

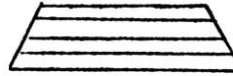


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AMERICAL DIVISION NEWS

MIRACLE WEATHER REPORT

Fair to partly cloudy skies. Winds at 10 knots from the northeast. High Sunday 95. Low Sunday night 72. (B-6)



CHU LAI (AMERICAL IO) — Action increased in the Americal Division southern I Corps Tactical Zone yesterday as Division forces and supporting elements accounted for 23 VC and one NVA killed and five individual weapons captured.

Elements of the 196th Infantry Brigade killed nine VC and captured three individual weapons in their area of operations yesterday.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry killed one evading VC with small arms fire yesterday 10 miles south of Hoi An. Later the element killed another VC with grenades in the same area.

In an area centered eight miles south of Hoi An, a company of the 4th Battalion, 21st Infantry killed a total of four VC in three separate incidents. Another company of the battalion found one carbine in bushes 11 miles south of Hoi An.

A company of the 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry engaged a group of NVA with small arms fire, killing one NVA four miles northeast of Que Son.

A company of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry engaged two evading VC with small arms fire, killing one VC 25 miles west of Tam Ky. Later another company of the battalion spotted a group of VC in the open. Artillery was called in, killing one VC 26 miles west of Tam Ky.

A reconnaissance element of the 4th Battalion, 31st Infantry found one M-1 carbine and one SKS rifle in a hut 24 miles west of Tam Ky.

Infantrymen and Cavalrymen of the 198th Infantry combined with "Aero Scouts" of the 123rd Aviation Battalion, killed six VC and captured one individual weapon yesterday in the Operation Burlington Trail area.

"Aero Scouts" flying in support of the 198th Infantry Brigade yesterday killed three VC in the Operation Burlington Trail area. Later the "Aero Scouts" killed another VC southwest of Chu Lai.

A company of the 5th Battalion, 46th Infantry killed one VC and captured one M-1 carbine when they returned fire on a sniper in the Operation Burlington Trail area.

Yesterday morning "H" Troop, 17th Cavalry engaged a group of VC south of Vinh Son, killing one VC.

Action in the 11th Infantry Brigade's area of operations remained scattered yesterday as the "Jungle Warriors" and supporting elements killed six VC, captured one weapon, and detained two suspects.

Troops of a company of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry killed two VC and detained one suspect in action 12 miles southeast of Duc Pho.

A gunship from "Primo Aviation Limited" killed one evading VC 12 miles north of LZ Bronco.

In the jungle eight miles southwest of Duc Pho, SP4 Alberto Rodriguez (Kerrelville, Texas), point man for a reconnaissance element of the 1st Battalion, 20th Infantry, encountered two VC. The two VC fired at Rodriguez and fled. Rodriguez returned fire, killing one of the VC. One K-44 rifle was taken from the dead enemy.

Yesterday afternoon the Command and Control helicopter from the 31st Battalion, 1st Infantry detained one VC suspect 11 miles north of the "Jungle Warriors" home.

The 11th Brigade's 52nd Military Intelligence Detachment killed two evading VC in rice paddies four miles north of Duc Pho.

Action in the 1st Squadron, 1st Armored Cavalry's area of operations increased slightly yesterday as "F" Troop, 8th Cavalry killed two VC and detained two VC suspects.

Americal Division forces suffered one soldier killed and two wounded and evacuated for medical treatment.

AMERICAL NEWS SHEET

MG Charles M. Gettys, Commanding
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THE END OF REFORM

PRAGUE.—The political crackdown on Czechoslovakia is underway and an atmosphere of hopeless fear has swept over the people of Prague. The tremendous spirit of resistance and outspoken belief that they could retain at least some of the liberties gained in the past seven months has been replaced by sullen silence and a "leave me alone" attitude.

Free Press Dies

Freedom of the press began dying Friday. The key publication of the nation issued what it called its last edition. "Literarni listy," the magazine in whose pages the drive for reform was spearheaded until the Soviet bloc invasion on August 21st, said in Friday's edition, "We will not publish unless we can write freely."

It went down fighting. The final issue distributed in Prague featured a cartoon of a Soviet soldier standing atop a tank and holding a machinegun. The caption read: "Workers of the world unite—or I'll shoot you!"

Soviet Purge

Communist sources said the Soviets are going to purge everyone from party leader Alexander Dubcek on down. Then they will slowly discredit Dubcek and his followers.

One Czech put it briefly: "We know the score, and we know the pattern. Next comes purges, people lose their jobs, the Soviets gain control. There is no hope now."

According to sources in the Kremlin, the Soviets are demanding the Dubcek reformers oust many of their own number from high party office and replace them with pro-Moscow comrades trusted by the Soviets.

Smrkovsky Speaks

All this was reflected in the sorrowing tones of public statements from Dubcek and other reformers, all pleading with lumps in their throats for Czechs to live with Soviet occupation.

Over the radio Smrkovsky addressed his fellow citizens: "I beg you to show understanding for us, on whose shoulders has rested the heavy burden of negotiating and of making decisions. We too had to act and decide in the shadow of tanks and aircraft stationed on our territory."

Later, National Assembly President Smrkovsky told a western diplomat there were 900 Soviet tanks in the Prague area alone. "In this situation what do you expect us to do?"

YET ANOTHER VIEW

PEKING.—Communist China's official New China News Agency, Hsinhua, Friday condemned Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia: "After its flagrant occupation of Czechoslovakia by force of arms with the tacit consent of U. S. imperialism, the Soviet revisionist renegade clique has ruthlessly suppressed the Czechoslovak people by fascist means and whipped the Czechoslovak revisionist renegade clique into line with bayonets and cannons, thus once again nakedly exposing the real features of the Soviet revisionists as social-imperialists."

Also, the official Chinese Communist Party newspaper denounced Alexander Dubcek and his Czech reformist followers as traitors to the Czechoslovak people, because they "have knuckled under and capitulated under the bayonets of the Soviet revisionists and have accepted the terms of surrender which forfeit state sovereignty."

AT TOKYO U. TOO?

TOKYO.—Education Minister Hirokichi Nadao Friday sternly criticized student violence at Japan's prestigious Tokyo University and urged school authorities to "courageously expel the offending students." The anarchic state of affairs at the university has become more than we can tolerate.

A groups of 200 diehard student activists have taken possession of the main building of the university and paralyzed the administrative faculties.

MAO and PATE DE FOI GRAS

PHNOM PENH.—Cambodian Chief of State Prince Norodom Sihanouk has asked Chinese Communist Party Chairman Mao Tse-Tung to stay out of Cambodia. In an interview in Phnom Penh Sihanouk said, "I respect and admire Mao, but I want him to stay in China, not outside."

He explained that he had problems in some of the provinces because of a handful of communists calling themselves "Maoists." But, he added, that the Maoists in his country would soon disappear because the people supported him; Cambodia would never turn communist.

In another press interview Sihanouk showed his bank books and bills to counter a charge made in communist tracts that he was "living on the sweat of the people." The books showed Sihanouk's biggest personal expenses were for food.

"Anyone should be allowed to offer himself a can of truffles or pate de foi gras from time to time," the prince said.