

kilometers SE of Boytri. At 845 the infantry located 3 enemy bodies as the search 5 kilometers west of Fuchong. An antipersonal mine wounded one man from C company 2nd battillion 12th infantry. A company 2nd battallion 14th infantry continued its search operation 7 kilometers east of Boytri. At 1050 it apprehended an enemy suspect for questionning. Two additional suspects were detained at 1110 by A company. A company picked still another detainee at 1130 as it pushed its search operations for a day to a point 8.5 kilometers east of Boytri.

4th of Nov. A company 2nd of 14th in a sweep operation apprehended 9 suspected enemy at 645. Late in the afternoon B company apprehended 4 enemy suspects during a sweep 5 kilometers north of Duqua.

5 Nov. A company reported detaining 2 suspected enemy at location 7 kilometers west of Duqua. A company continued its operation to a point 6.5 kilometers of north of Duqua and detained another suspect at 1225. At 1640 the company reported apprehending 4 detainees. The 4.5 kilometers NE of the town and at 1730 hours the company picked up an additional 2 suspects and one confirmed Vietcong infra structure member 9.5 kilometers north of Duqua. Also at 1730 hours the battalion D company apprehended three detainees near the location where A company made its 1640 hour detentions. In the meantime the battalion command and the control helicopters supporting company A north of Duqua engaged one enemy soldier accounting for one killed. This action occurred at 1730 15 minutes later as the helicopter was circling location to evaluate its fire 2 additional enemy were observed and taken into fire resulting in 2 more enemy kills.

6th of Nov. 935 C company apprehended one enemy suspect.

7th of Nov. 2nd brigade combined reconniscence(sp) and intelligence platoon was searching along the east bank of the Arenal(?) River 9 kilometers SW of Tranbang. Here at 1445 the unit engaged an unknown number of enemies. Fighting with organic weapons and calling in artillery the platoon drove off the enemy and swept into position to discover one dead, one RPG2 rocket, one M1 carbine,

one AK47, 8 rounds of RPG2, and 4 60mm mortar rounds. At 1935 hours 4 kilometers west of Duqua an ambush patrol from B company 2nd battalion engaged an estimated 15 enemy capturing one AK47 and 4 handgrenades after the enemy withdrew. One patrol member was wounded in the fire fight which took place.

9th of Nov. A company sweeping 8 kilometers NE of Duqua at 930 captured an enemy soldier found hiding in a bunker. The enemy surrendered an AK47 rifle. Meanwhile all around us the 1st brigade and 3rd brigade and other elements of the 2nd brigade were also operating. The 1st brigade had been operating with 2 maneuver battalions, one grunt and one mechanized. They had their own artillery backup from their fire support bases. A 2nd brigade was operating with the 2nd of the twelfth infantry, the 4th of the 9th infantry, the 1st of the 5th infantry, the 2nd of the 14th infantry, the 2nd of the 22nd infantry, 2nd of the 34th armor. The 2nd of the 27th also. The 3rd brigade operating yet another area was operating with the 1st the 27th infantry as well as with the 2nd of the 22nd mechanized. As was the case in the 2nd brigade area of operations the maneuver battalions of the 3rd brigade experienced almost daily small scale ^{pre-}contacts with the enemy forces. While we were primarily occupied with our own forces and our own maneuvers being in the center of the intelligence unit other data began to filter in. (All around us the enemy was being engaged in one way or another. Air strike sorties were being flown - ~~effort~~ were being wounded by booby trap hand grenades - documents were being discovered - people were being killed as they were wounded by detonating anti personnel mines - helicopters and ground troops were being constantly engaged in the enemy - explosives, arms, ammunitions were being discovered in all sorts of caches and underground bunkers. Enemy bodies were being discovered and dug up. Fighting was being engaged within the tunnels by hand grenades. Many of the enemy dead were being found stuffed within the tunnels. APC's struck by anti tank mines were being blown up, people with them. Ambush kill zones were being established by both the enemy and us resulting in numerous dead on both sides. Road plows

