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## CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACTIVITIES

### BATTLE FOR DAK-TO

25 October. Task Force 2d Battalion 8th Infantry (Mech) conducted operations in AO Spaatz (DAK TO and vicinity).

26 October. 3d Battalion 12th Infantry departed area west of Jackson Hole and moved overland to Camp Enari for further redistribution.

27 October. One company 3d Battalion 12th Infantry moved overland to DAK TO. 3d Battalion 8th Infantry began moving units back to Camp Enari for redistribution. One company from Task Force 2d Battalion 8th Infantry departed DAK TO and moved overland to Camp Enari.

28 October. 3d Battalion 12th Infantry completed move to DAK TO and assumed responsibility for AO Spaatz. 3d Battalion 8th Infantry completed move to Camp Enari. Task Force 2d Battalion 8th Infantry relieved of AO Spaatz moved to Camp Enari.

29 October. 1st Brigade CP moved to AO Spaatz and assumed responsibility for the AO. Two companies of the 3d Battalion 8th Infantry moved overland to DAK TO.

30 October. 3d Battalion 8th Infantry completed movement to DAK TO.

31 October.

1 November.

2 November. At YB887133 Reconno Patrol 1E made contact with a force of unknown size resulting in one US KIA. A helicopter attempting to extract the patrol received ground fire resulting in two US WIA.

3 November. At YB999161 a platoon from Company B 3d Battalion 12th Infantry, made contact with a force of unknown size in bunkers. Four NVA were killed and six US wounded.

4 November. Company A 3d Battalion 8th Infantry made contact with five NVA at 0950 hours and at 1120 hours at YB913143 with another NVA force of unknown size. The contacts resulted in two US KIA and four US WIA. Enemy losses were eight killed. At 1154 hours at ZB000161 Companies A and B. 3d Battalion, 12th Infantry, made contact with a well dug-in estimated NVA battalion and received heavy AW mortar and B-40 rocket fire. Twenty-five US soldiers were wounded with enemy losses unknown.

5 November. Companies A and B 3d Battalion 12th Infantry killed nine NVA at YB995162. Reconno Patrol 2D found six graves with six NVA bodies at AQ792491. They were believed killed by artillery on 3 November.

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6 November. At 1444 hours Company B 4th Battalion (Abn). 503d Infantry conducted a combat assault at YB853187 and at 1530 hours began receiving heavy AW, SA, and mortar fire which continued until 2215 hours. At 1457 hours Company D also made contact and after Company A linked up with Company D at 1900 hours both companies received sporadic SA fire until 2030 hours. At 1905 hours Company C also came into contact and received SA fire. During these actions 16 US were killed and 37 wounded. Enemy losses were 18 NVA KIA and 20 AK-47's one CHICOM heavy machine gun, and one loaded B-40 rocket launcher were captured. At 2355 hours at YB911143 Companies A and D 3d Battalion 8th Infantry received SA and rocket and mortar fire from the west resulting in one US KIA and two US WIA.

7 November. At 0502 hours at YB853187 Company B 4th Battalion (Abn). 503d Infantry received mortar rocket and SA fire resulting in three US KIA. Two NVA were killed in the exchange. At 0745 hours Company B killed two NVA snipers. In a sweep of the previous day's contact area 82 additional NVA bodies were found. Companies A and D 3d Battalion 8th Infantry received SA, AW, mortar and B-40 rocket fire at YB900148 resulting in 10 US KIA, 35 US WIA. The fire was returned killing 12 NVA.

8 November. At 0817 hours at YB900148 Companies A and D 3d Battalion 8th Infantry received 12 rounds of mortar fire resulting in eight US WIA. At 1700 hours at the same location they again received mortar fire and at 1840 hours a heavy ground attack started and continued until 2145 hours. During the action 11 US were killed 38 wounded and 232 NVA were killed. At 1145 hours at YB840178 Company C 4th Battalion (Abn). 503d Infantry found 3 NVA bodies. At YB849188 Company C 1st Battalion (Abn). 503d Infantry killed 1 NVA. At AQ907420 Companies A and C 1st Battalion (Abn). 503d Infantry found 1 grave with 6 NVA bodies 4-5 days old. Five US were wounded when 20 rounds of mortar fire fell on the position of Company C, 1st Battalion (Abn). 503d Infantry at YB852188.

