

DAIY STAFF JOURNAL OR DUTY OFFICER'S LOG

(AR 220-346)

PAGE NO. 1

NO. OF PAGES 7

ORGANIZATION OR INSTALLATION

LOCATION

PERIOD COVERED

5-3

2d Bn (ABN) 501st Inf

FROM

TO

HOUR DATE 0001 11 FEB 68

DATE

HOUR DATE 2400 11 FEB 68

DATE

ITEM NO.	TIME		INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, ETC.	ACTION TAKEN	INITIALS
	IN	OUT			
1	0000		CoC NO MORE INCOMING ROS.		
2	0025		FR A, B, C, D, E, J Sitrep Neg	1/7 Cav.	
3	0030		SIT Report From All Units except Co C - could not contact them - tried for 15 minutes	1/7 Cav	EM
4	0148		contacted Co C - took 25 minutes to contact them	1/7 Cav	EM
5	0225	0230	SITREP Negative ALL UNITS	1/7 Cav	EM
6	0325	0330	SITREP NEGATIVE CHANGE	1/7 Cav	EM
7	0425	0430	SIT REP NEGATIVE CHANGE	1/7 Cav	EM
8	0435		Radio check by Bde LC	J	EM
9	0515		from Kittyhawk, give a general idea of what type of operations we will be conducting today 11 FEB 68	1st CAN DIV VIA LANDLINE	EM
10	0530		SITREP: ALL UNITS, NEGATIVE	1/7 Cav	EM
11	0630		SITREP: ALL UNITS NEGATIVE	1/7 Cav	EM
12	0700		C1 + C2 are moving at this time	J.	EM
13	0730		SITREP: ALL UNITS NEGATIVE	1/7 Cav	EM
14	0731		C3 moving at this time		EM
15	0810		C1 - At Water Point this time		EM
16	0816		C2 has relieved Co A of defense area	J, S3	EM

DECLASSIFIED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS: UNCLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

DOD DIR 5200.10

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

17 0824 CoA. On the move at this time J AS

18 0835 C1+C2 closed in this time J, SB AS

19 0855 C3 closed in this time J, S3A AS

20 0917 CoA located vic 545 305 J AS

21 0945 From FDC Lt. 2 Mortar request ground clearance 5991 2457 - Granted S3A AS

22 0946 From CoA: Located 545 306 will set up a base and operate from this area. Located small bunker w/SP + stove will bring in J, S3A, S3A, S3A AS

23 0947 LRAP team 3B located 557 289 J AS

24 1004 LRAP team 3C 582 278

25 1009 TO CoA, C, D, E: Personnel will not make or use homemade stoves using gasoline or oil for fire JT

26 1043 From FDC 4.0" Mort CoA requests ground clearance 5458 2942 Granted S3 1048 J, S3. AS

27 1115 CoA loc A1 544 299 A2 545 306 A3 552 298. **CONFIDENTIAL**

28 1123 Lt. 2 Mortar CoA request illumination mortar 5474 2851. Granted S3 J, S3 AS

29 1200 CoA loc A1 538 292, A3 565 306 A2 545 306

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	IN	OUT			
30	1350		CONFIDENTIAL CoA loc: 550 308, 501 805, 545 303 - sub element location	JM	PM
31	1408		CoA: found fresh dug bunkers approx 1 week old with spider holes, possible mortar par at 545 311. CoA Will leave contact. M4 C4	JSS	PM
32	1432		CoA loc 545 306 will start sweeping back to this location	J, S3A	PM
33	1515		Co D cleaned unit area		SM
34		1535	Co D cleaned water point		SM
35	1603		Co D FM Atty D OIR 543 302 B5.3 D Co received signal FIA: FM Coord 541 298 check it out Negative	J + STAFF	SM
36	1617		Latel entry 3B AT 1500 557269	J + STAFF	SM
37	1617		Latel entry 3C AT 1600 582277	J + STAFF	SM
38	1640		D Co report that they have two men that will return back through Recon Lines	J6 STAFF	SM
39	1647		D Co report to tell 3 they would be able to reach the ambush site on time because the 81mm can't keep up the pace	J + STAFF	SM

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ITEM NO.

TIME

IN

OUT

INCIDENTS, MESSAGES, ORDERS, ETC

ACTION TAKEN

INITIALS

40

1700

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
CoD Pkt closed at Bridge at 1615 hrs made contact with 32 Bde IACD at 1630.

1 IACD, 3rd Bde

AK

41

1725

password put out to A, B, C, E, J

42

1830

CoD approx 500 meters from ambush site.

5 CO

AK

43

1850

CoD reached ambush site

5 S3A

AK

44

1855

Fate Entry: Monitor DI conducted. Short patrol around bridge at 1830 hrs.

5 S3

AK

45

1920

CoD - Sit Rep - in pos - negative activity at location

5

AK

46

1925

Sit Rep - all units negative

1-7 CAU

AK

47

2017

CoA+B become OPCON 1-7 CAU 20100 FEB 68. Agreed upon between 2-501 and 1-7

S3A

AK

48

2030

Sit Rep - all units negative

1-7 CAU

AK

49

2130

Sit Rep - all units negative

1-7 CAU

AK

50

2130

FM Secure Operational

5, CO

AK

51

2130

Sit Rep to Bde by ACID will be submitted in Secure lib in the lib.

