

**The War Diary
of
1st BATTALION, 12th INFANTRY
“RED WARRIORS”
July 1966 - September 1967**

“Vietnam - The Battalion’s First Year”

Compiled
by
Roger A. Hill



1st BATTALION, 12th INFANTRY (Red Warriors)



Coat of Arms

Shield: Azure, in fess two crosses moline argent, in base a wigwam of the like garnished with five poles of the last; on a chief embattled or a sea lion of the third holding in dexter paw a sword of the field.

Crest: On a wreath of the colors an armored arm embowed proper, grasping in the naked hand a broken flag staff gules, to which is attached a pennant or.

Motto: *Ducti Amore Patriae* (Having Been Led by Love of Country).

Symbolism: The field is blue for infantry. This regiment took part in the Civil War; its great achievement was its first engagement at Gaines' Mill, Virginia, on 27 and 28 June 1862, where its losses were almost 50 percent. This is shown by the moline crosses which represent the iron fastenings of a millstone and recall the crushing losses sustained. The wigwam stands for the Indian campaigns in which the regiment took part. The chief is for the War with Spain and the Philippine Insurrection, yellow and red being the Spanish colors, red and blue the Katipunan colors; the embattled partition line is for the capture of the blockhouse at El Caney, Cuba, and the sea lion is from the arms of the Philippine Islands.

The crest in the Spanish colors commemorates the capture of a Spanish flag at El Caney.

Lineage

Constituted 3 May 1861 in the Regular Army as Company A, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry. Organized 20 October 1861 at Fort Hamilton, New York. Reorganized and redesignated 7 December 1866 as Company A, 12th Infantry. (12th Infantry assigned 17 December 1917 to the 8th Division; relieved 15 August 1927 from assignment to the 8th Division and assigned to the 4th Division; relieved 1 October 1933 from assignment to the 4th Division and assigned to the 8th Division; relieved 10 October 1941 from assignment to the 8th Division and assigned to the 4th Division [later redesignated as the 4th Infantry Division].) Inactivated 15 July 1947 at Fort Ord, California.

Reorganized and redesignated 1 April 1957 as Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battle Group, 12th Infantry and remained assigned to the 4th Infantry Division (organic elements concurrently constituted and activated). Reorganized and redesignated 1 October 1963 as the 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry.

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INTRODUCTION

This document is a compilation of information from nine sources. It represents a best effort to reconstruct the Battalion's historical tactical record during its first year in Viet-Nam. Because of gaps in the available information, some months are not as thoroughly depicted as others. It is hoped that with time and the addition of other sources, these gaps will be filled and the record fully reconstructed.

One of the more difficult problems to resolve was the use of UTM coordinates to define unit locations. Some of the UTM coordinates in this document have been flagged with an asterisk. They have been changed to reflect a more appropriate (and hopefully correct) location for the activities that took place there. A few were left unchanged as there were no clues as to their correct location, and a few were created based upon information found in the referenced text. Many of the original coordinates were either in Cambodia, or as much as 20-50 kilometers off in South Vietnam.

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January 2025

JULY 1966

21 July (Thursday): The battalion boards the United States Naval Ship (USNS) General Walker for a 21 day trip to Viet-Nam (Williams: 2).

AUGUST 1966

6 August (Saturday): The USNS General Walker drops anchor in Qui Nhon harbor. The battalion debarks and is moved by air and ground transport to the 4th Infantry Division's new base camp in the vicinity of coordinate AR 743364* on the southeastern edge of Dragon Mountain (later to become know as Camp Enari) (Williams: 3).

7 August (Sunday): The battalion begins building its base camp and initiates its in-country training. The battalion command and staff consists of Lieutenant Colonel James R. Lay, the battalion commander; Major Barney K. Neal, Jr., the battalion executive officer; First Lieutenant Eugene W. Echols, the S-1; First Lieutenant Michael C. Downs, the S-2; Captain Paul E. Freeman, the S-3; and First Lieutenant Louis A. Sylvester, the S-4. The company commanders are Captain Edward D. Northrop, Headquarters & Headquarters Company; First Lieutenant Brendan T. Quann, Alpha Company; First Lieutenant Melvin E. Case, Bravo Company; and First Lieutenant James Biglow II, Charlie Company (Williams: B3, 3).

10 August (Wednesday): The 2nd Platoon of Alpha Company conducts its first reconnaissance patrol. The platoon covers over seven miles in its trek around the Dragon Mountain base camp perimeter (Hymoff: 32).

13 August (Saturday): Specialist Fourth Class Mentzer of Bravo Company is killed/dies (Dilkes).

SEPTEMBER 1966

4 September (Sunday): Captain Huffine and Private First Class Keeler of Alpha Company are killed/die (Dilkes).

15 September (Thursday): The 2nd Brigade and the "Red Warriors" are attached to the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division for approximately 30 days of "supervised" search-and-destroy operations. Alpha, Bravo, and Charlie Companies each conduct a combat assault into the Red Warrior area of operation near the Chu Pong Mountains in the vicinity of coordinate YA 991008* and initiate Operation Paul Revere III. The recon platoon conducts patrols out of the fire support base (Hymoff: 32, Williams: 3, 29th MHD: 4).

21 September (Wednesday): Staff Sergeant Szabo, Specialist Fourth Class Jenkins, and Private First Class Hyde of Headquarters & Headquarters Company are killed/die (Dilkes, Hill).

OCTOBER 1966

17 October (Monday): 2nd Brigade returns to 4th Division control after being attached to the 3rd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division for the past 33 days (Williams: 3).

18 October (Tuesday): At 1000 Operation Paul Revere III becomes Paul Revere IV. The battalion begins moving to a new area of operation and setting up a fire support base. The recon platoon, along with a squad of engineers, makes a combat assault into the new landing zone. The command group and mortar platoon quickly follow. As the line companies land, Alpha and one other company move out to some neighboring hills to set up their patrol bases (Hill: 11, Williams: 3).

25 October (Tuesday): Alpha Company (121 strong) makes contact with the enemy, killing two and capturing one, a Montagnard boy (Hymoff: P.35, Hill: 17).

26 October (Wednesday): While Alpha Company sets up a patrol base at coordinate YA 726530, the recon platoon, along with a Vietnamese interpreter and the Montagnard prisoner of war, depart on a four day patrol to find a Montagnard village being used by elements of the North Vietnamese Army (NVA) as a base camp (Hill: 17, Marshall: 19).

27 October (Thursday): From 0100 to 0300, Alpha Company is engaged by three companies of the 5th Battalion, 32nd Regiment, 630th NVA Division at coordinate YA 723530 (Figure 2). Friendly casualties include WIAs Staff Sergeant Akerley, Sergeant Harris, and Private First Class Alexander, while the enemy suffers 38 known KIAs and five prisoners of war. Enemy WIAs are unknown (Dilkes: 23, Hymoff: 35-37, Williams: 3, Marshall: 20-30, MacGarrigle: 70).

29 October (Saturday): By 0900 the recon platoon closes back into the fire support base after finding the unoccupied NVA base camp and putting it to the torch (Hill: 19).

