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OPS-3 21 March 1968

Feedback

360th TEWS

The following extracts from reports received by this unit are forwarded as very fragmentary evidence of our success in accomplishing the USAF ARDF effort:

1. Operation Attala commenced on 21 Jan and terminated on 27 Jan 68. A multi-battalion seal and destroy operation against the 165th NVA Regiment, this operation was unique in that it was planned exclusively on ARDF information, much of it provided by TSN Compass Dart missions. Even though extensive intelligence from collateral agencies was not available, the Big Red One (1st Inf Div) considered the 165th a threat to US forces along Highway 13 and therefore should be eliminated.

There were no enemy KIA or detainees during the operation and only a few minor contacts with small groups, supporting the supposition that the Headquarters of the 165th is only a small administrative group. Seven airstrikes were flown during the operation resulting in two major secondary explosions. When the base camp was finally discovered as a result of a fix, the enemy had already fled leaving behind 65 bunkers, 33 fighting positions and 3 military structures which were destroyed.

During the operation 717 ARDF fixes were passed to the supported commander. Of these fixes, nine were of immediate interest to the supported command being fixes in or near the area of operations. Our crews contributed the following fixes:

Date	Coordinates	Crew
22 Jan	XT719688	Marsiglia, Tisdale, Kelley, Cyr, Bock, Jones
22 Jan	XT697698	St John, Lloyd, Orzen, Davidson, Terrell, Lyman McAllister, Roberts, Kufel
23 Jan	XT715668 XT[illegible]9659	Davidson, Olafson, Pharr, Lehmuller

2. Operation Coronado X (18 Jan to 14 Feb 68) was a mulit-phase operation of the Coronado series in which the Mobile Riverine Force conducted strike operations, air mobile search and destroy operations, saturation patrolling and local patrolling to destroy enemy main and local force units.

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Results of this operation were: US losses: 12 KIA (2 [illegible]), [illegible] (0 [illegible]). Enemy losses: 344 KIA, 10 POW's, 270 detainees, 20 lbs of clothing, 100 small arms, 16,500 lbs rice, 3665 rounds SA ammo, 16[illegible] lbs dynamite, 35 grenades, 6 mines, 110 mortar rounds, 67 [illegible] rounds, 61,500 piasters, 3 mines, 300 weapons magazines, 7 grenade launchers, 8 US radios, 1 gallon of [illegible], 3 walkie talkies, 27 B-40 propellants, 500 shovel heads, 570 bunkers, 37 structures, 1 bomb, 7 booby traps, 79 grenades, 4 sampans and 1 rocket.

720 ARDF fixes were passed to the supported command during the operation. All reported fixes were used to plan each phase of the operation to verify other intelligence information from other sources. On 31 Jan the 2nd Brigade began firing on all fixes with artillery that were within range and continued to do so through 01 Feb. Numerous secondary explosions were noted. During the enemy Tet offensive ARDF resources continued to provide the Mobile Riverine Force with accurate and timely intelligence information over a wide area after other sources of information became extremely limited. This after action report did not link specific fixes (crews) with specific action however it should be noted that after the Tet offensive, 23d Compass Dart missions flew several missions a day into area 30.

3. Operation Manchester (12 Jan-18 Feb 68) was conducted by the 3rd Brigade of the US 101st Airborne Division with their assigned missions of (1) destroying the Dong Nai VC Regiment (2) disrupting VC infiltration from War Zone D to the Di An area and (3) preventing VC/NVA mortar/rocket attacks on the Bien Hoa military complex. "A total of 391 ARDF fixes were passed to the supported command of 1496 fixes monitored. All ARDF fixes received 4-5 rounds of artillery immediately and were also used to plan MAF fires at night. 175MM, 155MM and 105MM artillery were employed depending on the distance to the target." No further results of the operation or action taken on fixes were included in the after action report.

4. An unidentified fix at XT888496 obtained by the crew of McKain, Bingham, Clark, Padget, Parker and McLaughlin received 2 rounds of 155 mm artillery fire after their mission in 27 on 8 March. Two rounds of 105mm artillery were dropped on a fix obtained by Shaw, Line, Asinger, Cooper, Lambert, Webb, Lewandowski, Roberts and Siple during a later mission on the same day in 27.

