

RG 472  
IN Units  
2-22 IN  
SI  
Box 1

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1. IDENTIFICATION AND TYPE OF ORGANIZATION: Co B 2-22 Inf
2. TIME: 2062300 Mar 69
3. LOCATION: XT414443
4. COMMAND AND CONTROL: Headquarters 2d Bn (Mech) 22d Inf
5. TASK ORGANIZATION: a. Co B 2-22 Inf  
b. 1 platoon 930th ARVN Company
6. SUPPORTING FORCES: a. Artillery  
b. Light Fire Teams  
c. Flare Ships
7. INTELLIGENCE: Reports were received that the enemy was moving through the area in small groups (3 to 5 men)
8. MISSION: Establish a stay behind ambush in the vicinity XT414443
9. CONCEPT OF OPERATION: At about 1800 hours Co B would conduct a RIF in the area of the proposed ambush sight. The element to participate in the ambush would slip away from the main body and hide in the undergrowth. The remainder of the company would then return to the NDP. Shortly EENT the patrol would move into their ambush positions.
10. EXECUTION: The ambush patrol was dropped off in the vicinity of XT414443 at 1800 hours. At 1950 hours the ambush patrol had moved into position at XT408438 and set up. At 2340 the patrol spotted the enemy moving towards them from the north however they held their fire to allow the enemy to enter the kill zone. As the enemy did so the men in the ambush opened fire, almost instantly fire was returned from the north, west and south. The enemy was firing RPG's, machine guns and small arms fire. As the patrol leader was attempting to notify the company commander of the situation and request artillery and assistance he was killed and the radio was destroyed. Within the first minute of fighting 6 of the 12 men on the patrol were either killed or very seriously wounded, including all the leaders. Heroically the men fought on against what was later estimated to be 2 companies of NVA.

Inclosure #14

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Not fully understanding the situation of the patrol and realizing the necessity of regaining communications with them, the company commander led three APC's towards the contact area. Upon arriving at the location of the patrol, the reaction force came under heavy RPG, mortar and automatic weapons fire. Artillery was immediately called in and gunships and flare ships were requested. Two (2) of the APC's were hit with RPG fire, but remained operational. The reaction force moved in around the beleaguered patrol and valiantly held off the enemy attack. Very little cover or concealment was available and in the face of overwhelming odds the men fought on braving everything the enemy could fire. Gunships were firing extremely close to the perimeter yet the enemy would not pull back. The fight went on for almost two hours, and when it subsided the men were ordered to relocate to FSB Wood II. Braving a renewed heavy volume of fire the men gathered their casualties and loaded them on the tracks. Moving through heavy RPG fire the men were able to break through the enemy positions. Artillery was landing all around the men in an effort to suppress the enemy fire. Enroute to FSB Wood II one of the three tracks hit a mine. The track sustained such severe damage that it was unable to be towed. All ammunition and equipment was taken off and placed on another track. As these courageous men moved on, another track hit a mine. The track was a total loss however these brave men were able to connect it to their one remaining track and tow it to their destination. The men finally arrived at FSB Wood II at about 0430. At first light a VTR was sent to retrieve the remains of the track left behind.

11. RESULTS: The enemy had been attempting to move an extremely large force through the area. When the ambush was sprung the enemy was located on three sides of the patrol and immediately took the smaller group under siege. Only the extremely brave and heroic actions of the men in the patrol and the complete disregard of the individual personal safety of the men in the men in the reactionary force prevented the position from being overrun.

**12. ADMINISTRATION:**

- a. Resupply was accomplished the next day, by the Battalion resupply convoy.
- b. The casualties were treated on the battlefield by medics and others who braved automatic weapons fire to treat and evacuate them. The medical evacuation helicopter also braved automatic weapons fire to land and pick up urgent casualties. Others were evacuated as soon as the men had arrived in a secure location.

**13. VALOR AWARDS:**

- a. Distinguished Service Cross - 1
- b. Silver Star - 5
- c. Bronze Star - 14
- d. Army Commendation Medal - 7