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U. S. NAVAL FORCES, VIETNAM
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Subj: U. S. Naval Forces, Vietnam Monthly Historical Summary for December 1969

1. The U. S. Naval Forces, Vietnam Monthly Historical Summary is forwarded for information and retention.

2. The Civic Action Statistical Summary includes data which applies to the period 26 October through 25 November.

EMMETT H. TIDD
Chief of Staff

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NAVFORV/NAVADVGRP MACV NOTE 05216 of 1 Jan 1970
LIST II (A&B)
LIST III (Less E)
LIST IV (Less D&E)
LIST V (A)
LIST VI (A 1&2, D1 E & H14)

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List of Charts, Graphs, and Photographs

			Page
1.	(P)	Helo Door Gunner	18
2.	(P)	Seawolf Search	20
3.	(P)	Seawolf - PCF Team	27
4.	(P)	LST launches Helo Gunship	34
5.	(C)	Market Time Raiders - SEA LORDS Operations in the Third Coastal Zone	38
6.	(C)	Market Time Raiders - SEA LORDS Operations in the Fourth Coastal Zone	39
7.	(P)	USCG cutter conducts coastal surveillance check	45
8.	(C)	Operations in the First Coastal Zone	48
9.	(C)	Operations in the Third Coastal Zone	57
10.	(P)	Sea Float	59
11.	(C)	Operation Sea Float/Tran Hung Dao III - Solid Anchor Operations in the Fourth Coastal Zone	69
12.	(P)	Identification Check	82
13.	(P)	Award Presentation	90
14.	(G)	Searches and Detections By Vietnamese Fleet Command, Coastal and Riverine Forces	112
15.	(P)	Medcap	132
16.	(P)	Coast Guard Turnover	136
17.	(P)	"On-the-Job Training"	140
18.	(P)	Cement PCF hits the water	142
19.	(P)	PCF hull	145
20.	(P)	Seabee Santa	165

FOREWARD

Although there were incidents of enemy contact that were primarily aimed against the government's pacification effort and continued reports of enemy troop and logistic movements, enemy action in the I, II, and III Corps Tactical Zones fluctuated between a low and a moderately low level in December. In the IV Corps Tactical Zone, a moderate number of enemy contacts reflected a degree of activity two to three times that reported in previous months, and was characterized by small unit crossings, mining incidents, and attacks against naval units.

To counter the increased level of enemy activity in the IV CTZ and to enhance the effectiveness of friendly forces in that area, several changes were made in December which included the combining of Barrier Reef West and Barrier Reef East under CTG 194.4 to facilitate better command coordination along that long barrier; the committing of an MSF battalion to the Border Interdiction Campaign; and the relocating of numerous assets due to receding water levels on the Vinh Te Canal, reports of infiltration across Barrier Reef, and the designation of Moc Hoa in the Giant Slingshot AO as an area of maximum enemy threat at mid-month. In the III CTZ, additional VNN units were assigned to the Ready Deck Campaign which then became a combined VNN/USN operation under the OPCON of a VNN commander as the Vietnamese Navy continued to assume more of the responsibilities for the naval effort in Vietnam.

Table of Contents

	Page
List of Charts, Graphs, and Photographs	v
FOREWARD	i
OPERATION SEA LORDS SUMMARY	1
Giant Slingshot Campaign	2
Operation Ready Deck	9
Border Interdiction Campaign	17
Search Turn Campaign	28
Riverine Strike Group	31
Song Ong Doc Operation	32
Market Time Raider Campaign	35
Naval Statistical Summary	40
COASTAL SURVEILLANCE SUMMARY	43
Operation Market Time	46
First Coastal Zone	49
Second Coastal Zone	53
Third Coastal Zone	54
Operation Sea Float/Tran Hung Dao III	60
Operation Stable Door	70
Market Time Assets	78
RIVER PATROL FORCE SUMMARY	81
Clearwater Operations	83
Game Warden, PBR, UH-1B, and OV-10A Operations.	91
Game Warden SEAL Operations	94
Operation Wolf Pack	97
Enemy Mining/Harassment/Attacks on Merchant Shipping	99
USN Statistical Summary	101
NAVAL ADVISORY GROUP SUMMARY	103
Vietnamese Marine Corps	120
VNMC Operational Control Summary	128
VNN/VNMC Statistical Summary.	130
PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS AND CIVIC ACTION SUMMARY	131
USN Civic Action Statistical Summary	135
ACCELERATED TURNOVER AND CIVIC ACTION SUMMARY	137
VIETNAMESE FERRO-CEMENT SWIFT BOAT AND VIPER	143

NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY, SAIGON. 147

NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY, DANANG. 153

THIRD NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BRIGADE. 159

APPENDIX I Glossary of Abbreviations . . . . . I - 1

APPENDIX II COMNAVFORV/CHNAVADVGRP TASK AND ADVISORY ORGANIZATION

List of Charts, Graphs, and Photographs

			Page
1.	(P)	Helo Door Gunner	18
2.	(P)	Seawolf Search	20
3.	(P)	Seawolf - PCF Team	27
4.	(P)	LST launches Helo Gunship	34
5.	(C)	Market Time Raiders - SEA LORDS Operations in the Third Coastal Zone	38
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19.	(P)	PCF hull	145
20.	(P)	Seabee Santa	165

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OPERATION SEA LORDS SUMMARY

During the month of December, combined SEA LORDS forces operating in the Border Interdiction, Giant Slingshot, Search Turn, Ready Deck and Breezy Cove campaigns accounted for a total of 378 enemy killed (by body count) and 47 captured. This is a significant increase over last month's 254 killed and 22 captured. Friendly casualties for these campaigns were down to 12 killed and 84 wounded from last month's 16 killed and 104 wounded. A breakdown of USN and VNN SEA LORDS statistics for December and statistical totals computed since the start of operations are located at the end of this section following the discussions of the various campaigns.