5. While searching the area pointed out by 2 fixes obtained by the crew of Sanford, White, Hernandez, Snodgrass, Beck and Montague in area 30 on 14 March, A Company, 3/39th Inf destroyed 10 fresh bunkers and found a bandolier of ammo less than 300 meters from one of their fixes. B Company searching nearby apprehended one male detainee, age 19 who claimed to have information on North Vietnamese troops in the same area. A Company continuing their search, destroyed a total of 28 more bunkers in the area.

6. Two airstrikes in response to two fixes in the vicinity of XS660710 obtained by Fenton, Meier, Anderson, Huffman, Davis and Lightfoot resulted in 7 structures destroyed, 3 structures damaged and 8 bunkers destroyed. The fix was obtained on 930B on 16 March.

7. A reconnaisance element of the 3/39th Inf searching a fix obtained by the crew of Pflughaupt, Dreyer, Krueger, Nauman and O'Neill on 9300 on the 16th in the vicinity of XS764724 resulted in contact with an estimated VC platoon. The VC finally withdrew leaving four dead "comrades behind.

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OPS-3

Feedback (U)

360th TRMS
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1. Operation Pargo 8-68 (3 Feb - 6 Mar 68) was conducted in Bien Hoa province by elements of the 101st Airborne Division, 11th Armored Calvary and 199th Light Infantry Brigade with the stated mission of conducting reconnaissance in force around the Bien Hoa complex and to defend the III Corps compound and Bien Hoa POW camp. In a typically vague after action report, no results of the operation were included. Mention was made that 63 ARDF fixes were targetted with five rounds of artillery each. Also, on 14 Feb a large base camp, 100 to 200 meters in diameter, was discovered in the vicinity of XT954045 by elements investigating a fix obtained by the crew of Keeney, Holtzer, Cummins, Miller, Frank, Baxter, Chenault and Ferguson at XT940047. In addition, seven (7) B-52 strikes were conducted on 20, 21 and 22 Feb in response to a concentration of fixes northwest of Bien Hoa.

2. Operation San Angelo (15 Jan - 10 Feb 68) was a search and destroy operation conducted by the 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. Results of this operation which was cut short by this units move to I Corps were: US 20 KIA, two (2) trucks destroyed; Enemy: 193 KIA, 45 weapons captured, 1306 rounds small arms ammo captured, 46 rounds crew served ammo captured and 24.9 tons of rice captured. A total of 310 ARDF fixes were received of which only 35 were actually located in the area of operation. "In all cases fixes provided to the supported commander on a timely basis were violently engaged with artillery and airstrikes. Those appearing in areas near friendly ground units were engaged with mortars and exploited in most cases positive ground contact followed."

3. On 19 March, an airstrike was called in response to a grouping of three fixes around XS6069 obtained by the crew of Greenwood, Wright, Anderson, Hiens, Harris, White, Jones, Abernathy and Miller. A company 3/39th Inf conducted a sweep of the area after the strike and found one (1) VC KIA and 68 large bunkers, forty 100 pound bags of rice, thirty-four 2 man bunkers with overhead covers, twenty 1 man bunkers and sixty three spider holes.

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Feedback: (U)

360th TEWS

The following extracts from reports received by this unit [illegible] as very fragmentary evidence of our success in [illegible] ARDF effort:

1. Operation Yellowstone was conducted by the First and Third [illegible] in northeastern War Zone "C" in Tay Ninh province from 05 [illegible] 24 Feb 68. Their mission was to (1) destroy the Central Office of South Vietnam (COSVN) base camp area (2) interdict lines of infiltration from Cambodia (3) conduct search and destroy operations to capture or [illegible] as many enemy personnel and equipment as possible. Many [illegible] resulting from this operation were: 1170 [illegible] KIA (BC), [illegible] 15,483 grenades, 179.8 tons of rice, 233 mines, [illegible] supplies, 144 individual weapons, 69 crew served weapons, [illegible] bombs, 36 pounds of documents, 14 [illegible] mortar, 12 [illegible] pistols, 2 hand generators and 1 truck. [illegible] 1085 WIA. "In general the supported command was more than anxious to [illegible] on ARDF locations. The following is a compilation of all actions taken on ARDF during Operation Yellowstone:

