

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, 25th INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO San Francisco 96225

Operational Report-Lessons learned for the period 1 November 68 to 31 January 69.

CONTENTS

	<u>PAGE</u>
<b>Section 1. Significant Activities</b>	
A. General	1
B. Chronology of Significant Combat Actions	6
C. Combat Aviation Support Operations	119
D. Personnel	119
E. Principle Command and Staff	119
F. Organisation	119
G. Training	119
H. Intelligence and Security	119
I. Logistics	119
J. G-5 Activities	119
K. Signal Activities	119
L. Engineer Activities	119
<b>Section 2. Lessons Learned</b>	
A. Personnel	119
B. Operations	120
C. Training	121
D. Intelligence	121
E. Logistics	122
F. Organisation	122
G. Other	122
Section 3. Headquarters, Department of the Army survey information - Escape, Evasion and Survival	123

**TABS**

- A. Organisation for Combat, 1 November 68 to 31 January 69.
- B. Statistical Summary, Results of 25th Infantry Operations, 1 November 68 to 31 January 69.
- C. ACof S/G-1, Operational Report-Lessons Learned.
- D. ACof S/G-2, Operational Report-Lessons Learned.
- E. ACof S/G-3, Operational Report-Lessons Learned.
- F. ACof S/G-4, Operational Report-Lessons Learned.
- G. ACof S/G-5, Operational Report-Lessons Learned.
- H. 25th Aviation Battalion, Operational Report-Lessons Learned.
- I. 65th Engineer Battalion, Operational Report-Lessons Learned.
- J. 125th Signal Battalion, Operational Report-Lessons Learned.
- K. Division Support Command, Operational Report-Lessons Learned.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

- L. 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry, Operational Report, Lessons Learned.
- M. 1st Brigade, Operational Report, Lessons Learned.
- N. 2nd Brigade, Operational Report, Lessons Learned.
- O. 3rd Brigade, Operational Report, Lessons Learned.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, 25TH INFANTRY DIVISION  
APO San Francisco 96225

AVDCME

1 February 1969

SUBJECT: Operational Report of the 25th Infantry Division for the  
Period Ending 31 January 1969, RCS ACSFOR - 65 (R-1).

SEE DISTRIBUTION

Location: Vicinity of CU CHI Base Camp (XT 647153), CU CHI, RVN.  
Reporting Officer: Major General Ellis W. Williamson.  
Prepared By: Major Richard A. Baun, Commanding Officer, 18th Military  
History Detachment.  
Map References: Vietnam, 1:50,000, Series: L7014, Sheets: 6132 II;  
6131 I, II; 6232 II, III, IV; 6231 I, II, III, IV; 6230 I, II, III,  
IV; 6331 III; 6330 I, III, IV.

1. (C) Section 1, Operations: Significant Activities.

A. General. The 25th Infantry Division (Tropic Lightning) continued its participation in Operation TOAN THANG, Phase II throughout the report-period, 1 November 1968 to 31 January 1969. Operation TOAN THANG, Phase II commenced on 1 June 1968, and the divisional Operational Reports for the quarterly periods ending 31 July and 31 October 1968 provide comprehensive data and information on the division's operational activities in the operations earlier stages.

Throughout the reporting period, all divisional resources and assets were committed to Operation TOAN THANG which is directed at the destruction of Viet Cong/North Vietnamese (VC/NVA) main force units and enemy political and guerilla infrastructure (VCI) operating within the divisional tactical area of operational interest (TAOI) (see sketch #1).

As the reporting period opened on 1 November 1968, the 25th Infantry Division was generally deployed in the following posture: the 1st Brigade operated in and around TAY NINH City with an overall area of operations that included the northwest quadrant of the divisional TAOI, the 2nd Brigade was deployed in the southern half of the TAOI with an area of operations that generally included areas south of the east-west 30 grid line, and the 3rd Brigade operated in and around the town of BAU TIENG with an overall AO that encompassed the northeast quadrant of the divisional TAOI. These general brigade areas of operations remained in effect throughout the reporting period with modifications and boundary changes made from time to time as will be indicated throughout this narrative. A daily Task Organization for the division for the months of November, December, and January is included as Tab A of this report. This Task Organization indicates the composition of the divisional brigades for the reporting period.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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

FOR AT UT

691258 Inclosure 1

## CONFIDENTIAL

The general tactical situation at the beginning of the reporting period was characterized by the withdrawal of VC/HVA main force units into sanctuaries in northern War Zone "C" and Cambodia to reorganize, refit, and retrain following the offensive against TAY NINH City in the August-September time frame. Intelligence sources available to the division indicated that the enemy's intention at the time was to prepare his main force units that had been badly mauled in August-September for a renewed offensive effort against TAY NINH City. While these preparations were taking place, the enemy would limit his activities to scattered battalion size and smaller operations aimed at interdicting the main supply routes (MSR) and harassing U.S. and South Vietnamese military bases and installations. In addition, enemy local force units would continue their normal harassing activities within their customary areas of operations.