were cutting thru the field work were detenating anti personnel mines resulting in wounded and killed individuals. Two hvy's were shot down and destroyed and two others were damaged in some fighting with the air calv. More often than not enemy losses in the fierce fire fights could not be determined. Artillery and air craft seemed to be firing incessantly for the companies and elements which had come under small arms fire were conducting their sweeps. Enemy losses in these exchanges could not be determined. More often than not all we found were custodies were suspects were taken into custody for questioning. The final action for the day occurred at 1845 at our own fire support base when the field command post for the 2nd battalion 14th infantry was struck by 15 rounds of 82 mm mortar fire. One man was wounded by the barrage which was returned by counter mortar artillery fire with unknown results. ~~(This was that I was sought on the perimeter with my friend Roach when we were attacked. I remember how it was handing them the mortars as they returned fire.)~~

10th of Nov. 1405 D company reported detaining two suspects as it pushed thru its area 7.5 kilometers SW of Trangbang. Sweeping 2 kilometers further to the south the company picked up two confirmed VC infra structure members at 1430. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Helicopters from B company the 25th aviation battalion saw action as they flew patrols along the Cambodian border. Two sampans were observed along the cannal 500 meters east of the border were placed placed under machine gun and rocket fire. Both boats were sunk in the attack and 3 dead enemy were observed in the water.

11 Nov. Action continued to be light and scattered. 4 infantrymen from D company were wounded by a booby trap hand grenade at 1030 as they were conducting a sweep operation NE of Duqua. In the afternoon company A captured an enemy soldier at 1230. The prisoner later led the unit to a catch containing 2 AK47s, 2Mls, 2SKS rifles and 6 rounds of 60mm mortar ammunitions. I wonder how they persuaded him. That evening fire support base Kien a fuel command post for the 2nd battalion was struck by 1682 mm mortar rounds again resulting in 5 men being wounded.

The Kien, 7th

The fire base returned their mortar fire with their artillery but the effects of this fire upon the enemy could not be determined.

The night location of the Battallions D company situated NE of Duqua also came under fire at 1840 - 13 rounds of 82 mike mike(?) mortar fire fell on the site, wounding one man. Later that day we got word 10 men were wounded by an explosion of a claymore mine. (?) Our own men setting up an ambush team had been killed attempting to move from its ambush position for the night. Killed by our own claymores. My heart ached and sank - anger rose from me. What could I do? Men around me were dying left and right - my own friends. What could I do?

12th of Nov. One member of A company was wounded by a booby trapped hand grand as his unit swept the area north of Duqua. Remaining in the area A company uncovered a bunker holding 145 caliber pistol, one AK47 rifle, and one carbine. 15 minutes later company B in the 2nd battalion of the 12th came under fire from an unknown number of enemy at a point North of Trangbang. The company returned the enemy fire with organic weapons driving off the enemy but not before two more infantrymen had been wounded. Company C with the 4th of the 9th joined in the continuing search and destroyed operation around the village of Baudyen. And at 1210 the company located an ammunition catch. The catch included 76 banglor torpedos, 8 hand grenades, 15 rounds of 82mm mortar ammunition, and 2000 rounds of small arms ammunition. Remaining in the area of the catch however, 2 members of the company were wounded by antipersonnel mines at 1345. The 1330 D company with the 2nd of the 12th sweeping thru an area NE of Trangbang captured one Vietcong member. Continuing the search in this area the unit leader captured two enemy soldiers with a carbine rifle and apprehended 3 suspects for questioning. As men began to die around me it was easy to understand the frustration, the anger, the hate rose out of the men's hearts towards the Vietnamese. One rifle found for one person killed. Somehow it just didn't seem to balance the situation. It was easy to see that people in the field would fly off the handle and kill and mame and burn villages simply out of frustration and hate.

13th of Nov. The 2nd battalion operating North of Duqua was the only other brigade unit to have a significant action. The night defensive position of C and D company came under heavy small fire arms fire at 2213 killing one infantry man and wounding 10. The companies returned the enemy fire with organic weapons and called for artillery support. Enemy losses in the encounter could not be determined.

