

Daily Staff Journal
 S3, HQ, 3d Sqdn, 4th Cav
 29 Jan 68
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Call Signs:

- Cen = Centaur
- Warrior = ??? Division or 2d Brigade
- Vindicator = Arty FO
- S6 = Sqdn Cdr
- SA = Sabre Alpha (A Trp)
- SB = Sabre Bravo (B Trp)
- Killer = Artillery Battery
- Trojan = 2d Bn, 27th Inf
- Blaster = Artillery Battalion or DivArty

?? indicates that Item No and Time weren't readable or were missing from the photo.

29 January			
Item No	Time		Incidents, Messages, Orders, Etc.
	In	Out	
77	1602		Cen 35 airborne
81	1618		Cen 35 inserted 1610, LZ COLD at XT 594304
83	1627		Warrior notified to get reaction force airborne
84	1630		Cen 35 in contact at XT 595303, time 1625H
??	??40		Cen 35 loc XT594303 are receiving SA fire, 1 squad very close to enemy, so far 1 KIA, Warrior 6 sending a Trojan elem
??	????		S6 find out from Vindicator 30 where arty well be fired from in support of Cen 35
??	??45		From D Trp Cen 35 has WIA and also 7 other WIA and 1 KIA, req support
??	??52		From Warrior 6 – Cen

			5: 7 slicks OPCON to Cen for assistance to Cen 35
??	????		SA5 to take 1 plt to escort Killer elem to SB then return to 178; SB take them to CP 25 for support to Cen 35
???	????		Trojan will be airborne approx 05
???	????		Cen 35 received fire from the streamline, direct fire into it from Cen 5
???	????		S3 to SB 6: take Killer elem to from YEAR LO.3 U4.3
???	????		Warrior has 14 more slicks in support for Cen also Killer elem from JAN U15.3 LI.3 to fire in support
???	????		SB to take Killer Batt to Ranger compound and give support from there
???	????		SB6 to move to CP 31 and standby
???	????		To SA 5: Killer elem will go to Trung Lap
???	????		From SA5: turning Killer elem around SB waiting on MSR
???	????		S6 to Cen 35: Req you move the ships so that Killer elem can bring in arty so that under take cover people can move
???	????		Cen ship still rec fire from Hedgerow with AW
???	????		Killer elem on move B for restation
???	????		Trojan 6: Airborne on way with support. Warrior 6 returning

			for fuel
???	????		Cen 5 to Trojan 6: have elem XT593304 SW of streamline, out in open
???	????		T 3: Trojan OPCON to Saber also wants to know plans for Trojan - intend to extract Trojan elem by air light permits after Cen 35 has been extracted from S6
???	????		Cpt Maheny DTOC Rear req status on Cen 35 gave it
???	????		Blaster 6 req to know if we keep road open for resupply for Killer
???	????		SB and Killer elem CP28
???	????		Killer elem approx 300m from builtup area CP 28
???	????		to SB6: once Killer are in position, we will need to escort from TL road for resupply of Killer elem
???	????		SB and Killer elem cleared CP 25
???	????		Trojan C on ground OPCON to Centaur
???	????		Blaster are resupplying Killer elem after dark this resupply needs an escort to SB 6
???	????		S6 to CP 178 to refuel
???	????		SB 20 and Killer elem closed compound
???	????		C35 reports 4 KIA, 10 WIA and will need more reinforcements
???	????		D Trp requests a smoke ship to help Trojan Charlie

			withdraw
???	????		SB released C 12 back to Cen push
???	????		Notified of DustOffs that are coming from C35
???	1849		Spooky and Moonglow have been requested
???	1907		From D Trp, Diamonhead gunteam on station to go to DT for counter mortar – 1 team at CC will go airborne when notified
???	1908		S6 request 1 more smoke ship
???	1927		D Trp OPCON to Trojan 1925H
???	1930		Cen 6 report Cen 35 has 50% casualties
???	??49		D Trp has flareship leading to provide illumination until Moonglow is on station
???	2230		From Col Dunlap; be prepared on order to become OPCON 2d Bde at BNNT on Jan 30 1968 to reinforce Trojan elem (SA,SB,SC Notified) Loc of Cen and Trojan from YEAR R4.4 U3.3

30 January			
???	0015		Warrior report they still have not reached Cen 35 have VC between Trojan and Cen
???	0050		Trojan has radio contact with Cen 21, report people in bomb crater 4 WIA, 1 KIA,

			Trojan still approx 150-200M from their location
???	0052		Trojan loss 2 KAI, 9 WIA
???	0100		Lead elem of Trojan consisting of 4 men linked up with Cen 35
???	0125		Cen 35 of 7MIA, known 4 KIA
???	0155		Trojan reports will be ready for dust off in approx 15 min, Cen will be sending aircraft airborne
???	0205		Cen scrambling gunteam to go help Cen 15 at Trojan
???	0207		Cen gunteam going airborne this time
???	0210		Cen gunteam and dustoff ship airborne
???	0225		Cen dustoff complete 5 personnel
???	0230		Cen 5 back Cu Chi gunteam enroute to Cu Chi
???	0240		Cen will be sending flareship airborne
???	0305		Cen 36 flareship airborne this time
???	0307		Cen 35 WIA, Mosenlet, Colin, Owens, Winkely 2 of the KIA Pickett and Jacson
???	0327		Cen 36 enroute back to Cu Chi
???	0330		All Trojan and Cen elements close night location

The Staff Journal records that Co C, 2d Bn, 27th Inf was inserted to relieve the Aero-Rifles. C-2/27 became heavily engaged almost immediately and was forced to withdraw a short distance. B-2/27 was brought in to assist C-2/27. A-2/27 was on standby to be inserted into the area, if needed.

An old Centaur named Ted Mathis was a platoon leader in B-2/27 Inf during the battle. (Ted returned to the States when his tour ended. He went to flight school and became a rotary wing pilot. He went back to Vietnam and was assigned as the Executive Officer for D Trp (Air) and F Trp (Air) in late 1969.) Ted was unaware of the relationship between B-2/27 and D Trp until he read some of the stuff about 29 – 30 Jan on the troop website.

Ted attended the Veterans Day Mini-Reunion in Dayton, OH in Nov 2011. Ted related some of his memories of that day and night.

The Wolfhounds had been in the field for a couple of weeks and were getting ready to return to Cu Chi for a short stand down. The battalion was all packed up and ready to head home and were waiting in the landing zone for the helicopters to pick them up. C-2/27 was to be picked up first. Word came down that they were not going back home, but were going to help an infantry platoon that was in deep trouble in the Hobo Woods. C-2/27 lifted out and was inserted near the trapped platoon. The company immediately ran into heavy fire from an entrenched enemy force of unknown size. The company pulled back and requested reinforcement from battalion. The helicopters returned to the 2/27 location and picked up B-2/27 and moved them to reinforce C-2/27. After extremely heavy fighting, the lead elements of C-2/27 made contact with the trapped infantry platoon. The two companies and the infantry platoon evacuated the wounded, pulled back a short distance, and established a NDP. The two companies swept the area the next morning and found the missing WIAs and recovered the KIAs.