

Bravo's One Day in May

-audio transcription by Bob Shearer-

The grunt call signs are:

Otter 1-3: CO Captain Robert Albright.

7-3: Lt. Leland Hyslop (1st platoon)

7-3 Delta: either another squad leader or his platoon Sgt. 8-8: Lt. Nelson (3rd platoon)

Two Hunter Killer Air Support Teams were present during ground contact. Project 2-2, the high bird, likely a Cobra gunship, possibly another Cobra, and a low bird (Loach, or LOH). Project 2-6 team was similar and came in to relieve Project 2-2.

AUDIO TRANSCRIPTION *tape time at left.*

0:00 Sound technician is heard confused as to whether it was working – over the early part of this part of the tape. Albright (1-3) can be heard with platoon leaders and giving air support grid locations.

6:07 Project 29 coordinating with Otter 1-3 as to location of our troops.

7:20 going back to bomb crater for kick out or handout (most likely ammo and/or smokes).

8:28 Shearer relaying to Bob Cancio (RTO for CO) that 8-8 is trying to do commo check.

8:40 attempts to coordinate elements via “rounds in the air.”

9:25 we’re going in to see if we got anything...

10:19 “Project 2-9 in the area, pop smoke” “where do you want us to work?”

11:00 “Project 2-9, be advised...being cut out by someone else on the same push....”

11:00 Project 2-9, wants red leg cut off.

11:45 Project 2-9 wants to know approximate location of other friendlies.

12:30 Project 2-9 wants 8-8 to pop smoke.

14:15 "4-3 is coming into the DP"... (a heads up to those in defensive perimeter where CP and 4th platoon are guarding gear).

15:54 7-3 needs more smokes. LOH offers to drop some.

18:42 4-3 enters perimeter.

19:00 1-3 telling them to move in & if any kind of fire to back off & we'll try again.

19:56 Project 2-9 calling Otter 1-3.

20:02 Blood trail spotted to the east (by LOH) on the trail.

20:21 recon by fire.

20:50 (combat humor in the background from bystanders to the taping- guy being smart ass) from one of the guys that just came in "when I heard the metal click I immediately hugged the ground"...

20:59 Shearer in background asking about "one recon by fire you guys put out, is the automatic (ambush) still set?"

21:30 Project 2-9 describes enemy.

22:00 ten people spotted on the trail (weak signal).

22:16 7-3 (Hyslop) tells Project 2-9 to "be my guest" (hosing them).

22:25 Hunter Killer team rolling on them – M-79's and mini guns...

22:55 7-3 "sweeping now."

23:42 7-3 "Roger, be advised, them rounds went right in on their head."

1-3 "what rounds, 7-3 "the tubes and the ARA."

1-3 "you got some gooks?"

7-3 "haven't got that far yet."

Heavy artillery sounds in background.

24:44 Shearer giving play by play to guys in DP as to what's going on...

25:35 elements doing another recon by fire...B-40's , "I'm pulling back, them bastards are still in there," burn them bastards" (calling for napalm) Albright advises them to pull back. He will contact RASH and burn them.

26:20 "burnt my belly with napalm jelly, diddy bop," stress relief from bystanders.

27:39 "we're taking automatic fire and bravo 40 fire from that damned location...I'm gonna put out more smoke, pull back and I want you to cream the hell outa that country."

28:50 – 29:33 heavy chopper noise, sounds like mini-guns.

29:38 "not seen like this since '66" (possibly a comment by someone in the background of the recorder.

30:15 comments about burned area.

30:35 2 platoon's merging – coordinating.

30:48 heavy rocket sounds "right in on their head, good job"

31:23 F104's on strafing runs.

31:47 sound of 500 pound bombs.

32:27 going back in to "mark," might be fixed wing (RASH) or LOH with WP rockets?

34:37 hard bombs in, again.

36:45 Wilson Picket (white phosphorous) on last contact area – "looked pretty good."

37:40 more hard bombs, 40 mike mike, cannons, Cobras and mini guns, napalm. sounds like they're all taking turns on the targets.

40:00 1-6 Albright (?) wants quick sweep, can hear fixed wing (maybe an OV-10 or push-pull spotter plane).

41:50 Albright: "might have fried them a little bit"... "need more ammo Class 5. " (two platoons are sharing)

43:20 Hunter Killer team leader advises "gooks are on your frequency" ..."chattering away like crazy."