9 November. At 0710 hours at YB982167 Companies C and D 3d Battalion 12th Infantry made contact with an estimated NVA company resulting in one US KIA 11 US WIA, and 12 NVA KIA.

10 November. At YB896149 a 52d CAB gunship received ground fire and crash landed resulting in two WIA one MIA and the destruction of the aircraft. At 1315 hours at YB982169 Company C 3d Battalion 12th Infantry fired at two individuals carrying an 82mm mortar tube and base plate. One NVA was killed and the base plate was captured. At YB850186 Company A 1st Battalion (Abn), 503d Infantry found a bunker complex with six NVA bodies estimated to have been killed within the previous 24 hours by mortar fire. At 1554 hours at YB982169 Companies C and D 3d Battalion 12th Infantry made contact with a force of unknown size resulting in six US KIA 24 US WIA and 11 NVA KIA.

11 November. At ZA200965 Troop C 2d Squadron 1st Cavalry and a work party from Company B, 299th Engineer Battalion made contact with a force of unknown size resulting in two US KIA, eight US WIA, 13 VC KIA, two VCC. At 0830 hours at YB877257 a 3/4 ton vehicle hit a mine seriously wounding one US. At 0830 hours Companies A C and D 1st Battalion (Abn). 503d Infantry made contact with an NVA force of unknown size at two separate

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locations. The contact continued until 1715 hours resulting in 21 US KIA 128 US WIA and two NVAC. At 1307 hours Companies B C and D, 3d Battalion, 8th Infantry received mortar fire followed by a heavy ground attack from the north. The contact continued until 1903 hours and resulted in 18 US KIA, 118 US WIA, 92 NVA KIA and one NVAC Companies C and D. 3d Battalion, 12th Infantry found two NVA bodies from the 10 November contact.

12 November. At 1020 hours at YB822159 Companies A and B, 1st Battalion (Abn), 503d Infantry made contact which continued until 1430 hours resulting in one US KIA, 36 US WIA and four NVA KIA. At 1105 hours at YB 847187 Companies A C and D, 1st Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry made contact which continued until 1330 hours, resulting in three US WIA, six NVA KIA, and one NVAC. At 1705 hours the 1st Brigade CP area received 44 rounds of mortar fire. During the attack four US were wounded and five vehicles damaged. At YB803334 a recondo patrol killed two NVA.

13 November. At 1430 hours at YB998153 a reconnaissance patrol from the 3d Battalion, 12th Infantry killed two NVA while one US was wounded. At 1645 hours Companies A and B, 2d Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry received mortar, rocket and SA fire. At the same time the battalion FSB was subjected to a ground attack accompanied by mortar rocket and SA fire. The contact continued until 1850 hours, resulting in 23 US KIA, 21 US WIA and 13 NVA KIA. At 1815 hours the FSB of the 1st Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry at YB855189 received mortar fire which wounded six US.

14 November. At 1500 hours at ZB138292 the 3d Battalion 42d ARVN Regiment made contact with an estimated two NVA companies. The contact resulted in 10 ARVN KIA 19 ARVN WIA two ARVN MIA and eight NVA KIA.

15 November. At 0845 hours the airstrip at DAK TO received approximately 12 rounds of mortar fire two C-130 aircraft were destroyed and one damaged. From 1549 hours to 1750 hours DAK TO received 78 rounds of mortar fire, most of them landing in the vicinity of the ammunition supply point and large portions of the ammunition caught fire. The 173d Airborne Brigade found an additional 17 NVA KIA from the 11 and 13 November contacts. At 1315 hours at YB825117 the 26th MIKE Force Company killed one NVA. 2d Battalion (Abn), 503d Infantry found eight NVA bodies from the 13 November contact.

16 November. At 2025 hours at YB877104 Recondo Patrol 1A called artillery on a group of NVA moving on a trail and found seven NVA KIA. The 2d Battalion (Abn), 503d Infantry found five NVA bodies from the contact of 13 November.

