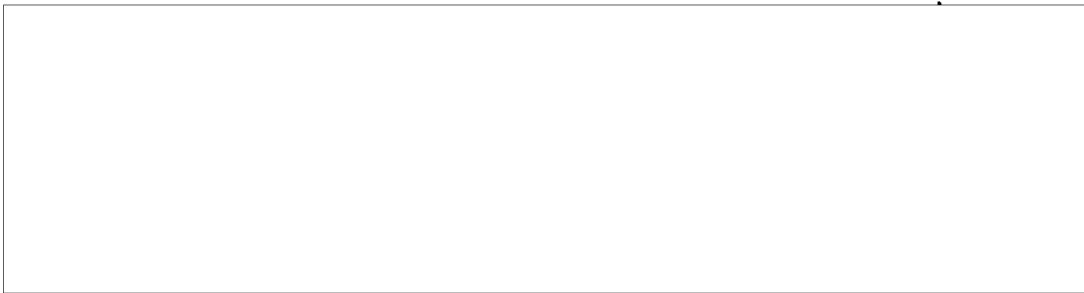


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TO: PRIORITY NPIC, DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE, DIA, TREASURY DEPT,
WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM, NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL STAFF,
ZEN/CIA OFFICE OF CURRENT OPERATIONS,
USCINCPAC HONOLULU HI, CINCPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI, CDRWESTCOM FT
SHAFTER HI, COMIPAC HONOLULU HI, CINCPACAF HICKAM AFB HI,
COMSEVENTHFLT, 13AF CLARK AB PI.

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SERIAL:

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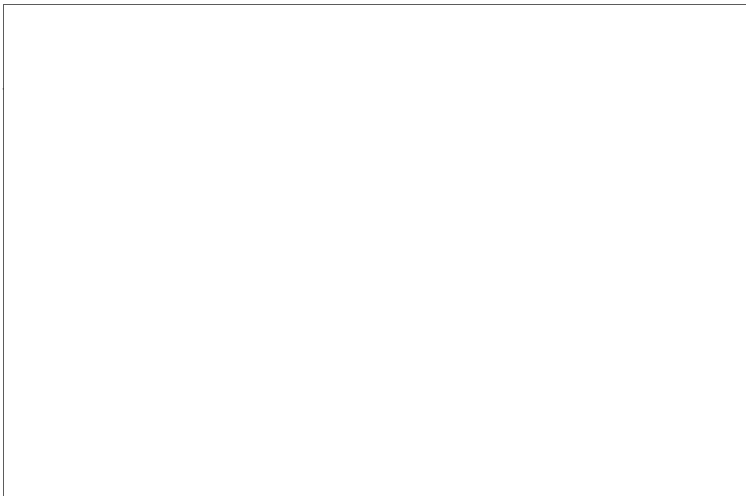
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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.
REPORT CLASS C O N F I D E N T I A L--WMINTEL--NOFORN

DIST: 21 APRIL 1984
COUNTRY: KAMPUCHEA/VIETNAM
SUBJ: PARTICIPATION OF THE 416TH BATTALION, 8TH BSR, PAVN
5TH DIVISION, IN THE ATTACK ON THE BAN SA NGAE AREA
INCLUDING SUPPLY ACTIVITIES PRIOR TO THE ATTACK

DOI:
SOURCE:



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MS-file
Kampuchea area

TEXT: 1. ON 7 AND 8 APRIL 1984, THE 416TH BATTALION, 8TH
BORDER SECURITY REGIMENT (BSR), PEOPLE'S ARMY OF VIETNAM (PAVN)
5TH DIVISION, RECEIVED ORDERS TO PREPARE FOR AN OFFENSIVE AGAINST
THE KHMER PEOPLE'S NATIONAL LIBERATION FRONT (KPNLF) CAMP AT
BAN SA NGAE. ON THE MORNING OF 9 APRIL THE 416TH BATTALION
MOVED FROM THNAL DACH TO KANDAL (TA 835475). ALL TROOPS WERE
SUPPLIES WITH A SEVEN-DAY RATION OF RICE, 250 ROUNDS OF AK-47
AMMUNITION, AND OTHER PERSONAL EQUIPMENT INCLUDING UNIFORMS,
MOSQUITO NETS AND BLANKETS. EACH SOLDIER WAS TOLD TO CARRY
FOUR LITERS OF DRINKING WATER, WHICH THEY HAD TO OBTAIN FROM
THE LOCAL POPULATION.

2. ELEMENTS OF THE 416TH BATTALION THAT WERE TO PARTICIPATE

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[Redacted]

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IN THE OPERATION INCLUDED THE 1ST COMPANY, THE 2ND COMPANY, THE TRANSPORTATION PLATOON, THE MEDICAL UNIT, AND THE LIAISON UNIT. IN ADDITION TO PERSONAL WEAPONS, ELEMENTS OF THE 416TH BATTALION PARTICIPATING IN THE OPERATION WERE EQUIPPED WITH A TOTAL OF ONE 82-MILLIMETER (MM) MORTAR AND ONE 82MM RECOILLESS RIFLE. THE REMAINING 416TH BATTALION ELEMENTS, INCLUDING THE 3RD COMPANY, WHICH WERE EQUIPPED WITH ONE 82MM MORTAR AND ONE 12.7MM MACHINE-GUN, REMAINED TO PROTECT THE BASE OF THE 416TH BATTALION.