NOVEMBER 1966

5 November (Saturday): Phase II of Paul Revere IV is initiated (MacGarrigle: 70).

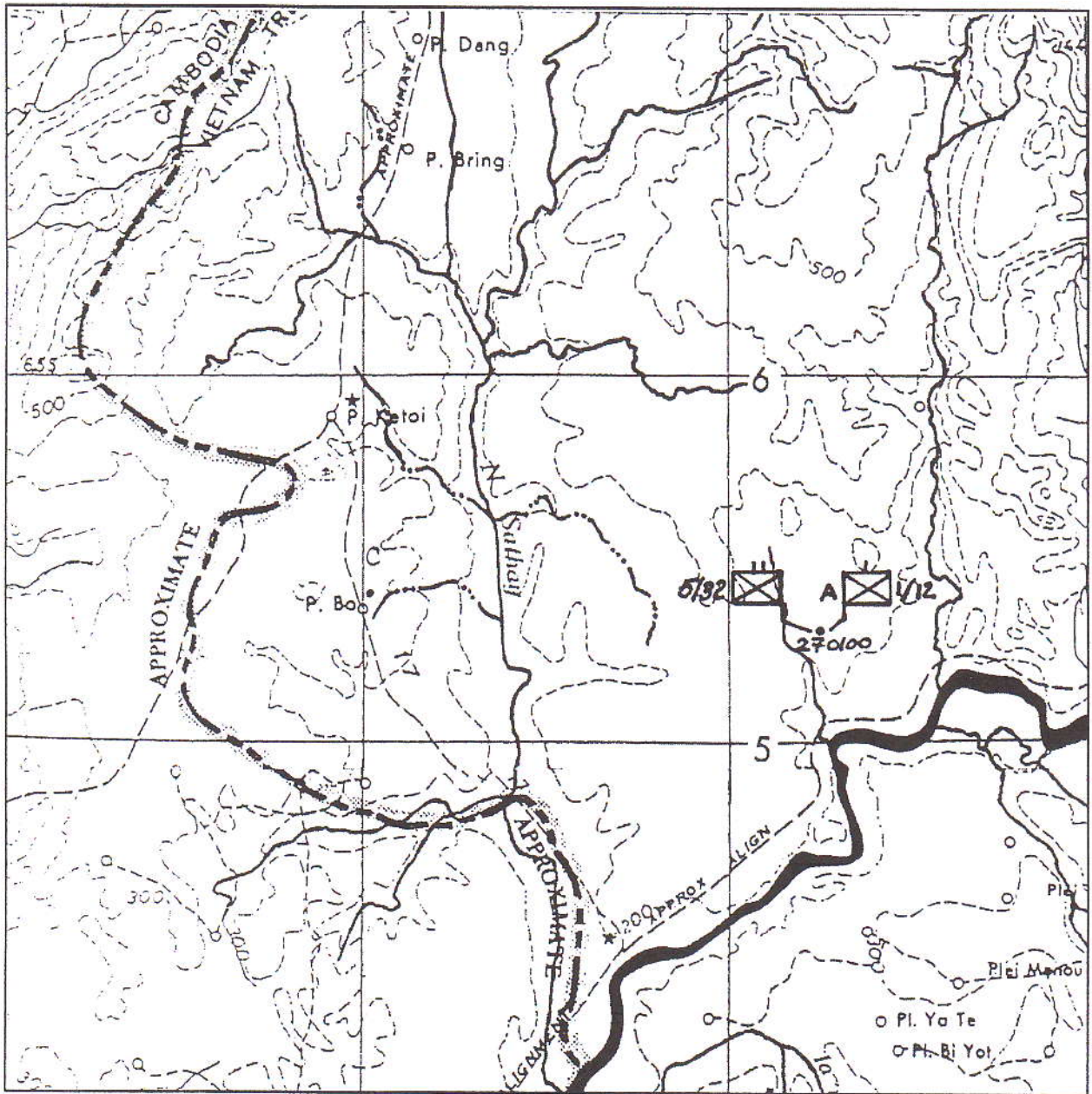


Figure 2

10 November (Thursday): Late in the evening the battalion receives a change of mission to assist a civilian irregular defense group (CIDG) strike force, a part of Task Force Prong, trapped near a dry salt flat known as Poli Wali west of Plei Djereng at coordinate YA 572555. The call finds Bravo Company in the fire support base at coordinate YA 717535 with the battalion support elements (the

recon and mortar platoons, and Bravo Battery, 4/42) northwest of Plei Djereng, Charlie Company 3000 meters northeast of the fire support base, and Alpha Company southwest of the fire support base (Dilkes: 25, Marshall: 137).

11 November (Friday): Alpha, Charlie, and the fire support base elements conduct a combat assault into the vicinity of coordinate YA 596580* and establish the Red Warrior Landing Zone and Fire Support Base, approximately 2200-2500 meters east of the Cambodian border. Simultaneously Bravo Company airlifts into a landing zone in the vicinity of coordinate YA 586587*, within 1000 meters of the Cambodian border. The battalion's mission is to provide fire support and relief for the trapped CIDG strike force. Fire support is to be provided by Bravo Battery, 4th Battalion, 42nd Artillery (105 towed). Enemy resistance is encountered during the ensuing insertions and results in the loss of three helicopters within 800 meters of the landing zone.

By 1200 Charlie Company and Bravo Battery are well into their airlift into the new landing zone, leaving Alpha Company back in the old fire support base to act as a reserve, and the recon platoon out on patrol. Between 1400 and 1430 the CIDG breaks contact with the enemy, and Bravo Company links up with them. Bravo Company then sets up an ambush at coordinate YA 572555 south of Pali Wali, engages four NVA soldiers, and kills one. Alpha Company begins to arrive at the new battalion landing zone at about 1745, completing the transition (Dilkes: 27-31, Hymoff: 54, Williams: 4, Marshall: 137-146, MacGarrigle: 73).

12 November (Saturday): Alpha Company departs the fire support base to locate three downed helicopters and to attempt to rescue the crews. Charlie Company is left behind to man the perimeter, while both mortar sections (81mm and 4.2 inch) assist the 4/42 in providing fire support. Charlie Company is tasked to conduct a patrol around the fire support base perimeter. The patrol departs at 0730 and closes back into the fire support base by 1630. Alpha Company encounters sporadic enemy resistance, locates two of the aircraft, rescues four crewmen, and recovers five friendly KIAs. At 1810, Alpha Company, while completing several secondary missions en route back to the fire support base, comes under mortar attack. At 1900, shortly after Alpha Company has closed into the fire support base, the fire support base comes under a major ground attack. The attack continues until 2130, and by morning an estimated 500 mortar rounds have fallen on the battalion. Air cover and artillery fire throughout the night keep the enemy forces at bay. Sweeps conducted at first light around the perimeter reveal 91 enemy KIAs and two prisoners of war. Interrogation of the prisoners indicate they are from the 88th NVA Regiment. Friendly casualties included 41 battalion WIAs and five KIAs from Charlie Company: Corporal Walker, Specialist Fourth Class Fulmer, Private First Class Anderson, Private Blackwell, and Private First Class Bocook (Hymoff: 54-56, Williams: 4-5, Marshall: 147, MacGarrigle: 74).

