

HEADQUARTERS
1ST BATTALION 8TH CAVALRY
1ST AIR CAVALRY DIVISION
APO SAN FRANCISCO 96490

AVDAIC-CO

24 April 1968

SUBJECT: After Action Report - PEGASUS-LAM 207 A

TO: Commanding Officer
1st Brigade
1st Air Cavalry Division
APO SF 96490

1. This report is submitted in compliance with 1st Bde, 1st Air Cav Div letter AVDABR-SC, dtd 19 April 1968, Subject: After Action Report - PEGASUS-LAM 207 A.
2. The 1st Battalion 8th Cavalry participated in Operation PEGASUS-LAM 207 A. Details concerning the operation are attached as inclosure 1.

CHRISTIAN P. DUBIA
LTC, Infantry
Commanding

1 Inclosure
1- PEGASUS-LAM 207 A

PM-ASUS-LM 2:7 A

1. ORGANIZATION

- a. Maneuver Elements: A, B, C, D Co, 1st Battalion 8th Cavalry.
- b. Fire Support
 - (1) A Battery, 2nd Battalion 19th Artillery (105mm)
 - (2) B Battery, 1st Battalion 20th Artillery (155mm)
 - (3) 11th Tactical Fighter wing
- c. Air Lift Elements
 - (1) 227th, 229th Assault Helicopter Battalions
 - (2) B Co, 228th Assault Support Helicopter Battalion
 - (3) Re-supply B Co 229th Assault Helicopter Battalion
 - (4) Medevac 15th Med Det 1st Air Cav Div
- d. Reconnaissance elements
 - (1) 1st Brigade, 1st Air Cav Div Aviation Platoon
 - (2) A Trp, 1st Battalion 9th Cavalry
- e. Security Elements: Rotated among A, B, C, D Co, 1st Battalion 8th Cav

2. CONCEPT OF OPERATION: To establish a temporary fire base and to enclose an encirclement of Khe Sanh and to provide fire support for Khe Sanh and surrounding LZ's. Also to direct artillery fire at the Co-Roc mountain and entrenched gun emplacements. Finally to conduct operations around LZ Snapper (XD842347).

a. Establishment of the Fire Base: At 090900 April A Co, B Co, C Co, and D Co began moving by air from LZ Sharon (YD334495) to LZ Stud (XD001482). B Co, C Co, and D Co followed on order at 1040H all companies were closed LZ Stud. At 1300H A Co made the initial combat assault from LZ Stud to YD 842347 (LZ Snapper) to establish a fire base and to provide security for A Battery, 2nd Battalion 19th Artillery. At 1300H A Co's 1st elements landed and announced the LZ Green. B Co, C Co and D Co followed on command and at 1415H all companies were complete on LZ Snapper. An immediate reconnaissance of the area revealed negative enemy sightings. By 1545H A Battery, 2nd Battalion 19th Artillery established on LZ Snapper and immediately put their guns (105mm) into operation.

b. Airmobile Reconnaissance in Force: Upon closing at LZ Snapper D Co started a search and destroy operation to the west. At 1500H they reported a well entrenched bunker and tunnel complex showing signs of recent use. D Co made contact with an unknown enemy sized unit at 1545H. ARA was called on station and contact was broken at 1600H through the extraction of the Platoon

from D Co. Results of contact were eight (8), NVA KIA, one (1) NVA PW, two (2) AK-47's, one (1) LMG (RIF type), and one (1) 30-Cal MG - negative friendly casualties. At 2035H B Co in vicinity AB842345 (LZ Snapper) had 2 NVA with field gear and weapons activate a trip flare. They were immediately engaged with M-79's and small arms fire. Assessment revealed one (1) NVA KIA (rank 2Lt) equipped with web gear, one (1) AK-47, documents to include tactical training manuals, weapons roster, and personal history. At 2050H D Co observed flashes believed to be mortars vicinity AB822330. Artillery was called on the suspected mortar positions. The results of the friendly artillery, to include the sightings by the CO, 1st Bn 8th Cav, confirmed four (4) NVA KIA credited to D Co. Negative friendly casualties.

On 091015 April, A Co's 16 element received sniper fire while moving in vicinity AB822316 (Hill 663) resulting in one (1) KIA. Bde scouts were called on station and observed well fortified bunkers on top of the hill mass. ARA was called and engaged the bunker complex. At 1215H A Co's FO saturated the contact area with ~~red-leg~~ Artillery Fire until the air strikes arrived. At 1253H the initial air strike was completed and the second one began at 1300H. The second air craft reported small arms fire coming from the bombed area. A Co's FO observed secondary explosions. The third air strike took place at 1327H followed by secondary explosions consisting of grenades and small arms. The 10 and 36 elements returned to the contact area and found numerous medical supplies and NVA equipment. Final assessment was 11 NVA killed - friendly casualties were one (1) killed with negative wounded.

On 100910 April A Co's 20 and 36 elements in a check of the same contact area disclosed two (2) more NVA KIA, by air strikes, and five (5) additional NVA KIA, by artillery. There were also numerous equipment including web gear and one (1) AK-50. At 1140H A Co observed three tracked vehicles in vicinity XD 77B315. Artillery was called in on two (2) self-propelled enemy artillery pieces and one (1) unidentified track vehicle. The results of the friendly artillery, included the visual sighting by A Co's artillery FO, of one enemy tracked-vehicle burning and assumed to be destroyed. At 2008H A Co in vicinity of AB827321 observed three sets of lights in vicinity AB860310 believed to be an enemy convoy. Artillery was called in resulting in one secondary explosion, believed to be a fuel truck.

On 111100 April, the 1st Battalion 8th Cavalry began their return move from LZ Snapper to LZ Sharon and LZ Pedro. At 1610H B Co, D Co, and the Battalion tactical operations center returned to LZ Sharon and C Co to LZ Pedro. At 1700H A Co returned to LZ Stud.

On 121020 April, A Co completed their move to LZ Sharon. 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry relieved 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry as base defense Battalion for LZ Sharon and began conducting operations in the immediate vicinity.

From 310800 March to 150800 April (the period of involvement in Operation Pegasus-Lgn 207 A) the 1st Battalion 8th Cavalry was credited with:

- 31 NVA KIA
- 1 NVA WIA (POW)
- 1 suspected enemy track destroyed

Captured weapons include:

- 1 Light Machine Gun
- 1 Crew Served Heavy Machine Gun
- 3 AK-47's
- 1 AK-50's

Friendly Casualties:

- 1 US KIA