17 November. At 0830 hours at ZB130311 the 3d ARVN Airborne Battalion made a contact resulting in 10 ARVN KIA and 50 ARVN WIA. At 1011 hours at YB989153 Companies A and C 3d Battalion 12th Infantry received SA fire from Hill 1338. Air and artillery support were called in and at 1718 hours the companies took the hill. One US was killed and 22 wounded. Enemy losses were 49 NVA KIA and one NVAC. At YB849263 the 26th Mike Force Company made contact with an estimated NVA platoon resulting in one US and four CIDG WIA and one NVA KIA.

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18 November. At 0715 hours at ZB153135 an APC from Troop C, 2d Squadron, 1st Cavalry received one round of B-40 rocket fire resulting in one US KIA and three US WIA. At 1110 hours at YB848262 the 23d Mike Force Company received sniper fire resulting in one CIDG KIA. At 1200 hours at YB796135 the 26th Mike Force Company received AW fire which wounded six CIDG. At 1320 hours Company C, 2d Battalion, 8th Cavalry made contact when they discovered a NVA bunker complex. During the contact three US were wounded and one NVA KIA. At 1320 hours at YB848262 Company D, 4th Battalion (Abn), 503d Infantry and the 23d Mike Force Company received two rounds of mortar fire resulting in six US KIA, 15 US WIA, three CIDG KIA, and 13 CIDG WIA. At 1440 hours Company A, 1st Battalion (Abn), 503d Infantry made contact at YB803161. The contact which continued until 1920 hours resulted in six US KIA, 29 US WIA, 51 NVA KIA, and one NVAC. In the vicinity of the 1st Battalion's PSB a patrol killed one NVA and found four NVA bodies. At 1527 hours in the vicinity of Hill 1338 a B-40 rocket round impacted in the trees spraying shrapnel on the positions of the 3d Battalion, 12th Infantry and injuring 15. In the same location friendly artillery wounded two US. The 2d and 3d ARVN Airborne Battalions and the 3d Battalion, 42d ARVN Regiment in heavy contact northeast of DAK TO for several days reported total friendly casualties of 32 KIA, 131 WIA, and three MIA.

19 November. At 1800 hours at ZB153085 an engineer reconnaissance party in two vehicles received SA fire resulting in one US WIA and three enemy KIA. At 0815 hours at YB378105 Reconno Patrol 1A made contact with 20-25 NVA. Two US were wounded in the action. At 1040 hours at YB798138 three companies of the 2d Battalion (Abn), 503d Infantry received sniper fire as they moved up Hill 875. They pulled back and called in air and artillery support. Companies C and D came under attack by 200-300 NVA and Company A made heavy contact clearing the LZ. The contact which was not broken until 1910 hours resulted in 72 US KIA, 85 US WIA, and three US MIA. An undetermined number of the casualties resulted when an aircraft in support dropped a bomb near the US position. From 1300 to 1600 hours four UH-1H aircraft of the 335th Assault Helicopter Company were shot down in the battalion PSB. Two US were wounded in these actions. The aircraft were successfully extracted. At 1045 hours at YB63078 a platoon from Company D, 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry made contact with a force of unknown size resulting in four US KIA, five US WIA, and four NVA KIA. At 1225 hours Company B, 2d Battalion, 8th Cavalry conducted a combat assault at ZB110225 and met resistance resulting in three US KIA, eight US WIA, and four NVA KIA. At YB984152 the 3d Battalion, 12th Infantry made contact with the enemy. Contact was broken and followed up at 1600 hours by 20 rounds of mortar fire from the north. The results of the contact and the subsequent mortar attack were four US KIA, seven US WIA, and 18 NVA KIA. At approximately 2300 hours at ZB103219 an Air Force F-4C crashed apparently as a result of target fixation. One pilot was killed. The other pilot succeeded in bailing out and was rescued. At 2340 hours at YB847307 an ambush patrol of Company D, 1st Battalion, 12th Infantry killed two NVA with a claymore mine. The 2d and 3d ARVN Airborne Battalions made contact in the vicinity of ZB1331. The 2d Battalion reported 19 ARVN KIA, 75 ARVN WIA, and four NVA KIA. The 3d Battalion reported 15 ARVN KIA, 86 ARVN WIA, 47 NVA KIA, and one NVAC. A sweep of the battlefield later brought the total enemy losses to 248 NVA KIA.

