

HEADQUARTERS
503D REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM
Office of the S-3

FROM: 271500 Apr. 15.
TF : 281500 Apr. 15.

S-3 PERIODIC REPORT

No. 19

MAP: HREXITAS PHOTO: 1/25,000.

1. LOCATION OF TROOPS: See Overlay.
2. WEATHER AND VISIBILITY: Clear, warm, visibility unlimited.
3. OUR OPERATIONS:
 - a. Infantry:

- (1) 1st Bn.: MI activity during night 27-28. "A" Co. began to assault the ridge (40.45-97.0) at 230005 and completed occupation at 231000. MG and rifle fire was encountered from both flanks. From their position "A" Co. assisted "B" Co. in its advance on the left. They were maintaining the position at the close of the period. "B" Co. intercepted an estimated 10 enemy group attacking its position at 230600 with rifles and knee-mortars. 6 of the enemy were killed without casualties to our troops. At 230800 "B" Co. sent patrols forward to (40.5-97.50) to reconnoiter for the Bn. advance and met with MG and mortar fire. Eight enemy were killed during the action and we suffered 3 MIA. "B" Co. proceeded to occupy the hill at 281015. Patrols went forward again and at the close of the period were reconnoitering ridge (40.6-97.4) preparatory to occupying it with entire Co. "C" Co. received four rounds knee-mortar fire 230100 without casualties. Remainder of "C" Co. displaced forward along ridge (40.3-97.3).
- (2) 2d Bn.: "D" Co. reported 2 or 3 enemy attempted infiltration 230200 but were dispersed with hand grenades. No known casualties were inflicted. Two enemy were found dead by a security patrol at 230600 presumably killed by artillery harassing fire. After an artillery and mortar preparation "D" Co. passed thru "E" Co. and by assault advanced to (40.5-96.7) encountering knee-mortar and long-range rifle fire enroute. "E" Co. repulsed a 230900 infiltration attempt with hand grenades with no known casualties on either side. "E" Co. secured the high ground (40.4-96.9).
- (3) 3d Bn.: As the 271500 period closed "F" Co. was reconnoitering the ridge vicinity (30.5-96.8). Long-range rifle fire was only opposition encountered, however, the party discovered an abandoned enemy position around a grass hut containing a demobilized radio with a generator and one 50 cal. air corps MG. "F" Co. moved into the position vacated by "I" Co. during the period.

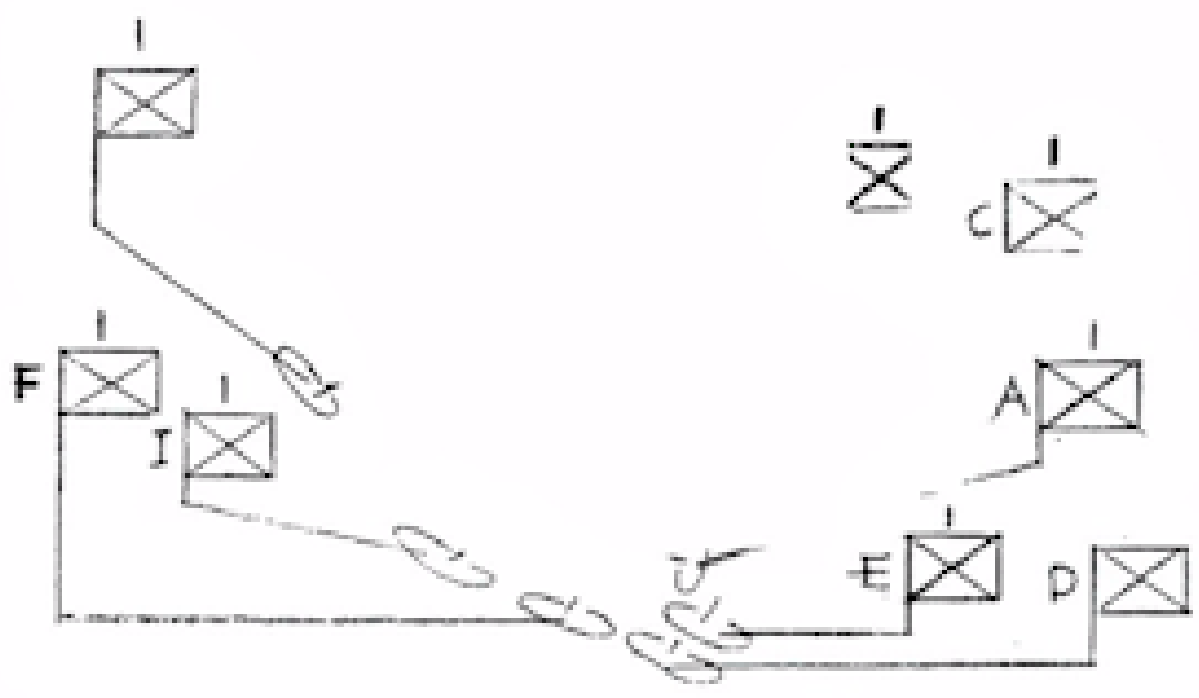
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"H" Co. reported blood in the vicinity of its booby trapped area, the result of a tripped trap or night mortar harrassing fire. An "H" Co. patrol encountered an estimated enemy platoon in vicinity (38.7-01.9) and killed a known one enemy before withdrawing to bring artillery on the position. The patrol was investigating the result as the period closed. No report. "I" Co. displaced forward to the area vacated by "D" Co.

- b. Artillery: The artillery fired 22 missions during the period. These missions included harrassing fire night of 27-28 and support fire to all advances. 90-mm, 105-mm, M-7 mounted 105-mm and M-4 tanks also gave direct fire support to our advances.
- c. Engineers: Continued to build and maintain supply route, and give mine detection protection to the tanks.
- d. Air: Air-strike at 181030 was on target. 231530 strike on target except one hung bomb that fell in vicinity of 3d Br. G.P., killing 1 and wounding 3 Filipino civilians and wounding 3 of our troops.
4. RESULTS OF OPERATIONS: The BCT front was advanced an average of 400 yds. Enemy resistance was mainly composed of long-range rifle, MG and knee-mortar fire. The enemy is apparently withdrawing his forces in conjunction with our advance, contenting himself to inflicting such casualties as these tactics permit. These tactics are enabling him to evacuate the majority of casualties our fire is undoubtedly inflicting. Our casualties are high in proportion to the known enemy casualties.
5. CASUALTIES:
- a. Our Casualties:
- (1) For the period: 2 KIA, 19 WIA.
- (2) To date: 76 KIA, 199 WIA.
- b. Enemy Known Casualties:
- (1) For the period: 22 KIA.
- (2) To date: 315 KIA, 0 POW.


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