

Misc. documents relating to
OP Gibraltar

- 1) OPORD 74-65 (Gibraltar)
- 2) ltr from Bde CO describing his reluctance in giving up his attempt to rewrite a better after action report.

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53 Feb
 Copy No _____
 Hq 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div
 AN KHE (BR472445), RVN
 161800H Sep 65
 WJG

OPORD 74-65 (GIBRALTER)

References: OPORD 48-65, OPORD 62-65, and OPORD 68-65

Task Organization:

Task Force Mark A/2/17 Cav (Abn) Rifle Company, 2d Bn (Abn), 327th Inf CIDG Company (BINH KHE) Tank Platoon, 2d Bn, 7th Marines Plat, A Company, 326th Engr Bn (Abn)(Reinforced w/bulldozer, front loader, and 5 ton dump truck) Team, 3rd RRU 1 Scout Dog w/handler MP Platoon (-)	Task Force Hansen (-) 1st Bn (Abn), 327th Inf (-) 2d Bn (Abn), 327th Inf (-) 2d Bn (Abn), 320th Arty Bde Control 181st MI Det 3rd RRU (-) Bde Aviation Sec 2 Sqd MP's
Task Force Smith 2d Bn (Abn), 502d Inf (-) Ranger Company, 23rd Ranger Bn Plat, A Company, 326th Engr Bn (Abn) Team, 3rd RRU 1 Scout Dog w/handler	

1. SITUATION

- a. Enemy forces: See INTSUM 38, 151800H Sep 65.
- b. Friendly forces:
 - (1) USATFA in coordination with II ARVN Corps continues operation HIGHLAND.
 - (2) 1st Cav Div (Air) continues deployment in conjunction with operation HIGHLAND.
 - (3) 52d Avn, 1st Air Cav Div (DS).
- c. Attachments and detachments: Task Organization.

2. MISSION

1st Bde (-) atk 180500H Sep 65 to destroy VC in sector and continues mission operation HIGHLAND.

3. EXECUTION

- a. Concept of operation:
 - (1) Maneuver: TF Mark atk along AXIS BURKHEART to seize Obj DELTA and est blocking psn to deny VC movement; TF Smith conducts heli-mobile aslt on multiple LZ's, secures Obj ALFA, and on order Obj BRAVO and CHARLIE; links up with TF Mark. 1/327th Inf (-) and 2/327th Inf (-) defend 1st Cav Div (Air) base area. TF Hansen (-) continues convoy security along Rt 19.
 - (2) Fires: Arty and Tac Air will be employed to neutralize VC vic of Obj DELTA and to seal VC escape routes to the north at BR689615, BR655607 and BR710614. Priority of Tac Air spt to TF Smith.
- b. Task Force Smith:
 - (1) Conduct heli-mobile aslt 180600H Sep 65 on multiple LZ's.

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- (2) Seize and secure Obj ALFA. As a minimum occupy critical terrain at BR710598, BR711585, BR709569, and BR710558 to block VC escape routes.
 - (3) On order seize and secure Objective BRAVO and CHARLIE.
 - (4) On order link up with TF Mark at link up point 1.
 - (5) After link up, pass through TF Mark and move to tactical assembly area vic BR645578.
- c. Task Force Mark:
 - (1) Attack along AXIS BURKHEART.
 - (2) Seize Obj DELTA and establish blocking positions in zone to prevent VC movement.
 - (3) Assist passage of TF Smith.
 - d. Task Force Hansen (-): Continue mission OPORD 62-65.
 - e. 1st Bn (Abn), 327th Inf (-):
 - (1) Continue defense of sector.
 - (2) Provide one rifle company to assume defensive mission of 2d Bn (Abn), 502d Inf (-) to be in position NLT 171700H Sep 65.
 - f. 2d Bn (Abn), 327th Inf (-):
 - (1) Continue defense of sector.
 - (2) Provide, on order, one company reserve force to be deployed within 2 hours of notification.
 - g. 2d Bn (Abn), 320th Arty:
 - (1) DS.
 - (2) Follow TF Mark along AXIS BURKHEART.
 - h. Spt Bn (Abn): Provide combat support as required.
 - i. A Company, 326th Engr Bn (-): Continue mission OPORD 62-65.
 - j. Bde Reserve:
 - (1) Initially one rifle company from 2d Bn (Abn), 327th Inf (-), and on order of USATFA one rifle company from 1st Cav Div (Air).
 - (2) Be prepared to reinforce by helicopter, truck, or foot at any point within the Bde sector.
 - k. Coordinating instructions:
 - (1) Attachments effective 171200H Sep 65.
 - (2) Units will make maximum effort to evacuate captured equipment and supplies.
 - (3) Units submit supporting plans NLT 171800H Sep 65.
 - (4) Unit boundaries are FCL.
 - (5) TF Mark and TF Smith prepare for attachment of reserve co.

