

SUBJECT: Operation APACHE SNOW (U)

Chief of Staff

PURPOSE. To provide information on Operation APACHE SNOW.

FACTS.

1. (S) Concept of Operations: APACHE SNOW is a multi battalion operation involving the 9th Marine Regiment in the southern Da Bron Valley and units of the 101st Airborne Division and 1st ARVN Division in the northern Ashau Valley. Commencing 10 May two Bns (USMC) conduct assaults into AO to interdict enemy LOCs into and near the Laotian border. Four Bns (US) of the 3rd Bde, 101st Airborne Division and four Bns (ARVN) of the 1st ARVN Division combine in combat assault into northern Ashau Valley to destroy enemy caches, forces and installations and prevent exfiltration into Laos. Control Hqs: 9th Marine Regiment in northern AO; and 3rd ABN BDE in southern sector. Units: 1/9, 2/9 (USMC); 1/506, 3/187, 2/501 Inf, 3/5 Cav (US); 2/1, 3/1, 4/1, 1/3 ARVN Inf. Map at Tab A.
2. (S) Summary of actions to date: Major engagements began on 13 May when FSB base Airborne near the Laotian border was attacked by enemy forces from three sides. Following this action US Airborne unit made contact on the 14th and 15th close to the Laotian border west of the Ashau. On the 18th and 19th of May US Airborne ~~units~~ again fought enemy troops in well dug in positions close to the contact on the 14th and 15th. Hill 937 is the focal point of enemy resistance. Chronological listing of actions is at Tab B.
3. (S) Current Situation: The 1/506 Inf, 3/187 Inf (Reinf), 2/501 Inf and 2/3 ARVN Inf are attacking Hill 937. 1/9 Mar continues RIF operations vic and SW of FSB ERSKINE. 2/9 Mar continues RIF operation vic FSB RAZOR. Map at Tab A indicates current disposition.
4. (S) Future plans indicate Operation APACHE SNOW will continue indefinitely with units along the border conducting RIF operations back into the Ashau Valley to support the opening of Rt 547 by 3/5 Cav.
5. (U) Summary of Air Support to Operation APACHE SNOW is provided at Tab C.

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EDWARD BAUTZ, JR.  
Brigadier General, USA  
Assistant Chief of Staff, J3

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FM CG III MAF

TO UUMS/COMUSMACV

INFO UUMSK/CG XXIV CORPS

UUMSQG/CG FIRST MARDIV

UUMSCA/CG FIRST MAW

UUMSCA/CG AMERICAL DIV

UUMSE/CG USARV LDW

ROHSAF/COMSEVFIL

UUMSCC/CO C FIFTH RFGA

BT

C O N F I D E N T I A L

ATTN: MACV COMD CENTER AND INFO ADDEES COC/1000

COMMANDER'S DAILY SUMMARY PERIOD ENDING 220000Z MAY 1969 (U)

\* (C) SIGNIFICANT EN DEVELOPMENTS

A. EN SITUATION: EN INITIATED ACTIVITY WAS MARKED BY AN INCREASE IN ATKs BY FIRE IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE. MODERATE BN CASUALTIES RESULTED FROM CONTINUING CONTACT IN THE VIC OF THE SHAU VALLEY IN WESTERN THUA THIEN PROVINCE. EARLY THIS

PAGE TWO UUMSO1137 C O N F I D E N T I A L

MORNING AT 0300Z, THE 111ST ARVN RCR BN (ATR92179), A KMC BN F B HILL 12, REC'D A GND A K BY AN EST VC BN, RESULTING IN 7 FRD KIA AND 31 WIA. EN CAS UNK.