14th of Nov. Action for the day began at 830 when companies B and D swept into the area 4 kilometers NE of Bautri. Believed to be the location of an enemy base camp. In searching the area the companies discovered the bodies of 6 enemy soldiers killed by an air strike which had placed on the area earlier in the day. Also, discovered were 7 AK47 rifles, 25 hand grenades, 630 rounds of small arms ammunition, 20#s of rice, 4 arch PG2s, one 82 mm mortar round, 4 anti personnel mines, one 60mm mortar round, one wallet and numerous assorted documents including a diary.

15th of Nov. We began to see considerable action in the Duqua Boytri sector. 1455 B company smashed into a small enemy base camp west of Boytri and captured 3 prisoners, one suspect, 1 AK47 rifle, 1 M16, and 1 M79 grenade launcher, our own weapons. At the same time the battallion command and control helicopter flying nearby engaged one enemy soldier attempting to flee the area. The enemy was killed by the helicopter's flyer and aircraft landed to capture one machine gun that the enemy soldier had been carrying. B company continued its operation in the general vicinity of the enemy base camp. And at 1700 hours the company engaged 3 enemy who attempted to move into the area, in a brief fire fight that took place the three enemy were killed and the company captured one RPG7, one SKS carbine and 2 rounds of RPG7 ammunition. One kilometer west of the contact site 1738 B company came under fire from unknown number of enemy. One infantryman was wounded by this fire. The company returned the enemy fire and attacked into its position where it located one dead enemy and one AK47 rifle. In the meantime company in searching 500 meters to the south located and destroyed

one 16mm mortar round.

16th of Nov. Company sweeping 8 kilometers NE of Duqua located and destroyed one booby trap hand grenade. At 10 o'clock another element of the company operating at a point 7 kilometers north apprehended 5 detainees for questioning.

17th of Nov. Action was unusually light in our area of operation during the day. The lone incident reported by the infantry occurred at 1030 when A company apprehended one detainee while it swept an area 6 kilometers NE of Boytri.

18th of Nov. The long lone(?) enemy activity in the 1st brigade area of operations continued but for us activity was fairly heavy. Company D sustained 3 men wounded at 925 when a booby trapped hand grenade exploded during a company sweep NE of Duqua. Between 1400 and 1700 hours company A, B, and D apprehended a total of 22 detainees and captured 6 prisoners of war in a search of the village east of Baltri. At 1630 helicopter gun ships supporting this operation received ground fire from a position SW of the village. One aircraft crew member was wounded by this burst of fire.

19th of Nov. Action tapered off considerably in the divisional area of operations for the 1st brigade. But the 3rd brigade area were continuing to have contact with the enemy. For us it was the same. 6 incidences took place. One man from the engineer battalion was killed by an anti tank mine. At 12 company A reported locating and destroying 3 hand grenades during a sweep operation NW of Duqua.

20th of Nov. No significant actions reported today. B company apprehended one detainee at 1600 as it swept thru the area North of Duqua.

21st of Nov. A company captured one Vietcong member at 1105 as the company conducted a sweep thru the Boytri area. At 1315 elements of the same company came into contact with an unknown number of enemy at a point NE of Duqua and a short but fierce fire fight the infantrymen killed one enemy soldier and captured two.

22nd of Nov. 1630 D company reported the apprehension of one detainee picked up as the company swept thru the area NE of Duqua. At 0904 C company captured 1# of assorted enemy documents during a search operation SW of Trangbang. A short distance away the company located and destroyed a catch of 2382 mm mortar rounds at 1058.

23rd of Nov. 6 ~~enemies~~ of A company were wounded at 1225 when they detonated a booby trap of unknown type. The incident occurred as the company was searching thru Baudean(?). At 1700 hours B company located an anti tank mine on a sweep NW of Trunlap. Company C sustained two men wounded when it came under small arms fire when it searched thru the village complex at Thaimai. Early in the day at 1500 hours the company had detained 9 suspects for questioning in the same area and had let them go.

