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R 291310Z JAN 68  
FM COMRIVFLOT ONE  
TO USS BENEWAH  
USS COLLETON  
USS ASKARI  
USS WASHINGTON COUNTY  
BT

UNCLAS E F T O  
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DAILY INTERNAL INFORMATION SUMMARY 01-30

NEITHER THE ARMY NOR THE NAVY REPORTED ANY SIGNIFICANT CONTACT MONDAY AS THE MRF ESTABLISHED WATER PATROLS AND TOOK UP OBSERVATION POSITIONS TO ENFORCE THE 36-HOUR TET TRUCE.

ONE VC WAS KILLED IN ACTION BY GUNSHIPS MONDAY -- THE ONLY ENEMY CASUALTY BEFORE THE TRUCE WENT INTO EFFECT AT 1800. IT IS SCHEDULED TO CONTINUE FOR 36 HOURS UNTIL 0600 WEDNESDAY.

OPERATING ALONG THE BORDER BETWEEN KIEN PHONG AND DINH TUONG PROVINCES, THE ARMY HAS ESTABLISHED FOUR FIRE SUPPORT BASES FROM WHICH THE ARMY AND NAVY ARE CONDUCTING THEIR INDICTORY OPERATIONS.

TWO ARMY PERSONNEL WERE WOUNDED EARLY IN THE DAY WHEN THEY STEPPED

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ON A BOOBY TRAP WHICH SET OFF A CHINESE COMMUNIST GRENADE.

THE MRF CAME WITHIN FOUR ASPB'S OF BEING AT FULL STRENGTH MONDAY WHEN TWO NEW BOATS COMPLETED THEIR TRANSIT FROM CAT LO. THE ASPB'S CAME VIA NHA BE AND THE CHO GAO CANAL, AFTER ROUGH SEAS FOR THE PAST THREE DAYS HAD PREVENTED THEIR SCHEDULED PASSAGE ACROSS THE SOUTH CHINA SEA.

A NEAR SERIOUS HELICOPTER CASUALTY OCCURRED AT 0840 WHEN A NAV-SUPPACT SAIGON UH-34 HAD A PARTIAL LOSS OF POWER AND SETTLED INTO THE WATER OFF THE BOW OF THE BENEWAH. THE PILOT COOLY STRUGGLED TO KEEP THE AIRCRAFT UPRIGHT WHILE THE TWO CREWMEN AND COMMANDER (CHAPLAIN) MALE JUMPED INTO THE WATER. THE AIRCRAFT WAS THEN ABLE TO BECOME AIRBORNE AGAIN. THE QUICK ACTION OF THE CREW OF M-112-1 RESCUED TWO AND AIRBORNE DUST-OFF HELICOPTER RESCUED THE THIRD BY HOVERING WITH HIS SKIDS IN THE WATER WHILE THE MAN CLIMBED ABOARD. NO INJURIES WERE INFILCTED AND NO DAMAGE SUSTAINED.

SIX NEW MEN, THE FIRST CONTINGENT OF APPROXIMATELY 200 NEW PERSONNEL WHO WILL BE JOINING IF 117 DUTY WITHIN THE NEXT FEW DAYS, REPORTED ABOARD THIS AFTERNOON.

BT

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