

NEWS



SHEET

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Thursday

April 17, 1969

AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO)—Outnumbered Americal soldiers withstood an early-morning attack on a vital bridge 12 miles southeast of Duc Pho to highlight moderate action in southern I Corps yesterday.

The recent enemy offensive was renewed in attacks on seven bridges, four landing zones, and two villages between 0130 and 0330 hours.

Americal Division forces reported killing 11 NVA and 28 VC, and capturing four individual weapons.

* * * *

FREDERICK HILL—The day's heaviest action occurred in the 196th Inf. Bde. area where 11 NVA and 15 VC were killed, and three weapons were captured.

Co. B, 1-46 Inf. killed four NVA and six VC in three contacts. The biggest came at 1130 15 miles southwest of Tam Ky in jungle-covered foothills where Co. B called an air strike against an unknown-size enemy force. Three NVA and four VC were killed.

Earlier, Co. B had seen six VC moving through the jungle and directed artillery fire to kill two VC a half mile from the 1130 action. Later, Co. B engaged five more NVA and VC and killed an NVA.

After killing two NVA in mountains 24 miles northwest of Tam Ky, F Trp., 17th Cav. found three NVA, two of whom had been killed by artillery and one by gunships within the previous 24 hours in the same area.

Co. C, 1-52 Inf. killed two NVA a mile from Co. B's encounters.

Co. A, 4-31 Inf. engaged and killed three VC while sweeping an area 19½ miles west of Tam Ky.

Co. D, 4-31 Inf. killed two VC and captured two carbines 22 miles west-northwest of Tam Ky. In a delayed report, Co. D also killed a VC at 2330

MIRACLE SAFETY REMINDER

There was a Guy named Walt

Who did not take his salt

The sun beat down

Melted Walt into the ground

Now Walt doesn't have to worry
about salt.

Co. A, 3-21 Inf. killed two VC, and the 3-21 recon unit killed one VC and captured an AK-47 rifle 18 miles north and north-northwest of Tam Ky.

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"Blue Ghost" gunships of F Trp., 8th Cav. killed five VC 18 miles north-northwest of Tam Ky in the only action reported in the 1st Sqdn., 1st Cav. area of Frederick Hill.

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GENEVA PARK—Eight VC were killed in the 198th Inf. Bde. area.

In a delayed report, gunships of the 176th Aslt. Hel. Co. killed five VC in a rice paddy nine miles north-northeast of Quang Ngai at 1750 Tuesday.

Co. C, 4-3 Inf. killed three VC in two contacts. Two were killed in a rice paddy near the site of the 176th kills, and the other was killed when Co. C engaged four VC 1½ miles away.

* * * *

IRON MOUNTAIN—Three VC were killed and an AK-47 rifle captured as all 11th Inf. Bde. action occurred in the attack on the Sa Huynh bridge southeast of Duc Pho.

Fifteen soldiers of Co. C, 1-20 Inf. were guarding the bridge when an estimated 40 VC attacked through concertina wire barring the approach. The sappers used satchel charges, hand grenades, and RPG and small arms fire in an unsuccessful attempt to blow the structure.

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AWAZZUS



Six GI's were wounded and evacuated for medical treatment when a B-40 rocket penetrated an American bunker near the bridge.

The enemy force fled soon after E Trp., 1st Cav. arrived to reinforce the Co. C guard.

SSG James Polk (Jonesville, La.) killed three VC when he leaped from his bunker behind a burst of M-16 fire and cut down the VC as they moved through the wire. SSG Polk is platoon sergeant for Co. C's first platoon.

The AK-47 was recovered after the fierce fighting ended.

A VC sapper squad tossed 15-20 satchel charges at Duc Pho at 0130, and LZ Thunder received two mortar rounds later in the morning.

An F Trp., 8th Cav. gunship, piloted by 1LT Gary Ellis (Sylvia, Kan.) spotted a tiger moving near an LZ 7½ miles southeast of Chu Lai. The tiger was killed and weighed in between 500 and 600 pounds.

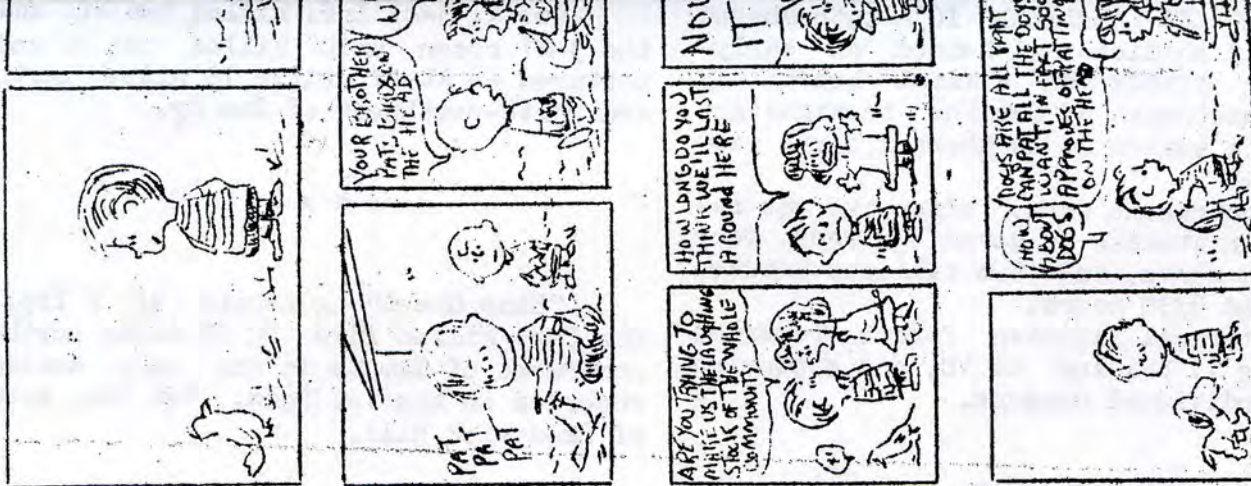
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AMERICAL NEWS SHEET
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