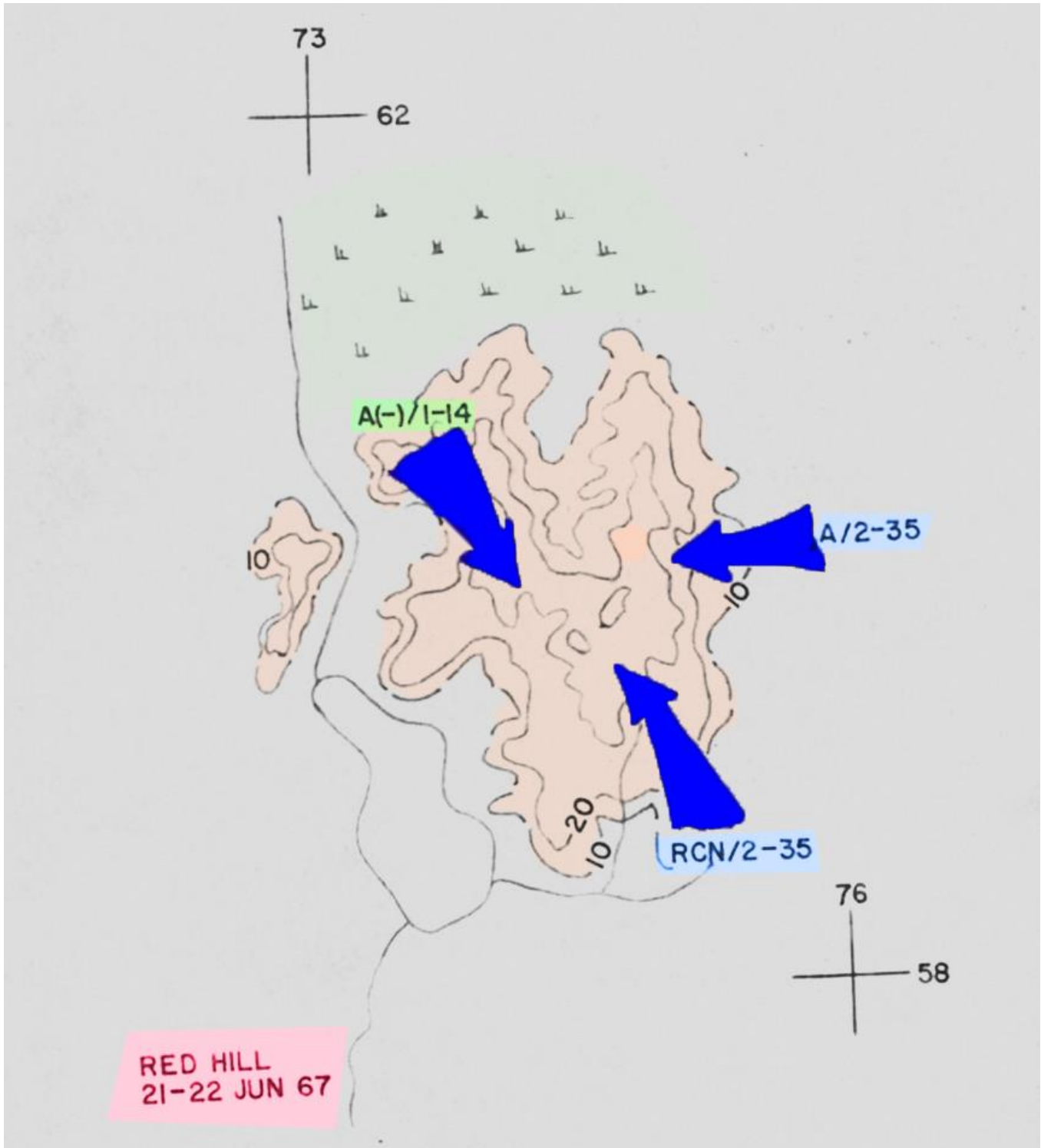




WELCOME TO "A WALK WITH THE 35TH"



