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SOUTH VIETNAM: Heavy Communist artillery fire continues to hamper South Vietnamese clearing operations in Quang Tri City. (Page 3)

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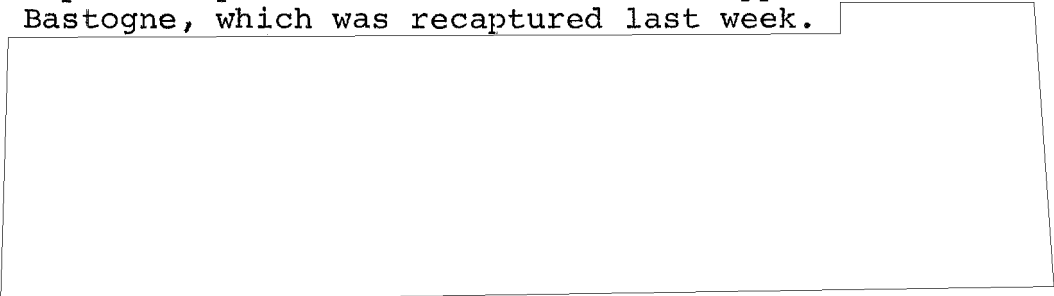
SOUTH VIETNAM: Heavy Communist artillery fire continued to hamper South Vietnamese clearing operations in Quang Tri City over the weekend.

Hardest hit were government marine positions in the southern and eastern sections of the city. Elements of at least two North Vietnamese regiments remain dug in north of the citadel, the area of nearly continuous heavy fighting during the past two days.



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Farther south, fighting was light around government positions along the My Chanh River defense line, but Communist gunners shelled Camp Evans, the government's primary support base for Quang Tri, on 5 August and destroyed over 60 tons of artillery ammunition. West of Hue, South Vietnamese troops reoccupied Outpost Checkmate near Fire Support Base Bastogne, which was recaptured last week.



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In Military Region 2, Communist gunners fired over 100 rounds of artillery and rocket fire into government positions in the coastal town of Bong Son, and followed up with a ground attack. South Vietnamese Army troops pushed back the Communist assault and retained control of the district capital. Bong Son, as well as the other two northern district capitals of Hoai An and Hoai Nhon, have been almost completely destroyed.

as a result of this recent heavy fighting an additional 69,000 refugees have fled these areas.

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[Redacted]

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Northwest of Saigon, South Vietnamese forces [Redacted] near Tay Ninh City thwarted a Communist commando raid on the strategic facility. In adjacent Binh Long Province, pockets of enemy resistance remain along Route 13, but most of the enemy units that were in this area have moved farther south. South Vietnamese units airlifted into northern Binh Duong Province over the weekend encountered heavy enemy attacks a few miles east of Route 13.

In the delta, fighting continued heavy around the enemy's base camp in the Dinh Tuong - Kien Tuong - Kien Phong tri-border area. A government outpost in the area reportedly was hit by a wire-guided "Sagger" missile, only the second reported use of this weapon in the delta. [Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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