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UNCLAS E F T O
FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY
DAILY INTERNAL INFO SUMMARY 03-10

A DIRECT HIT BY A VIET CONG MORTAR ON AN ARMY AMMUNITION BARGE EARLY SATURDAY MORNING LEFT ONE KILLED, SEVEN WOUNDED AND KEPT FIREFIGHTERS BUSY FOR NEARLY THREE HOURS.

THE RESULTING EXPLOSIONS DAMAGED TWO ARTILLERY BARGES TO THE POINT WHERE THEY HAD TO BE COMPLETELY DESTROYED LATER IN THE DAY BY EOD PERSONNEL. FOUR 105 MM HOWITZER TUBES WERE ALSO EXTENSIVELY DAMAGED.

ASSAULT CRAFT AND FIREFIGHTING CREWS FROM THE BENEWAH AND ASKARI PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN EXTINGUISHING THE FIRE, AND ATC-111-5 WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN RESCUING NUMEROUS ARTILLERY PERSONNEL FROM THE BLAZING BARGES. THE ONLY NAVY CASUALTY WAS A CREW MEMBER OF ATC-111-5 WHO RECEIVED SERIOUS WOUNDS DURING THE RESCUE EFFORTS AND IS HOSPITALIZED AT LONG BINH.

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THE FIERY EARLY MORNING BLASTS CLIMAXED THREE DAYS OF HEATED FIGHTING NORTH AND EAST OF MY TWO IN WHICH 44 VC WERE KILLED IN ACTION. FRIENDLY CASUALTIES IN THE OPERATION WERE 11 KILLED, TWO MISSING AND 100 WOUNDED.

BOTH 4/47 AND 3/60 INFANTRY BATTALIONS WERE BACKLOADED SATURDAY AFTERNOON BY BOATS OF RIVER SQUADRON NINE AFTER BEING AIRLIFTED OUT OF THE AO TO A PICK-UP ZONE JUST WEST OF THE MRB.

COMMANDER RIVER ASSAULT SQUADRON 11 AND SEVEN OF HIS ASSAULT CRAFT WERE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE SATURDAY AT THEIR DESTINATION IN I CORPS TO BEGIN PREPARING FOR ESCORT OPERATIONS IN RIVERS JUST SOUTH OF THE DEMILITARIZED ZONE. THE ASSAULT BOATS WERE TRANSPORTED TO I CORPS ABOARD THE LSD USS COLONIAL. COMMANDER RIVER ASSAULT DIVISION 112 AND SEVEN OTHER BOATS ARE ALSO EN ROUTE TO THE SAME AREA ABOARD THE LSD USS GUNSTON HALL WITH AN ETA OF SUNDAY MORNING.

THE MRB RETURNED TO DONG TAM SATURDAY EVENING TO PREPARE FOR THE NEXT OPERATION IN CORONADO XII.

GENERAL FRANK S. BESSON, COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE U. S. ARMY MATERIEL COMMAND, MADE AN ORIENTATION VISIT TO THE MRF SATURDAY. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY MAJOR GENERAL JOHN J. HAYES, DIRECTOR OF SUPPLY OF THE MATERIEL COMMAND, AND BRIGADIER GENERAL JOHN D. TRAYLOR, DIRECTOR OF THE ARMY'S MAINTENANCE COMMAND.

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