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Battle of Red Hill

1. During the night of 20 June 1967, the 3d Brigade TF received an intelligence report that a large VC force was located vic BS742598. An AO extension was requested from the 2d ARVN Division in order to conduct an operation in the area. The request was approved and at 0900 hours on 21 June 1967, two companies and a recon platoon were combat assaulted into the area. A Company, 2d Battalion, 35th Infantry, was inserted southwest of the area vic BS762602; A Company, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry minus one platoon, was inserted to the south vic BS735605; and the Recon Plat, 2d Battalion, 35th Infantry was inserted to the southwest vic BS755588 (See Fig 1).
2. A Company, 2-35th Infantry came under fire from the north immediately after touchdown. They returned the fire and began maneuvering toward the enemy. Gunships from B Troop, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry which were supporting the operation, observed a large VC force wearing khaki uniforms and carrying small arms and grenades moving north. The gunships engaged the enemy killing several of them as they tried to evade to the north and northwest.
3. As the ground elements pursued the enemy to the northeast in a coordinated attack, pockets of enemy tried to evade making themselves easy prey for the alert gunships.
4. When the riflemen got to the hill mass (since named Red Hill because of the clay color and the Communist stronghold that was found there), they found the hill honeycombed with tunnels and underground bunkers. A psychological warfare team was lifted to Red Hill while the troops guarded entrances and exits to the tunnels. The psyops team pleaded with the enemy to give up because they were doomed. The pleas were to no avail for the enemy would not listen because of the false sense of security given by his meticulously prepared sanctuary.
5. Although faced with death from booby traps which were implaced throughout the tunnels and an enemy bullet around the next turn or under a trap door, the gallant soldiers completely destroyed the enemy, his bunkers and tunnels.
6. One platoon leader was killed by a booby trap and several men were wounded, but the enemy's price was high = the final body count for the two day operation was 61 enemy killed.

EXTRACT: INTSUM NO 61 (3D BDE TF) 22 JUNE 67

3. SUMMARY OF EN ACTIVITY

A. GROUND ACTIVITY

(1) DUC PHO

(K) 210900H, BS741595, 2-35 INF IN RESPONSE TO INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION COMBAT ASSAULTED A 2-35, A 1-14 AND RECON 2-35 IN 3 SEPERATE LANDING ZONES. IMMEDIATELY UPON INSERTION, A 2-35 REC'D SMALL ARMS FIRE FROM A HAMLET TO THE NW. GUNSHIPS COVERING THE INSERTION OBS APPROX 50 EN DRESSED IN KHAKI AND GREY UNIF CARRYING WPNS AND PACKS, WITHDRAWING FROM THE HAMLET TO THE WEST. GUNSHIPS ENG THE LN FORMATION KILLING THE EN SOLDIERS OVER A WIDE AREA AS THEY ATTEMPTED TO ESCAPE. BLUE PLAT WAS INSERTED THROUGHOUT THE AREA OF CONTACT TO CHECK THE BODIES AND SEARCH FOR DOCUMENTS AND OTHER IDENTIFYING MATERIAL. RSLTS: 51 EN KIA, 1 U.S. CARBINE(SN3091529), 1 PACK AND 1 HELMET CIA.

(L) 211030H, BS737618, A 2-35 DET 4 INDIV.

(M) 211030H, BS861341, A 2-17 (OPCON 1-35) OBS 1 EN WHO TRIED TO EVADE FRD. FRD FIRED. RSLTS: 1 VC KIA.

(S) 211600H, BS796480, A 1-14 LOC A HOLE PARTIALLY COVERED BY A B.SKET. ONE VC JUMPED OUT OF THE HOLE AND FRD FIRED. RSLTS: 1 VC KIA. FRD FIRED INTO THE HOLE RESULTING IN 1 ADDITIONAL VC KIA. 1 X M-1 CARBINE, 1 X M-2 CARBINE, AND AN UNK TYPL SNIPER SCOPE WERE TAKEN FROM THE HOLE.

(U) 211705H, BS721621, RECON 2-35 LOC 1 EN KIA.

(X) 211740H, BS726603, A 2-35 LOC AN EXTENSIVE TUNNEL, BUNKER AND TRENCH COMPLEX RUNNING E AND W. COMPLEX CONSISTED OF APPROX 60 METERS OF TRENCH WORK WITH 9 ENTRANCES. COMPLEX TO BE DEST 22 JUNE 67.

(Y) 211750H, BS732602, A 1-14 REC'D 1 FRD C.S FROM A BOOBY TRAPPED DOOR INSIDE A TUNNEL COMPLEX.

EXTRACT: INTSUM NO 62 (3D BDE TF) 23 JUNE 67

3. SUMMARY OF EN ACTIVITY

A. GROUND ACTIVITY

(1) LUC PHO

(G) 220120H, BS 735594, A 1-14 HEARD MOVEMENT FROM WITHIN ONE OF THE TUNNEL ENTRANCES LOCATED ON 21 JUNE 67 AS A RESULT OF INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION. FRD FIRED INTO THE TUNNEL ENTRANCE WITH NEG RSLTS. AT220630H, REC'D SA FIRE FROM THE TUNNEL. FRD RETURNED THE FIRE WITH SA AND M-79. RSLTS: 5 EN KIA, 1 X M-79 (SN56359) AND 1 X SKS(SN642089) CIA. INITIAL SEARCH OF TUNNELS HAS REVEALED THAT THE SYSTEM CONSISTS OF SEVERAL LEVELS WITH VARYING SIZED ROOMS CONNECTED BY ZIG-ZAG TUNNELS AND TRAP DOORS. A TOTAL OF 4 ENTRANCES WERE CLOSED BY ENGINEERS.

"A TRUE COPY"

Bobby L. Moore
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