

UNCLAS E F T O

CNO:4350

VV SI N826
RR RUMFKRF
DE RUMSBB 016C 2051240
ZNY EEEEE
R 231240Z JUN 68
FM CT F ONE ONE SEVEN
TO CT F ONE ONE SEVEN
INFO ZEN 1/ CO SECOND BDE NINTH INF DIV
RUMFKRF/ USS BEXAR
RUMFKRF/ USS INDRA
BT

UNCLAS E F T O
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DAILY INTERNAL INFO SUMMARY 67-23

TWO NAVYMEN WERE KILLED AND 10 WERE WOUNDED TUESDAY IN AN AMBUSH OF RIVER DIVISION 91 BOATS 10 KILOMETERS SOUTHEAST OF BEN TRE.

THE TWO LEAD ASPE'S, MONITOR 91-2 AND ATC 91-12 WERE HIT HARDEST IN THE BARRAGE OF ROCKET, RECOILLESS RIFLE AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE FROM BOTH BANKS OF THE RACH BEN TRE AT 0540.

KILLED IN THE ATTACK WERE THE BOAT CAPTAIN AND A CREWMAN OF ASPE 91-4 WHICH WAS HIT HARD WITH RECOILLESS RIFLE FIRE AND WAS IN DANGER OF SINKING BEFORE THE SURVIVING CREWMEN WERE ABLE TO BEACH IT. TWO OTHER CREWMAN ABOARD ASPB 91-4 AND

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TWO ON ASPB 91-2 WERE WOUNDED SERIOUSLY ENOUGH TO REQUIRE EVACUATION FROM THE AO. LESS SERIOUSLY INJURED WERE FIVE OF THE SEVEN CREWMEN ON ATC 91-12 AND ONE ABOARD MONITOR 91-1.

THE AMBUSH WAS SPRUNG AS THE DIVISION 91 BOATS PASSED THE POINT WHERE THE RACH ONG HUONG SPLITS OFF FROM THE RACH BEN TRE. A HELICOPTER FIRE TEAM PLACED A STRIKE ON THE ENEMY POSITIONS AND THE TROOPS OF 3/60 INFANTRY WERE BEACHED TO SLEEP THROUGH THE AREA. NO ENEMY GROUND FORCES WERE ENCOUNTERED, HOWEVER, AND THE TROOPS WERE LATER EXTRACTED AND MOVED TO THEIR ORIGINALLY PLANNED BEACHING AREA SEVERAL KILOMETERS SOUTH ON THE KINH GIAO TRO.

ARMY ELEMENTS WERE LEFT IN THE VICINITY OF THE BEACHED ASPB TO PROVIDE SECURITY AND COMBAT SALVAGE BOAT-3 WAS SUMMONED TO THE AREA TO BEGIN SALVAGE OPERATIONS. AS THE CSB AND ITS FOUR RIV DIV 112 ESCORTS PASSED THE INTERSECTION OF THE RACH BEN TRE AND THE KINH GIAO HOA, THEY ALSO WERE THE VICTIMS OF A BRIEF ATTACK WHICH WAS QUICKLY SUPPRESSED WITH NO FRIENDLY CASUALTIES.

THE ASSAULT BOATS OF RIV DIV 112 WERE INVOLVED IN A MORE SUBSTANTIAL AMBUSH FARTHER DOWN THE RACH BEN TRE AT 1400. AGAIN

TNC 07-2

T BPL 2C
CPH
CTU 17.0.1

~~ASPE 91-2~~
2035

103
NDMO 211
NDMO 211
NULY 211
NETH VLA
NDPV VLA
NPNC 211
NNZE 213

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THERE WERE NO U. S. CASUALTIES IN THE ASSAULT WITH ROCKETS,
RECOLESS RIFLES, AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS.

IN CONTRAST TO THE ASSAULT BOATS, THE GROUND FORCES HAD NO
SIGNIFICANT CONTACT TUESDAY. THE ONLY IWC VIET CONG KILLED
DURING THE DAY WERE PICKED OFF BY ARMY HELICOPTER GUNSHIPS IN A
BRIEF ENGAGEMENT IN THE AFTERNOON.

EN2 C. C. ROY, THE ENGINEMAN ABOARD CCB 111-1, WAS BELIEVED TO
HAVE BEEN LOST OVERBOARD TUESDAY MORNING WHILE HIS BOAT WAS
ALONGSIDE THE SPHINX. THE ECAT WAS UNDER GOING LAST MINUTE REPAIRS
BEFORE GETTING UNDERWAY FOR THE AO, AND ROY WAS LAST SEEN GOING
BACK ABOARD THE SHIP TO GET SOME OIL. AN EXTENSIVE SEARCH OF THE AREA
BY BOTH ASSAULT BOATS AND PER'S TURNED UP ONLY THE OIL CAN
WHICH THE MISSING MAN WAS CARRYING WHEN HE LEFT THE CCB.

FILMING TUESDAY'S OPERATION SOUTHEAST OF BEN TRE WAS A TEAM
ON MOTION PICTURE PHOTOGRAPHERS FROM COMBAT CAMERA GROUP PACIFIC.
THEY ARE PREPARING A DOCUMENTARY FILM FOR CINCPACFLT ON NAVY
OPERATIONS IN THE PACIFIC. ALSO ON THE OPERATION WAS THE
CINCPACFLT HISTORIAN, CDR STAFFORD.

MR B ALFA RELOCATED FROM DONG TAN TO BEN TRE TUESDAY
MORNING, CLOSING THE NEW ANCHORAGE AT ABOUT 0950.

BT

0501 012-00..... N1 N2 N3 N4 N5 NG SU0..... CR0/11/13/15... CRD92.

CTG117.2... CTE117.1.1.

TOD:23/2205Z JUL 68/THG

TOD:23/2035Z JUL 68/AAE

WU:JDP/SUPVR:...

TOD:23/2131Z JUL 68/NDHQ/NDHQ/NUUY/NPNC/NNZE

NN NNW...