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HEADQUARTERS  
2nd Battalion, 5th Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) FMF  
FPO San Francisco, California, 96602

3/JDS/jds  
5750  
3 May 1968

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding Officer, 5th Marine Regiment

Subj: Command Chronology for period 1 April to 30 April 1968.

Ref: (a) DivO 5750.2B

Encl: (1) 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Command Chronology

1. In accordance with the provisions of reference (a), enclosure (1) is submitted.

*E. G. Cheatham Jr.*  
E. G. CHEATHAM JR.

2ND BN/5TH MAR

2ND BN CHRON

DOWN TO 1000...  
SERIALS...  
DOL DIR \$200.10

2ND BN...  
SAC # 0427-68  
COPY 9 OF 9

5TH MAR S&C FILES

0307-68  
COPY NO. 1 OF 9

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APR 1968

HEADQUARTERS  
2nd Battalion, 5th Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) MAF  
APO San Francisco, California, 96602

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

1 April 1968 to 30 April 1968

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✓ TAB A  
✓ " B.

*After Action Report* *Open Bayter Garden*  
*" " " " " Houston*

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## CHRONOLOGY, 2ND BATTALION, 5TH MARINES, APRIL 1968

## I. ORGANIZATIONAL DATA.

A. Location: 1-30 April 1968, CAO DOI, Republic of VIETNAM

B. Commanding Officer, Staff Officers, and Company Commanders:

Commanding Officer	LtCol E. C. CHEATHAM JR.	1-30 Apr68
Executive Officer	Maj O. K. STEELE	1-30 Apr68
Adjutant	Capt R. E. STONER	1-30 Apr68
S-1	1stLt J. J. BERGMAN	1-2 Apr68
	1stLt W. I. SHICK	3-30 Apr68
S-2	1stLt W. F. HARVEY	1-6 Apr68
	CySgt W. H. JAYNE	6-25 Apr68
	1stLt E. T. ALTON	26-30 Apr68
S-3	Maj E. G. DYER	1-30 Apr68
S-3A	Capt J. J. NORTON	1-3 Apr68
	1stLt T. D. MARTIN	4-30 Apr68
S-3B	1stLt T. D. MARTIN	1-3 Apr68
	1stLt S. R. BROWN	4-30 Apr68
S-4	1stLt G. R. HOFFMANN JR.	1-30 Apr68
S-5	1stLt R. J. LONG	1-21 Apr68
CommO	Capt D. J. POWERS	1-30 Apr68
SupplyO	2ndLt D. P. WELSH	1-30 Apr68
MFO	1stLt G. A. ZURENDA	1-30 Apr68
ALC	Capt J. F. FYLE JR.	1-30 Apr68
FAO	Capt T. M. FINE III	1-30 Apr68
CO HQ Co	1stLt A. A. DORMBACH	1-30 Apr68
CO Co B	Capt P. A. DUFFY	1-5 Apr68
	Capt J. J. NORTON	6-22 Apr68
	1stLt E. P. POLENTZ	22-26 Apr68
	Capt J. J. NORTON	26-30 Apr68
CO Co F	Capt H. P. DOWNS	1-30 Apr68
CO Co G	Capt C. L. MEADOWS	1-5 Apr68
	1stLt W. F. HARVEY	6-26 Apr68
	1stLt B. A. DOVE	27-30 Apr68
CO Co H	Capt G. D. HENDRICKSON	1-22 Apr68
	1stLt D. N. KEENE	22-26 Apr68
	Capt G. D. HENDRICKSON	26-30 Apr68

C. Average Monthly Strength.

011 000  
03 1020

USN  
OFF ENL  
3 48

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II. NARRATIVE SUMMARY.

During this reporting period the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines continued its mission of protecting the Division MSR. This task was accomplished by employment of numerous company and platoon size patrols into suspected enemy base camp sites and continual squad size ambushes along enemy routes of approach to the MSR.

A platoon (reinforced) outpost was maintained on Bach Ma until 17 April 1968 when they were withdrawn in preparation for Operation BAXTER GARDEN.

During the month a more effective system of liaison and coordination with elements of CAG 3 was established. Each company with a CAP unit in its area of operations provided one NCO to act as liaison with that CAP. The liaison NCO is provided with a radio and monitors the company tactical net. All requests for fire support are passed through the liaison NCO to the company and Battalion.

With the month drawing to a close, the Battalion found itself engaged in two operations simultaneously. While still engaged in Operation HOUSTON, the Battalion divided its forces and with attachments from other units began Operation BAXTER GARDEN.

While on Operation BAXTER GARDEN, the Battalion worked in close coordination with tanks, Batos and amtracs. The coordination with the tracked vehicles required a minimum amount of time and was very successful.

III. SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS.

A. Personnel and Administration.

1. Casualties.

KIA	BATTLE			SERIOUS	NON-BATTLE		DEATHS	TOTAL
	WIA	DOW	MIA		NON-SERIOUS			
7	67	1	2	3	6	0		86

2. Joined during April.

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
5	106	0	11

3. Transferred during April.

USMC		USN	
OFF	ENL	OFF	ENL
3	86	0	11

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4. Narrative Summary. The average chargeable strength of the Battalion remained above 87% of the manning level throughout the month.

B. Discipline, Law and Order.

1. Courts-Martial; Tried 0, Pending 2
2. Non-Judicial Punishment 20
  - a. By Battalion Commander 7
  - b. By Company Commander 13

C. Morale, PX and Chaplain's Activities.

1. The morale of the Battalion is considered excellent.
2. PX facilities were not available for the Marines of 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines due to operational commitments. Necessary items were made available through SP Packs and consolidated PX runs for limited items at the PX at Phu Bai.

3. Chaplain's Activities: During the month of April the Chaplain was able to make several visits to the companies and reports that the general morale of the men is excellent. Included in services this month were the various CAP units in our TAOR. Also attending these services were a few of the PF's. There were a total of 18 Masses celebrated during the month with a total of 593 men attending, 456 of these men received Holy Communion. The Chaplain has visited a Catholic orphanage located in the village of Phu Loc and on two occasions has taken food to the orphanage. This action was greatly appreciated by the Vietnamese priest. Hospital visits to DaNang and Phu Bai were also made during the month. A total of 10 men were visited by the Chaplain. On Easter there were both Catholic and Protestant services at the Battalion CP with a total of 107 men attending. The Chaplain left for R&D on the 16th of the month and services were held by the Regimental Chaplain during his absence. At present the Chaplain is also responsible for 4 CAP units within our TAOR plus units of the 11th Marines and the SeaBees.

D. Intelligence.

1. General. Intelligence was received from the following sources during April: III MAF G-2, 1st MarDiv G-2, Task Force X-Ray G-2, 5th MarRegt S-2, 3rd IIT, 13th IIT, 1st CIT, Thua Thien Province Hq, Phu Loc District Hq, CAC Hotel, and the local population of Phu Loc District.

a. Frequent liaison visits were made to the Phu Loc District Headquarters.

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1. A careful and continuous study of all incidents, spot reports resulted in adjustment of nightly H&I's and TPQ 10's. The S-2 section plotted targets from information received and deemed most accurate.

2. The S-2 scouts and Kit Carson Scouts were utilized in various intelligence gathering roles. The scouts were assigned to the companies in the field to assist in handling of captured personnel, documents and equipment. Vietnamese interpreters were assigned to the companies; and a sub team of the 13th ITT with a Vietnamese interpreter was assigned to the Battalion.

3. An intelligence briefing was prepared and presented daily at the Battalion Commander's Briefing, where intelligence information was disseminated to unit leaders.

4. One AN/PPS-6 Battlefield Surveillance Radar and one PSID Sismic Intrusion Device were employed as an early warning system by Companies E and G at Phu Loc Fire Base (ZC077987). One AN/PPS-6 was employed by Company F at the Nuec Ngot Bridge (ZD153010). The PSID was employed on ambushes as well as perimeter defense. The S-2 section has a total of nine AN/PPS-6 Radar sets. There are presently three radar technicians in the section, providing instruction on operation and maintenance to personnel of this Battalion. As personnel become trained, additional sets will be employed.

5. Statistics of Casualties and Equipment.

NVA/VC KIA (CONF) 65

POW 3

AK-47 14

SKS 7

M-16 2

M-1 1

RPD LMG 1

B-40 Rocket Launcher 1

ChiCom Grenades 12

Mines and Booby Traps 12

Satchel Charges 14

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Ammunition	1600 rds 7.62 linked, 14 B-40 rds, 875 rds AK-47, 7 Bandoliers 7.62 U.S.
MG Barrel	1 Unknown caliber
B-40 Rocket Charges	2
Magazines	2 AK-47, 1 M-16
Ammunition Pouches	1 NVA, 1 U.S.
Grenade Pouches	2 NVA
82mm Mortar Sight	1
Cartridge Belt	2 NVA
Helmet	3
Helmet Liner	1
Rice	7 (35 lbs) Bags
Medical Supplies	2 Caches
Gas Masks	2
Shirts	4
Trousers	1
Sandals	2 pair
Pack	1
Bayonet	1

E. Training.

1. During the month of April, 79 personnel completed the Battalion/Regimental Indoctrination Course. Training emphasis was placed on weapons safety and the danger of using Marijuana.

2. Use of the MACV firing ranges enhanced the training and allowed a number of personnel to conduct familiarization firing with every weapon they may be called upon to use during their tour in Vietnam.

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3. During the month, the Marines of 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines attended the following formal schools:

a. Division Leadership Schools	8
b. Vietnamese Language School (III MAF)	2
c. Vietnamese Language School (Okinawa)	2
d. Embarkation School (Okinawa)	2
e. Division Embarkation School	2
f. Basic Organic Accounting School	1
g. AW/AN Training Course	1

F. Special Operations.

1. Through the use of ambushes and extensive patrolling along avenues of approach, security of the vital MSR between the Nuce Ngot Bridge (ZD152010) and the Rock Crusher site (ZD021021) was effectively provided by this command.

2. During the month of April, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines initiated rice denial operations against enemy forces to provide security for the rice harvest of the local populace.

3. During the month the Battalion continued its participation in Operation HOUSTON.

4. Second Battalion, Fifth Marines assumed operational control of Company B, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines for participation in Operation BAXTER GARDEN, 18-21 April 1968.

5. Second Battalion, Fifth Marines assumed operational control of Companies C and D, 1st Battalion, 27th Marines for participation in Operation BAXTER GARDEN, 18-21 April 1968.

6. Second Battalion, Fifth Marines participated in Operation BAXTER GARDEN, a coordinated effort with allied forces, 19-26 April 1968.

7. Second Battalion, Seventh Marines assumed operational control of Company G, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines on 27 April 1968.

G. Nuclear, Biological, Chemical Warfare and Defense.

1. The 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines carried M-72 and CS-1 gas grenades for use in clearing enemy bunkers and fortifications during the month of April.

2. The 35MM Cartridge, 16 Tube, E-8 CS Gas Launcher was carried by the Battalion during Operation BAXTER GARDEN as an offensive weapon.

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H. Command and Control. LtCol E. C. CHEATHAM JR. commanded the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines during the month of April. The Battalion remained under the administrative and operational control of 5th Marine Regiment during the month.

I. Close Combat. See Part IV (#2 and #3).

J. Fire Support.

1. Battery E, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines in direct support of 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, supported unit operations in the Battalion TACR and the Regimental AO.

2. Battery W, 2nd Battalion, 13th Marines; 1st Provisional Battery, 1st FAG; 8<sup>th</sup> Battery B, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines; Battery D, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines; and the USS CONE all provided fire support for operations.

3. Battery E fired 101 missions, expending 914 rounds of HE, 106 of WP, 108 of illumination and 6 rounds of HC smoke.

4. Significant Fire Support Events.

a. Battery E displaced from Loc Dien and occupied the Phu Loc Fire Base in order to provide close and continuous fire support for the Battalion.

b. First Provisional Battery was formed, Battery W displaced to Thom Myinh An, and the USS CONE was on station in order to provide close fire support for 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines during Operation BATTLE GARDEN.

K. Air Support.

1. Tactical Air Support. A total of 126 tactical air support missions were flown in support of the Battalion consisting of 166 sorties.

a. Deep Air Support. The Battalion's FSCC requested 52 TPQ-10 missions from Regimental FSCC.

b. Close Air Support. The Battalion requested and controlled 34 missions which consisted of 63 sorties. Of these, 14 missions (29 sorties) were provided by armed helicopters and 20 missions (38 sorties) by fixed wing. All close air support was controlled by airborne FAG's.

c. Assault Helicopter Operations. The Battalion requested and executed 4 helicopter assaults which consisted of

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190 sorties. These assaults were planned and accomplished as a part of Operation BAXTER GARDEN.

d. Aerial Observation and Visual Reconnaissance. The Battalion utilized 27 aerial observation missions consisting of 27 sorties. The Battalion Command and Staff sections utilized 7 visual reconnaissance missions consisting of 14 sorties provided by Regimental Command and Control aircraft.

e. Flare Ships. The Battalion requested and received 6 missions which consisted of 6 sorties.

2. Administrative and Logistics Support. During Operation BAXTER GARDEN all logistical missions were requested and controlled at the Regimental level. The total administrative and logistical support consisted of 50 missions (108 sorties). Of these, 17 missions (38 sorties) were provided by the Regimental Command and Control aircraft.

a. Resupply. The Battalion utilized 18 missions (39 sorties) for resupply; of these 15 missions (30 sorties), were provided by the Regimental Command and Control aircraft.

b. Medical Evacuation. The Battalion requested and received 42 missions (84 sorties) of which 4 missions (8 sorties) were provided by the Regimental Command and Control aircraft. There were 16 emergency, 32 priority and 41 routine medical evacuations.

L. Logistics.

1. General.

a. During the month of April the Battalion's logistics section continued normal operations. The S-4, Battalion Aid Station, Supply and Motor Transport sections maintained personnel in both the rear command post at Phu Bai and the forward command post at Cao Doi (ZD056028). The sections in the rear handled the routine logistical and administrative matters while the forward sections responded to the Battalion's operational requirements.

b. Resupply of the companies in the field was effected primarily by truck. Two trucks, TAD from Regiment, were employed in conjunction with the Battalion's organic assets. A reinforced platoon, which was stationed at Bach Ma (ZC054915) for the first half of the month, was resupplied exclusively by helicopter. No significant resupply problems were encountered during the month.

c. The supply section attached to the S-4 forward issued considerable amounts of clothing during the month. A

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concerted effort was made to collect the soiled utilities and those collected were sent to the rear to be laundered. When the utilities had been cleaned they were returned to the field where they were re-issued.

d. The field mess continues to improve. The Battalion has been receiving "A" rations on a fairly regular basis making for a greater variety of more enjoyable meals.

e. On 19 April Operation BAXTER GARDEN began. Helicopter Support Teams moved with the companies and the Battalion Command Post. Additional teams were stationed at the supply points. The operation was supported out of two landing zones, one near the Battalion rear, the other at ASP-1. Class I, II and III supplies and small arms ammunition was sent from the former landing zone and the heavier Class V ordnance was carried out of the latter. Extensive use was made of the new COPRAM munitions. The S-4 section sent personnel to accompany the command group while other members of the section remained in the rear to coordinate the resupply efforts. Considerable success was achieved in recovering the weapons and equipment of casualties.

## 2. Supply.

a. Throughout the month of April, Battalion Supply continued the updating of Equipment Custody Records and Individual Memorandum Receipt cards in preparation for the forthcoming Command Material Management Inspection.

b. New, chromed chambered M-16 rifles were issued to the Battalion and, to date, all hands authorized that weapon have made the exchange with the exception of 25 personnel.

c. Battalion Supply continues its assessment of the combat loss of M-16 rifles and .45 caliber pistols following Operation HUE CITY. To date, of 1,144 on record, 1,013 M-16's are accounted for indicating a loss of 131. Forty-five caliber pistols accounted for, number 313 of an authorization of 339, showing a loss of 26. A comparison of on board personnel to Individual Memorandum Receipts Cards indicates that 92 Marines in the Battalion are not signed for a weapon according to Armory records. Names have been submitted to S-4 and upon inventory of subject personnel, the above listed combat loss should be lowered considerably.

d. A Division Search has been initiated for all missing weapons of the Battalion and it is anticipated that an accurate combat loss statement will be prepared no later than 1 May 1968.

e. During the month, Division noted a deficiency in

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Gas Masks and Flak Jackets. This section was able to obtain 50 Flak Jackets in Danang but is experiencing a shortage of Gas Masks. Both items are on requisition and have been nominated for Red Ball.

f. Jungle utility trousers have been in short supply at Force Logistics Support Group-Alpha this month and this Battalion has 1,200 of assorted sizes on requisition.

g. At the beginning of Operation BAXTER GARDEN, there was a need for plastic water containers which were not in stock. An attempt is being made to obtain this item in Danang.

h. As a result of Operation HUE CITY, Battalion Supply learned that a more up-to-date account of casualties must be reported to the Armory in order for an accurate assessment of weapons to be obtained. A policy that S-1 make a report to this section as casualties are confirmed was initiated at the start of Operation BAXTER GARDEN.

i. During April a Division Supply Assistance Team visited this section and offered advice on procedures dealing with new supply directives.

j. Battalion Supply's anticipated move to another warehouse offering more space was again delayed indefinitely. Accordingly this section is undergoing major renovation in its present location in preparation for the forthcoming Command Material Management Inspection.

3. Motor Transport. In excess of half the Battalion's motor vehicles were used by the forward command post during the month. It was necessary to assign a mechanic and a dispatcher to the forward command post on a permanent basis.

4. Communications.

a. Wire Section. The wire section maintained two separate operating components, one at the Battalion forward CP (Phu Doi) and another at the administrative rear (Phu Bai). Five pair cable was laid throughout the forward CP to provide better communications. The Battalion is currently using a TRC-27 and a MRC-62 radio relay van to provide communications with the rear.

b. Radio Section. Six antennas, RC-292, were received this month leaving the Battalion only two under the required T/E. Classes have been conducted on the PRC-47, MRC-83 and the MRC-87.

c. Tech Shop. During the month the Tech Shop received 106 pieces of communications equipment in need of repair. Of these

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had to be sent to the administrative rear at Phu Bai. By close coordination between radio supply and the Tech Shop, communications gear in need of minor repairs were immediately repaired thus saving possible costly repairs in the future.

d. Generator Section. A PU-239 E/G provides the power for the Battalion CP. During the month a contact team from FISG-A worked on the generator. Due to lack of parts the contact team could only advise what parts were needed and should be ordered. A DC generator was installed in the PU-239 and parts needed are on a Priority O2.

e. Message Center. The message center is operating in two areas, the forward and rear CP. Besides their normal traffic, all radio messages are transcribed in message format and handled by the message center.

## 5. Battalion Aid Station.

### a. Significant Events.

(1) On 31 March 1968, the Division Surgeon, Captain R. W. JONES, visited the Battalion Aid Station at Phu Bai. He conducted an inspection tour of the Administration and Record's Office, Medical Supply, and observed sick call and the ward in operation.

(2) The immunization program instituted last month was successfully completed this month. A 4 man shot team immunized 293 stragglers with a total of 743 shots.

(3) The forward Battalion Aid Station launched a Civic Action Program in the surrounding villages. Two highly satisfactory Med Caps were completed, treating a total of 486 Vietnamese Nationals.

(4) On 19 April 1968, one Medical Officer and 5 Hospital Corpsmen were assigned to the Battalion Command Group for Operation BAXTER GARDEN.

### b. New Developments.

(1) The Battalion Aid Station at Phu Bai has been assigned two buildings for medical facilities. One building has been allocated to the Administration and Record's Office and Medical Supply; the second building has been designated as sick call, treatment area, and a six bed ward. Improvements of both buildings are now in progress, which includes the installation of new screens, the painting of the interior of the buildings, and construction of shelves for storing of drugs in sick call.

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(2) The forward Battalion Aid Station has supervised a field sanitation program at the tunnel, including a rodent and pest control program.

c. Problem areas. The significant problem area this month has been the noticeable increase in the number of diarrhea cases.

d. Average number of military patients seen daily..31  
 Number of military patients seen this month.....934  
 Number of referrals to out patient clinics.....29

e. Routine Medical Complaints:

Diarrhea.....107  
 URI.....14  
 Dermatitis.....156  
 Stomach Disorders.....12  
 Visual Disorders.....13  
 Ear Infections.....21  
 Gastroenteritis.....43  
 FUO.....8

f. The most significant disease this month was Dermatological Disorders.

H. Civil Affairs/Civic Action.

1. Civic Action. During this reporting period, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines has centered their Civic Action program on Med Caps. These Med Caps were concentrated on assisting the CAP units in the TAOR. The S-5 section has also initiated a program of information and instruction on Health and Sanitation. This program utilizes Health and Sanitation posters which have been placed along Route #1 in the Phu Loc District and has been assisted by the use of the Tu Do newspaper. These papers are distributed weekly to CAP villages in the TAOR and to Phu Loc District Headquarters and contains local news and ideas pertaining to personal hygiene.

2. Psychological Operations.

a. During the month the psyops section has continued

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- maximum use of leaflet drops and aerial broadcasting in the TAOR.

b. The psyops section has saturated the area south of CAP-H-6, vicinity (ZC1897). Due to extensive aerial broadcasts and leaflets drops we have had several VC and NVA Chieu Hoi from this area. The psyops section has also increased the hand dissemination of psyops literature such as the Tu Do newspaper, Chieu Hoi Balls and Chieu Hoi pens. The psyops section has increased the dissemination of posters pertaining to VC and NVA atrocities along Route #1.

d. The target audiences and themes were as follows:

<u>TARGET AUDIENCE</u>	<u>THEME</u>
Civilians	VC kill and destroy, GVN builds Don't Shield the VC Report VC activity Rewards Drive VC from your home VC steal your rice
NVA/VC	Chieu Hoi What Chieu Hoi means to the NVA Rally now and begin a family life Rally soon or die Road to freedom Chieu Hoi You are deceived by your leaders Defect or die

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HEADQUARTERS  
 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines  
 1st Marine Division (Rein), FMF  
 FPO San Francisco, California 96602

2nd BN 5th MAR  
 SLC # 0412-68  
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Ser: 019-68  
 3/EGD/sjh  
 3480  
 28 April 1968

From: Commanding Officer  
 To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Attn G-3)  
 Via: Commanding Officer, 5th Marines

Subj: Combat Operations After Action Report

Ref: (a) Maps: AMS Vietnam 1:50,000 Series L7014 Sheets  
 6541 I and IV and 6542 III  
 (b) CG TF XRAY FRAGO 21-68  
 (c) 5th Mar OPO 301-68  
 (d) 5th Mar ADO 301-68  
 (e) 5th Mar CEOI

5TH MAR S&C FILES  
 0283-68  
 COPY NO. 1 OF 8

Encl: ✓(1) Operation Overlay (1)  
 ✓(2) Operation Overlay (2)  
 ✓(3) Operation Overlay (3)

1. Code name: Operation BAXTER GARDEN (Search and Destroy)
2. Dates of Operation: 190800H-261200H April 1968
3. Location: Central THUA THIEN Province immediately East of HUE CITY in PHU VANG District.
4. Control or Command Headquarters.

2nd Bn (-) (Rein), 5th Marines	LtCol	CHEATHAM
Co E, 2/5 190800H-230800H	Capt	NORTON
230800H-261200H	1stLt	POLENTZ
Co H, 2/5 190800H-222000H	Capt	HENDRICKSON
222000H-261200H	1stLt	KEENE
H&S Co, 2/5 190800H-261200H	1stLt	DORNBACH
Co B, 1/5 190800H-211100H	Capt	BEAUCHAMP
Co C, 1/27 190800H-211030H	Capt	FARMER
Co D, 1/27 190800H-211030H	CAPT	KAHLER

5. Task Organization.

A. Phase I. 190800H to 212400H  
 2nd Battalion (Rein), 5th Marines LtCol CHEATHAM  
 H&S Co (-) (Rein) 1stLt DORNBACH

DOWNGRADED BY 3 YEAR INTERVALS;  
 DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS;  
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Company "E" 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines	Capt NORTON
Company "H" 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines	Capt HENDRICKSON
Company "B" 1st Battalion, 5th Marines (Returned to 1/5 at 211100H)	Capt BEAUCHAMP
Company "C" 1st Battalion, 27th Marines (Returned to 1/27 at 211030H)	Capt FARMER
Company "D" 1st Battalion, 27th Marines (Returned to 1/27 at 211030H)	Capt KAHLER

B. Phase II; 211400H to 261200H	
2nd Battalion (Rein), 5th Marines	LtCol CHEATHAM
H&S Company (-)(Rein),	1stLt DORNBACH
Company "E" from 211400H-230800H	Capt NORTON
from 230800H-261200H	1stLt POLENTZ
Company "H" from 211400H-222000H	Capt HENDRICKSON
from 222000H-261200H	1stLt KEENE
2ndPlt Company "A" 1st Tank Battalion	
from 211400H-261200H	CWO CARROLL
2ndPlt Company "A" AT, 1st Tank	
Battalion from 211400H-261200H	1stLt SMITH
Det, Co B, 1st AMTRAC, 3rd AMTRAC BN	
from 211400H-261200H	SSGT PEREZ

6. Supporting Arms.a. Fire Support

105mm	Provisional Battery, 1stFAG
8"	8" Howitzer Battery, 1stFAG
NGF	USS CONE
4.2" Mortars	H/2/13
105mm	E/2/11

1. Throughout Operation B AXTER GARDEN, fire support coordination at Battalion level was adequate. Companies were prompt in reporting their positions. Artillery and air personnel coordinated med-evacs, air strikes, and resupply missions in order that artillery fires could continue without delay once air missions were completed. Naval Gunfire was used to advantage when air missions precluded the use of artillery. Response time by supporting artillery battalions for fire missions was considered excessive in many instances; the fire was accurate.

<u>2. Fire Missions</u>	<u>Observed</u>	<u>Unobserved</u>	<u>H&amp;I's</u>
105H	22	1	47
4.2"	0	1	20
8"	1	0	0
NGF	4	5	26
81mm	15	2	45

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(3) Rounds Expended	HE	WP	ILL	HCS
105H	937	44	1	1
4.2"	190	0	0	0
NGF	423	0	0	0
8"	0	0	14	0
81mm	555	12	20	0

b. Air Support

- (1) Air support was considered outstanding throughout the operation.
- (2) A problem area existed in the AO due to the proximity of the PHU BAI Air Base, its approach corridors and the air traffic transiting the AO from DANANG to the Northern I Corps area. The lack of positive control of air at lower altitudes was exhibited by aircrews disregarding existing procedure of checking for SAVAPLANES and causing repeated check fires of artillery and to a lesser extent Naval Gun Fire.
- (3) The assault troop lifts were responsive to command requirements and were controlled and executed in an exceptional manner.
- (4) Due to the strength of fortifications Napalm, Snakeeye, and small arms were ineffective against all except fleeting targets of opportunity. Five hundred and seven hundred and fifty pound bombs, when used with suitable delay, were very effective as were Zuni and 2.75 FFAR.

c. Tank Support

- (1) Tanks were used in direct support of the companies. They enabled the companies to react aggressively and quickly against all types of enemy fire. They were also used for rapid deployment of troops into intermediate blocking positions to either flank. Excellent support was afforded blocking positions with the use of the vehicles.

d. Ontos Support

- (1) Ontos were employed in much the same manner as tanks. The ontos encountered difficulty in negotiating some tree lines and trenches but moved satisfactorily in sandy areas. Their minimal fuel capacity hampered some tactical operations.

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e. LVT Support

(1) LVT's afforded the commander a mobile and flexible CP enabling him to displace when and where he could most effectively control maneuver elements.

7. Intelligence.

a. Enemy strenght prior to the operation carried by S-2 5th Marine Regiment was two local force companies (C-116 and C-117), the 802 NVA Battalion, possible elements of the 804 Battalion, and an unknown number of local guerrillas.

b. While conducting the operation, contact was made with unidentified units up to reinforced platoon size; however, the enemy generally limited their activities to harassing by mortar, small arms and automatic weapons fire, sniping, and mining incidents. The majority of the surprise explosive devices/mines and punji pits were found on secondary trails and in hedgerows in the vicinity of the road running NW to SE from YD865262 to YD923207. ARVN forces had also planted mines in the vicinity of the compound located at YD906235.

c. The local populus in the AO was considered pro-communist, and no information of intelligence value was gained from the people. In many areas, anti-American propaganda slogans were written on the walls of uninhabited houses. The entire AO contains a network of trenchlines and spider holes; and in addition to the normal family bomb shelter, H&S company found a concealed hiding compartment under a hay stack located at YD866261. In a house located at YD854250 approximately 2500 pounds of rice (1000 pounds in sacks, 1500 pounds in straw barrels) was found and destroyed.

d. The terrain in the AO is primarily flat land, with rice paddies and graves in the vicinity of grids YD8523, 8623, 8522 and 8622. A nearly continuous inhabited treeline runs the length of the coast line from vicinity YD885252 SE, to the peninsula in the vicinity of ZD0211. Between this treeline and the road running from YD865262 SE, to YD931207 and beyond, is a stretch of sand with graves and an occasional marsh area. Of particular significance is the fact that a treeline exists from YD 905220 SE, to YD959175 that does not appear on the map. The terrain is suitable for tracked vehicles, but offers little or no cover or concealment.

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e. Captured Equipment and Casualties.

49 NVA/VC KIA (CONF)  
 11 Detainees  
 6 AK-47's  
 4 SKS's  
 1 .50 MG  
 2 M-16's  
 1 M-1  
 17 rds 60mm mortars (Chicom)  
 1 rd 60mm mortar (U.S.)  
 17 rds B-40 rockets  
 4 B-40 rocket charges  
 1 Anti-Tank mine (unk type)  
 8 M-79 rds  
 5 ChicCom Grenades  
 1 m-26 Grenade  
 50 rds .50 cal link ammo (U.S.)  
 1400 rds .30 cal link ammo (U.S.)  
 700 rds APD link ammo  
 1000 rds AK-47 ammo  
 1000 rds 5.56 ammo  
 12 1/2 lb TNT block charges w/blasting caps.  
 6 blasting caps  
 1 gas mask (Chicom)  
 7 entrenching tools  
 1 steel helmet (U.S.)  
 5 AK-47 mag  
 3 NVA packs  
 2 carrying sacks  
 5 pieces plastic  
 4 pr green utilities  
 1 khaki uniform  
 2 pr khaki shorts  
 2 pr khaki t-shirts  
 2 stretchers  
 2 first aid kits and vitamins  
 Assorted eating utensils  
 Assorted documents

f. Captured Equipment Destroyed

1 B-40 Rocket launcher  
 1 SKS Carbine  
 1 M-79 round

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2 81mm Mortar rounds  
 2 M-26 Grenades  
 2 M2A1 Anti-personnel mines  
 1 Mark II Grenade  
 2500 pounds of rice (approximately)

#### 8. Mission

- a. Phase I. To search out, locate and destroy enemy forces material, and positions; and block to support other allied forces conducting search and destroy operations in assigned AO.
- b. Phase II. Attack to the southeast to destroy enemy forces, material and positions in SOA.

#### 9. Concept of Operations.

- a. Phase I. On D-Day blocking positions were established with two companies on the North and South flanks of the AO to canalize and block enemy forces. At L-Hour on D-Day three companies plus the Battalion Command Group landed in LZ QUAIL by helicopter and attacked to the West to block enemy movement.
- b. Phase II. At H-Hour on D+3 the attack was continued to the southeast employing intermediate blocks and sweeps to destroy enemy forces.

#### 10. Execution.

On 18 April 1968, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines received Operation Order 5-68 (BAXTER GARDEN) from CO, 5th Marines to displace the Command Group and 3 companies to LZ QUAIL and commence operations on 190800H April 1968.

At 181200H, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines assumed operational control of Company B, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

At 181200H, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines assumed operational control of Companies C and D, 1st Battalion, 27th Marines.

At 190745H, Company E departed CAO DOI for LZ QUAIL by helolift.

At 190800H, Company E arrived at LZ QUAIL. See enclosure (1).

At 190820H, Company H departed CAO DOI for LZ QUAIL by helolift.

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At 190830H, Company H arrived at LZ QUAIL. See Enclosure (1).

At 19084H, the Battalion Command Group and the 61mm Mortar Platoon (-) departed CAO DOI for LZ QUAIL by helolift.

At 19085H, the Battalion Command Group arrived at LZ QUAIL. See Enclosure (1).

At 190859H, Company B, departed CAO DOI for LZ QUAIL by helolift.

At 190900H, Company H commenced the attack on Objective #7. See Enclosure (1).

At 190900H, Company E commenced the attack on Objective #1. See Enclosure (1).

At 190900H, Company E, at YD884226, received small arms fire from an unknown sized enemy force. The Company returned small arms and continued a sweep of the area. Results: 1 USMC KIA, 1 NVA/VC KIA (CONF) and the capture of 1 AK-47, 1 M-1, 1 M-16 and various documents.

At 190920H, Company B, commenced the attack toward the northern portion of Objective #1 in trace of Company E. See Enclosure (1).

At 191105H, Company B, at YD883227, received small arms fire from a squad sized enemy force located in the vicinity of YD878232. The Company returned small arms fire and continued the sweep. Results: 1 USMC MIA (EVAC).

At 191200H, Company H commenced the attack on Objective #8. See Enclosure (1).

At 191330H, Company E received 30 rounds automatic weapons fire from an enemy force of unknown size. The Company returned small arms and M-79 fire and swept through the enemy position at YD863238 with negative results.

At 191408H, Company E commenced the attack to Objective #5 and Company B, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines commenced the attack to Objective #4. See Enclosure (1).

At 191443H, Company H, on order by CO, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines seized and searched Objective #6. See Enclosure (1).

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 At 191528H, Company E at YD850231, received small arms, automatic weapons fire and B-40 rounds from a platoon size unit at YD853234. The company returned small arms, automatic weapons fire, a 60mm mortar mission, and called an airstrike on the enemy position. The area was searched with the following results: 1 USMC KIA, 6 USMC WIA (EVAC), 4 NVA/VC KIA (CONF) and the capture of 8 detainees, 4 AK-47's, 1 SKS, 1 B-40 rocket launcher (destroyed due to round in tube), 1 AK-47 magazine, 12 B-40 rounds, 1 helmet, 5½ pounds of explosives, and assorted documents.

At 191635H, Company Commanders were ordered by CO, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines to establish blocking positions and prepare night defensive positions. Company E established blocking positions in Objective #5, Company H in Objective #6, and to the SW. Company B, in Objective #4. Companies C and D, 1st Battalion 27th Marines maintained blocking positions in the vicinity of YD815245 and YD815200.

At 192007H, Company B, at YD860229, received twenty 60mm mortar rounds from the vicinity of YD864218. The Company requested missions of artillery, 81mm mortar and 60mm mortar counter-mortar fires on the enemy position. Results: 7 USMC WIA (EVAC) and 7 USMC, WIANE.

At 200400H 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines received Frag Order 28-68 from CO, 5th Marines alerting the Battalion to be prepared to commence Phase II of operation BAXTER GARDEN on 211400H April 1968.

On 20 April, all companies commenced patrol activities in Objectives #1, #3, #9, #10 and #11 while maintaining the Battalion blocking position. See Enclosure (1).

At 200905H, a platoon from Company B, on patrol at YD881235, received auto/small arms fire, a CS gas grenade, and 82mm mortar rounds from an estimated platoon of enemy at YD880231. The platoon returned automatic weapons small arms fire, 20 rounds 81mm mortar, 8 rounds 106RR, and 20 rounds 105mm artillery; air strikes of fixed wing and HU-1E gunships were conducted in support of the contact. At 201040H, one platoon and the Company B, CP were dispatched to reinforce the platoon. Results: 8 USMC KIA, 13 USMC WIA (EVAC), 7 USMC WIANE, 12 NVA/VC (CONF), 11 NVA/VC KBA (CONF), 4 SKS, 1RPD LMG, assorted munitions and documents.

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At 201025H, a platoon patrol from Company H, at YD858204, received 1000 rounds of small arms fire from 10-15 enemy at YD863204. The patrol returned 1500 rounds of small arms, 5 LAAWS, (3) 3.5 rocket rounds and 40 rounds HE and 1 WP round of 105mm artillery. Conducted a search of the area with negative results.

At 201140H, Company E, at YD849232, received 200 rounds automatic weapons/small arms fire from an enemy force located 200 meters to the southeast. The Company returned 400 rounds small arms, (6) 3.5 rocket rounds and 6 M-26 grenades and pursued the enemy by fire. Results: 2 detainees.

At 201245H, Company D, 1st Battalion, 27th Marines was ordered by CO, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines to precede to Objective #12 and search the area. See Enclosure (1).

At 201355H, a platoon from Company H, at YD867199, detonated 2 explosive devices. One was attached to a gate and the other to a bridge. Results: 2 USMC WIA (EVAC) and 1 USMC WIANE. At 201415H, the same platoon was crossing a rice paddy dike at YD868199 when a Marine detonated another explosive device. Results: 1 USMC WIA (EVAC).

At 201830H, a platoon patrol from Company E, at YD856237, received 300 rounds automatic weapons/small arms fire from 15 enemy at YD857238. The patrol called an artillery/mission of 15 rounds HE 105mm and 20 rounds of 106 RR. Results: 3 USMC WIA (EVAC). Concurrently the remainder of the Company located at YD864218. The Company requested counter-mortar fires. Twenty rounds of 81mm were fired. Results: 2 USMC KIA, 12 USMC WIA (EVAC), 1 USMC WIANE, and 2 NVA/VC KIA (CONF).

At 210617H, Company D, 1st Battalion, 27th Marines departed blocking position to link up with the armor at YD812252.

At 210730H, Company H departed Objective #6 for Objective #4. See Enclosure (1).

At 210950H, Company H moved into Objective #12. See Enclosure (1).

At 210950H, elements of Co. A, 1st Tank Battalion, Co. A-AT, 1st Tank Battalion, and Company B, 1st Amtrac Battalion were attached to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines.

At 211030H, Companies C and D, 1st Battalion, 27th Marines were returned to the operational control of 1st Battalion, 27th Marines.

At 211035, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines commenced search and destroy operations north towards Phase Line Apricot. See Enclosure (1).

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 At 211100H, Company B, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines was returned to the operational control of 1st Battalion, 5th Marines.

At 211335H, a platoon from Company H, at YD875257, detected 1 enemy hidden in a spider hole. The platoon fired 5 rounds 5.56 into the hole and searched it. Results: 1 NVA/VC KIA (CONF) and the capture of 1 AK-47 and a notebook.

At 211326H, Company H crossed Phase Line Green. See Enclosure (1).

At 211425H, a platoon from Company H, located at YD883247, had a Marine detonate a mine of unknown size and make. Results: 2 USMC WIA(EVAC). At 211548H, the same platoon now located at YD894238, detonated another mine of unknown size and make. Results: 2 USMC WIA(EVAC).

At 211605, a Marine from H&S Company detonated a booby trapped concussion grenade of unknown make at YD870258, Results: 1 USMC WIA(Nonvac).

At 211632H, A Marine from Company E detonated a booby trapped frag grenade at YD880250. Results: 1 USMC WIA(LVAC).

At 211700H, the attack southeast towards Phase Line Apple was halted and night defensive positions established from YD885246 running southeast to YD901233.

At 211728H, the Battalion Command Group set in for the night at YD898236 where a corpsman detonated a booby trapped frag grenade with trip wire. Results: 1 USMC WIA(EVAC).

At 212130H, the command group and unit commanders were holding a briefing when one of the members tripped a wire attached to a Mark II grenade rigged as a booby trap. The grenade failed to detonate and was destroyed in place.

At 220200H, Company E commenced a night march from YD885246 northeast to YD900242 then southeast to YD910232, arriving at their objective at 220430H.

At 220435H, a Marine from Company H detonated a booby trapped frag grenade at YD901233. Results: 7 USMC WIA(EVAC) and 1 USMC WIANE.

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At 220615H, the lead element of a platoon from Company E detonated a chain of grenades rigged as a booby trap at YD 894230. The grenades were below the surface of the path and detonated by trip wire. Results: 7 USMC WIA (EVAC) and 1 USMC WIANE.

At 220740H, a Marine from Company H detonated an explosive device at YD901231. Results: 2 USMC WIA (EVAC). At 220840H, another Marine from Company H detonated a booby trapped grenade with trip wire at YD900231. Results: 1 USMC WIA (EVAC).

At 220900H, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines commenced the attack southeast towards Phase Line Apple. See Enclosure (2).

At 221000H, a Marine from Company H detonated a booby trapped grenade with trip wire at YD914215. Results: 3 USMC WIA (EVAC).

At 221030H, a Marine from Company H detonated a booby trapped grenade with trip wire at YD914205. Results: 1 USMC WIA (EVAC).

At 221045H, Company E in route to a blocking position, discovered two 81mm rounds booby trapped in punji pits, 2 M-16 mines and 2 M-26 grenades with trip wires in the vicinity of YD923207. All were destroyed in place by engineers.

At 221055H, Company E with tanks and amtracs received both small arms fire and 60mm mortar rounds from YD924205. The Company returned small arms fire and swept through the area. In the area they encountered 1 female VC with a hand grenade. The VC was shot and captured. Results: 1 VC WIA POW.

At 221350H, Company E at YD928207, received automatic weapons fire from 3 or 4 enemy to the southeast. The Company returned fire and searched the area with negative results.

At 221700H, CO, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines ordered the attack halted at Phase Line Apple and night defensive positions established at YD948195. See Enclosure (3).

At 230645H, Company E commenced the attack southeast towards Phase Line Cherry. See Enclosure (3).

At 230800H, Company E detained a Vietnamese female carrying ammo, at YD948195. When questioned, she stated that she was going to sell the rounds to the VC. Company E turned her over to the Battalion S-2. Results: 1 detainee.

At 230845H, a platoon from Company E found a VC suspect in a hooch at YD960179. The VCS had severe facial injuries apparently from shrapnel. A helmet and khaki clothes were also found in the hut. Results: 1 detainee, 1 steel helmet and khaki clothes.

At 230850H, a Marine from Company H detonated a booby trapped grenade with trip wire, at YD960180. Results: 1 USMC WIA (EVAC) and 1 USMC WIA (Nonevac).

At 231015H, a squad from Company H, at YD 958176, received automatic weapons and small arms fire from 5 enemy located at YD959175. The squad returned small arms fire and employed a flame tank against the enemy position. Results: 1 NVA/VC KIA (Conf).

At 231421H, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines received Frag Order 30-68 from CO, 5th Marines to continue the attack to Phase Line Peach and halt at that position, then on order wheel and conduct a night movement to Phase Line Apple so as to reach there no later than first light on 24 April.

At 231925H, Company H and H&S Company set in night defenses at YD993143, and received 50 rounds small arms fire and two M-79 rounds from the vicinity of YD992142. Fire was not returned. Results: 2 USMC WIA (Evac).

At 240230H, night movement to Phase Line Apple commenced with 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines arriving at Phase Line Apple at 240600H. See Enclosure (2).

On 23 April 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines received information that the enemy had returned to the area in the vicinity of Bn Obj. #5. Accordingly at 240800H Company H was helolifted to Bn Obj. #12 with the mission of searching that objective and objective #5.

At 240915H, Company H, at YD849237, received sniper fire from spider holes and trench lines located at YD852233. The Company returned 50 rounds small arms fire, fourteen 60mm mortar rounds and called a mortar mission of 24 rounds 81mm mortars. A search of the area proved negative.

At 240930H, the Battalion Command Group, at YD905226, received 20 rounds sniper fire from the vicinity of YD908226. The Command Group returned 40 rounds small arms fire, 15 rounds .30 caliber machine-gun and 3 M-79 rounds. The area was not searched.

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At 240930H, H&S Company, at YD943195, reported 2 Marines were missing. ARVN reports indicated the Marines were captured by VC in the vicinity of YD992144. The area was searched by 1 platoon supported by tanks, an A.O., helicopters and PBR's. At YD241750H, ARVN sources reported the Marines were being held at YD986132.

At 241300H, Company H searched a village at YD850230, and discovered various supplies and gear. Results: Capture of 100 pounds of rice, 1400 rounds of .30 caliber ammunition, 8 M-79 rounds, 1 anti-tank mine, 5 blasting caps, 50 rounds .50 caliber ammunition, 4 ChiCom grenades, four 60mm mortar rounds, 1000 rounds 5.56 ammunition, 1 M-26 grenade.

At 241800H, Company E was helolifted to YD986132 to search for the 2 Marine MIAs.

At 242045H, a squad from Company E conducting a search at YD987136 received 25 rounds small arms fire from 4 or 5 enemy located 150 meters to the West and Northwest. The squad returned 20 rounds small arms fire with negative results.

At 242115H, Company H, at YD850230, received 500 rounds automatic weapons fire from the vicinity of YD846223, YD848223 and YD844226. The Company returned 1000 rounds small arms fire and called 5 rounds artillery plus an 81mm mission of 6 rounds. Results: 1 USMC KIA.

On 25 April, Company H, commenced the attack towards Phase Line Red and Company E continued the search for the MIA's while sweeping to rejoin the Battalion at YD825245.

At 250805H, the Battalion Command Group found 2500 pounds of rice at YD854250. Because the rice could not be transported, it was burned. Result: Destruction of 2500 pounds of VC rice.

At 251215H, A Marine from Company H detonated a booby trapped M-26 grenade with trip wire, at YD838234. Results: 1 USMC WIA (NONEVAC).

+ At 251830H, Company E, at YD945200, came in contact with 35-40 enemy at YD946193. The enemy, dressed in assorted clothes as well as green utilities, some with packs, fired 1000 small arms rounds and 35 B-40 rocket rounds. The Company returned 5000 rounds of small arms fire and called an artillery mission of 40 rounds HE 105mm. As HU 1E gunship attacked, the enemy fled to the north with Company E in close pursuit.

At 251900H, the enemy encountered a tank blocking force which expended 40 rounds 90mm, 1500 rounds .50 caliber and 5000 rounds .30 caliber machine gun fire. The sweep through the blocking position found 17 NVA/VC KIA (CONF). Results: 14 USMC WIA (NONEVAC), 17 NVA/VC KIA (CONF), plus capture of 3 B-40 rocket rounds, 1 ChiCom grenade, five ½ pound block charges with blasting caps, 1000 rounds AK-47 ammunition and various items of equipment and clothing.

At 252310H, Company E rejoined the Battalion at YD825245.

On 26 April, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines moved to an LZ in the vicinity of YD803251.

At 261015H, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines commenced a helo-lift of units to CAO DOI.

#### 11. Results.

##### a. Enemy Personnel

1. 20 NVA KIA
2. 29 VC KIA
3. 11 Detainees
4. 10 Innocent Civilians
5. 13 IWC
6. 1 CSW
7. 1 POW

##### b. Friendly Personnel

1. 13 USMC KIA
2. 40 USMC WIA Evac.
3. 11 NBC
4. 21 USMC WIA NON-Evac
5. 2 MIA
6. 2 USN WIA Evac.

#### 12. Administration and Logistics

##### a. Supply

1. Extensive use was made of Helicopter Support Teams during Operation BAXTER GARDEN. Teams moved into the field with each rifle company and with the Battalion Command Group. In addition, Helicopter Support Teams were stationed at the Regimental Rear Command Post at PHU BAI, the ammunition supply point #1, also at PHU BAI, and forward LSA at CAO DOI (ZD052027). Resupply requests were sent from each company HST to the HST with the Battalion Command Group. From there the requests were passed to the HST located at the Regimental Rear. Requests for Class I, II, and III supplies and small arms ammunition were filled from stocks pre-staged at the Regimental Rear Landing Zone.

Requests for high explosive Class V ordnance were flown out of the landing zone located in the ASP #1. No problems were encountered operating out of two separate landing zones.

2. The S-4 section sent two men to the field to travel with the Battalion Command Post where they handled resupply problems and distributed the supplies to the companies as they arrived from the rear. The S-4 Rear maintained adequate stocks of ammunition and other supplies on the landing zones to insure an orderly and uninterrupted flow of supplies to units in the field.

3. Flamethrowers were employed during the Operation. After they were used they were placed aboard helicopters and sent to the rear. The S-4 supervised the recharging of the bottles and the refilling of the tanks. In one instance the flamethrowers were recharged, filled and returned to the field in less than two hours.

b. Maintenance Normal PM of equipment was accomplished throughout the Operation. Although motor transport, communications, and the armory sections were prepared to handle any contingencies, requirements for extensive second echelon repairs were never generated by the Operation.

c. Treatment of Casualties and Hospitalization

1. At the start of Operation BAXTER GARDEN on 19 April 1968, the Battalion Aid Station Consisted of one medical officer, one chief petty officer, and three hospital corpsmen as a component of the mobile Battalion Command Post. The BAS equipment was limited to three beach bags for the first two days of the Operation, however, when LVT's became available on 21 April, a more complete mobile BAS was established utilizing an amphibious vehicle. Prior to each nightfall, the BAS located in suitable Vietnamese buildings. The S-1 provided a representative to record casualties and the S-4 representatives sorted 782 gear and weapons of the wounded personnel as they were received. Stretcher bearers consisted of company personnel, support personnel and patients with minor wounds.

2. During the Operation a total of 108 patients were seen and treated. Dead totaled 13 Marines. The Breakdown of KIA's by company is as follows: E Company, 4; H Company, 1; B Company, 1/5, 8.

3. The breakdown of the casualties is as follows: WIAE's, 43; WIANE's, 17; NBCE's 15; NBCNE's 23. The most prevalent type of injury was that caused by hand grenade and booby-trap shrapnel.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~d. Transportation.

1. Transportation of personnel and equipment to and from the AO was accomplished exclusively by helicopter . From the 21st to the end of the operation the majority of the Command Group travelled in the AO on LVT's. Four mechanical mules with 106mm recoilless rifles mounted, were employed in the Operation as were four other mules which were used to carry 81mm mortar ammunition and other Command Group supplies.

e. Communications

1. During Operation BAXTER GARDEN the proper employment of antenna RC-292 often times meant the difference between communications or none at all. The extra weight of the RC-292 was somewhat compromised by the companies carrying only the antenna head to the field while the Battalion CP group carried the complete antenna.

2. It was illustrated again during this operation that the use of the whip antenna in the field is a tactical necessity. The tape antenna simply does not guarantee the communication capability.

3. It was noted that frequencies used in the PHU LCC area were not suitable for the area of operations and this fact necessitated many frequency changes.

4. The AN/PRC-93 VHF radio was judged ineffective during the operation and it is simply not as reliable or effective as the AN/PRC-41.

f. Engineer Assistance

1. Three engineer teams consisting of a total of nine men were attached to the Battalion during Operation BAXTER GARDEN. The mission of the teams was to destroy friendly dud rounds, enemy rounds and bobby traps.

2. A total of 110 pounds of C-4 was used by the engineers during the operation. Destroyed were 282 friendly dud rounds, ten enemy bobby traps, eight B-40 rockets, three B-41 rockets, one B-40 rocket launcher, 400 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, and twelve enemy TNT hand charges. In addition to destroying the above described ordnance, the engineers proved unusually adept at discovering enemy explosive devices. The engineers employed two mine detectors during the Operation to assist them in their efforts.

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13. Commander's Analysis

Contacts with the enemy in the area of operation indicate he obviously uses the area for rice collection and rest, but does not plan to contest its control with Marine units larger than Company strength.

The majority of the terrain in the AO lends itself to the employment of tracked and small wheeled vehicles. Observation and fields of fire are excellent throughout thus denying the enemy his usual advantages of clandestine movement and impassable terrain.