\* ATKs BY FIRE AND MINING INCIDENTS: ARVN AND FMAF

REC'D REC'D A TOTAL OF 442 INCOMING MOR, RDS AND 36 ERKIS

RESULTING IN 13 FRD KIA AND 35 WIA (43 EVAC). IN QUANG TRI

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PROVINCE, AT 1223H, THE LSU AT VANDEGRIFT CBT BASE (YD398481) REC'D 6X107MM RKTS RESULTING IN NO CAS OR DAM. AT 1530H, A/1/3 1/2 KMS NW OF CAM LO (YD366640) REC'D 2X82MM MOR.

RDS RESULTING IN 3 FRD KIA AND 17 WIA (EVAC). A

905H, 1/77TH ARMOR AT FSB NANCY (YD442392) REC'D

1X120MM RKTS RESULTING IN 3 FRD WIA (MINOR). IN WESTERN THUA THIEN PROVINCE, AT 1335H, 2/1 ARVN (YD24

20) VIC FSB TURMAGE REC'D 10X120MM RKTS RESULTING

IN 8 FRD WIA (4 EVAC). IN QUANG NAM PROVINCE AT 2004H:

THE GERMAN HOSPITAL IN THE VIC OF AN HOA (AT1823460)

REC'D 2 DIRECT HITS FROM RPG RDS RESULTING IN 1 CIV

KIA AND 8 CIV WOUNDED. AT THE SAME TIME, IN THEO

ANE VIC, MY SON HAMLET REC'D 8X82MM MORT RDS INJURING

13 CIV. EARLY THIS MORNING (000812H), THE MARPLE

PAGE THREE UUMSQ1137 C O N F I D E N T I A L

MOUNTAIN AREA VIC DANANG REC'D 2X120MM RKTS (NEG CAS

OR DAM). IN QUANG BIN PROVINCE, IN A DELAYED RP

001.0H, RF/PF AND RD UNITS IN THE VIC OF NIEP

BUG (AT0114) REC'D A TOTAL OF 110X60/82MM MOR: RDS

RESULTING IN 5 FRD KIA AND 9 WIA. AT 000236H, CHU

LAI TOC AREA REC'D 6X120MM RKTS (NEG CAS OR DAM).

NIGHT MINING INCIDENTS THROUGHOUT ICTZ YESTERDAY RE-

ULTED IN 4 FRD KIA AND 16 WIA (EVAC).

. EN CACHESA IN SOUTHERN QUANG TRI PROVINCE,

1200H, 4/1 ARVN FND 14 INC, 30 BICYCLES AND 30

BARCS OF RICE & KM'S SIGN OF FSB TURMAGE (YD442394).

. (C) OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

. NORTHERN ICTZ

. THERE WERE 22 SIGHTINGS OR INCIDENTS IN THE DMZ, 10 SIGHTINGS OCCURRING N OF THE BEN HAI

RIVER. 11 TGT'S WERE ATK'D BY ARTY, NGF AND AIRSTRIKES.

(2) AT 2243H, TWO RECON PLTS FROM THE 1ST UNCLASSIFIED  
RVN DIV MADE CONTACT WITH AN EST EN CO 7 KMS ENE OF  
HO LINH (YD082748). RESULTS: 14 EN KIA AND 8 IWC  
WITH NO FRD CAS RPT'D.

10-2-26

PAGE FOUR UUMSQ1137 C O N F I D E N T I A L

3) HV CONTACT WAS MADE BY A & C CO'S 17/06  
INF AS UNITS WERE MOVING UP A RIDGE LINE VIC HILL 937,  
5 KMS NSW OF A LUOI (YC327972). AT 1230H, THE CO'S  
RAN INTO A BUNKER COMPLEX CONSISTING OF 20 BUNKERS.  
C CO BEGAN REPORTING HV CONTACT AT 1300H, REC'D SA AND  
PG FIRE. "A" CO MOVED AHEAD AND BY 1600H, BOTH UNITS  
WERE HEAVILY ENGAGED WITH AN NVA FORCE IN A WELL  
CONSTRUCTED INTERLOCKING BUNKER COMPLEX. THE CO'S  
SET UP NIGHT DEF POSNS 200 METERS FROM THE CREST OF THE  
RIDGE LINE. IT APPEARED THAT THE NVA ON HILL 937  
WERE BEING REINFORCED AS EVIDENCED BY THE FACT THAT  
THE NVA KILLED HAD FRESH HAIRCUTS AND CLEAN KHAKI  
UNIFORMS. 17/06 INF, 27/01 INF, 3/107 INF AND 2/3  
RVN ARE TO ASLT THE HILL TODAY. RESULTS: 26 EN  
KIA, 1 IWC AND 6 CSWC WITH 2 FRD KIA AND 19 WIA (18  
WAC).