13 November (Sunday): Aerial observation of the surrounding terrain reveals approximately 400 enemy KIAs among the trees and foliage. The battalion is ordered to displace from Red Warrior Landing Zone to a new location 2000 meters southeast of the battle area in the vicinity of coordinate YA 781363* (MacGarrigle: 74, Williams: 5).

22 November (Tuesday): The Personnel Roster (DA Form 305-3) prepared by the AG Data Processing Division, USARPAC lists by name 171 enlisted personnel assigned to Charlie Company.

23 November (Wednesday): The recon platoon is attached to Alpha Company as a reserve force (Hill: 20).

24 November (Thursday): Alpha Company makes contact with an NVA trail watcher. Private Weinberg is on point when he and a North Vietnamese Army soldier encounter each other. After exchanging gunfire, both individuals are found dead (Hill: 21).

25 November (Friday): Alpha Company and the recon platoon enjoy a hot Thanksgiving dinner flown out by battalion. A CIDG platoon shares the meal (Hill).

DECEMBER 1966

1 December (Thursday): Charlie Company is manning the perimeter of the fire support base in the vicinity of coordinate YA 584549*, while Alpha Company is on Hill 346 (coordinate YA 584543*) overlooking the fire support base. Bravo Company is in a defensive position in the vicinity of coordinate YA 585555*, and is approximately 1500 meters north of the fire support base (Dilkes: 53, Marshall: 176).

2 December (Friday): Alpha (107 men) and Bravo Companies depart their night positions at about the same time (0730) with a mission to maneuver to the southwest and converge on another piece of high terrain about 1700 meters away. At approximately 0900 Alpha Company makes chance contact with a reinforced North Vietnamese platoon at coordinate YA 580540. Within an hour Bravo Company links up with Alpha, and by 1230 both units are conducting a sweep over the enemy position, resulting in 16 enemy KIAs and two prisoners of war. Friendly casualties are four KIAs (Private First Class Jones and First Lieutenant Enari of Alpha Company, and Private First Class Gill-Boy and Specialist Fourth Class Campos of Bravo Company) and 13 WIAs (Specialist Fourth Class Mumma, Specialist Fourth Class Redcey, Specialist Fourth Class Peak, Sergeant Edmonds, Specialist Fourth Class Wysocki, Specialist Fourth Class Barbusa, Private First Class Alexander, Specialist Fourth Class Stewart, Sergeant Reyes Cruz, and Specialist Class James Brown of Alpha Company; and Private First Class Barell, Private First Class Lucas, and Staff Sergeant Marler of Bravo Company) (Dilkes: 53, Marshall: 177-200, Williams: 5).

13 December (Tuesday): Staff Sergeant Priddy and Specialist Fourth Class Green of Alpha Company are killed/die (Dilkes).

17 December (Saturday): Private First Class Lee of Charlie Company is killed/dies (Dilkes).

20 December (Tuesday): The battalion's participation in Operation Paul Revere IV ends. The battalion celebrates its first year of success by returning to its base camp at Dragon Mountain, where it remains until the New Year. During the break, the troops get to see a Bob Hope Christmas show,

and participate in a memorial service for the 21 Red Warriors who gave their lives for their country (Dilkes: 69, Williams: p.5, Hill).

Staff Sergeant Waddell and Private Harris of Bravo Company are killed/die (Dilkes).

JANUARY 1967

1 January (Sunday): The battalion begins the New Year with Lieutenant Colonel James R. Lay as its battalion commander; Major Barney K. Neal, Jr. as the executive officer; First Lieutenant Eugene W. Echols Jr. as the S-1; First Lieutenant Michael C. Downs as the S-2; Captain Paul E. Freeman as the S-3; and First Lieutenant Louis A.K. Sylvester as the S-4. Headquarters & Headquarters Company is commanded by Captain Edward D. Northrop; Alpha Company by First Lieutenant Brendan T. Quann; Bravo Company by First Lieutenant Melvin E. Case; and Charlie Company by First Lieutenant James E. Bigelow II (Schneider: 8).

The beginning of the New Year also sees the initiation of Operation Sam Houston (Dilkes: 76).

2 January (Monday): The battalion initially secures a fire support base at coordinate YA 765493 with Charlie Company; the command group; Bravo Battery 4/42 artillery; the battalion mortar platoon; five 81 mm mortars, and one squad from Bravo Company's 1st Platoon, 4th Engineer Battalion. Alpha and Charlie Companies then conduct search-and-destroy operations south and west of the fire support base, while the recon platoon conducts a tactical road march to the 2nd Brigade Forward Command Post at 3 Tango and performs mounted road clearing operations for the remainder of the month (Schneider: 9).

10 January (Tuesday): Captain Brendan T. Quann becomes the battalion S-2, replacing First Lieutenant Michael C. Downs (Schneider: 7)

11 January (Wednesday): Captain Robert E. Taggs becomes the Company Commander of Alpha Company, replacing First Lieutenant Brendan T. Quann (Schneider: 7).

12 January (Thursday): Captain Edward V. Scherer becomes the Company Commander of Bravo Company, replacing First Lieutenant Melvin E. Case (Schneider: 7).

15 January (Sunday): Captain Louis A.K. Sylvester becomes the Company Commander for Headquarters & Headquarters Company, replacing Captain Edward D. Northrop, Jr., who becomes the Company Commander of Charlie Company, replacing First Lieutenant James E. Bigelow (Schneider: 7).

----- January (): Charlie Company is in the Oasis pulling perimeter guard duty. Those who are not on duty are allowed to watch a movie. Shortly after the movie begins, mortar rounds begin to fall on the camp (Hymoff: 62). Charlie Company also spends a few days in Camp Hollaway in Pleiku (probably for prisoner of war compound guard duty) (Dilkes: 77).

FEBRUARY 1967

1 February (Wednesday): The Pleiku television station goes on the air and broadcasts its first four hours of programs (*Stars & Stripes*: 2/1/67:6).

Captain Jerry W. White becomes the battalion S-3, replacing Captain Paul S. Freeman, and Captain Douglas P. Bennett becomes the battalion S-4, replacing First Lieutenant Louis A.K. Sylvester (Schneider: 7).

2 February (Thursday): Alpha Company moves overland and secures Landing Zone 10-B at coordinate YA 76603386. The remainder of the battalion follows by air and establishes a fire support base (Dilkes: 77, Schneider: 9).

9 February (Thursday): The recon platoon terminates its road clearing operations with the 2nd Brigade out of 3 Tango and makes a combat assault into a landing zone in the vicinity of coordinate YA 714585* (Schneider: 9).

10 February (Friday): The battalion is tasked to establish a new fire support base at Landing Zone 501-N in the vicinity of coordinate YA 789540* due to a North Vietnamese Army buildup west of the Nam Sathay River (Dilkes: 77, Schneider: 9).