14. Recommendations

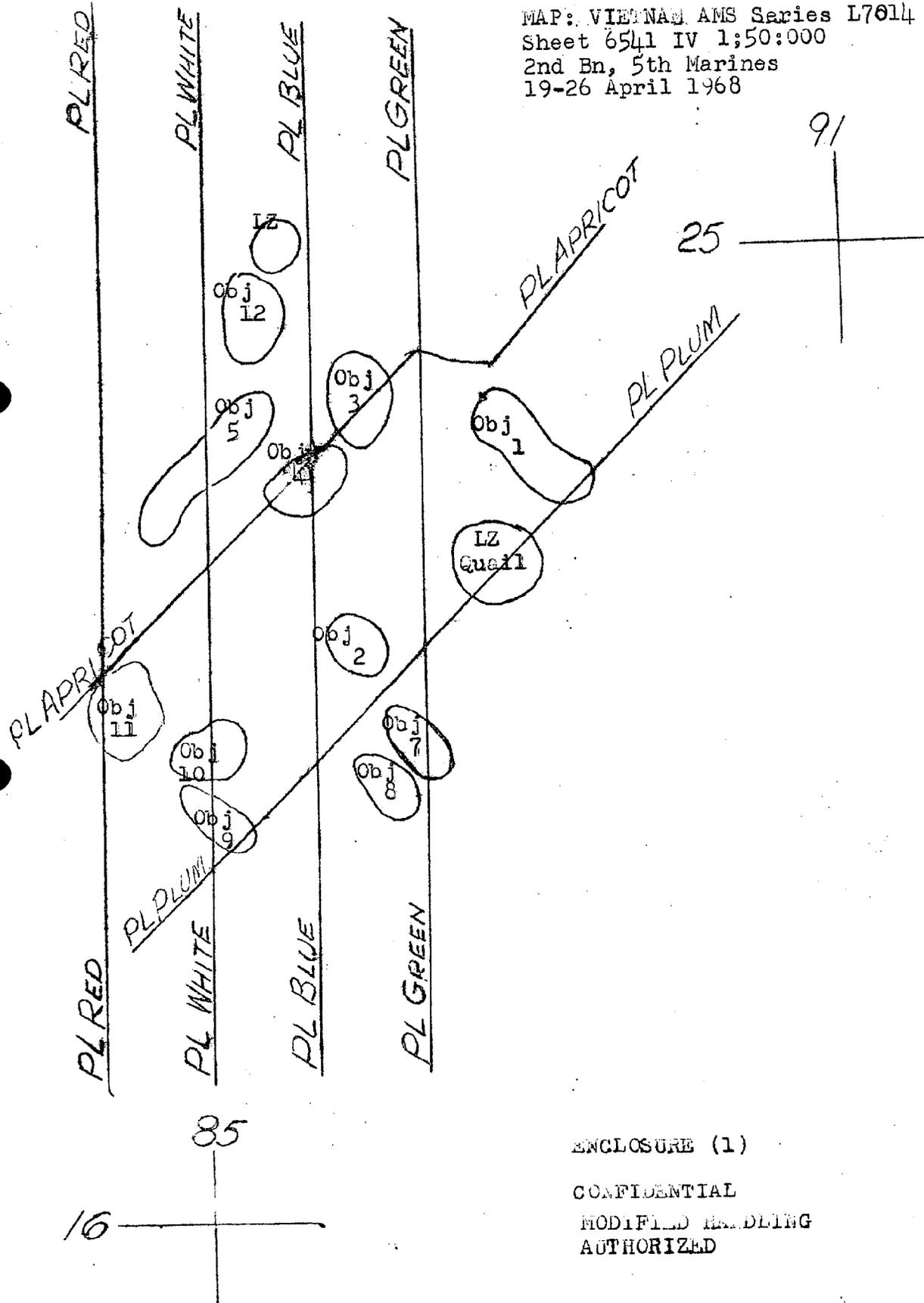
It is believed the enemy will attempt to engage friendly units up to company size at any point within the area. It is recommended that operations conducted in the area consist of either "baiting" the enemy with platoon size units capable of rapid reinforcement or conducting cordon and search operations of selected villages, ensuring the blocking forces completely isolate the objective.

*E. C. Cheatham Jr.*  
E. C. CHEATHAM JR.

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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7614  
Sheet 6541 IV 1;50:000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
19-26 April 1968



ENCLOSURE (1)

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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 IV & I 1:50:000  
2nd Bn. 5th Marines  
19-26 April 1968

PLAPPLE

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PLAPPLE

91

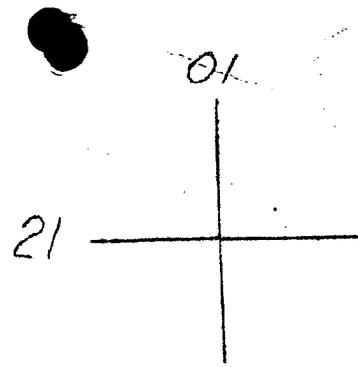
16

ENCLOSURE (2)

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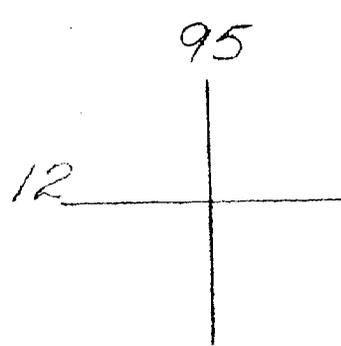
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS SERIES L7014  
Sheet 6541 I 1;50:000  
2ndBn, 5th Marines  
19-26 April 1968



*PLCHERRY*

*PLCHERRY*



*PL PEACH*

*PL PEACH*

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ENCLOSURE (3)

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AUTHORIZED

HEADQUARTERS  
2nd Battalion, 5th Marines  
1st Marine Division (Rein) FME  
FPO San Francisco, California, 96602

3/JDS/jds  
3480  
6 May 1968  
SER 022-68

From: Commanding Officer  
To: Commanding General, 1st Marine Division (Attn: G-3)  
Via: Commanding Officer, 5th Marines  
Subj: Combat Operations After Action Report, Operation HOUSTON

- Ref: (a) Maps: Vietnam 1:50,000 AMS Series L7014 Sheets 6541 I, II, III and IV; Sheets 6641 III and IV
- (b) 1st MarDiv OpO 301-68
- (c) 5th Marines OpO 301-68
- (d) 5th Marines AdminO 301-68
- (e) 5th Marines Frag Orders to OpO 301-68

- Encl: ✓(1) Operation Overlay (1)
- ✓(2) Operation Overlay (2)
- ✓(3) Operation Overlay (3)
- ✓(4) Operation Overlay (4)
- ✓(5) Operation Overlay (5)
- ✓(6) Operation Overlay (6)
- ✓(7) Operation Overlay (7)
- ✓(8) Operation Overlay (8)
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1. Code Name: Operation HOUSTON
2. Dates: 081200H March 1968 to 302400H April 1968
3. Location: Phu Loc District, Thua Thien Province, Republic of Vietnam.
4. Control or Command Headquarters:

2nd Bn (Rein), 5th Marines

LtCol E. C. CHEATHAM JR.

Co E, 2/5 081200H Mar-051200H Apr  
 051200H Apr-221200H Apr  
 221200H Apr-261200H Apr  
 261200H Apr-302400H Apr  
 Co F, 2/5 081200H Mar-302400H Apr  
 Co G, 2/5 081200H Mar-051200H Apr  
 051200H Apr-261200H Apr  
 261200H Apr-302400H Apr  
 Co H, 2/5 081200H Mar-171200H Apr  
 171200H Apr-221200H Apr  
 221200H Apr-261200H Apr  
 261200H Apr-302400H Apr  
 Co B, 1/5 081200H Mar-111200H Mar  
 H&S Co, 2/5 081200H Mar-302400H Apr

Capt P. A. DUFFY  
 Capt J. J. NORTON  
 1stLt B. T. POLENTZ  
 Capt J. J. NORTON  
 Capt M. P. DOWNS  
 Capt C. L. MEADOWS  
 1stLt W. F. HARVEY  
 1stLt B. A. DOVE  
 Capt G. H. LARSON  
 Capt G. D. HENDRICKSON  
 1stLt D. N. FLENE  
 Capt G. D. HENDRICKSON  
 1stLt J. K. TAUSEIG  
 1stLt A. A. DORNIBACH

5. Task Organization:

2nd Bn, 5th Marines

LtCol E. C. CHEATHAM JR.

H&S Co

Co E

Co F

Co G

Co H

2nd Plat, Co E, 1st Engr Bn

6. Supporting Arms.

a. Fire Support.

(1) Battery E, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines, in direct support of 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines supported unit operations in the Battalion TAOR and the Regimental AO.

(2) Additional support was provided by 2nd Gun Platoon, 3rd 8" Howitzer Battery of 1st FAG, 11th Marines and Battery W, 2nd Battalion, 13th Marines.

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(3) Significant Fire Support Events. During the month of March, Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines displaced two 155 Howitzers and four 105 Howitzers to the grid area ZC0798, to fulfill its mission of providing close and continuous fire support during the occupation of Bach Ma, as a part of Operation HOUSTON.

b. Air Support.

(1) The Battalion was well supported during Operation HOUSTON. The predominate support was med-evacs and resupply. The tactical air support was predominately soft ordnance (Snakeeyes/Napalm) because of its rapid availability. The few flights of hard ordnance (500 lb bombs/750 lb bombs/2000 lb bombs) re-established the fact of the unsuitability of soft ordnance in all but rare instances and the need of hard ordnance under the jungle canopy.

(2) Control of fixed wing aircraft in the jungle canopy is extremely difficult and occasionally impossible, due mainly to the difficulty encountered by the aircrew in maintaining visual contact with friendly units and target acquisition. FAC's also have problems marking targets and adjusting the ordnance impacts.

(3) Radio communications were satisfactory with the exception of TACP Local. This FM frequency has the Regimental Air Officer, three Battalion's Air Officers, 12 Company's FAC, any aircraft they are controlling and all transient aircraft requesting SAVAPLANES for the Regimental AO. It is recommended that the Battalion be allotted a second frequency.

7. Intelligence.

a. The enemy strength in the Battalion TAOR as carried by S-2, 5th Marines on or about 6 March 1968 was the 802 NVA Battalion (AKA:K4E), the 804 Main Force Battalion (AKA:K4), two unidentified Local Force Companies and other possible units for an estimated total strength of 1275; with their primary mission expected to be the interdiction of Highway #1 and the harassing of friendly operations.

b. Intelligence reports and enemy activities indicated that the mission of the NVA/VC was to continue the interdiction of Highway #1 by mining and sniping incidents; harassing friendly movement CAP units, bridge security units, and other friendly installations by mortar, recoilless rifle and small arms fire; and to continue to collect and transport rice. Although consistent intelligence of Battalion size units and larger were reported in the area, no contact of significant size was made. Enemy Battalions subordinate to the 4th NVA Regiment (the K4B, K4, K4C and K4D) and supporting units (the C16, C19 and C24) were reportedly based or located in the mountain region south of the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines TAOR; including the 4th NVA Regimental Headquarters, and the C118 and C119 Local Force Companies. Intelligence has

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indicated the presence of elements of the 22nd NVA Regiment operating south of the Battalion AO.

c. Captured documents and information gained from "Chieu Hoi's" confirmed the identification of enemy units, especially the K4B and K10 Battalions, and provided intelligence on unit locations, strength, weapons and equipment, and names of key personnel. "Chieu Hoi's" have also reported the location of a training area, area of operations by guerrilla units, and rice collection areas.

d. Additional intelligence information was obtained when Company H searched an area after enemy contact and found one suspected Chinese KIA. A Recon insert on 27 March 1968 observed 2 Caucasians with 2 NVA soldiers. On 23 April 1968 a Recon patrol found 1 field telephone and a pair of binoculars after contact with an enemy force of unknown size in the vicinity of ZC111959.

e. The terrain is as depicted on the map with the exception of the trail network in the mountains. The trails are covered by a dense canopy which provides excellent concealment from both land and air.

8. Mission. Provide security for the MSR by protecting Route #1 and supporting bridges, culverts and passes; support and protect friendly installations, units, convoys, road repair parties and conduct offensive operations to destroy enemy forces, material and positions.

9. Concept of Operations.

a. The Battalion established itself in the Phu Loc TAOR to keep Route #1 and all supporting bridges, culverts and passes open.

b. The Battalion established holding positions to defend the Rock Crusher (ZD021021), Cao Doi LSA, Phu Loc Fire Base and Bridge #10.

c. The Battalion conducted offensive operations in assigned TAOR to destroy enemy forces, materials and positions.

d. A contingency plan was established to support and assist the Phu Loc District Hq, CAP-H-4, CAP-H-5, CAP-H-6 and all other friendly forces and installations in the AO in event of an enemy attack.

10. Execution.

On 8 March 1968, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines sent a command group from Hue to Cao Doi, (ZD055026), to assume operational control of Company B, 1st Battalion, 5th Marines and Companies E and F, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines. Company F moved from Hue to

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 Cao Doi. On this date, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines commenced participation in Operation HOUSTON.

At 091040H, a patrol from Company E, located at ZD098983, sighted 1 NVA/VC moving south. The patrol opened fire with small arms on the enemy. Results: 1 NVA/VC KIA(CONF) and the capture of 1 AK-47.

At 091100H, a Company E recon patrol received 2 fragmentation grenades from the vicinity of ZC101979. Small arms fire was returned at the enemy position. Results: 2 USMC WIA(EVAC).

On 10 March 1968, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines CP, Companies G and H moved from Hue to Cao Doi. Company G assumed the responsibility for the security of the Truoi River Bridge, vicinity YD967063, while Company H moved to the Rock Crusher area, ZD013025, bringing the remainder of the Battalion into Operation HOUSTON.

At 101215H, a patrol from Company E, located at ZC103982, received 7 rounds of 60mm mortar fire. The patrol returned 25 rounds of 81mm mortar at a known enemy position at ZC106986.

At 111715H, a platoon from Company E, located at ZC104969, received mortar and small arms fire from an unknown number of enemy in the vicinity of ZC105970. The platoon returned small arms fire and called in HULE gunships to hit the enemy position. The platoon swept through the area after the air strike. Results: 2 NVA/VC KIA(CONF) and 11 fighting holes with covers destroyed.

On 12 March, the 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines Command Group, Companies E, H and G (-) began a 7 day search and destroy operation as part of Operation HOUSTON. This mission took the Battalion back into the hills and jungle terrain after nearly a month of street fighting in Operation HUE CITY. The transition back to this type warfare was easily accomplished and small unit leadership proved excellent as heavy terrain hampered movement and communications. Although contact was light, discovery of numerous enemy trails and camp sites, along with valuable information on local terrain, made the operation profitable. In addition, two of the enemy killed were of important rank or highly skilled: an NVA supply officer and an NVA medical officer. See Enclosure (3).

At 141030H, a Company E platoon sighted 1 NVA/VC in the vicinity of YC982963. The platoon fired an M-79 round at the enemy and pursued him. At YC978969, the platoon discovered a site used as an assembly area with signs that it had been recently used. See Enclosure (2).

At 141145H, a perimeter guard from Company E, located at YC989969, sighted 1 NVA/VC with a carbine, wearing black tops and khaki bottoms, proceeding south from the high ground on the west side of the river, vicinity YC989969. The Marine opened fire with small arms on the enemy with negative results. See Enclosure (4).

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At 141155H, a Company E platoon observed 1 NVA/VC with a bolt action rifle proceeding east along a trail on the ridge line, vicinity ZC008981. The enemy walked into an ambush site set up by the platoon. Results: 1 NVA/VC KIA (CONF) and 1 bolt action rifle destroyed. See Enclosure (4).

At 141520H, a platoon from Company E, located at YC976972, observed 7 NVA/VC in a small harbor site at the above coordinates, wearing green utilities and heavy packs. The patrol opened fire on the enemy and swept through the area. They discovered 1 NVA/VC KIA and a wounded NVA/VC plus several packs containing new utilities, rice and documents. The NVA/VC POW died of wounds during evacuation. Results: 2 NVA/VC KIA (CONF) and the capture of 1 AK-47, utilities, rice and numerous documents. See Enclosure (4).

At 151305H, a squad from Company E was patrolling north on a trail at YC972972, when an enemy opened fire with an AK-47 from the immediate area. The squad returned fire and attempted to maneuver around the enemy. In a search of the area, 3 expended AK-47 rounds were discovered and a trail of blood in a northerly direction. See Enclosure (6).

At 151445H, a squad from Company E observed 1 enemy proceeding down a trail, vicinity YC973975, wearing a brown khaki uniform. As the enemy entered the ambush site, the squad opened fire with small arms. A search of the area revealed 1 enemy KIA, assumed to have been an NVA medical officer. Results: 1 NVA/VC KIA (CONF) and the capture of 1 .45 caliber pistol, 1 holster, 1 khaki uniform, several rounds of .45 caliber ammunition and numerous medical documents. See Enclosure (6).

At 161000H, a platoon patrol from Company E found an explosive device at ZC097989. The booby trap was constructed from a ChiCom hand grenade with a trip wire firing device attached. Engineers destroyed the device in place.

At 161030H, a point element from Company F, proceeding along a trail, encountered 4 NVA/VC at ZC106984. The enemy was armed with 1 AK-47 and 3 carbines, fired 20 rounds of small arms at the lead element. The lead element returned 30 rounds of small arms fire and 5 M-79 rounds, wounding 2 of the enemy. The enemy broke contact and fled to the southeast. A fire mission was requested on grid ZC106982. The platoon swept the area with negative results. See Enclosure (7).

At 161030H, the lead element from Company H was in the vicinity of YC992971 on patrol when the enemy opened fire with automatic weapons. The lead element returned small arms and 1 LAAW into the enemy position. Results: 1 NVA/VC KIA (CONF) and the capture of 1 AK-47 and 1 wallet with NVA money. See Enclosure (7).

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At 171215H, a platoon from Company F spotted 1 NVA/VC with an AK-47 at ZC116974. The platoon opened fire with small arms. The area was searched and a grave was found which contained the body of a man wearing white clothes over a green uniform, dead for approximately two to three weeks. Also found were spider holes covering 500 meters of trail. Due to the dense vegetation no trace could be found of the NVA/VC with the AK-47 rifle. Results: 1 NVA/VC KIA (CONF). See Enclosure (9).

At 171445H, a Company E platoon, located at ZC004971, received 9 60mm mortar rounds and 300 rounds of small arms fire from the vicinity of ZC005975. The platoon returned small arms/automatic weapons fire, 15 M-79 rounds and 24 rounds of 105mm artillery. A search of the area produced negative results. See Enclosure (9).

At 171620H, a squad patrol from Company E was heading north, vicinity ZC000934, along the river, when they received automatic weapons fire and grenades. The squad returned small arms/automatic weapons fire, 20 M-79 rounds, 13 60mm mortar rounds, an artillery mission of 4.2" mortars, 105/155 Howitzer fire, HULE gunships and fixed wing aircraft. Results: 2 USMC WIA(EVAC). See Enclosure (9).

On 18 March 1968, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines began a search and destroy mission as another phase of Operation HOUSTON. This mission took the Battalion into rugged terrain which hampered movement and communications as well as supply. Heavy vegetation and steep hilly terrain characterized the route which the Battalion followed into the area of Bach Ma, vicinity ZC057925. The Battalion was the first Marine unit to occupy this region, which has been a NVA/VC area of control since the early 1950's. Although enemy contact was light, the occupation of the area proved several things. First it demonstrated that 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines can operate under the most difficult terrain and conditions while still maintaining a high degree of excellence in performance. Secondly, entering this area for the first time demonstrated conclusively that these Marines can go anywhere when the situation arises. This phase of Operation HOUSTON must be considered an important tactical and physical accomplishment. See Enclosure (10).

At 221015H, a platoon patrol from Company F, at ZC093955, observed 1 NVA/VC in the vicinity of ZC085946, wearing skivvy shorts with a towel and an M-1 rifle. A second NVA/VC appeared as the patrol opened fire, and the enemy fired 15-20 rounds of small arms fire before fleeing to the southeast. The patrol returned fire and swept the area with negative results.

At 241600H, a Popular Forces patrol reported to Company H that they had discovered 2 satchel charges (150 1/2 pound blocks of TNT and 2 blasting caps) near a Buddhist Temple at YD984047. Also 2-3 enemy were observed fleeing the area, but the distance involved prevented identification of their clothing. The patrol searched the area and brought the satchel charges to the Company H CP.

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then forwarded to the Battalion rear CP. Results: Capture of 2 satchel charges containing 150 ½ pound blocks of TNT and 2 blasting caps. See Enclosure (18)

At 250415H, a squad from Company H, located at YD985049, received 1 hand grenade from the vicinity of YD985049. The squad returned 20 rounds of small arms fire, 50 rounds of 81mm mortar and 20 rounds of 60mm mortar. Results: 3 USMC WIA (EVAC). See Enclosure (19)

At 251820H, a CAP patrol from YD973043 found 1 B-40 rocket launcher at YD982048 and 2 dead NVA/VC at YD973043. The dead enemy were thought to be the result of the previous night's H&I fire. The CAP patrol reported to the Company H CP. Results: 2 NVA/VC KIA (CONF) and the capture of 1 B-40 rocket launcher.

At 251845H, a Company E recon patrol, located at ZC059925, discovered a quantity of equipment and an emplacement, believed to be a NVA/VC camp site. At first light a complete search of the area was made. Results: 15 fly tents of U.S. manufacture, 1 NVA canvas boot, 1 syringe vial of an unknown fluid were captured and 4 one man fighting holes were destroyed.

At 310315H, Company G in a defensive night position at ZC078-985, received 20 rounds of 82mm mortar from the vicinity of ZC085-967. The Company returned an 81mm mortar mission on the suspected enemy location. Results: 1 USMC WIA (EVAC)

At 310320H, Battery E, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines, located at ZD022022, received 25-30 rounds of 82mm mortar/rocket fire from the vicinity of YD973017. The Battery returned 21 rounds of 8" artillery fire on the enemy position. Results: 1 USMC WIA (EVAC).

At 310445H, the SeaBees, located at ZD022022, received 25-30 rounds of 82mm mortar and 10 rounds of 57mm RR fire from the vicinity of YD973017. Fire was returned into the suspected enemy position by 81mm mortars and 8" artillery. Results: 5 USN KIA, 8 USN WIA (EVAC) and 3 USMC WIA (EVAC).

At 310720H, a USA engineer team was sweeping Route #1 headed west, at ZD102009, when their vehicle struck a mine, composed of a 50 pound charge, and severely damaged the vehicle. A wrecker was called but it also detonated a mine at ZD102008 composed of a point detonating ChiCom claymore and another vehicle was summoned. Results: 4 USA WIA (EVAC) and 2 CAP USMC WIA (EVAC).

At 310920H, an H&S Company road sweep vehicle was damaged by a command detonated mine at ZD065012. A search of the area produced negative results. Results: 4 USMC WIA (EVAC).

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At 010210H April 1968, the 3rd platoon of Company H, at ZD153-010, received 2 hand grenades from the vicinity of ZD154011. The platoon returned 18 rounds of small arms fire and a search of the area produced negative results.

At 011815H, a Company G platoon on patrol at ZC092982, encountered 3 NVA in uniforms with helmets, cartridge belts and weapons at ZC094981. The patrol opened fire with automatic weapons/small arms fire and 81mm mortars causing the enemy to break contact. Results: 1 NVA/VC KIA(CONF) and 1 NVA uniform and individual equipment captured. See Enclosure (31).

At 011835H, a squad from Company H moving to an ambush site at ZD103012 received 15 rounds of small arms fire from the vicinity ZD102017. Approximately five minutes later the squad received small arms fire from ZD103008 and ZD097008. The squad returned automatic weapons/small arms fire and 81mm mortars and then proceeded to the ambush site by an alternate route. See Enclosure (31).

At 011935H, a squad from Company F enroute to an ambush site discovered 11 empty 57mm RR containers and 16 expended cannister rounds at ZD013014. In the immediate vicinity, 4 sites had blood trails and various parts of bodies, probably the results of an 81mm mortar mission. Results: 1 NVA/VC KIA(CONF). See Enclosure (31).

At 031122H, a reinforced squad patrol from Company E departed its base camp and encountered a booby trapped fragmentation grenade at ZC104974. A med-evac was requested and a search of the area conducted. Results: 2 USMC WIA(EVAC). See Enclosure (34).

At 031250H, a squad patrol from Company E observed 1 enemy proceeding down a trail in a northwesterly direction at ZC107976. The squad opened fire with 25 rounds of small arms fire and physically pursued the enemy as he fled. Results: 1 SKS captured. At 031440H, the squad still in pursuit was on a trail at ZC111971, when they received fire from bushes adjacent to the trail. The squad returned 300 rounds small arms fire and 10 M-79 rounds, then maneuvered to flank the enemy. Results: 1 USMC KIA and 2 USMC WIA(EVAC).

At 040150H, a Company F platoon in a defensive position at ZD016022 received 23 rounds HE 82mm mortars, with 6 impacting within their perimeter. They returned 500 rounds of .50 caliber machine-gun fire and 130 rounds of 81mm mortars. At first light a squad was sent to search the suspected enemy mortar site. The squad discovered several spider holes and 1 ChiCom grenade at ZD014012. Results: 1 ChiCom grenade captured and several spider holes destroyed.

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At 050230H, a squad ambush from Company H, at ZD116016, received 1 grenade and 15 rounds of small arms fire from the vicinity of ZD116015. The squad returned 3 grenades, 30 rounds small arms fire. A search of the area was conducted. Results: 1 USMC WIA (EVAC). See Enclosure (38).

At 070740H, a road sweep composed of engineers and a Company F security squad detonated a 15-20 pound box mine at ZC083993. The mine was in a dirt top section of the road, with dirt firmly packed on top of the mine. The surrounding area was searched with negative results. Results: 4 USMC WIA (EVAC).

At 090930H, a squad patrol from Company F found a mortar site at ZD001007. A search revealed fresh spider holes and various items. Results: 18 blood plasma containers, mortar aiming sights, safety caps and pins were captured and several spider holes destroyed. See Enclosure (45).

At 091030H, a platoon from Company F discovered old fighting holes and 4 cannisters of unknown ordnance while searching the vicinity of ZD055006. The area was thoroughly searched and the cannisters brought to the Company CP for examination. Results: Several fighting holes destroyed and 4 cannisters of unknown ordnance captured.

At 091345H, Company E CP received 18 rounds of 82mm mortars in their perimeter at ZC077986, from the vicinity of ZC091973. The following ordnance was returned: 65 rounds of 60mm mortar, 300 rounds of 81mm mortars, 14 rounds of 106 RR and 125 rounds of 105mm artillery. Results: 2 USMC WIA (EVAC) and 2 USMC WIA NE.

At 101130H, a platoon from Company E on a search and clear mission found a mortar site believed to have been used for the attack on Company E CP on 9 April. A search of the area, at ZC114-976, uncovered 5 fighting holes and 2 82mm mortar base plate impressions. Artillery was registered on the site for future reference. Results: 5 fighting holes destroyed. See Enclosure (47).

At 101320H, a platoon patrol from Company E discovered another mortar site at ZC093973. The site contained 4 fighting holes and the impression of an 82mm mortar base plate. The site was registered with artillery. Results: 4 fighting holes destroyed. See Enclosure (47).

At 102030H, a platoon from Company H received 200 rounds of automatic weapons/small arms fire and 6 grenades from the vicinity of ZC157991. The platoon returned 400 rounds of small arms fire, 1 LAWS and an artillery mission of 6 rounds HE 105mm. As the enemy fled, another artillery mission was called on the routes of enemy egress. Results: 1 USMC WIA NE. See Enclosure (48).

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At 110006H, a squad ambush from Company H observed a large enemy movement at ZD156002 and opened fire with small arms. The enemy fled the area and the squad pursued by fire. A search of the area at first light produced negative results. See Enclosure (48).

At 110429H, a platoon from Company H, acting as a blocking force at ZC158992, encountered an enemy rice supply column and received 300-400 rounds of small arms/automatic weapons fire. The platoon returned 400 rounds of small arms, 6 M-26 grenades and 2 LAWS with illumination supplied by artillery. Results: 1 USMC KIA, 12 NVA/VC KIA (CONF), and the capture of 1 SKS, 1 AK-47 and 3 TNT charges. See Enclosure (48).

At 110940H, a platoon from Company H on a search and clear mission received 10 to 12 rounds of 60mm mortars at ZC154993. An artillery mission of 25 rounds HE 105mm was called on the suspected enemy mortar site at ZC150980. Results: 4 USMC WIA/NE. See Enclosure (48).

At 121215H, Company G while on a reconnaissance mission discovered a two month old harboring site at ZC176980. The site contained one fortified bunker intact and another which had taken a direct hit from artillery. Various items and bits of clothing were found and sent to the Battalion CP for inspection. Results: 1 bunker destroyed and the capture of 4 ChiCom grenades, 1 M-16 magazine and 1 empty NVA pack. See Enclosure (49).

At 131015H, a platoon from Company G on patrol, received 4 M-79 rounds and six 60mm mortar rounds at ZC180971. The fire was believed to have come from the vicinity of ZC182962. The platoon moved to flank the enemy and at ZC180970 discovered an enemy base camp. A search of the area revealed 1 NVA body, 10-14 days old, and various items. Results: 1 USMC WIA/NE, 1 NVA KIA (CONF) and the capture of 2 B-40 rocket charges, 1 ChiCom grenade with trip wire and 3 NVA claymore mines. See Enclosure (49).

At 131610H, a Marine from Company G detonated an NVA claymore mine with pull release detonator at ZC174973. Results: 1 USMC KIA (EVAC). See Enclosure (49).

At 131959H, a squad from Company H enroute to an ambush site received automatic weapons/small arms fire at ZD130010 from the vicinity of ZD128012. The squad returned small arms/automatic weapons fire and called for support fire: 8 rounds of 4.2" mortars and ten rounds 105mm artillery HE. The suspected area was searched and the squad proceeded to the ambush site by an alternate route. Results: 2 electrical detonated blasting caps and 1 bayonet captured. See Enclosure (55).

At 132330H, a fire team from Company E was on patrol when its

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point man observed 1 enemy crouched by the side of the road at ZC083998. The Marine opened fire with his M-16. The enemy returned a burst from an M-16 rifle before fleeing in a northeasterly direction. The fire team followed blood trails to a rice paddy where two more enemy, wearing white, were observed and fired at, causing the enemy to flee. The fire team searched the area under 20 rounds of 60mm illumination and 5 rounds of 4.2" illumination but could find no trace of enemy casualties. See Enclosure (55).

At 141945H, a platoon from Company H on patrol at ZD140029 received 6 rounds of small arms fire. A scout-sniper attached to the platoon observed an enemy at ZC141945, through a "Starlight" scope. The scout-sniper fired ten rounds. Results: 1 NVA/VC KIA(CONF).

At 142030H, a platoon from Company H, at ZD142029, observed 10-15 enemy on the opposite side of the river in the vicinity of ZD142028. The platoon opened fire with 14 rounds of M-79, 100 rounds of machine-gun and 125 rounds of small arms fire. The area was searched at first light with negative results.

At 160045H, a platoon ambush from Company H, at ZD158019, observed 10-15 enemy at ZD156101. The enemy fired 5 B-40 rocket rounds and 3 rifle grenades into the ambush site. The platoon returned 5 LAAWS, 1 claymore mine, 75 rounds M-79, 500 rounds small arms fire, 200 rounds automatic weapons fire and 20 rounds of HE 81mm mortars. At first light a search of the area produced 3 enemy dead and 1 wounded POW plus various items. Results: 3 NVA/VC KIA(CONF), 1 POW (WIA), and the capture of 5 NVA claymore mines, 1 SKS, 7 bandoliers of 7.62 and seven 35 pound bags of rice. See Enclosure (58).

At 161925H, 2 squads from Company H were moving towards an ambush site when at ZD149022, they received 5 B-40 rocket rounds and 200 rounds small arms fire from 20-30 enemy in the vicinity of ZD151023. The squads returned 300 rounds of small arms fire, 20 rounds M-79 and called in an 81mm mortar mission of 42 rounds search and traverse fire: ZD151028-ZD157030. A subsequent squad sweep of the area produced negative results. See Enclosure (60).

## 11. Results.

### a. Enemy Casualties and Captured Equipment.

33 NVA/VC KIA(CONF)  
 1 POW (WIA)  
 14 Detainees  
 4 AK-47's  
 1 K-44  
 2 SKS Carbines

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1 B-40 Rocket Launcher  
 1 .45 Caliber Pistol  
 1 Bolt Action Carbine (Destroyed)  
 8 Claymore Mines  
 100 rounds, AK-47 Ammunition  
 700 rounds, 7.62 Link Ammunition (U.S.)  
 152 ½ pound Blocks, TNT Charges  
 10 Blasting Caps  
 2 Electrical Detonating Devices  
 3 ChiCom Grenades  
 1 Mortar Aiming Sight  
 1 M-16 Bayonet  
 1 Knife  
 1 US Cartridge Bolt  
 1 NVA Cartridge Belt  
 2 ChiCom Grenade Pouches  
 1 M-16 Magazine Pouch  
 2 NVA Packs  
 1 Hammock  
 2 Pieces of Plastic  
 2 Pair, Green Utilities  
 1 Khaki Uniform  
 250 pounds Rice (Approximately)  
 1 Sight Box, 82mm Mortar  
 2 Flash Lights  
 1 Helmet Liner (U.S.)  
 Assorted Documents

b. Friendly Personnel.

3 USMC KIA  
 38 USMC WIA (EVAC)  
 13 USMC WIANE  
 24 NBC (EVAC)  
 5 NBCNE

12. Administrative Matters.

a. With the LSA established less than 500 meters from the Battalion Command Post there was no need for the Battalion's logistics section to maintain large stocks of supplies. Available at the LSA were Class I, limited Class II (batteries, salt and halizone tablets, insect repellent, etc), Class III, limited Class IV (sandbags, barbed wire, concertina), and Class V supplies. Only S-4 personnel or company supply men accompanied by an S-4 representative were allowed to draw supplies. A "shopping list" was presented to the LSA supply personnel and supplies were then issued. Supplies not available at the LSA were stocked by the Battalion's logistics section. These were mainly items of 782 gear and clothing. A system was established whereby the companies turned in soiled utilities for clean ones. The soiled utilities were sent to the rear where they were cleaned and returned.

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to the forward for re-issue.

b. All resupply missions originated out of the Battalion's command post area at Cao Doi. The M-35 trucks assigned to the Battalion by the Regiment were used to carry the supplies to the companies stationed along Route #1. The trucks were located at the LSA and the Battalion's forward supply under the supervision of a S-4 representative and a S-4 representative normally accompanied the resupply truck to its destination. Under normal conditions companies were resupplied every other day. Often, due to tactical commitments, this schedule could not be adhered to and more frequent supply runs were required.

c. The Battalion maintained a radio relay station atop Hill 200, ZD052013, during Operation HOUSTON. As there were no roads to the summit, resupply was accomplished by air. Helicopters were called every other day and food, water and other needed supplies were flown to the radiomen and security personnel stationed on the hill. Company H CP was also resupplied by air for a two week period when it was situated atop a hill, ZD114010, not easily accessible by motor vehicle.

d. During the month of March two Battalion (-) operations were conducted. The first explored the Truoi River Valley, 12-19 March, and the second took the Battalion to Bach Ma, 22-31 March. Helicopter support teams moved with the companies and the Battalion Command Group on each occasion and resupply was accomplished exclusively by air. During these two operations the company commanders passed their resupply requests to their respective HST's. The team leaders in turn passed the requests to the team traveling with the Battalion Command Group. Requests were scrutinized by both the HST leader and the S-4 representative before they were passed to the HST stationed at the LSA in the rear.

e. At the LSA the HST commander received the requests and a list of those items the LSA did not possess was sent to the Battalion S-4 Officer who filled the requests and returned the needed items to the HST. All supplies were then staged in one area and helicopters carried them to the field.

f. Water was plentiful during both operations. Therefore, it was not necessary to send resupplies of water to the field. This made resupply efforts easier and required the use of fewer helicopters. (It should be noted that a filled 5 gallon water can weighs nearly as much as two cases of "C" rations.)

g. Maintenance.

(1) Preventive Maintenance. Normal preventive maintenance procedures were conducted throughout Operation HOUSTON.

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(2) Contact Teams. Contact teams were requested for ordnance and generator problems. All of the Battalion's 81mm mortars and 106 recoilless rifles were inspected by the ordnance contact team and a report was made to the Battalion Ordnance Officer. Using this report, the Ordnance Officer initiated a program to insure that all of the weapons requiring repair were sent to the rear for work. The contact team that came to repair the PU-239 generator was able to accomplish its mission on the spot and evacuation was not necessary.

(3) Motor Transport. Because such a large percentage of the Battalion's motor transport assets were being employed in the field a mechanic was assigned to the forward logistics section. Through his efforts many vehicles that normally would have required evacuation to the rear were repaired in the field. The mechanic also assisted and instructed the forward command post motor transport dispatcher in the inspection of drivers maintenance. Through efforts such as these many mechanical breakdowns were averted.

(4) Support from FLSG-A. When it was determined that an item of equipment needed third echelon maintenance it was immediately evacuated to the rear. There a Tactical Equipment Repair Order (TERO) was drafted and the item was carried to FLSG-A. During Operation HOUSTON, items of ordnance, communications, engineer and motor transport equipment were sent to FLSG-A for repair.

#### h. Transportation.

(1) Organic. The Battalion's motor transport assets were extensively employed during Operation HOUSTON. Company Commanders made continual use of their M-422A1 Mighty Mites and the logistics section employed a M-37 Personnel Carrier for resupply activities. Over half of the Battalion's M271A2 Mules were used, either with the 106mm Recoilless Rifle Platoon or as cargo carriers. A dispatcher and a mechanic were brought forward from the Battalion rear. Through the efforts of the dispatcher more effective control and greater utilization of the vehicles was achieved. (The mechanic's functions were discussed under the maintenance section).

#### (2) TAD Vehicles.

(a) Of the M-35, 2½ ton, 6X6 vehicles assigned TAD to the Regiment, this battalion was given the exclusive use of them. Without these vehicles resupply of the companies would have been impossible. The trucks hauled many tons of supplies to the companies during the months of March and April. Troop movements were also effected using these trucks. Beginning early in April hot meal a day was carried to the companies using the TAD vehicles.

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(b) A daily "administration run" to the Battalion rear at Phu Bai was set up by the S-4 shortly after the Battalion Command Post was established at Cao Doi. This run, which was made by one of the TAD vehicles, carried troops (for R&R, rotation, or administrative problems), guard mail, U. S. Mail and equipment requiring repair, to the rear. The truck reported to the S-4 rear where troops, mail and resupply items were pre-staged for the return trip.

i. Communications-Electronics.

(1) Upon the Battalion's return from Hue City equipment combat losses were requisitioned and an extensive Preventative Maintenance program was begun. All Battalion radio's were remoted to the top of Hill 200, in order to facilitate more effective control of companies in the Battalion TAOR.

(2) During Operation HOUSTON, frequent use was made of relay points when "dead space" was encountered and during times when the RC-292's could not be employed due to the tactical situation.

(3) Operation HOUSTON saw an increase in the number of radios that required repair. This was due to the extensive use of the radios during the two months preceeding Operation HOUSTON. The radios were replaced on a one for one basis with a minimum number requiring third echelon maintenance.

(4) When the Battalion Command Group was on the move a mobile radio-relay was employed in an effort to find the most suitable area for reception. A MRC-109 was utilized for this purpose and it succeeded in providing communications at critical periods when terrain precluded effective communications with the CP at Cao Doi.

j. Medical Evaluation.

(1) On 6 March 1968, the forward Battalion Aid Station departed Hue City and drove by truck convoy to the railroad tunnel at Cao Doi. The new forward BAS consisted of one Medical Officer, one Chief Hospital Corpsmen and seven Hospital Corpsmen. The 100 x 8 foot area allocated to the BAS was covered with a flooring of wooden pallets on which canvas cots and stretchers were placed for the care of the patients and the billeting of BAS personnel. Wooden shelves were constructed to contain the medications and the medical instruments. The electric lights, installed by the communications section, illuminated the sick call area to the degree that minor surgery could be performed at all times. Having a cool environment in the tunnel, patients with elevated temperatures were treated and observed temporarily on the ward in comfortable surroundings before being either sent to the rear BAS

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or returned to their respective companies. Each company in the field had from 6-8 Hospital Corpsmen during Operation HOUSTON.

(2) A portion of the Battalion Aid Station was sent to the Phu Loc Fire Base to set up an accessory BAS prior to the operation on Bach Ma mountain. This BAS was established in a sandbag, corrugated metal and timber bunker. The medical supplies were limited to those contained in three beachbags but would have permitted the BAS to handle resulting battle casualties. However, due to the absence of enemy contact, the only patients seen were those at sick call for ear infections, skin disorders, dysentery and other minor illnesses. Two Hospital Corpsmen and the Chief Hospital Corpsman were sent to the top of Bach Ma to handle the medical requirements of the men on the top of the mountain, leaving one Medical Officer and four Hospital Corpsmen at the Phu Loc Fire Base BAS for approximately one week. Three days prior to the descent from Bach Ma the accessory BAS at Phu Loc returned to the tunnel.

(3) On the return of the Battalion to the tunnel, many foot blisters were treated and a four man shot team began immunizations. In two increments, a total of 815 Battalion personnel were immunized with 2097 injections.

(4) On 9 April 1968, the MCB Rock Crusher installation was attacked by enemy mortars, accounting for seven WIA's in our TAOR. The two KIA's resulting from this action were attributed to the crash of a medical evacuation helicopter at the Rock Crusher. The charred human bones salvaged from the wreckage were sent to the morgue with two sets of identification tags found at the site.

(5) Three highly successful Med Caps were held by the Battalion Aid Station. The Battalion Surgeon and two Hospital Corpsmen visited the village of Nha Tho Nuoc Ngot on April 15th and 16th; on April 17th the Vietnamese Naval Station at Thon Phu An was visited by the Med Cap personnel. Over 200 men, women and children were treated during the three Med Caps.

(6) The total number of patients seen during Operation HOUSTON was 745, with 3 KIA's, 2 WIA's, 5 WIANE and 735 NBC's. Of the non-battle casualties, 125 were evacuated; the remaining 620 were not. The most significant casualty producing agent was diarrhea, secondary to bacterial or amoebic gastro-intestinal infection. A tactically significant finding was the incidence of ear infections (otitis externa) produced by the algae in the river water at the Phu Loc Fire Base and the Troui River Bridge.

(7) It should be added that a Rear BAS was maintained in Phu Bai for the care of the patients sent from the Forward BAS. A daily sick call was held at this installation in addition to the

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maintenance of the medical records and supply sections. The medical ward of the BAS was utilized not only for 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines patients, but also for patient overflow from Company C, 1st Medical Battalion, the regimental Aid Station and other BAS's in the Regiment. The Rear BAS, initially set up in three tents, moved from the tents into three Sea Huts during the latter part of April. This move provided improved facilities for the Battalion Aid Station's patients.

k. Engineer Assistance.

(1) Road Sweeps. The primary mission of the attached engineer platoon was to sweep assigned areas of road within the Battalion's TAOR. A total of 12,000 meters of road was covered daily. During Operation HOUSTON there were three significant mine incidents. On 31 March a command controlled directional mine was detonated at ZD065013 injuring one engineer. On 7 April a M-37 truck was destroyed, ZC082991, by a 15 pound command detonated mine. Two engineers and four members of the mine sweep security squad were also injured. On 15 April, using a P-153 mine detector, the engineers located a 12 pound box mine, ZC004994. The mine was removed from the road with a grappling hook and destroyed.

(2) Other Engineer Duties. In addition to their mine sweep activities, the engineers assisted the Battalion in other ways. They made ditches and constructed small bridges in the command post area to improve drainage. They hauled fill to low wet areas in the command post, and with their heavy equipment dug trash pits. They also destroyed the Battalion's Class III ordnance.

(3) Operations. Engineer teams accompanied the Battalion on its operations into the Troui River Valley and Bach Ma areas. Teams travelled both with the command group and the companies. They located and destroyed enemy explosive devices and dud rounds. They also cleared and prepared landing zones in thick jungle canopy. On the Bach Ma operation the engineers employed a mine detector to search for possible mines on the road between the Phu Loc Fire base and Bach Ma. Although the road was not passable all the way to Bach Ma, the engineers made bypasses and destroyed obstructions enabling the Battalion Command Group vehicles to travel along the road further than it would have been able to had the improvements not been made.

l. Mess Facilities. On 22 March a field messhall was established at the Battalion's forward command post at Cao Doi. Initially, one hot meal was prepared each day. Command post personnel and members of line companies in the command post area ate at the messhall. Vacuum cans were used to carry food to the line companies in the field. About the middle of April, the messhall began serving a breakfast meal for all personnel in the command post area. Late in the month the messhall began to send breakfast to the

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line companies in the field. Due to the limited number of cooks in the field and problems of transportation, the schedule was irregular with companies normally receiving an "A" ration breakfast once a week. The meal usually consisted of fruit, cereal, eggs to order, bacon or sausage, creamed beef on bread and coffee or milk. All "A" ration meals sent to the field were well received.

### 13. Commander's Analysis.

The Battalion's primary mission during Operation HOUSTON was to protect the Division MSR in its area of operations. During this reporting period the command successfully accomplished its mission. Two techniques were employed by the Battalion in accomplishing its assigned tasks: first, routes of approach to vital installations were ambushed with regularity, usually with reinforced squads; secondly, a vigorous program of spoiling attacks into the canopy area adjacent to the MSR was initiated in an effort to keep the enemy off balance and from massing his forces.

The Phu Loc District Headquarters, Construction Battalion Rock Crusher, and IBA were defended in much the same manner. The Battalion forces were usually divided equally between these two tasks.

At present the Battalion TACR contains four fixed positions requiring security forces. A minimum of one platoon at each is required enabling the Battalion to maintain an offensive disposition.

### 14. Recommendations.

It is recommended that Battery E, 2nd Battalion, 11th Marines be moved to Cao Doi and the Phu Loc Fire Base closed. This would enable the Battalion to free more forces for offensive operations.

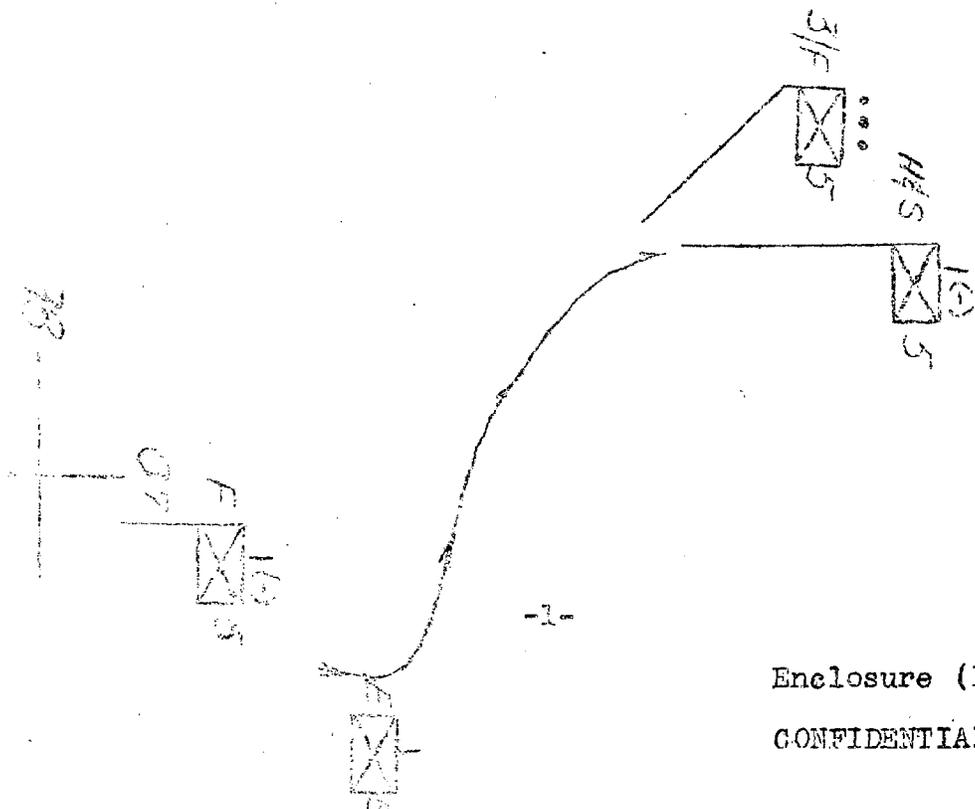
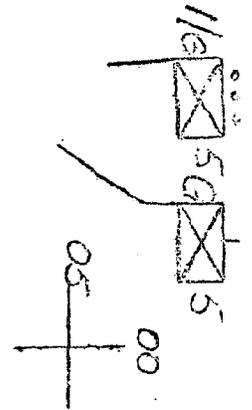
It is also recommended that added responsibility be given to ARVN and/or CAG units for bridge security in the AO. This would enable the Battalion to free additional units for participation in offensive operations against enemy base areas and lines of communications.

*E. C. Cheatham Jr.*  
E. C. CHEATHAM JR.

