

CWO NR #2755

YAPD YAPD DE J881 HRC13/26

Z NY EEEEE

R 261310Z FEB 68

FM CTF ONE ONE SEVEN

TO TF ONE ONE SEVEN

INFO CO SECOND BDE NINTH INF DIV

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

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DAILY INTERNAL INFORMATION SUMMARY NO. 22-26.

ARMY ELEMENTS OF THE MRF RAN INTO SOME OF THEIR STIFTEST OPPOSITION IN SEVERAL WEEKS MONDAY WHEN THEY WERE ATTACKED FROM PREPARED ENEMY POSITIONS WHILE COMPLETING AN AIRLIFT INTO THE AO WEST OF CAN THO. BRAVO COMPANY OF 3/68 INFANTRY BORE THE BRUNT OF THE ATTACK, RECEIVING A HEAVY BARRAGE OF AUTOMATIC WEAPONS, SMALL ARMS AND ROCKET FIRE AS THEIR HELICOPTERS DROPPED DOWN AT THE OBJECTIVE LANDING ZONE AT 0940. TWELVE ARMY PERSONNEL WERE KILLED DURING THE DAY AND 25 OTHERS WERE WOUNDED, SEVEN SERIOUSLY. TWENTY VC WERE KNOWN TO HAVE BEEN KILLED AND ONE POW HAD BEEN TAKEN AS OF 2000. THE HELICOPTERS INVOLVED IN THE AIRMOBILE ASSAULT ALSO TOOK CONSIDERABLE FIRE, AND ONE WAS SHOT DOWN DURING THE BATTLE. DESPITE THE HEAVY ARMY INVOLVEMENT, NAVY ELEMENTS REPORTED NO CONTACT

THE AT/1930
-T AP1-26, COMBUD
CTU 117, 0.1
COMCOS DIV-17
CO 2N BDE 9th INF DIV

UNCLAS E F T O

NBL	18382	-
NDAU	19156	-
NFLX	19162	-
NFLX	19178	-

ORIGINAL

UNCLAS E F T O

PAGE TWO UNCLAS E F T O
MONDAY. THE CLOSEST [REDACTED] WHO WITNESSED [REDACTED] RECEIVED AUTOMATIC WEAPONS AND ROCKET FIRE AT ABOUT 0600 AS THEY WERE BEING ESCORTED DOWN THE CAN THO RIVER BY BOATS OF RIVER DIVISION 91. ALTHOUGH ONE OF THE LCM-8S WAS HIT, THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES. THE RIV DIV 91 BOATS AND OTHER UNITS OF DIVISION 111 ARE CONDUCTING PATROLS ALONG AN 11-MILE STRETCH OF THE SONG CAN THO, SOUTH AND WEST OF THE CITY. OTHER BOATS OF RIVER DIVISION 92 ARE PATROLLING A SMALLER STREAM NORTH OF THE AO IN THE VICINITY OF THE AREA WHERE THEY BEACHED COMPANIES OF 3/47 INFANTRY ABOUT 0830. BRAVO AND OTHER COMPANIES OF 3/60 INFANTRY WERE AIR LIFTED INTO THE AO AFTER BEING TRANSPORTED TO A PICK-UP ZONE ON THE SOUTH BANK OF THE BASSAC RIVER BY BOATS OF RIV DIV 111. ON MONDAY AFTERNOON, THE MRF WAS VISITED BY MR. CHARLES L. EBERHARDT, DIRECTOR OF THE FAR EAST BUREAU OF VOICE OF AMERICA, AND MR. CHRIS ECONOMOU, A WAR CORRESPONDENT FOR "EIMONES", AN ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY MAGAZINE PUBLISHED IN ATHENS, GREECE. BOTH MEN WERE BRIEFED ON MRF OPERATIONS AND TOURED ASSAULT CRAFT ALONGSIDE THE BENEWAH. THEY WILL CONTINUE THEIR VISIT WITH US ON TUESDAY.

PAGE THREE UNCLAS E F T O
CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONIES WILL BE HELD TUESDAY ON THE BENEWAH FLIGHT DECK FOR LIEUTENANT COMMANDER GERALD SAUCIER, WHO HAS COMMANDED THE BENEWAH SINCE IT WAS RECOMMISSIONED IN JANUARY, 1967, AT THE PHILADELPHIA NAVAL SHIPYARD. HE IS BEING RELIEVED BY LIEUTENANT COMMANDER M. A. STOWELL, WHO LAST SERVED AS SURFACE OPERATIONS OFFICER OF CRUISER-DESTROYER FLOTILLA TWO OUT OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND.

BT 00 01 0-072...N1 N2 N3 N4 N5 N6 SWO...
A-CTU 117.3.1
CO...PCO...XO...OPS...COMM...CDO...A-PERS...
TOD:26/NBLL/1838Z/NDNU/1915Z/NFLX/1916Z/NU1Y/1917Z FEB 68/S/S
TOD:26/1935Z FEB 68/TMC WU:WA/SUPVR:J

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