4. SOUTHERN IC: 2<sup>3</sup> F IRP 8TH CAV OPS > VC  
AND ENGAGED THEM WITH ORG WPNS 11 KMS NW OF THANG  
LINH (BT03644653). RESULTS: 1 EN KIA WITH NO FRD CAS.  
5. SUMMARY OF CASUALTIES: CPT OPNS IN IC: 2 RET

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PAGE FIVE UUMSQ1137 C O N F I D E N T I A L

SULTED IN 142 EN KIA, 9 PW, 26 DE TS AND 88 WPNS CAPT'D;

ARVN FORCES ACCT'D FOR 29 EN KIA, 4 PW AND 38 WPNS UNCLASSIFIED

CAPT'D; ARVN LOSSES WERE 6 KIA AND 46 WIA. US AND

FWMF RPT'D A TOTAL OF 113 EN KIA, 1 PW, 26 DE TS AND

38 WPNS CAPT'D; US AND FWMF LOSSES WERE 11 KIA AND

26 WIA (67 EVAC).

4. (C) AIR OPNS IN IC:Z:

THERE WAS A TOTAL OF 217 SORTIES FLOWN IN IC:Z.

XIV CORPS WAS SPT'D WITH 123 AS FOLLOWS: USMC FLEW

10 FOR 3RD MARDIV AND 42 FOR 101ST ABN DIV(AM); USAF

FLEW 8 FOR 3RD MARDIV AND 5 FOR 101ST ABN DIV(AM); AND

USN FLEW 10 FOR 3RD MARDIV AND 3 FOR 101ST ABN DIV(AM).

3RD MARDIV WAS SPT'D WITH 32 (20 BY USMC AND 2 BY USAF).

3 FOR 2ND ROKMC BDE BY USMC; 47 FOR AMERICAL DIV (37

BY USMC AND 10 BY USAF); 28 FOR ARVN (12 BY USMC, 9

BY USAF AND 7 BY USN); AND 7 FOR USSF BY USAF.

SIGNIFICANT PDA: 7 KIA, 198 STRUC DEST, OR

DAM, 49 SEC FIRES, 18 SEC EXPLOS, 9 CUMMERS DEST, OR

DAM AND 2 WPNS DEST.

5. THERE WAS ONE B-57 STRIKE FLOWN IN SP1 OF

PAGE SIX UUMOGAIS7 C O N F I D E N T I A L

XIV CORPS DELIVERING 1.5 TONS OF ORDANCE ON EN

COMPLEXES 12 KMS W OF A LUOI.

6. (C) FRIENDS/COMMANDER'S COMMENTS: CHINH

ATTACKS BY FIRE INCREASED IN QUANG TRI PROVINCE

WHILE SIGNIFICANT GROUND CONTACT CONTINUED IN

THE VICINITY OF THE A SHAU VALLEY IN WESTERN

THUA THIEN PROVINCE.

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## JOINT MESSAGEFORM

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M.I. Hist.

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W. J. T. 100

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COMUSMACV

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TO:

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BY RAKERS ON 11 May 95

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SUBJECT: APACHE SNOW (U)

REF: COMUSMACV MSG DTG 202220Z MAY 69

1. UPDATE OF PARA 3 OF REFERENCE: OVERALL CASUALTY FIGURES FOR OPERATION APACHE SNOW ARE AS FOLLOWS: EN - 564 KIA, THREE DET; FRD (US) - 70 KIA, 535 WIA AND ONE MIA. THOSE REPORTED FOR HILL 937 ARE: EN - 450 KIA, ONE DET; FRD (US) - 44 KIA, 297 WIA AND ONE MIA.

