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INFO CO SECOND INF, NINTH INF DIV

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DAILY INTERNAL INFORMATION SUMMARY NO. 03-33

TEN VC WERE KILLED IN ACTION SATURDAY AS A RIVER ASSAULT RECONNAISSANCE ELEMENT MOVING UP THE NICHOLAI MANG THIT CANAL SYSTEM BETWEEN THE BASSAC AND CO CHIEN RIVERS SPOTTED A GROUP OF VC FLEEING AN ABANDONED OUTPOST AT 0930.

THE VIET CONG WERE TAKEN UNDER FIRE BY BOTH THE 12 RIVER ASSAULT CRAFT MAKING UP THE RARE AND A LIGHT HELO FIRE TEAM WHICH WAS FLYING COVER FOR THE BOATS AND THEIR EMBARKED VIETNAMESE RANGERS. EARLIER IN THE MORNING AT 0850, ANOTHER VC ARMED WITH A RIFLE ATTEMPTED TO EVADE THE BOATS AND WAS ALSO KILLED.

THE RARE COMPLETED ITS TRANSIT OF THE CANAL SYSTEM ABOUT 1130, REACHED VINH LONG BY 1545 AND WAS DUE TO ARRIVE DONG TAM LATER IN THE EVENING.

IN SHARP CONTRAST TO FRIDAY'S HEAVY FIGHTING IN THE AO WEST

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OF CAN THO, ONLY TWO INCIDENTS WERE REPORTED SATURDAY. AT ABOUT 1330, ONE ARMY INFANTRYMAN WAS KILLED AND TWO OTHERS WERE WOUNDED WHEN CHARLEY COMPANY OF 3/47 INFANTRY CAME UNDER HEAVY SMALL ARMS AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE WHILE CROSSING A STREAM. THE ONLY OTHER FRIENDLY CASUALTIES DURING THE DAY WERE TWO ARMY PERSONNEL WOUNDED WHEN ELEMENTS OF 3/47 INFANTRY RECEIVED A TOTAL OF 62 ROUNDS IN EARLY MORNING MORTAR ATTACKS.

CUMULATIVE CASUALTY FIGURES FOR THE TWO DAYS OF OPERATIONS WEST OF CAN THO WERE SEVEN US PERSONNEL KILLED AND 40 WOUNDED, INCLUDING THREE FROM NON-HOSTILE CAUSES. TWENTY-ONE VC WERE KILLED, NOT INCLUDING THE ELEVEN BY THE RARE AND SUPPORTING GUNSHIPS.

SALVAGE OPERATIONS ON ASPB-112-4 CONTINUED SATURDAY, BUT THE BOAT REMAINED BEACHED IN THE AO OVERNIGHT, PROTECTED BY AN ARVN RF COMPANY AND BOATS OF RIVER DIVISION III. OPERATIONS WILL BE RESUMED AT FIRST LIGHT SUNDAY MORNING.

OTHER ARMY AND NAVY ELEMENTS CLOSED THE MRB BY EARLY IN THE EVENING.

SHIPS OF THE MRB MOVED ABOUT FIVE MILES UP RIVER SATURDAY IN ORDER TO BE IN A BETTER POSITION TO GET UNDERWAY SUNDAY FOR THE 105-MILE TRANSIT TO DONG TAM.

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TOD: 02/15/82 JAR 63/S/S

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