



9th Infantry Division



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1st Bde surrounds enemy, slays 39

TAN AN – Elements of the 9th Division's 1st Brigade killed 39 VC August 7-8 after encircling an enemy force 12 miles south-southwest of Saigon.

Heavy contact began the morning of August 7 when a company of the 6th Battalion, 31st Infantry, received heavy fire during a recon in force operation. Intermittent contact continued throughout the day. That afternoon, additional companies were maneuvering into the area by air and riverine assaults to seal off the enemy.

The morning of August 8, the VC force tried to break the circle by concentrating fire on the 4th Battalion, 39th Infantry, which was covering the area east of the Nha Be River. The enemy was beat back and air, artillery and gunship strikes were called in to rake the area.

When resistance from the beleaguered VC waned, brigade units began sweeping the area, finding 39 enemy bodies. Ten suspects were detained. Fourteen individual weapons were captured.