In view of this general enemy situation, the 25th Infantry Division was deployed in a manner in which it could maintain continuous surveillance of the recognized lines of communications (LOC) and avenues of approach for enemy main force units from their sanctuary areas to known target areas; namely, SAIGON and TAY NINH. In addition, extensive operations were to be carried out against enemy main force and local force units suspected to be still located in reduced numbers in such areas as the "CITADEL", the "TRAPEZOID", the BOI LOI Woods, the "CRESCENT", and the "STRAIGHT EDGE" Woods.

Throughout the month of November, the 1st Brigade with two maneuver battalions (3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry and 4th Battalion (Mechanized), 23rd Infantry) continued to follow the operational tactics that had proven so successful in August and September in pre-empting the enemy's attack on TAY NINH City. The two infantry battalions and the brigade's direct support artillery battalion (7th Battalion, 11th Artillery) continued to maintain blocking positions on the outskirts of the city astride the primary avenues of approach. These blocking positions in the form of artillery fire support bases (Fire Support Bases BUELL, RAWLINS, and WASHINGTON) provided strategically located bases of operations from which the 1st Brigade could mount extensive daylight reconnaissance-in-force and helicopter borne combat assaults in all directions from the city against suspected enemy base areas. During the hours of darkness, the bases sent out extensive platoon size ambush patrols to monitor principal trails and suspected routes of enemy movement. The artillery weapons located at these fire bases were in such a position that day and night they could direct fire into any area surrounding the city.

1st Brigade operations throughout November were closely co-ordinated with South Vietnamese Army (ARVN) airborne battalions and South Vietnamese Marine Battalions that had moved into the TAY NINH region at the height of the enemy attacks in September and had remained in the area in force to defend the city against the continued enemy threat to the city. In addition, the brigade maneuver battalions worked closely with local Regional Force (RF) and Popular Force (PF) units in conducting joint and combined offensive operations against suspected enemy positions and supply areas.

## CONFIDENTIAL

In the month of November, the enemy made no attempt to carry out his threat to renew his attack on TAY NINH. Fighting was generally light despite extensive 1st Brigade efforts to seek out the enemy.

The month of November in the 2nd Brigade area of operations saw almost daily small scale contacts with local force enemy units in the CITADEL-HO BO Woods-FILHOL Plantation complex north of route 1, the SUGAR MILL region of DUC HUE and in the MY HANH-DUC HOA-BAO TRAI triangle.

The 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry working out of Fire Support Base STUART at TRANG BANG and Fire Support Base PERSHING to the northeast conducted extensive offensive operations in the CITADEL to locate numerous enemy supply caches and small base camp complexes. For the first half of the month, the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry working out of Fire Support Base PATTON near TRUNG LAP also operated extensively in the CITADEL. On 19 November, the 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry moved into PATTON to replace the 4th of the 9th in the TRUNG LAP area.

Although no large scale actions by the enemy were encountered, the brigade working in the CITADEL experienced daily difficulties with mines and booby traps that the enemy planted throughout the region.

The 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry working out of Fire Support Base KEENE northeast of DUC HOA continued to conduct its profitable VCI operations in the MY HANH-DUC HOA-BAO TRAI complex. Those continued operations largely neutralized the enemy infrastructure in this vital region to the west of SAIGON.

The 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry and 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor operated to the east of the CU CHI Base Camp out of Fire Support Base CROCKETT near PHU HOA DONG. In mid month, the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry relocated to Fire Support Base REED in the SUGAR MILL area DUC HUE district south of TRANG BANG to counter increased enemy activity in that general area. Two of the most significant combat actions of November within the division TAOI occurred on the nights of 26 and 28 November when the night locations of A Company, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry southwest of THANH MANU came under heavy ground attacks. These enemy attacks were both turned back with a total enemy body count of 51.