12 February (Sunday): Charlie Company is attached to the 2/8 Infantry, and moves overland to secure Landing Zone 501-N (Dilkes: 77, MacGarrigle: 167, Schneider: 9).

13 February (Monday): Lieutenant Colonel George Wilcox assumes command of the battalion, replacing Lieutenant Colonel James R. Lay (Schneider: 9).

14 February (Tuesday): Charlie Company closes on Landing Zone 501-N by early evening and reports that the woodline surrounding the proposed landing zone contains recently constructed, but unoccupied, bunkers (Dilkes: 77, MacGarrigle: 169, Schneider: 9).

15 February (Wednesday): At early morning nautical twilight (EMNT, approximately 0700) Charlie Company comes under attack by the 8th Battalion, 66th North Vietnamese Army Regiment at coordinate YA 602540. The attack continues throughout the day until 2400. Using air and artillery support, the enemy assault is blunted until Alpha and Bravo Companies, along with the command group, are able to close into the new fire support base with Charlie Company by about 1730. Improvements to the fire support base continue throughout the night under the illumination of flares being dropped by "Spooky" gunships. The enemy's use of 82 mm mortars, B-40 rockets, 75 mm DK-7 recoilless rifles, both light and heavy machine guns, and AK-47 and SKS rifles indicates that the battalion was attacked by a battalion-sized force. Friendly losses include 32 WIAs and 10 KIAs; Private First Class Manners and Private First Class Speak of Headquarters & Headquarters Company; Sergeant Carkin, Specialist Fourth Class Daniels, Specialist Fourth Class Gehler, and Specialist Fourth Class Reily of Bravo Company; Sergeant Carter, Specialist Fourth Class Kramer, Staff Sergeant Raymond, and Private First Class Willett of Charlie Company (Willet was awarded the

Medal of Honor posthumously by President Lyndon B. Johnson on the 5th of September, 1968 for an "Unselfish act of bravery" (Dilkes: 77-85, Hymoff: 68-71, Schneider: 10, MacGarrigle: 169).

16 February (Thursday): Early morning sweeps by all three companies reveal enemy losses of 113 KIAs and four prisoners of war. It is estimated the attacking force suffer an additional 200 WIAs. Additional friendly losses include KIAs Private First Class Hernandez of Bravo Company and Staff Sergeant Wessells of Charlie Company (Dilkes, Hymoff: 68-71).

17 February (Friday): The battalion receives approximately 50 rounds of 82mm mortar rounds at 2255. As all the rounds impact outside the fire support base perimeter, there are no casualties (Schneider: 10).

Bravo Company receives one round of friendly artillery fire while adjusting their nightly DC's, resulting in one KIA (Private First Class Volner) and three WIAs (Dilkes: 85).

18 February (Saturday): The *Stars & Stripes* reports that a bitter clash with elements of the North Vietnamese Army occurred southwest of Kontum City on Thursday, the 16th of February. The story indicates that the fighting broke out shortly after daylight as a multi-battalion force poured into the area as part of Operation Sam Houston. An unidentified company [C-1/12] was setting up a fire support base when enemy mortar and small arms fire fell on them. Fighting continued throughout the day. Friendly casualties include the loss of two helicopters and one KIA. Enemy losses were reported at 74 KIAs (Beene: 10). A follow-up story in the *Stars & Stripes* on Sunday, the 19th, upgrades the enemy losses to 128, and reports that the prisoners of war included a lieutenant and a senior NCO (Editor: 1).

The recon platoon locates and destroys three enemy mortar positions. While patrolling south of the fire support base, they also find one enemy WIA, 15 bunkers, and numerous blood trails from the firefight on the 15th (Dilkes: 86).

19 February (Sunday): Major Charles F. Scofield becomes the battalion executive officer, replacing Major Barney K. Neal, Jr. (Schneider: 7).

25 February (Saturday): At about 1000, Alpha Company departs Landing Zone 501-N on a search-and-destroy mission toward Hill 770, coordinate YA 583535. At approximately 1030 at coordinate YA 590538 the point man fires on an North Vietnamese soldier, a member of K-7 Battalion's 2nd Company, 66th NVA Regiment, and springs an attempted L-shaped ambush. As the enemy fire increases, the company halts and begins to withdraw to the high ground to their rear. Seeing that they have lost the surprise, the NVA begin to maneuver around Alpha Company's left flank in an effort to deny them the advantage of the hill. At the same time Alpha's 3rd Platoon becomes involved in an intensive fire fight with enemy snipers on the left side of the company. The use of mortars and air strikes brings the sniper problem on the right side of the company under control. After cutting out a landing zone, a CH-47 helicopter unsuccessfully tries twice to land in an effort to start bringing out the wounded. Finally two OH-23s are successful and the wounded are all evacuated. At about 1500, Charlie Company, who has been conducting patrols to the northeast, finally closes with Alpha

Company. The battle lasts for the remainder of day, with the NVA breaking contact at about 1915 (Dilkes: 86-87, Schneider: 10, MacGarrigle: 171, CAAR-OSH: 06/28/67-8).

26 February (Sunday): Alpha Company makes a sweep of the battle area and finds three enemy KIAs and WIAs, 12 AK-47 rifles, four SKS rifles, four light machine guns, and one B-40 rocket launcher. One of Alpha's platoons makes contact with an unknown size enemy force during the sweep and kills two of them. Charlie Company also makes contact with the NVA and kills two. Total enemy losses for the two days are 48 KIAs and three WIAs/CIAs. Friendly losses are one KIA* and 30 WIAs (Dilkes: 87, CAAR-OSH: 06/28/67-8).

27 February (Monday): A 2nd Brigade long-range reconnaissance patrol (LRRP) that is attached to the battalion makes contact with 12 NVA at coordinate YA 602541. 1st Platoon of Bravo Company is sent out to assist the LRRP team. The encounter results in two enemy KIAs (Dilkes: 87, Schneider: 10, CAAR-OSH: 06/28/67-8).

The *Stars & Stripes* reports that an unidentified company of the 4th Infantry Division [A-1/12] killed 45 communists on Saturday, the 25th of February, in a series of clashes in the Central Highlands 40 miles southwest of Kontum City. Friendly losses were described as "light" (Editor: 6).

MARCH 1967

2 March (Thursday): Alpha and Charlie Companies are conducting search-and-destroy missions, while Bravo Company is providing security for the fire support base. That evening the fire support base receives approximately 40 rounds of 82 mm mortar fire, resulting in two friendly KIAs (Private First Class Sloan and Private First Class Tissier of Bravo Company) and 16 WIAs (Dilkes: 87, Schneider: 10).

3 March (Friday): Between 0145 and 0200 that morning, the fire support base comes under mortar fire again. The attack consists of approximately 40 rounds of 82 mm. There are no friendly casualties. Daylight sweeps locate the mortar firing points, which are then destroyed. Major Grady W. Williams assumes command of the battalion from Lieutenant Colonel George Wilcox later in the day (Dilkes: 87, Schneider: 7, 10).

8 March (Wednesday): The battalion combat assaults into a new landing zone designated as 519-A at coordinate YA 668663 and continues their search-and-destroy mission (Schneider: 10).