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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 12 Mar 68



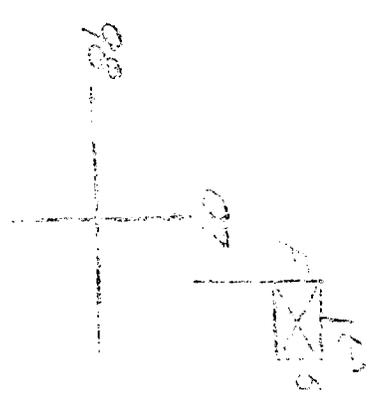
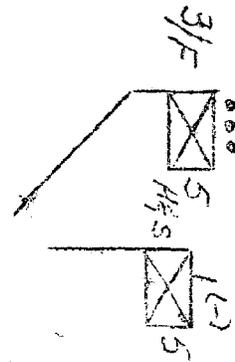
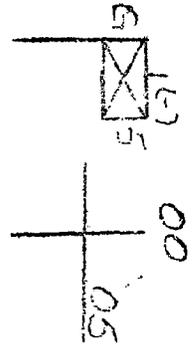
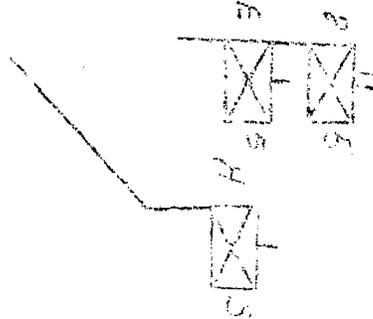
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Night Activities 12 Mar 68

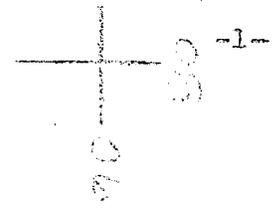
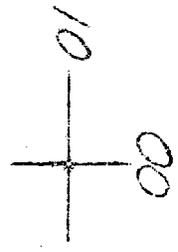
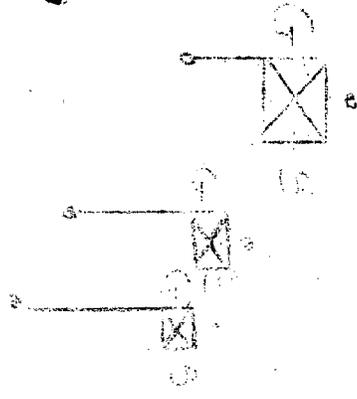


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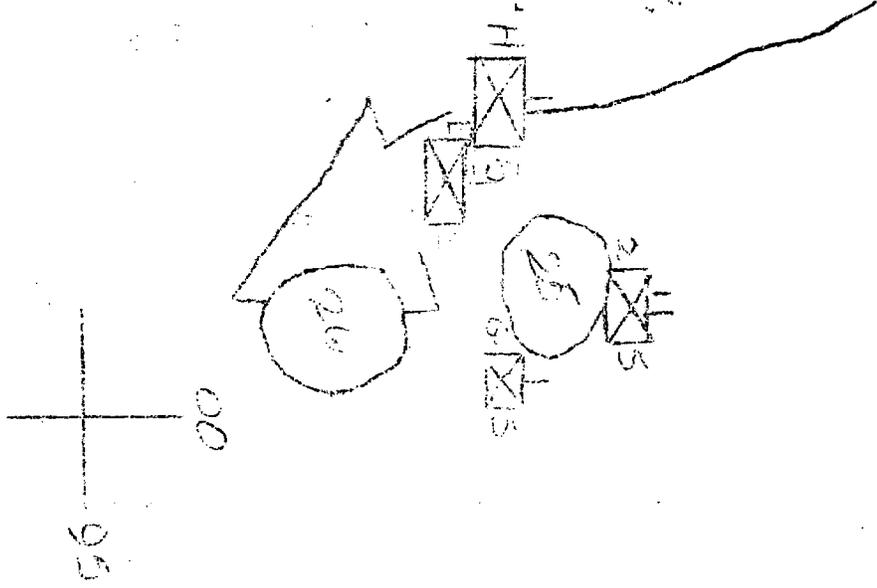
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Day Activities 13 Mar 68



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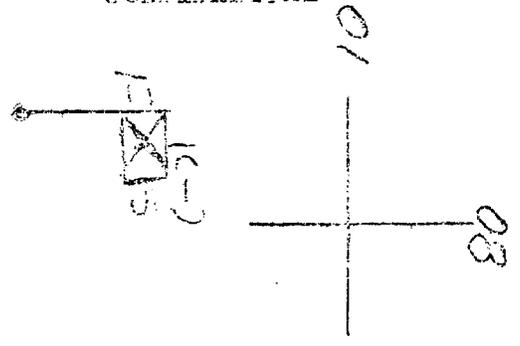
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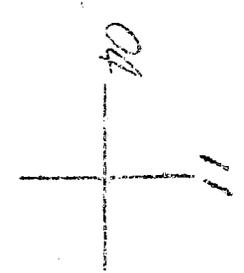
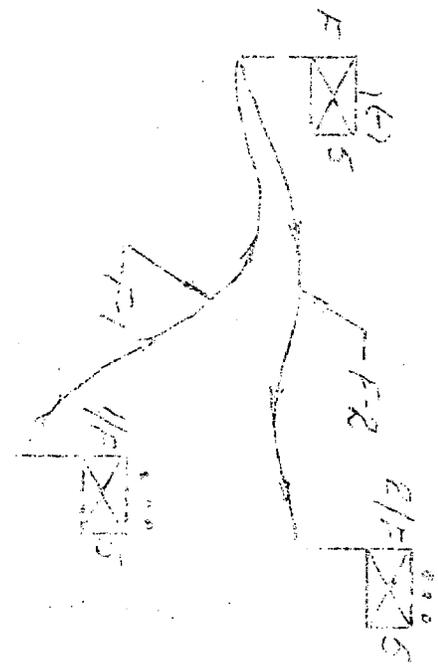
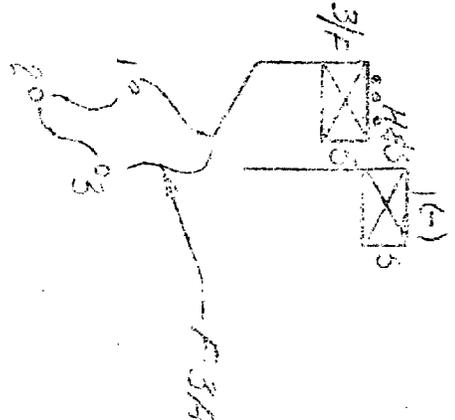
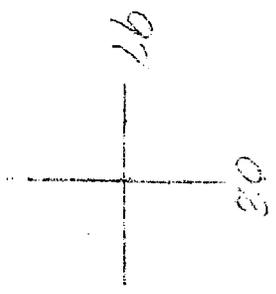
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Day Activities 14 Mar 68



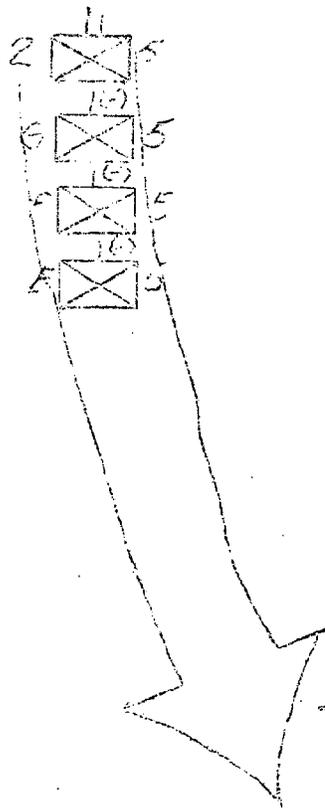
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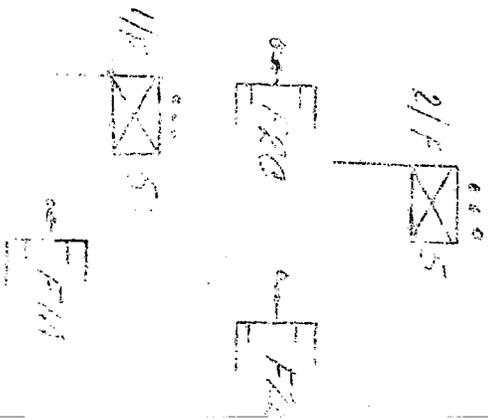
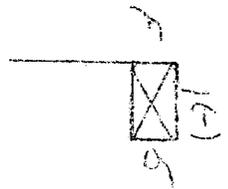
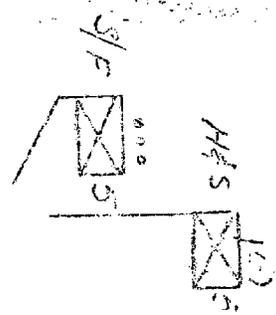
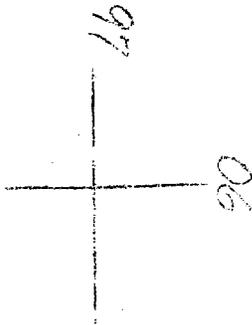
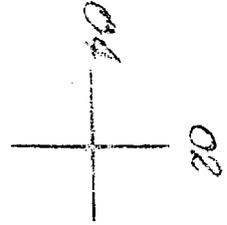
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14 Mar 68 Night Activities

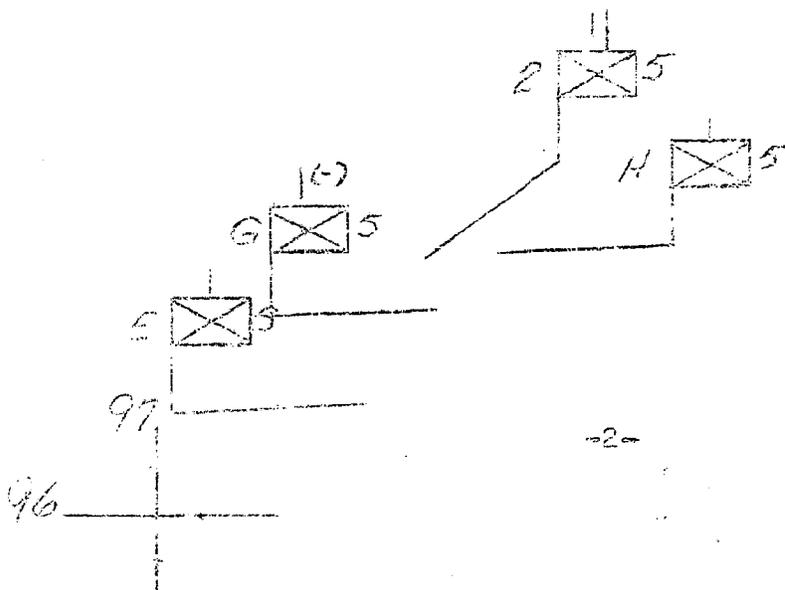
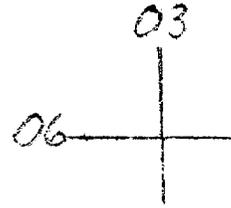
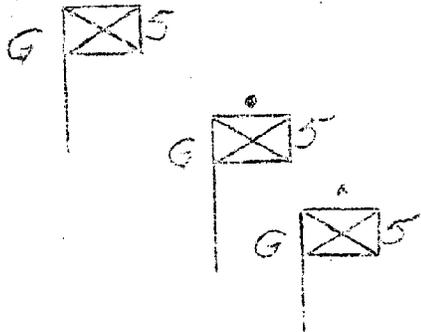


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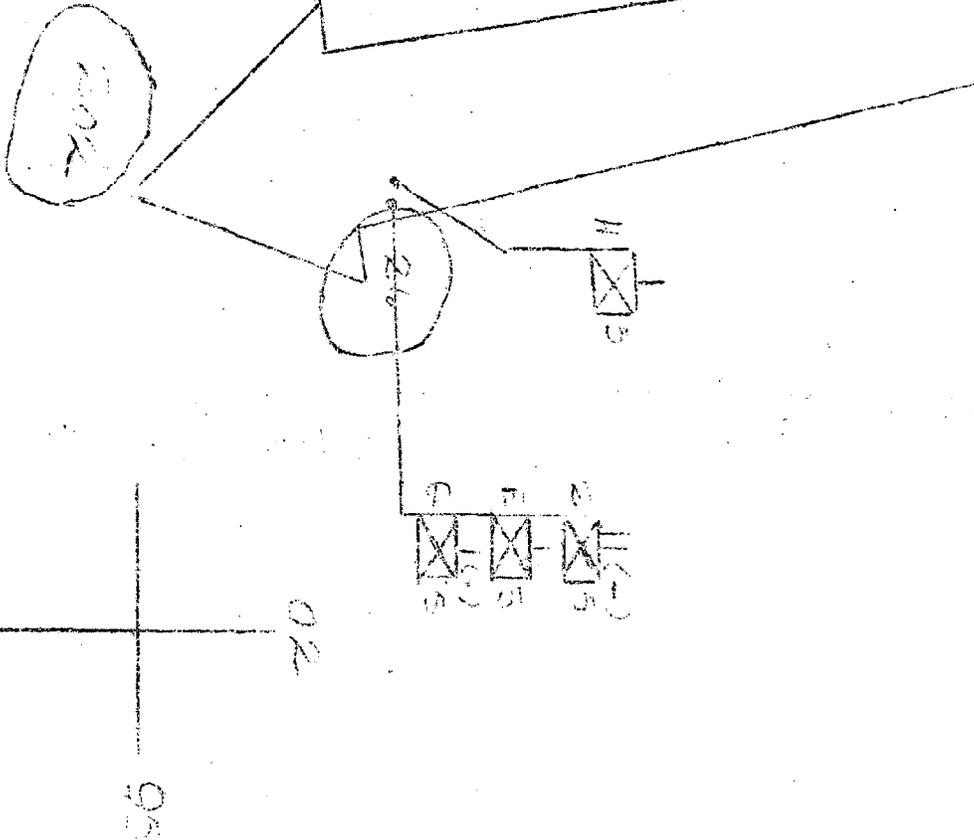


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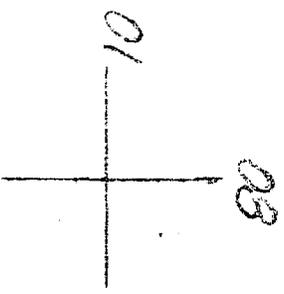
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Activities 15 Mar 68

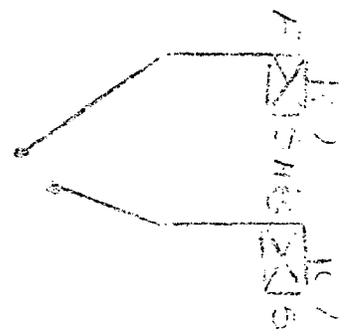
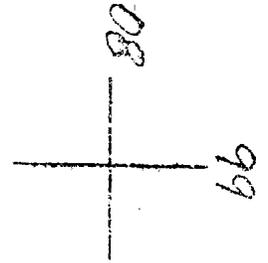
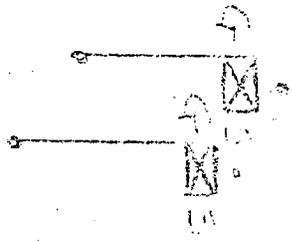
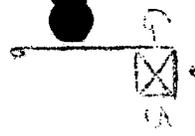


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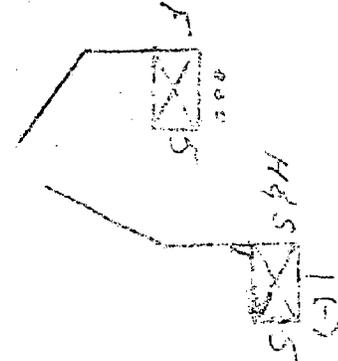
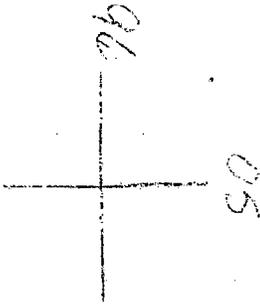
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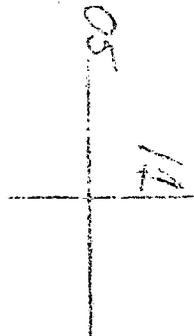
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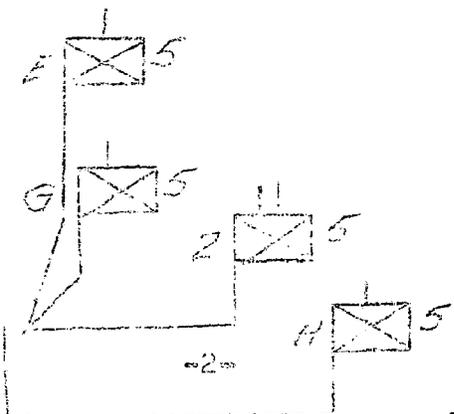
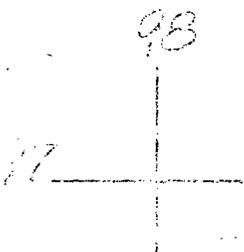
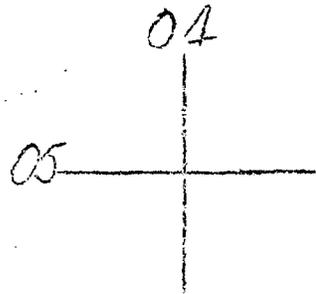
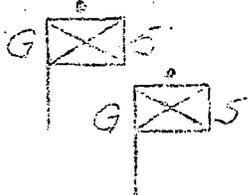
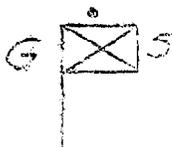
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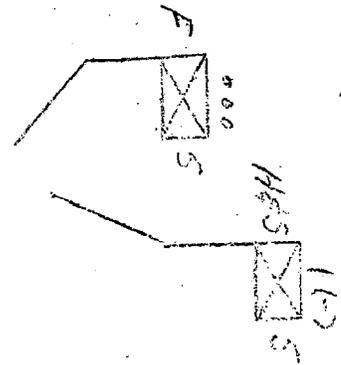
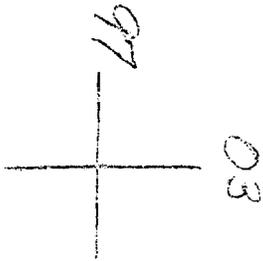


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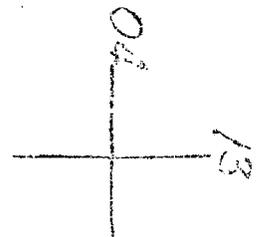
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Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 16 Mar 68



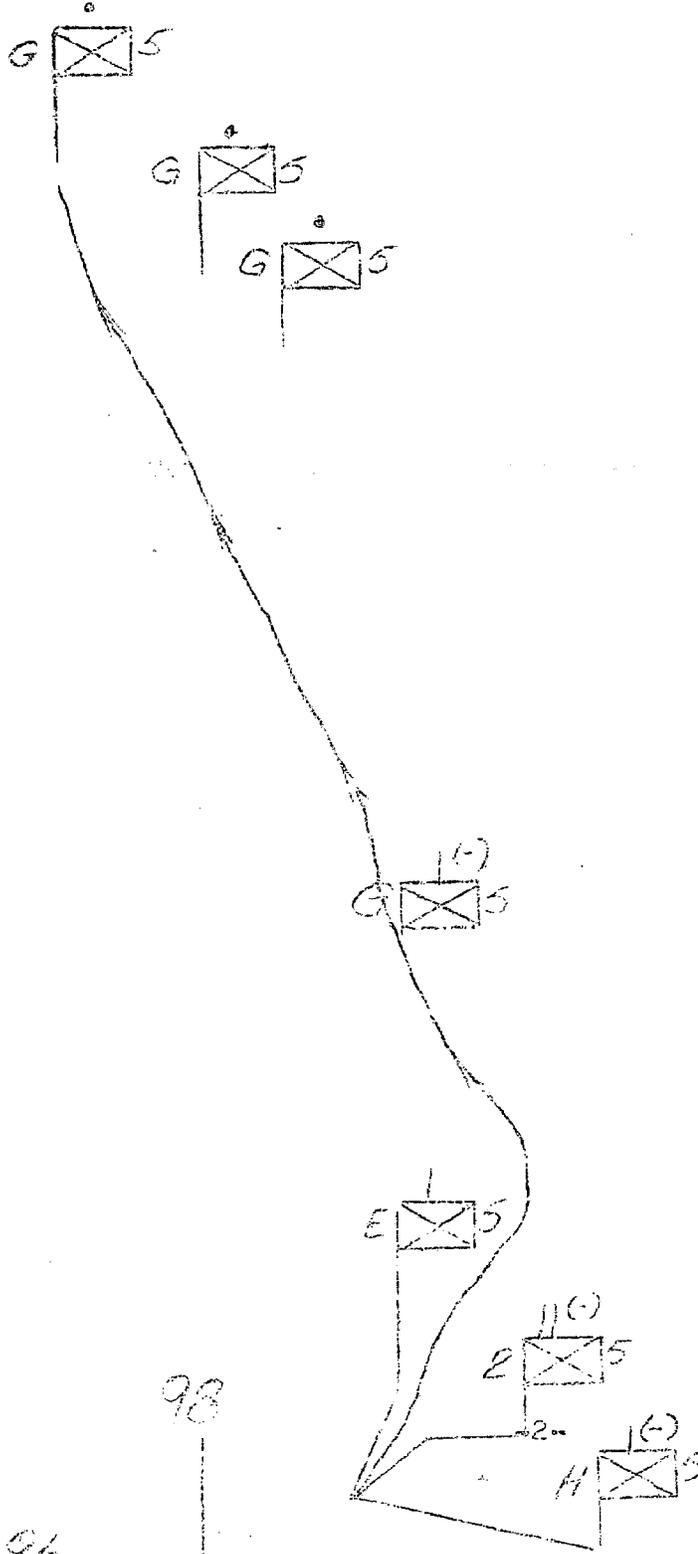
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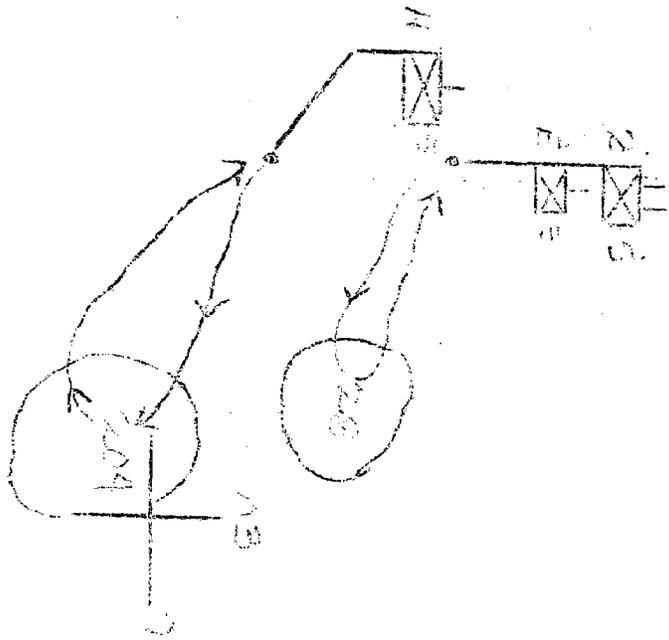


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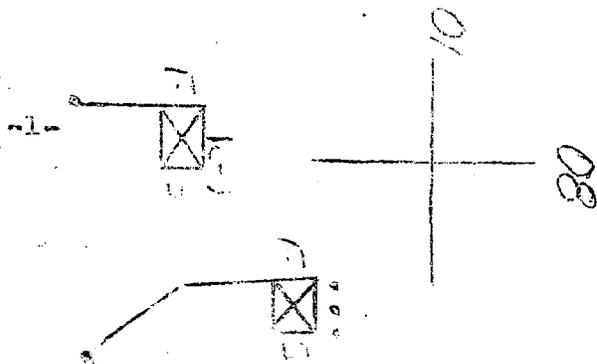
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Activities 17 Mar 68

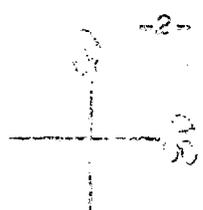
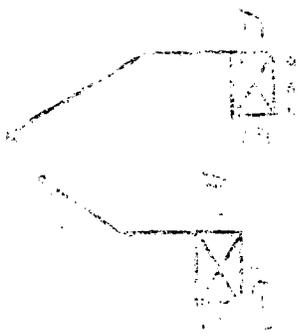
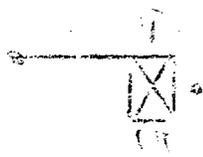
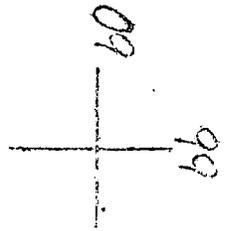
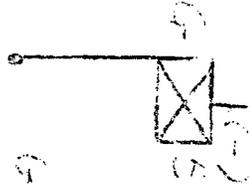


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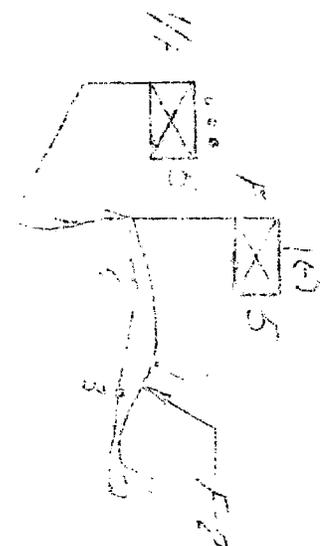
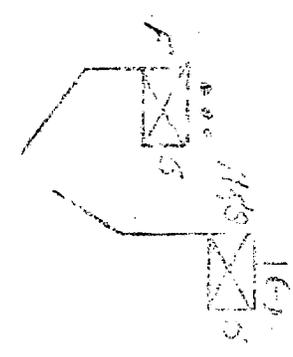
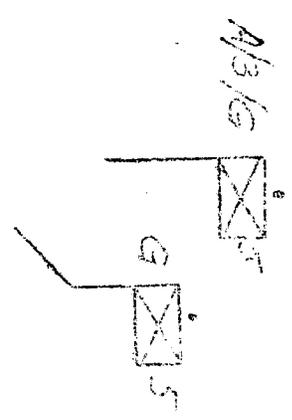
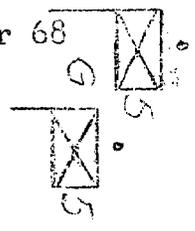
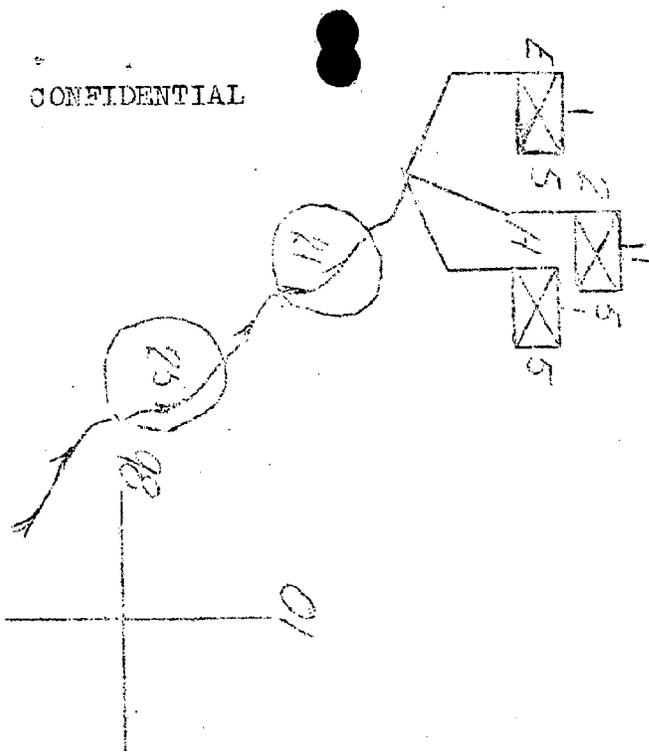


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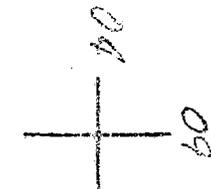
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7C14  
Sheets 654A I and II 1:50,000  
2nd En, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 12 Mar 68

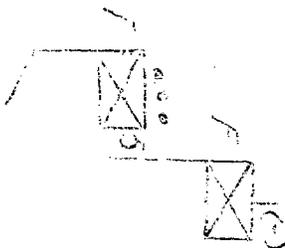
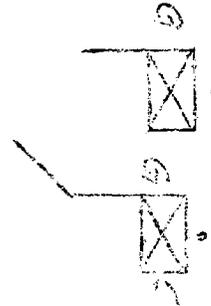
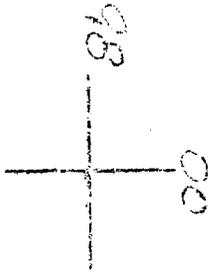
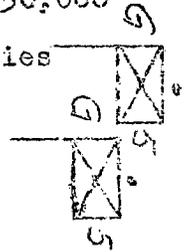
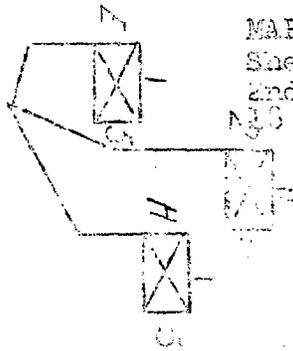


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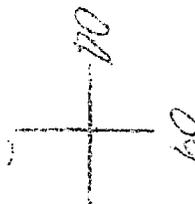
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series I7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
146 Mar 68 Night Activities



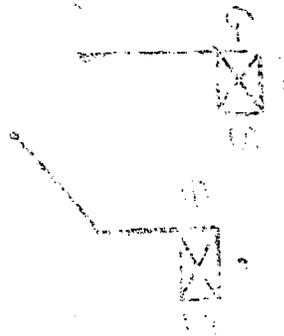
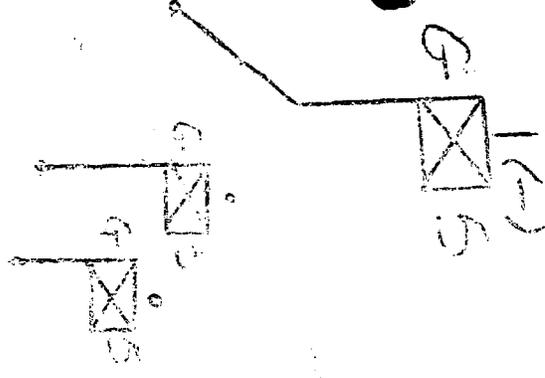
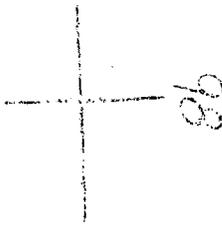
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Enclosure (12)

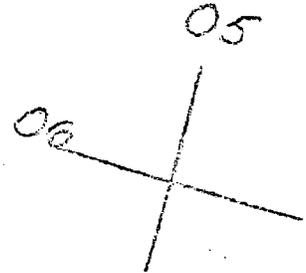
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sectors 6, 7, 8, 9 and 11 1:50,000  
2nd Ln, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 20 Mar 68

3/G <sup>CONF(-)</sup>  5  
G  5  
H <sup>(1)</sup>  5



2 <sup>CONF</sup>  11(-) 5  
F  5  
E <sup>(1)</sup>  5



2/F <sup>CONF</sup>  5

F <sup>(1)</sup>  5

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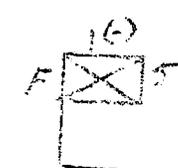
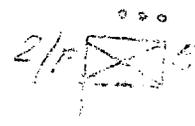
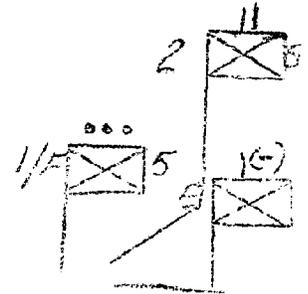
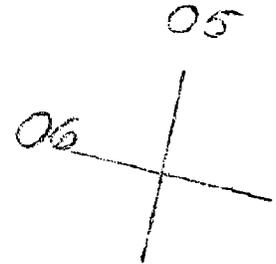
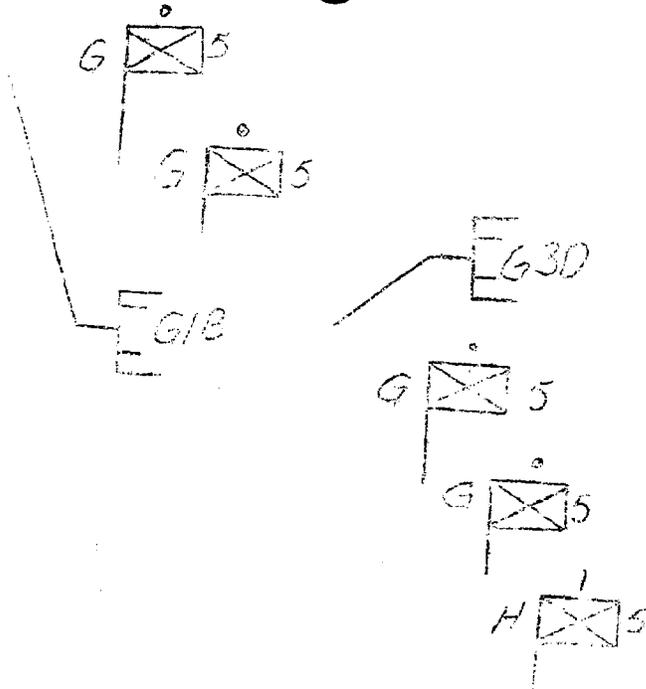
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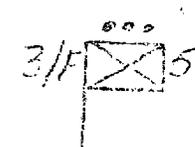
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 20 Mar 68



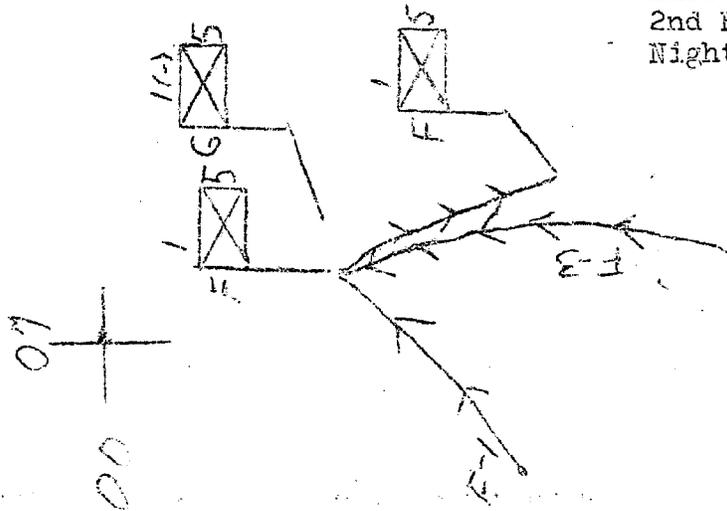
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 21 Mar 68

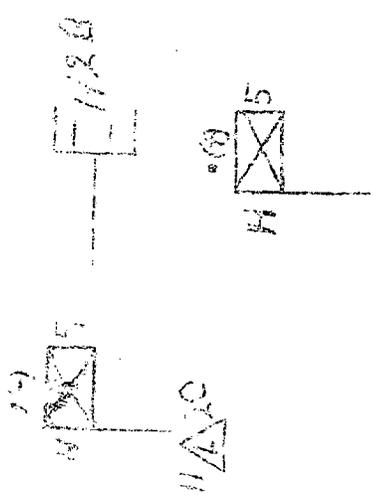
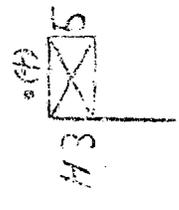
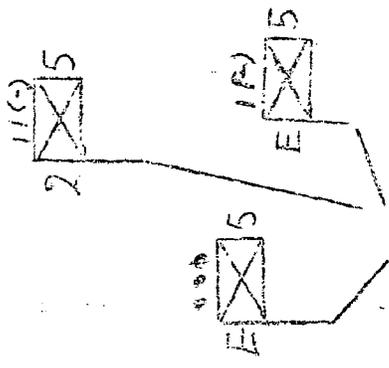


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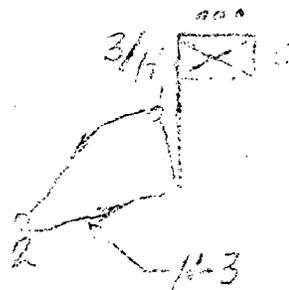
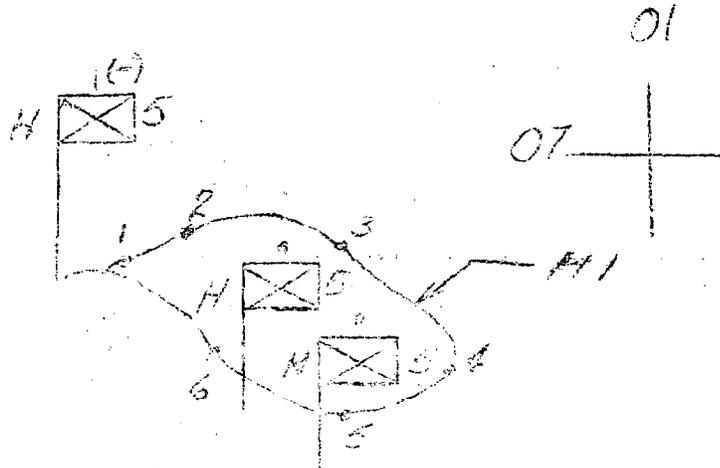
-2- Enclosure (15)

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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II. 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 23 Mar 68



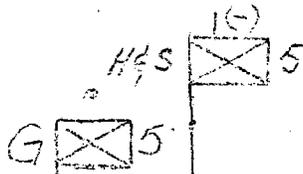
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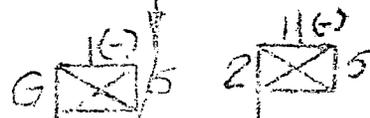
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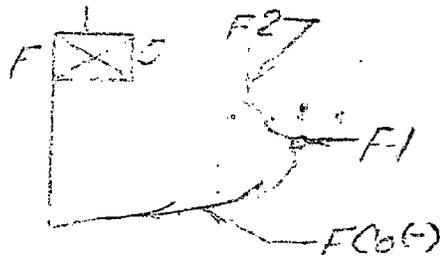
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Enclosure (16)

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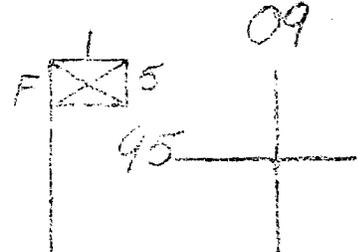
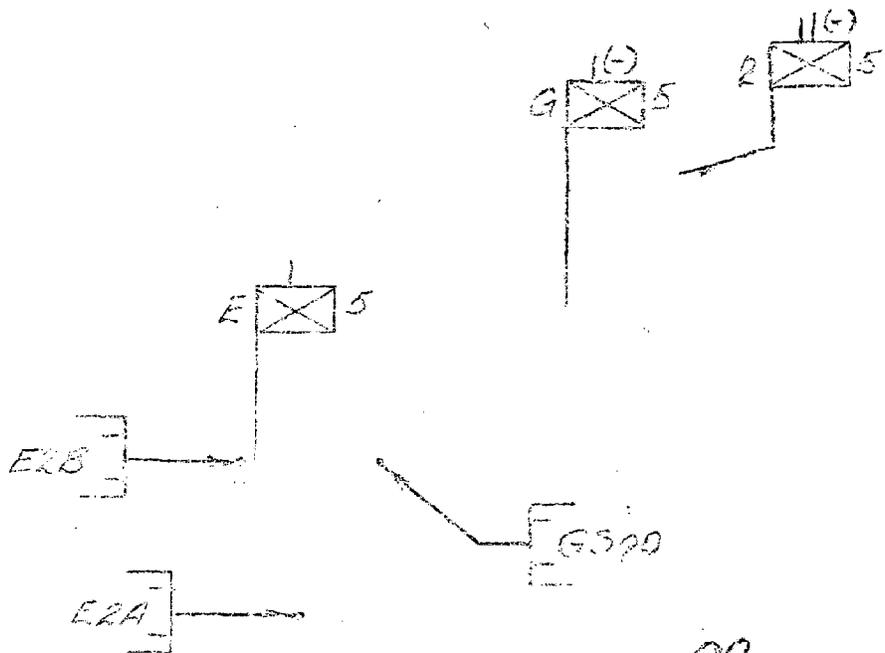
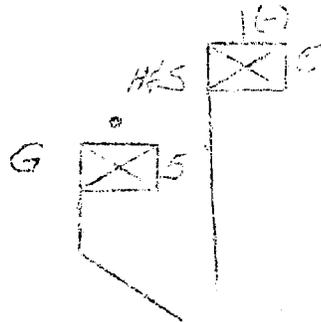
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Sheets 6501 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 23 Apr 68

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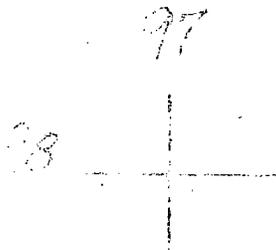
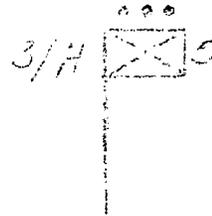
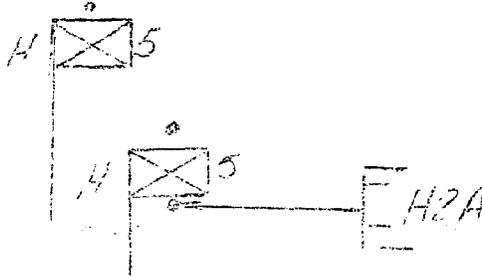
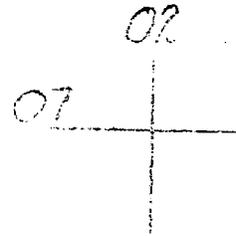
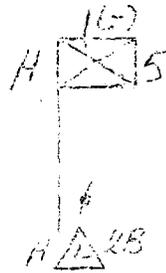


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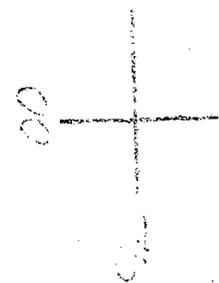


Enclosure (17)

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Sheets 357 I and II 1:50,000  
and 50, 5th Marines  
Particulars 21 MAR 68

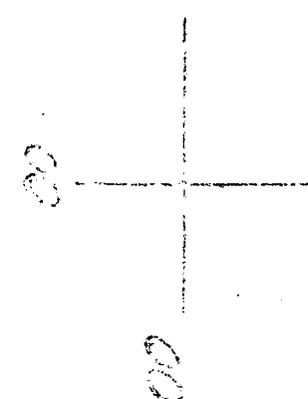
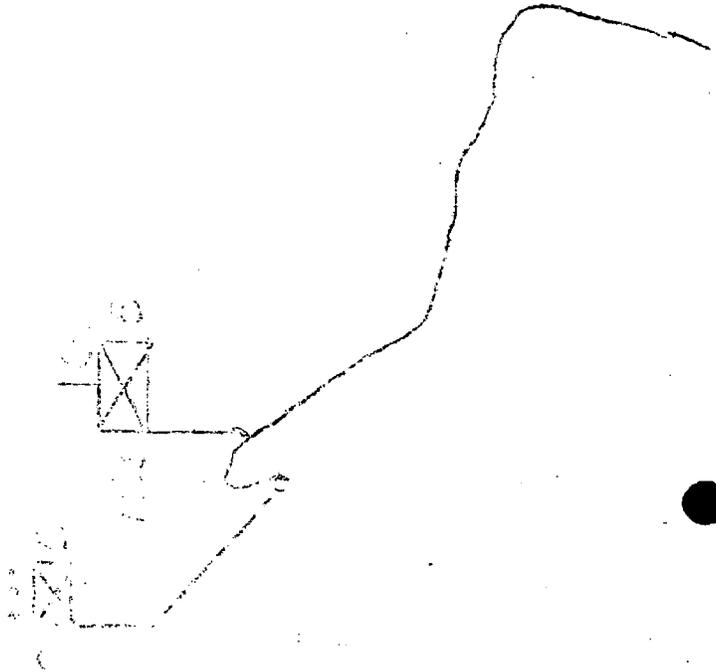


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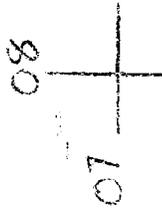


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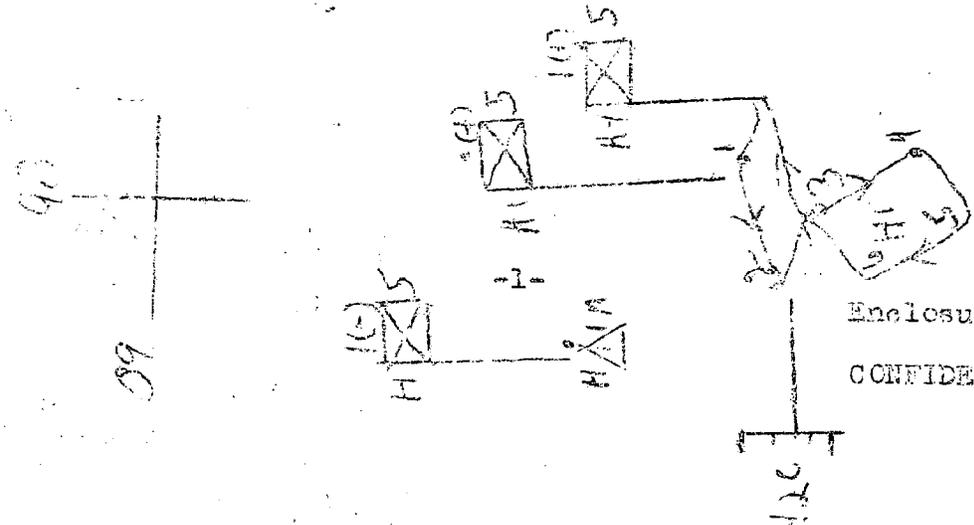
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 Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
 2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
 Activities 25 Mar 68

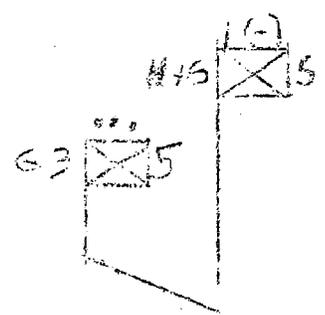
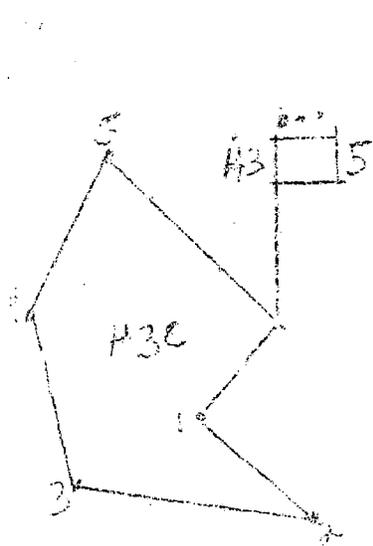


Enclosure (19)

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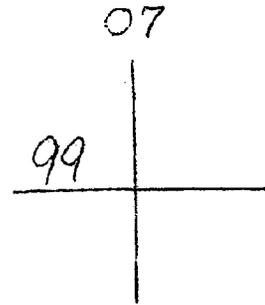
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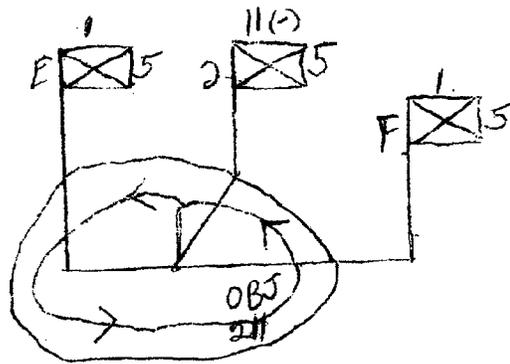
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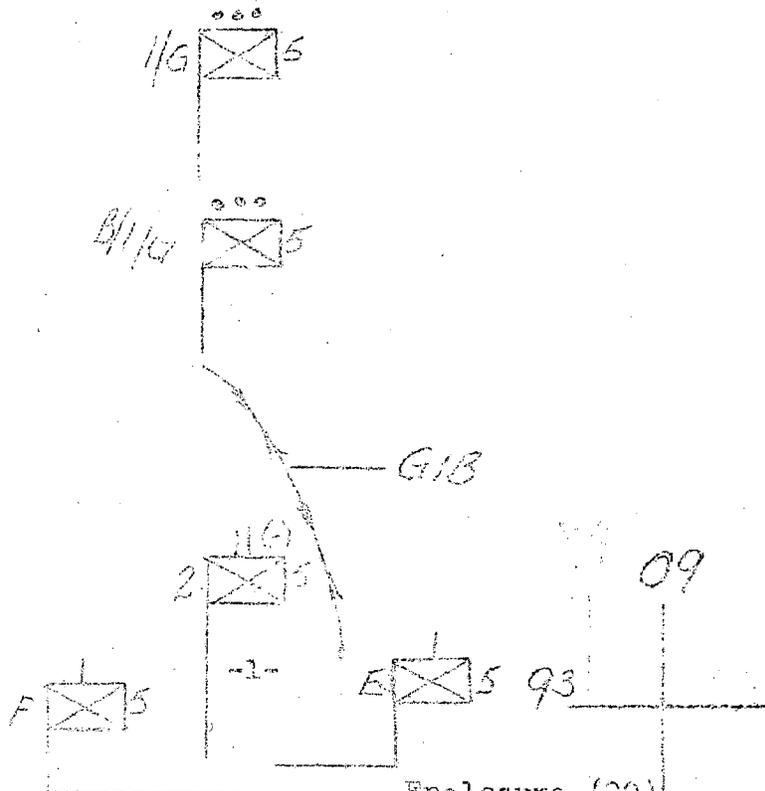
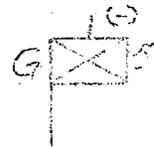
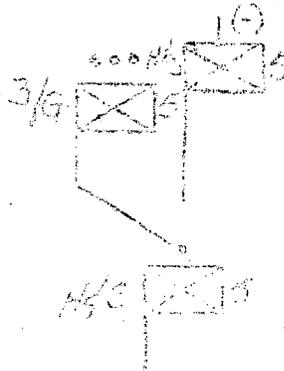
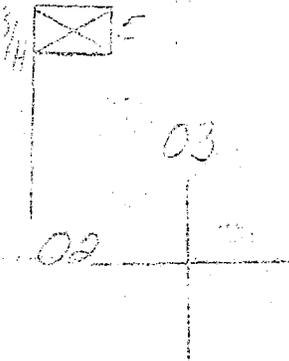


Enclosure (19)

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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 8541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 26 Mar 68



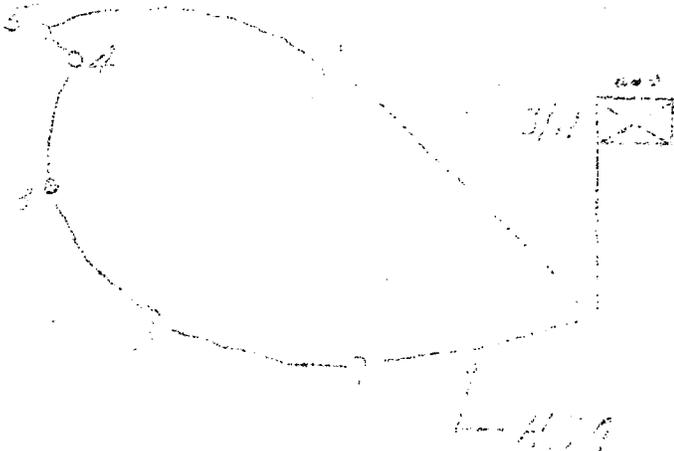
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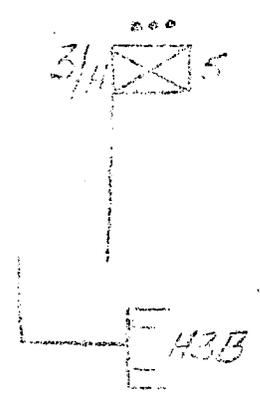
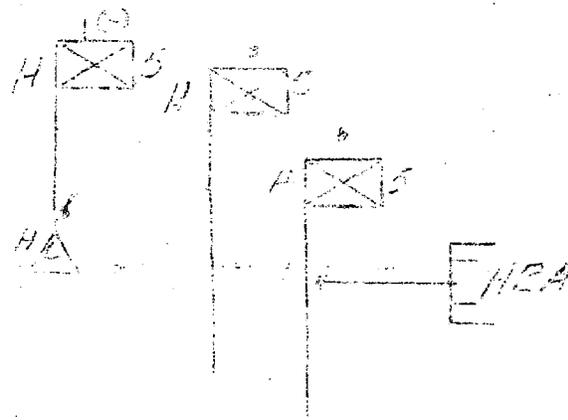
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Sheets 6501 I and II 1:50,000  
3rd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 26 Mar 68