The beginning of November in the 3rd Brigade area of operations in the northeastern quadrant of the division TAOI found the 1st Battalion (Mechanized) 5th Infantry working out of DAU TIENG and conducting extensive sweep operations in the BEN CUI and MICHELIN Rubber Plantations. The 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry was deployed in the TRAPEZOID to the south of DAU TIENG operating out of Fire Support Base MAHOME near THANH AN. In the meantime, the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry operated in the BOI LOI Woods out of Fire Support Bases McNAIR and WOOD. ← 2/22

As was the case in the 2nd Brigade area of operations, the maneuver battalions, of the 3rd Brigade experienced almost daily small scale contacts with enemy local force units. The daily sweep operations resulted in the

INCL

CONFIDENTIAL

## CONFIDENTIAL

location of numerous supply caches and small base camp complexes. Extensive use by the enemy of mines and booby traps posed a critical for the brigade elements in the execution of their extensive daily sweep operations and reconnaissance-in-force activities.

The month of December saw a marked increase in the occurrence of significant combat actions as the enemy main force units located in Cambodia made an obvious attempt to mount increased operations within the division's TAOI. In addition to more intense ground contacts with enemy forces, the division's three base camps at CU CHI, TAY NINH and DAN RIENG was subjected to increased attacks by fire.

In the 1st Brigade, the general pre-emptive operations around TAY NINH City were continued and expanded with the employment of an additional fire support base, Fire Support Base MITCHELL, southwest of the city. To counter an increased enemy threat from the southwest, the 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry was placed under the operational control of the 1st Brigade and assigned an AO in that area. This battalion established Patrol Base MOLE (Later redesignated Fire Support Base SEDGWICK) from which to mount its pre-emptive operations.

Between 15 and 22 December, MITCHELL and MOLE became the focal points in the 1st Brigade's actions to destroy the renewed enemy movements against TAY NINH. This effort came to a climax on 22 December when Patrol Base MOLE became the target of a regimental size enemy assault...the largest single enemy effort in the division TAOI since August-September. This attack was turned back with the enemy sustaining 81 dead by body count and an addition 120 killed or wounded as indicated by blood trails and drag marks leading away from the contact site. With this defeat, the enemy main force units again retired across the border into Cambodia, and the immediate threat to TAY NINH was relieved.

The pattern of operations in December within the 2nd Brigade area of operations was generally similar to that of November with an increase of enemy activity in the CITADEL and the area to the south and west of TRANG BANG. The 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry and 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry were successful in countering these increased enemy activities in the CITADEL while the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry turned back enemy probes south and west of TRANG BANG.

Subsequent to Christmas day and the cease fire that was in effect on that day, 2nd Brigade elements moved into the MUSHROOM area to the immediate north of the CITADEL and the HO BO Woods to capture and destroy significant quantities of rice that the enemy attempted to position in that area under the protection of the cease fire.

In the 3rd Brigade area of operations in December, the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry continued to concentrate on the destruction of the enemy strongholds in the TRAPEZOID area. Although the battalion continued to experience almost daily contact with the enemy in that area, the long term success of the battalion's operations in the TRAPEZOID began to become apparent in the progressively reduced severity of these daily contacts.

## CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

The 2nd Battalion, 22nd Infantry continued its operations in the BOI LOI Woods throughout December. The battalion's major engagement during the month occurred on 17 December when it defeated an enemy battalion size ambush along route 239, the MSR between TAY NINH and DAU TIENG. The enemy attempted to ambush a logistical motor convoy along this stretch of road. However, quick reaction by mechanized battalion elements securing the main supply route resulted in the enemy loss of 73 men by body count.

2/22  
17 Dec

The month of January found combat action through the division TAOI relatively light and scattered. The disposition of divisional elements in all three brigades remained relatively constant as the tactical situation during the month remained somewhat static. The 1st Brigade continued to defend TAY NINH, the 2nd Brigade continued its extensive operations in the CITADEL, to the south and west of TRANG BANG and in the MI HANH-DUC HOA-BAO TRAI triangle, and the 3rd Brigade continued operations principally in the TRAPEZOID and BOI LOI Woods.

The one significant combat operation in January that differed from the previous two months was the operation of the 3rd Squadron, 4th Cavalry in the southern portion of the BOI LOI Woods. Working under divisional control, the squadron moved into the southern BOI LOI in response to intelligence indications of increased enemy activity in this region. The operation which continued throughout the last two weeks of the month resulted in several significant contacts.

