

USA SP PHOTO DET, (PAC)

TEAM (C)

Commanding Officer
US Army Photographic Agency
Room 5A-470, The Pentagon
Washington, D.C. 20310

UNCLASSIFIED

N/A

DCS 200-1040/67VN

MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE

N/A
RUM SUC SPECIAL ZONE
BIEN HOA PROVINCE

SP/L CHARLES W. ABBOTT

NONE

8/10 AUG 67

KERO #B16110

5251

1000 ft.

NONE

XX

IX

XX

NONE

DAY/EXT

25

TEN (10)

AIR FRUIT

12 AUG 67

SUMMARY

8/10 AUG 67 - Mobile Riverine Force, "River Raiders", consisting of the 2nd Bde of the 9th Inf Div, and the Naval Task Force 117, consisting of 5 ships, carrying a total of 2 bn of men with approx a Co. or more of Support Troops and operating under the Flag Ship, USS Benueah. The ships were redesigned to maneuver in the shallow waters of the Delta.

Attached to the ships are approx 30 to 40 A.T.C. Boats, (Armed Troop Carriers). They are assault boats and each one carries approx one (1) Plt of men. The Monitors (much like the one used during the Civil War) are heavy fire support boats and are equipped with 20 and 40mm Cannons, M-79 Grenade Launcher, 50 and 30 Cal. Machine Guns, and 81mm Mortars.

The C & C Boat, (Command and Communications) is much like the Monitors but without the 81mm Mortars. This boat is used as the Commanding Ship and is capable of communicating with troops moving on land.

Another ATC, has been redesigned for Medical Aid. ^{IT IS} Used for Minor Surgery and has refrigeration for the storage of blood and other types of medicine needing refrigeration. It is also equipped with a flight deck, enables a Helicopter to bring in wounded, to be treated as soon as possible, instead of flying clear back to the ships, which may be several miles away.

Another ATC, equipped with a flight deck, is used as a Tanker. It is used mainly for the refueling of the Helicopters, that is used to maneuver over the troops on land.

During this Operation, A Co, 3rd Bn, 60th Inf, of the 2nd Bde, 9th Inf Div, left the ships and boarded the ATC Boats at approx 0300. At approx 0700, daybreak, the men landed in the Rum SUC Special Zone - total swamp area - approx 40km Southeast of Saigon, in the Bien Hoa Province. Their mission was to make a Recon Patrol Sweep, between the Dong Trach River and Cash Rai Bay.

After approx a day and a half sweep, they found no sign of the enemy. They were picked up by the boats and returned to the ships.

THE MEN THEN

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DCS 200-1040/67VN

MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE

RUE SUC SPECIAL ZONE
BIEN HOA PROVINCE

SP/4 CHARLES W. ABBOTT

8/10 AUG 67

5251

1000 ft.

NONE

X

XX

X

THI (10)

12 AUG 67

(PAGE - 2 -)

ROLL # 1

- MS - Gate on front of boat going down.
- MS - Men leaving boat.
- LS - Men moving through and across muddy swamp.
- CU - Feet moving through mud.
- LS - SP/4 William E. DEUTCHER, (Cleveland, Ohio) Radio, moves across swamp canal.
- LS - PFC Joseph R. ORTIZ, (Chicago, Illinois) Machine gunner, crossing swamp.
- LS - Men crossing swamp canal.

ROLL # 2

- MS - 1st Lt. James A. MULLIX, (Paola, Kansas) 2nd Plt. Leader, making a fire to heat "C" rations.
- CU - Fire and "C" rations being heated.
- CU - 1st Lt. Mully.
- LS - 1st Lt. Joe Van SICKLE, (Chickton, Ohio), 1st Plt Leader, eating "C" rations.
- MS - Same As Above...
- CU - "C" rations.
- LS - Plt leaders being briefed.
- CU - Capt. Gregg H. ORSH, (Atlanta, Georgia), C.O. of "A" Co, (A-3-60), talking.
- CU - SFC, Elwood L. BLAKER, (Ithaca, N.Y.), Plt leader, talking.