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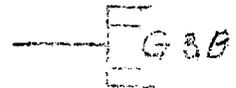
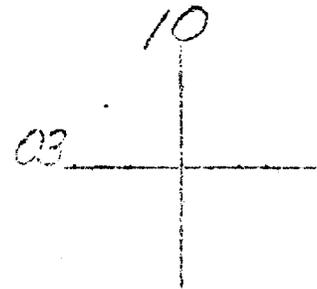
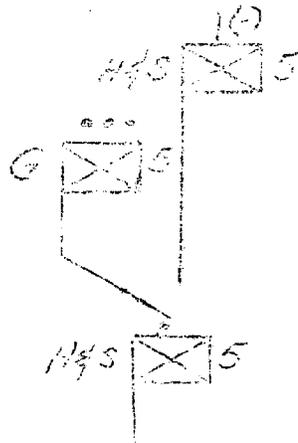
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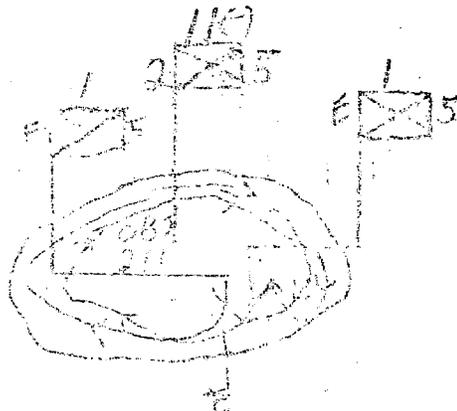
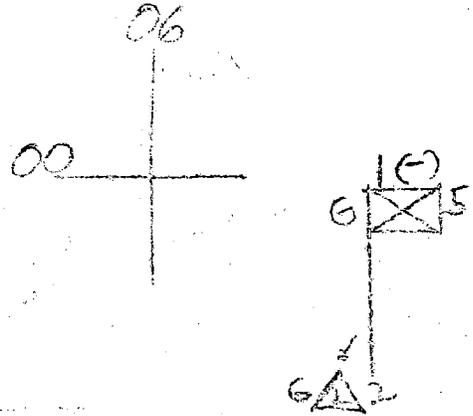


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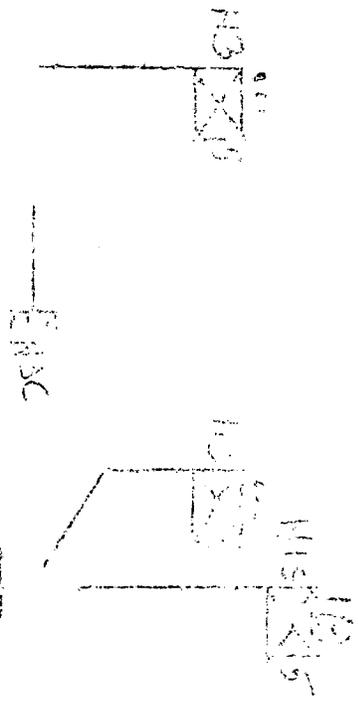
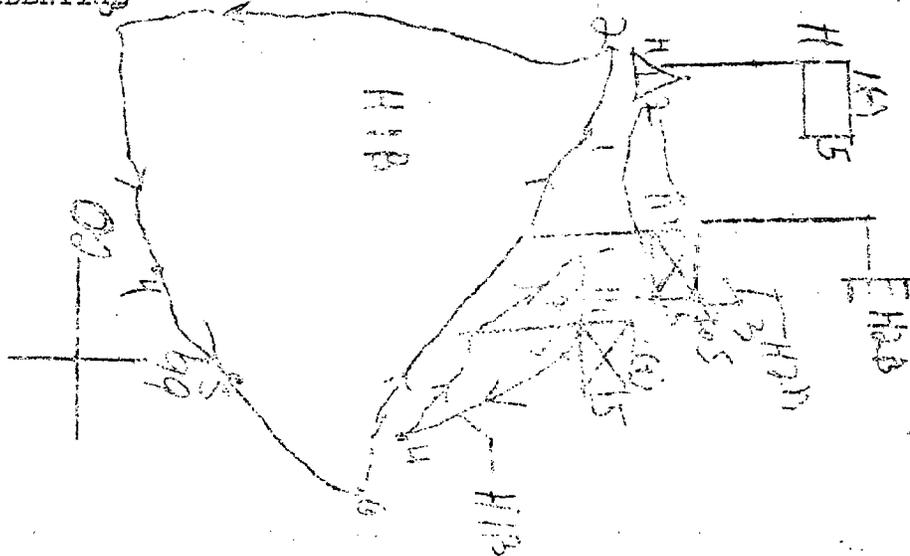
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Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 27 Mar 68



Enclosure (22)

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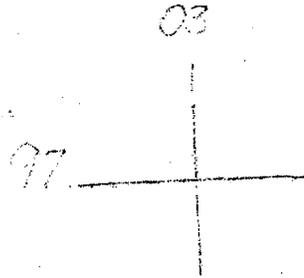
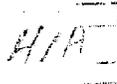
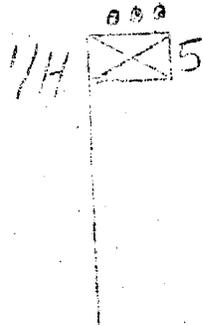
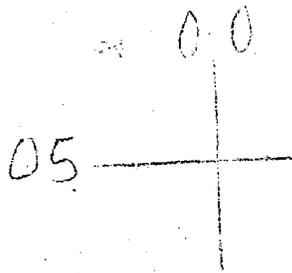


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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 654r I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 27 Mar 68

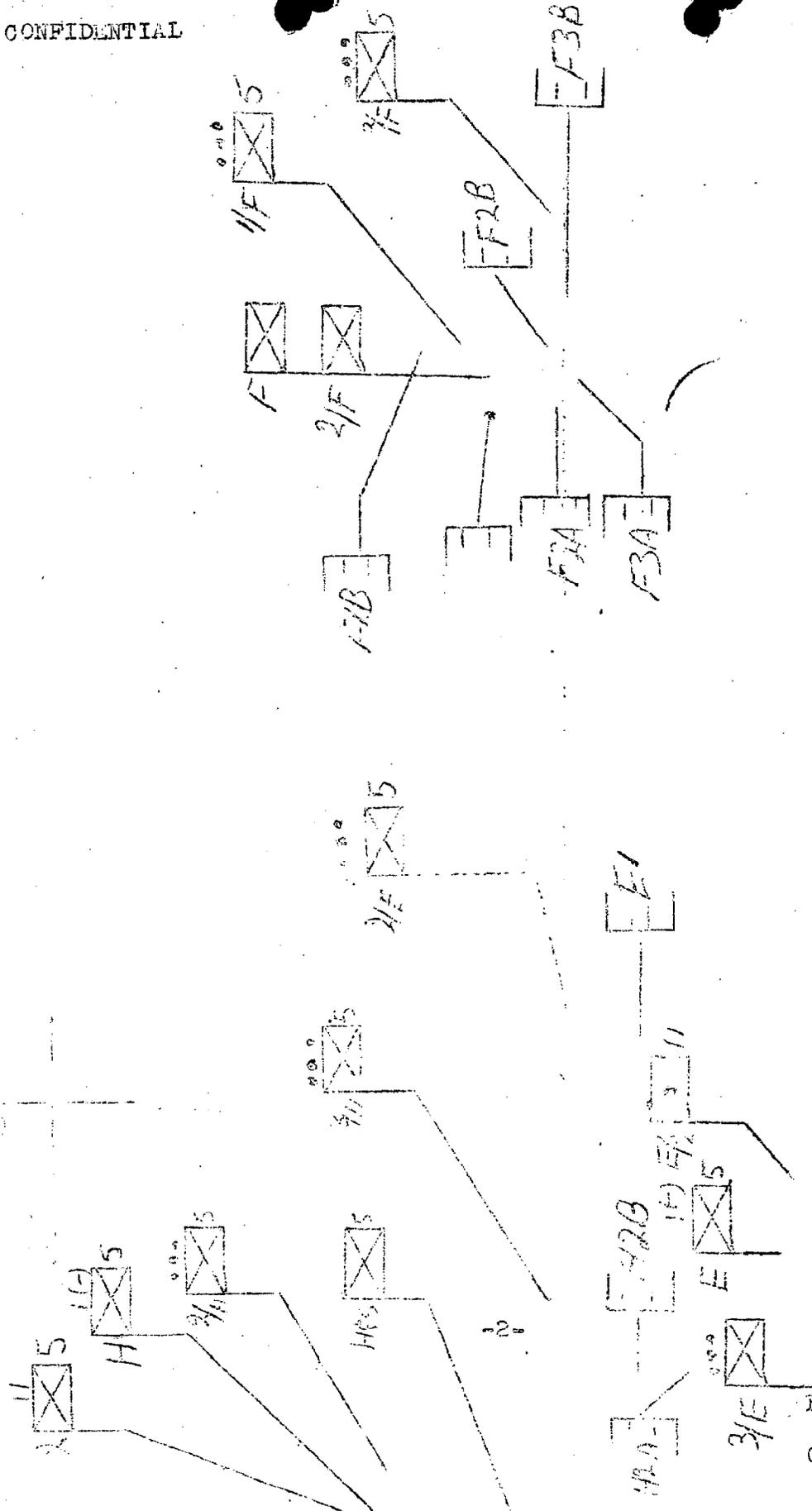


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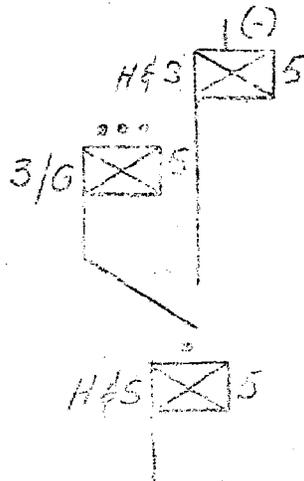
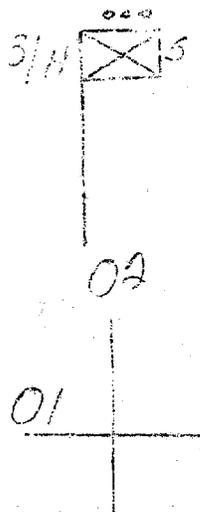


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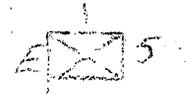
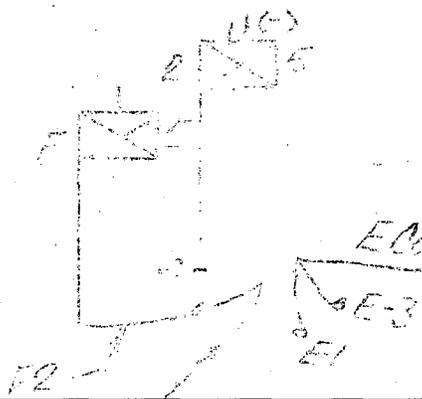
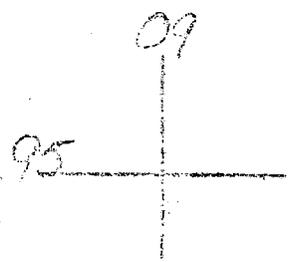
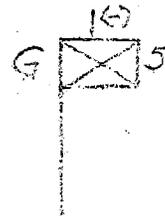
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 2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
 Day Activities 28 Mar 68

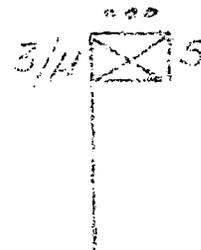
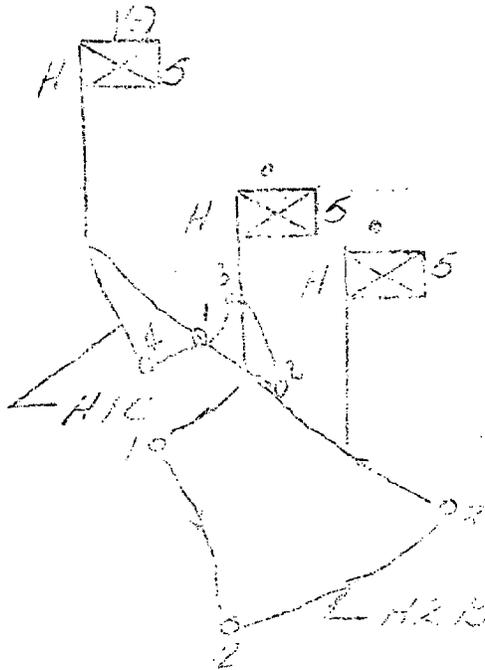
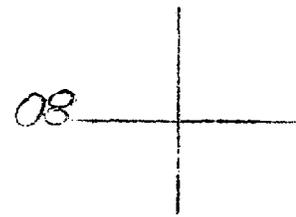


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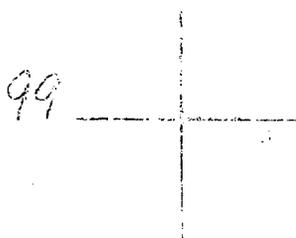
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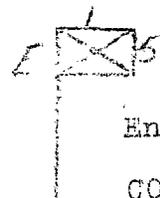
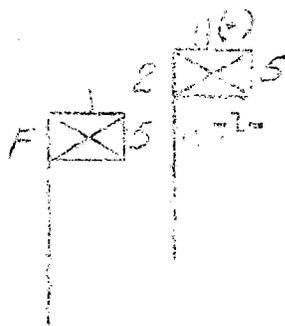
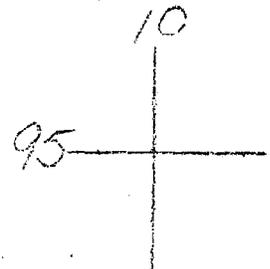
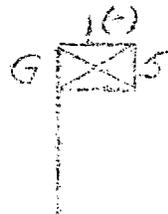
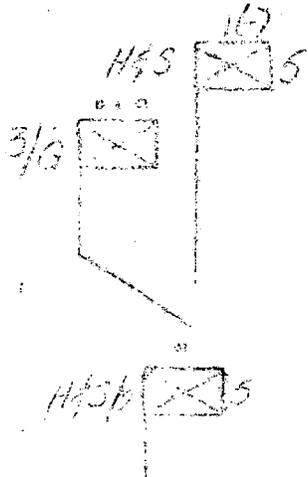
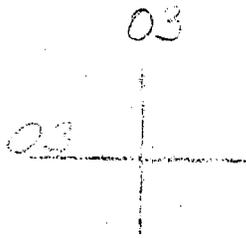
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Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 28 Mar 68



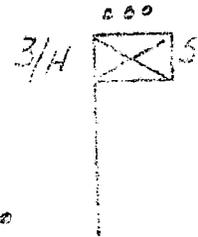
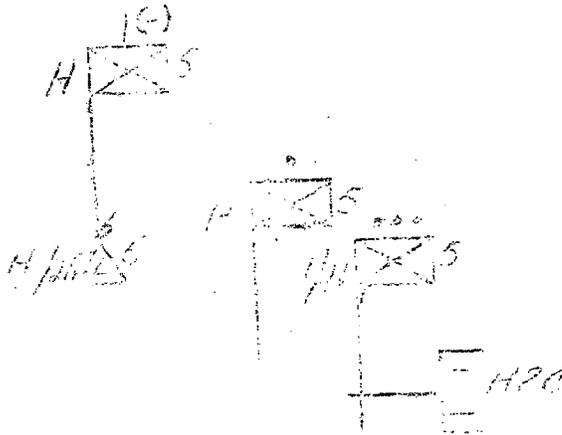
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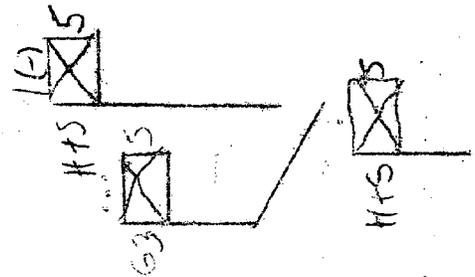
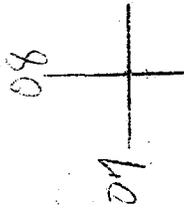
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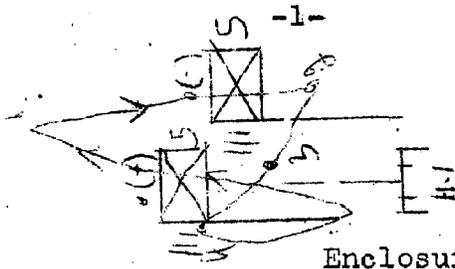
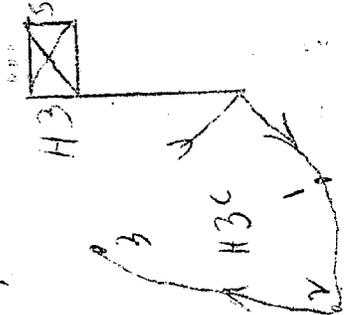
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Activities 29 Mar 68

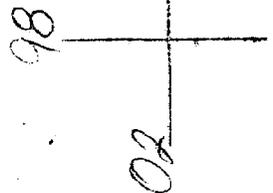


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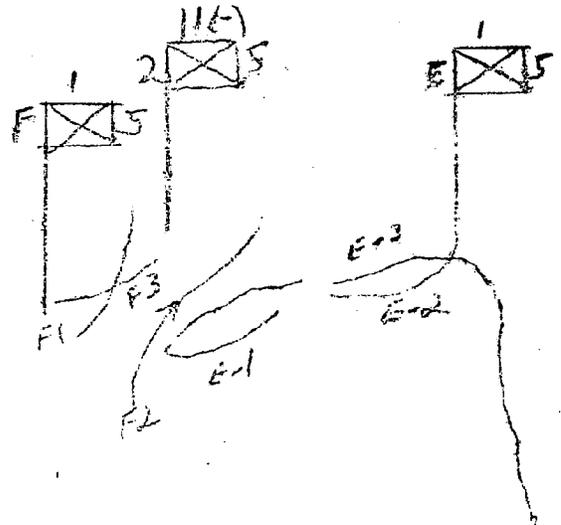
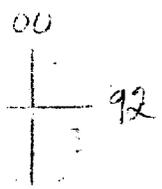
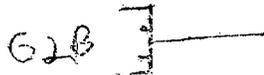
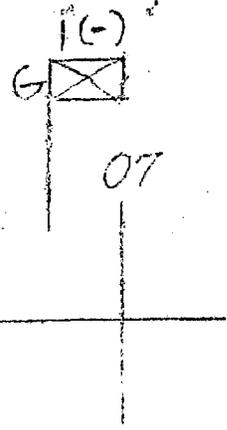
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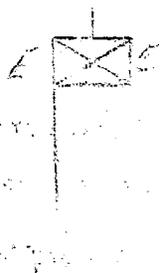
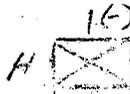


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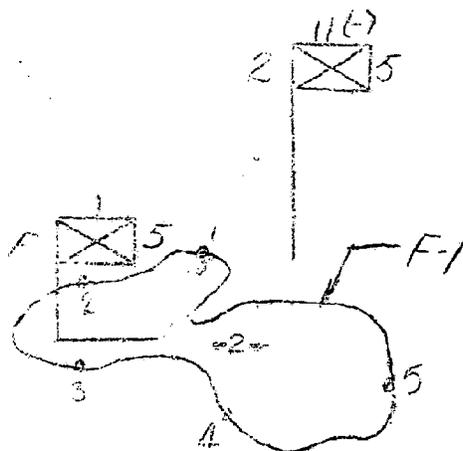
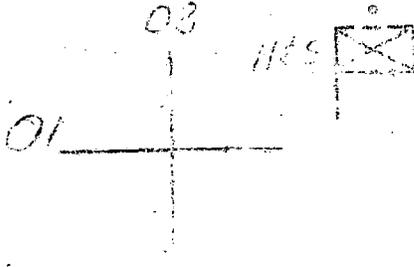
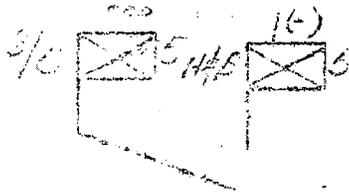
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Sheets 6511 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 30 Mar 68



Enclosure (27)

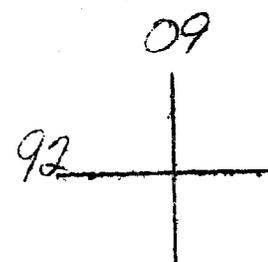
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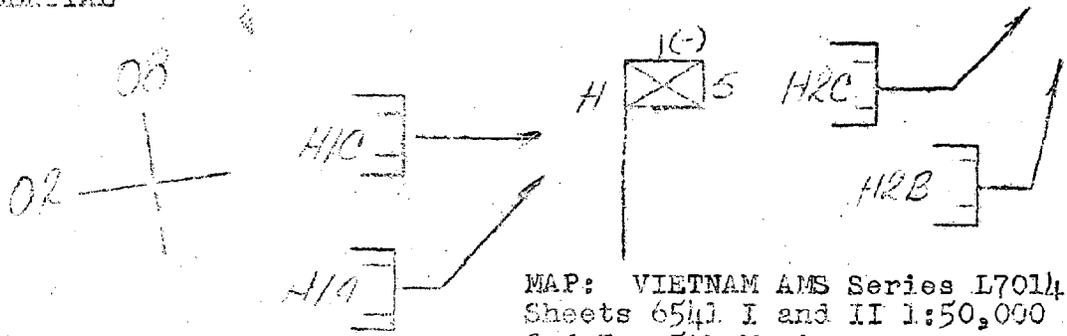


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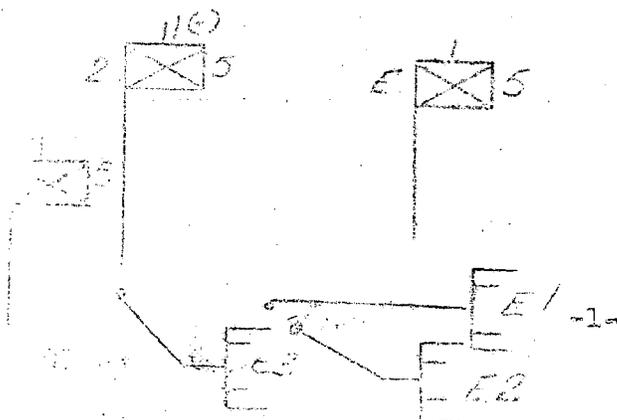
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 Sheets 6543 I and II 1:50,000  
 2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
 Night Activities 30 Mar 68



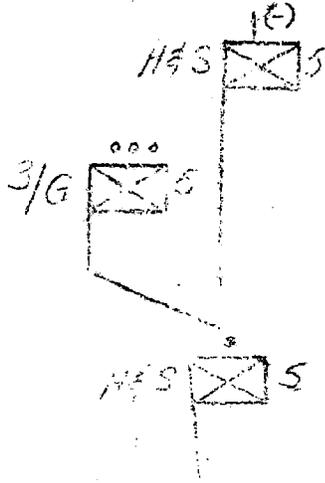
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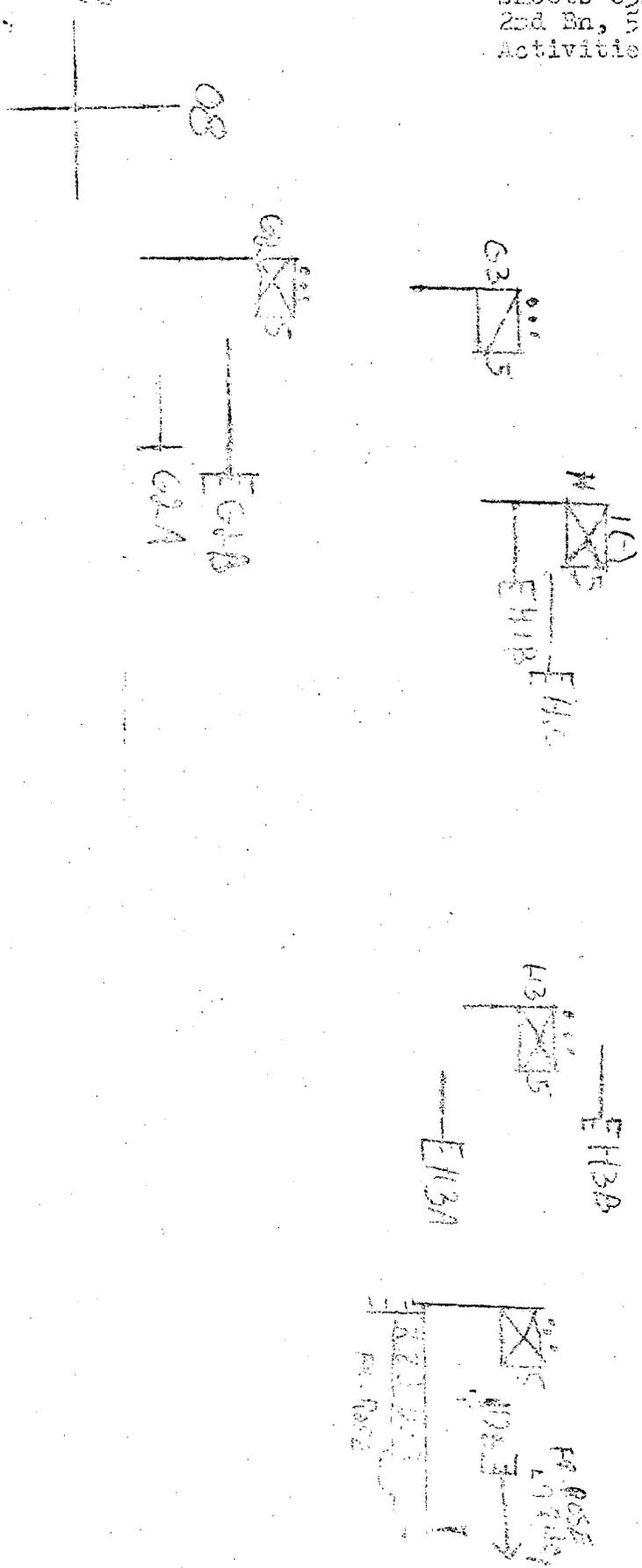
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Enclosure (28)

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2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Activities 31 Mar 68



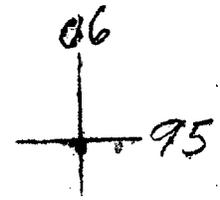
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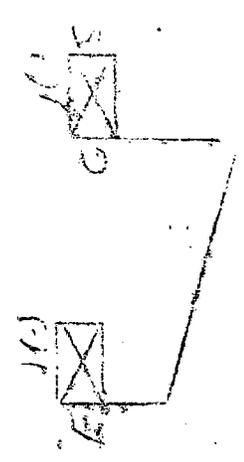
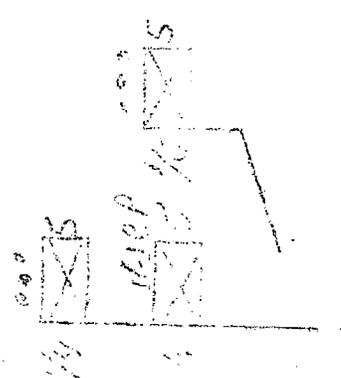
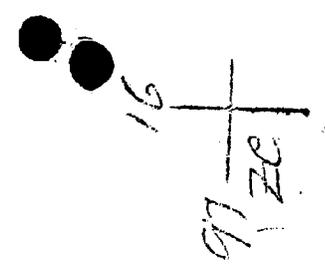
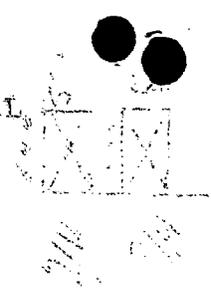
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Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 1 Apr 68



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Enclosure (30)  
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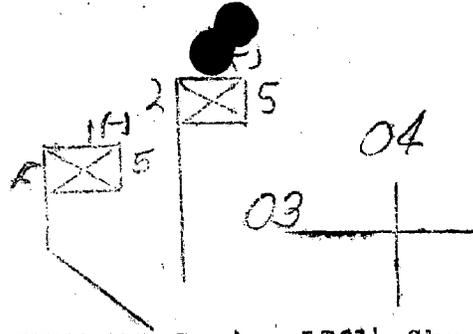
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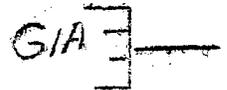
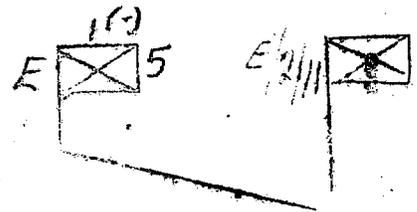
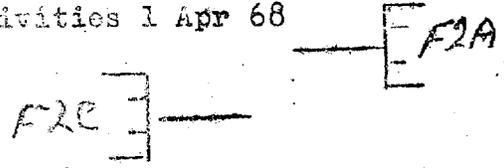
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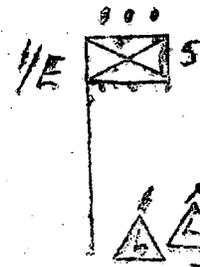
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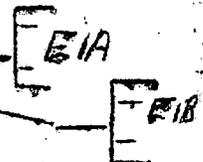
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 I and II 1:50,000  
 2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
 Night Activities 1 Apr 68



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Enclosure (31)

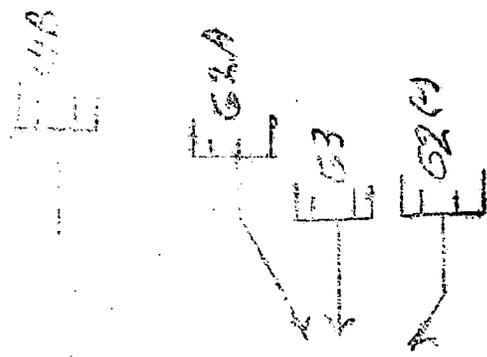


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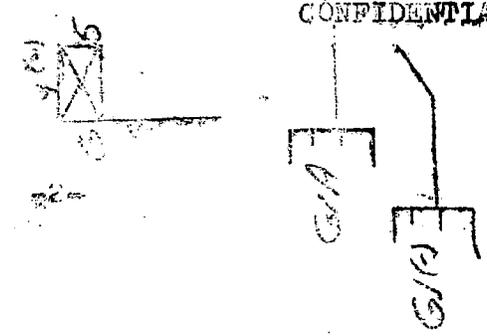


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2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 2 Apr 68

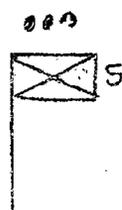


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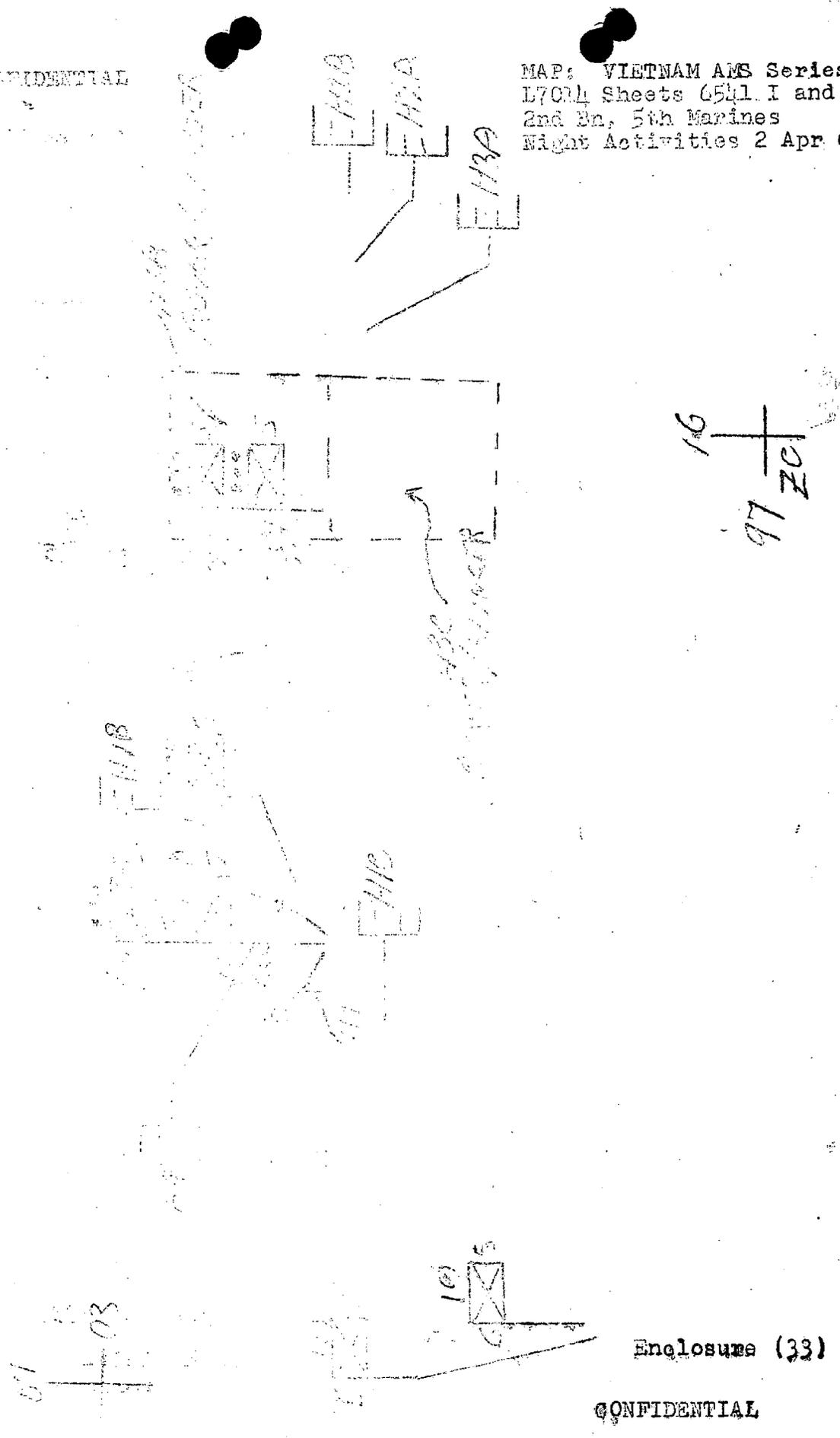
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Night Activities 2 Apr 68

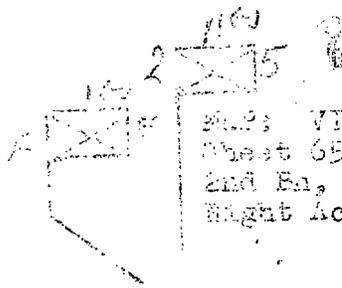


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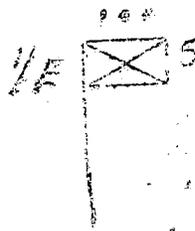
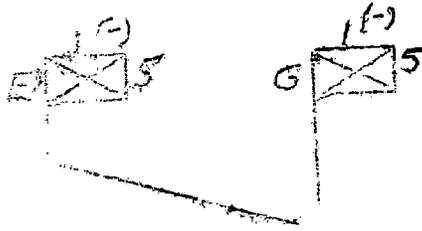
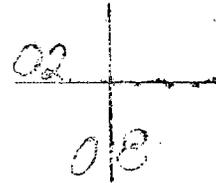
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
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 2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
 Night Activities 2 Apr 68



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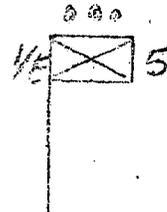
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Photos 6011 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Reg Activation 3 Apr 68



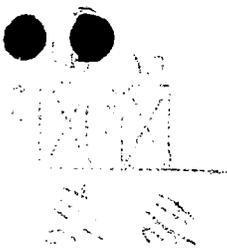
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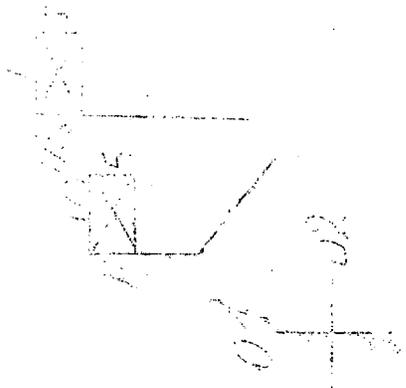
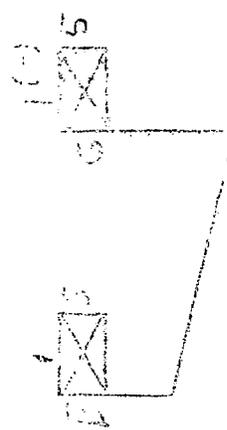
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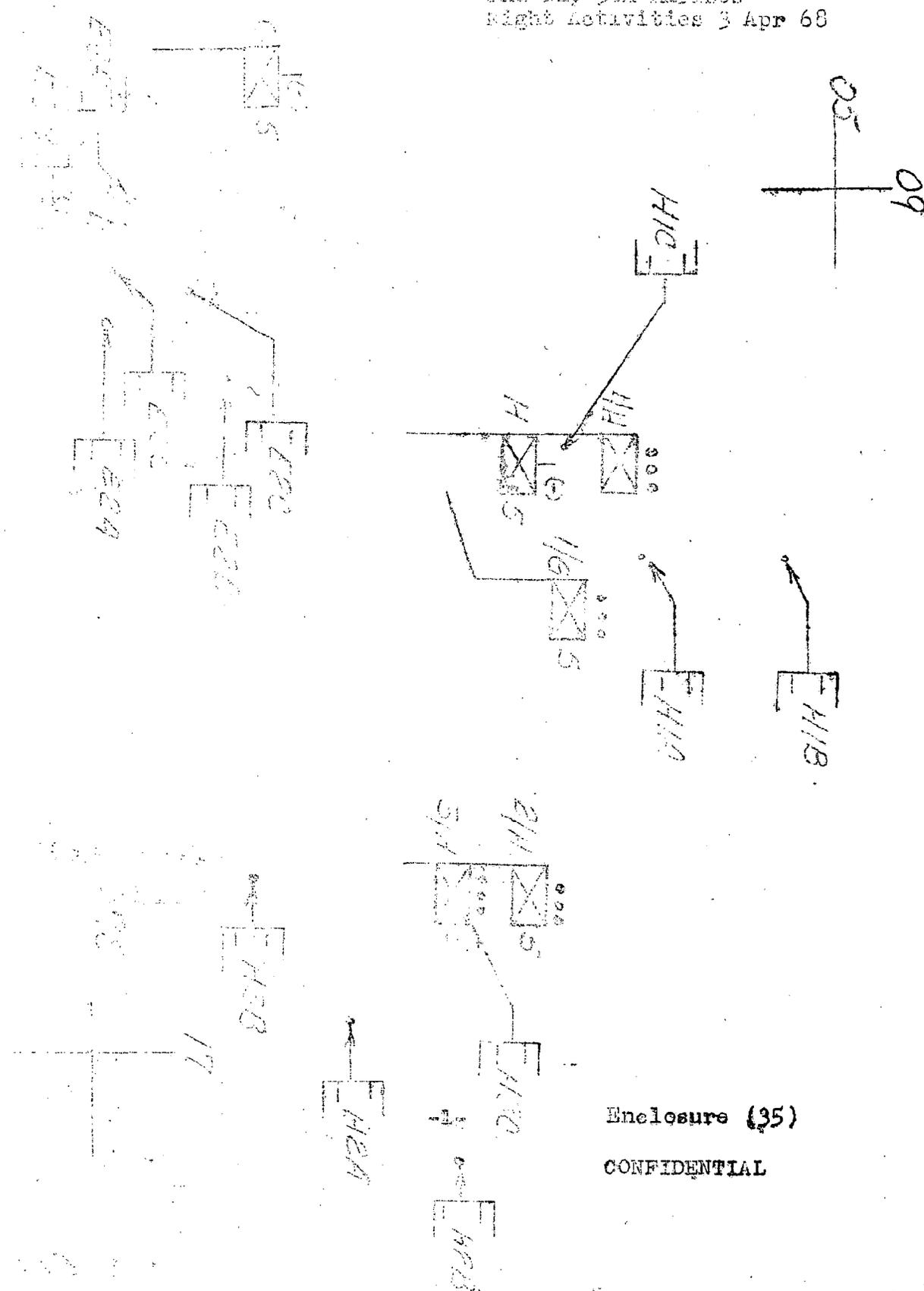
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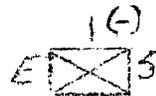
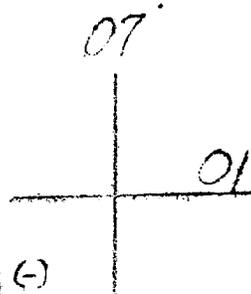
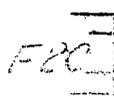
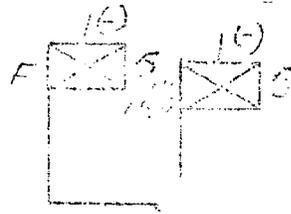
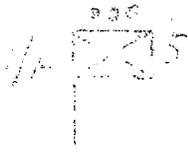
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Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 3 Apr 68



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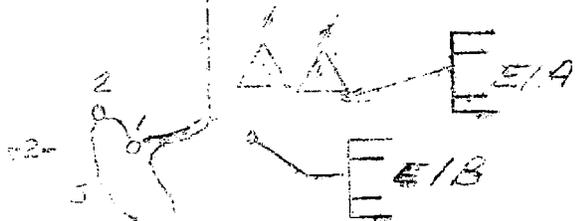
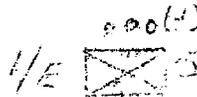
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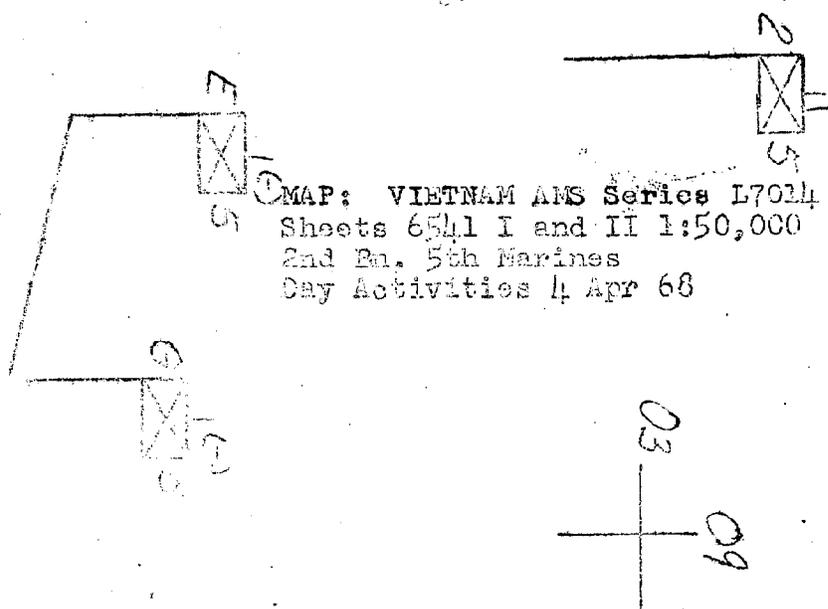
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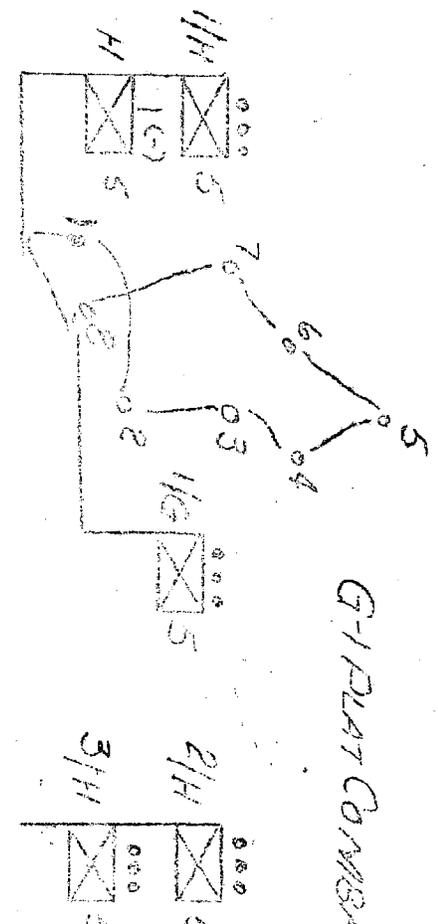


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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7024  
 Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
 2nd Bn. 5th Marines  
 Day Activities 4 Apr 68



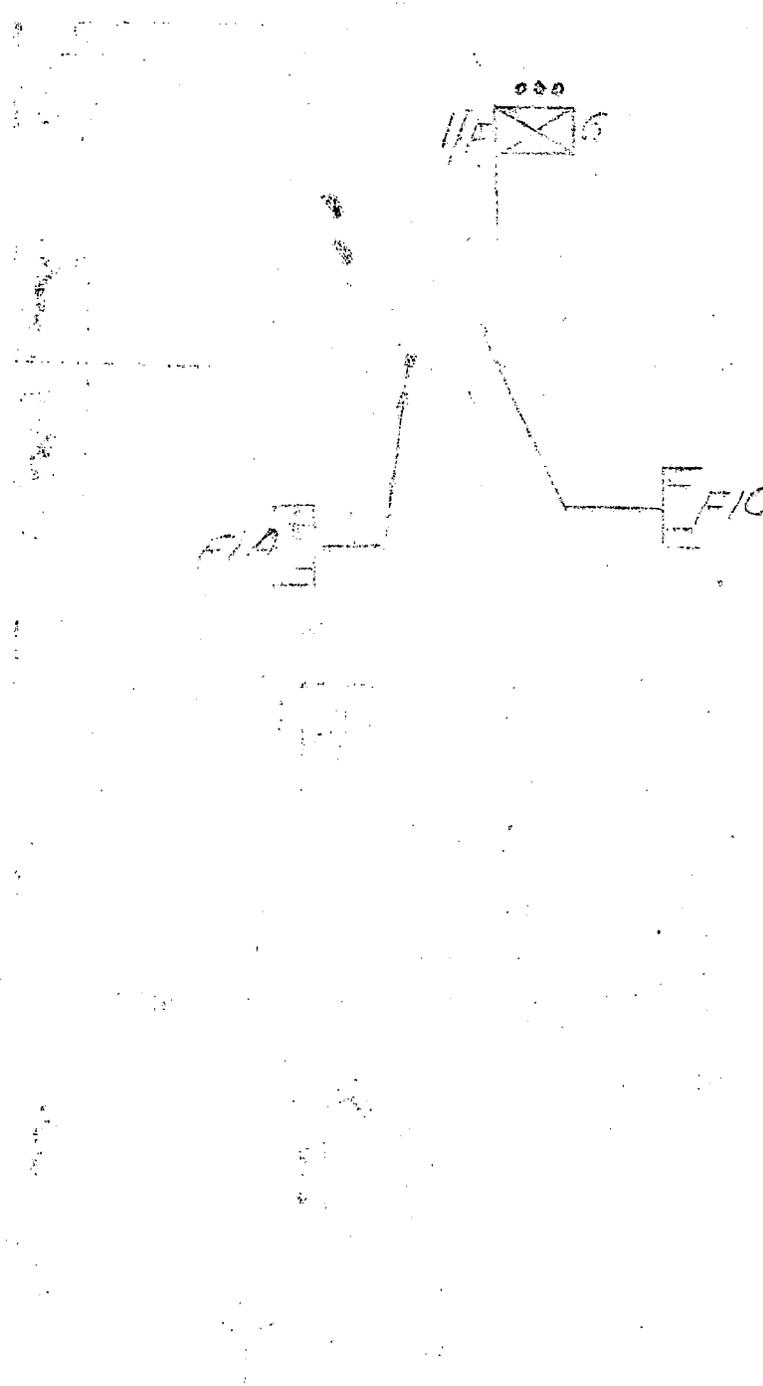
G-1 PLAT COMBAT PATROL

Enclosure (36)

CONFIDENTIAL

MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 4 Apr 68

00 0/5



*Handwritten notes and signatures, including the name 'R. Adams'.*

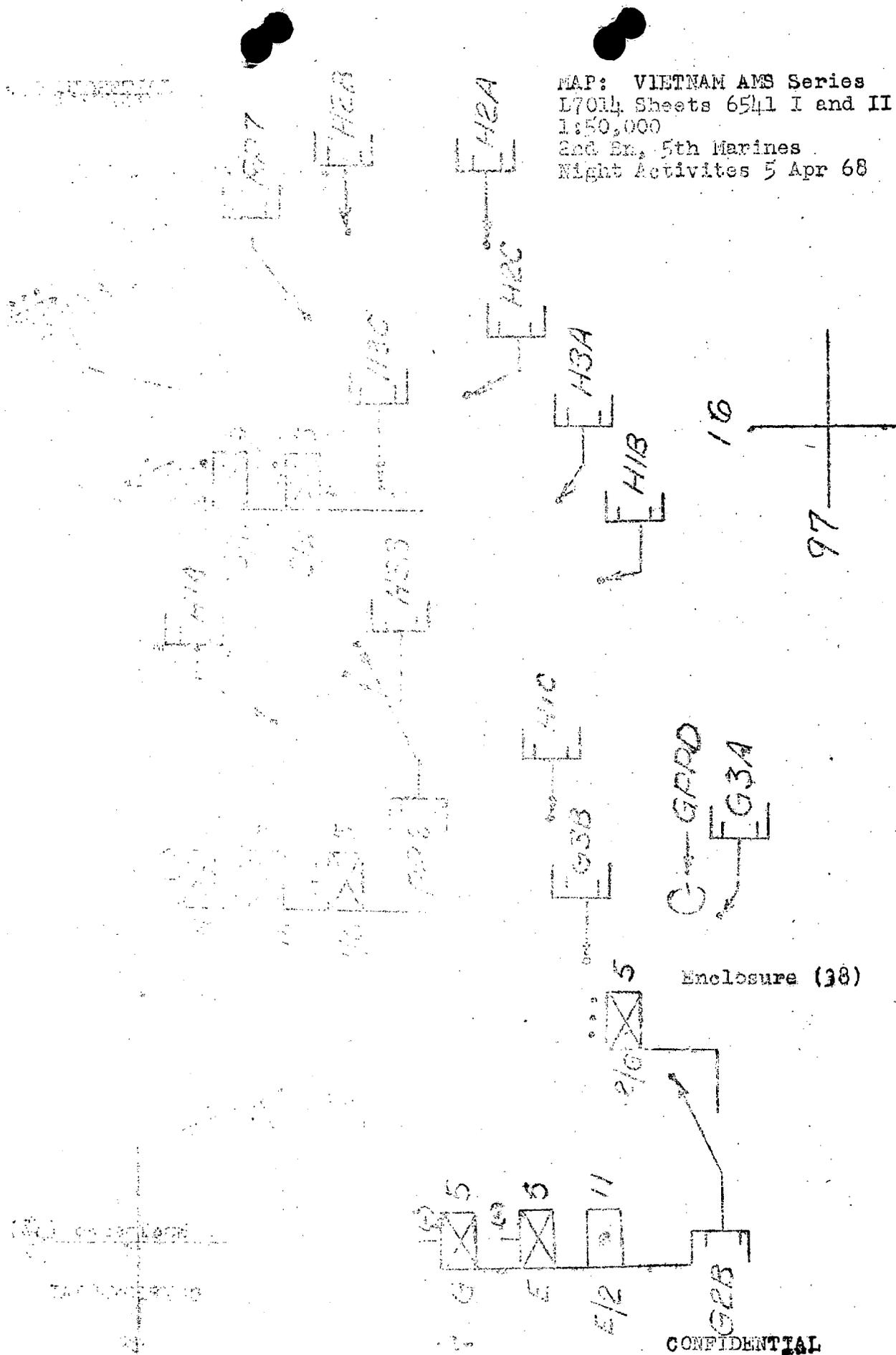
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Enclosure (37)

