

INTERNAL: CO,  
XO, S1, S2, S3,  
S4, S4, Avn O,  
Sig O, Chap,  
Surg, Hq Comdt,  
Arty LNO, TACP

CO, 2d Bde, 101st Abn Div  
12 BATT, RVN  
CO, 101st Abn Div  
Camp Eagle, RVN

INFO: CO, 1-501 Inf (Message Center)  
CO, 2-501 Inf "  
CO, 1-502 Inf "  
CO, 1-321 Arty "  
CO, 0-26 Engr "  
CO, 0-26 Med "  
CO, 188th AHC "  
CO, 2-17 Cav "  
2d FASCP, 501st Sig "  
2d Fwd Spt Plat, 801st Maint "  
2d Plat, 101st MP Co "  
2d Plat, 265th RHC "  
Tm 2, 101st MI Det "  
34th PI "  
1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, Camp EAGLE, RVN "  
3d Bde, 82d Abn Div, Camp EAGLE, RVN "  
1st Air Cav Div, Camp EVANS, RVN "

CONFIDENTIAL From AVDG-BA-C for AVDG-GC-O

SUBJECT: Commander's Situation Report  
302001H Apr 68 - 012000H May 68

1. (C) Operations Summary:

a. General: TF 2d Bde, 101st Abn Div continued to conduct offensive operations in support of Operation CARENTAN II to locate and destroy VC/NVA forces, bases and logistics in the coastal plains area. Contact was moderate as 1-501 Inf commenced a sweep of part of the cordoned area and 2-17th Cav remained in contact throughout a major portion of the day. Today's statistics: 7 US KIA (1 previously listed as MIA), 53 US WIA (med-evac). Enemy assessment: 209 NVA KIA (BC), 95 NVA POW, 41 AK-47, 15 SKS, 2 mausers, 1 M1 carbine, 3 M16, 3 LMG, 4 RPG-2 launchers, 1 60mm mortar, 1 82mm mortar, 1 82mm mortar (partially destroyed), 5 RPG-2 launchers (destroyed), 10 CHICOM grenades (destroyed), 12 RPG-2 rounds (destroyed), 10 US claymores, 700 rounds SA.

b. 1-501 Inf. Continued the containment of enemy force in May 1968 hamlets of THON DUONG SON vic YD687273 and THON PHUOC YEN vic YD 1 7

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*for Joseph Cymado*

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690277. Blocking positions were occupied by A 1-501, B 1-501, B 2-501, D 2-501, A 1-502, and 3 PF plato throughout the night. Approx 0440 hours A 1-502 received approx 50 rounds of 60mm mortar fire from outside the cordoned area vic YD697298. Negative casualties. Immediately following the mortar fire Co A received an attack along their left flank vic YD698287. SA and RPG fire was received. Fire was returned with organic weapons and arty supported as the enemy was unable to break the cordon along Co A's left flank. During the attack there was a lapse in the illumination over the cordoned area. During this period it is believed that a platoon size force was able to escape the cordon by swimming across the river to the E. Approx 10 enemy were engaged and killed while attempting to swim the river. (Remark: At approx 0830 hours vic YD708278 an RF/PF force supported by LFT engaged a small NVA force. Results unknown. It is believed that this force may have escaped from the cordoned area). At 0610 hours Co A reported the attack had subsided as the enemy had pulled back to the village. Arty continued to be fired into the village vic YD694287 throughout the morning. At 0652 hours vic YD688287 B 1-501 received intense SA and RPG fire from vic YD690284. Sporadic fire continued to be received by the blocking forces along the northern positions throughout the day. At 0721 hours A 2-501 was alerted to move to reinforce A 1-502 which occupied the enemy's most likely avenue of escape if another attempt was made. Approx 0800 hours a Psychological Operations Team began broadcasting from A 1-502 position for the enemy to surrender. At 1100 hrs the arty stopped firing as the enemy was told to surrender before the arty would resume in 1 hour. Approximately 16 NVA surrendered during the lull. To the west 4 air strikes were expended vic YD688285. At 1330 hours a CS grenade drop was flown vic YD687283. Arty TOT followed the grenade drop as 4.2" CS rounds were used to maintain the concentration. Approx 1345 hrs A 1-502 began a sweep of the village. There was only one incident during the sweep when 1 US was hit by SA fire. The enemy who fired was killed, wounded and captured. There were numerous wounded NVA's captured as A 1-502 moved

