

DAILY SUMMARIES FROM 1-50TH DAILY STAFF JOURNAL (DA Form 1594)

Extracted from photocopies of original Daily Staff Journals of the 1/50(M) Infantry Battalion by R. Sarlin.

1 Sept 69. At 0700 to All Stations fm TOC. Change to New Frequency & call sign. At 0717 to TOC fm Task Force South 1st Filed forces Vietnam declare alert gray effective 011400 hrs. At 1520 to 1-50 fm Task Force South First Aircraft arrived at 1500 hrs with HQ and SVC elements. At 1525 to 1050 fm Task Force South Location report task force south at 1520 hrs 2d aircraft arrived elements from C Company 1525 hrs. At 1945 to Task Force South fm 1-50. Unit location report given to TFS. At 2200 Journal closed.

2 Sept 69. At 0940 to 1-50 fm Hock 020 was heading to Bay loc with 7 packs had to turn back due to the weather. At 1258 to TOC fm Commo Frequency change TFS primary changes to 58.60. Alternate 44.35 call signs remain the same effective 021600 hrs. At 1500 to TFS fm TOC Unit locations sent to TFS TOC. At 2000 to TFS fm TOC Unit locations sent to TFS TOC. At 2030 to TFS fm 1-50 Major Balow 3/503 all buildings for 1/50 are ready to move request people from 1-50 to come up & help also need hooks. At 2200 Journal closed.

3 Sept 69. At 0800 to 1-50 fm Cpt Orta message for Cpt Philson request number of lights needed will call back in PM. At 1040 to 1-50 fm A/1-50 3d plat relayed to A/1-50 3d plat request mail & a mech sent to their location. At 1145 to 1-50 fm Col Braynard message to LTC Gilbert be at TFS HQ at 1430 hrs to meet General Sidle. At 1330 to 1-50 fm TFS D Co to LTC Gilbert Engineer Big will meet you on pad in 25 min. At 1445 to TFS fm 1.50 Unit locations given to TFS. At 2000 to TFS fm 1.50 Unit locations given to TFS. At 2200 Journal closed.

4 Sept 69. At 0700 to SVC Company Co to have men on Cando pad at 0800 hrs. At 0737 to 1-50 fm 020 Log bird reported in net. At 0738 to 1-50 fm C&C reported in net. At 0825 to 1.50 fm Hook 020 enroute to Bay Loc to pick up lumber. At 1630 to 1.50 fm Forward TOC established commo with US 1630 hrs. At 1820 to HHC fm Co Charlie Co vehicles have reached location. At 2200 Journal closed.

5 Sept 69. At 0735 to 1-50 fm C&C Ship Will be at PSP pad approx 0745 hrs. At 0945 to 1-50 fm Freight Train 051 Enroute to Bay Loc from 5 sorties. At 1340 to 1-50 fm C/75Rangers Relay station at An829525. At 1430 to 1-50 fm XO LST Docks at approx 0500 hrs 6 Sep 69. Unloading approx 0530 hrs. At 2255 to 1-50 from C/75 Rangers Want AO cleared from 0600 hrs 6 Sep 69 for next seven days AN805445 follow district boundary southwest to AN268375, AN7629- AN8338 back to start. At 2400 Journal closed.

6 Sept 69. At 1200 hrs The AO was officially opened to operations. 1720 hrs 3/C/1-50 received 2 rds SA fire from vic grid An840204. returned fire with neg results. 3/C/1-50 received 7SA fire from vic grid AN845204. 4.2 mortar was fired with neg results. At 2118 Hrs C/2-1 Cav reported a bus stuck 200 meters east of the 3d platoon had received information that the road was mined in the area. Did not attempt to pull bus out all civilian personnel were bedded down and area kept under observation. During the reporting period there were two patrols. Ambushes: total of 3. A/1-50 AN934186, AN945187. C/2-1 Cav AN964315.

