

II. 1 Nov 68

L 8

FILE / S
DATE / SOUTH VIETNAM
SU
W
11-68

REPORTS OF PLAF MILITARY ACTION IN SOUTH

1-8 October

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 1504 GMT 31 Oct 68 B

[Text] Hanoi--The people's armed forces in Thua Thien Province in the first 8 days of this month wiped out over 400 enemy troops, including 373 GI's.

According to LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY, the heaviest loss was inflicted on the enemy in Huong Thuy district where, intercepting U.S. raiders from 3 to 7 October, the regional forces and guerrillas killed or wounded 153 of them.

Besides ground assaults, the patriotic forces in the 3 days ending 8 October repeatedly shelled the basecamp of the U.S. 101st Airborne Division in the Dong Toa area, and various positions of the U.S.-puppets south of Hue city. Enemy casualties from these artillery attacks are not included in the figure cited above.

In various assaults on enemy cantonments, and with sniper fire, the regional forces and guerrillas in northern Quang Tri Province from 10 to 20 October wiped out some 400 enemy troops, mostly Americans.

On 24, 25, and 27 October, the PLAF in the same province destroyed three U.S. cargo ships at the mouth of the Cua Viet River with artillery fire, and during an ambush on 23 October, the regional forces and guerrillas blasted four U.S. armored personnel carriers in the An My area.

In Thu Dau Mot Province, north of Saigon, the people's armed forces in the 5 days ending 29 October knocked down 183 enemy troops. Other losses inflicted on the enemy included five tanks and armored cars destroyed and two planes shot down.

On 24 October alone, the patriotic armed forces broke off five successive counterattacks by a puppet battalion north-northwest of the Ben Cat district town, taking a toll of 80 enemy and bringing down two helicopters.

In the westernmost province of Ha Tien, the PLAF on the night of 14 October mounted a powerful attack on the enemy position in the Xa Xia area, northwest of the provincial capital. The lightning attack resulted in 39 enemy killed and 20 others wounded. The rest of the enemy garrison fled to Ha Tien town. Later, an enemy battalion was sent in to retake the position. Fiercely intercepted, this unit turned tail after taking many casualties. Some 50 puppet soldiers crossed over to the people.

At noon on 17 October, the guerrillas opened fire on a puppet post on Tam Mieu hill, wiping out the whole squad positioned there.

21-23 October

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 0224 GMT 31 Oct 68 B

[Text] Hanoi--Breaking off a counterattack by one brigade of the U.S. 9th Infantry Division on the liberated area in Giong Trom district, Tay Ninh Province, the regional armed forces and guerrillas in the week ending 25 October put out of action more than 500 American troops, according to LIBERATION PRESS AGENCY.

The enemy casualties included one company completely wiped out and another heavily decimated.

The Liberation Armed Forces sank or set fire to 17 vessels, shot down or destroyed on the ground 12 helicopters, and set fire to a fuel dump containing more than 10,000 liters of gasoline.

On 21 October, the regional armed forces and guerrillas intercepted a convoy loaded with American troops on the Thu Cuu River, sinking three vessels, setting ablaze five others, and putting out of action more than 200 GI's.

On 23 October, intercepting a heliborne U.S. Battalion in Long My village, the patriotic forces killed or wounded more than 100 GI's and shot down five aircraft.

29-30 October

Hanoi VNA International Service in English 0212 GMT 1 Nov 68 B

[Text] Hanoi--The People's Liberation Armed Forces in Quang Tri Province in the afternoon of 30 October slammed heavy fire on several U.S. and puppet positions in Dong Ha-Cua Viet area, causing heavy losses to the enemy, according to Western sources.

The U.S. Navy base in Cua Viet was hit by 10 rounds, a nearby puppet position by 14, and the base camp of the 3d U.S. Marine Division in Dong Ha by 31 rounds.

The same sources added that among the positions hit by the PLAF artillery was a command bunker. Many Americans inside it were killed or wounded.

On the night of 29 October, a puppet position about 75 kilometers northwest of Saigon was hit by 100 rounds from heavy weapons; the sources added.