3. THE 416TH BATTALION TROOPS STAYED AT KANDOAL FOR SIX DAYS AND THEN WERE ORDERED TO MOVE TO THMEI (TA 830485), BUT WERE ORDERED TO LEAVE THEIR PERSONAL EQUIPMENT AT KANDOAL. THE TROOPS THEN WERE ORDERED TO TRANSPORT BY FOOT 80 120MM MORTAR ROUNDS FROM THMEI TO ROMEIT (TA 750485). THIS MISSION TOOK ONE FULL DAY TO COMPLETE. THE TROOPS THEN RETURNED TO KANDOAL. THE FOLLOWING MORNING THE TROOPS WERE GIVEN THREE-DAY RATIONS OF RICE AND CANNED MEAT. GAS MASKS WERE GIVEN TO THE CADRE. [Redacted] COMMENT: THE ENLISTED MEN WERE NOT GIVEN GAS MASKS AND [Redacted] WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY PLANS

TO USE CHEMICAL WEAPONS OR OF THE EXISTENCE OF ANY CHEMICAL WEAPONS.) ON 14 APRIL, THE 416TH BATTALION TROOPS BEGAN TO WALK FROM KANDOAL TO KOUK ROMEIT (TA 784483). THEY ARRIVED AT KOUK ROMEIT AT ABOUT 1200 HOURS. AT A MEETING OF PAVN OFFICERS AT KOUK ROMEIT, THE PAVN 212ND BATTALION, 8TH BSR, WAS ORDERED TO ATTACK A POSITION SOUTH OF BENG (LAKE) AMPIL. THE 620TH BATTALION, 8TH BSR, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE 2ND COMPANY, WITH ONE RECOILLESS RIFLE, OF THE 416TH BATTALION WAS ORDERED TO ATTACK THE KPNLF POSITION AT CHAS (UNLOCATED). HOWEVER, FOLLOWING THE MEETING, THE 2ND COMPANY TRAVELED WITH THE 416TH BATTALION FROM ROMEIT TO THE NORTHWEST FOR ABOUT SIX KILOMETERS.

4. AT 1900 HOURS ON 14 APRIL, THE 8TH BSR STARTED TO MOVE TOWARD THE AMPIL AREA, WITH THE 212ND BATTALION EQUIPPED WITH A 120MM MORTAR AND AN UNIDENTIFIED ROCKET LAUNCHER HEADING TOWARD BOENG AMPIL. [Redacted] COMMENT: THE ROCKETS WERE ABOUT 1.5 METERS LONG. THEY WERE LONGER AND SMALLER IN DIAMETER THAN THE H12 ROCKETS. THE ROCKETS REPORTEDLY HAD A RANGE OF ABOUT SEVEN KILOMETERS.)

5. THE 174TH, THE 4TH AND THE 16TH REGIMENTS OF THE PAVN 5TH DIVISION ALSO PARTICIPATED IN THE AMPIL OPERATION. THERE WERE THREE TRACK VEHICLES TOWING THREE 130MM ARTILLERY PEICES IN KANDOAL ON 12 APRIL AND THERE ALSO WERE AN UNKNOWN NUMBER OF TRUCKS TRANSPORTING AMMUNITION FROM THMA POK TO THMEI. NO FUEL WAS TRANSPORTED TO THE BATTLE AREA. NO TANKS OR ARMORED VEHICLES WERE SEEN IN THE BATTLE AREA.

6. AT 0430 HOURS 15 APRIL, THE 620TH BATTALION ATTACKED CHAS (UNLOCATED) AND AT 0530 HOURS THE 2ND COMPANY, 416TH BATTALION, WAS ORDERED TO REINFORCE THE 620TH BATTALION IN AN ATTACK ON HIGH POINT 37. AT 0900 HOURS ORDERS WERE RECEIVED TO MOVE THE REMAINDER OF THE 416TH BATTALION TROOPS TO CHAS AND SPEND THE NIGHT THERE. THE 416TH BATTALION ARRIVED AT CHAS AT 1030 HOURS AND AT 1230 HOURS THE 2ND COMPANY REJOINED THE 416TH BATTALION AT CHAS. ON THE MORNING OF 16 APRIL, THE 416TH BATTALION RECEIVED ORDERS TO MOVE TO BDAY BDAU (UNLOCATED).

[Redacted]

WARNING: REPORT CLASS C O N F I D E N T I A L--WARNING NOTICE- INTELLIGENCE SOURCES OR METHODS INVOLVED--NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS.

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[Redacted] ALL PORTIONS CARRY
CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROLS OF OVERALL DOCUMENT.

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END OF MESSAGE

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