contact continued to be light and sporadic. This trend continued thru the month of September. Mines and booby traps were encountered; food, ammunition, and weapons caches were located; small VC elements ranging from two to fifteen personnel were ambushed and eliminated; and the local VC infrastructure was identified and rendered ineffective.

#### OCTOBER 1968

Contact continued to be light and sporadic during the first portion of