Throughout the reporting period security of the main supply routes between the numerous division installations and field locations was a continuous requirement. The enemy was active in his efforts to interdict these routes either by ambush activities or the planting of mines and booby traps. The division's mechanized units, namely the cavalry squadron, armor battalion and three mechanized infantry battalions, were given the mission of road security in their respective areas of operation in addition to their other duties.

Two of the major combat actions during the reporting period, those of 17 December and 14 January, involved enemy battalion size ambush attempts against logistical motor convoys. In both cases, elements of the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry reacted quickly to the situation to inflict heavy casualties upon the enemy. The detection of mines along the MSRs was a daily occurrence. Personnel from the division's 65th Engineer Battalion worked closely in support of the maneuver elements to minimize the threat posed by this enemy tactic.

2-22

Engineer elements were also active in the division TAOI throughout the reporting period in extensive land clearing operations. This program was undertaken to deny cover and concealment to the enemy in areas which he was known to use for infiltration and movement. A total of 22,977 acres of land were cleared by the Rome plows of the division engineer battalion and supporting non-divisional engineer elements. Large scale

CONFIDENTIAL

## CONFIDENTIAL

clearing was accomplished in the TRAPEZOID, BOI LOI Woods, the CITADEL and areas around TRANG BANG and BAI DIEU.

Aerial transport and fire support for maneuver elements played an important role in the tactical operations of the 25th Infantry Division during the reporting period. Helicopter troop lift provided the needed rapid mobility to cope with and react to enemy presence and activity within the TAOI. Helicopter gunships were instrumental in virtually every contact between 25th Infantry Division elements and the enemy. Aerial logistical resupply by helicopter of troops in the field and aerial medical evacuation were an integral part of the division's daily activities.

Air Force fighter-bomber air strikes were a prominent factor in over powering the enemy where ever a contact developed and in preempting his activities by striking at suspected base camp and supply locations. Although the number of B-52 strikes in the division area were reduced in number from the previous reporting period, these attacks continued to have a devastating effect on enemy capabilities, operations and morale.

Closely associated to all military operations conducted against enemy main force and local force units throughout the reporting period was the divisional participation in the nationwide campaign of accelerated pacification to increase government of South Vietnam (GVN) influence and control in rural villages, hamlets and areas. Within the 25th Infantry Division, this campaign was designated the "Colors Up" Program with the objective of upgrading GVN influence and control in selected villages and hamlets within HAU NGHIA, ~~HAU~~ NINH and BINH DUONG Provinces.

To facilitate "Colors Up", divisional maneuver battalions were assigned specific GVN government districts within their respective areas of operations and given the mission to implement the accelerated pacification program in these districts. Battalion commanders were directed to establish close liaison and co-ordination with district chiefs and other local political and military authorities in order to develop co-ordinated and joint operations designed to destroy the Viet Cong political and guerilla infrastructure (VCI) in these areas.

In addition, the battalions were directed to conduct co-ordinated and joint civic action and psychological operations (PSYOPS) programs to further the economic, social and political development of "target" villages and hamlets.

Throughout the reporting period, considerable emphasis was given to the planning and execution of joint operations with South Vietnamese military forces. On a daily basis, divisional elements joined with South Vietnamese Army (ARVN) forces or Regional Force/Popular Force (RF/PF) units to conduct reconnaissance-in-force, combat assaults or night ambush operations. This practice was effective in producing an upgrading of the training of Vietnamese military organization within the TAOI.

## CONFIDENTIAL



# CONFIDENTIAL

## B. Chronology of significant actions.

1 November

Combat actions within the 1st Brigade area of operations around TAY NINH were light. Numerous company size reconnaissance-in-force operations and platoon size night ambush patrols failed to establish contact with the enemy.

Dissimilar conditions prevailed within the 2nd Brigade area of operations in the southern half of the division tactical area of operational interest as several light and scattered contacts took place.

At 0555 hours a night location of the 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry located approximately 6.5 kilometers north of TRANG BANG (XT318256) received eight rounds of 82mm mortar fire resulting in six personnel being wounded. The enemy fire was returned with counter mortar and artillery fire with unknown results. 2-12

A road sweep team from C Company, 65th Engineer Battalion operating in support of the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry located and destroyed a booby trapped hand grenade along route 7A 1.5 kilometers north of the route 1 village of BAU DIEU (XT574180). This incident occurred at 1030 hours.