24th of Nov. 2nd brigade command control helicopter engaged and killed one ^{own} enemy at 1530. For our support infantry it had been a quiet day. Although all around us in the 2nd battalion of the 27th and in the 1st of the 5th as well as the 2nd of the 12th men were being killed.

25th of Nov. B company captured 8 107 mm rocket launcher tubes and 1 RPG2 rocket launcher when it discovered an enemy storage site west of Baltri.

26th of Nov. Reconnaissance platoon captured one prisoner and apprehended two suspects for questioning at 725 as it swept north of the city. A bulldozer supporting the battalion had detonated into a tank mine and resulted in the wounding of one man and serious damage to the bulldozer. Meanwhile the 12th infantry had been attacked by an estimated company sized enemy force. Fighting from ? position and calling in supporting artillery and helicopter gunships the company had turned back the enemy attack. Sweeping the area surrounding the night position following the withdrawal of the enemy revealed 12 enemy dead. Six members of A company with the 2nd of the 14th who were operating with the 12th infantry were wounded in two separate incidences involving booby trap hand grenades. Both incidences occurred a short distance from the early morning contact site as the

company joined in operations around the area. Day after day we swept the area. Again and again the infantry went out the mechanized went out. Day after day we reported con.....

25th of Nov. D company captured 8 107 mm rocker launcher tubes and 1 RPG2 rocket launcher.

27th of Nov. The action in the area continued to be steady. The 2nd of the 27th had located two more enemy bodies and two ~~more~~ RPG rockets. Later in the day they killed two enemies who walked into an ambush site which they had sprung at 2010. 34th armor engaged two enemies with M79 grenade launchers. A search of the target area turned up one dead enemy and one prisoner. Ten minutes later the infantrymen came under fire at the same location. Later they located two more enemy bodies. The 12th infantry were wounded, six members of the 12th infantry were wounded when the truck in which they were riding struck and anti tank mine. Six additional members of C company were wounded by an anti tank mine that was detonated as the company conducted the sweep west of Bogdien(sp). Throughout the day other elements that the battalion had discovered and destroyed 2 other anti tank mines during the sweep operation. The 4th cal was also experiencing contact. One armored personnel carrier was struck by an RPG wounding 6 men. Later they had found an enemy catch which revealed hand grenades, mortar rounds, and enemy documents.

20th of Nov. The area of the first brigade began to see some significant engagements and more major engagements were being fought within the 2nd brigade area of operations. The 3rd brigade area had continued to be high in contact. Engaging their attackers in a bunker with hand grenades the infantry _____ a fire during a sweep 8 kilometers SE of DaTen. The company bottled up its attackers in a bunker which was engaged in hand grenades, one infantryman was wounded in the fight.

29th of Nov. Today one more man was killed and another was wounded when the

armored personnel carrier in which they were riding struck an anti tank mine. A short distance to the south another platoon came into small fire and claimed more mines, 3 patrol members lay killed, 3 wounded. _____ in the field no significant contact had been reported for the day.

7th of Dec. 1968. I was on flight home. I'd finally got into the freedom bird. Finally got on that freedom flight. In two days I would be released from the service. Back at camp 3 infantry men were killed and 3 wounded at 12 o'clock when C & D company 2nd battalion came under heavy fire during a sweep along the banks of the Oriental River. The companies returned the enemy fire with organic weapons and called in artillery and helicopter gunships for support. A sweep of the enemy positions however failed to reveal any enemy casualties. Two men from D company 2nd battallion 12th infantry were wounded when they tripped a body booby trapped hand grenade. Earlier in the day the company discovered and destroyed an anti tank mine in the same general area. Company C with the 1st of the 5th had come under fire as it conducted a sweep 3 kilometers NE of Trunlap, one man was wounded by this fire, which was returned by the mechanized infantry with unknown results. Later that night Company A and Co. C established in a night position in the same area came under mortar attack which resulted in the wounding of 10 people.