

CONTACT AFTER ACTION REPORT

1. Operation MARSDEN
2. 40554 Lt W.A. BLAIR
3. 1 Pl W Coy 6RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn
4. 1 Offr 33 ORs
5. 030830 Dec 69.
6. YS623903
7. To ambush Rvr junction SOUI LUC and SONG RAI
8. Two en appeared moving in direction indicated. Sentry waited until they were midstream then opened up hitting he thinks both of them. M60 then joined in and swept the top left bank of SOUI LUC. Arty and M79 were used as suppressive fire.
9. The sweep was put in, in the direction of dotted line. Some days later 6/1 found a third body killed in same contact, presumably.
10. Thick jungle along edge of rvr but visibility up and down rvr for 140m.
11. 140 metres.
12. Sentry
13. Sentry standing to.
14. Movement
15. Black pyjamas, ARVN greens, khaki shirt.
16. Sentry 80 - 90 metres.
17. SLR, M16, M60, M79.
18. Moved rapidly away.
19. Sentry fired, then moved back inside perimeter.
20. 3 KIA
21. SLR, M60
22. Nil
23. Nil
24. M60 80, M16 100, SLR 45, M79 30.
25. 2 AK47, 1 US Compass, assorted waist weapon.
26. N/A
27. Nil

Part 2 Platoon Commanders Comments

27. Nil
28. Nil
29. 15 rds 105mm.

Part 3 Company Commanders Comments

30. Good action by sentry who waited until 1 VC in killing area before opening fire.

W.A. Blair Lt Pl Comd  
W.A. Blair Lt Coy Comd

ANNEX 'A' TO CONTACT REPORT

071510H Dec 69

Sketch of Contact (Not to scale)



