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SUBJ: DAILY INTERNAL INFO SUMMARY 04-23

AFTER SEVERAL DAYS OF LITTLE ACTION, MRF FORCES ACHIEVED MODERATE TO HEAVY CONTACT TUESDAY, REPORTING 46 VC KILLED IN ACTION.

OPERATING SIX MILES NORTHWEST OF THE MRB IN GIAO DUC DISTRICT OF DINH TUONG PROVINCE, THE VIETNAMESE MARINES WERE THE FIRST TO REPORT ENEMY CONTACT ABOUT 1000. FIGHTING CONTINUED UNTIL THE EARLY EVENING, WITH ALLIED CASUALTIES REPORTED AS FIVE KILLED AND 28 WOUNDED. THE VIETNAMESE MARINES WERE INVOLVED IN SOME OF THE HEAVIEST ACTION WITH FOUR OF THE FIVE KIA AND 20 OF THE 28 WIA.

AS THE MARINE CONTACT PERSISTED THROUGHOUT THE DAY, ARMY ELEMENTS WERE MOVED INTO THE AREA IN AN EFFORT TO SURROUND THE ESTIMATED VC COMPANY. IN THE ENSUING FIGHTING, 4/47 INFANTRY AND THE MARINES WERE EACH CREDITED WITH 15 VC KILLED. ARTILLERY ACCOUNTED FOR ANOTHER

EIGHT VC KIA, WHILE GUNSHIPS CLAIMED SIX AND THE AIR FORCE TWO. ARMY ELEMENTS ALSO DETAINED 65 VIETNAMESE CIVILIANS, SOME OF WHICH WERE CONSIDERED LIKELY VC.

THREE NAVYMEN WERE INJURED AT 1645 WHEN THEIR FLAMETHROWER RECEIVED A ROCKET HIT IN THE COXSWAIN'S FLAT. ZIPPO 111-7 WAS MOVING IN TO PROVIDE FIRE SUPPORT TO THE MARINES WHEN THE ENEMY UNLEASHED THEIR ATTACK FROM A DENSE WOODLINE. ALL THREE CREWMEN WERE MED EVAC ED, ALTHOUGH ONLY ONE WAS REPORTED TO BE SERIOUSLY INJURED.

MOST BOATS RETURNED TO THE MRB EARLY IN THE EVENING, WITH A TOTAL OF 20 UNITS LEFT AT A FIRE SUPPORT BASE TO PROVIDE COMMUNICATIONS AND OTHER SUPPORT TO UNITS IN THE FIELD.

THE MRF WAS VISITED TUESDAY BY GENERAL WILLIAM WESTMORELAND, MILITARY ASSISTANCE COMMANDER VIETNAM. HE WAS BRIEFED ON PAST AND PROPOSED MRF OPERATIONS BY COMMODORE SALZER AND LCOL CONLIN, USMC, ACTING EXECUTIVE OFFICER 2ND BRIGADE. OTHERS ATTENDING THE BRIEFING WERE MAJOR GENERAL HAY, COMMANDER, II FIELD FORCES VIETNAM, MAJOR GENERAL EWELL, COMMANDING GENERAL, NINTH INFANTRY DIVISION AND BRIGADIER GENERAL KNOWLTON, ASST DIV COMMANDER 9TH INF DIV.

REAR ADMIRAL NORBERT G. WARD, COMMANDER SERVICE GROUP 3, ARRIVED TUESDAY AND REMAINED OVERNIGHT ON THE ASKARI AS PART OF AN ORIENTATION VISIT TO THAT SERVICE FORCE SHIP.

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