

UNCLAS E F T O

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UV SIN620  
RTIEZYUW RUMUGKK0487 231153Z-EZEE--RUYVSII.

ZNY EEEEE  
R 181530Z AUG 68  
FM CIF ONE ONE SEVEN  
TO RUYVSII/TF ONE ONE SEVEN  
INFO ZEN/CO SECOND BRIGADE NINTH INF DIV  
RUYVSII/USS OKANOGAN  
RUYVSII/USS INDRA  
BT

02412100  
AAE/0

TNC DR AT 0800Z  
-T-COD BOB

UNCLAS E F T O  
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DAILY INTERNAL INFO SUMMARY 08-18

MOBILE RIVERINE GROUP ALPHA ELEMENTS RAN INTO SOME OF THE  
MOST HEATED CONTACT IN MONTHS SUNDAY IN DAY-LONG FIGHTING ALONG  
THE HAI MUOI TAM CANAL.

WITH ARMY ELEMENTS STILL RECEIVING SPORADIC FIRE AT 2100, EIGHT  
2ND BRIGADE COMPANIES CLAIMED TO HAVE AN ESTIMATED MAIN FORCE  
BATTALION SURROUNDED ABOUT 17 KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF CAI BE. AIR  
FORCE PLANES RAINED THOUSANDS OF POUNDS OF ORDNANCE ON THE ENEMY  
POSITIONS, WHICH HAD ALREADY BEEN SEVERLY POUNDED BY  
ARTILLERY AND DOZENS OF HELICOPTER GUNSHIPS.

AS OF 2100, NINE VIET CONG HAD BEEN CONFIRMED KILLED. U.S.

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CASUALTIES WERE FOUR KILLED AND 32 WOUNDED, BUT THIS DID NOT INCLUDE  
MANY OF THE LESS SERIOUS INJURIES SUSTAINED IN TWO DEVASTATING  
AMBUSHES OF ASSAULT CRAFT OF RIVER DIVISION 112.

THE RIV DIV 112 BOATS WERE FIRST HIT AT 1225 AS THEY MOVED UP  
THE HAI MUOI TAM CANAL WITH 4/47 INFANTRY. IN THE WITHERING ROCKET,  
RECOILESS RIFLE AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE, THREE NAVYMEN  
WERE KILLED AND 15 WERE WOUNDED SERIOUSLY ENOUGH TO REQUIRE  
MEDICAL EVACUATION. TWO OF THE KIA WERE CREWMEN OF ASPB-112-2, BUT THE  
THIRD HAD NOT BEEN POSITIVELY IDENTIFIED BY EARLY SUNDAY EVENING.  
MISSING IN ACTION WAS A BOAT CREWMAN OF ASPB 112-1 WHO DISAPPEARED  
DURING THE AMBUSH AND WHO HAD NOT BEEN LOCATED AS OF SUNDOWN. TWELVE  
ARMY PERSONNEL WERE ALSO MEDEVACED AND OTHERS WERE INJURED AS  
THE ATC'S MOVED IN TO BEACH THE EMBARKED TROOPS. ALTHOUGH THE  
GROUND ELEMENTS WERE ABLE TO ACHIEVE NO SIGNIFICANT CONTACT AS THEY  
MANEUVERED IN THE AREA, DUSTOFF HELICOPTERS AND GUNSHIPS DREW ALMOST  
CONTINUOUS AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE FROM THE ENEMY POSITIONS. ONE  
DUSTOFF HELO WAS SHOT DOWN BY GUNFIRE BUT THE CREW ALL ESCAPED  
INJURY.

WHEN THE SWEEP THROUGH THE AREA PROVED FRUITLESS, THE GROUND  
FORCES WERE BACKLOADED TO BE MOVED SEVERAL KILOMETERS UP THE RIVER

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WHERE AN ESTIMATED 15 TO 22 VC HAD BEEN SPOTTED EARLIER IN THE DAY. THE RIV DIV 112 BOATS CONTINUED TO RECEIVE SPORADIC FIRE AS THEY MOVED UP THE CANAL, AND AT ABOUT 1700 THEY WERE HIT AGAIN WITH A VICIOUS WAVE OF ROCKET, RECOLESS RIFLE AND AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE. THERE WERE NO FATALITIES IN THIS SECOND, EQUALY POTENT ATTACK, BUT 14 NAVYMEN HAD TO BE EVACUATED FROM THE AO FOR TREATMENT AT THE COLLETION AND DONG TAN. ALSO DUSTED OFF AT THIS TIME WAS LT. JIM NELSON THE RIV DIV 112 COMMANDER, WHO WAS WOUNDED IN THE FIRST ATTACK AND WHO HAD REMAINED IN COMMAND OF HIS BOATS THROUGHOUT THE AFTERNOON.

MANY BOATS WERE DAMAGED BY THIS SECOND AMBUSH, AND DURING THE COURSE OF THE BATTLE BOTH CC3 112-1 AND ATC 112-1 HAD FIRES WHICH HAD TO BE EXTINGUISHED IN THE FACE OF THE HEAVY ENEMY FIRE. ALSO BADLY DAMAGED WAS ASP3 91-7 WHICH HAD REPLACED ONE OF THE DIVISION 112 ASPBS TOWED FROM THE AO AS A RESULT OF THE FIRST ATTACK.

THE 4/47 INFANTRY BEACHED NEAR THE SCENE OF THE ATTACK AND ATTEMPTED TO CLOSE IN ON THE VC FORCE, BUT THEY REPORTED ONLY MODERATE CONTACT AS THEY TRIED TO COMPLETE THE ENCIRCLEMENT.

BOATS OF RIVER DIVISION 91 WERE ALSO INVOLVED IN SUNDAY'S OPERATION BUT THEY SPENT MOST OF THE DAY AT A FIRE SUPPORT BASE AFTER DROPPING OFF 3/60 INFANTRY AT A PICK-UP ZONE TO BE AIRLIFTED

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INTO THE AO.

THE SIX SHIPS OF MRB ALFA RELOCATED FROM DONG TAN TO VINH LONG SUNDAY MORNING, CLOSNG THE NEW ANCHORAGE ABOUT 1030.

ELEMENTS OF RIVERINE GROUP BRAVO WERE ALSO REPORTED TO BE IN CONTACT SOUTH OF SAIGON SUNDAY, BUT A LACK OF COMMUNICATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO TASKS GROUPS PREVENTED ANY DETAILED REPORIS.

TASK GROUP ALFA WAS VISITED SUNDAY BY REAR ADMIRAL P.N. CHARBONNET, COMMANDER CARRIER DIVISION SIX.

FILMING SUNDAY'S ACTION IN THE AO WAS A THREE-MAN NBC CAMERA CREW WHICH WAS EMBARKED IN AN ARMY C & C SHIP DURING MOST OF THE FIGHTING.

BT

00 01 012-0... N1 N2 N3 N4 N5 N6 SNO... ORR13.15,,, CTG117.2.. CTE117.1.1.1..

TOD:19/0741Z AUG 68/AAE

TOD:19/0820Z AUG 68/TMC

WU:JDP/CUO:RF

YLL02 AT Z

CO XO OPS COMM CBO... A-PERS.....  
NNNN