7 Sept 69. At 0915 hrs C/2-1 Cav picked up 8 Cheiu Hois vic grid An998338. At 1105 hrs C/2-1 Cav picked up 2 Cheiu Hois at grid AN998338. At 1115 hrs C/1-50 3d plat received 1 sniper rd from 500 meters. 2d plat received 3-4 rds sniper vic grid An848205. At 1220 hrs C/3 1-50 found 10 M79 rds & 1 60 mm rd vic grid AN866012 blew them in place. At 1300 hrs Scouts 1-50 found fresh tunnel vic grid AN922215 would hold 6-7 personnel blew in place. At 1350 hrs C/2-1 Cav picked up 4 chieu Hois vic grid AN998338. At 1440 hrs C/1/1-50 found tunnel vic grid An830185 punji around it. At 2250 hrs C/3/1-50 received 15 rds SA fire into N/L Direction & distance unknown. At 2255 hrs A/1-50 received 4-5 rds 60mm mortar. direction and distance unknown. During this period one cordon & search of hamlet was conducted by C/2-1 Cav at grid An998338. time 070720AUG69. During this period there were a total of 4 patrols dispatched.

8 Sept 69. At 0115 hrs C/1-50 received 5 rds 82mm from vic grid An858200. Neg casualties. Returned fire neg results. At 0117 hrs Forward toc received 1 rd 60mm from unknown location. Neg casualties. At 0950 hrs C/2/1-50 while on patrol received 5 M-79 rds & 20 AK rds vic grid AN847193,

returned fire with 81mm. Neg casualties. Neg results. At 1330 hrs A/2/1-50 found small tunnel in bamboo thicket vic grid AN915157, blew in place, neg results. At 1340 hrs C/3/1-50 received 5 rds SA fire vic grid AN840205. Returned fire, neg results. C/1/1-50 at 1340 hrs APC detonated 105mm mine, blew hole in bottom of APC and blew off a road wheel & ramp, neg casualties, one man got off of the track to check damage and tripped a trip wire rigged to a 105 rd booby trap which did not detonate. Track was towed in. Neg casualties on both incidents vic grid AN837187. At 1350 hrs C/1-50 found a M33 & 2 Chi Chom grenades as booby traps vic grid AN837187. At 2055 hrs C/1-50 received 10-15 rds SA fire Vic grid AN846192, neg casualties. At 2115 hrs C/1/1-50 received 10 rds SA fire vic grid AN856185 while moving out to ambush position neg casualties. At 2100 hrs Retrans/W/1-50 received rd mortar fire vic grid AN925212 neg casualties. During this period there were 6 patrols dispatched.

9 Sept 69. At 0120 hrs C/2-1 Cav, A/3/1-50 at 0035 hrs received 3 hand grenades in their ambush position vic grid AN 972327. The ambush was blown with unknown result and they returned to their N/L sight 81 mm was fired with unknown results. At 0235 hrs C/2-1 Cav, 2 personnel wounded by friendly M79 rd that fell short during contact. 1 man received frags wounds in the head, the other had sand and dirt in his eyes, dustoff called at 0235 hrs and completed 0245 hrs vic grid AN973324. During this period there were a total of 5 patrols dispatched.

10 Sept 69. At 1812 hrs A/1-50 Scouts received 5rds SA fire vic grid AN905139, checked area , found footprints and a burning cigarette, neg casualties. At 1812 hrs A/1-50 Scouts received 3 rds SA fire grid AN911149. Neg casualties.

11 Sept 69. At 0230 hrs Scouts 1-50 received 8 60 mm rds into the location their ambush position originally planned. At 1310 hrs A/2/1-50 hit a trip wire to booby trap while on patrol with tracks booby traps located in tree vic grid AN935142. Two US KIA 5 US WIA , dustoff called and complete 1330 hrs. At 1405 hrs C/1-50 found 1 unidentified booby trap, 1 chichom grenade, 1 dud 105mm rd vic grid AN824200. Blew in place. Neg casualties. At 1535 hrs C/1-50 found 1 bunker 6'x3' with 1-2' OHC with logs 2-1 man positions 1 bunker 3'x8'x4' with 1' of OHC with 4 VC rucksacks with LRPS & C Rations. VC had left in a hurry last night or early in morning. Bunkers to be blown in pace vic grid AN806202. 1540 hrs C/3/1-50 found booby trap 105 vic grid AN823201 blown in place. At 1610 hrs C/1-50 found 2 dud 105 rds next to tree with trip wire next to them. VC had not bobby trapped them yet vic grid AN824203. Blown in place. At 1640 hrs C/1-Cav CP caught on fire, neg casualties, all classified material OK. At 1745 hrs C/3/1-50 found concrete bunker with OHC 8'x10' with 9-105 rds & 1 81mm rd inside. Bunker and rounds to be blown up. Grid AN805203. During this period B Co conducted a CA vic grid AN8931 LZ was cold. CA conducted with 2 platoons. 1st PZ 110859 hrs, 2d PZ 110921 hrs. During this period there were a total of 10 patrols conducted. C/2-1 Cav conducted 2 night roving patrols from LZ Nora to grids AN834270 and return and AN941278 and return time of departure for both patrols 1930 hrs.