B Company, 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry sustained two personnel wounded at 1107 hours when a booby trapped hand grenade was tripped during a search operation within the BAU DIEU village complex (XT568169). Shortly thereafter at 1120 hours, C Company, 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry came under small arms fire as it swept through an area 5.5 kilometers northeast of TRANG BANG. The enemy's fire was returned, and the company apprehended one man found in the position from which the fire came. The company escaped the contact without casualties. C2-12

Later in the day at 1400 hours, infantrymen of the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry apprehended two individuals loitering near the battalion's night location seven kilometers east of the CU CHI Base Camp (XT742165). Contact activities within the brigade terminated for the day at 2340 hours when a night location of the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry situated five kilometers west of the CU CHI Base Camp (XT604165) was struck by five rounds of 82mm mortar fire and four rocket propelled grenades (RPG). Three infantrymen were wounded in this attack by fire. Counter mortar and artillery fire was placed on the suspected enemy positions with unknown results.

Light and scattered actions were also the rule for the day within the 3rd Brigade area of operations around DAU TIENG and in the BOI LOI Woods and TRAPEZOID.

At 0830 hours in the BOI LOI Woods village of BAU DON (XT409440), a road sweep team from D Company, 65th Engineer Battalion supporting

7  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

1 Nov

the 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry located and destroyed a booby trapped 105mm round. A short time later at 0842 hours, C Company of the 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry located and destroyed three anti-tank mines. This incident occurred along route 14 five kilometers south of DAU TIENG (XT514421) as the company conducted a clearing operation of the road between DAU TIENG and the village of THANH AN. At 0914 hours not far from where the mines were discovered (XT516219), the company located and destroyed 15 pounds of TNT buried along the side of the road.

2-22 (on 19)

1-5 (on 14)

D Company, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry accomplished the most significant action of the day when at 0925 hours it uncovered a large cache during a search and destroy operation in a wooded area 4.5 kilometers east of THANH AN (XT503397). The company exploited the cache throughout the day and captured 200 pounds of C-4 explosive, 800 blasting caps, 61 claymore mines, seven anti-personnel mines, 1,050 small arms rounds, 30 hand grenades, five rifle grenades, 21 anti-tank mines, 1000 pounds of rice, 500 artillery fuses and one pound of assorted documents.

1-27  
cache Trip

While this action was taking place at 1120 hours, the battalion's A Company located two pounds of documents as it swept 1.5 kilometers to the south of D Company (XT581378).

Company D, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry searched through an area adjacent to route 239, the MSR between TAY NINH and DAU TIENG, and at 1300 hours located and destroyed two hand grenades at a point approximately six kilometers west of DAU TIENG (XT428442). A short time later at 1308 hours, Company B, 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry captured one hand grenade, two rounds of M-79 ammunition and 300 rounds of small arms ammunition. This find took place as the company searched along route 26 as it passes through the CAU EROI Rubber Plantation five kilometers northwest of TRONG MIT (XT350445).

B2-22  
cache  
can't find

At 1325 hours the 3rd Brigade Combined Reconnaissance and Intelligence Platoon (CRIP) searching through an area in the MICHELIN Rubber Plantation three kilometers east of the DAU TIENG Base Camp (XT535477) located one 82mm mortar round.

The only fatalities suffered by the division during the day occurred at 1500 hours when three members of B Company, 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry were killed when their unit came under fire during a sweep operation along route 19 seven kilometers east of CO DAU HA (XT459252). One infantryman was also wounded by the fire which was returned by the company with unknown results.

1st Fatality?

B2-22  
3 dead

1 w. not on  
Cas List

The final action of the day within the 3rd Brigade occurred at 1600 hours on route 14 six kilometers south of DAU TIENG (XT524408) when a bull dozer assigned to the 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry detonated an anti-tank mine. Eight personnel nearby were wounded by the blast and the vehicle was destroyed.

unless  
1-5 in HQ co.

CONFIDENTIAL

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Throughout the day 21 combat air strike sorties were flown by Air Force fighter bombers against enemy targets in the divisional tactical area of operational interest.

2 November

Combat activities continued relatively light throughout the day within the 1st Brigade area of operations around TAY NINH. At 1015 hours A Company, 4th Battalion (Mechanized), 23rd Infantry discovered and destroyed two rounds of 82mm ammunition during a sweep eight kilometers east of NINH CITY (XTJ20501).

An element of the Military Intelligence Detachment working in direct support of the 1st Brigade apprehended one suspected enemy in a village along route 13 immediately outside the TAY NINH Base Camp (XT165507). This incident took place at 1900 hours.