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(6) Point of origin system in effect. SOI item 3-2.

4. ADMINISTRATION AND LOGISTICS

ADMINO 8-65.

5. COMMAND AND SIGNAL

a. Signal:

(1) Current SOI in effect.

(2) TF Smith and TF Mark will use Bde Command Net ALFA frequency (SOI item 15-1).

b. Command:

(1) Bde Main CP remains at BR472445.

(2) Bde Tac CP initially at BR639570.

(3) Bde will operate an airborne CP during this op.

Acknowledge.

TIMOTHY
Col

Annexes: A - Operation Overlay

Distribution: Special

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HEADING

AVAD.C

12 January 1966

SUBJECT: Combat operations After Action Report, Operation GIBRALTAR

THRU: Commanding General
Field Force Vietnam
APO US Forces 96240TO: Commanding General
US Military Assistance Command, Vietnam
APO US Forces 96243

1. References
 - a. OPORD 6-65, Hqs USATFA, dtd 19 Aug 65
 - b. OPORD 48-65, Hqs 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, 21 Aug 65
2. Name of Operation: Operation GIBRALTAR
3. Dates of Operation: 18-23 September 1965
4. Location: Binh Dinh Province
5. Command Headquarters: Hqs, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division
6. Reporting Officer: Col J. S. Timothy, Commanding Officer, Hqs 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division
7. Task Organization: (See Incl #4)

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
 Headquarters 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division
 APO San Francisco, California 96347

AVAD

12 January 1966

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

SUBJECT: After Action Report, Operation GIBALTAR

1. References:


a. Preliminary After Action Report, Operation GIBALTAR, Hqs 1st Bde, 101st Abn Div, dtd 23 September 1965. (See: File, After Action Reports, Operation HIGHLAND, S-3 Section, Hqs 1st Bde)

b. After Action Reports, Operation GIBALTAR, submitted by Hqs 2nd Bn 327th Inf, dtd 4 Oct 65 and by Hqs 2nd Bn 502d Inf, dtd 8 Oct 65. (Atchd)

2. It was my intention to publish a final after action report on Operation GIBALTAR. To this end, I directed my S-3, Major Hackworth, to prepare same. The original report was unsatisfactory, and around 12 October I directed that it be revised. The revised version attached herewith, is not sufficiently detailed to present a true picture of this very complex operation. Further, there are included too many contentious issues (i.e. planning for artillery support and its possible and actual displacements, selection of LZs both for TF Smith and for TF Collins, etc.). I have attempted to write the after action report personally and then have it reviewed by appropriate commanders and staff officers. Because of continued operations and other heavy demands upon my time, I have found this to be impossible.

3. At the present writing, I find that my Brigade has been alerted for one Battalion operation, to be followed by a Brigade Operation. Also, I have been informed that by 28 January I must turn over the command of the Brigade and report to my new assignment as Senior Advisor, II ARVN Corps.

4. It is with extreme reluctance that I gave up my plans to write the story of Operation GIBALTAR, for I feel that the officers and men involved are entitled to a clear picture of that hectic, yet highly successful, 5-day operation.


 J. S. TIMOTHY
 Colonel, Infantry
 Commanding

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