12 Sept 69. At 112300SEP69 (LATE ENTRY) C/2-1050 received 6 60mm rds and 2 B-40's in the RF Compound. Neg casualties. At 0845 hrs C/1/1-50 found a 8" shell gutted vic grid AN823204. At 0910 hrs C/1/1-50 found a 105 rd gutted vic grid AN822203. At 0920 hrs C/1/1-50 found 8 1 man and 2 man positions 2' to 4' deep believed to be used as an ambush position vic grid AN822206. At 0955 hrs B/2/1-50 found a bunker for 2-3 men with OHC. 3' to 4 ft deep vic grid AN945200. Destroyed with M72(LAW). At 1053 hrs B/2/1-50 found a US claymore in old US logger site. At 1122 hrs C/1/1-50 found 3 bunkers 3'x5' with 1' OHC, 3d plat found along trail leading to bunker 1 sandbag with 7 M-16 magazines 6 of which were loaded, 1 canteen & canteen cup and 1 smoke grenade vic grid AN826206. At 19155 hrs B/1/1-50 received 1 rd RPG at N/L vic grid AN965200, neg casualties. There were a total of 10 patrols conducted during this period.

13 Sept 69. At 0915 hrs A/1-50 LOH found bunker complex and received ground fire while flying tree top level over grid AN933141, gunships worked the area over. At 0928 hrs B/1-50 found a mine 7" wide hexagon in shape vic AN938211. Blown in place. At 1050 hrs C&C apprehended 1 male detainee 30 yrs old running away from contact area. Vic grid AN935155. Extracted to 55 MI detachment classified CD. At 1240 hrs C&C spotted 6 VC in bushes vic grid AN818212. Gunships worked the area over. At 1240 hrs C/1-50 found bunker complex vic grid AN820210. Bunkers were 12' long 4' wide 3' deep with 1' OHC. Neg findings. At 1440 hrs A/1-50 reports being in bunker complex at least 6 bunkers had 2 teir alter with fresh flowers 4' high and 3' high. Had a 105 rd booby trap in a camouflaged hole with trip wire vic grid AN934143. At 1520 hrs A/1-50 while going to ambush position found a 105rd booby trap, 10 lbs TNT with blasting Cap, 1 Shovel and 1 B 40 vic

AN934144. At 1600 hrs C/1-50 found 1 Dam 7' trench vic grid AN 814213 found 1 VC/NVA with AK47 shot and killed vic AN815227. Found 1 M1 or M2 carbine with magazine. With clothes and 5 or 6 set of footprints going away from area of contact vic grid AN817204. At 1650 hrs A/1-50 found a 105 dud rd blew in place vic AN925148. At 1620 hrs C/1-50 LOH received SA fire vic AN820230, LOH spotted a well camouflaged bunker area with empty mortar boxes not US type vic AN815226. At 1645 hrs B/1/1-50 found plastic mine 4-5" in diameter, blew in place. During this period there were a total of 6 patrols conducted resulting in 1 VC/NVA KIA and 1 AK 47 and 1 M-1 carbine CIA.

14 Sept 69. At 1304 hrs B/1/1-50 found a dud 105 rd vic AN9176208. Blew in place. At 1335 hrs A/2/1-50 took 6-12 SA fire vic AN903148 area swept 14 persons detained, 7 were extracted for further investigation. At 1405 hrs B/3/1-50 found a complete 175 rd vic AN965207. Blew in place. At 1715 hrs C/1/1-50 found foot prints (Ho Chi Minh) of 9 VC heading east vic AN822214. At 2021 hrs Scouts 1-50 blew ambush on 6 VC one US wounded in the foot, neg results. Ambush returned to N/L. Dustoff called and completed. During this period there were total of 8 patrols dispatched resulting in 7 detainees.