B-52 strikes: 2
Patrols 1
155mm rounds 425
105mm rounds 223
8 inch rounds 34
4.2 inch rounds 25
unk cal rounds 10

2. Operation Farmo (22 Dec 67 to 20 Jan 68) was conducted by the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment to destroy main forces of the VC/NVA units, open areas, clear highways and prevent enemy infiltration [illegible] along Highway 13. Although no major contacts were made during the operation, enemy losses were significant and included 49 KIA (BC), 22 possible, 3 POW's, 23 detainees, 1 Hoi Chanh, 1100 rounds of small arms ammo, 7 individual weapons, 586 bunkers, 282 foxholes, 16 structures, 85 meters of trench, 23 spider holes, 109 fortification and numerous other pieces of military equipment and foodstuffs. "Airborne Radio Direction Finding (ARDF) continued to be the single most important intelligence product provided to the tactical commander. Though at times no direct action was taken against ARDF fixes, it provided the commander with up to date enemy location and concentrations in his tactical area of responsible and interest." "The most notable ARDF directed activity was the

use of ARDF results as the factor [illegible]
along the Cambodian border in [illegible]
of D/1 artillery in late December [illegible]
camp and infiltration area. The [illegible]
to warrant B-52 strikes."

3. Operation Can Angela was conducted by the [illegible]
Nhon Dien as a search and destroy operation [illegible]
forces in Phuoc Long Province from 19 [illegible] 26 [illegible]
results of the operation revealed 40 [illegible]
troops. Enemy losses were 101 KIA, 45 [illegible]
rounds of ammunition captured and 84.9 [illegible]
timely fires (SIC) provided were accompanied with artillery [illegible]
Those appearing in areas near friendly ground units [illegible]
tars and in most cases positive ground contact followed."

4. Operation Valley Forge was conducted by the 197th [illegible]
gade from 03 through 17 March 1968 in Binh Dinh and [illegible]
preclude rocket, mortar and/or ground attacks on the [illegible]
complex. No results of the operation were [illegible]
report, however, the following comments were [illegible]
197th SBB was a primary factor in the initiation of [illegible]
Forge. Enemy unit locations in the area surrounding [illegible]
Binh complex furnished this unit indications that [illegible]
continual harassment and possibly a major attack in this area. [illegible]
the conduct of the operation, the 197th [illegible] original [illegible]
plans and ARDF-CRDF fires initiated artillery fire on both point and
area targets. In addition, air strikes [illegible] deployments and other enemy
activities, in particular those of the A/[illegible] and B/[illegible] were
based largely on ARDF results.

5. Artillery fire placed on 2 of our fixes of [illegible]
Fire placed on a fix obtained by the crew of [illegible]
Welch, Terrell and Preslar in area 36 killed 2 [illegible]
ground forces found 1 carbine, 40 pounds of rice and [illegible]
kers. Other fire on a fix obtained by the crew of [illegible]
Huffman, Webb and Fountain killed two other enemy. [illegible]
another trying to escape.

6. Reacting to a fix brought back by the crew of [illegible]
Veal, Brown, Glasgow, McLaughlin, Clausen and Miller [illegible] 27, also on
the 28th, Long Range Reconnaissance Team 9 made contact with an enemy [illegible]
3 to 5 VC, killing 2 (BC) and carrying one other as possible. A civilian
type radio was taken from one of the bodies.

7. Finally reaching to the many fixes around their [illegible] base camp,
(the latest grouping obtained by the crew of Cosgrove, [illegible], [illegible],
Eggen, Wehmeyer, Curtis, Colton, Pine and O'Neill on the 30th of April),

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[illegible] Inf Battalion struck out into [illegible] too late to make contact with enemy [illegible] rockets, twelve 81mm mortar rounds, 50 [illegible] kilowatt generator and two hove [illegible] were uncovered and destroyed, including [illegible] female detainee was taken.

FOR THE COMMANDER

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