

~~S-E-C-R-E-T~~

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

FROM: 031500 May 15.
TO : 041500 May 15.

S-3 PERIODIC REPORT

No. 25

MAP: NEGROS PBDT: 1/25,000.

1. LOCATION OF TROOPS: See overlay.
2. WEATHER AND VISIBILITY: Heavy rains 031500-040800, 041130-041500I, cloudy at other times; visibility very limited.
3. OUR OPERATIONS:

a. Infantry:

- (1) 1st Bn: All patrols had returned by 031700I with nil contact. No activity throughout night 03-04. "B" Co relocated at (10.4-97.0). An "A" Co patrol NE to MALAGO RIVER (10.3-00.2), a "B" Co patrol to (10.6-97.4) and two "C" Co patrols to the MALAGO RIVER at points (11.4-96.5) and (11.6-96.6). All reported nil contact or evidence of new enemy occupation.
- (2) 2d Bn: "F" Co, with a platoon at (10.9-96.1), sent a second platoon equipped to establish an overnight strong point in that vicinity. Enroute this second platoon was fired upon by a considerable force using MG's and rifles from vicinity (10.8-96.3). The forward platoon pulled back and in conjunction with the already engaged platoon fought off a heavy attack. An estimated twenty-five enemy casualties were inflicted before the enemy retired. The two "F" Co platoons returned to the Co area. At 021815 a 4.2 mortar shell intended to fall in the vicinity (10.8-96.3) fell short in the vicinity (10.6-96.5). A ration detail, returning from "G" Co strong point position vicinity (10.9-96.6), heard screaming, shouts and moans in the shelled area. A patrol searching this area 040830I found only blood as evidence of enemy casualties. Subsequent forces advancing to the vicinity of the "F" Co engagement could locate no enemy casualties. (See 3d Bn activities). There was nil activity night 03-04. A "D" Co patrol, given the mission of making a reconnaissance for a possible trail into the PATOG area, reached the ridge vicinity (39.9-96.1). Enroute back, the patrol reported an abandoned bivouac area consisting of some six grass and tin shacks and chicken coups. One shack was about 35 feet in length and twenty in width. A caribou carcass was found partly cut away apparently 2 or 3 days ago. Some MG parts also found in the area. A large cave discovered at (10.1-96.1) contained one enemy that escaped through a second opening or air shaft. A quantity of rifles and hand grenades found in the cave was destroyed. At (11.6-96.1) the patrol drew fire from a shack. Return fire routed three enemy from the shack leaving one dead.

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B-3 Periodic Report No. 25 (Cont'd)

"E" Co advanced to (10.9-96.1) with nil contact. At 011000I "E" Co reported automatic fire from 200 yds to its front. "I" Co advancing through "E" Co proceeded forward to meet this resistance. At 011500I "E" Co received 5 rounds of knee mortar fire and as the period ended was searching for the source. An "F" Co patrol to the MALAGO RIVER vicinity (11.1-96.9) reported nil activity.

- (3) 3d Bn: Nil activity throughout the Bn night of 03-04. "G" and "H" Co's returned from positions of 011500I to locations shown on overlay. Heavy rains prevented their displacing forward as planned as supplies were unable to be brought up in time. After an 010730I air strike "I" Co began advancing SE along the road beyond "F" Co's position and were immediately met with automatic weapons fire - including what was believed to be a BAA. 4.2 mortar fire was placed on the target before the Co again pushed forward. This time eight rounds of knee mortar fire was received and MG fire opened up from ridge vicinity (10.6-96.1). At the close of the period "I" Co was attempting to secure the high ground vicinity (11.1-95.8) against automatic and rifle fire.

Artillery: In addition to harrasing fire during the night 03-04, the artillery fired four missions in support of the infantry advance.

- c. **Engineers:** Heavy rains immobilized the engineer road building equipment.
- d. **Air:** An 010730I air strike was mostly on the target; however, our advance did not reach that point to determine the results.
4. **RESULTS OF OPERATIONS:** Continued patrolling in the TAYAP area discovered no evidence of enemy activity south of the MALAGO RIVER. Our efforts to the SE again was met with enemy resistance in the form of knee mortar, automatic and rifle fire. This fire came from well emplaced mutually supporting positions. Artillery and mortar fire seem to have no apparent effect indicating the usual well dig-in positions.

5. **CASUALTIES:**

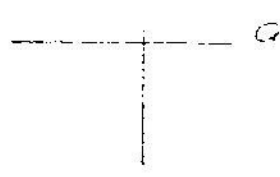
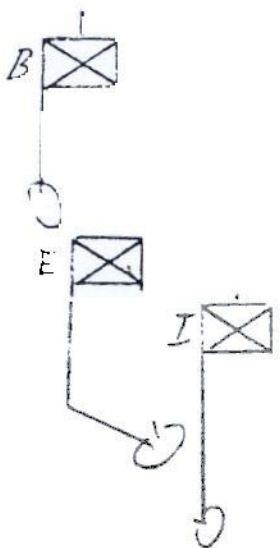
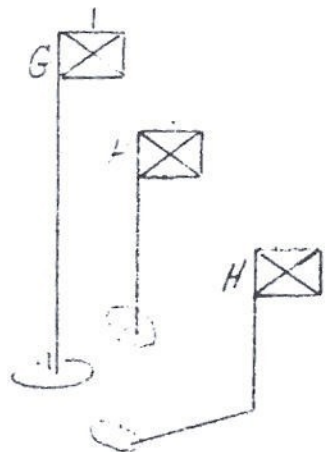
a. **Our Casualties:**

- (1) For the period: 5 KIA, 9 WIA.
- (2) To date: 101 KIA, 282 WIA.

b. **Enemy Known Casualties:**

For the period: 3 KIA.

To date: 422 KIA, 2 POW.



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 OVERLAY to ACCOMPANY
 S-3 REPORT
 P JTCMAP

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