11 March (Saturday): Private First Class Chambers of Alpha Company is killed/dies (Dilkes).

13-14 March (Monday-Tuesday): The 2nd Brigade Command Post at 3 Tango (coordinate YA 852542) receives over 200 rounds of 82 mm mortar and recoilless rifle fire from the south. Because the base is so crowded with fuel and ammunition stockpiles, losses include 1 KIA, 87 WIAs, and 25 vehicles destroyed or damaged. Consequently the battalion is alerted to relocate to the southwest of 3 Tango and continue their mission (Dilkes: 88, Schneider: 11, MacGarrigle: 173).

Charlie Company recovers two bags of mail belonging to Bravo Company. Because one bag was found high in a tree, it is believed they fell from a helicopter. Judging by the dates, the bags had been lost for about a month (*Stars and Stripes* 13/03/67: 10).

16 March (Thursday): Bravo Company initiates a battalion combat assault into a new landing zone designated 10B, also know as Lay LZ in the vicinity of coordinate YA 760385*. Upon landing they discover the landing zone is mined and occupied by a reinforced squad from the 95-B NVA Regiment. During the landing, one helicopter is destroyed and seven others are damaged. The North Vietnamese are driven off at a cost of five KIAs. Friendly losses included Private First Class Blackburn, Specialist Fourth Class Miller, and Specialist Fourth Class Monahan and seven WIAs from Bravo Company, and one WIA in Alpha Company. Once the battalion has consolidated its resources at the new fire support base, Alpha Company moves out and establishes a separate night defensive position approximately 1000 meters away. Charlie Company also departs, leaving Bravo Company and the recon platoon manning the fire support base perimeter. At 2000 the new fire support base receives approximately 35 rounds of 82 mm mortar fire, resulting in seven WIAs (Dilkes: 88, 98-99; Schneider: 11).

A report in the *Stars and Stripes* states that the 4th Division's 2nd Brigade command post was hit by enemy mortars three times during the early morning hours and daylight [13-14 March]. Losses include one KIA and 75 WIAs. The report also states that the nearby Special Forces camp at New Plei Djererg was hit by mortar fire at the same time (*S&S* 16/03/67:1).

17 March (Friday): While conducting an early morning sweep outside their portion of the battalion perimeter, a squad from the recon platoon engages a reinforced squad from the 95-B NVA Regiment at coordinate YA 765391, while Charlie Company does the same at coordinate YA 763377. Both engagements result in a total of three friendly KIAs (one of which was recon's Staff Sergeant Koneco, and Specialist Fourth Class Chunes and Private First Class Tucker from Charlie Company), 13 friendly WIAs (one from Charlie Company and 12 from recon, one of which was Specialist Fourth Class Ray), and 14 enemy KIAs (two by Charlie Company and 12 by recon). Later in the day Alpha and Charlie Companies also find additional mined landing zones during their sweeps of the surrounding area (Dilkes: 100, Schneider: 11).

A report in the *Stars and Stripes* states that troopers from a company [B 1/12] from the 4th Division's 2nd Brigade was attacked as their helicopters landed in a landing zone on Thursday [16 March]. US losses were not provided, but one helicopter was destroyed (*S&S* 18/03/67: 24).

18 March (Saturday): Alpha Company moves out from its night defensive position and continues with its patrol actions. Bravo Company does the same, and shortly makes contact with the enemy. Alpha Company is then diverted to Bravo's position to give assistance. By the time Alpha Company arrives at the position where Bravo had made contact, the action has been terminated and Bravo Company has continued on. Bravo Company suffers one KIA* and one WIA. Enemy losses are not recorded (Dilkes: 101).

21 March (Tuesday): Specialist Fourth Class Smith of Charlie Company is killed/dies (Dilkes).

24 March (Friday): A Bravo Company listening post detects three North Vietnamese soldiers at coordinate YA 686341 and engages them, killing one (Dilkes: 105, Schneider: 11).

APRIL 1967

3 April (Monday): Lieutenant Colonel Corey J. Wright assumes command of the battalion from Major Grady W. Williams (Dilkes: 106, Schneider: 7).

4 April (Tuesday): At 0410 Bravo Company receives 10-15 rounds of mortar fire at their location west of Plei Djereng (Dilkes: 106).

5 April (Wednesday): After 95 days of combat operations, Operation Sam Houston is terminated, and Operation Francis Marion begins (Dilkes: 106, Schneider: 11, MacGarrigle: 175).

6 April (Thursday): Alpha Company makes a combat assault into an old landing zone and sets up a night defensive position and patrol base (Dilkes: 106).

7 April (Friday): The 3rd platoon of Alpha Company is sent out on patrol. Approximately 1000 meters out from their company patrol base they encounter a well-used trail. Platoon Sergeant Wright dispatches a fire team commanded by Sergeant Butler down the trail to investigate it. Within moments, the fire team makes contact with three North Vietnamese soldiers. The remainder of the platoon then quickly consolidates on the fire team and engages the NVA soldiers for 5-10 minutes. The engagement terminates abruptly when two of the enemy soldiers break contact and depart the area. A sweep of the battle area reveals one enemy KIA. There are no friendly casualties (Dilkes: 107).

8 April (Saturday): Alpha Company departs its patrol base and returns to the fire support base, closing in at about 1600 (Dilkes: 108).

10 April (Monday): The battalion relocates by air and motor march to a Special Forces camp at Polei Kleng, coordinate ZA 027936. Once there, Charlie Company builds the fire support base, while Alpha and Bravo Companies go out on patrol in the nearby hills (Dilkes: 109-110, Schneider: 11).

16 April (Sunday): Charlie Company is airlifted from Polei Kleng to the II Corp heli-pad and then establishes a patrol base at coordinate ZA 231492. They then become a II Corp reaction force and prisoner of war camp guards. Search-and-destroy operations for the remainder of the battalion at Polei Kleng prove fruitless (Dilkes: 110, Schneider: 11).

17 April (Monday): Alpha Company returns to the fire support base (Dilkes: 110).

18 April (Tuesday): The battalion (-) moves the fire support base to coordinate ZA 160066 north of Special Forces camp near Plei Me (Dilkes: 112, Schneider: 11).

20 April (Thursday): The fire support base is moved to a new location at coordinate ZA 028085 (Schneider: 11).

19-30 April: The remainder of the month is then spent relocating Montagnard villages under the Edap Enang Program. This program involves seven villages and 833 Montagnards (Dilkes: 112-115, Schneider: 11).

30 April (Sunday): Alpha Company is in the fire support base, while Bravo Company is out helping to clear villages (Dilkes: 116).

The Personnel Roster (DA Form 305-3) prepared by the AG Data Processing Division, USARPAC lists by name 168 enlisted personnel assigned to Charlie Company.

MAY 1967

1 May (Monday): At 0730 Alpha Company is airlifted from the fire support base by CH-47 helicopters to a landing zone at coordinate ZA 152209. From there they march overland for about six kilometers where they linkup and operate with the 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry (Mechanized) in the general vicinity of coordinate ZA 130250*. The 2/8 Infantry had encountered a bunker complex full of NVA soldiers south of the Oasis earlier in the day and needed some reinforcements. It isn't until approximately 2000 that the linkup between the two units is completed (Dilkes: 118, Schneider: 12).