CONFIDENTIAL



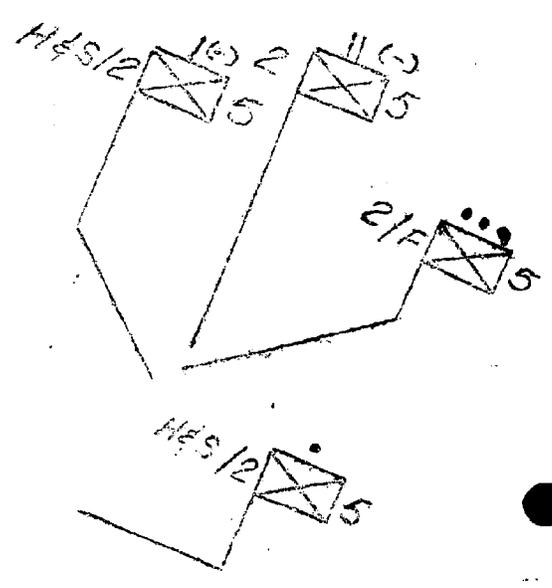
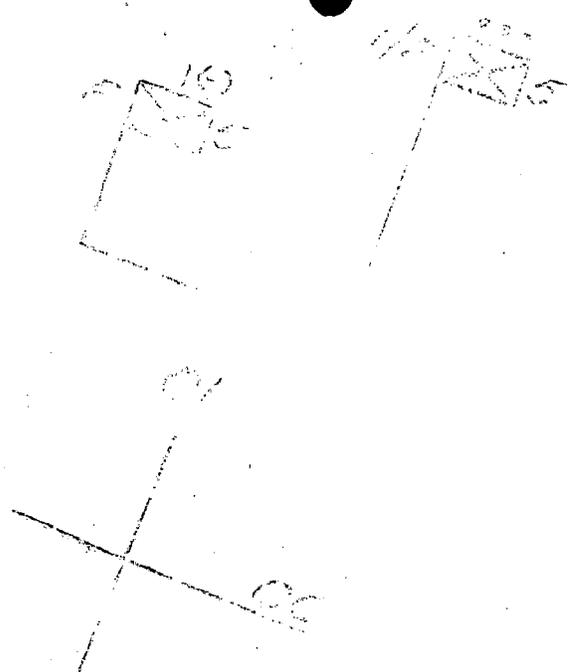
MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series  
L7014 Sheets 6541 I and II  
1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 5 Apr 68



Enclosure (38)

CONFIDENTIAL

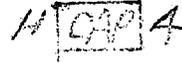
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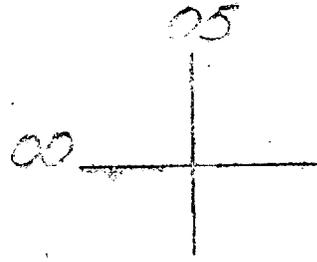
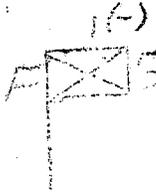
Enclosure (38)

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CONFIDENTIAL



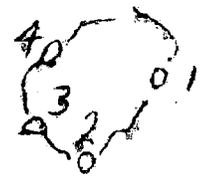
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Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 6 Apr 68



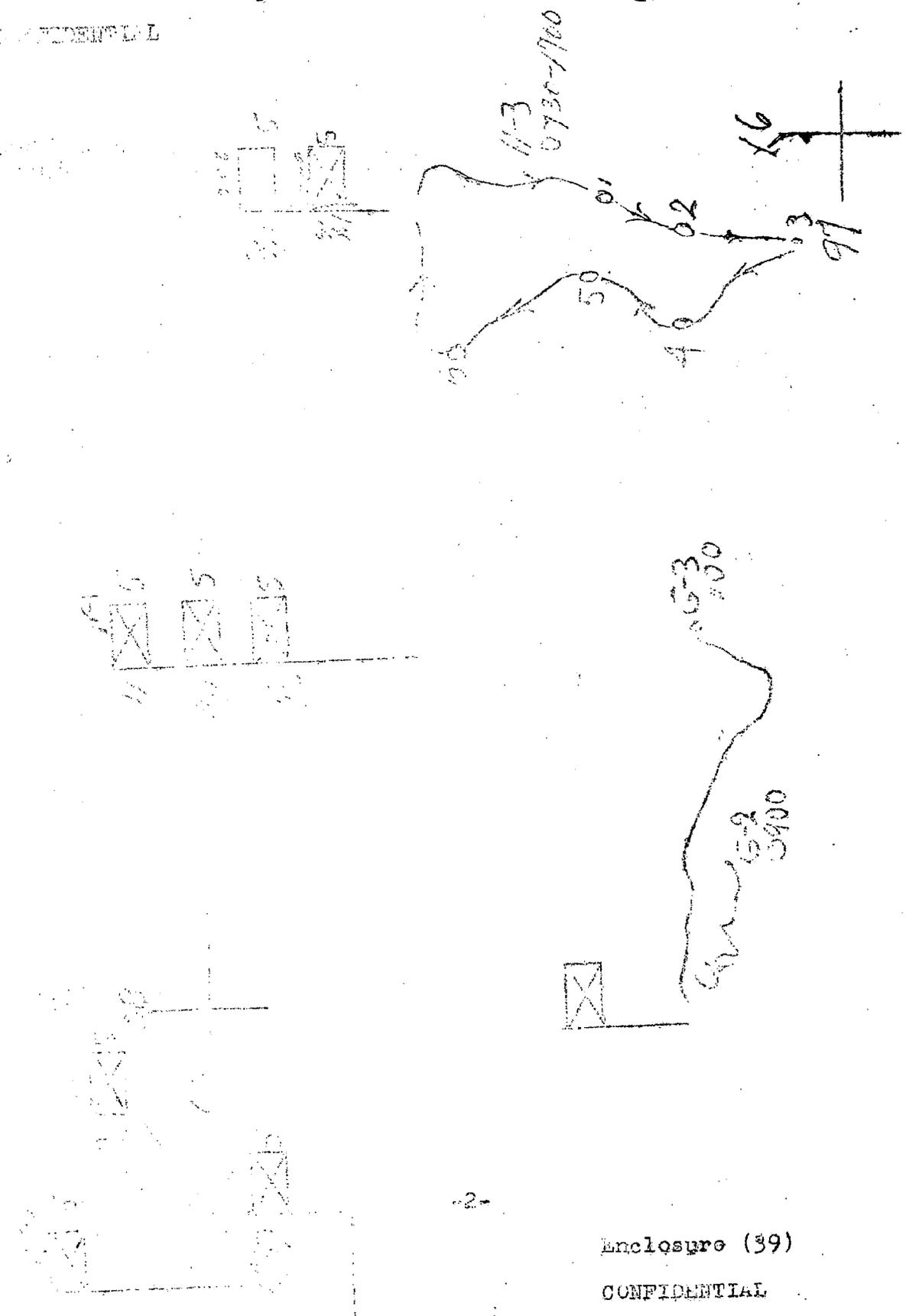
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enclosure (39)

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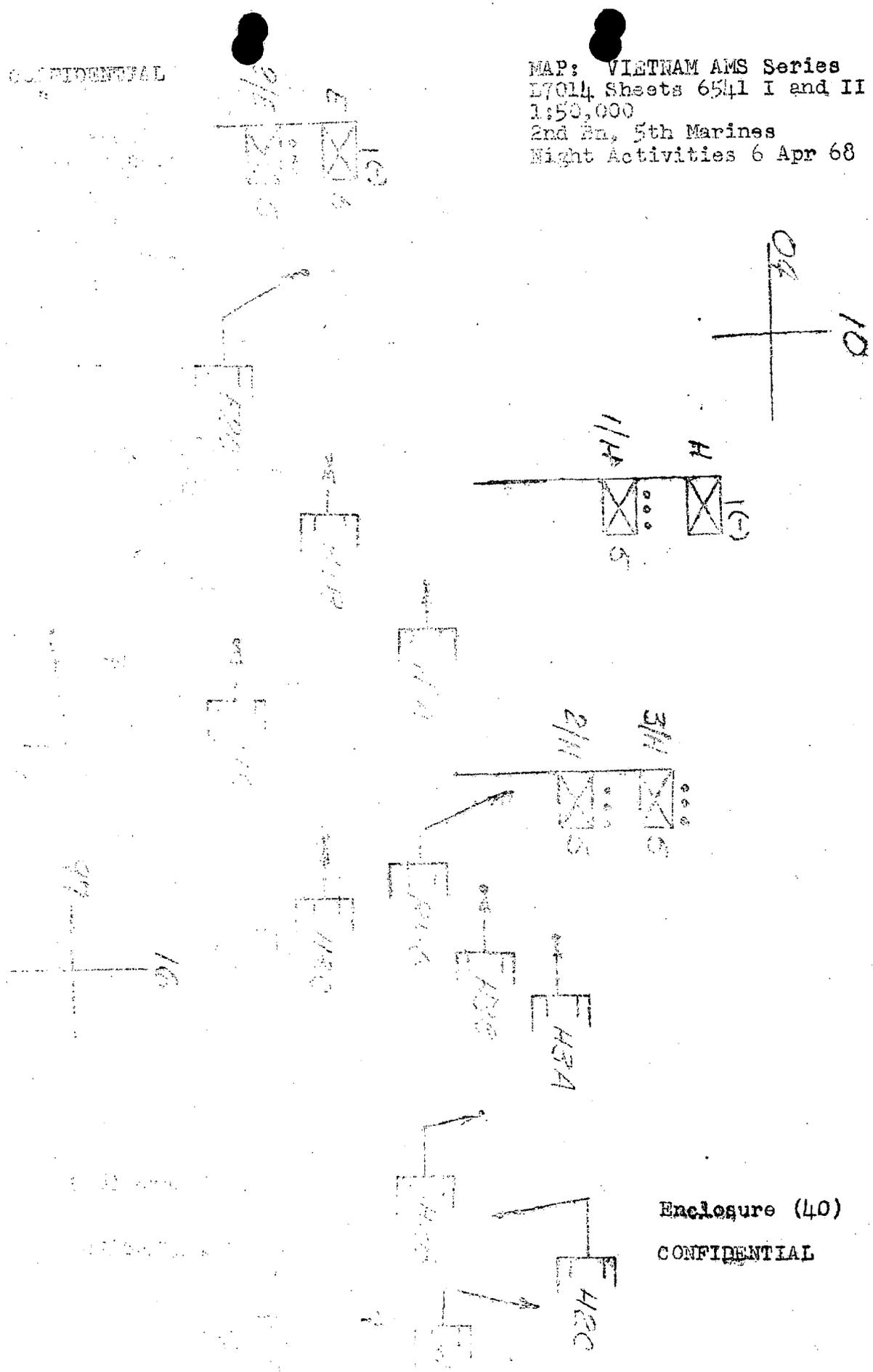


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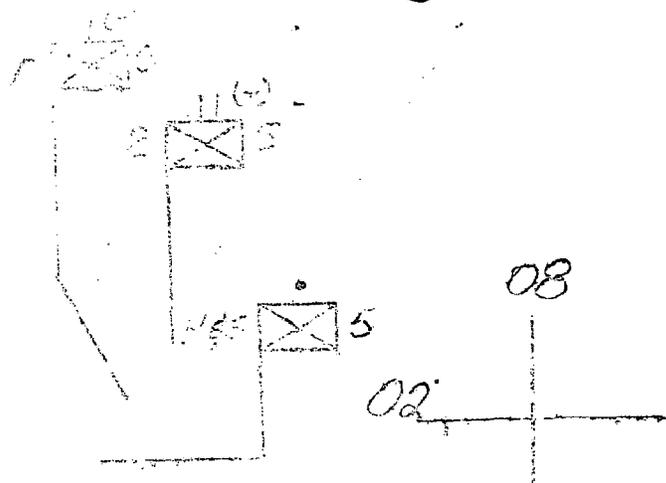
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E7014, Sheets 6541 I and II  
1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 6 Apr 68



Enclosure (40)

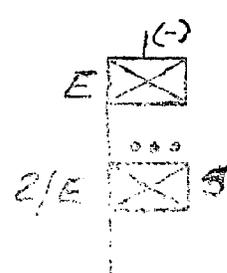
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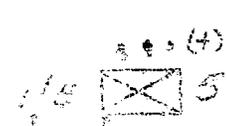


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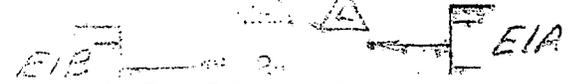


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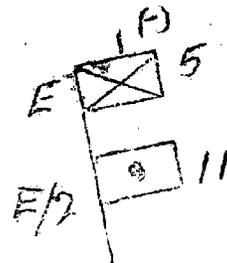
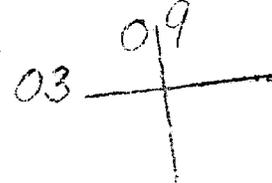
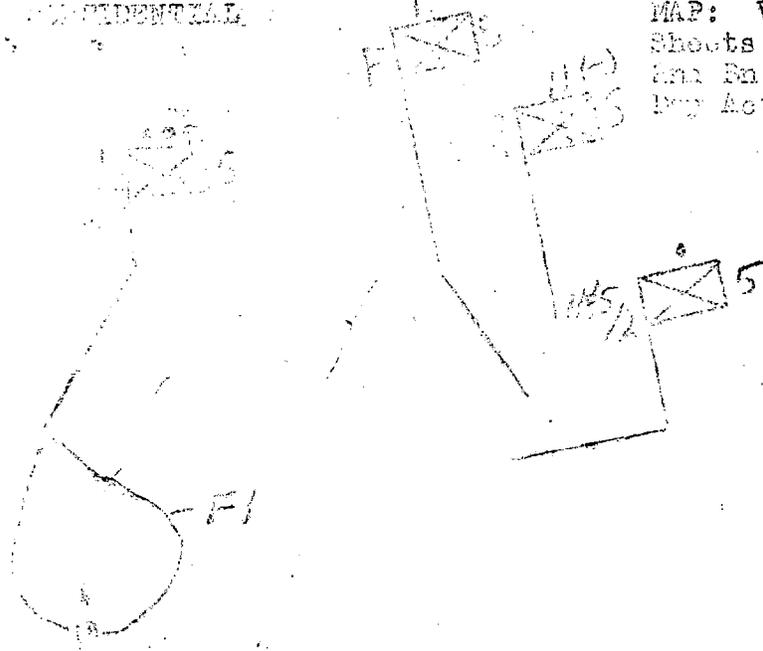
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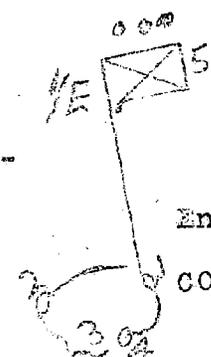


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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6501 I and II 1:50,000  
Am Bn, 5th Marines  
By Activities 7 Apr 68



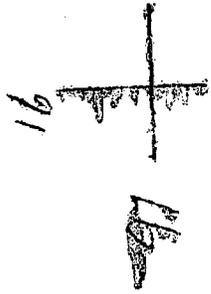
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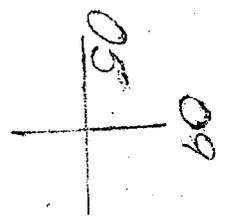
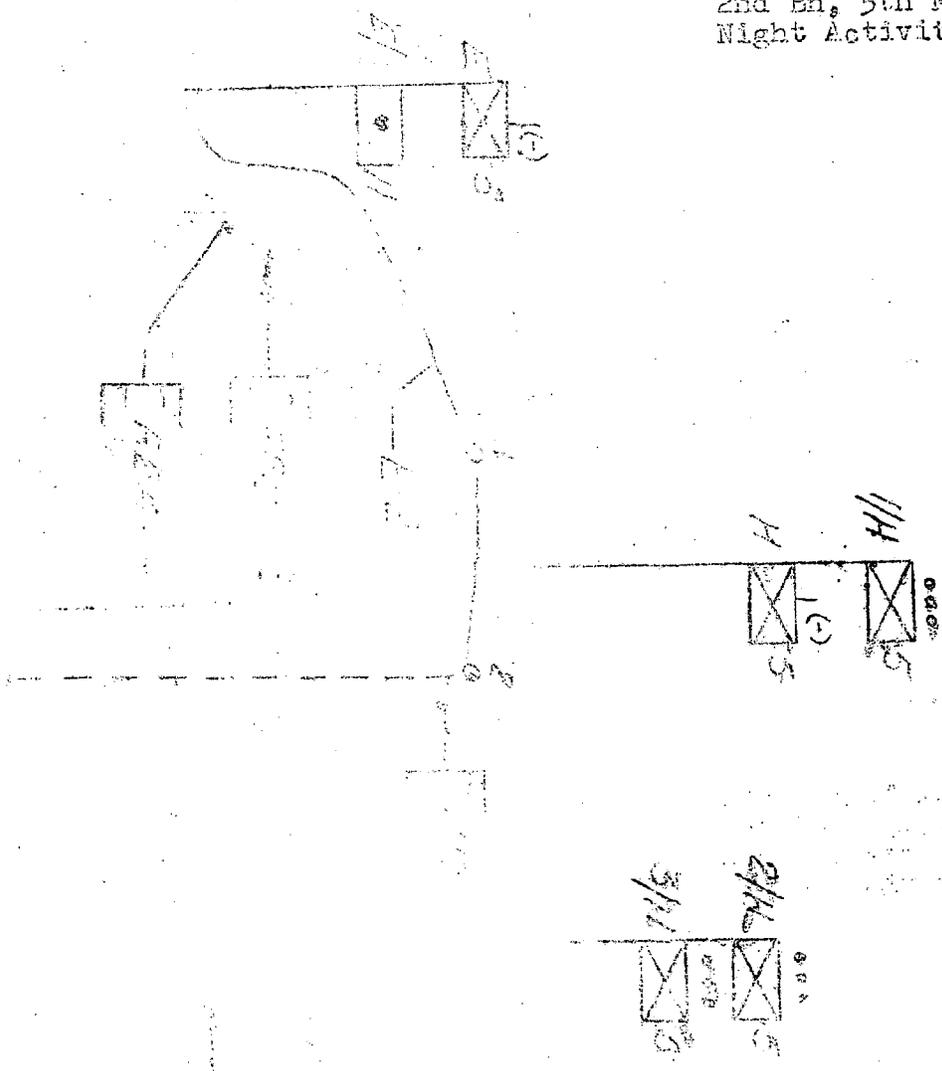
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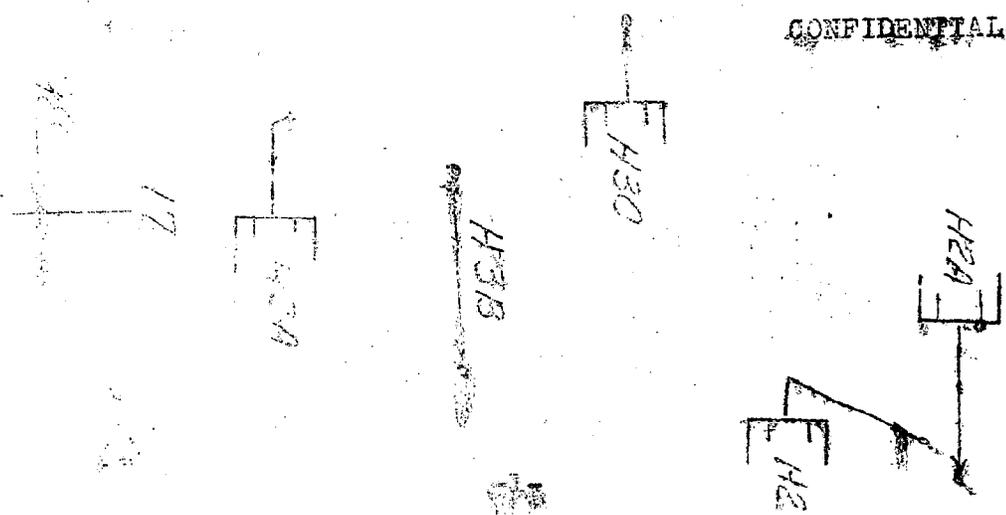
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 7 Apr 68

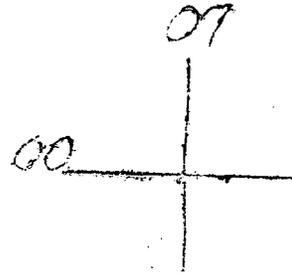
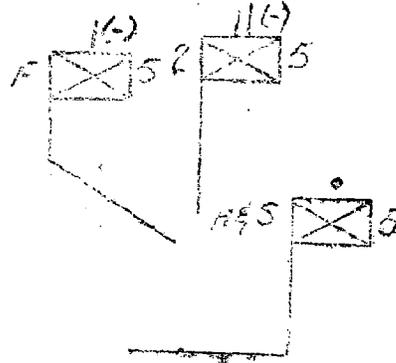


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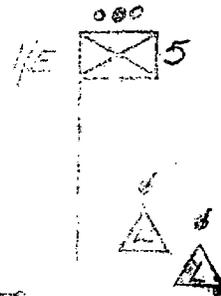


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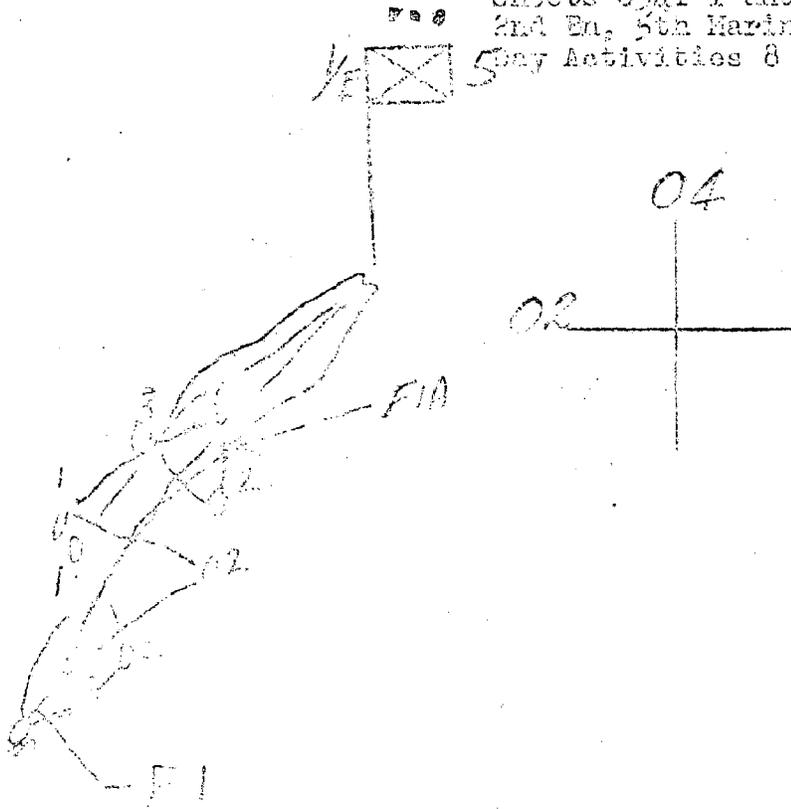
Enclosure (42)

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Sheets 6501 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Spy Activities 8 Apr 68

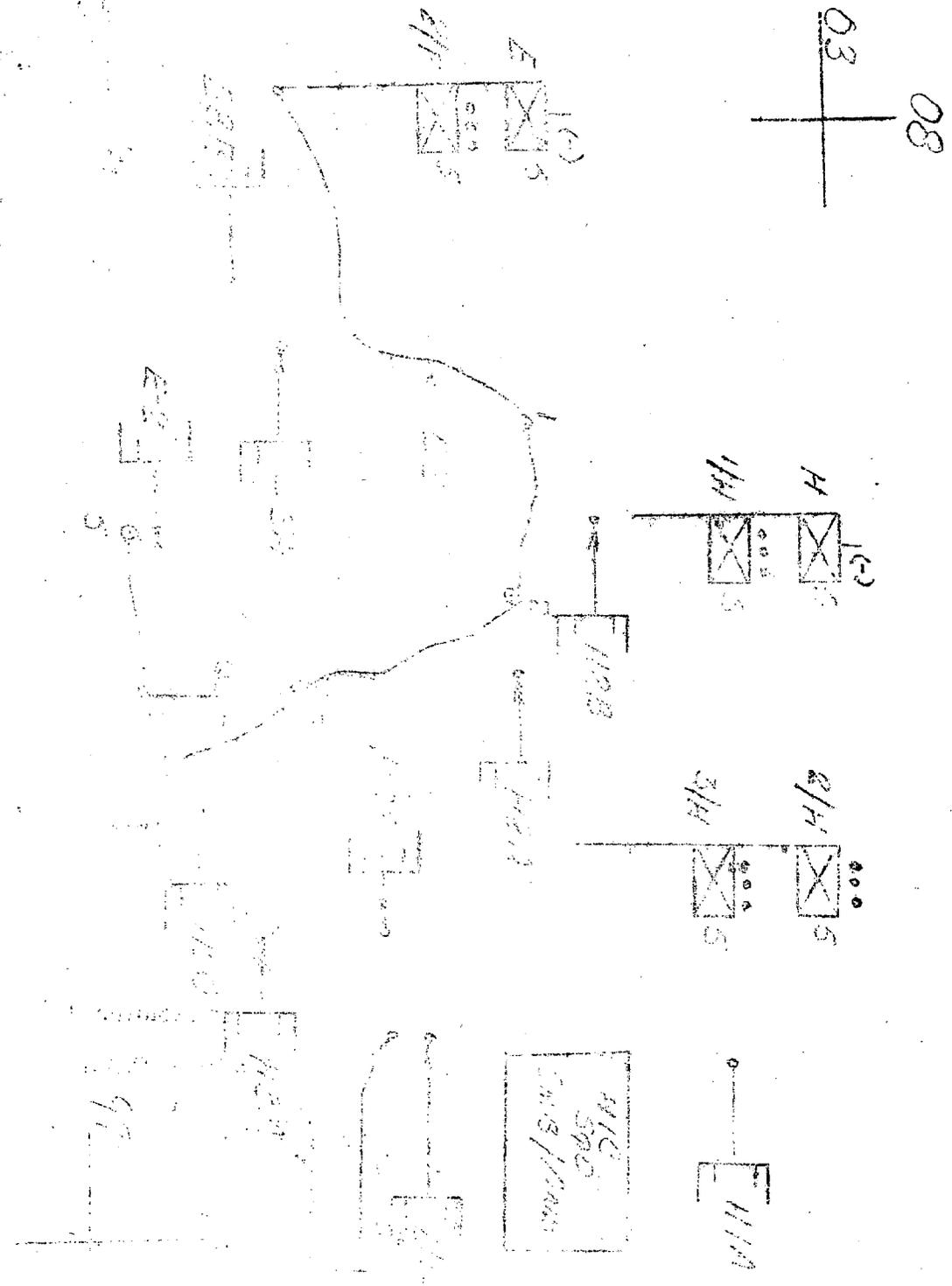


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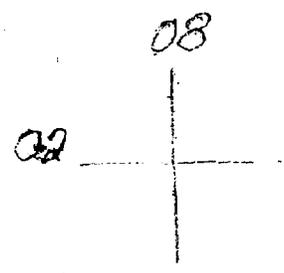
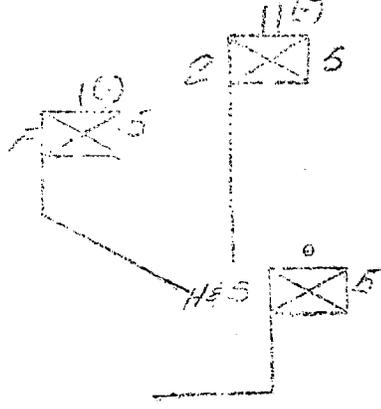
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Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Battalion, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 8 Apr 68



Enclosure (44)

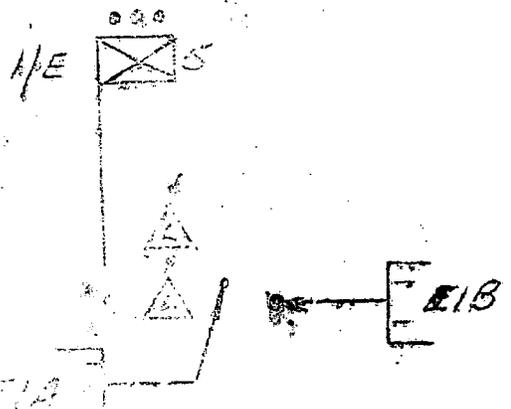
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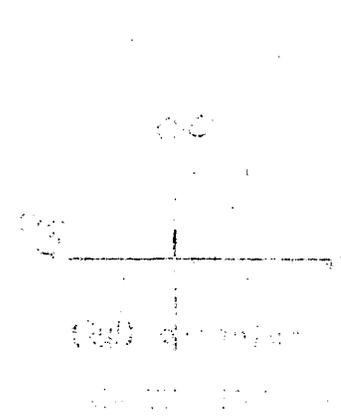
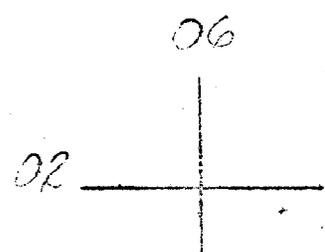
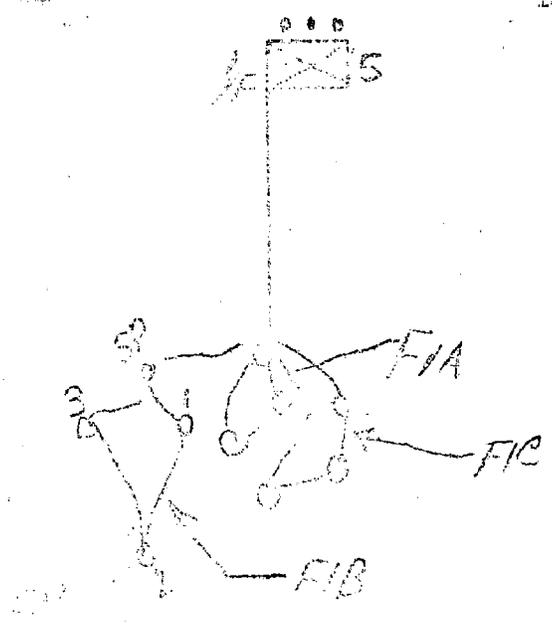
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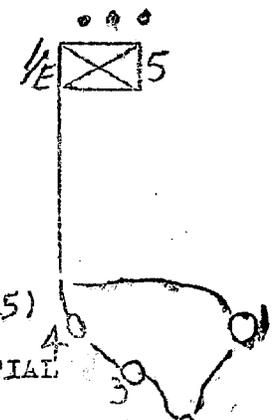
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 9 Apr 68

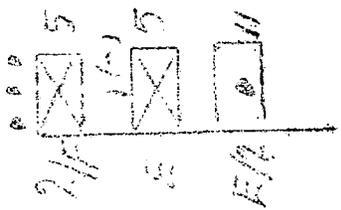
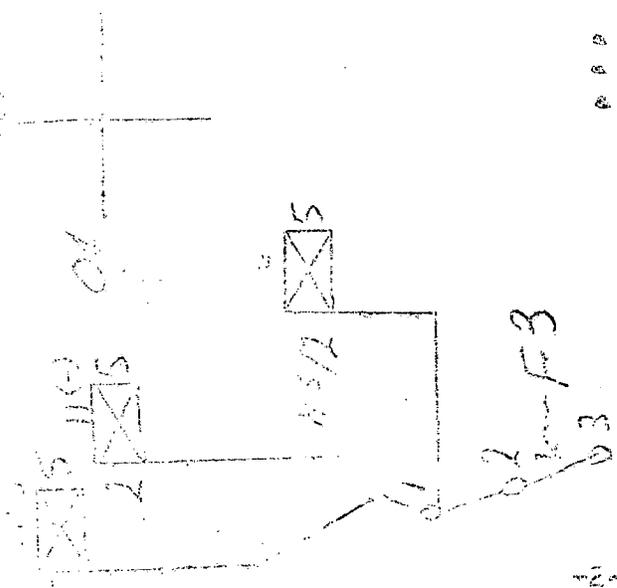
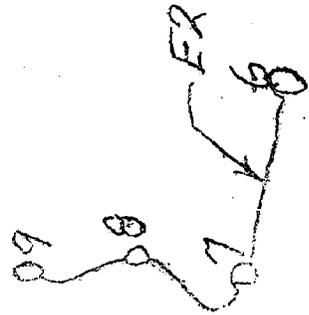
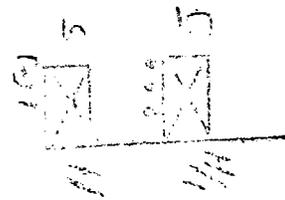
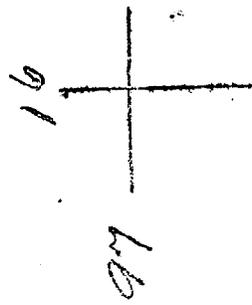


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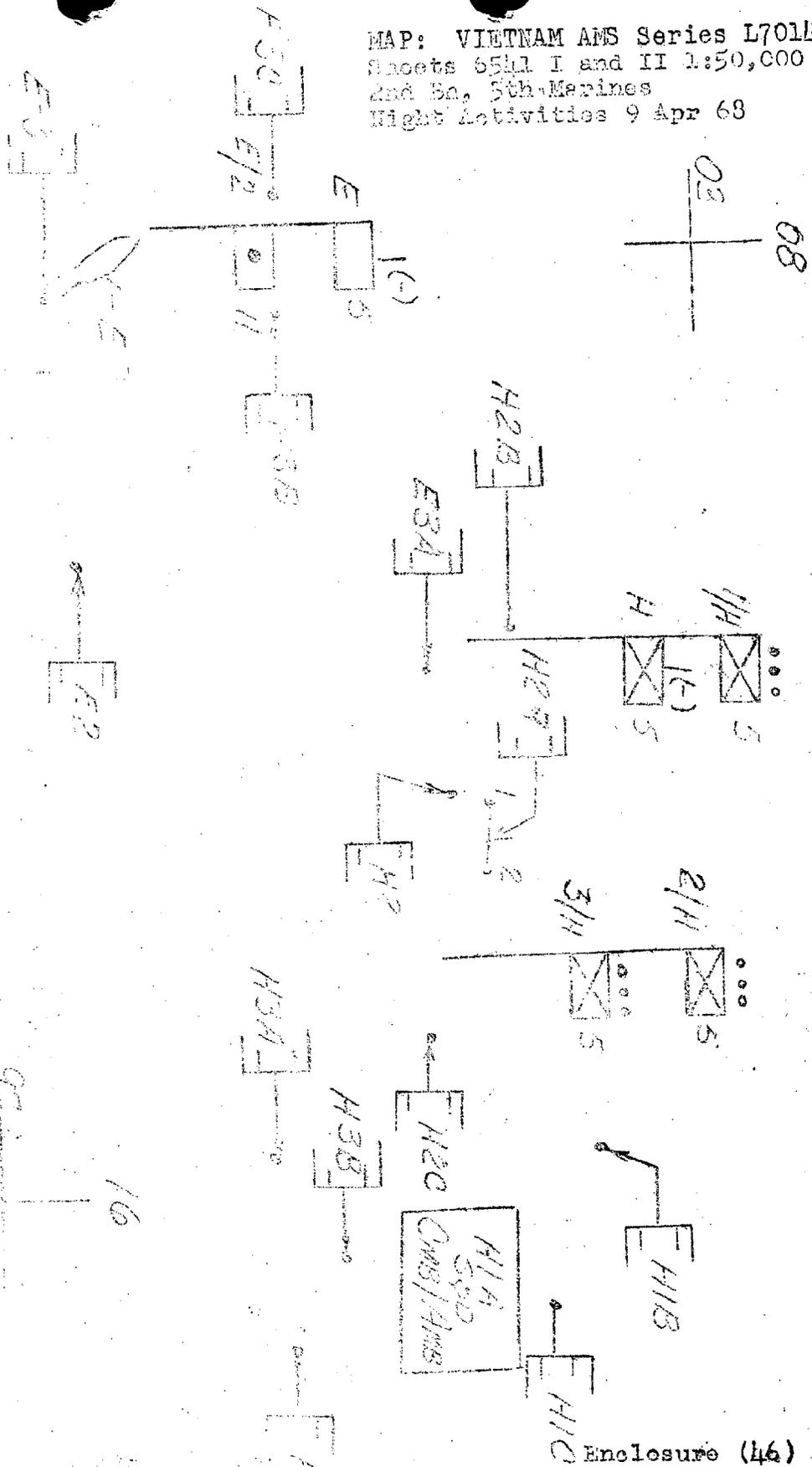


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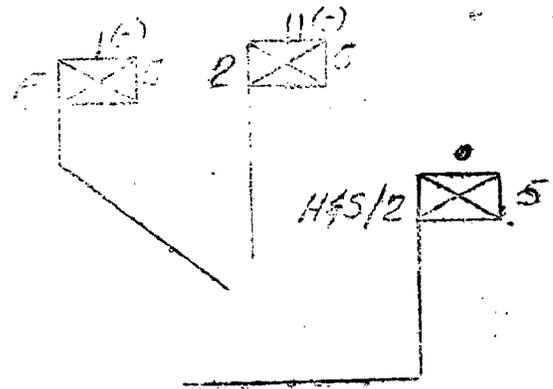
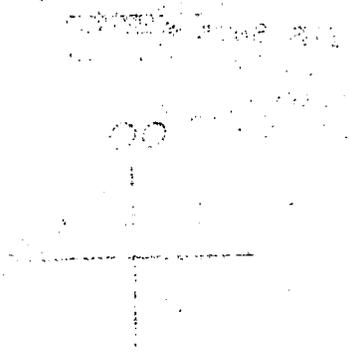
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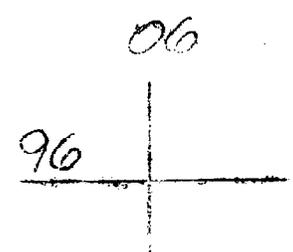
MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 9 Apr 68



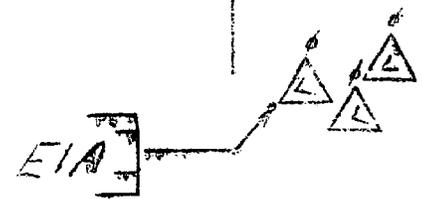
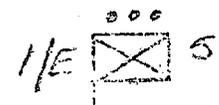
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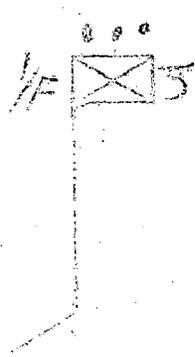
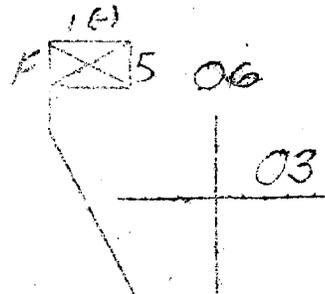
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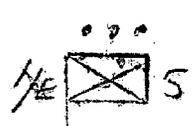
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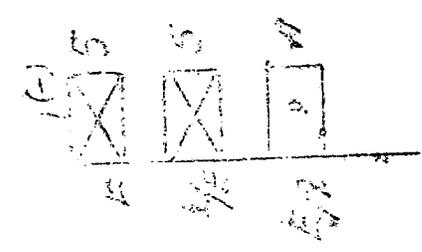
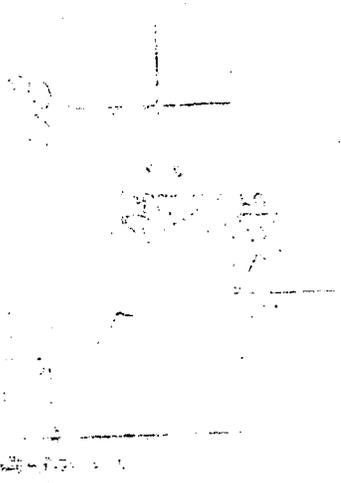
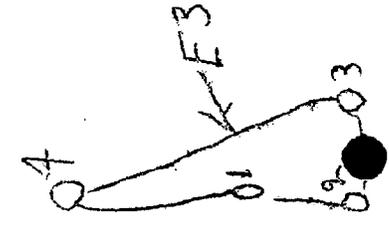
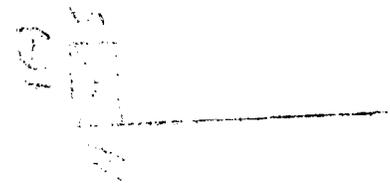
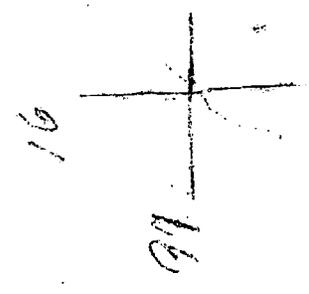
MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
 Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
 2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
 Day Activities 10 Apr 68



Enclosure (17)

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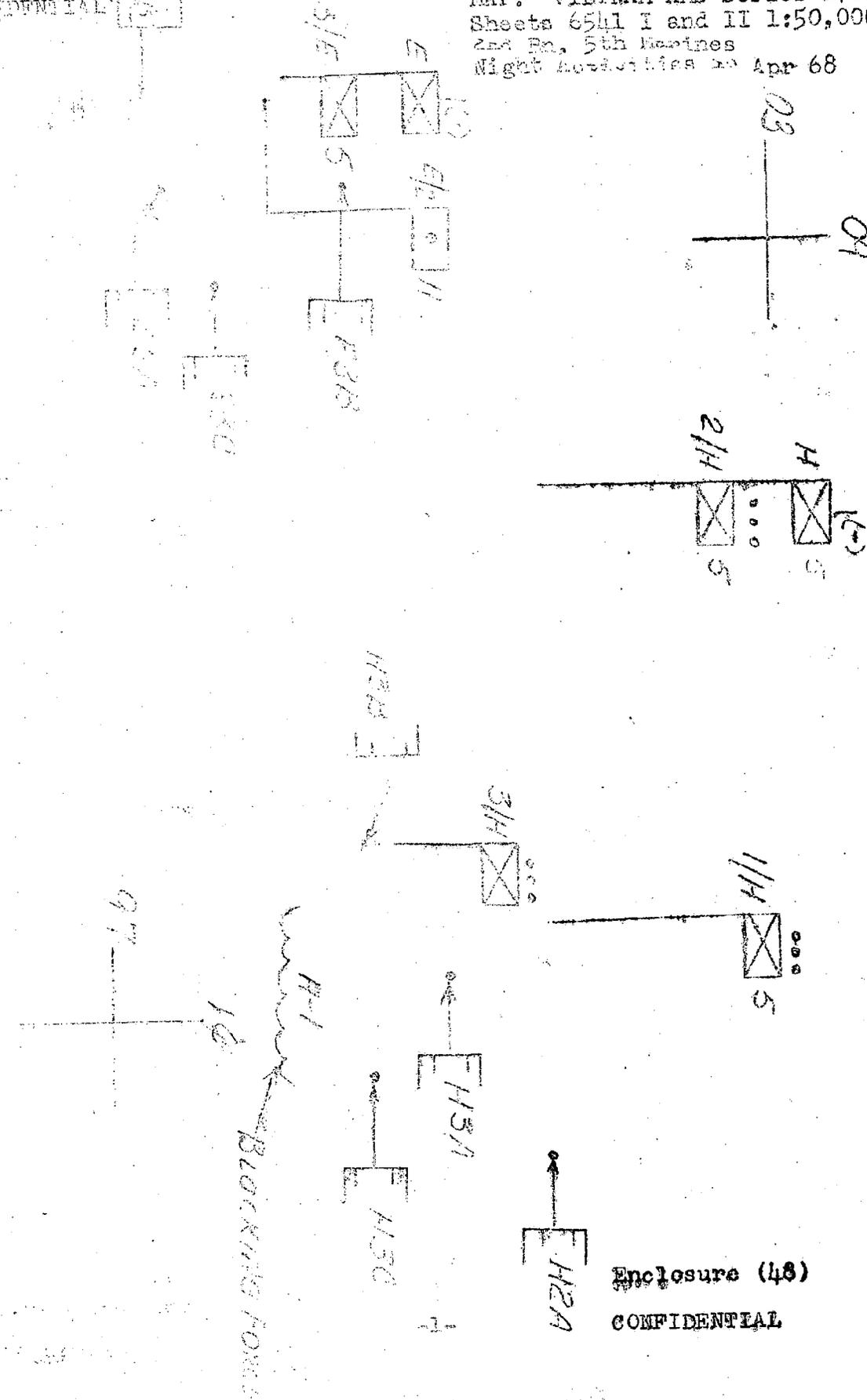


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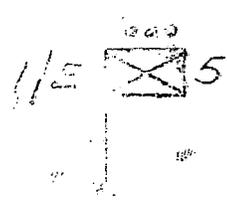
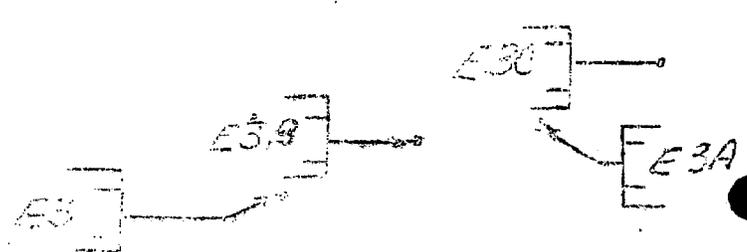
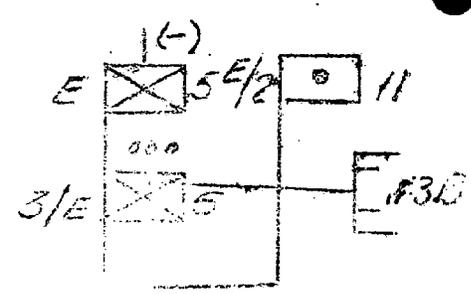
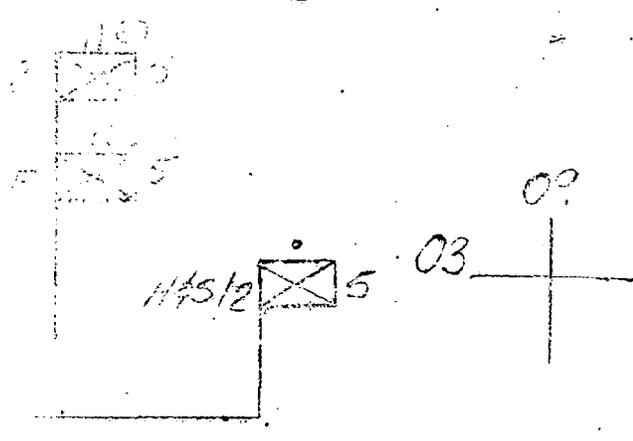
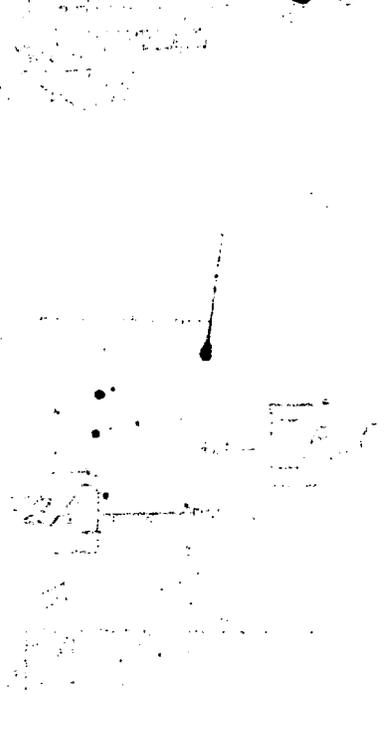
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities to Apr 68

CONFIDENTIAL



Enclosure (48)  
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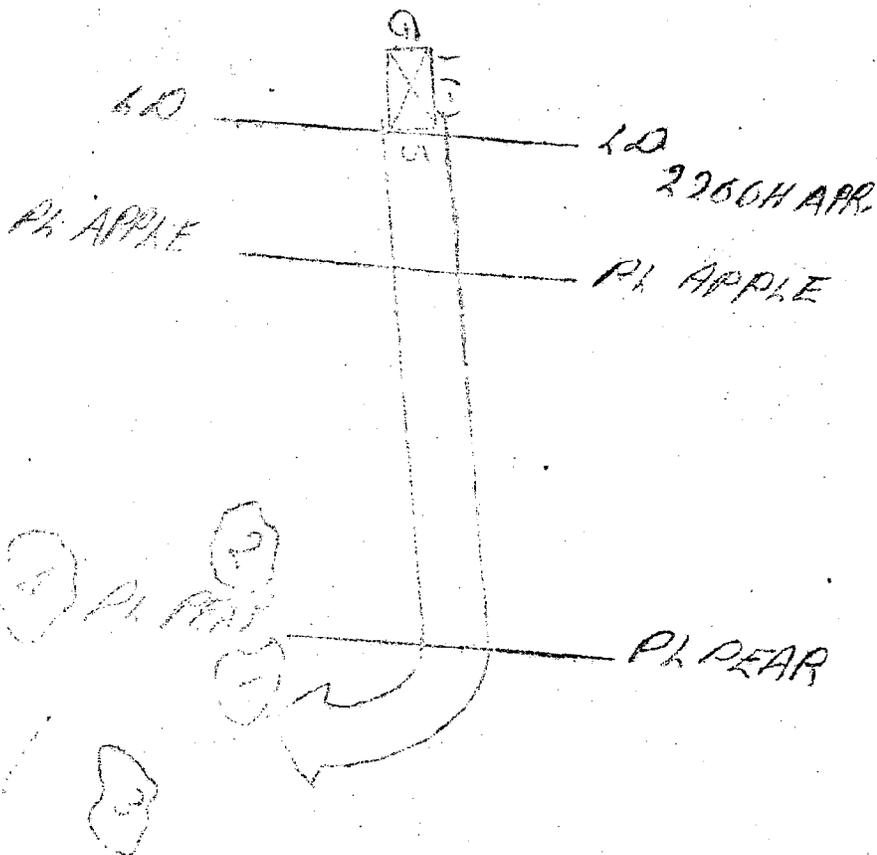
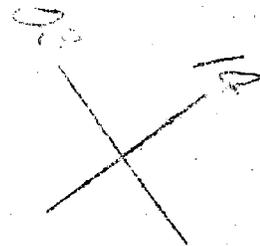
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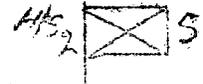
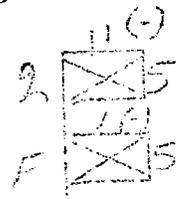
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 65M I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Ln, 5th Marines  
Co 3 Search 11-14 Apr 68



Enclosure (49)

CONFIDENTIAL



E2CPB

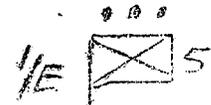
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MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6511 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Map Activities 11 Apr 68

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CMB

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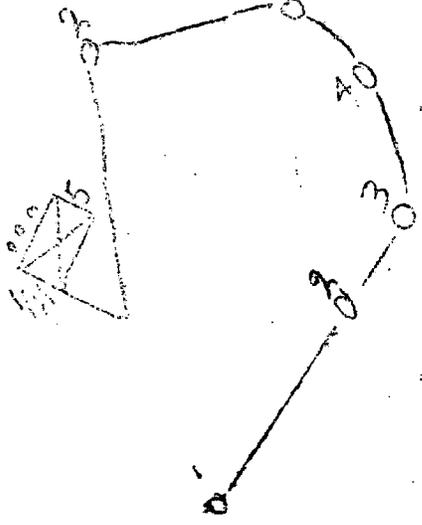
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Enclosure (50)