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through the village. The PF's who maintained a portion of the cordon to the east, moved across the river and assisted in the sweep, locating numerous NVA and weapons hidden along the river bank. B 1-501 and D 2-501 moved their blocking positions to the south approx 400 meters and reduced the area of cordon. At 1606 hours B 2-501 conducted a combat assault from PZ vic YD691272 to LZ vic YD722319. The southern portion of the cordon left vacated by B 2-501 was occupied by elements of A 1-501 and the PF plats as they shifted their forces to continue the cordon around the smaller area. Approx 1730 hrs A 2-501 relieved A 1-502 in place. A 1-502 moved to a PZ vic YD695289 and conducted a heliborne movement to LZ SALLY. Closed 1840 hours. At the close of the reporting period the cordon remained as continuous illumination was planned throughout the night. Results: Friendly casualties: A 1-502 4 US KIA (1 previously carried as MIA), 13 US WIA (9 medevac), A 1-501 1 US WIA (medevac), B 1-501 1 US KIA (medevac), D 2-501 6 US WIA (medevac). Enemy assessment - 121 NVA KIA (BC), 95 NVA POW's 34 AK-47, 11 SKS, 2 mausers, 1 M1 carbine, 3 M16, 3 IMG, 3 RPG-2 launchers, 1 60mm mortar, 1 82mm mortar (partially destroyed).

(1) Co D. One PF plat attached. Occupied night position vic YD656251 with ambushes vic YD664247, YD647251, YD648246, and YD668244. Conducted RIF operation to vic YD670245. At 1530 hours vic YD666245 engaged estimated NVA plat with SA, and AW. Arty and mortars supported. Results: 1 US KIA, 6 US WIA (3 medevac), negative enemy assessment.

(2) Recon Plat. 1 PF plat and 1 RF plat attached. Occupied night position vic YD618269 with ambushes vic YD617267 and YD618269. Conducted local patrols reconnoitering for night ambush sites. Established night position vic YD614266.

(3) Locations of Bn elements at close of reporting period. Bn CP LZ SALLY, Co A YD683275, Co B YD687286, Co C OPCON 2-17 Cav, Co D YD655252, Recon Plat YD614266, A 2-501, YD693288, D 2-501 YD698288, 3 PF plats - YD694282, A 1-502 LZ SALLY

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## c. 2-501.

(1) Co A. Occupied night position vic YD710305. At 0721 hours received mission of moving to vic YD699291 and reinforce Co A 1-502. Effective 0815 hours OPCON 1-501 Inf.

(2) Co B. OPCON 1-501 Inf until 1650 hours. Established night position vic YD723317.

(3) Co C. Occupied night position vic YD687317. Conducted RIF operation to YD680329, then to YD671329. Provided security for rice harvest with Co (-) vic YD671329, and plats vic YD670333 and YD668335. Established night position vic YD673333.

(4) Co D. OPCON 1-501 Inf.

(5) Recon Plat. Provided security for Btry B 1-321 Arty. Conducted RIF operation to vic YD680355, YD665353, and returned.

(6) Location of Bn elements at close of reporting period. Bn CP YD 686340, Co A OPCON 1-501, Co B YD723317, Co C YD673333, Co D OPCON 1-501, Recon Plat - YD686340.

## d. 2-17 Cav.

(1) Troop A and Troop B. Troop A occupied a night position vic YD 697289. Troop B provided security at AN LO Bridge. Troop A conducted a RIF operation to the NE. At 0856 hours vic YD628323 a plat of Troop A engaged 7 NVA with 106 RR flashette round. Results 7 NVA KIA (BC). At 1005 hours Trp A (-) moving NW vic YD637324 made contact with an estimated NVA plat, in bunkers. SA, AW, and RPG fire was received. Troop A returned fire and maintained contact. The 2d plat of Troop A with 106RR moved to vic YD633320 to support Troop A (-). Troop B moved from the AN LO Bridge to attack the enemy from the SW vic YD635325. At 1050 hours Troop B received SA, AW, and RPG fire from the village area. At this time it was estimated that a reinforced NVA Co well dug in occupied the village area vic YD637326. Heavy fire continued to be received from the village. At 1235 hours Troop B and Troop A supported by LFT withdrew to vic YD631324 and YD637319 respectively. Arty and air strikes

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were delivered on the village area. Between 1335 hours and 1525 hours 5 air strikes supported. During this time Troop A moved behind Troop B then N and occupied an attack position vic YD631329. Following the air strikes and arty Troop A attacked to the SE and Troop B attacked to the NE. Troop A was able to penetrate into the village to vic YD634327. as the continued to receive heavy fire from the enemy in bunkers. Troop B moved E through the village to vic YD637325. As darkness was approaching and SA, AW, and RPG fire continued to be received from a well entrenched enemy between Trp A and Troop B positions, they withdrew to the west as arty was fired on the village. Troop A established a night position vic YD623316, and Troop B returned to the AN LO Bridge. Results: Troop A 21 US WIA (8 medevac), Troop B 2 US KIA, 5 US WIA (3 medevac). Enemy assessment: 82 NVA KIA (BC), 7 AK-47, 3 SKS, 1 82mm mortar, 5 RPG-2 launchers (destroyed), 3 SKS (destroyed), 3 CHICOM grenades (destroyed), 10 US claymore mines and 200 rounds SA.