Bravo and Charlie Companies continue their search-and-destroy operations north and west of the fire support base. A provisional element consisting of personnel from the battalion, the 2nd Battalion, 8th Infantry (Mechanized), and Headquarters & Headquarters Company, 2nd Brigade from the battalion trains security at the Oasis are furnished to assist the recon platoon in providing security for the fire support base (Schneider: 11-12).

3 May (Wednesday): A sweep of the bunker complex area reveals 137 enemy KIAs, including two Chinese (Dilkes: 120).

Captain Perry S. White becomes the Headquarters & Headquarters Company Commander, replacing Captain Louis A.K. Sylvester (Schneider: 7).

4 May (Thursday): Alpha Company returns to the battalion, and then conducts a combat assault into the Ia Drang Valley about 17 kilometers west of the current fire support base in the general vicinity of YA 859125*. Upon arrival, a new fire support base is established with Alpha Company manning the perimeter, while Bravo, Charlie, and the recon platoon conduct patrols. Eventually this fire support base will hold 8" self-propelled guns, 155mm and 105mm howitzers, twin 40 mm "Dusters," M-48 tanks, plus the battalion's 4.2" and 81mm mortars (Dilkes: 120, Schneider: 12).

A report in *Stars & Stripes* describes the contact of 1 & 2 May that involved Alpha Company. The editor states: "In a battle that raged all day, 4th Infantry Division troops of Operation Francis Marion clobbered a North Vietnamese battalion entrenched in log-covered bunkers and caves 21 miles

southwest of Pleiku City. The dug in battalion was first spotted by a company of the 2nd Brigade [2/8 Infantry] at 8 a.m. At noon the fighting was heavy and Army helicopters and artillery and Air Force strikes were pounding the communist position. By nightfall, 81 dead North Vietnamese were counted. One U.S. infantryman was killed" (*Stars & Stripes*, 4 May: 6).

11 May (Thursday): The battalion hears an arc light mission (B-52 strike) taking place west of the fire support base near the Cambodian border (Dilkes: 120).

13 May (Saturday): The 2nd Squad of the 3rd Platoon of Alpha Company is sent out to set up a night ambush. They return the following morning with negative results (Dilkes: 123).

20 May (Saturday): At 0830 Alpha Company departs the fire support base to set up a company patrol base. The general plan is for Alpha Company to remain out until about the 29th chasing B-52 strikes doing bomb damage assessments in the hills around Duc Co. The recon platoon is attached as a company reserve and follows along behind Alpha Company (Dilkes: 124).

21 May (Sunday): The 3rd Platoon of Alpha Company discovers a company-sized bunker complex while on patrol. Found among the bunkers are the remains of two North Vietnamese soldiers (Dilkes: 128).

30 May (Tuesday): At about 0830 Specialist Fourth Class Bellis of Headquarters & Headquarters Company (the recon platoon) is killed in an accidental shooting incident (Dilkes, Hill).

31 May (Wednesday): The remainder of the month is spent in search-and-destroy operations west of the Oasis, resulting in negative enemy contact (Schneider: 12).

JUNE 1967

1 June (Thursday): The battalion relocates the fire support base to coordinate YA 845256 just east of the Duc Co Special Forces/CIDG camp, and west of Kontum. Bravo Company provides fire support base security, while Alpha and Charlie Companies conduct search-and-destroy operations on the high ground north and west of Duc Co. The monsoon has begun and it is raining all the time (Schneider: 12, Dilkes: 133).

2-4 June : First Sergeant Roy Chandler takes over as Alpha Company's First Sergeant, replacing First Sergeant Robert E. Crouch (Dilkes: 133).

5 June (Monday): Patrol operations are centered in an area northwest of Pleiku along the Ya Krong Bolah River near the village of Chu Kram. Alpha Company reports seeing five North Vietnamese soldiers (Dilkes: 133).

Captain Donald R. Moore becomes the Charlie Company Commander, replacing Captain Edward J. Northrop (Schneider: 7).

7 June (Wednesday): Charlie Company and the command group move the fire support base south to coordinate YA 889136 in the vicinity of Chu Kram and the Chu Kram Mountain (Hill 583), while Alpha Company maneuvers to the top of Chu Kram Mountain (Schneider: 12, Dilkes: 134-137).

14 June (Wednesday): Alpha Company 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry is attached to the battalion. Bravo Company is airlifted to coordinate YA 911148, and assumes a surveillance mission in the area, and Charlie Company continues its patrolling. Alpha Company returns to the division base camp (Camp Enari) for a six day stand-down and refitting. (Schneider: 12, Dilkes: 143).

Sergeant Bonert of Bravo Company is killed/dies (Dilkes).

15 June (Thursday): A long-range reconnaissance patrol working for the battalion makes contact with two squads of NVA soldiers at 1510, resulting in three enemy KIAs. After breaking contact with the enemy, the long-range reconnaissance patrol links up with a platoon from Bravo Company. At 1710 another LRRP team operating in the battalion area of operation also makes contact with the NVA. One platoon from A-1/22 combat assaults into the contact area, but a thorough search fails to provide any further information on the enemy. No casualties are incurred as a result of either of these contacts (Schneider: 12, Dilkes: 142).

20 June (Tuesday): Alpha Company is returned to the field, while Bravo Company rotates back to the divisional base camp for their turn at being refitted (Dilkes: 145).

22 June (Thursday): At 0012 one reinforced platoon from Bravo Company conducts a night combat assault and cordons off a village in the general vicinity of coordinate ZA 762261*. The village is searched with negative results. The platoon then returns to the fire support base (Schneider: 12, Dilkes: 146).

21-24 June : Alpha Company makes two combat assaults south of Due Co in the Ia Drang Valley, both efforts resulting in negative contact (Dilkes: 146).

25 June (Sunday): At 0010 a platoon from Bravo Company conducts another night combat assault to the vicinity of coordinate ZA 105411, establishes a blocking force, links up with elements of the 1st Battalion, 10th Cavalry, and then returns to the fire support base with negative results (Schneider: 12, Dilkes: 146).

Captain Thomas V. Borlund becomes the Alpha Company Commander, replacing Captain Robert E. Taggs (Schneider: 7).

27 June (Tuesday): Bravo Company is returned to the field, while Charlie Company rotates back to the divisional base camp for their turn at being refitted (Schneider: 13, Dilkes: 145).

27 June - 11 July: The fire support base remains at coordinate YA 889136, while Alpha and Bravo Companies continue to operate out of their own company patrol bases with platoon-sized elements

conducting patrols or sweeps. The battalion is aware that the 66th and 88th NVA Infantry Regiments are maneuvering in the battalion's area of operation (Schneider: 13, Dilkes: 149-153).

JULY 1967

The first week of July sees Charlie Company guarding the fire support base, while Alpha and Bravo Companies continue running platoon-sized patrols out of their company patrol bases (Dilkes: 152).