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20 November. At 0930 hours in the vicinity of ZB9666 an aircraft from Troop C 7th Squadron 17th Cavalry was shot down and destroyed with negative casualties. Elements of the 4th Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry swept the area of the 19 November contact and found graves with 39 NVA bodies. At the 2d Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry FSB two UH-1H aircraft were shot down with negative casualties.

21 November. From 0645 to 0915 hours at YB799139 three companies of the 4th Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry received 30-31 rounds of 120mm mortar fire, resulting in five US KIA and 47 US WIA. At YB798161 Company C 1st Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry found three NVA bodies. At 1046 hours at ZB109217 the Reconnaissance Platoon 2d Battalion 8th Cavalry made contact with an estimated 20 NVA and received AW and B-40 rocket fire, resulting in one US KIA and two US WIA. At 1550 hours Companies A and B 4th Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry made heavy contact on Hill 875. The contact which continued until 1700 hours resulted in seven US KIA, 38 US WIA and four US MIA. At 1610 hours in the vicinity of ZAI232 a VNAF A1E aircraft went down of an undetermined cause. The forward air controller spotted the wreckage and reported no survivors. At ZB109217 Company B 2d Battalion 8th Cavalry found five NVA bodies.

22 November. While moving to Hill 1294 at YB994144 Company A 3d Battalion 12th Infantry found two NVA bodies, one 60mm mortar tube and 12 B-40 rocket rounds. Company D 1st Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry killed one NVA and captured one at YB796156. At 1340 hours in the same area Company C 1st Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry made contact with a force of unknown size, resulting in one US KIA, one US WIA and one NVA KIA. At the same time at YB797159 Company C made contact with an estimated NVA squad and killed one NVA. Three companies of the 2d Battalion (Abn) and three companies of the 3d Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry policed the battlefield of the 21 November contact and found 73 NVA bodies. At 1440 hours in the vicinity of YB7913 a 2 75mm rocket fired from a gunship supporting a company of the 1st Battalion 12th Infantry impacted near US personnel, wounding nine. At 2015 hours at ZB174014 a truck from the 1st Battalion 69th Armor was hit with a B-40 rocket round, wounding two US.

23 November. At 0900 hours at YB935129 Company B 3d Battalion 12th Infantry found two NVA bodies. At YB798138 Company A 4th Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry made contact with a force of unknown size, resulting in 10 NVA KIA. At 1025 hours near the 3d Battalion 12th Infantry FSB a 52d Combat Aviation Battalion UH-1H received ground fire and crashed at the firebase, resulting in one US WIA. At 1515 hours in the vicinity of Hill 875 a UH-1H aircraft from the 335th Assault Helicopter Company was hit by ground fire and crashed, resulting in no casualties, but the aircraft was destroyed. At 1658 hours at ZB108223 Company C 2d Battalion 8th Cavalry found one NVA body. In the vicinity of Hill 875 elements of the 4th Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry found 17 NVA bodies.

24 November. At 1020 hours on highway 19E at AR958493 a truck convey was ambushed by an estimated two NVA companies. Two troops of the 2d Squadron, 1st Cavalry reacted quickly, killing 42 NVA and capturing six. During the action four US were killed, 11 wounded, six 5 ton trucks were destroyed, and four damaged. At 1320 hours at YB805152 Company D 1st

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Battalion (Abn), 503d Infantry found one NVA body. At 1602 hours at YB 800158 Company B, 1st Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry made contact with a force of unknown size, resulting in one NVA KIA. At 1945 hours at YB876-074 Company D, 3d Battalion 12th Infantry found four NVA bodies.

