

Availability: 8 73 541

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SYNOPSIS OF BATTLE

5 September 1963

At 1226 hours vicinity XT543196 B Co 2-506th Inf engaged what was originally believed to be a Viet Cong platoon. Enemy employed small arms, automatic weapons, and RPG fires. US troops returned fire with organic weapons, artillery, light fire teams, "Spooky" C-47 gunship, and tactical airstrikes. A Co 2-506th Inf air assaulted from FSB STUART into LZ XT538191 and maneuvered to a blocking position XT537193 to reinforce B Co. D Co 2-506th Inf (minus 1 platoon) air assaulted from FSB STUART into a LZ XT550190 and established a blocking position XT541189. A Co 3-187th Inf air assaulted from PZ XT651259 into LZ XT553194 and established blocking position XT550199. D Co 3-187th Inf air assaulted from PZ XT661261 into LZ XT553194 and established blocking position XT551191. B Co 2-27th Inf air assaulted into LZ XT545203 and established blocking position XT548202. C Co 2-27th Inf air assaulted into LZ XT545203 and established a blocking position XT540199. A Troop 3-4th Cav established two blocking positions XT541189 and XT549189. During insertions units on ground pressed into enemy positions. Enemy strength revised to estimated Viet Cong Battalion. Units established encirclement from blocking positions as enemy attempted to penetrate. Repeated violent enemy probes were repulsed while artillery was directed into center of cordon. At approximately 0230 hours 6 September the enemy battalion massed its strength and assaulted the center of the A Co 3-187th Inf sector after intense preparation by mortar fire. A three-phase "human wave" attack broke into the company command post. For approximately 30 minutes A Co engaged the enemy in savage hand to hand combat. Enemy finally broke into area behind A Co and retreated to the north. Sporadic contact continued until 0430 hours 6 September. Sweep of contact area was conducted at first light.

RESULTS:

Casualties

<u>US</u>	<u>ENEMY</u>
31 KHA	103 VC KIA (BC)
41 WHA	38 VC KIA (EST)
	6 POW
	118 Detainees

Enemy Equipment

9 AK-47
 3 AK-50
 3 R'D
 2 SKS
 2 RPG-2
 500 lbs plastic

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