5

AK

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52	2215	2229	Sit Rep ALL UNITS NEGATIVE	1-7 CAU	QJ
53	2230		From Recon Plt observe lights between Water Point and perimeter. appears to be flashlights. East of road	J	QJ
54	2231		To AAB, C advise your personnel are observing light discipline.	T	QJ
55	2200		TO 3d BDE IACD: SITREP NEGATIVE	3d BDE IACD	QJ
56	2310		Record - 2-501 OPCON OF 3d BDE IACD EFFECTIVE 120001 FEB 68.	2d Bde 101 ABN	QJ
57	2312		Requested and received permission to leave 2d BDE 101 NET at this time. Will come up on their net at 2000 hrs to give Status Report of the current day, and a Plans summary for the following day	J	QJ
58	2330		Sit Rep: all units negative	1-7 CAU	
59	2400		SIT Report negative	3d Bde 1 st CAU	QJ
60	2400		Journal Closed		QJ

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TYPED NAME AND GRADE OF OFFICER OR OFFICIAL ON DUTY

SIGNATURE

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C-O-P-YDEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters, 2d Brigade, 101st Airborne Division
APO San Francisco 96388
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AVDG-BA-D

11 February 1968

SUBJECT: M16A1 Rifle

TO: See Distribution

1. On 5 Feb LTG Palmer was briefed by the Department of the Army M16 Rifle Review Panel concerning their survey of USARV units. Their findings were disturbing and cast serious doubt on the official reports which have been submitted to this Headquarters by subordinate units.

2. The following specific findings of the panel are particularly serious:

a. The buffer retrofit program has not been completed, even though all USARV commands armed with the M16 have officially reported this program to be one-hundred percent completed.

b. The survey indicated that nineteen percent of the soldiers interviewed had never zeroed their weapons, and thirty-five percent had received no formal training on the M16 rifle after arriving in Vietnam. USARV Regulation 350-1 directs that each soldier receive a minimum of two hours of familiarization training on the M16 rifle, and each soldier zero his weapon within seven days after assignment to a unit.

c. The scope of instruction and the amount of time devoted to M16 training at unit replacement centers were not consonance with the provisions of USARV Regulation 350-1.

d. Twenty percent of the soldiers interviewed stated that weapons inspection was not conducted in their units and sixty-three percent indicated that magazines and ammunition were never inspected.

e. The survey reflected that most weapons are clean daily however, ammunition is cleaned much less frequently, or not at all. The panel also determined that contrary to all published instruction, thirty-one percent of the soldiers interviewed lubricate ammunition.

f. The panel reports that commanders at all echelons indicated that M16 malfunctions are insignificant. Comparable, thirty-eight percent of the soldiers interviewed reported malfunctions in the form of failure to extract during the last four months. The average number of malfunctions reported for this period was five per weapon.

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SUBJECT: M16A1 Rifle (Cont)

11 February 1968

g. The survey concluded that thirty-three percent of the ammunition being used in the M16 is tracer. It has been established that excessive tracer use causes coppering of the bore which blocks the gas port, causing malfunctions. Also tracer is twenty-six percent less effective in the terms of killing power

h. Depot stocks of cleaning equipment are adequate, however, the panel discovered that troops continue to report that cleaning material cannot be obtained. The use of bore cleaner is not being emphasized at some training centers. Some soldiers reported using diesel fuel and insect repellent in lieu of bore cleaner.

3. The conditions above are clearly unacceptable and reflect unfavorably on our leadership. I am particularly concerned with the indications of inaccurate official reporting and the evidence of weakness in our chain of command. It is imperative that drastic corrective action be taken. Not only must the specific deficiencies reported by the panel be eliminated but also a general strengthening of the command structure appears necessary.

4. It is desired that positive action be taken to insure that:

a. All M16 rifles in your command have been refitted with the new buffer. An official report will be submitted to this Headquarters ASAP and not later than 20 February 1968 reporting completion of buffer refit program and destruction of all old type buffers to preclude reuse.

b. All personnel assigned to your unit receive, as a minimum, two hours refresher training on the M16 rifle.

c. Each soldier zeros his weapon and fires for familiarization prior to performing duties requiring the use of the assigned weapon, except when extreme combat emergency precludes such training.

d. Each soldier reconfirms the zero of his weapon at least bi-weekly.

e. Weapons, magazines and ammunition are cleaned daily and inspected daily by squad and platoon leaders.

f. Commanders throughout the chain of command are knowledgeable in these matters and frequently spot check weapons, ammunition and inspection procedures of small unit leaders to insure proper daily cleaning and inspections.

g. Excessive use of tracer ammunition is discontinued, as a general guideline, a mix of four ball and one tracer is considered adequate.

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AVDG-BA-D

SUBJECT: M16A1 Rifle

11 February 1968

h. Each soldier has a complete set of cleaning equipment and the cleaning equipment is carried by the soldier and used properly. Let me know if you experience difficulties in obtaining necessary cleaning equipment.

5. It is imperative that each of you inject your personal influence to assure adequate training and maintenance programs for the M16 rifle. Our riflemen deserve no less.

Distribution:

A

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