(2) Co C 1-501 Inf. Occupied night position vic YD652293. Conducted RIF operation to YD674293. At 1400 hours vic YD667289 received SA fire. Engaged with arty. Negative casualties. Negative enemy assessment. At 1710 hours vic YD669291 received SA, and AW fire from an estimated NVA plat. Engaged with organic weapons and arty. Contact broke at 1945 hours. Established night position vic YD674293. Results: 6 US WIA (medevac). Enemy assessment - 4 NVA KIA (BC), 1 SKS, 1 RPG-2 launcher, 7 CHICOM grenades (destroyed), 12 RPG-2 rounds (destroyed), 500 rounds SA.

(3) Aero Rifle Plat. OPCON Troop A.

(4) 2/A/3-5 Cav. OPCON Troop B. Remained at bridge throughout the day and provided security.

(5) Locations of squadron elements at close of reporting period.

TAC CP YD623304, Troop A YD623316, Troop B YD623304, C Co 1-501 Inf, YD674293, Aero Rifle Plat OPCON Troop A, 2/A/3-5 YD623304.

e. Remarks:

(1) 2d Bde HHC security plat provided minesweep security N and S from LZ SALLY. Provided security for C/326 Engr elements working YD604316.

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(2) At 1320 hours vic YD729331 a naval aerial observed 2 NVA, adjusted arty. Results 2 NVA KIA (BC).

2. (C) Plans Summary.

a. 1-501 Inf.

(1) Co A, 1-501, plat of Co D 2-501 and PF elements will continue to block enemy escape from the THON PHUOC YEN hamlet (YD688278) and from the THON LA VAN THUONG hamlet (YD698287). Co B 1-501 will attack from the night location vic YD687286 to vic YD687284. When Co B 1-501 reaches the objective area Co A 2-501 will attack south from night location YD693288 to vic YD689180. D (-) 2-501 from night location YD698288 will initially maintain the blocking position then move south to continue to search the village area vic YD695287.

(2) Co D. Conduct recon patrols from night location YD655252. Operating throughout the area within a 1500 meter radius and establishing night ambushes.

(3) Recon Plat. Conduct recon patrols and establish night ambushes along the east bank of the SONG BO River from vic YD610270 to vic YD605245.

b. 2-501 Inf.

(1) Co A. OPCON 1-501 Inf.

(2) Co B. Conducts RIF operation from night location YD723317 to vic YD732327 and establish local ambushes.

(3) Co C. Will move from night location YD673333 to secure rice harvesting vic YD670335.

(4) Co D. OPCON 1-501 Inf.

(5) Recon Plat. Secures FSB OMAHA vic YD686340.

c. 2-17 Cav.

(1) Troop A. From night location YD623316 conducts RIF to vic YD 632327 and to YD639321. Will employ a bulldozer from Co C, 326 Engr to destroy bunkers and fortifications in the area.

(2) Troop B. Will secure the AN LO Bridge until relieved by Co C, 1-501 at approx 1530 hours. Troop B then moves to vic YD605316 in preparation for operations in that area.

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(3) Co C 1-501. Conducts RIF operation from night location vic YD 674293 to vic YD677298. At approx 1500 hours, will conduct move by air from PZ vic YD673298 to LZ vic YD625315. Upon closure of LZ, relieve Troop B of bridge security mission.

(4) Aero Rifle Platoon. OFCON Troop A.

(5) 2/A/3-5, OFCON B Troop and OFCON Co C, 1-501 upon closure at AN LO Bridge.

3. (C) Cumulative Results: Operation CARENTAN II:

a. Friendly losses 76 US KIA, 357 US WIA (2/2 medevac).

b. Enemy assessment:

(1) Personnel: 624 NVA KIA (BC), 72 VC KIA (BC), 115 NVA POW, 1 VC POW, 3 returnees. (An additional 115 NVA KIA (BC) resulting from joint operation with 1st ARVN Div Black Panther Co, and 51 NVA KIA (BC) by Army Aviation).

(2) Weapons: 2 K-44's, 52 SKS carbines, 1 SMG, 1 P-38 pistol, 82 AK-48's, 3 7.62 HMG, 1 CHICOM pistol, 8 AK-47's (destroyed), 9 M-16's, 5 M1 carbines, 11 LMG, 11 RPG-2 launchers, 3 RFG-7 launchers, 3 SKS (destroyed), 8 RFG-2 launchers (destroyed), 1 .45 cal pistol and 9 122mm rockets, 1 7.62mm Soviet Assault Rifle, 1 M2 carbine, 2 mausers, 1 82mm mortar sight, 1 RFG-2 launcher sight, 1 60mm mortar, 2 82mm mortar (1 partially destroyed).

(3) Munitions: 39 60mm mortar rounds (destroyed), 24 82mm mortar rounds (destroyed), 25 B-40 rounds (destroyed), 40 CHICOM grenades (destroyed), 3 AP mines (destroyed), 8570 rounds SA, 3 AT mines (destroyed), 34 BBT (destroyed), 6 90mm rounds (destroyed), 2 RFG-7 rounds (destroyed), 16 sticks TNT (destroyed). Group 4