15 Sept 69. At 0840 hrs C/2-1 Cav found 5 propaganda leaflets, dropped for US personnel showing pictures about US, 1 click south LZ Nora. At 0950 hrs C/1/1-50 found an 8" rd vic grid AN834215, blew in place. At 1200 hrs B/1/1-50 found a 155 4d vic AN940198, blew in place. During this period there were 9 patrols conducted.

16 Sept 69. At 1158 hrs C/1-50 engaged 1VC/NVA at AN804205, with negative results. At 1314 hrs B/1-50 was CA into AN803222. There were 2 ambushes:

17 Sept 69. At 1040 hrs, 2/C/2-1 Cv found platoon size base camp, destroyed AN978285. At 1101 hrs, C/2-1 Cav received SA fire, fired 81mm mortars sweep area found bunkers which were destroyed. AN978285. At 1105 hrs, D/2-1 Cav spotted rock wall sighting positions at AN923308 & AN916310, also a gravesite AN917307. At 1130 hrs Scouts 1-50th found bunkers, 105mm rd, 10 lbs TNT, and M79 rds, destroyed AN946144. At 1330 hrs, 3/B/1-50th found expended AK47 and 51 cl rds at a 10 man sleeping site, AN832236. At 1400 hrs, 3/B/1-50th found camp site with C rations, canteen cover, tire used for Ho Chi Minh scandals, also found small tunnel, AN834239. At 1410 hrs, D/2-1 Cav spotted 20 bunkers (AN916300). At 1534 hrs, 3/1/1-50th found (2) bunkers, destroyed AN833246. At 2220 hrs, C/2-1 Cav blew ambush AN958317 with neg results. There were 6 ambushes.

18 Sept 69. At 1635 hrs A/1-50 2d plat, at AN843236 engaged one VC with M-16, neg results. Found 1 bunker well camouflaged with 2 M-16 magazines empty & some old black PJs with bullet holes in them. Also some ammo being linked together. At 1718 hrs, A/1-50 reported 2 d plat patrol received automatic weapons fire at AN841230. There was just 1 patrol. There were 7 ambushes.

19 Sept 69. At 1305 hrs, C/2-1 Cav found what appears to be a makeshift sight for an anti-aircraft weapon, AN915299. At 1505 hrs C/2-1 Cav found 3 L shaped bunkers, which were destroyed AN916302. At 1545 hrs, C/2-1 Cav found approx 38 fighting positions made of rock, AN929305. There were 6 ambushes. There were 8 patrols.

20 Sept 69. At 1602 hrs, C/1-50th found a 105 rd booby trap, blew in place, AN855186. At 1420 hrs, A/1-50th detained one VC who had VC voting papers and a letter to VC brother, AN879323. At 2115 hrs, A/1-50th detainee was shot in neck and shoulder when he tried to run away, dusted off. AN860247. There were 4 ambushes. There were 3 patrols.

21 Sept 69. At 2221 hrs, Scouts/1-50th reported mortar rds hitting to their west from the east, DT fired. Negative results, AN937184. There were 3 patrols. There were 4 ambushes.

22 Sept 69. At 1042 hrs, B/1-50th made contact with 2 VC and found base camp AN904374, neg results. At 1324 hrs, B/1-50th detained (4) VN, AN894350. There were 3 patrols. There were 9 ambushes. There was 1 CA by B/1-50th.

23 Sept 69 At 1026 hrs, C/1-50th found (4) graves with (4) bodies, probable cause of death, fragmentation wounds caused by either frag or mortars, AN820190. At 2320 hrs, 1/50th forward TOC received (1) 60 mm mortar rd. AN820190. There were 8 patrols. There were 3 ambushes.