2 July (Sunday): Captain Brian W. Rushton becomes the Bravo Company Commander, replacing Captain Edward E. Scherer (Schneider: 7).

7 July (Friday): Alpha Company finds a hut filled with ammo, weapons, and communications wire. Bravo Company comes out of the fire support base, and Charlie Company moves in (Dilkes: 152, Hymoff: 114).

8 July (Saturday): A squad from Bravo Company makes contact with a small group of North Vietnamese. The use of air and artillery results in five enemy KIAs and one prisoner of war. There are no friendly casualties (Hymoff: 114, Dilkes: 152).

9 July (Sunday): Alpha Company rotates into the fire support base and assumes the security mission, while Charlie Company moves back out into the field to begin their patrol activities. Intel reports from division and brigade indicate that enemy forces are operating near Bravo and Charlie Companies. At 0300, the battalion observes a B-52 arc light mission west of their position along the Cambodian border and is tasked to investigate the bomb damage (Schneider: 13, Dilkes: 153, MacGarrigle: 304).

10 July (Monday): The morning sees Bravo and Charlie Companies ready to begin the patrols for the day. Charlie Company is ordered by battalion to move westward from its night position and investigate the arc light strike they observed (Dilkes: 153).

11 July (Tuesday): Bravo and Charlie Companies are given a new location to move to. Arriving at the strike zone by noon, nothing but bomb craters are found. Both companies then move east and establish separate perimeters about a kilometer apart amid the wooded and rocky hills. Work continues throughout the afternoon as both companies construct covered bunkers and clear helicopter landing sites by nightfall (Dilkes: 154, MacGarrigle: 304).

12 July (Wednesday): The day begins with Alpha Company guarding the fire support base. Both Bravo and Charlie Companies are in their fog-covered company patrol bases and are instructed by battalion to sweep their patrol base area with platoon-sized patrols. At about 0830 Charlie Company's patrol makes contact with a small enemy force from the 66th PAVN Regiment, killing three and driving off the rest. By 0930 the first serious small arms fire begins to crackle as both companies begin calling for mortar and artillery fire. The recon platoon is on a small hill approximately 1000 meters south of Bravo and Charlie Companies' positions when the firing begins. Within an hour, Alpha Company is alerted to stand-by for a combat assault into the battle site and

Charlie and Bravo Companies. Alpha has to wait for reenforcements to arrive from the battalion area at Camp Enari, as well as the recon platoon to return from its location in the field before it can depart. At approximately 1130 hours, an estimated North Vietnamese Army regiment attacks Bravo Company in force, while a smaller enemy force keeps Charlie Company in place, preventing them from coming to the aid of Bravo Company. By 1330 all contact with Bravo Company has been lost and the firing has stopped. By 1335 Alpha Company is on the ground several kilometers away and moving toward the battle area. Casualties are 152 enemy KIAs compared to 32 friendly KIAs, 28 friendly WIAs, and seven MIAs (see attached casualty list). Of the seven MIAs, only six would be repatriated at the end of the war (Dilkes: 154-182, Schneider: 13, MacGarrigle 305-306).

12 - 14 July: Alpha and Charlie Companies continue to patrol together searching the battle area for the seven MIAs with negative results (Schneider: 13, Dilkes: 185).

13 July (Thursday): Alpha and Charlie Companies set up a two-company patrol base along a road. Four tanks from the 69th Armor are brought in for one night (Dilkes: 185).

Captain David A. Dluzyn becomes the Bravo Company Commander, replacing Captain Bryan W. Rushton (Schneider: 7).

14 July (Friday): Alpha and Charlie Companies move back into the firefight area of the 12th (Dilkes: 185).

A report in the *Stars and Stripes* that is titled "Reds Cut Off American Unit, Kill 35" is the first public indication of the terrible situation Bravo Company found itself in on the 12th of July. The UPI story stated that a 4th Infantry Division company [Bravo, 1/12] had been cut off early on the morning of the 12th while investigating damage done by B52 strikes against suspected Communist concentrations about three miles from the Cambodian border. UPI photographer Bill Hall reported that elements of at least two North Vietnamese divisions had been building their forces in the area and were responsible for the American losses.

15 July (Saturday): In the first of two follow-up reports to the July 12th incident, the *Stars and Stripes* printed an interview of Second Lieutenant Gary Rasser, the platoon leader of 2nd platoon, by renowned reporter Peter Arnett. In the interview, titled "Hurt, Cut Off, 5 GIs Fight Way to Safety," Lieutenant Rasser recounts his miraculous survival giving credit to those who fought along side of him as they made their way through enemy lines after being cut off and out-numbered. Lieutenant Rasser stated that his "...ordeal began when his under strength 18-men platoon was sent forward to the relief of another platoon surrounded on a small hill by enemy troops. They themselves were soon cut off." The report goes on to detail the loss of all command and control within the company when the commander was killed, and how Lieutenant Rasser and a few others finally made it back to the friendly lines they had started out from 5 hours earlier (S&S, page: 4).

The second story on the same page, titled "Battered GIs Hunt Missing," chronicles the efforts made by the battalion to locate the missing members of Bravo Company. The report was carried on the AP wire, but had no by-line or credit. The battalion commander, Lieutenant Colonel Corey Wright

is quoted in the report as saying that the "...outnumber company gave a magnificent account of themselves, killing 110 of the enemy troops." The story further indicates that all hope for any more survivors faded when one WIA who had been found alive by pretending to be dead, reported seeing wounded men being shot by the North Vietnamese as they searched the battlefield after the shattered American force withdrew. The enemy troops carried away much of the weapons and equipment carried by Bravo Company (S&S, page: 4)

16-31 July: Bravo Company is in the fire support base, while Alpha and Charlie Companies continue with their patrolling around the fire support base. Call-signs during this time are Alpha: 81, Bravo: 82, and Charlie: 83. (Dilkes: 190, 193).

17 July (Monday): The fire support base is displaced to coordinate YA 929151 with Bravo Company providing fire support base security. Alpha and Charlie Companies continue their search-and-destroy missions in the vicinity of coordinates YA 905098 and YA 929151 respectively (Schneider: 13).

18 July - 1 August: Bravo Company remains in the fire support base providing security and training its replacements. Alpha and Charlie Companies continue their search-and-destroy missions during this period (Schneider: 13).

22 July (Saturday): Charlie Company conducts a combat assault into a new area for 10 days (Dilkes: 191).

28 July (Friday): Captain Joe W. Green becomes the Charlie Company Commander, replacing Captain Donald R. Moore (Schneider: 7).

AUGUST 1967

1-10 August: The battalion continues to conduct search-and-destroy operations with two rifle companies complemented by brigade long range reconnaissance patrols (Schneider: 14).

2 August (Wednesday): Lieutenant Colonel Birch assumes command of the battalion, replacing Lieutenant Colonel Corey J. Wright (Schneider: 14, Dilkes: 194).

