

CDO 5800

24

VV ST N2 64

RR RUM FKR F

DE RUM SBB 429C 2121500

ZNY EEEEE

R 301500Z JUN 68

FM CTF ONE ONE SEVEN

TO ZEN 1/T ONE ONE SEVEN

INFO ZEN 1/CO SECOND BDE NINTH INF DIV

RUM FKR F/ USS BEXAR

RUM FKR F/ USS INDRA

BT

UNCLAS E F T O

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DAILY INTERNAL INFO SUMMARY 07-30

MORE THAN 49 VC WERE KILLED AND A HUGE CACHE OF WEAPONS WAS CAPTURED TUESDAY DURING THE MRF'S FIRST DAY OF OPERATIONS IN THE KIEN THIEN DISTRICT OF CHUONG THIEN PROVINCE APPROXIMATELY 60 KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST OF CAN THO. THE OPERATION REPRESENTS THE MOST SIGNIFICANT PENETRATION OF THE SOUTHERN DELTA BY A MAJOR U.S. ASSAULT FORCE IN THE WAR.

ELEMENTS OF THE 5TH BATTALION, VIET NAMZSE MARINE CORPS, OPERATING WITH THE MRF ACHIEVED CONTACT IN MID-AFTERNOON WHILE SWEEPING EASTWARD BETWEEN THE CAI LON AND NUOC TRONG RIVERS. WHEN THE MARINES SPOTTED A LARGE NUMBER OF ENEMY TROOPS MOVING IN A NEARBY BUNKER

TMC-T-APL

-T-CRR-11

-T-CRF-1 DDT

-T-COP 2ND BDE

~~AT 1545Z 100~~

UNCLAS E F T O

NOMQ 19162

NUIV 19182

NNZE 19162

NONU 19192

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COMPLEX, THE BOATS OF RIVER DIVISION 91 MOVED IN AND UNLEASHED A DEVASTATING BARRAGE OF CANNON, MACHINE GUN AND MORTAR FIRE ON THE ENEMY POSITIONS. IN A SUBSEQUENT SWEEP THROUGH THE AREA, THE MARINES DISCOVERED MORE THAN 49 VC KILLED BY THE MARINES, NAVY GUNFIRE AND HELICO GUNSHIPS.

INCLUDED IN THE CAPTURED WEAPONS WERE 32 COMMUNIST CHINESE RIFLES, SIX .30 CALIBER U.S. CARBINES, 12 SEMI-AUTOMATIC SKS WEAPONS, THREE M-60 MACHINE GUNS, ONE 120MM MORTAR, ONE 75MM HOWITZER, FOUR MORTAR SIGHTS, 100 82MM MORTAR ROUNDS, 270 75MM MORTAR ROUNDS, 48 82MM MORTAR ROUNDS, 220 GRENADES, 12,500 CKC MACHINE GUN ROUNDS, AND 13 CLAYMORE ROUNDS.

THE FIRST BOATS LEFT THE MRE SHORTLY AFTER MID-NIGHT FOR THE LONG TRANSIT TO THE OPERATING AREA VIA THE RACH CAN THO AND KINH XA NO. BOATS OF RIVER DIVISION 91, WITH THE MARINES EMBARKED FROM CAN THO, WERE THE LEAD CRAFT IN THE CONVOY AND ARRIVED AT THE DESIGNATED LANDING SITES AT 1110.

FOLLOWING ALONG BEHIND RIVDIV 91 WERE THE ASSAULT CRAFT OF RIVDIV 92 CARRYING THE TROOPS OF 3/60 INFANTRY BATTALION AND THE BOATS OF RIVDIV 111 LIFTING 4/47 INFANTRY BATTALION. ALL OF THE ARMY TROOPS WERE BEACHED AT A FORWARD BASE WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED AT THE VI THANH AIRFIELD APPROXIMATELY 40 KILOMETERS SOUTHWEST OF CAN THO. THE RIVDIV 92 BOATS RETURNED TO THE MRE AFTER THE TROOPS

AB 100
ROC 16062

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WENT ASHORE; THE RIVDIV III BOATS REMAINED ON CALL WITH 4/47 INFANTRY BATTALION AT THE AIRFIELD TO ACT AS A RIVERINE READY REACTION FORCE WHILE THE 3/60 BN WAS AIRMOBILED INTO THE AO.

DUE TO THE DISTANCE OF THE CURRENT OPERATIONS FROM THE MRB, A FORWARD TACTICAL OPERATIONS CENTER WAS ESTABLISHED IN CCB 92-1 WHICH OPERATED MOST OF THE DAY NEAR VI THANH AIRFIELD. IN ADDITION VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE BRIGADE AND BATTALION SUPPORT PERSONNEL RELOCATED TO THE FORWARD BASE AT VI THANH. SUPPLIES TO SUPPORT THE OPERATION WERE MOVED TO THE AIRFIELD BY BOAT AND AIRCRAFT.

MOBILE RIVERINE GROUP BRAVO, OPERATING IN LONG AN PROVINCE, HAD A COMPARATIVELY QUIET DAY TUESDAY. BUT IN A TRAGIC INCIDENT IN THE AFTERNOON, THE CO OF 4/39 INFANTRY BATTALION WAS KILLED BY A COMMAND DETONATED MINE. THE 4/39 HAS BEEN OPERATING WITH CTG 117.2 ASSAULT CRAFT FOR THE PAST WEEK IN AN AREA SOUTH OF SAIGON.

ABOUT 2150 MONDAY, THE BOATS OF RIVDIV 131 WERE THE TARGET OF A BRIEF MORTAR ATTACK. THE CLOSEST ROUND HIT 150 YARDS FROM THE BOATS AND THERE WERE NO CASUALTIES OR DAMAGE.

LIGHT LIFT CRAFT 2 ARRIVED AT THE MRE BRAVO ANCHORAGE TUESDAY AFTERNOON AND RELIEVED LC-5.

MR. DOUG WARREN OF UPI AND MR. MIKE ROBERTS OF THE CLEVELAND PLAIN DEALER FLEW FROM BENEWAH TO THE OPERATING AREA TODAY. MR. BILL GARRETT OF NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC MAGAZINE WAS ALSO COVERING THE OPERATION, EMBARKED WITH RIVDIV 91.

BT

00 01 0-012 N1 N2 N3 N4 N5 N6 SUO A-CTE 117.1.1.1

CO XO OBS COMIN CDO A-PERS

TOD: 30/1600Z JUL/A&E

TOD: 1916Z NDHQ/1918Z NUY/1916Z NNZE/1919Z NDNU

TOD: 1945Z TMC -T- CRR-11/CRF-1 DET/CO 2ND BDE /APL-26

NNNN