2. PREVIOUS DATA IN REFERENCE REPORTED CASUALTIES FOR HILL 937 WHICH WERE IN THE APACHE SNOW TOTALS BUT WERE NOT REPEAT NOT INCURRED AT HILL 937.

3. NEGATIVE ARVN CASUALTY FIGURES HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN CONNECTION WITH ATTACK ON HILL 937. ARVN CASUALTIES IN ASSOCIATED APACHE SNOW OPERATIONS ARE 3 KIA AND 31 WIA.

DATE 21	TIME
MONTH MAY	YEAR 69
PAGE NO. 1	NO. OF PAGES 1

D R A S T E R	TYPE NAME AND TITLE  JAMES R. DENNIS COL, USA Chief, Comd and Con Div	PHONE	R E L E A S S E R	SIGNATURE  JAMES R. DENNIS, COL, USA Chief, Comd and Con Div
SECURITY CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL		UNCLASSIFIED	SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS	

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UNITED STATES MILITARY  
APO SA  
ERS  
CE COMMAND, VIETNAM  
P 96222

(10-226)

MACJ3-08

22 May 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: ARVN Participation in Attack on Hill 937 (C)

1. (C) On 19 May 1969, 2/3 ARVN conducted combat assault on LZ YC324976 and began moving to positions on southeast side of Hill 937, in preparation for four battalion attack on 20 May 1969. Three battalions from 3rd Airborne Brigade, 101st Division progressed to multi-battalion attack which began 2010Z. Advance of 2/3 ARVN was extremely rapid due to use of high speed trail and light enemy resistance. They were the first to reach the top of Hill 937 and assaulted positions vicinity YC327980. The 3/187 was meeting heavy resistance on their axis of attack. The 2/3 ARVN went to assist by moving N along Hill 937 and relieving the pressure. However, friendly fire from 3/187 prevented 2/3 ARVN from moving close. The 2/3 ARVN then moved on reverse slope on the southeast side of hill. Later 2/3 ARVN moved back to YC327980 and reconsolidated.
2. (C) ARVN artillery at FSB Currahee participated in artillery preparation for the attack. An ARVN artillery battery also fired riot control agents in support of 3/187 the day before attack.
3. (C) ARVN casualties from 19 May to date: Friendly ~ five WIA; Enemy - 20 KIA (13 of which were bodies discovered), four I/wpn's and one C/S wpn cptrd.
4. (C) The 2/3 ARVN will continue searching to southeast along ridge-line. Additional enemy bodies and weapons are being discovered and will be reported as they occur.
5. (U) Above information received from MAJ Carroll, III MAF COO at 2200Z May 1969.

*for John L. Buck, Col USA*  
WILSON C. HARMER  
Colonel, USA  
Chief, Command and Control Division

Copies to:

C/S

ACOFB, J3

Deputy J3

J3-08

## MACV JOINT MESSAGEFORM

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TYPE TRANSMISSION TO INFO

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PRECEDENCE

ACTION TO: IMMEDIATE

INFO

FROM: COMUSMACV

TO: AIG 7870

CONFIDENTIAL/PARIS FOR LTG WEYAND/ 34005 (J3)

SUBJECT: Morning Telecon (U)

1. (C) I CTZ:

a. (YD215095) 43 km SSW of Quang Tri in Quang Tri and Thua Thien Prov's in Opn APACHE SNOW at 072400H, Opn APACHE SNOW terminated. No refugees were reptd. 469 TAS sptd. Rslts by 9th

Mar Regt: En - 78 KIA, one DET, 29 I/Wpns and one C/S Wpn cptrd;