4 August (Friday): Alpha Company returns to the fire support base for joint guard duty with Bravo Company (Dilkes: 194).

6 August (Sunday): Alpha and Bravo Companies move the fire support base to a new location south of the Special Forces camp at Duc Co next to Highway 19 (Dilkes: 194).

7 August (Monday): Captain Warren S. Morimoto becomes the Alpha Company Commander, replacing Captain Thomas V. Borlund (Schneider: 7).

8 August (Tuesday): Alpha Company returns to the field, leaving Bravo Company in the fire support base (Dilkes: 194).

10 August (Thursday): The fire support base is relocated to coordinate YA 922202 (Schneider: 14).

14 August (Monday): Alpha Company experiences an 81mm mortar short round, resulting in eight WIAs. Second Lieutenant Lamb dies on the 11th of September from wounds received in this incident (Dilkes: 200).

19 August (Saturday): A long-range reconnaissance patrol (2 Bravo) makes contact with elements of the North Vietnamese Army 500-800 meters from the fire support base (Dilkes: 204).

20 August (Sunday): The battalion and its support elements are attached to the 1st Brigade, 4th Infantry Division and continue their search-and-destroy operations in the same area (Schneider: 14).

21 August (Monday): The men who are to form the new Delta Company are assigned to the battalion. Their training and equipment issue continue until the end of the first week of September (Schneider: 14).

25 August (Friday): The battalion reverts to the command and control of the 2nd Brigade (Schneider: 14).

25-31 August: Montagnard Platoon 4-J is attached to the battalion and conducts independent operations in the battalion area (Schneider: 14).

30 August (Wednesday): Bravo Company receives sniper fire at coordinate ZA 001263. A sweep of the area produces negative results (Schneider: 14).

31 August (Thursday): Alpha Company rotates back into the fire support base (Dilkes: 202).

SEPTEMBER 1967

7 September (Thursday): Delta Company arrives at the fire support base and becomes the battalion's reserve/reaction force (Schneider: 14).

10 September (Sunday): Captain Ted G. Morgan becomes the Alpha Company Commander, replacing Captain Warren S. Morimoto; Captain George H. Wilkins II becomes the commander of the new Delta Company; and First Lieutenant David R. Jennings becomes the commander of the new Echo Company (Schneider: 7).

11 September (Monday): We received word that Second Lieutenant Lamb of Alpha Company has died of wounds received on 14 August (Dilkes: 200).

18 September (Monday): The fire support base is moved to coordinate ZA 133472 into an landing zone secured by C-2/8 Infantry (Mechanized). C-2/8 remains attached to the battalion until the 23rd of September, providing fire support base security and additional dismounted operations. Artillery fire support is provided by A-5/16 Artillery. The battalion trains is relocated from the Oasis to

divisional base camp, where it is better suited to support the battalion's maneuver elements (Schneider: 14, 20).

21 September (Thursday): I depart Viet-Nam for home and my family. The battalion gives each enlisted man departing a new sand bag stenciled with the Red Warrior emblem (Hill).

GLOSSARY

1LT	First Lieutenant (O-2) pay grade and rank
1SG.....	First Sergeant (E-8) pay grade and rank
2LT.....	Second Lieutenant (O-1) pay grade and rank
ACAV.....	Armored Machine Gun Kit for the M113 APC
AAFES.....	Army Air Force Exchange System
AFN.....	Armed Forces Network (radio and television)
AIT	Advanced Individual Training
Alpha Time.....	Actual Time
AO.....	Area of Operation
APC.....	Armored Personnel Carrier, M-113 ACAV
Arc Light	B-52 Bombing Mission
ASAP.....	As Soon As Possible
BDE.....	Brigade
BN	Battalion
BUT.....	Basic Unit Training
C-4	Plastic Explosive
CAR.....	Commando Assault Rifle (CAR-15)
C&C.....	Command and Control
CBU.....	Cluster Bomb Unit (Air Force)
CDR	Commander (company and field grade)
CEOI.....	Communications-electronics Operating Instructions
CIDG.....	Civilian Irregular Defense Group
CO.....	Company or Commanding Officer
COL.....	Colonel (O-6) pay grade and rank (Full Bird)
CP.....	Command Post
CPT.....	Captain (O-3) pay grade and rank
DC	Delta Charlie or Depth Concentration (artillery)
DEROS	Date Eligible for Return from Overseas
Dust Off	Medical Evacuation by UH-1 Helicopter
Duster	M42A1 Twin 40mm Self Propelled Gun
EENT	Early Evening Nautical Twilight
EMNT	Early Morning Nautical Twilight
FAC.....	Forward Air Controller
FDC.....	Fire Direction Center
FO	Forward Observer (artillery)
FSB	Fire Support Base
FWD FSB	Forward Fire Support Base
Gun Ship	Armed UH-1 Helicopter
H&I	Harassing and Interdiction (type of artillery fire)
HHC.....	Headquarters & Headquarters Company
Huey.....	UH-1 Helicopter

KIA	Killed In Action
Klick.....	Kilometer
LAW.....	66 mm Light Anti-tank Weapon, M-72
LBE	Load Bearing Equipment (harness) suspenders
LDR	Leader
LP	Listening Post
LRRP.....	Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol
LTC.....	Lieutenant Colonel (O-5) pay grade and rank
LZ	Landing Zone
MAJ.....	Major (O-4) pay grade and rank
MIA	Missing In Action
MOS	Military Occupational Speciality (your job)
NCO.....	Non-Commissioned Officer
NCOIC.....	Non-Commissioned Officer In-Charge
NVA	North Vietnamese Army
OH-13.....	Observation Helicopter (light)
OP	Observation Post
OVE	Organizational Vehicular Equipment
P-38	C-Ration Can Opener
PFC.....	Private First Class (E-3) pay grade and rank
PLT	Platoon (approximately 30 men)
PSG	Platoon Sergeant (E-7) pay grade and rank
Puff the Magic Dragon	C-47 aircraft equipped with mini-guns
PVT.....	Private (E-1,2) pay grade and rank
PX.....	Post Exchange (retail store)
Quad 50s	A configuration of four caliber-50 machine guns
R&R	Rest and Relaxation Leave
RTO	Radio/Telephone Operator for the PRC-25 radio
S1.....	Personnel and Administration
S2.....	Intelligence and Security
S3.....	Plans and Operations
S4.....	Supply
S5.....	Public Affairs
SEC.....	Section
SGT	Sergeant (E-5) pay grade and rank
Sitrep.....	Situation Report
Slick	Unarmed UH-1 Helicopter
Starlight Scope.....	AN/TVS-2 Night Vision Scope
SP	Start Point
SP4	Specialist Forth Class (E-4) pay grade and rank
Spooky	Aircraft that dropped flares
SQD	Squad (about 7 - 10 men)
SSG	Staff Sergeant (E-6) pay grade and rank

TO&E	Table of Organization and Equipment
TOC	Tactical Operation Center (the Palace)
USNS.....	United States Naval Ship
VC.....	Viet Cong
WIA	Wounded In Action
WP	Willy Pete or white phosphoreus grenade
XO.....	Executive Officer (second in command)
Zulu Time.....	One hour before actual time

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