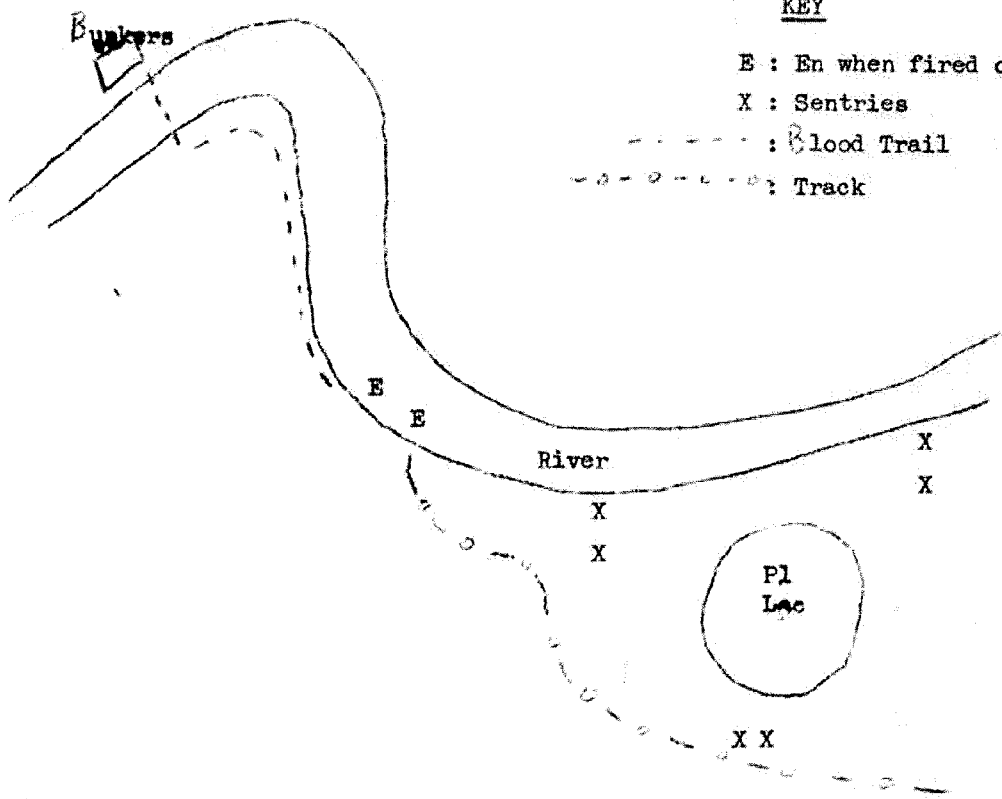
KEY

E : En when fired on

X : Sentries

- - - - - : Blood Trail

- o - o - o - o : Track



CONTACT AFTER ACTION REPORT

1. Operation MARSDEN
2. 30807 Lt R.N. UPTON
3. 2 Pl W Coy 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn
4. 1 Offr 29 ORs
5. 071510 Dec 69.
6. Y# 626928
7. To search pl AO and ambush likely enemy used tracks.
8. On reaching the S Sach River the pl was deployed while a track was being investigated for the purpose of ambushing. Sentries were posted forward on the river bank. They had only just been posted when they spotted two enemy crossing the river 120 - 150m upstream. The sentries fired and killed one. The other was wounded and crawled back out of sight. A third enemy was seen on the bank and engaged but he too went out of sight. A sweep was conducted and a blood trail found. This was followed for about 200m and lead to a bunker system. The bunker system was investigated the next morning. The blood trail ended in the complex but no body could be found. (See Annex 'A' for sketch).
9. The ground was flat except for the steep river banks. Visibility limited around river to 150m. Vegetation around the river very thick. Visibility 10m.
10. 150 metres.
11. Sentry
12. Sentry
13. Movement
14. Local blue shirt and trousers.
15. Sentry 120m.
16. SLR, M60
17. Wounded crawled away
18. Serial 8.
19. KIA 1, WIA 1 (ET)
20. SLR
21. Nil
22. Nil
23. M60 200, SLR 10
24. 1 M1 Carbine, documents.
25. Organise a quick sweep if en is wounded to follow up blood trail.
26. Nil

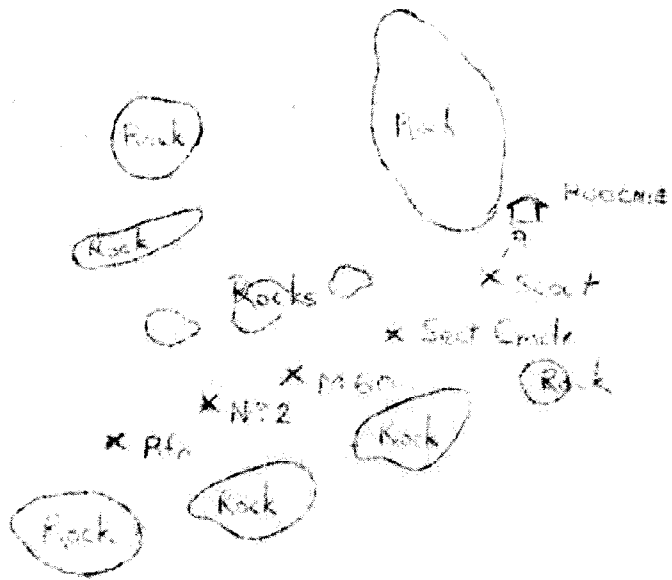
Part 2 Platoon Commanders Comments

27. Nil
28. After sweep had located bunker complex it was almost dark so they returned to pl location. The bunkers were motored that night and investigated by the pl the next morning.
29. Serial 23, 10 HE Mor. On bunker system 5 HE Mor, 20 WP Mor.

Part 3 Company Commanders Comments

30. Nil

R.N. Upton Lt Pl Comd  
R. Parsons Maj Coy Comd



Hand-drawn diagram showing several 'Rock' labels in circles and ovals, along with 'X' marks and other annotations like 'Rocks', 'Seat', 'Seat Circle', 'M60', 'N?2', 'Pfn', and 'RUCONE'.