CONFIDENTIAL





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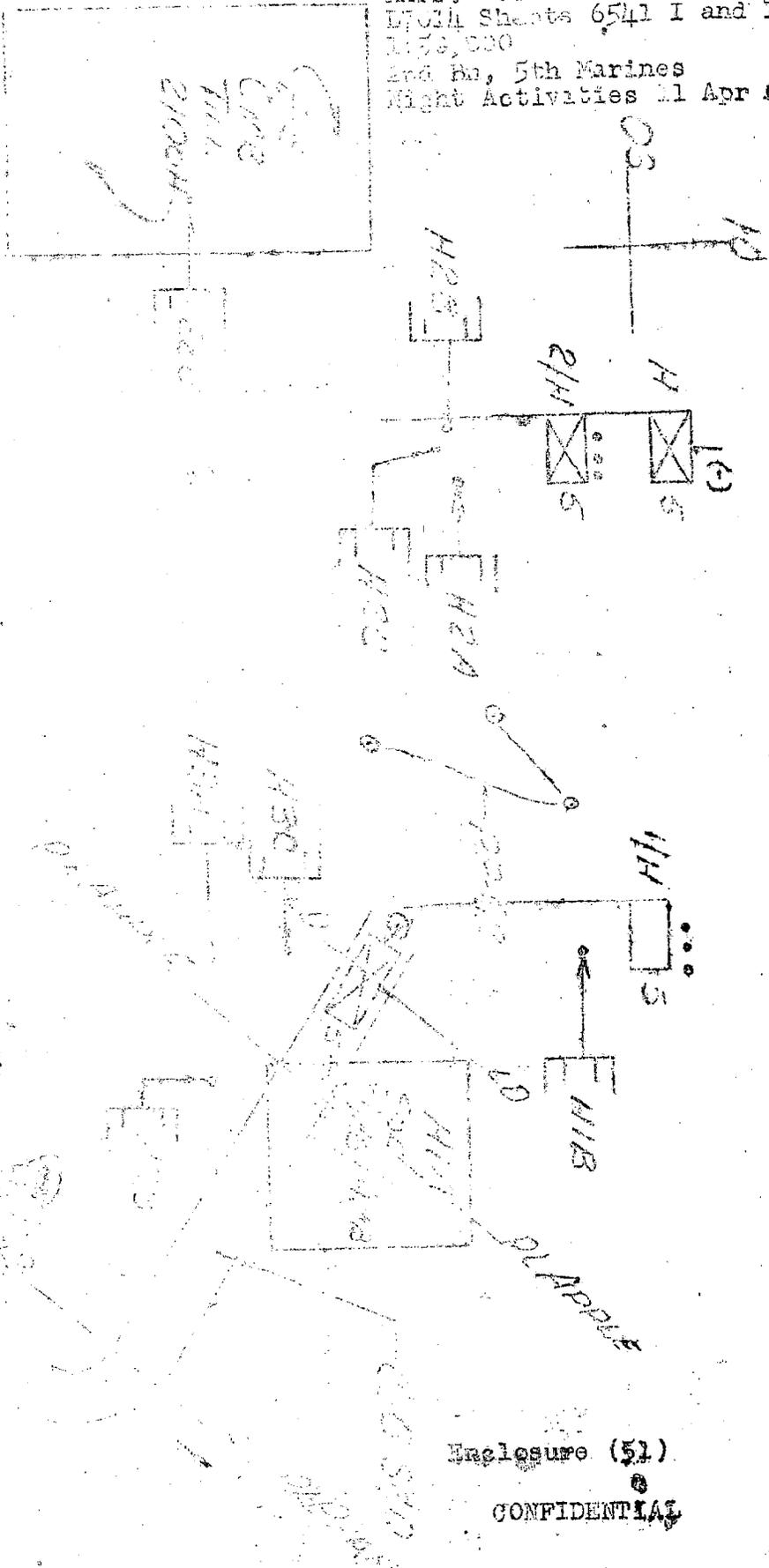
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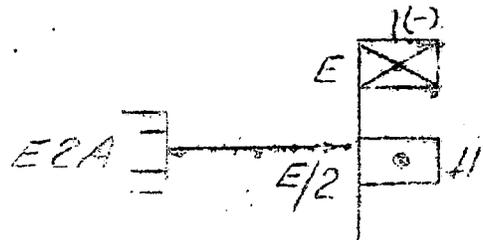
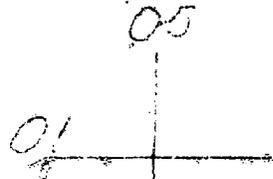
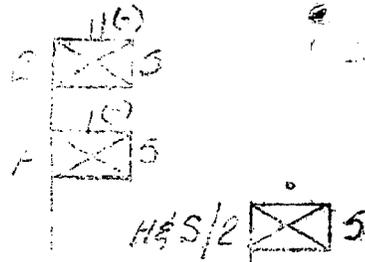
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MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series  
DTGM Sheets 6541 I and II  
1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 21 Apr 68



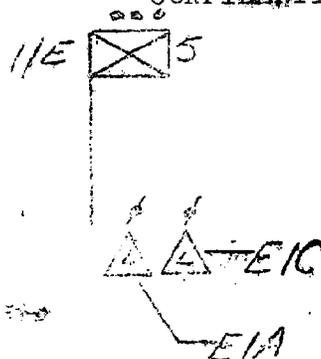
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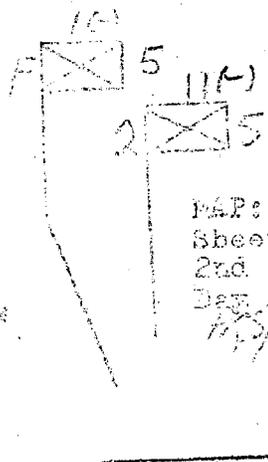


Enclosure (51)

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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
 Sheets 6511 I and II 1:50,000  
 2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
 Day Activities 12 Apr 68

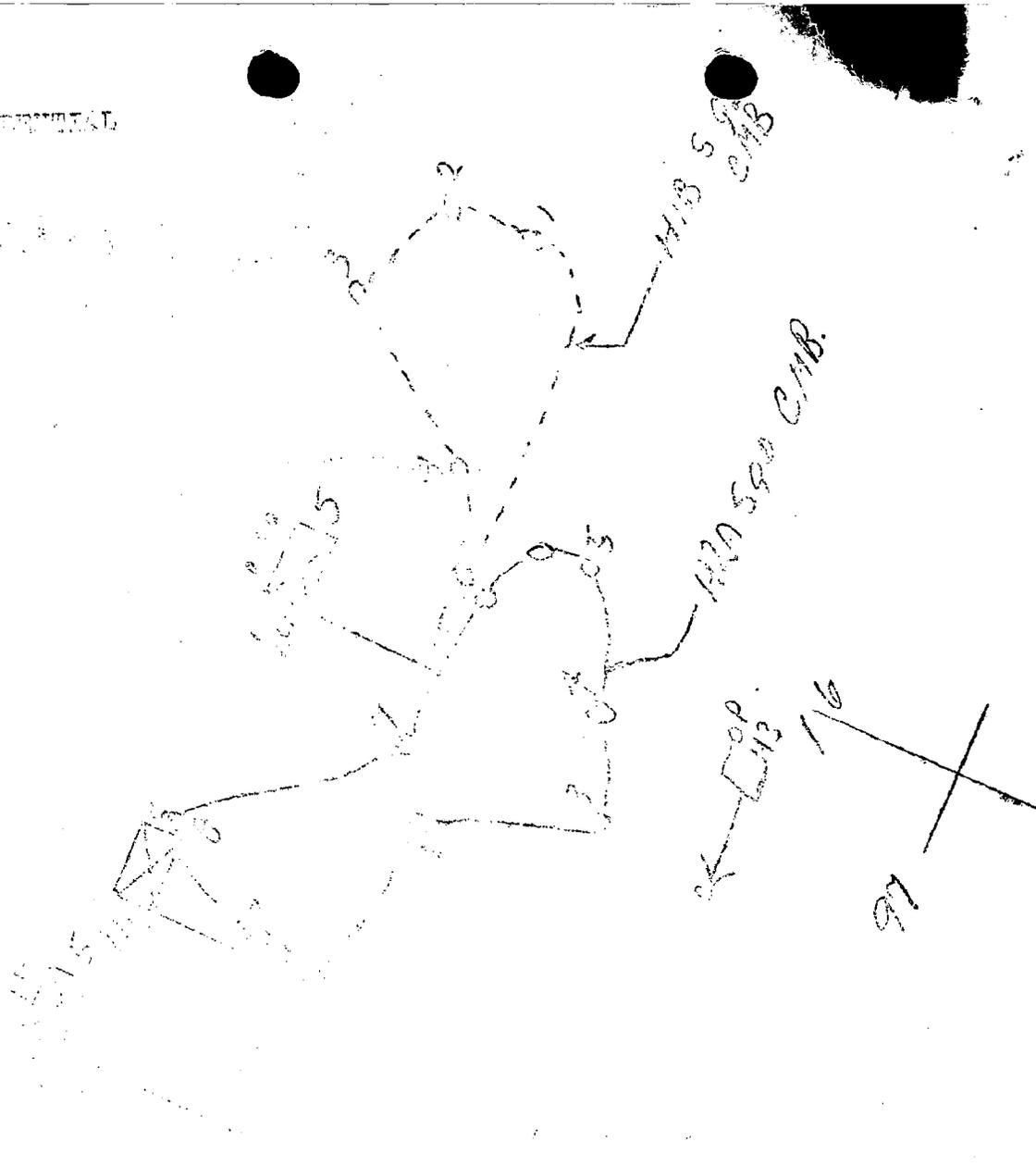


Enclosure (52)

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E1B SQD  
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CONFIDENTIAL

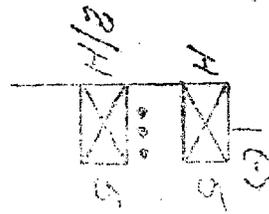
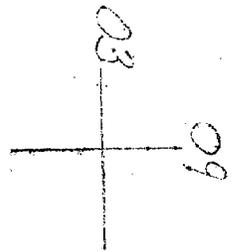
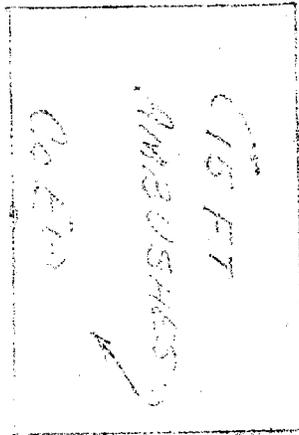


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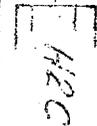
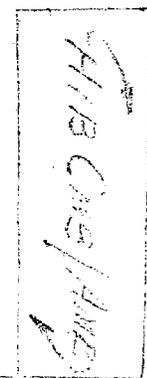
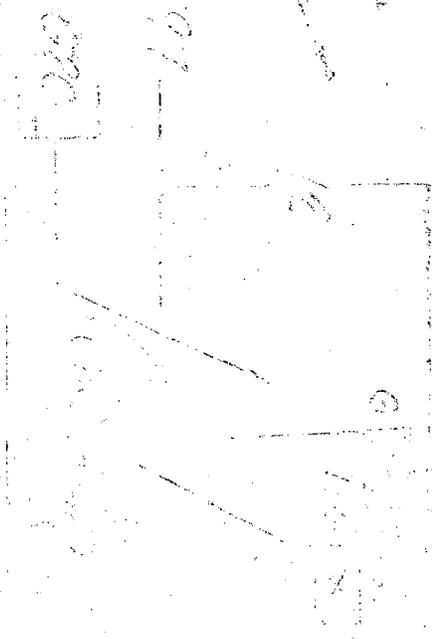
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MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 12 Apr

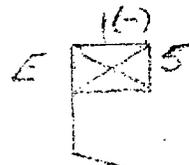
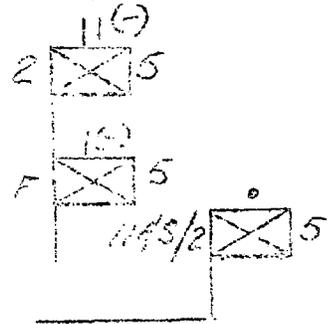


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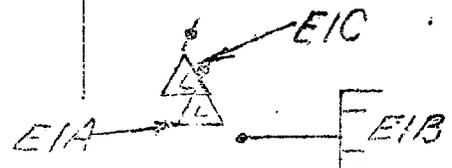
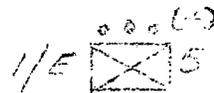
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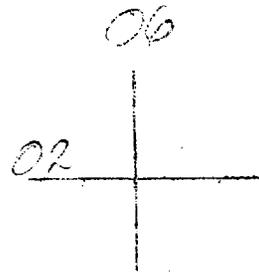
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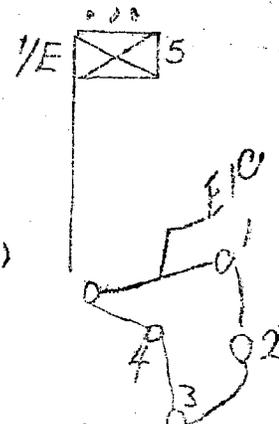
MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II  
2nd En. 5th Marines  
Day Activities 13 Apr 68



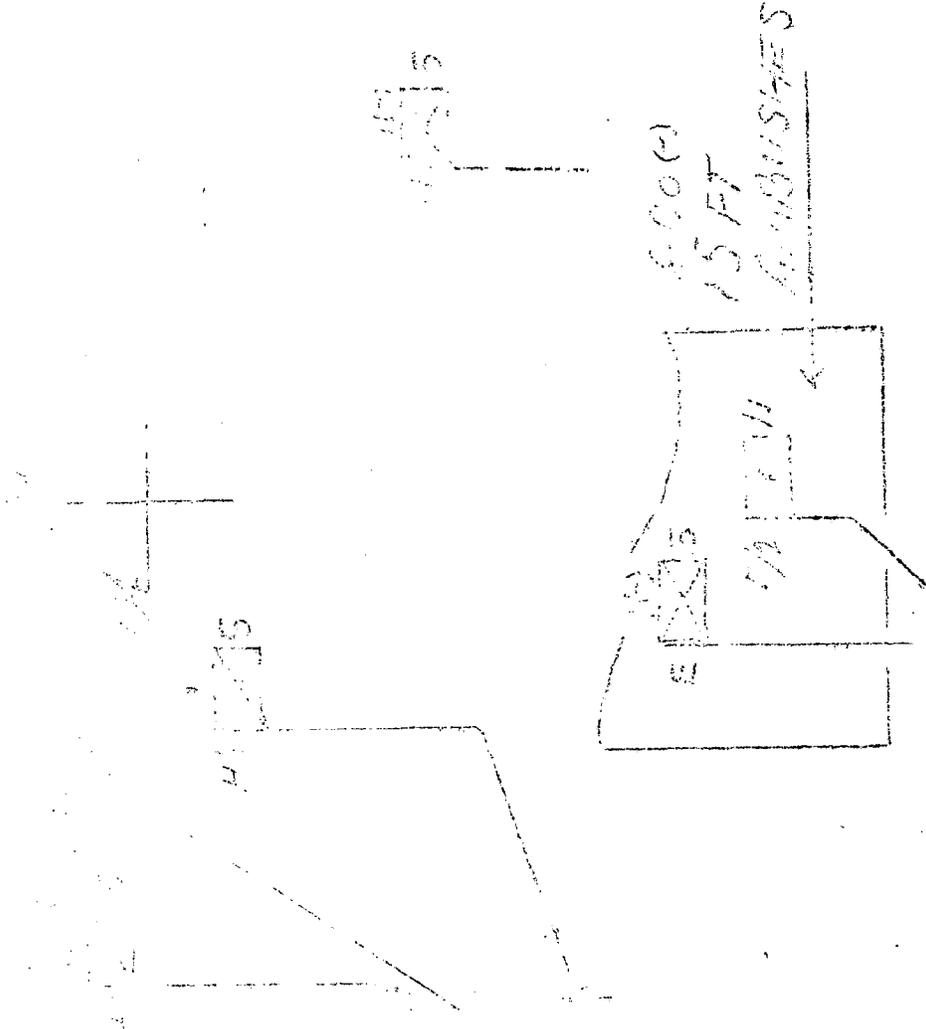
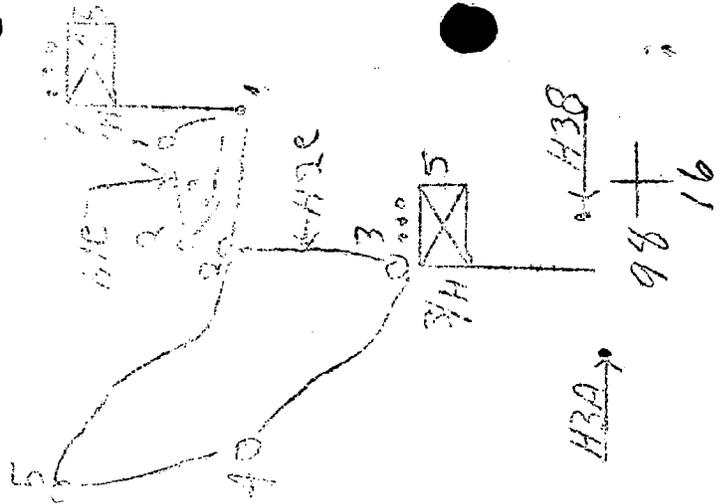
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Enclosure (54)

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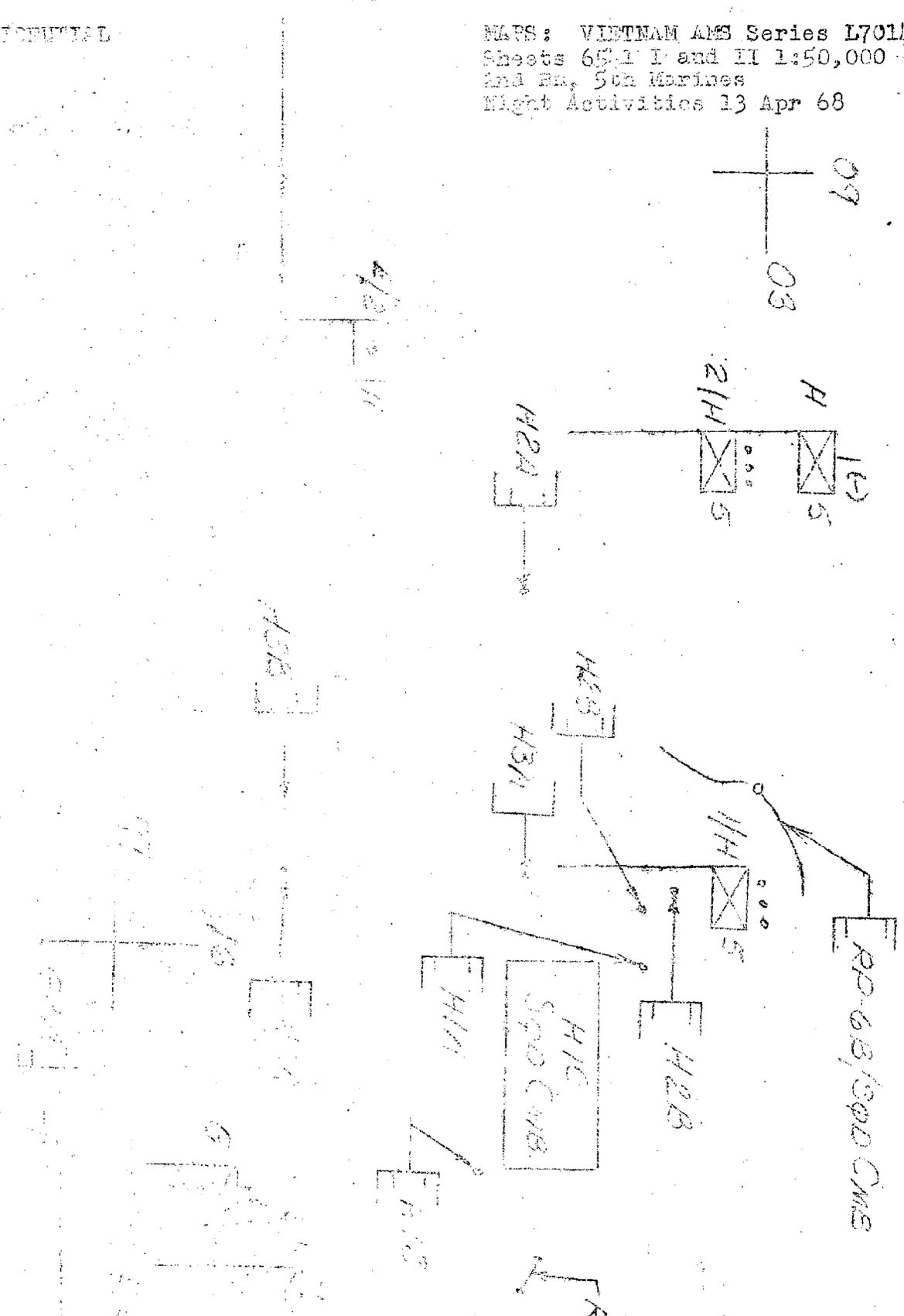


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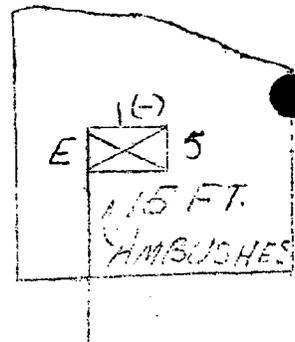
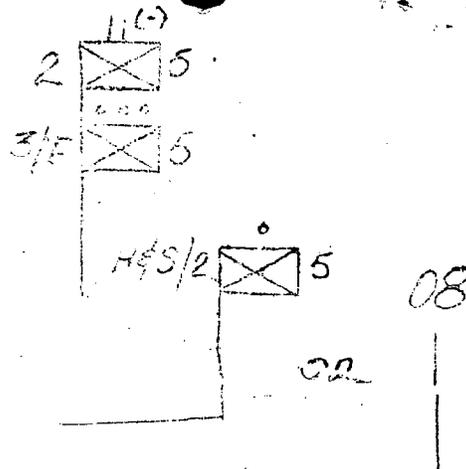
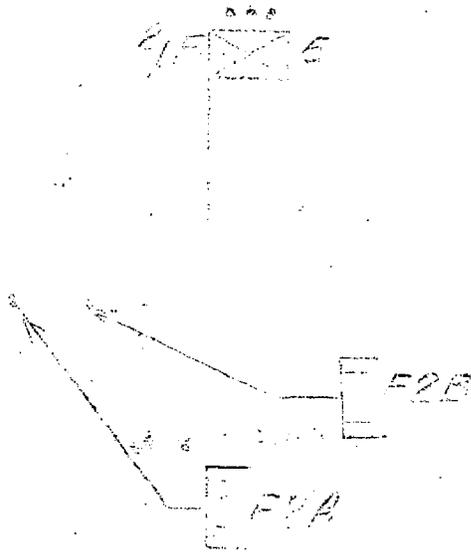
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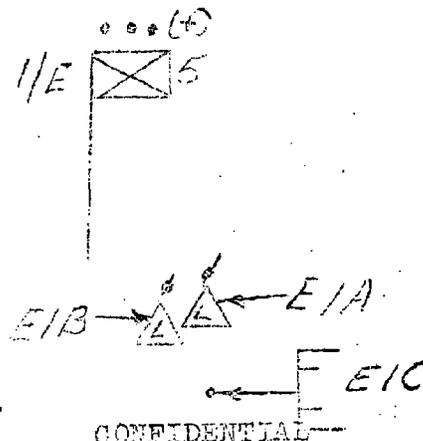
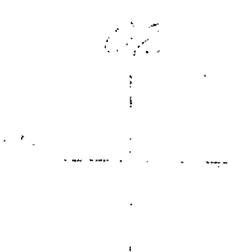
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Sheets 651 I and II 1:50,000  
and Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 13 Apr 68



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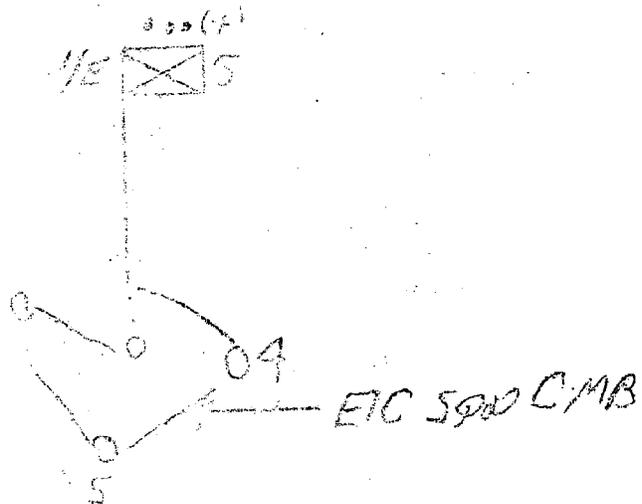
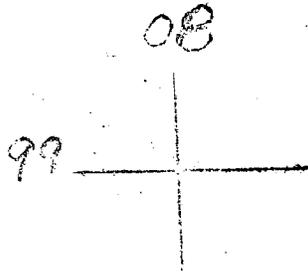


Enclosure (55)



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MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 65, I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Reg Activities 14 Apr 68



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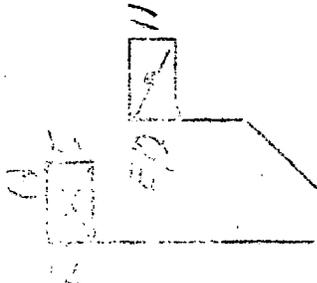
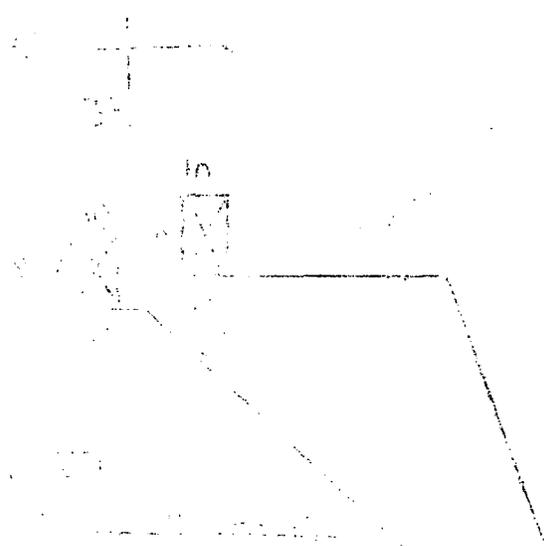
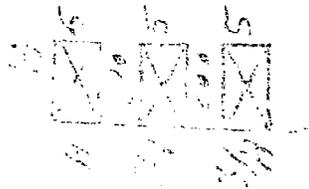
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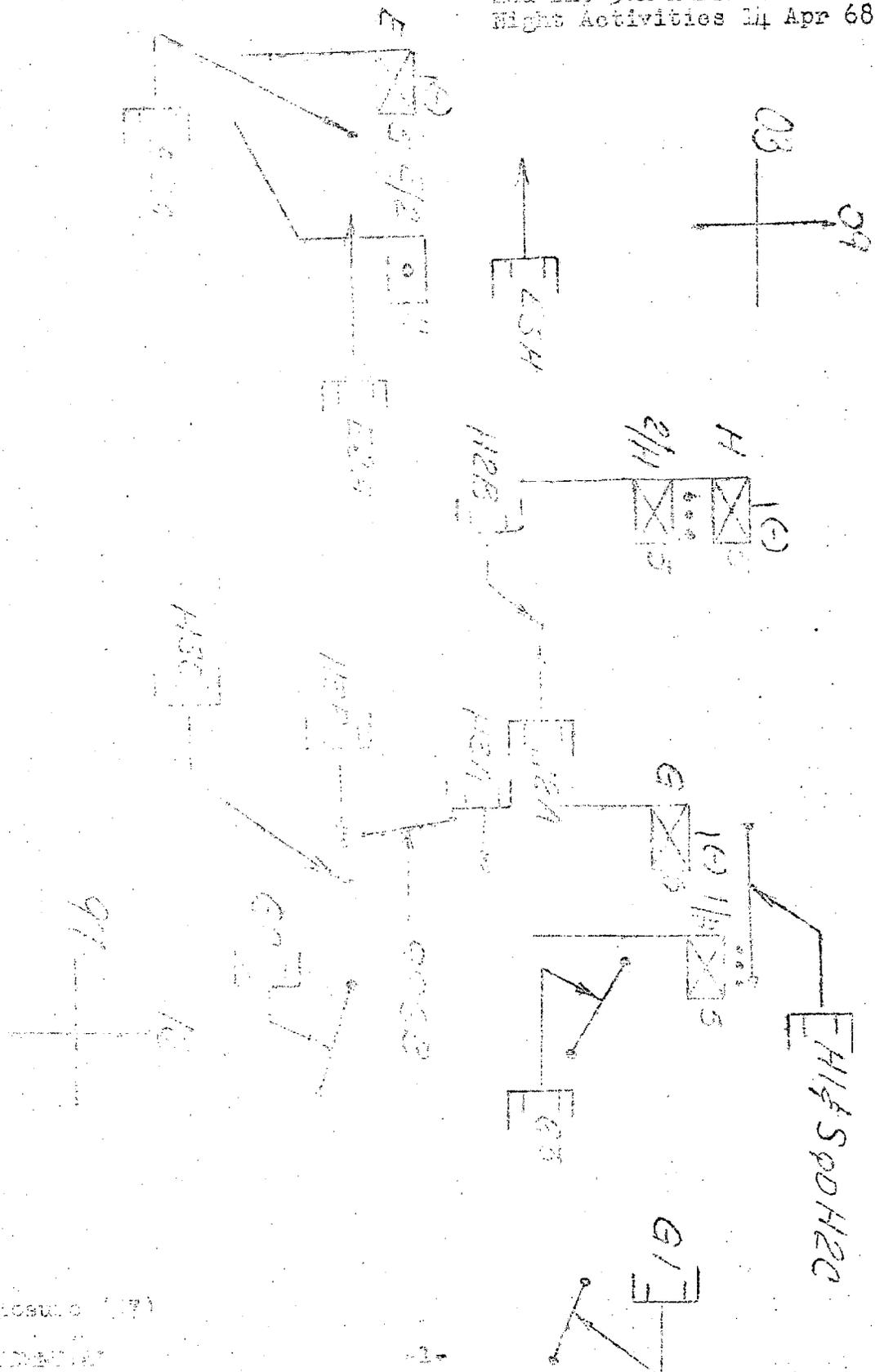
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Enclosure (56)

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2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 14 Apr 68

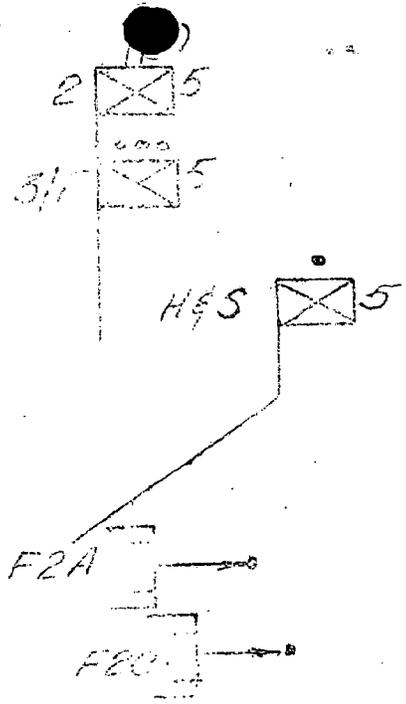


Enclosure (7)  
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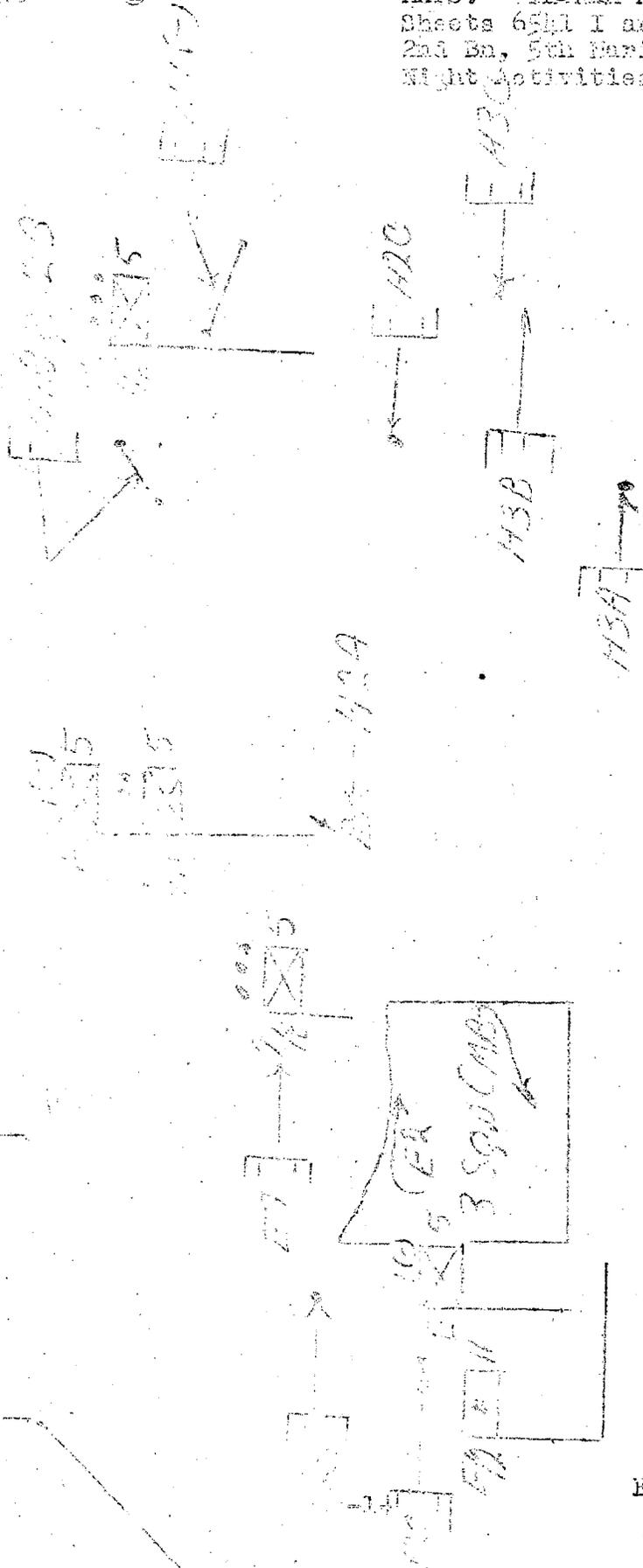
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Night Activities 15 Apr 68

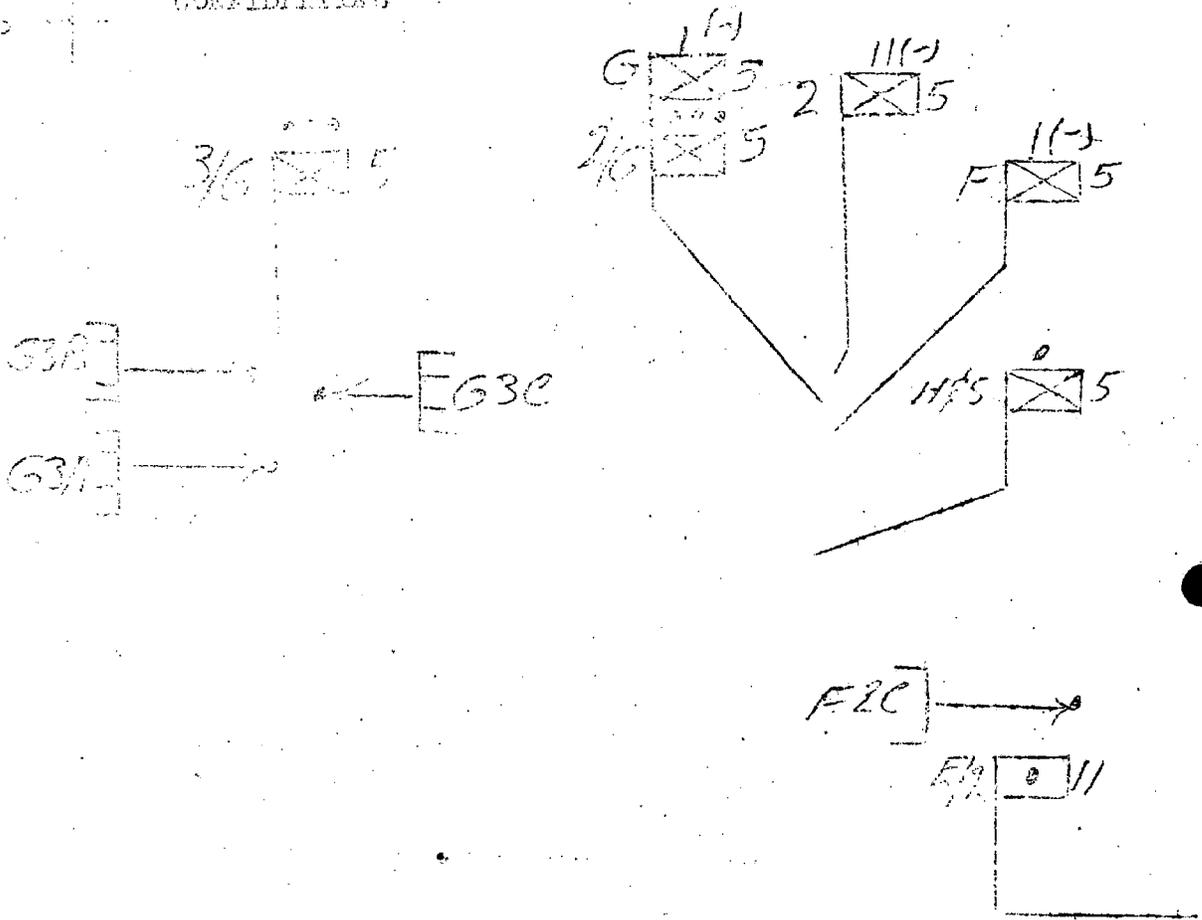


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Enclosure (58)

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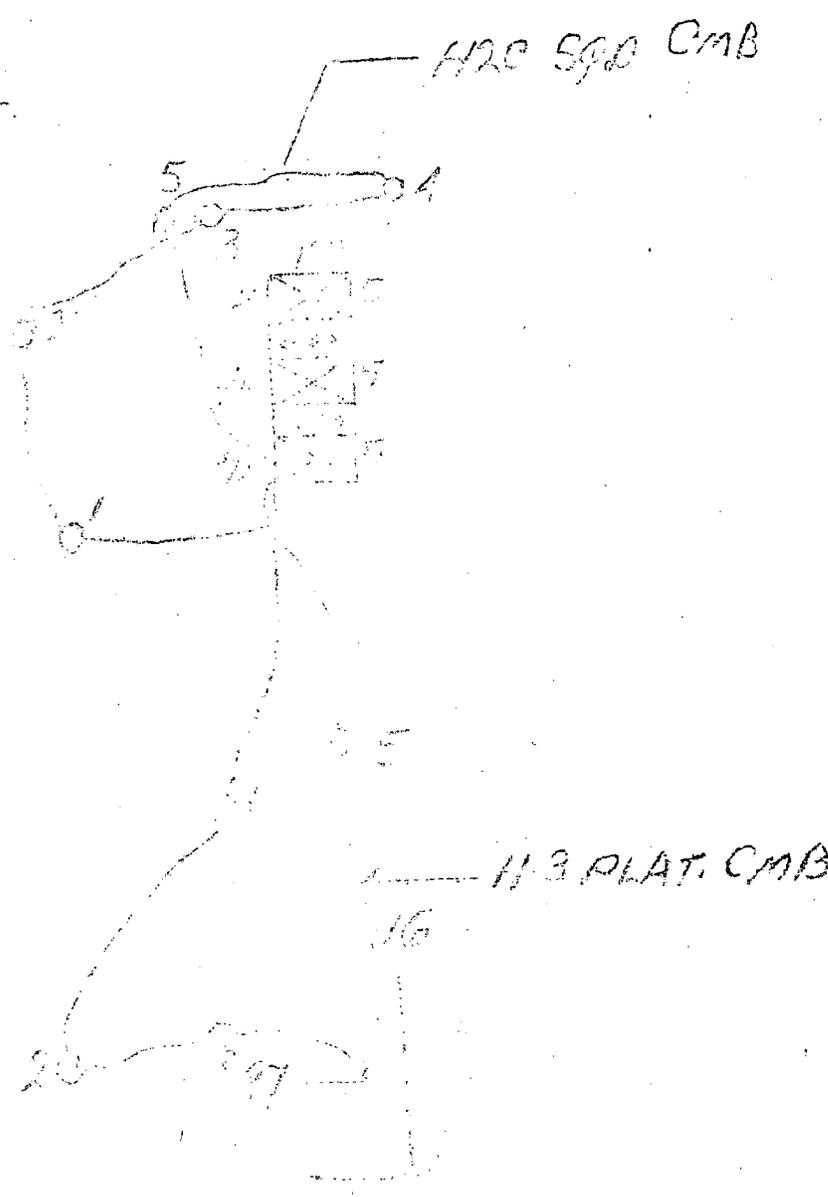
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~~DK~~ — EIC  
~~DEL~~ — EIB

E/A

MAP: VIETNAM Series L7014  
Sheets 6511 I and II 1:50,000  
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Dog Activities 16 Apr 68

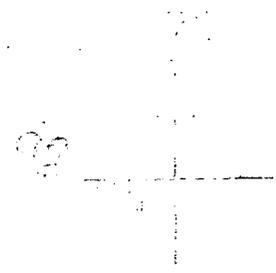
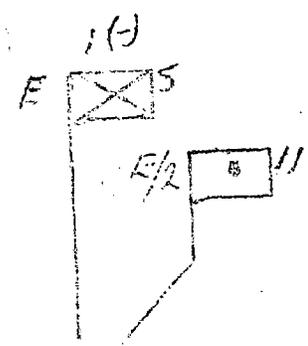
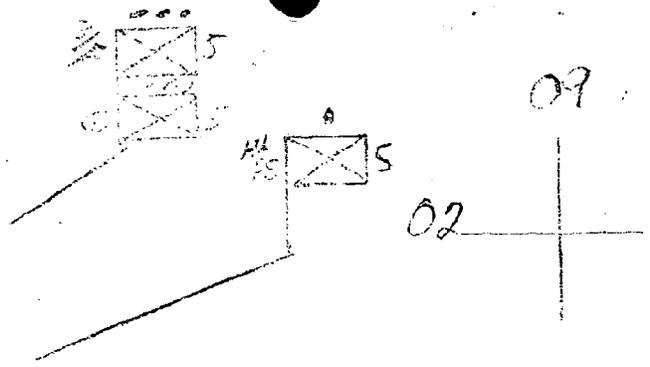
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Enclosure (59)

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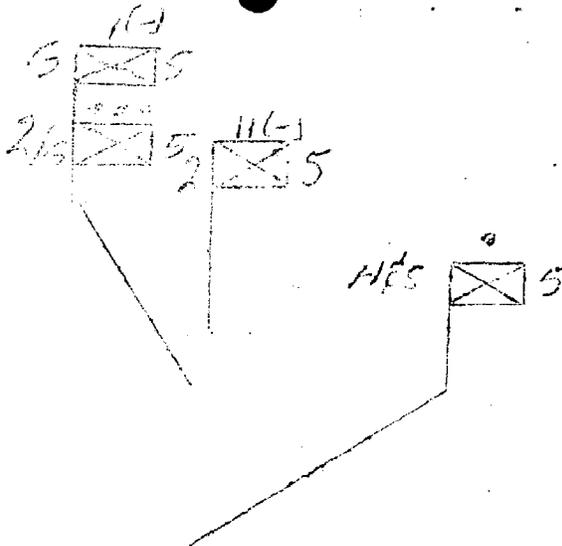


EIA SQD CMB  
Enclosure (59)

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Handwritten scribbles and numbers, possibly '2/15' and '11-1'.

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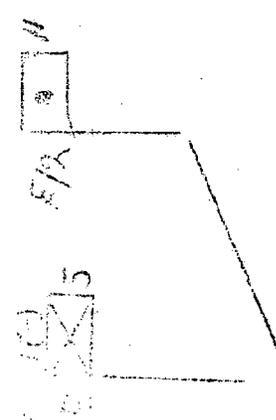
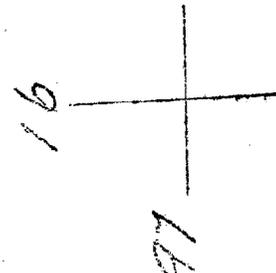
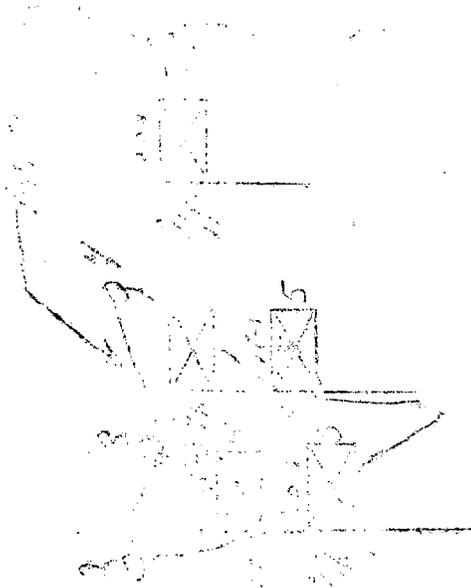
Enclosure (60)

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Handwritten arrow pointing left towards the word 'EIB'.

MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Br., 5th Marines  
Day Activities 17 Apr 68



Enclosure (61)

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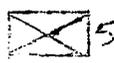
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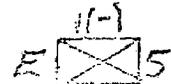
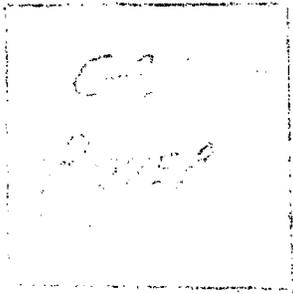
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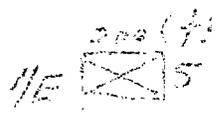
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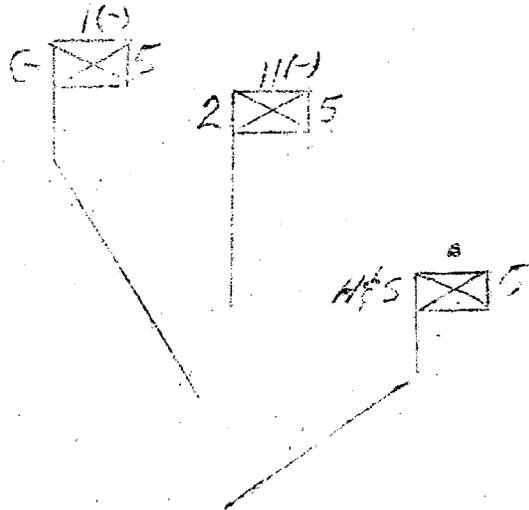
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Enclosure (61)

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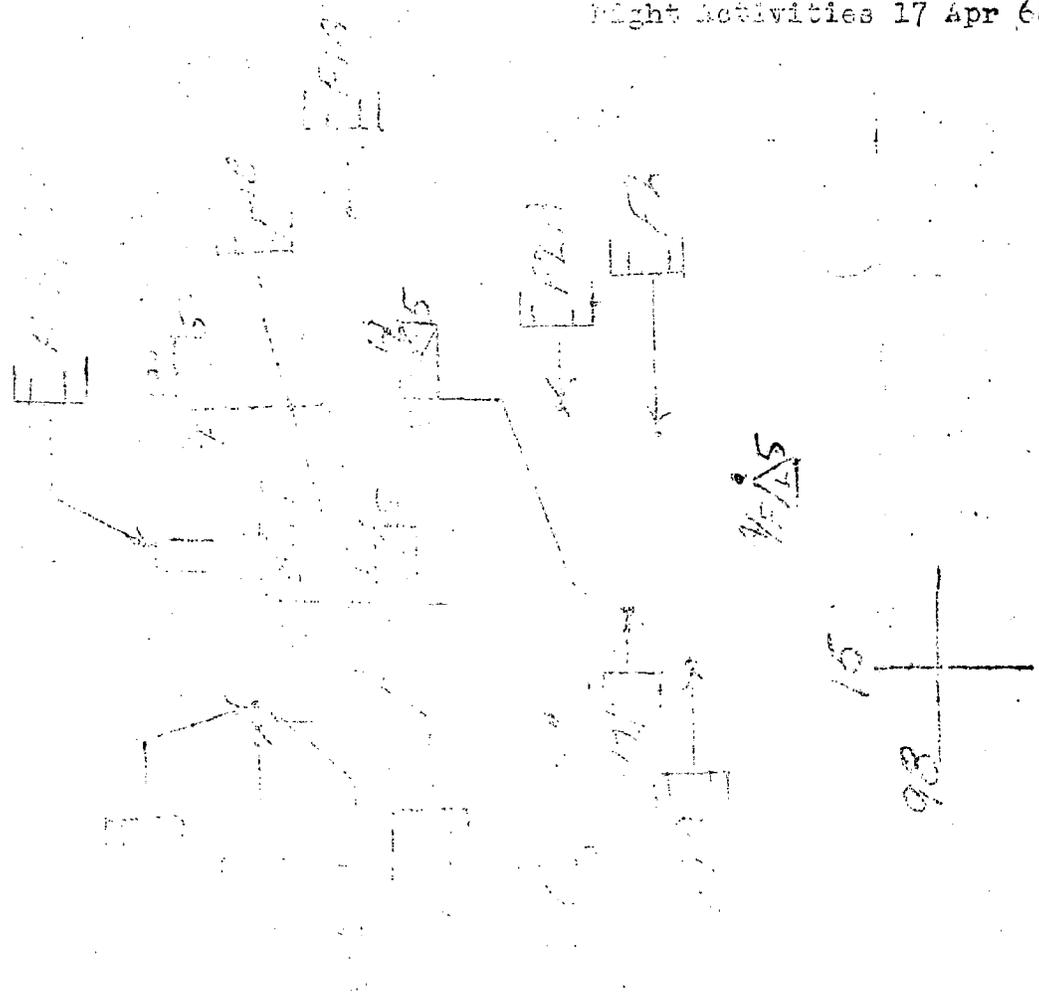
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Enclosure (62)

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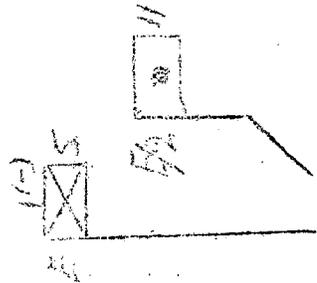
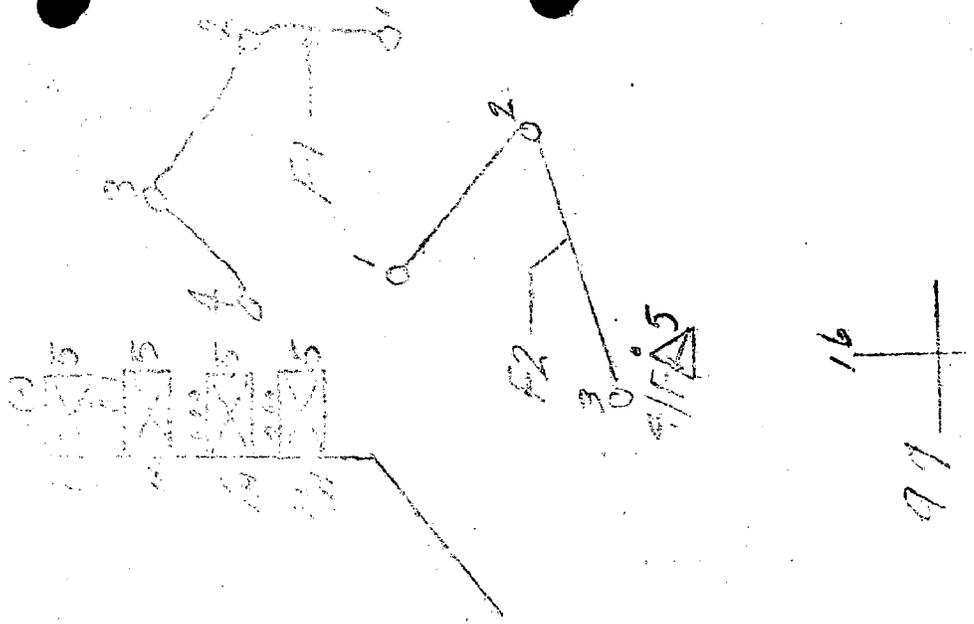
MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 17 Apr 68



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Procedure (62)  
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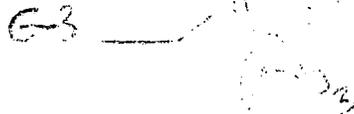
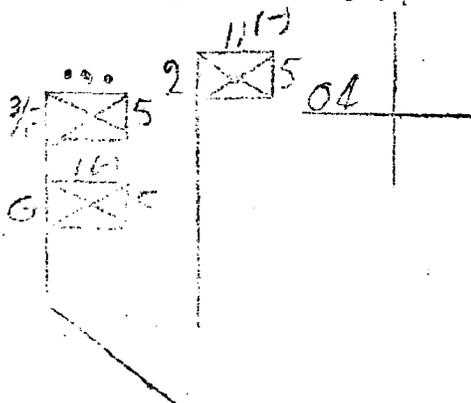
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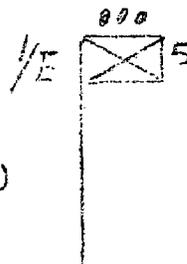
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 Sheets 8741 I and II 1:50,000  
 2nd Lt, 5th Marines  
 Bay Activities 18 Apr 68



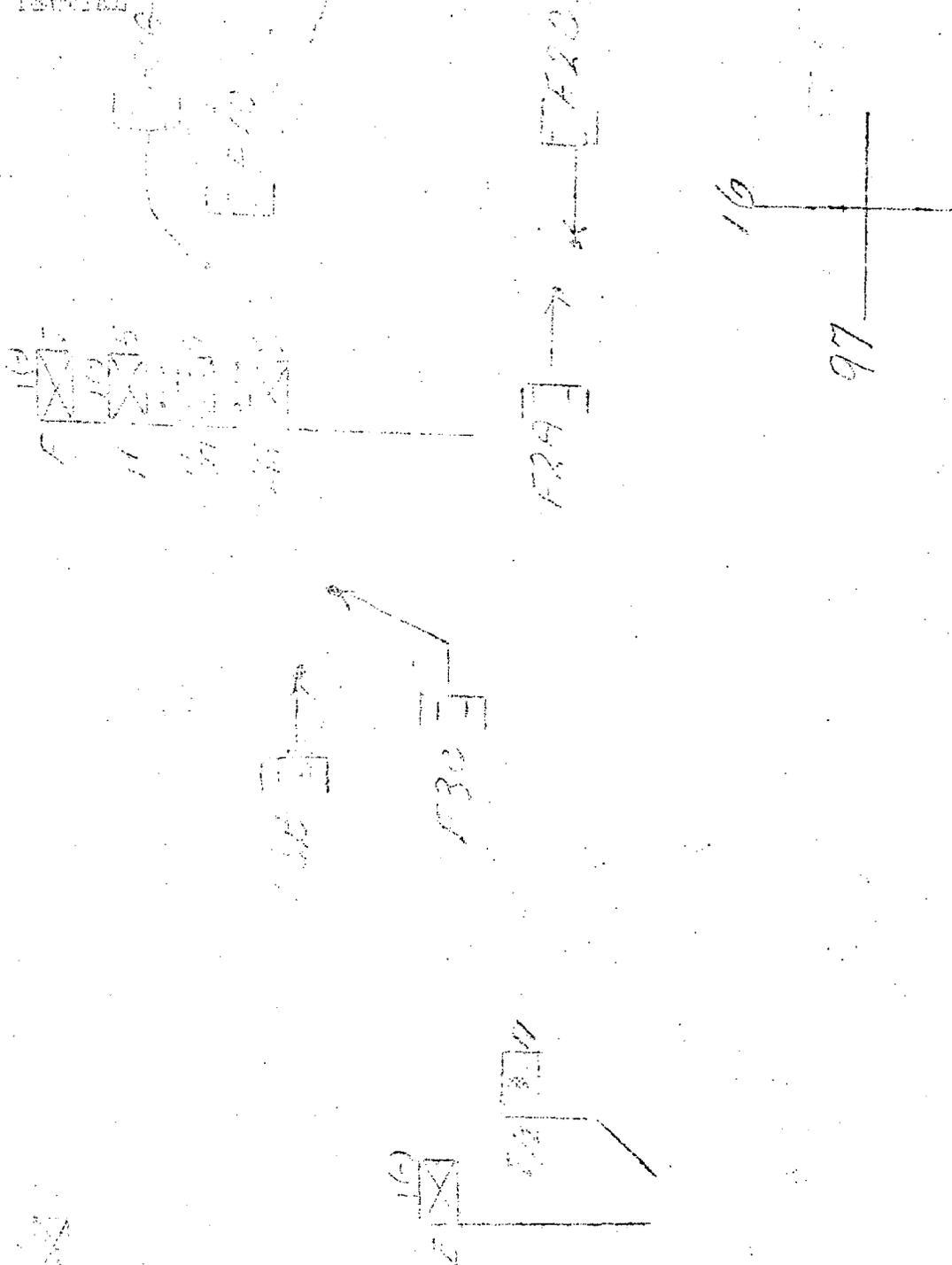
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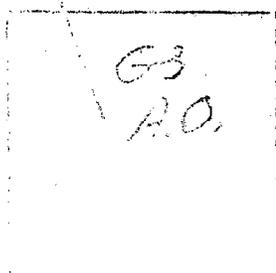


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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 19 Apr 68

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Enclosure (65)

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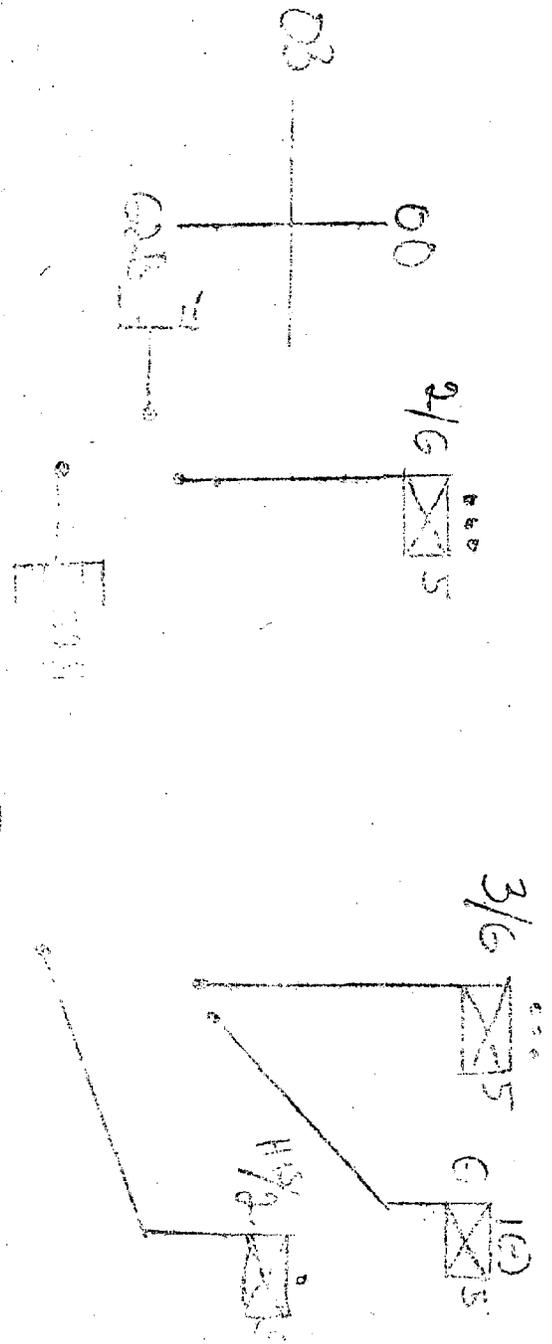


Enclosure (65)

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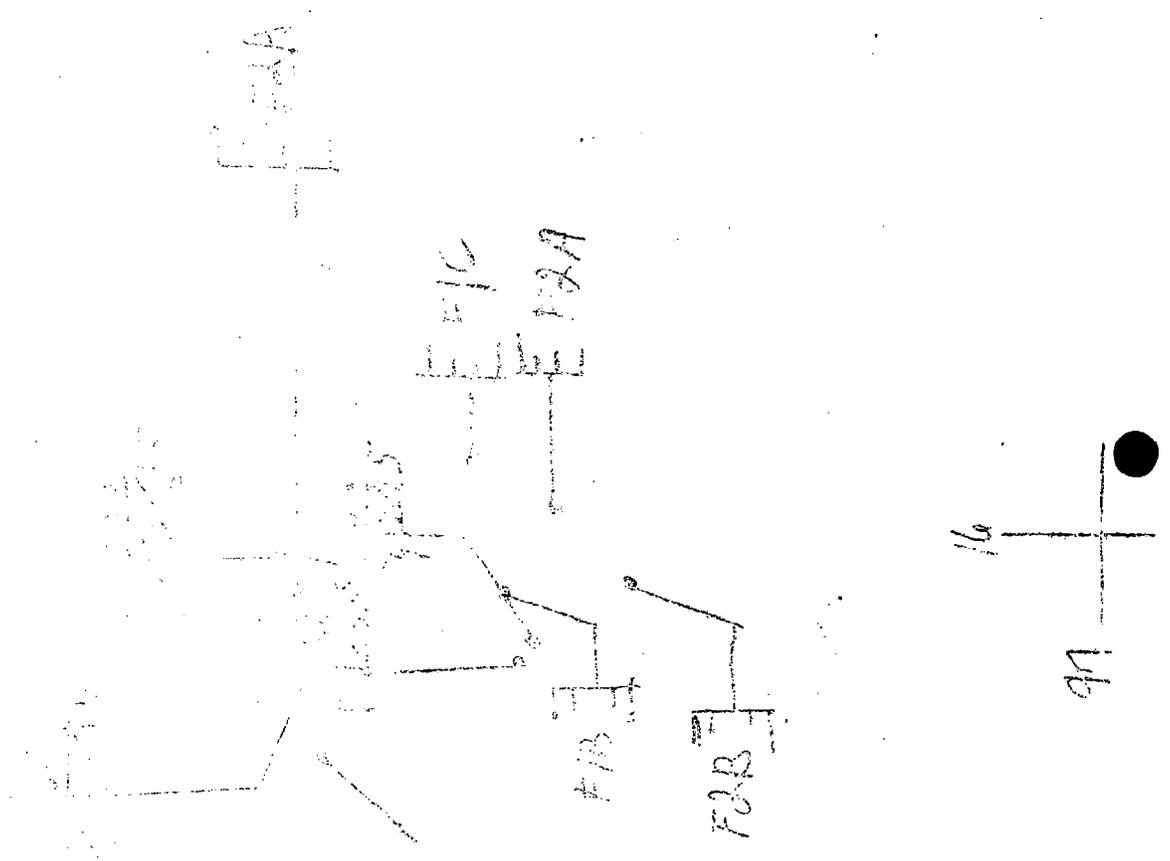
MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6501 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 19 Apr 68



Enclosure (66)

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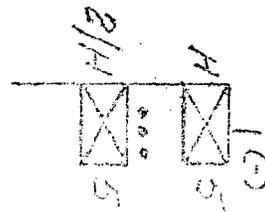
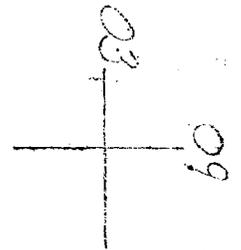
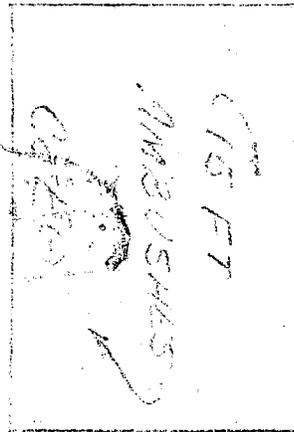
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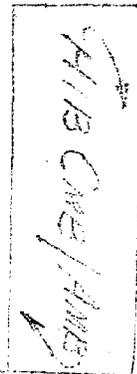
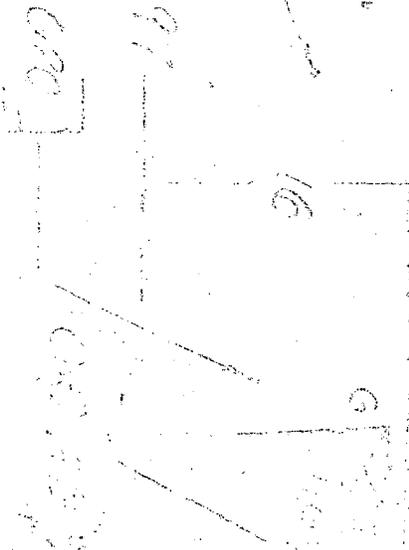
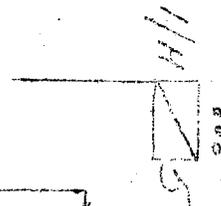


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MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 12 Apr

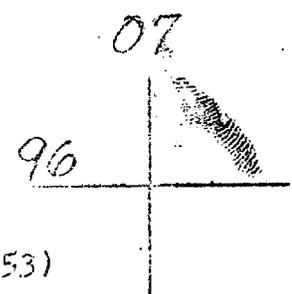
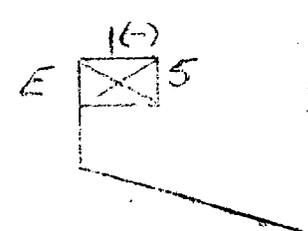
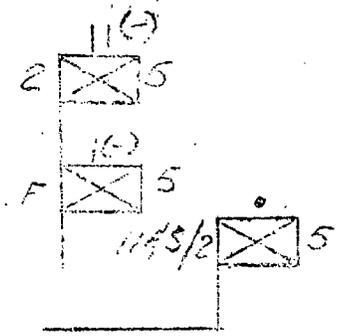
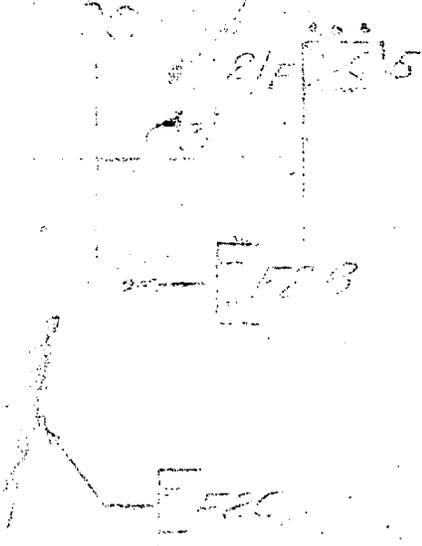


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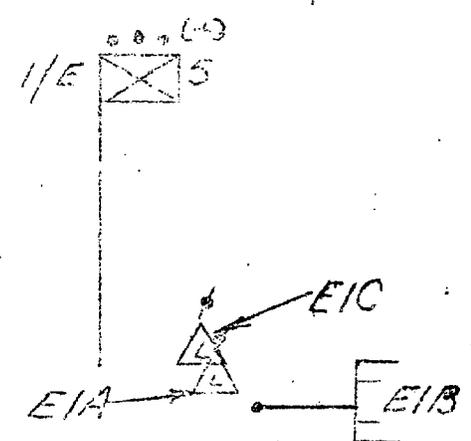


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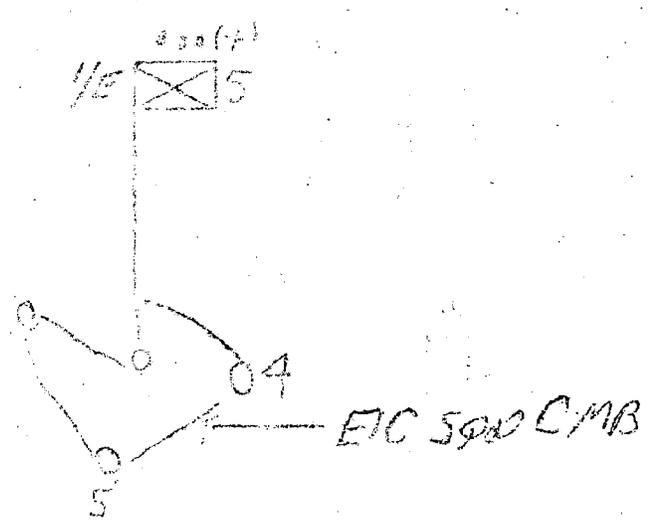
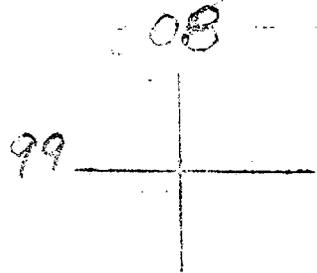
Enclosure (53)



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MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6501 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Rep Activities 14 Apr 68



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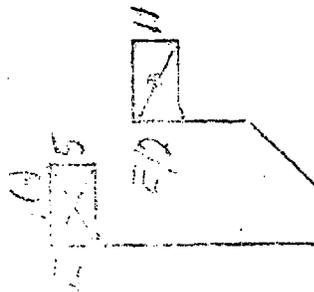
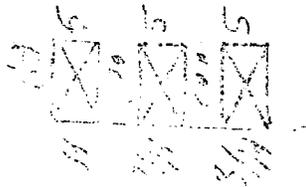
Enclosure (56)

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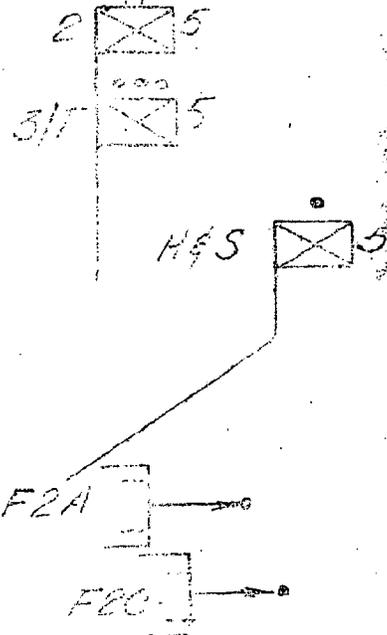
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Enclosure (56)

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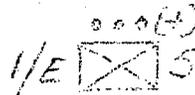




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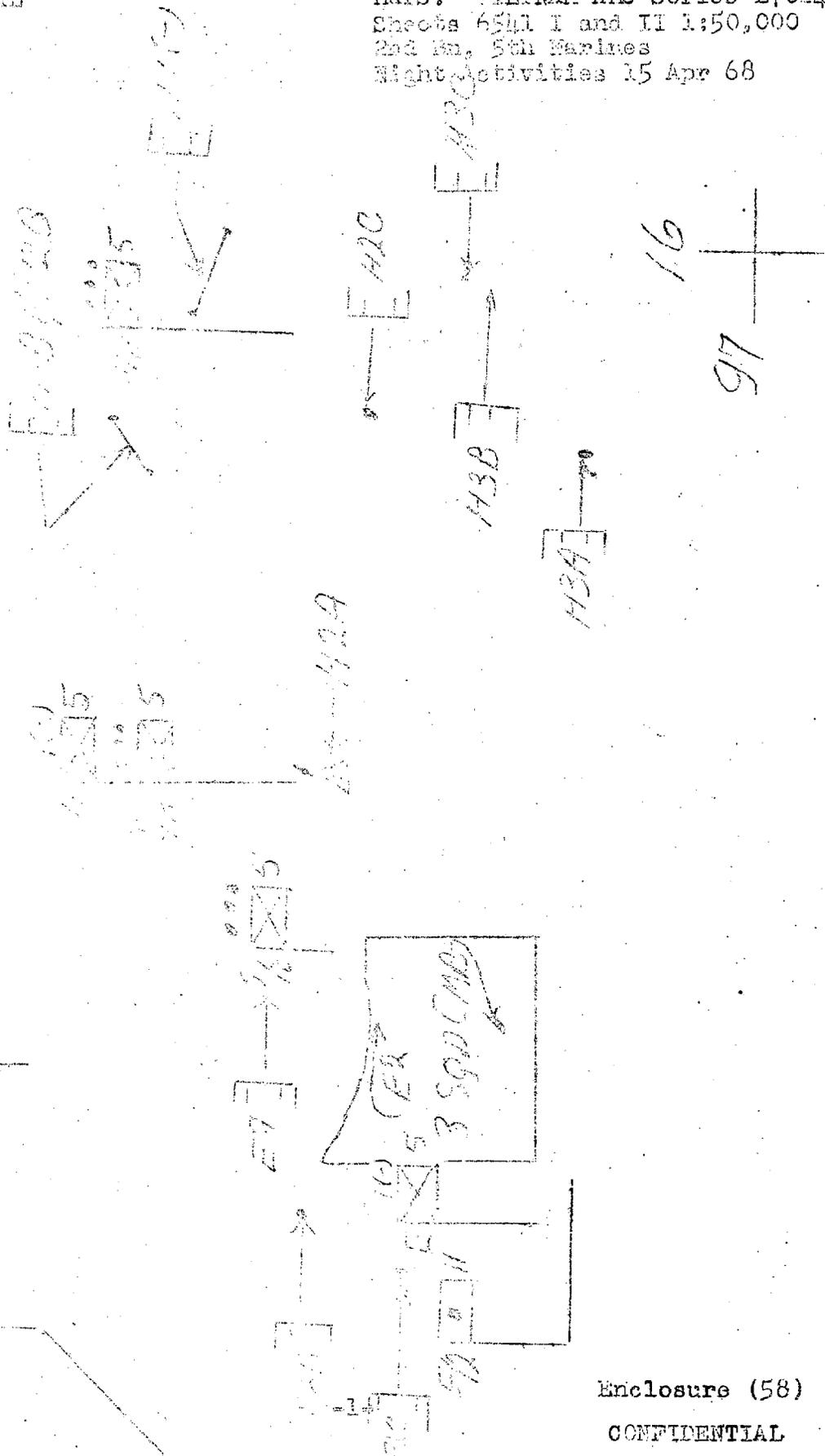
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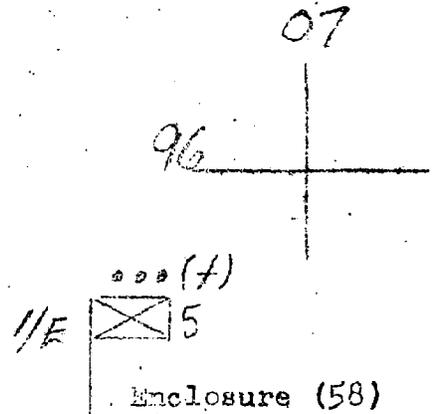
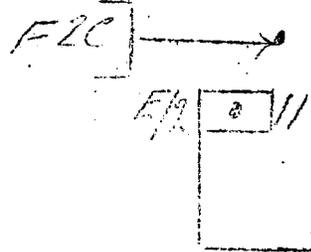
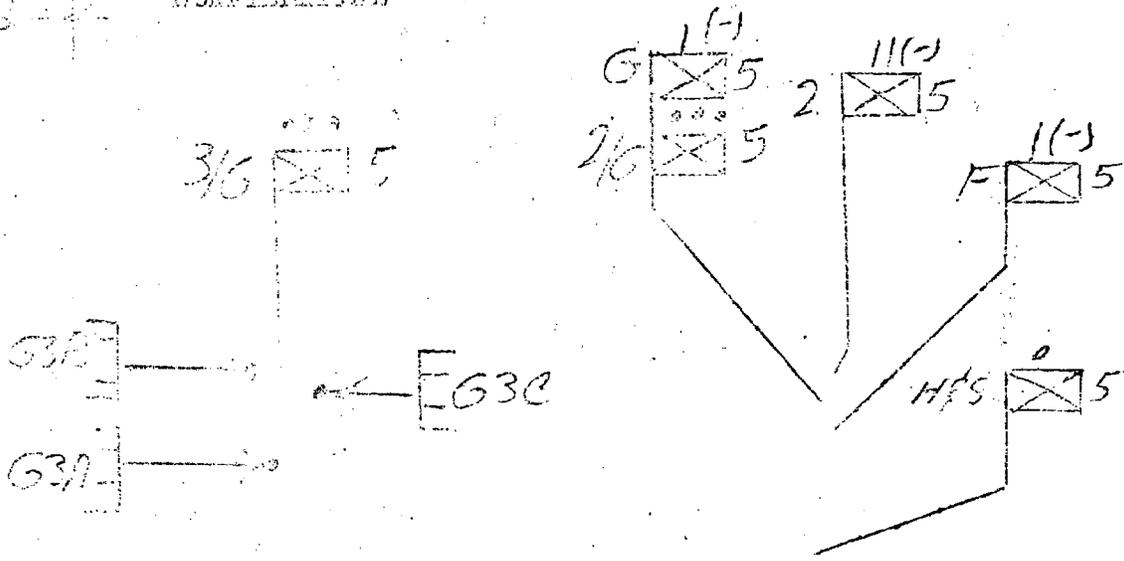
MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 15 Apr 68



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Enclosure (58)

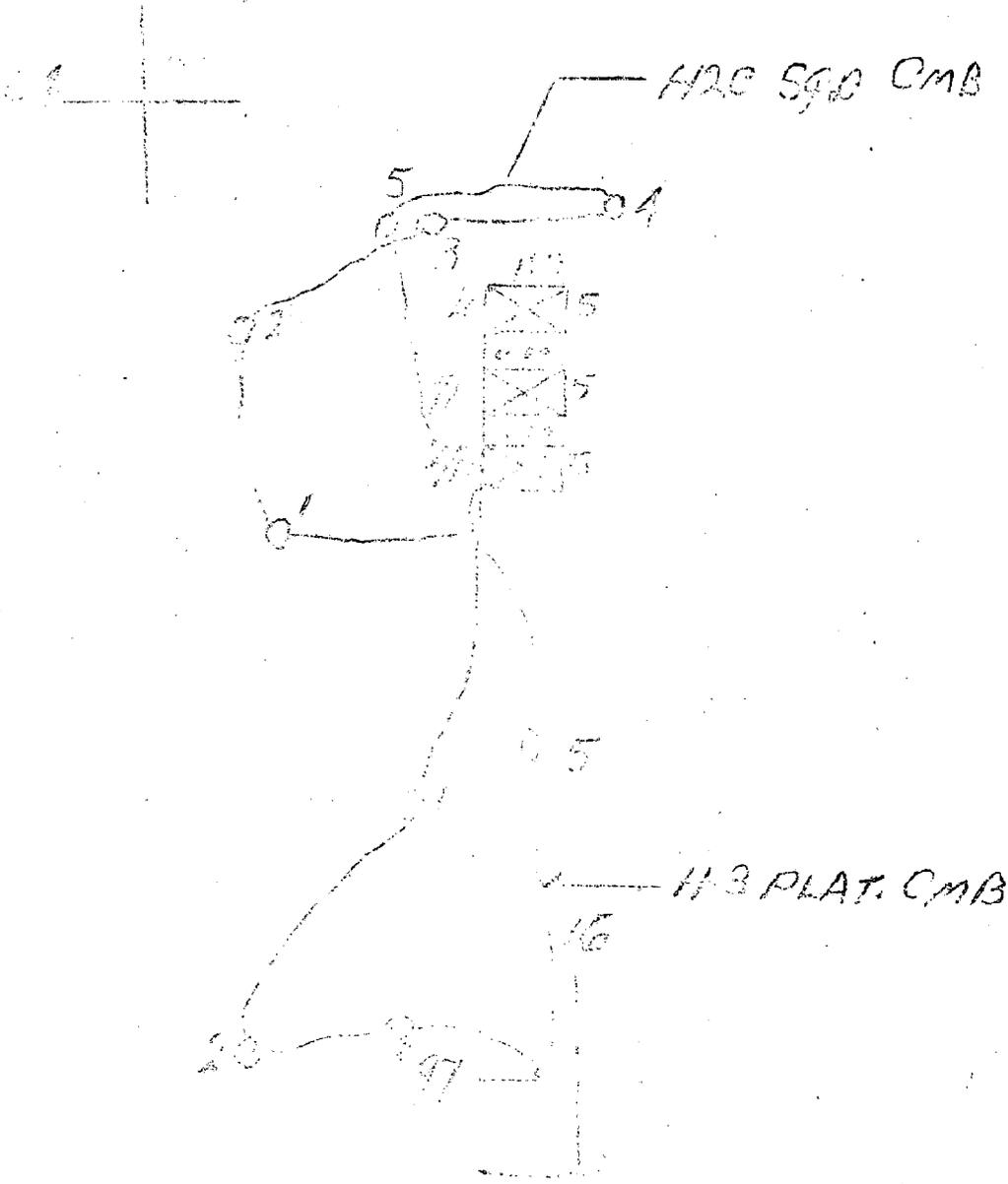
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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 65h1 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd An. 5th Marines  
Bay Activities 15 Apr 68

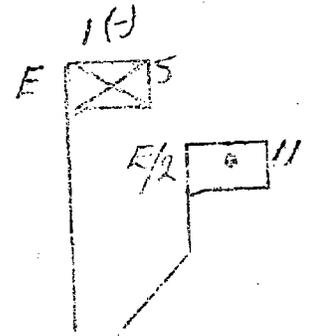
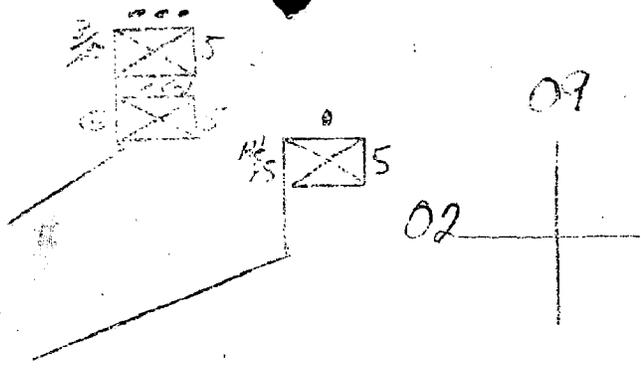
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Enclosure (59)

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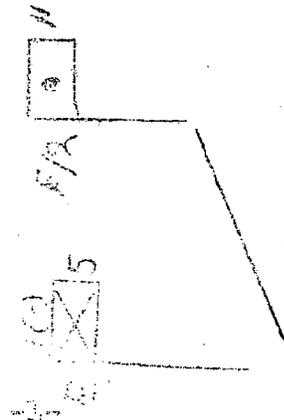
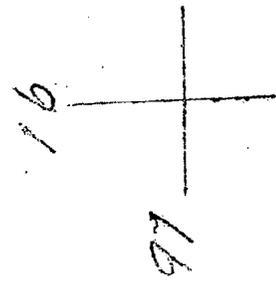
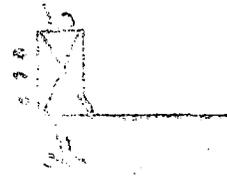
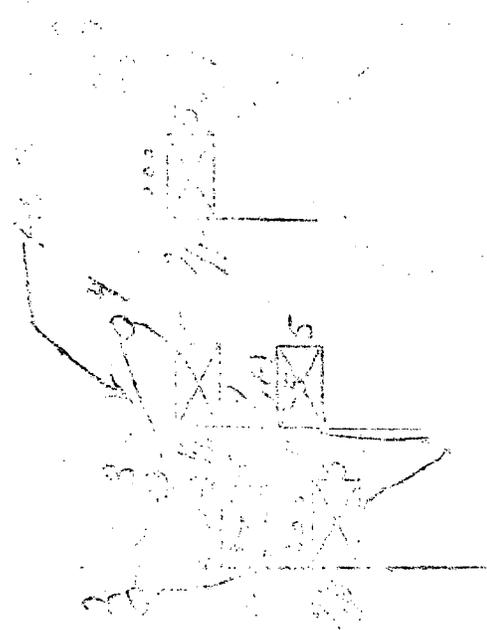
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Enclosure (59)

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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 17 Apr 68



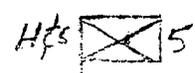
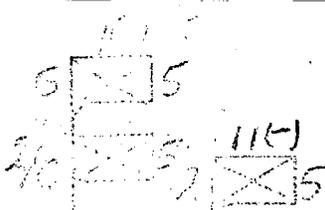
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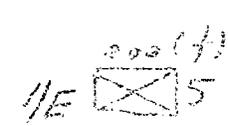
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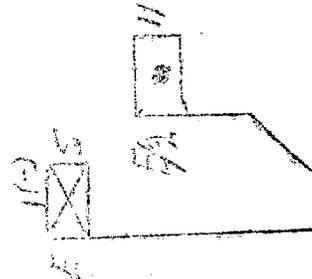
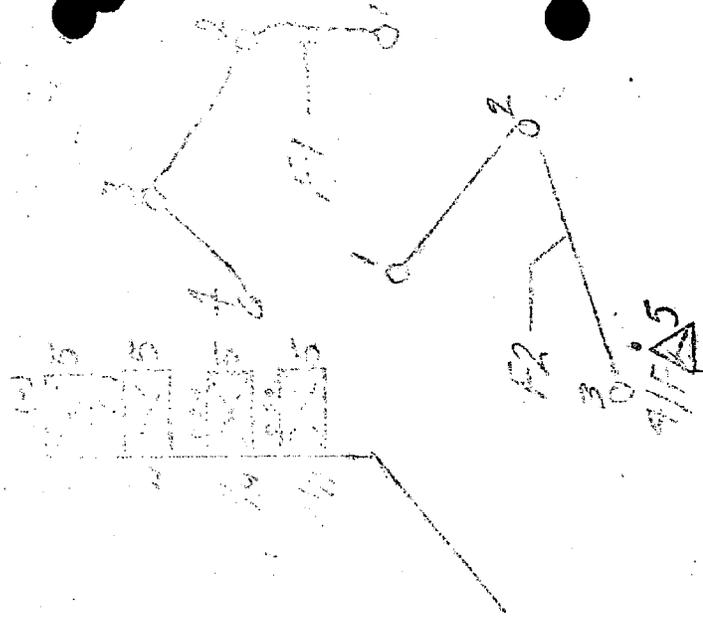
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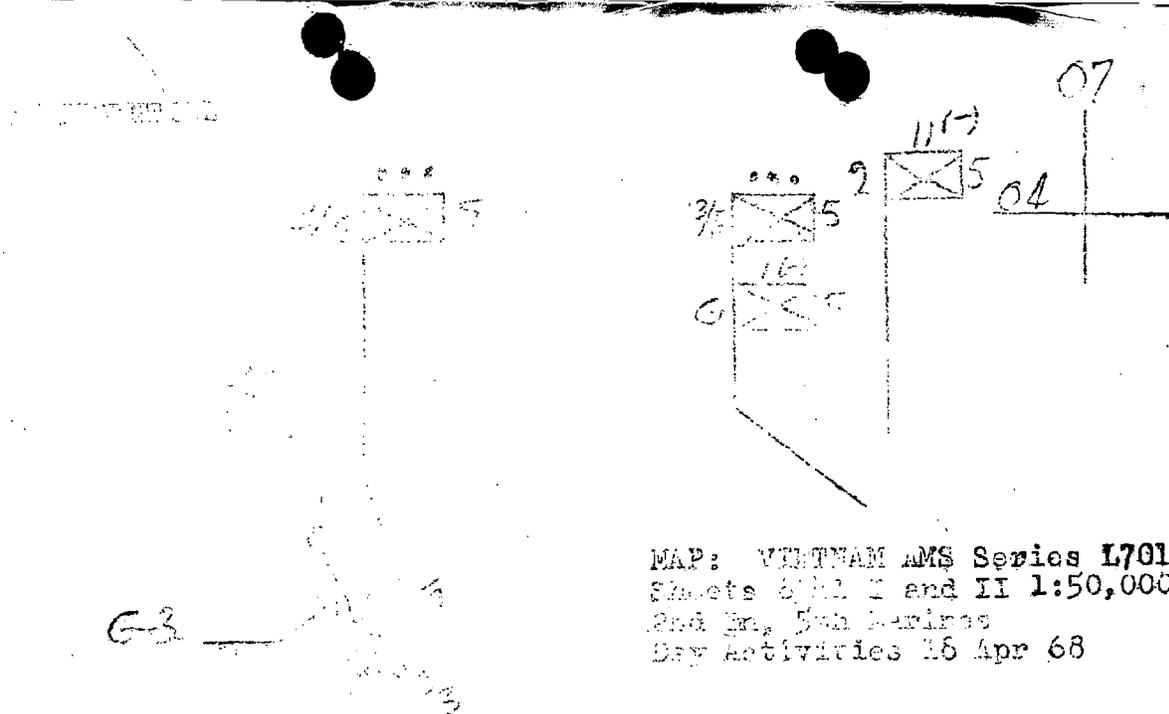
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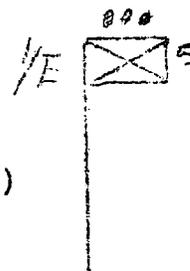


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 Sheets 6011 I and II 1:50,000  
 2nd Ed., 5th Printing  
 Day Activities 18 Apr 68

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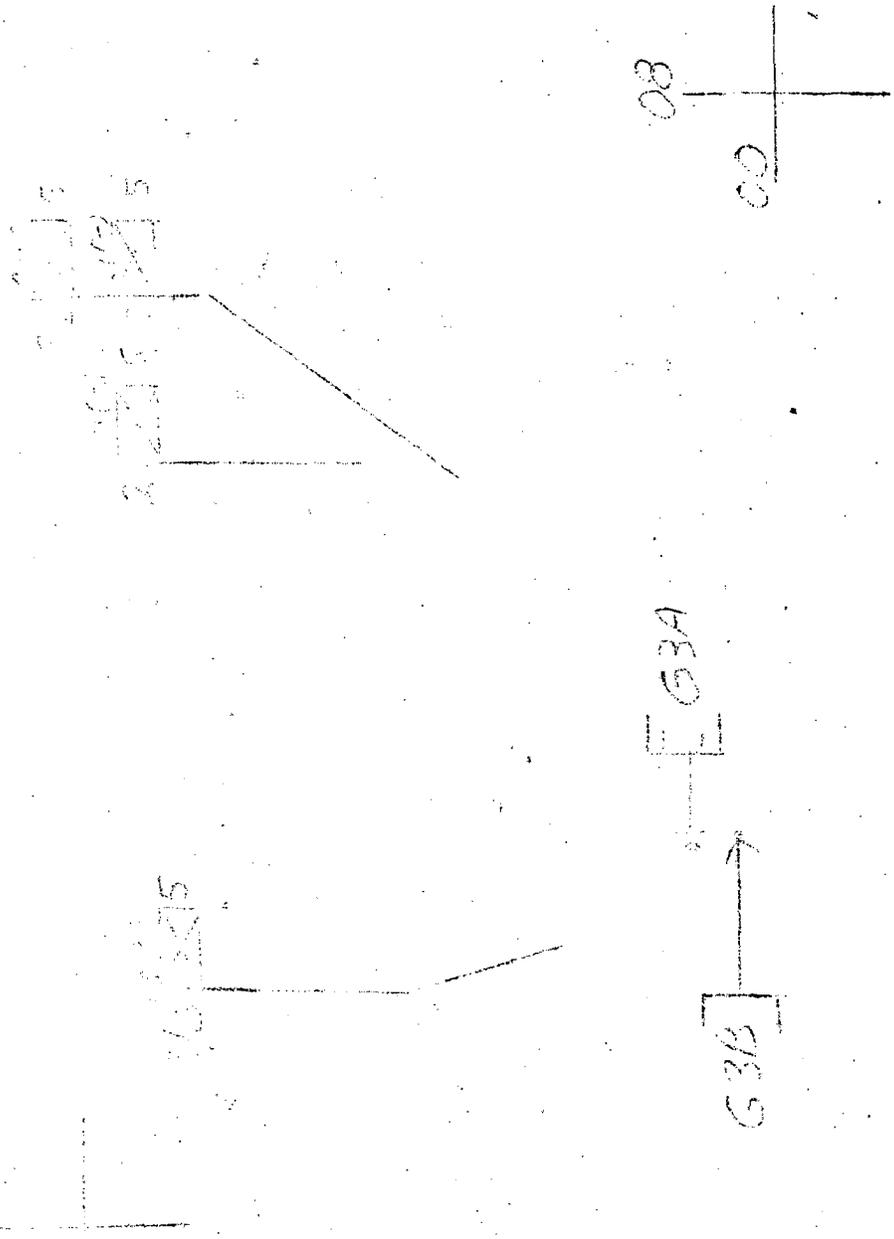
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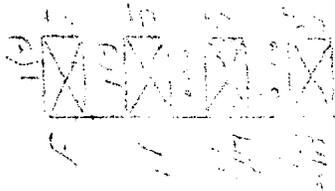
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2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 18 Apr 68



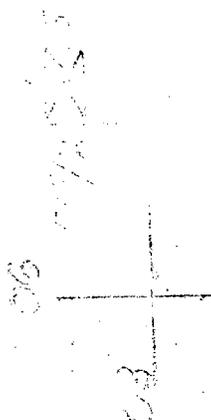
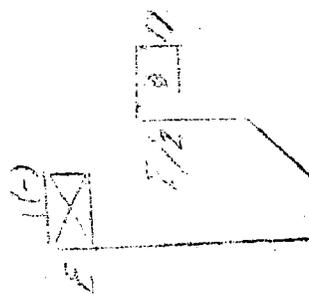
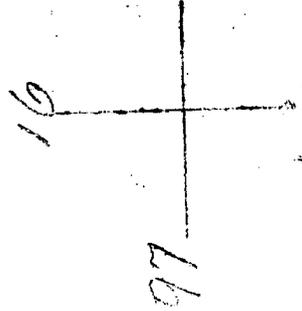
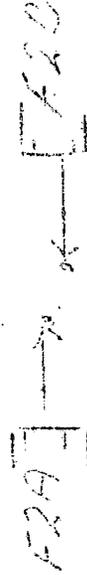
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Enclosure (64)

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MAP: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd En, 5th Marines  
Log Activities 19 Apr 68

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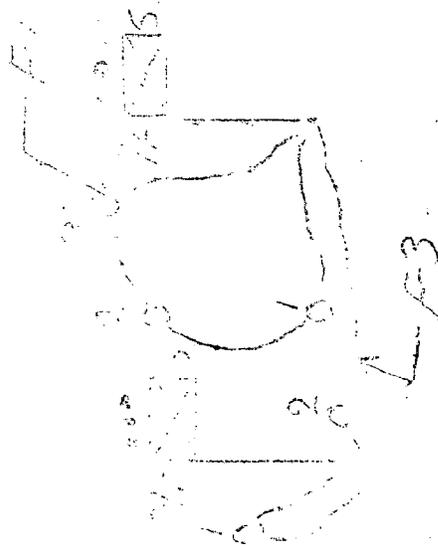
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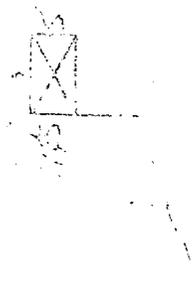
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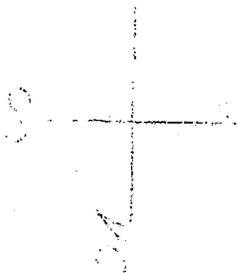
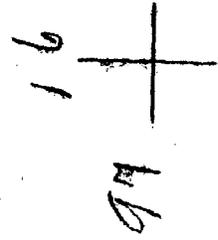
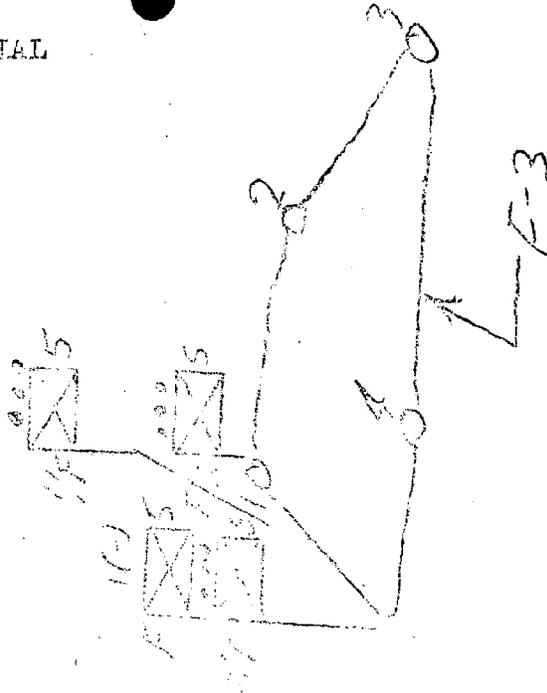
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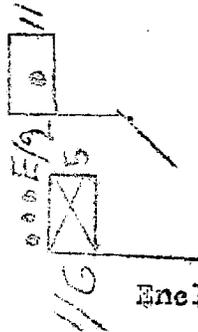
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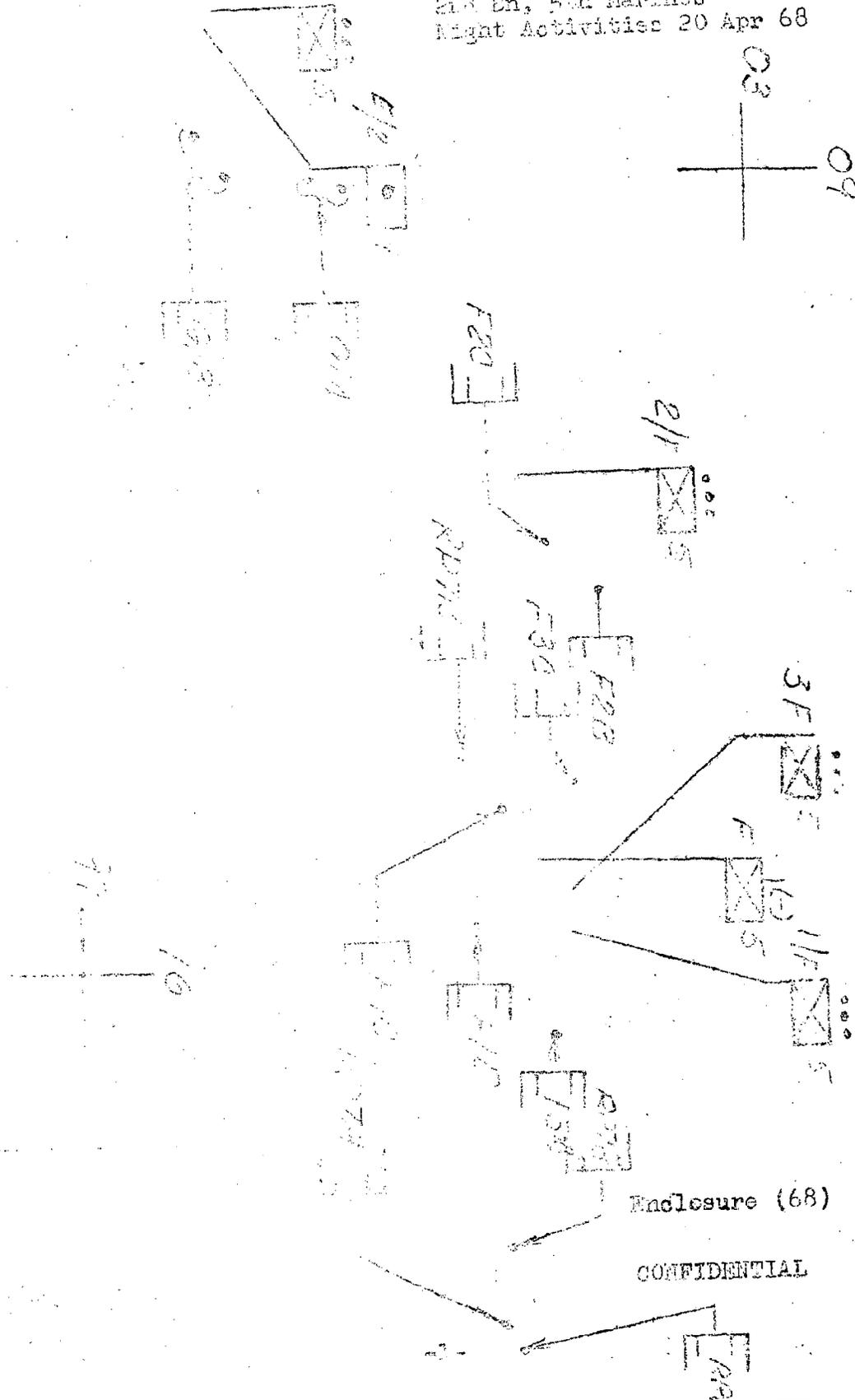


Enclosure (67)

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MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6501 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 20 Apr 68



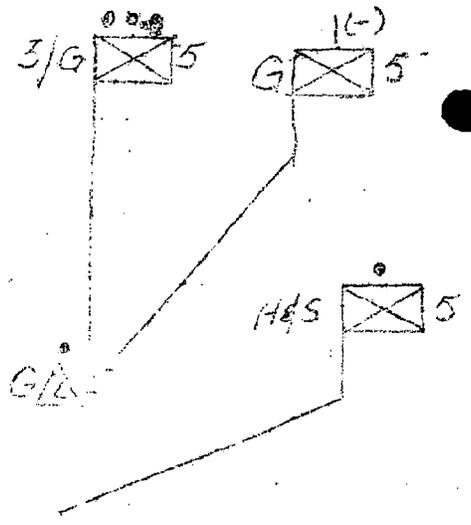
Enclosure (68)

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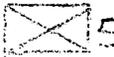
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Enclosure (68)

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Subjects 65441 1 and 11:1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 4th Marines  
Bay Area, Vietnam 22 Apr '68