24 Sept 69. At 0827 hrs, forward TOC received 6 rds small arms fire from north, reaction force of RF sent to AN868301, results 2 RF WIA. At 1050 hrs, RF reaction force was ambushed by unknown size VC/NVA results (2) VC KIA, (1) RF KIA, (1) RF WIA. An 870288. At 1250 hrs, A/1-50th detained 1 male having 7100 piasters AN941350. At 1430 hrs, A/1-50th found punji stakes at AN955352. At 2113 hrs, forward TOC received small arms fire from the north from estimated plat size VC force, action taken returned fire and called artillery AN868257. There were 5 patrols. There was an Combat Assault conducted by A/1-50th. There were 3 ambushes.

25 Sept 69. At 1001 hrs, Scouts 1/50th found grave, dug it up, found (1) VC in green uniform, BN045206. Between 0800 hrs-1130 hrs, D/2-1 while on VR spotted a hootch with tin roof AN844483, found elephant tracks AN832522, spotted cultivated fields (5) with fences and hooches in grid square AN8247. At 2217 hrs, Scouts 1/50th spotted (2) VC at BN007178, 200 m from their FOB, fired up area, sweep area with neg results. At 2300 hrs, 2/C/1-50th took small arms from their FOB, AN858188, negative results. There were 3 ambushes. There were 5 patrols.

26 Sept 69. At 0830 hrs, C/2-1 RF reported to advisors at LZ Nora that the VC blew the road out completely across late last night or early morning vic AN937273. RF's also suspect it to be heavily booby trapped. At 0905 hrs, A/1-50 conducted a combat assault grid AN869452, LZ was green upon insertion. At 0930 hours, Whiskey Mt received 10 rds sniper fire vic AN929221. At 1758 hours, A/1-50 was inserted to secure a downed helicopter vic BN0863. Snoopy and sea house aircraft flew over their position all night to maintain commo. At 1945 hours, C/1-50 received n unknown number of sniper rounds vic AN924226. Muzzle flashes were spotted. Area fired up with small arms and artillery with unknown results. Neg friendly casualties. During their period there were 2 Hawks conducted by the following units and locations. C/1-1-50 AN864196, C/2-1 Cav AN957317.

27 Sept 69. At 0837 hours C/2-1 Cav found a mine consisting of 15 lbs of gunpowder in a plastic sandbag placed in the center of the south bound lane on QL1 with the detonator off the road made out of bamboo sticks with metal in the center with 3 Vietnamese batteries as the detonator. Vic grid AN934268. Gunpowder was burned. At 1020 hours, A/1-50 was extracted from downed chopper site. At 1723 hours, A/2/1-50 detained two males ages 25-30 and 14-15 were extracted vic AN844226. During this period there were a total of 5 ambushes.

28 Sept 69. There were no significant incidents reported during this period. There were a total of 4 ambushes conducted by the 1-50.

29 Sept 69. At 2140 hours, Forward TOC/1-50, estimated 1-2 platoons size VC force probing outer perimeter of Thien Giao Light small arms received fire returned SA negative casualties results unknown. At 2225 hours, Forward TOC/1-50, received light CS inside perimeter at Thien Giao from unknown direction. During this reporting period there were a total of 5 patrols mechanized and foot conducted with negative results. There were a total of 3 ambushes conducted.

30 Sept 69. At 0850 hrs, C/2-1 Cav reports spotting of unidentified VN unit consisting of 1 male, 3 females & 3 children Vic Whiskey mountain further investigation revealed that they were a PRU team from Phan Thiet. At 0900 hours Scouts/1-50, found VC base camp 4-5 days old plat size would accommodate 20-30 personnel. There were C ration cans and boxes laying round 6 bunkers. is accommodate 3-4 personnel each size 8'x3' with little overhead cover. Also found 2 chicom grenades same area vic AN940155. At 0910 hours, C/2-1 Cav, found a 60mm mortar round buried nose down. it was armed and to be detonated by applying pressure to the top. It was blown in place having a crater 2'x2' vic AN926256. At 1705 hours, A/2/1-50 found punji stakes and several tracks in same area found 2 bunkers, 1 large enough for 2 men with overhead cover and 1 for 6 men with overhead cover vic AN835227. During this period there were a total of 4 patrols conducted both foot and mechanized. There were a total of 3 ambushes conducted during this period.