ROLL # 3

- LS - Men putting on equipment.
- CU - SP/4 Ronald A. ABRAHAM, (Rockford, Illinois) RTO, putting radio on his back.
- LS - Men moving out.
- LS - Men moving along jungle trail.
- CU - PFC Robert B. BARNES, (Carbondale, Penn.), Assistant Machine gunner, pauses along jungle trail.
- LS - Gate on boat going down.
- LS - Men getting off.
- MS - Same As Above....
- MS - Same As Above....

ROLL # 4

- LS - Men crossing river swamp.
- LS - Same as above....
- LS - Same as above....
- MS - Same as above....

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DCS 200-104G/67VN

MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE

RMN SVC SPECIAL ZONE
BIEN HOA PROVINCE

SP/4 CHARLES W. ABBOTT

5251

1000 ft.

RMN

XX

8/10 AUG 67

X

XX

TEN (10)

12 AUG 67

ROLL # 1---CONTINUED---

(PAGE - 3 -)

CU - Men crossing river swamp.
MS - Soldier moving out of river.
CU - Hands squeezing water from fatigue trousers.
CU - Feet walking through mud.
LS - Men moving through jungle grass.

ROLL # 5

LS - Men in swamp brush.
LS - Men preparing to blow bunker.
MS - SP/4 Richard P. YOUNGFIELD, (Denver, Colorado), Demolition Specialist, fixes fuse.
CU - Blasting cap being placed on fuse.
CU - Fuse being put into C-4 Explosive.
CU - Striker, (fuse igniter), being placed on fuse.
MS - Placing C-4 Explosive into place.
MS - Same As Above....
LS - Bunker exploding.
LS - Men discussing position.
MS - Same As Above.....
CU - Ma p.
LS - Men discussing position.

ROLL # 6

LS - Jet aircraft making air strikes.
LS - Same As Above....
LS - Men moving across field.
LS - Men cross swamp.
LS - Same As Above.
LS - SP/4 David D. VAN KIRK, (Cheyenne, Wyoming), Demolition Specialist, powders his feet, while on a break.
CU - Feet being powdered.
CU - SP/4 VAN KIRK, face.
LS - SP/4 VAN KIRK, powdering feet.

ROLL # 7

LS - Boat coming into landing.
LS - Men getting on boat.

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MOBILE RIVERLINE FORCE

MIN SUG SPECIAL ZONE
MIN HOA PROVINCE

SP/4, CHARLES W. ABBOTT

NONE

8/10 AUG 67

5251

1000 ft.

NONE

XX

XX

XX

TEN (10)

12 AUG 67

ROLL # 7 ---continued---

(PAGE - 4 -)

- LS - Men getting on boat.
- RS - REVERSE ANGLE-- Same as above....
- LS - Boat against landing.
- LS - Boat pulling away from pick-up area.
- LS - Same as above.

ROLL # 8

- LS - Boat's moving in water.
- LS - Cooswains Flat, (U.S. Navy term)
- RS - Bosmain Mate (EN-3 Richard A. Mc LEOD, (Fayetteville, N.C.) Cooswain, looking ahead as he steers boat through the waters.
- OU - Hands on helm.
- RS - Seaman, (EN)- Robert E. Stowell, (Independance, Mo.) watches for any snipers, behind a 20mm Cannon.
- OU - Same As Above.
- LS - Turret of the 20mm Cannon.
- OU - Water being churned by the boats propellers.
- LS - Boats moving toward Ships as men are looking on.
- LS - Men plotting course.

ROLL # 9

- LS - Approaching ships floating dock.
- LS - Same As Above....
- LS - Men getting off boats.
- RS - Same As Above....
- OU - Same As Above....
- LS - Rope being tossed from boat to Seaman standing on floating dock.
- OU - Rope.
- RS - Men tying rope.
- OU - EN - Marvin J. Mc LANAHAN, (Holden, MO.), Owners Mate, tying rope to dock.

ROLL # 10

- LS - Men on ship, looking on.
- LS - Men coming up stairs, boarding ship.
- LS - PAN - Men on floating dock.
- LS - Men on floating dock.