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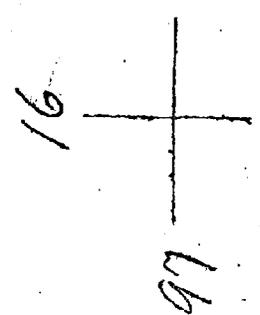
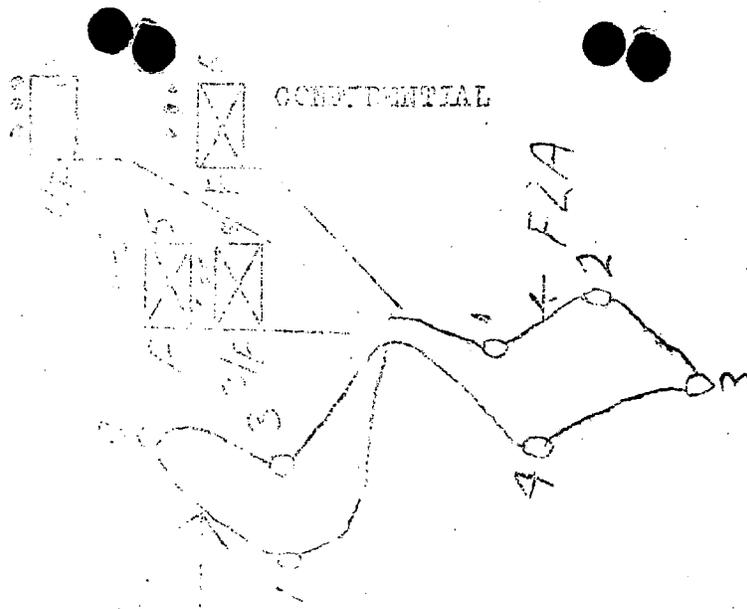
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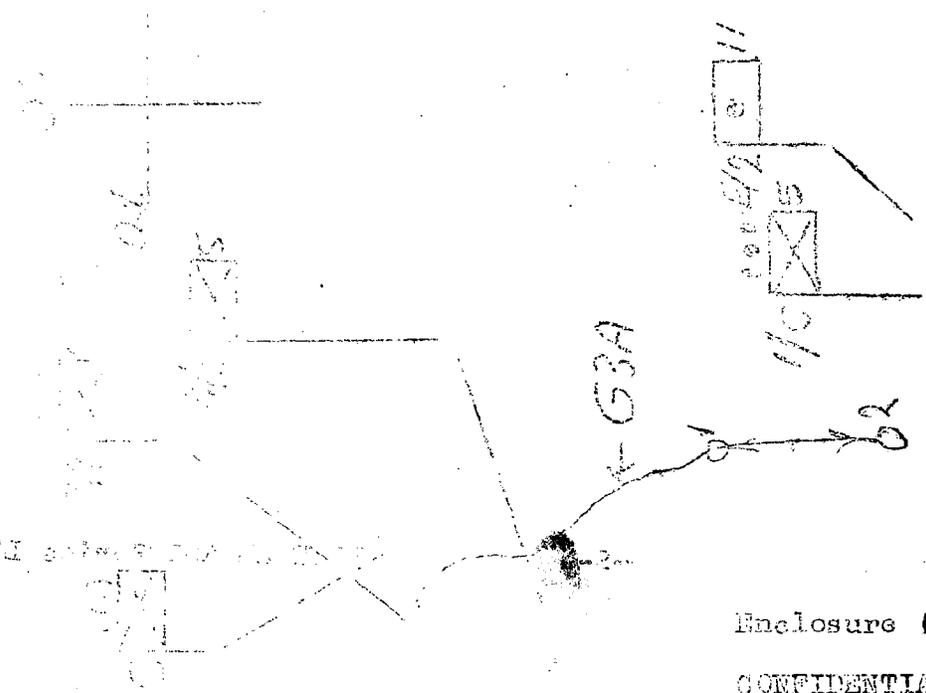
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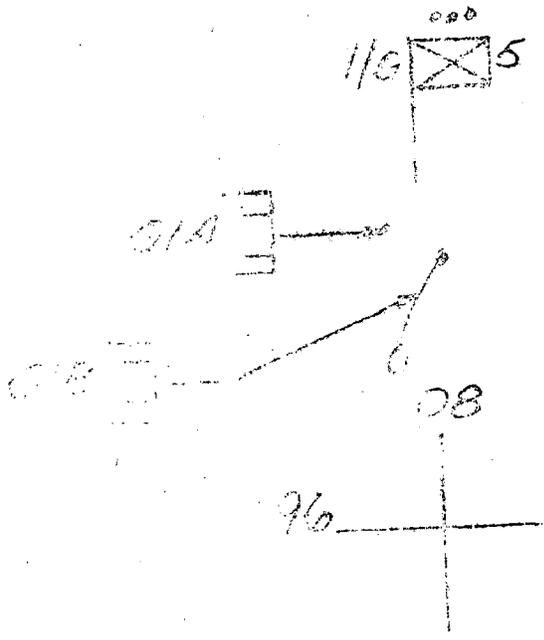
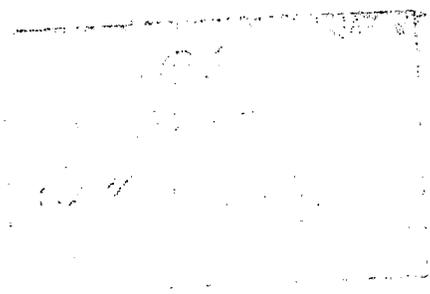
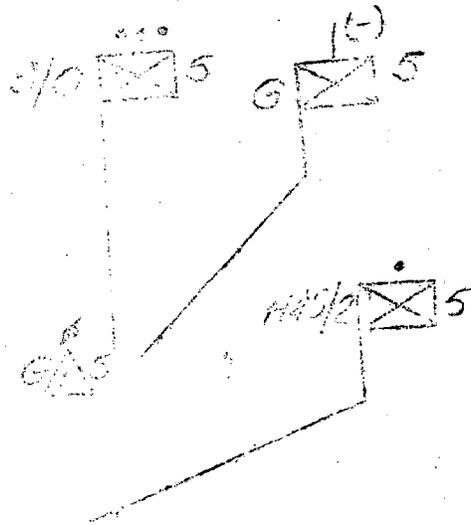


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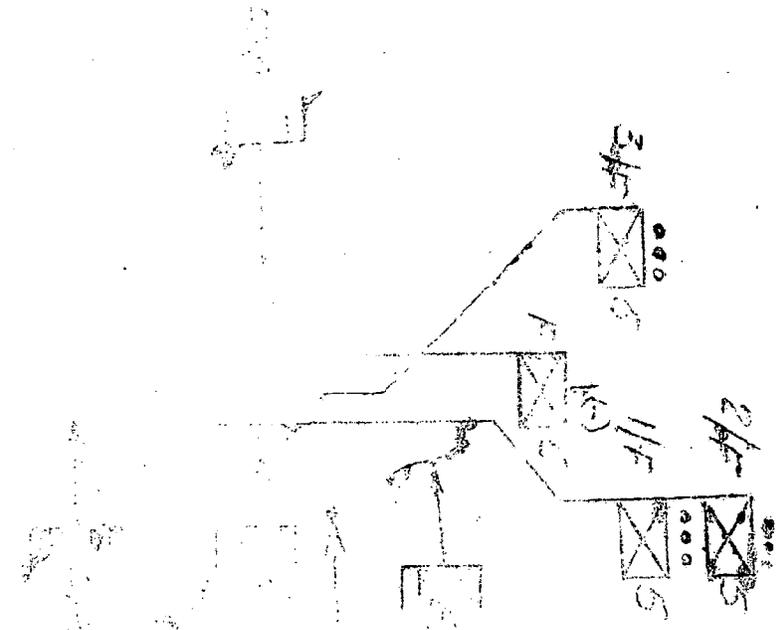
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Sheets 6511 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 21 Apr 68



Enclosure (70)  
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Enclosure (79)

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Day Activities 22 Apr '68

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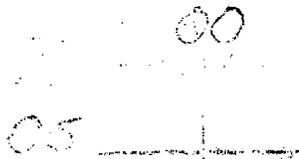
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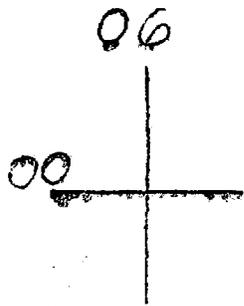
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2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 22 Apr 68



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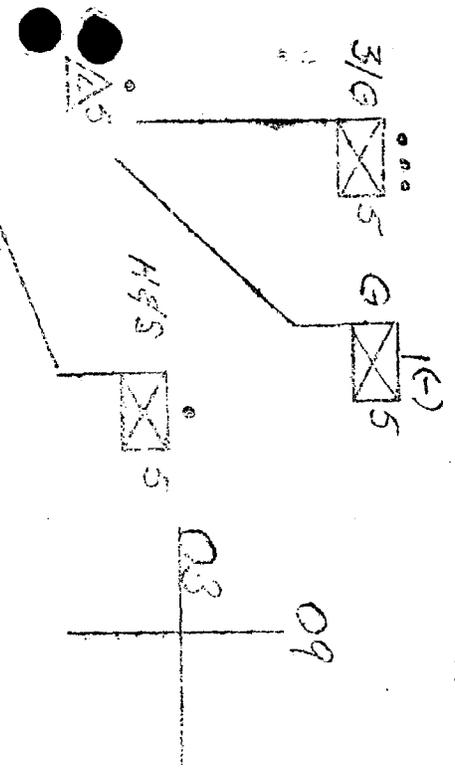
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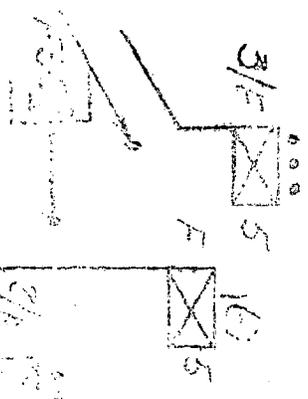
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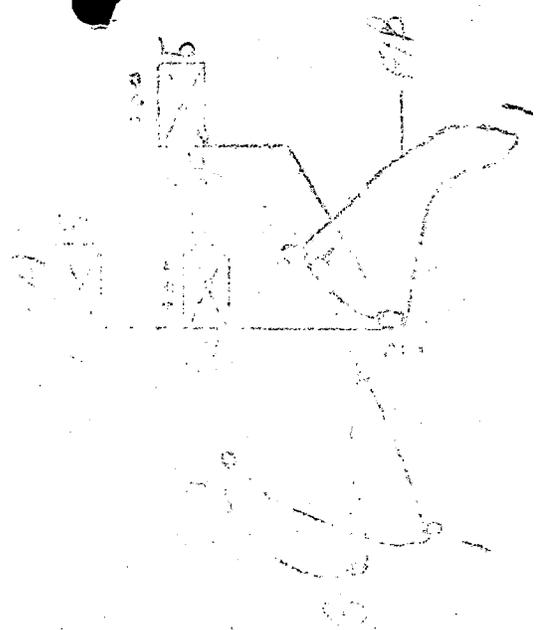


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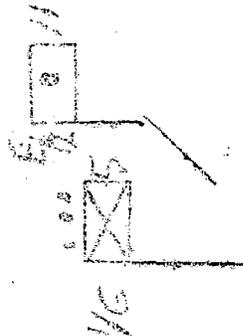
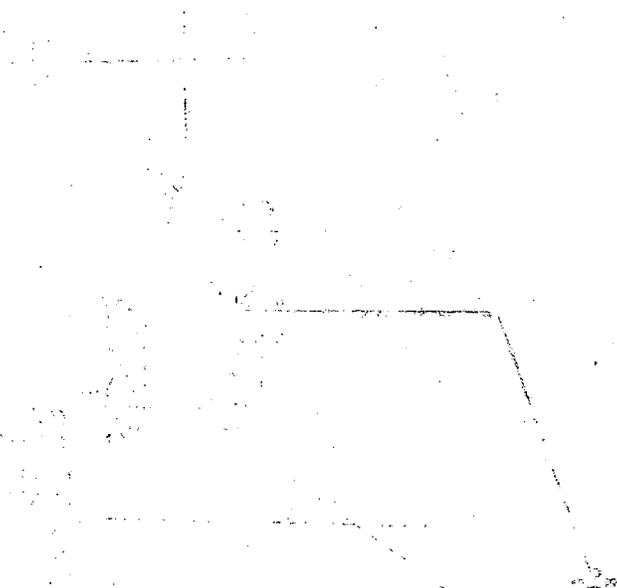
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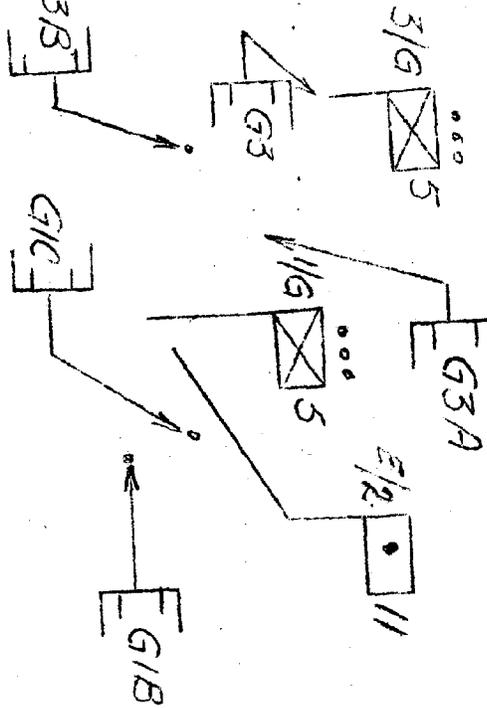
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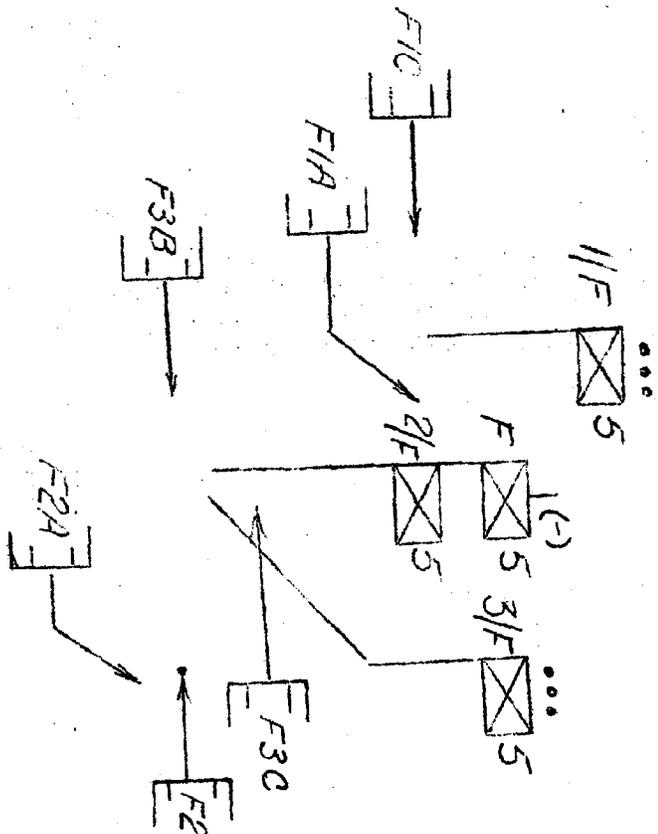
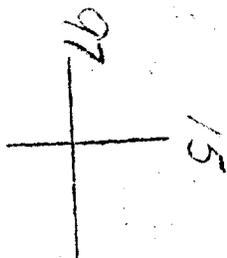
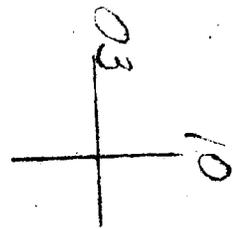
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MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
 Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
 2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
 Night Activities 24 Apr 68

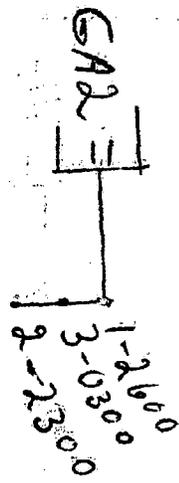
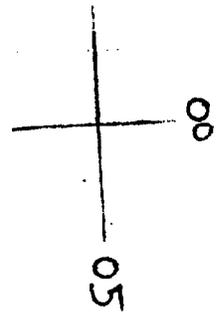


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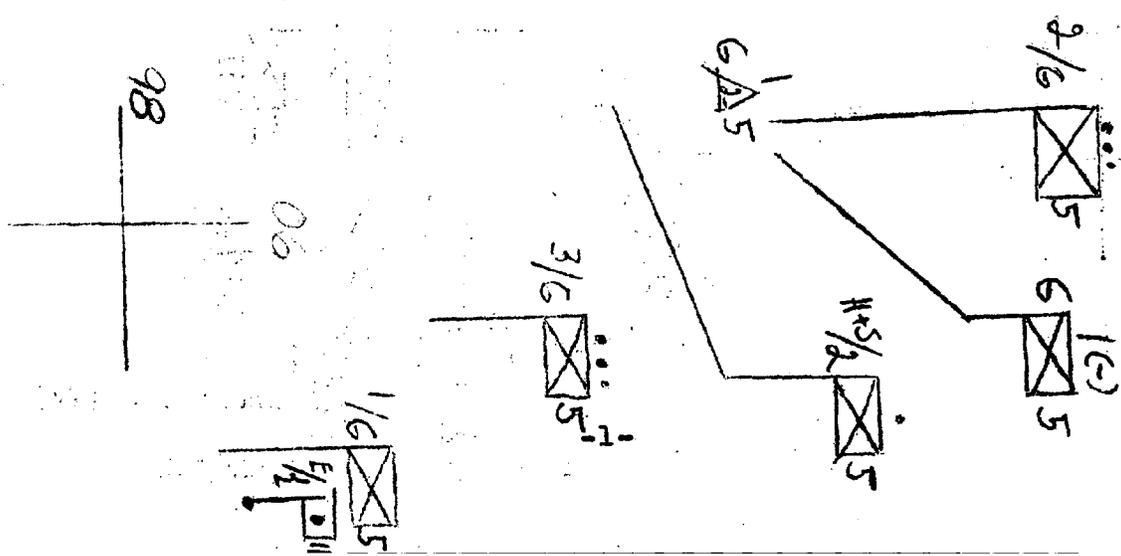
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MAPS: VIETNAM AMS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 25 Apr 68

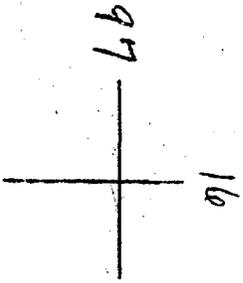
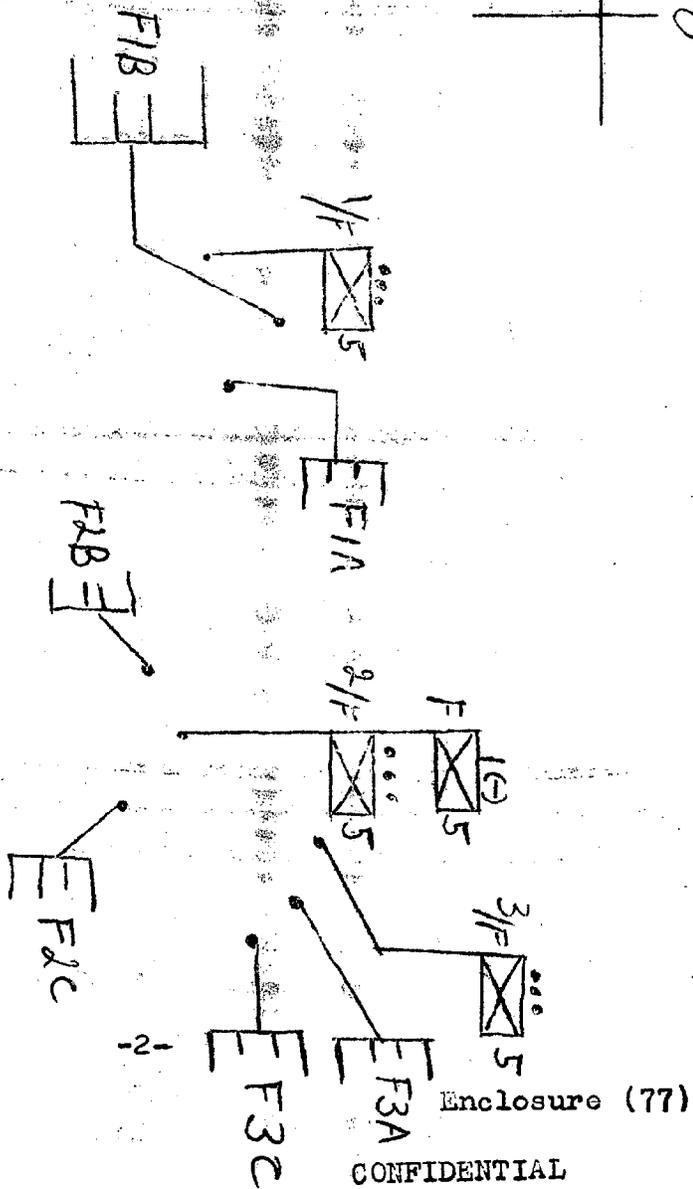
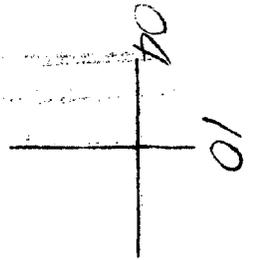
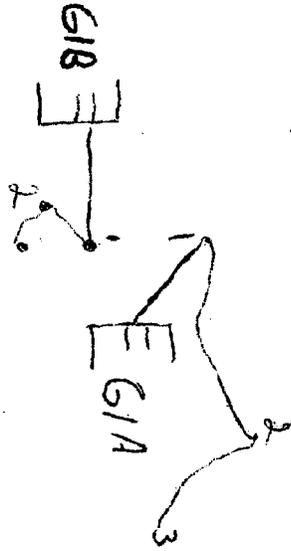


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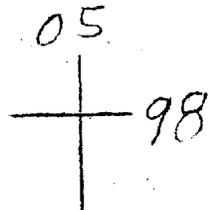
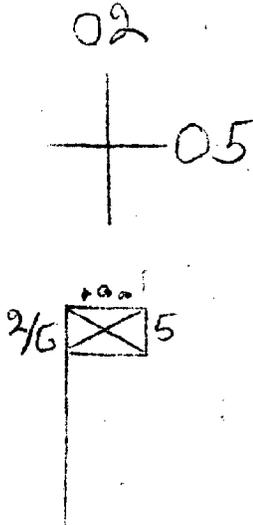


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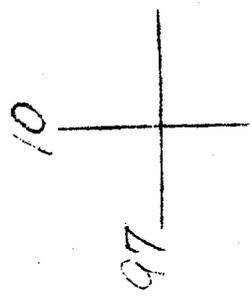
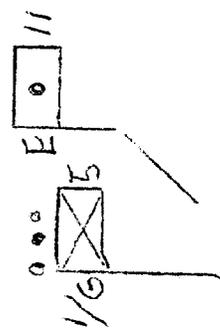
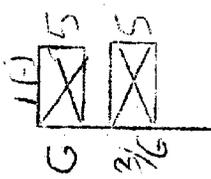
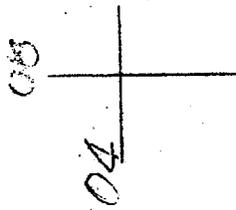
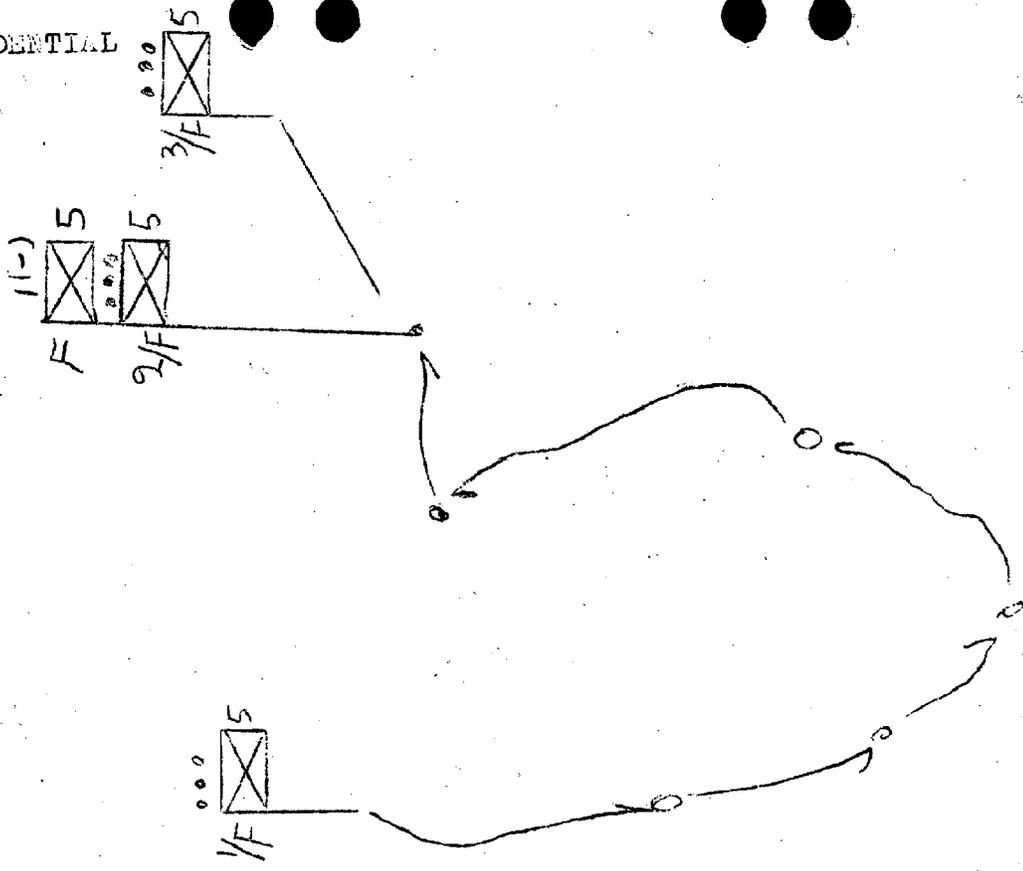
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2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Day Activities 26 Apr 68



Enclosure (78)

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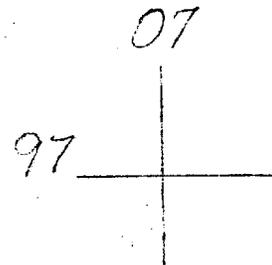
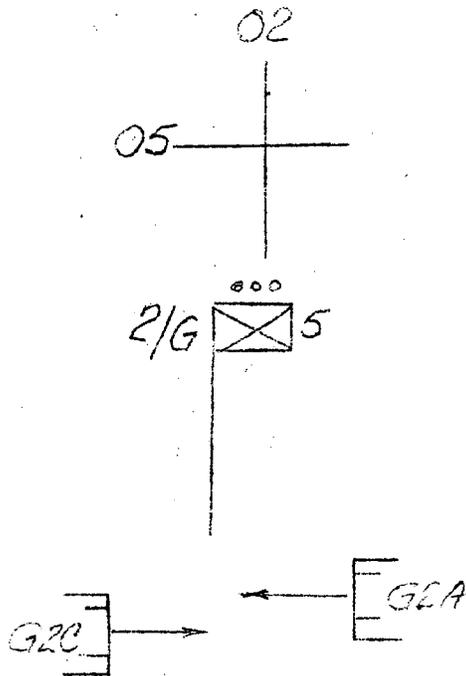


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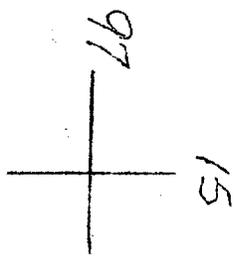
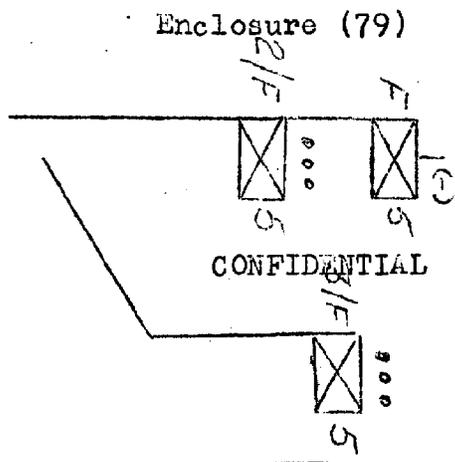
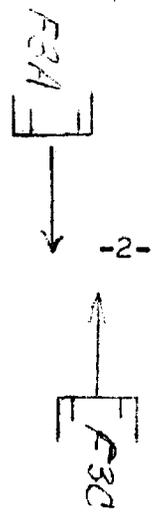
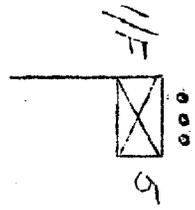
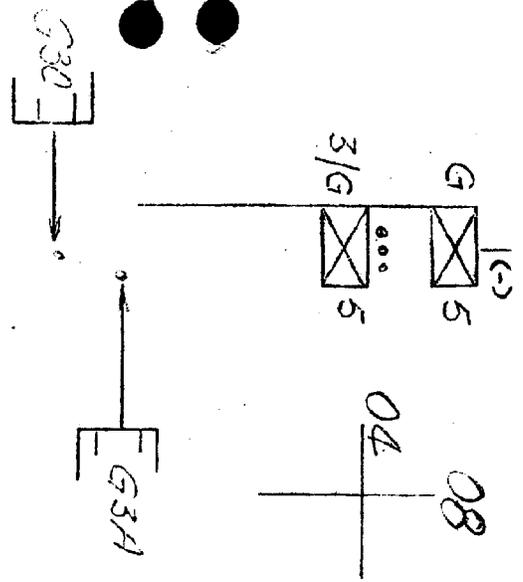
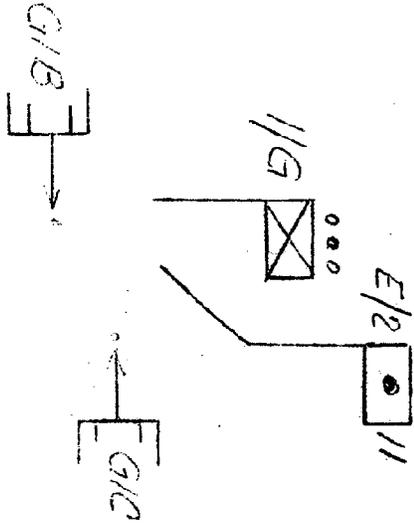
MAP: VIETNAM WS Series L7014  
Sheets 6541 I and II 1:50,000  
2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 26 Apr 68



Enclosure (79)

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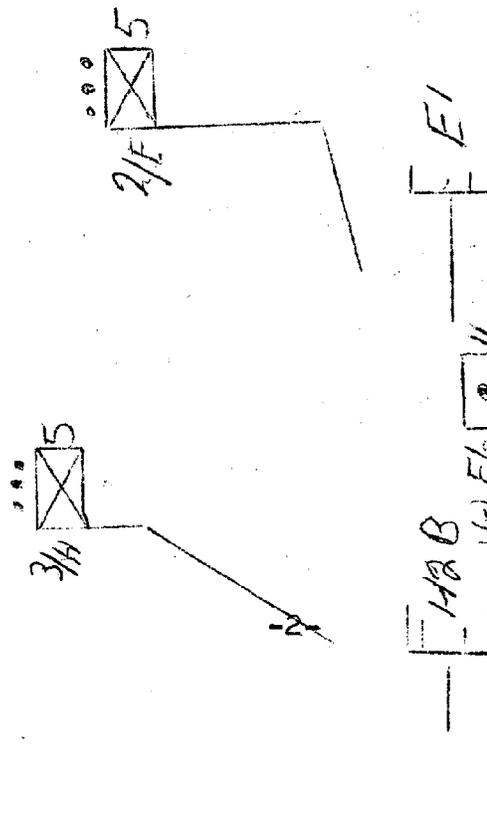
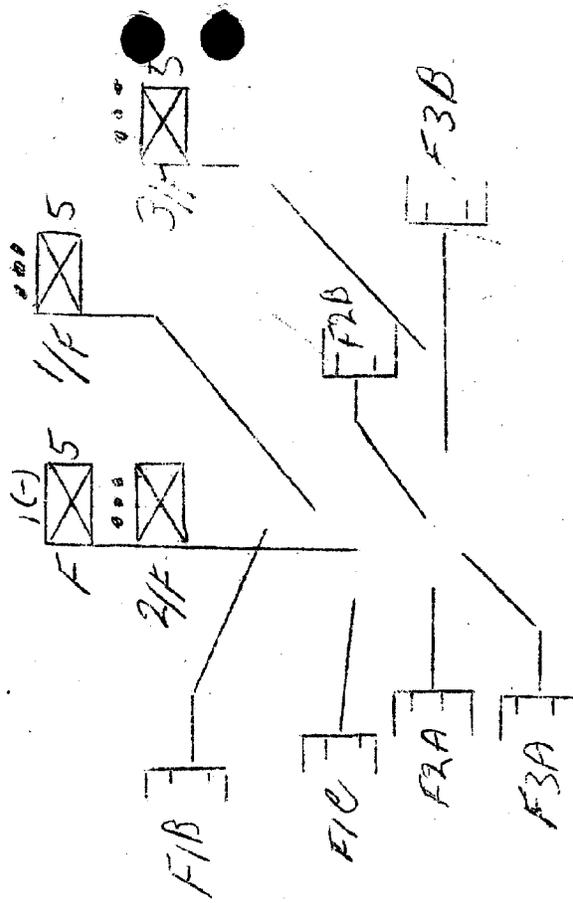




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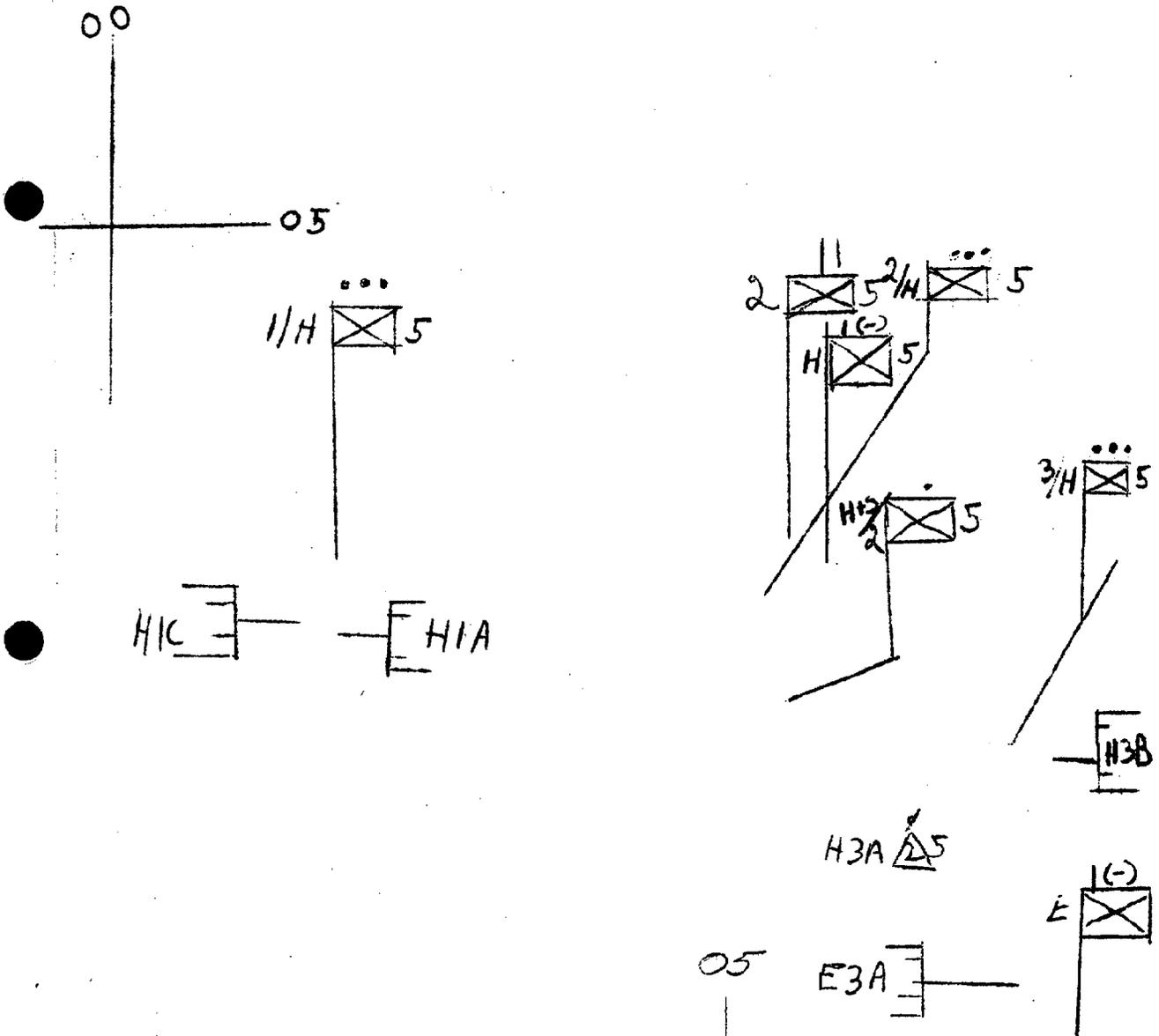
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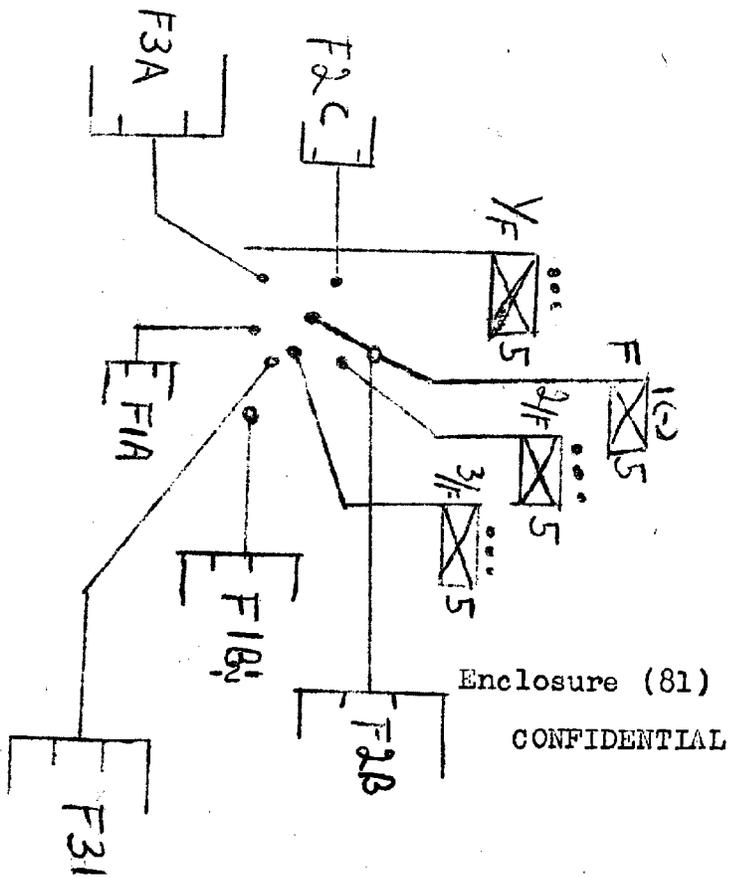
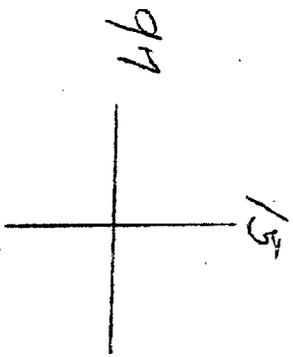
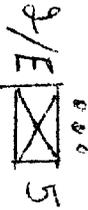
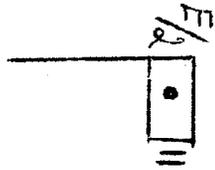
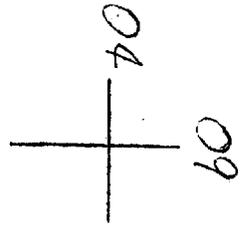
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2nd Bn, 5th Marines  
Night Activities 28 Apr 68



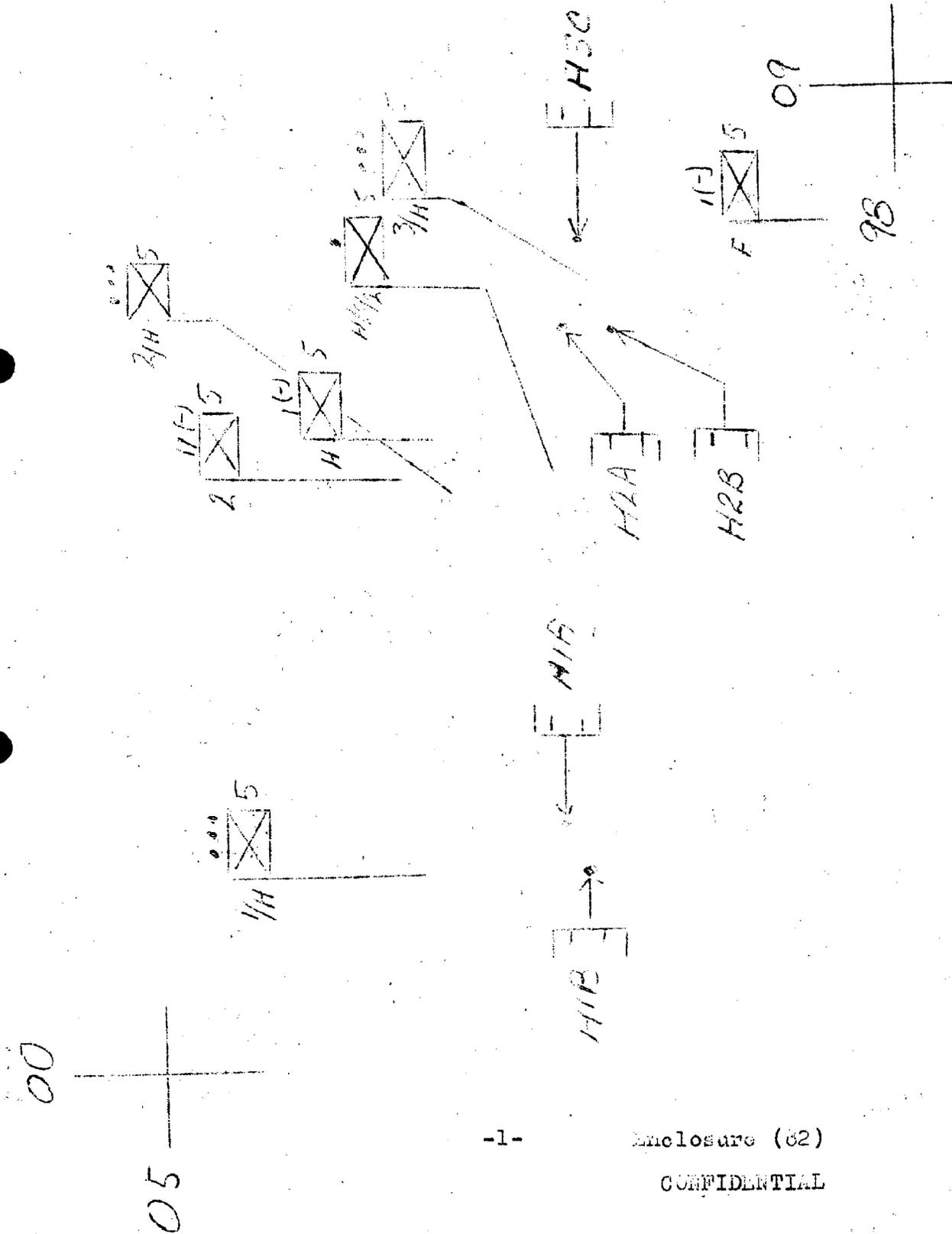
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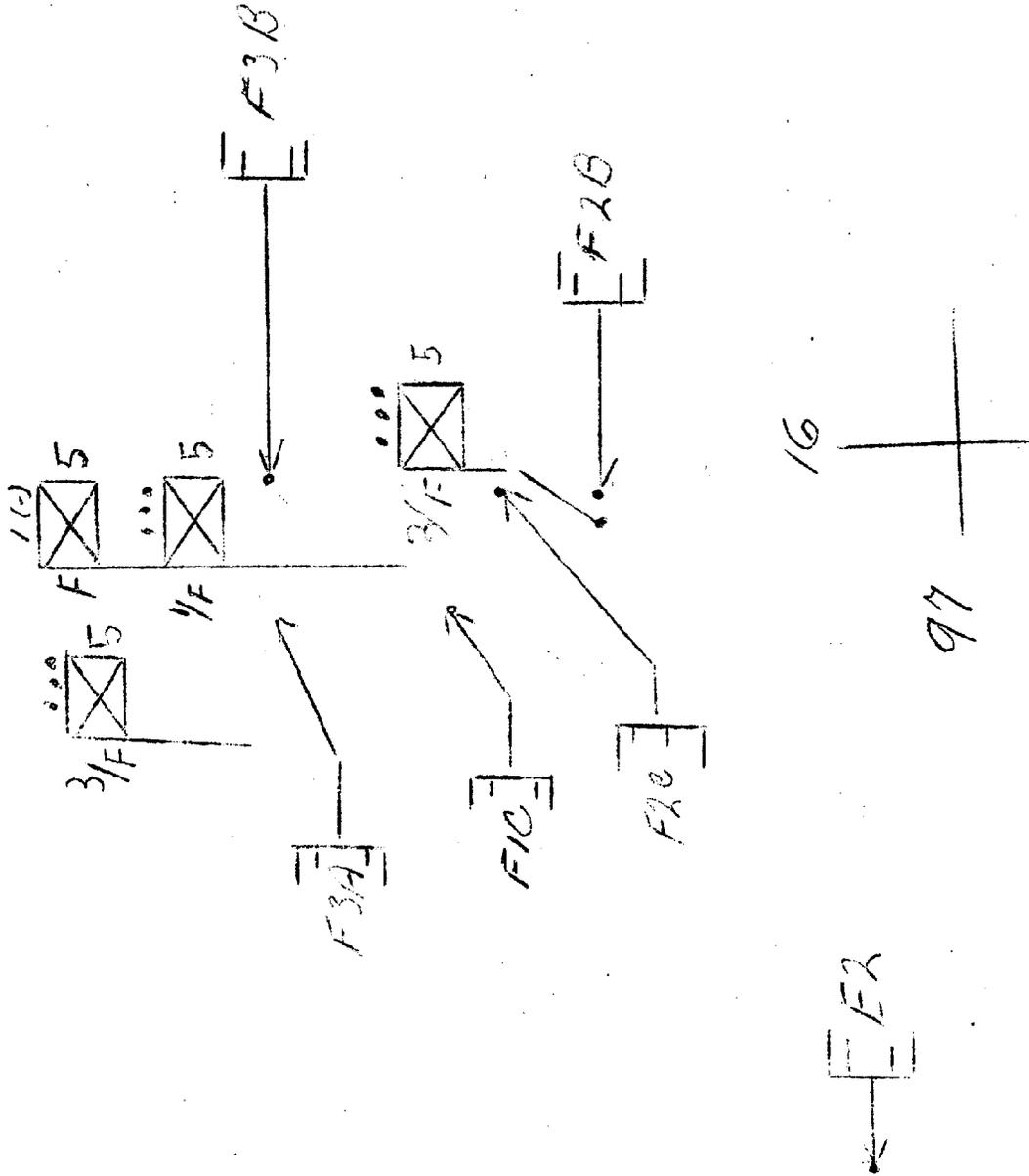
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Night Activities 29 Apr 68



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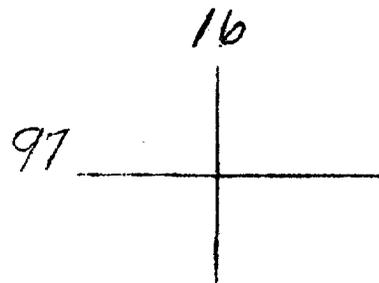
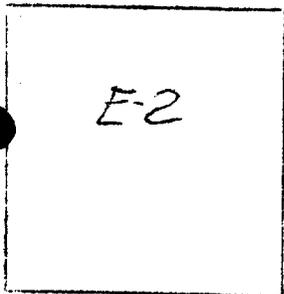
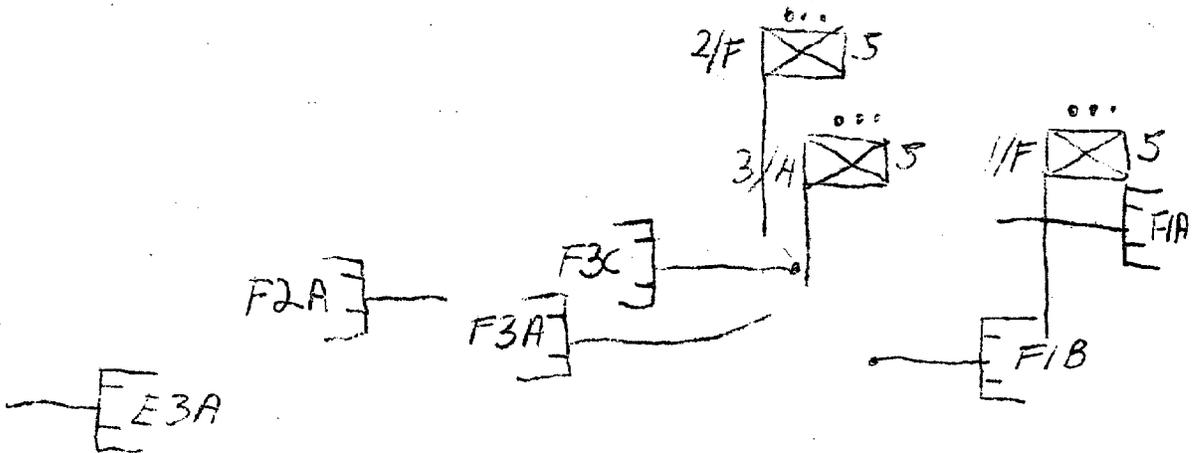
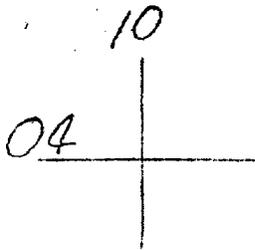
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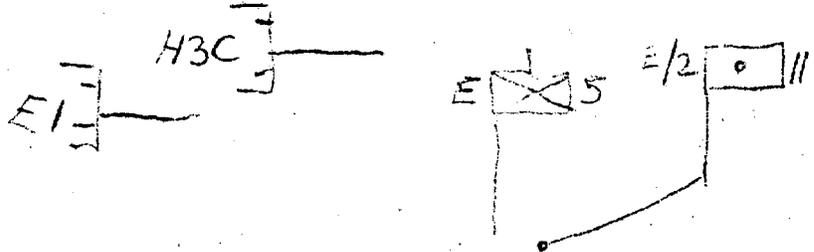
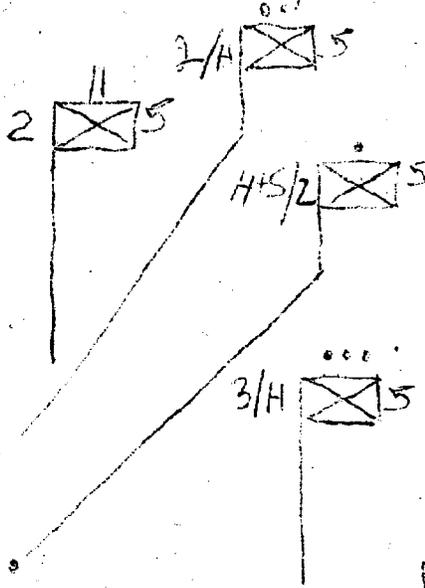
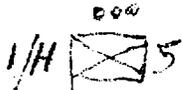
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Night Activities 30 Apr 68



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