In the 2nd Brigade area of operations, action continued light and scattered.

Two members of C Company, 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry were wounded by the detonation of a cluster of nine booby trapped hand grenades. The explosion occurred at 0900 hours as the company swept through the northern HO BO Woods one kilometer south of the MUSHROOM in the SAIGON River (XT554168). Further to the south in the battalion area of operations, A Company sustained five men wounded to a booby trapped hand grenade at 0945 hours. The incident took place as the company searched through the BAU DIEU village complex along route 1 midway between TRANG BANG and CU CHI (XT568170). C4-9  
HOBO  
A4-9

C Company, 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry uncovered a half pound of enemy documents at 1240 hours as it pushed through suspected enemy positions six kilometers north of TRANG BANG (XT503255). C2-12

Action was heavy during the afternoon in the area of operations of the 2nd Battalion, 14th Infantry around DUC HOA and BOA TRAI. At 1445 hours D Company sweeping five kilometers northeast of DUC HOA (XS633996) apprehended two VC suspects. An hour later A Company operating six kilometers east of EAO TRAI (XT589052) apprehended a VC suspect.

A Company remained in this general area, and at 1616 hours helicopter gunships flying in support of the company detected a small group of armed enemy (XT589054). The helicopter engaged the enemy, and the ground troops moved into the contact site to discover three dead enemy and two AK-47 rifles. Between 1630 and 1715 hours as the ground troops searched the contact area, one enemy soldier turned himself into the troop as a Hoi Chanh, and one individual was detained as a suspected enemy. A2-14

Later in the afternoon one member of C Company, 4th Battalion, 9th Infantry was wounded when he detonated an anti-personnel mine. The explosion occurred at 1815 hours as the company searched along route 15 in the northern HO BO Woods several hundred meters south of the SAIGON

**CONFIDENTIAL**

River (XT510117).

The 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry experienced its lone contact of the day at 2000 hours. An ambush patrol from D Company hiding at a location five kilometers west of PAU CUCHI (XT755148) engaged an estimated enemy squad. After the brief fire fight ceased, the enemy withdrew abandoning 3,000 rounds of small arms ammunition, one M-16 rifle and one pound of assorted documents. One infantryman was wounded by the enemy's return fire.

D 2-27

Action in the 3rd Brigade AO for the day centered in the TRAPEZOID and BOI LOI Woods.

Activities began at 1015 hours when C Company, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry located and destroyed two 82mm mortar rounds. The find took place along route 14 approximately five kilometers south of DAU TIENG (XT516419) as the company participated in the daily sweep of that road. The 3rd Brigade CRIP also sweeping in the same area (XT518415) at 1040 hours received one enemy who turned himself in as a Hoi Chanh and also apprehended 40 VC suspects.

1-5

Meanwhile in the BOI LOI Woods, B Company, 2nd Battalion (Mechanized), 22nd Infantry apprehended two VC suspects at 1100 hours as the unit searched an area along route 19 two kilometers south of the village of BAU DON (XT434337). C Company of the battalion was sweeping nine kilometers east of BAU DON (516333) where at 1105 hours it uncovered 15 pounds of medical supplies and two pounds of documents in an abandoned bunker complex. Pushing approximately two kilometers east of this location (XT530330) at 1210 hours, the company discovered another enemy bunker containing two gas masks.

B 2-22

At 1125 hours the 3rd Brigade CRIP continuing its search operation along route 14 five kilometers south of DAU TIENG (XT510413) discovered 20 blasting caps, one pound of C-4 explosive, 125 rounds of small arms ammunition and 700 pounds of rice.

C Company, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry experienced that battalion's first action for the day when at 1220 hours it discovered and destroyed an anti-tank mine during a sweep operation 4.5 kilometers east of THANH AN village (XT573390). The battalion's A Company sweeping approximately five kilometers south of DAU TIENG (XT516415) at 1320 hours captured three PWs and one .45 caliber pistol.

A 1-27

Later in the day the Scout Platoon, 1st Battalion (Mechanized), 5th Infantry apprehended two VC suspects. This pick up took place at 1540 hours as the platoon moved along route 239, the MSR between TAY NINH and DAU TIENG, one kilometer west of DAU TIENG (XT469467).

1-5

The 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry claimed the final two actions for the day in the 3rd Brigade area of operations. A Company searching through THANH AN village (XT533377) at 1615 hours discovered five pounds

1-27