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AVDG-GC

SUBJECT: Operational Report - Lessons Learned, 101st Airborne Division  
(Airmobile) for Period Ending 31 July 1969, RCS CSFOR-65 (R1) (U)

155mm), C Battery, 2-319 Artillery (4 tubes 105mm), and a composite battery (4 tubes 105mm) from B and C Batteries, 2-319 Artillery.

After infiltrating through the concertina wire on the north side of the perimeter the attacking force systematically criss-crossed the northern portion of the fire base tossing satchel charges and grenades in the bunkers they encountered. By 0500H the enemy attack had lost impetus and the men of Airborne drove the attacking force from the hill killing forty of the sappers, while suffering twenty-two killed and sixty-one wounded. In addition five howitzers were either damaged or destroyed.

(2) On the night of 14 June FB Berchtesgaden, located on the eastern lip of the high ground overlooking the A Shau Valley, was attacked by a force of enemy sappers. The units occupying and defending Fire Base Berchtesgaden (YD 423012) were the Command Post 2-327 Inf, Recon/2-327 Inf, Co E (-) 2-327 with one platoon from B/2-327 Inf attached, B/1-506 (-), 3d Brigade Security Platoon, 3d Brigade Tactical Command Post, B/2-319 Artillery (105), C/2-11 Artillery (155). At 140330 hours June following several days of extensive reconnaissance enemy sappers of C2 and C3 Company of the K-3 Battalion, 6th NVA Regiment initiated an attack on the fire base using RPG, SA fire, 82mm mortars and satchel charges. The enemy sappers penetrated the concertina wire after tying down the trip flares and headed for predesignated targets. Three avenues of approach were used; one from the northwest, one from the east, and one from the south across the VIP pad to the Brigade TOC. The fighting bunkers and battalion command post were hit as was the command post and complex of the 3d Brigade Headquarters. Throughout the attack an intensive barrage of 82mm mortar was directed at the 2-327 command post and bunker line until 0530 hours preventing these forces from reinforcing the Brigade command post.

Friendly artillery was employed from surrounding fire bases to provide illumination, in addition to the support from Army Aviation and Air Force. As daylight approached, contact was broken as the enemy pulled back through the wire leaving behind thirty-three dead and three prisoner of war. From these prisoners it was determined that approximately ninety-six NVA had taken part in the attack. Friendly casualties were eleven killed and forty-seven wounded.

(3) At 160125 June 1969, an enemy sapper attack was launched against Fire Support Base Currahee located on the floor of the A Shau Valley. Units occupying and defending the Fire Support Base were B, E, and Command Post of 2-502, A/2-319 Artillery (105).

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