

LONG RANGE RECONNAISSANCE PATROL
D TROOP, 3RD SQUADRON, 4TH CAVALRY
25TH INFANTRY DIVISION
APO San Francisco 96225

25 October 1966

SUBJECT: Mission Synopsis (Opn HCOLWINK 232125 Oct 66 - 242330 Oct 66)

TO: Commanding Officer
3d Squadron, 4th Cavalry
ATTN: S-2
APO 96225

1. At 232125 Oct 66 a nine man patrol (LRRP) was infiltrated by track into AO Vast with the mission of waterborne reconnaissance of the AO. The patrol disembarked the tracks at coord XT682081. The patrol then launched three sampans in the north/south waterway beginning at XT682080 and traveled south.

2. The patrol could only travel in the waterway for approx 200 meters. Heavy water cactus and brush covered the waterway. The patrol moved out of the waterway and into the rice paddy (west side of stream - patrol stayed within 50 meters of the stream) and continued its move south, paralleling the stream.

3. Movement in the rice paddy was very slow. At 0230 hrs, 24 Oct 66, the patrol came upon a navigable east/west canal; vic coord XT6825-0690. The patrol continued its movement south. At 0400 hrs the team stopped its southerly movement vic coord XT68300675 and remained at this location until 1915 hrs, 24 Oct 66 - no activity was observed.

4. At 1915 hrs the patrol moved north for 250 meters to the east/west navigable canal; vic coord XT683069. The element moved east in the canal for 400 meters then returned to vic coord XT683069. No activity was observed.

5. The patrol then traveled north from coord XT683069 along the north/south stream in that vicinity. At 2115 hrs the patrol sighted a group of six people approx 100 meters north of their location (coord XT683079) the group was moving west to east. The group separated (two people began running west and four people fled east). The patrol placed fire on the two groups.

6. The patrol continued its movement north and set up a perimeter at coord XT68350800. At 2130 hrs voices and movement could be heard to the east and west of the patrols location (approx 100 meters in either direction). At this time two grenades or M-79 rounds landed within the patrols perimeter. The enemy could no longer be seen but could be heard on three sides of the patrols location (north, west, east). At 2200 hrs the patrol leader requested extraction. At 2245 hrs the patrol leader requested illumination of the area. During the illumination (artillery) one man was observed running east approx 100 meters south of the patrols location. No equipment was seen on the man. The patrol continued periodic firing of the area (at sounds of voices and movement).

7. At 2330 hrs, A Troop, 3/4 Cav, arrived at the pickup site, coord XT682081.

8. One straw hat was found in the area. Many foot tracks were observed in the area.

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9. The patrol was extracted at 242330 Oct 66.



MARK PONZILLO JR
Captain, Infantry
Commanding

Incl

1-Overlay of AO