Frd - 11 KIA, 48 WIA (37 EVAC). Rslts by 101st Abn Div: En - 675

KIA, three DET, 243 I/Wpns and 42 C/S Wpns cptrd; Frd - 102 KIA,

579 WIA (530 EVAC), one MIA. Cum rslts: En - 753 KIA, four DET,

272 I/Wpns and 43 C/S Wpns cptrd; Frd - 113 KIA, 627 WIA (567

EVAC), one MIA. ARVN participation in the APACHE SNOW AO rsalted

in: En - 224 KIA, one DET, 337 I/Wpns and 100 C/S Wpns cptrd; Frd-

- 22 KIA, 106 WIA (98 EVAC).

b. Small unit contacts during 7 Jun 69 throughout I CTZ: III

MAF units reptd five small unit contacts. Rslts: En - 22 KIA, one

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BY RAKERS ON 11 MAY 99

DTG 082200Z June 69

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TYPED NAME, TITLE, PHONE AND OFFICE SYMBOL

JOHN R. BURKS  
COL, USA  
MACJ3-08/4891

SIGNATURE

RELEVA

TYPE NAME AND TITLE

EDWARD BAUER, JR., BG, USA

ACofS, J3

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PAGE NO

1

NO OF PAGES

6

strikes and artillery fire were placed on the enemy. Contact was lost at an unreported later time when the enemy withdrew.

The bodies of 21 enemy were found in a search of the battle area raising the total enemy losses in the area to 31 killed.

Three Marines were killed and 10 wounded in the sweep raising the total U.S. casualties to four killed and 26 wounded.

Operation APACHE SNOW, a multi-regiment operation centered in an area about 32 miles west-southwest of Hue, was terminated on 7 June. The 9th Regiment U.S. 3rd Marine Division and the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) participated in the operation which commenced on 10 May 1969. An element of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam, 1st Division operated in conjunction with U.S. forces during APACHE SNOW. The Republic of Vietnam soldiers killed 224 enemy and detained one suspect. They also captured 337 individual and 100 crew-served weapons. ARVN casualties were light. U.S. forces participating in the operation killed 753 enemy, detained four suspects and captured 272 individual and 42 crew-served weapons. U.S. casualties were 112 killed and 420 wounded of whom 11 were circled.

2011-17400-107-007-CW-FOLIO: Office Jones

5. A LARAKOLOU MELI DEDOM: MAJ SEHAN

U.S. 1000 Tiger 3071

總計本年共發公債一千零四十一萬三千五百元，其中一千零一萬三千五百元為新債，一百六十元為舊債。

جامعة الملك عبد الله للعلوم والتقنية ١٦٩٥٣

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1. O.F.C. 10. and U.S. 5.0% (with 5% interest and 5% taxes) --

Operation "Tiger" S.O., a multi-regiment operation centered in an area about 32 miles west-southwest of Hue, was terminated at midnight on 7 June 1969. The operation commenced on 10 May 1969. Elements of the 9th Regiment, U.S. 3rd Marine Division and the 3rd Brigade, U.S. 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile) participated in the operation in coordination with elements of the Army of the Republic of Vietnam, 1st Division.

The total results for U.S. units participating were 753 enemy killed, four suspects detained and 22 individual and 43 crew-served weapons captured. Total U.S. casualties were 113 killed and 327 wounded of whom 567 were evacuated.

Army of the Republic of Vietnam units from the 1st Division participating in and operating in conjunction with Operation ATTILA, killed 224 enemy and detained one suspect during the period 10 May to 7 June. They captured 337 individual weapons and 100 crew-served weapons. These figures are in addition to U.S. results, and casualties were light.

<sup>2</sup> See T. S. G. (1987) *What is the role of the state in the economy?* (London: MIT Press).

1, resulting in his, 8 June) - after the action at Hqgs, 7 June in which as element of the 1st Armored, U.S. 1st Armored Division and as element of the 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment killed 95 enemy soldiers 6 km (4 miles) south west of