CONTACT AFTER ACTION REPORT

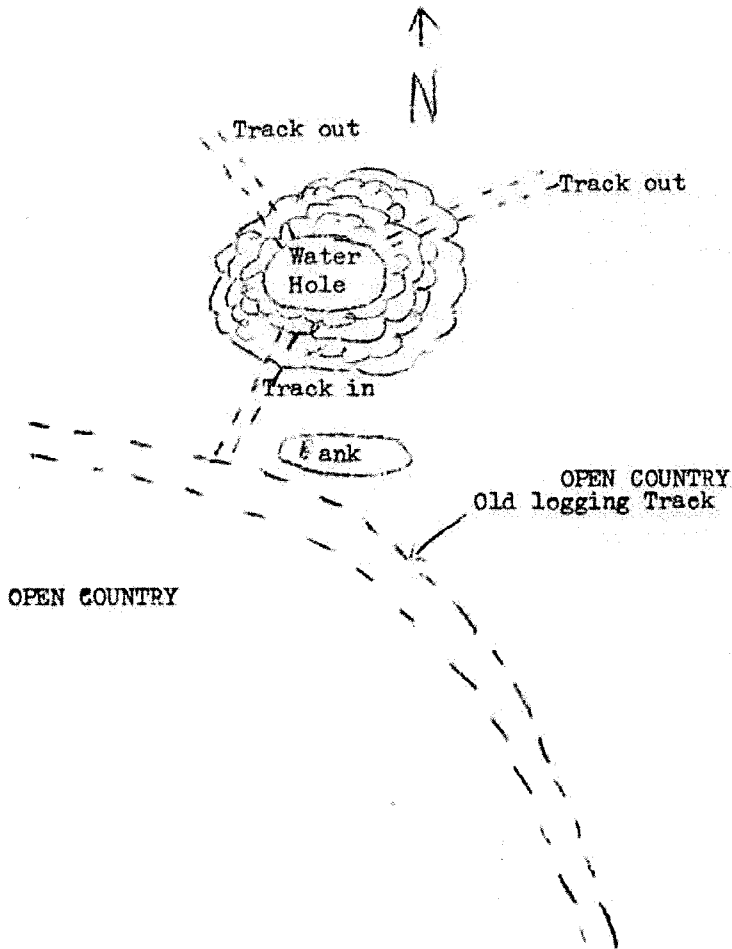
1. Operation MARSDEN
  2. 3C807 Lt R.H. UPTON
  3. 2 Pl W Coy 6 PAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn
  4. 1 Offr 29 GRs
  5. 111630H X120705H Dec 69.
  6. YS602981
  7. Recce
  8. A half pl strength patrol had stopped when noises and chopping was heard about 200m to the front. On further investigation a track was found leading into the camp. From the noise it was estimated the camp contained at least 20 people. The remainder of the pl moved forward to the recce ptl. A detailed recce was almost impossible because of the open ground to the front. It was decided to leave the attack until the next morning. A half pl ptl was left to watch the camp and attempt to recce further. This was done in semi darkness. The next morning the remainder of the Coy moved forward to the camp. 4 M60s were then taken forward to a small bank. These guns opened the contact. This was followed by Arty and Gunship fire. A sweep was then conducted through the camp. One M60 was found plus a large amount of gear. (See Annex 'A' for sketch).
  9. The camp was situated around a water hole. The vegetation in this area was very thick. Visibility 15m. Outside this area the ground was fairly open with visibility up to 200m.
  10. N/A
  11. N/A
  12. N/A
  13. Noise (Voices and cutting)
  14. Unknown
  15. 4 M60s 100m
  16. M60, M79, SLR
  17. Fired AK47s and RPGs then withdrew.
  18. Serial 8.
  19. KIA 1
  20. M60
  21. Nil
  22. Nil
  23. M60 200, SLR 40, M79 12.
  24. 2 AK47, 2 M1 Carbine, 2 SKS, 2 pistols, 28 packs containing food clothing, documents and med supplies.
  25. M60s firing too high.
  26. Nil
- Part 2 Platoon Commanders Comments
27. Nil
  28. N/A
  29. Serial 23, Arty 20 rds, 2 Gunships Rockets M79s
- Part 3 Company Commanders Comments
30. The en was taken by surprise but unfortunately the M60 fire was too high.

R.H. Upton Lt Pl Comd  
Edward May Coy Comd

ANNEX 'A' TO CONTACT REPORT

111630H 120705H Dec 62

Sketch of Contact (Not to scale)



CONTACT AFTER ACTION REPORT

1. Operation MARSDEN
  2. 40554 Lt W.A. BLAIR
  3. 1 Pl W Coy 6 RAR/NZ (ANZAC) Bn
  4. 1 Offr 33 ORs
  5. 201210H Dec 69.
  6. YS664912
  7. Ambush
  8. Pl had moved into ambush posn covering a track junction. When sentry stood up to get into a better posn for observation he saw 5 VC move rapidly across the track and disappear into the thick undergrowth. Small arms fire was brought to the area where the VC moved off the track.
  9. Thick jungle bordering edge of route 330. Range of visibility along road 50 metres.
  10. 75m
  11. Sentry
  12. Sentry, standing to.
  13. En moving across track.
  14. Black pyjamas.
  15. M60 No at 75m.
  16. M60, SLR, M16, M79.
  17. Moved rapidly away.
  18. Swept area with fire and then swept through as a section.
  19. Nil
  20. Nil
  21. Nil
  22. Nil
  23. M60 450, M16 30, SLR 35, M79 15.
  24. 10 rds AK47(new).
  25. Nil
  26. Nil
- Part 2 Platoon Commanders Comments
27. Nil
  28. Nil
  29. Approx 12 rds 81mm.

Part 3 Company Commanders Comments

30. Sentry had stood up to get in a position for better visibility when the en crossed the track. By time fire had been brought to bear en had disappeared.

WA Blair Lt Pl Comd  
John van Meer Coy Comd