

RG 472
IN Units
2-22 IN
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Box 1

1. NAME AND TYPE OF ORGANIZATION: Co B 2-22 Inf (M)
2. DATE OF OPERATION: 202220 - 210300 Feb 69
3. LOCATION: Vicinity XT445453
4. COMMAND AND CONTROL: Hq, 2d Bn (Mech), 22d Inf
5. TASK ORGANIZATION: a. Co B (-) 2-22 Inf
b. 1 ARVN platoon
6. SUPPORTING FORCES: a. A Battery 2-77 Arty
b. 229th Aviation Company
7. INTELLIGENCE: Intelligence reports indicated that an attack on the NDP was imminent. On 18 Feb a recon unit had probed the NDP.
8. MISSION: To stop the infiltration routes of the enemy through the Ben Oul area, to keep Route 239, west to Dau Tieng, open, and to defend the NDP.
9. CONCEPT OF OPERATION: With the use of listening posts, sentries, radar, and supporting fires any enemy attacks would be driven off. The 1st platoon was on the south and west of the perimeter, the 3rd platoon was on the north and east side and the ARVN platoon was intermingled throughout the company. The Weapons platoon was located in the center along with the GP and radar team.
10. EXECUTION: At approximately 2200 hours a sentry from the 1st platoon reported movement he had observed with his starlight scope. The movement was to the west. Immediately radar was told to scan the area. Radar picked up the movement 200 meters from the perimeter and the azimuth was relayed to the FO. The LP's were called in and Arty and mortars were placed in the area of movement. Immediately the enemy began to return fire with small arms and mortar fire. A squad leader from 1st platoon, observing that the LP on the west of the perimeter had failed to close the gap in the wire when they returned, crawled over the berm and braving the heavy volume of fire directed at him he closed the wire and crawled back to his position where he continued

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to direct his men's fire upon the enemy. Light Fire Teams and Flare Ships were requested and both arrived in about 30 minutes. With the assistance of the flare ship the enemy could easily be detected. The artillery was placed behind the enemy as a block while the gun ships rolled in. The enemy was still trying to advance using their mortars to attempt to suppress the fire from the NDP, however the men would not give in, returning fire and driving the enemy back. Throughout the fight the radar team remained on duty atop a high bunker although rounds were landing all around them, and they kept the commander informed of the movement. The FO also remained atop the bunker until the artillery fire was exactly where he wanted it at which time he took his radio to the barn where he not only adjusted fire but also assisted in directing the fire of the men on the bunkers. At 0300 the enemy was finally forced to retreat leaving 28 dead on the battlefield.

11. **RESULTS:** A reinforced company had attempted to attack the NDP. The heroic fighting and devotion to duty were responsible for the enemy being driven off. 28 enemy bodies were found on the battlefield and it is unknown how many dead and wounded the enemy was able to drag off. The defense was perfectly planned, coordinated and conducted. This resulted in the negative friendly casualties.

12. **ADMINISTRATION:**

- a. Resupply was accomplished the following day by the battalion resupply.
- b. Communications were outstanding. At Battalion direction the Light Fire Teams went on to B Companies frequency for better control and to allow the pilots to monitor the whole situation.
- c. As there was negative casualties, medical treatment and evacuation were unnecessary.

13. **VALOR AWARDS:** a. Bronze Stars - 5
b. Army Commendation Medal - 5