25 November. At 0720 hours, 1st Battalion 12th Infantry FSB received sniper fire resulting in one US KIA. At YB797138 the battalion found two NVA bodies. At 0845 hours at ZB101296 a 20th Engineer vehicle was hit by a rifle grenade, resulting in two US WIA three ARVN WIA one Korean KIA and one Vietnamese civilian KIA. At 0900 hours at ZB092302 another 20th Engineer vehicle was hit by an unknown type round resulting in one US WIA one VN WIA, and one VN KIA. At 1155 hours at YB797168 Company B, 1st Battalion (Abn), 503d Infantry killed one NVA. Company D killed one NVA at 1230 hours at YB797153 and Company A found one NVA body at YB800158. From 1237 hours to 1530 hours the 3d Battalion 12th Infantry FSB received sporadic mortar fire resulting in one US KIA and two US WIA. The 173d Airborne Brigade in conjunction with two Mike Force companies made a sweep in the vicinity of Hill 875 and found an additional 166 NVA bodies from the contacts of 19 November through 24 November. At 1730 hours at ZB915347 the 22d ARVN Ranger Battalion made contact with an estimated NVA company, resulting in four ARVN KIA 16 ARVN WIA 23 NVA KIA and one NVAC.

26 November. At 1732 hours on Hill 1030 Company C 3d Battalion 12th Infantry found one NVA body and Company B found one NVA body at YB878084. From 1742 hours to 1930 hours the 3d Battalion 12th Infantry FSB received 50-60 rounds of 82mm mortar fire resulting in one US KIA and 10 US WIA. From 1800 hours to 1930 hours the 1st Battalion 12th Infantry FSB and three companies in the vicinity of Hill 875 received an unknown number of mortar rounds, resulting in four US KIA and five US WIA. At YB845145 a reconnaissance patrol from the 1st Battalion 12th Infantry found two NVA bodies, believed to have been killed by artillery.

27 November. At 0320 hours at ZA219915 a bridge security team manned by elements of the 1st Battalion 69th Armor received SA and rocket fire resulting in six US WIA. The unit returned fire and killed two VMC. At 0830 hours the 3d Battalion 12th Infantry FSB received approximately 14 rounds of 82mm mortar fire resulting in three US WIA. At 1100 hours at YB818067 Company B, 3d Battalion 12th Infantry found one NVA body.

28 November. At 1245 hours at YB 832143 a 52d Combat Aviation Battalion UH-1D helicopter crashed during a combat assault. There were no casualties, but the aircraft was destroyed. At 1300 hours at YB801137 Company A, 1st Battalion 12th Infantry found one NVA body. At 1430 hours at YB854137 Company A 1st Battalion 8th Infantry found one NVA body in a grave. At 1930 hours at YB820078 Companies C and D 3d Battalion 12th Infantry found two NVA bodies.

29 November. At 1340 hours the 2d ARVN Airborne Battalion made heavy contact with an estimated NVA company at ZB089310. The contact which continued until 1945 hours resulted in one ARVN KIA 14 ARVN WIA and 107 NVA KIA. At 1700 hours the 3d ARVN Airborne Battalion received unknown number of mortar rounds and SA fire at ZB069318 resulting in three ARVN KIA and 10 ARVN WIA.

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30 November. At 0930 hours Company C 2d Battalion (Abn), 503d Infantry made contact with four NVA at YB875295 resulting in two US KIA and two US WIA. At 1310 hours Company B 2d Battalion (Abn) 503d Infantry killed one NVA at YB872296. At 1335 hours the command-and-control helicopter of the 3d Battalion 12th Infantry was hit with 50 caliber fire in the vicinity of YB8012. The rounds hit the aircraft's radio equipment and fragments from the radio slightly wounded the battalion commander. At 1450 hours the 2d ARVN Airborne Battalion made contact with a force of unknown size at ZB097316 resulting in two ARVN WIA. At 1945 hours the 7th Squadron 17th Cavalry made contact with an NVA platoon at YB963617 and killed one NVA.

1 December. At YB866326 Reconno Patrol 3E made contact with an unknown size force resulting in three NVA KIA and three AK-47's captured. Company A 3d Battalion 8th Infantry detonated a grenade rigged to jungle vines as a booby trap at YB995134 wounding two US. In the vicinity of YB 819087 a company from 3d Battalion 12th Infantry found two NVA that had been killed by mortar or artillery fire. At 1335 hours the 2d Battalion (Abn), 503d Infantry fire support base near BEN HET at YB873258 began receiving a heavy 82mm mortar and 122mm rocket attack. The attack continued until 1945 hours. Twenty to twenty-five rounds landed in the perimeter, eight of which were duds. The attack resulted in one US KIA, nine US WIA and one 155mm howitzer and one 3/4 ton truck destroyed.

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