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Giant Slingshot

The Giant Slingshot Campaign completed its first year of operations on 6 December. During the year, Brown Water Navy units, in close coordination with ground and air forces, interdicted enemy infiltration and supply lines along the strategically located "Y" shaped rivers, the Vam Co Tay and the Vam Co Dong, causing appreciable enemy attrition as evidenced by the following statistics:

Giant Slingshot Statistics 6 DEC 68 - 6 DEC 69

	BY USN	BY VNN	BY OTHER
Enemy Killed	921	118	870
Enemy Captured	23	7	202
Enemy Ammunition Caches Uncovered	242	Other Caches	22
Weight in Tons	137	Weight in Tons	385
Sampans Destroyed	292		
FRIFF's	392	ENIFF's 649	Unilateral Firings 1,210
Friendly Killed	28 USN	13 VNN	107 Other
Friendly Wounded	454 USN	103 VNN	603 Other

Due to the resultant slowdown in the movement of enemy personnel and supplies caused by U. S. Navy forces operating on the "Slingshot" rivers, the threat of enemy attacks on major population centers such as Tay Ninh City and Saigon was greatly reduced. In addition,

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these same river forces were instrumental in preventing the enemy from mounting a sustained offensive by helping to deny him the necessary manpower and material to do so.

As for the month of December, casualties inflicted by the 106 river craft and four Seawolves of Giant Slingshot increased from November's 75 killed to December's 142. Friendly casualties were also increased from four killed and 14 wounded last month to nine killed and 37 wounded this month. This increase on both sides occurred even though the number of ENIFF's and FRIFF's (see statistics) remained nearly the same, thus revealing the increased intensity of the fighting.

On the 11th of December, the Moc Hoa AO was evaluated as an area of maximum enemy threat. Accordingly, COMRIVDIV 153, with eight ASPB's, was redeployed to Moc Hoa. RAID 70 was redeployed to Tuyen Nhon and assumed that AO, and RAID 71 was split assuming the old RAID 70 and 71 AO's. Det 7 was staged out of Moc Hoa from 1800 to 0700 daily, while Black Ponies favored the vicinity in their evening patrols. An example of the increased activity in the Moc Hoa AO is included in the following narrative in the incident of 11 December.

Two PBR's were in WBGP on the Vam Co Dong River five miles south of Go Dau Ha (XT 395 183) on 8 December when they sighted a motorized sampan with six VC aboard. The units, under Patrol Officer RD1 Evens and Boat Captains BM1 St Pierre and BM3 Vogger, illuminated the area and attempted to get the enemy to surrender. When the attempt

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proved unsuccessful, the sampan was taken under fire killing all six of the enemy and sinking the sampan. There were no friendly casualties.

Three RAC of RAS 15 were supporting the U. S. 6/31st Infantry Battalion in a night operation on 13 December near the Vam Co Dong River, 11 miles southeast of Ben Luc (XS 723 635), when one of the troop ambush positions sighted ten VC, received a mortar round, and began taking automatic weapons fire. During the firefight that followed, four U. S. Army men were killed, and one was wounded. The RAC, under BMC Franklin, supported the troops along with Army helos. A sweep conducted the following morning turned up 11 VC bodies.

RIVDIV 552 PBR's were in WBGP at a known enemy crossing point on the Vam Co Dong River nine miles southeast of Tra Cu (XS 566 886) at 1944H on 14 December when they sighted and took under fire one sampan crossing the river from west to east. When the area was illuminated, an additional three sampans were sighted along with nine VC in the water. As the units opened fire on the sampans and swimmers, they came under B-40 and A/W fire from the west bank and heavy A/W fire from the east bank. Enemy firing positions extended approximately 75 meters along the river. The lead PBR took two or three B-40 rounds which blew the boat captain over the side and wounded three of the crewmen. The damaged boat went out of control, beached, and began burning. Meanwhile, the cover boat continued to receive B-40 and A/W fire with at least 12 rockets being fired. By this time, assistance was on the way in the form of artillery, Seawolves, Black Ponies, troops, and TACAIR. At 1952H, the missing boat captain was

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recovered alive, and six enemy troops and three more sampans were sighted and taken under fire. At 2202H, a Zippo and a CSB (Combat Salvage Boat) went alongside the beached PBR to extinguish the fire which had burned the boat to the waterline. Troops and river units provided security throughout the night, and during early morning salvage operations discovered two M-60 riddled sampans, one of which contained an AK-47, seven 75mm RR rounds, and traces of fresh blood. Salvage personnel estimated that the destroyed PBR had taken at least four 75mm RR hits. The hulk was sunk in the river. Friendly casualties in the engagement were four USN wounded (one serious) and one PBR destroyed. Enemy casualties were placed at four VC killed and five more probably killed.

ASPB's of RAD 153 were nosed in to the beach at the Special Forces Camp at Binh Chau on the Vam Co Dong River six miles northwest of Moc Hoa (WS 928 993) when they received 82mm mortar, B-40, and A/W hits at 0121H on 11 December. Four PBR's,which were in WBGP nearby, were scrambled to the scene along with an Army LHFT and Navy Black Ponies that were diverted to the area. Enroute, PBR's received B-40 and A/W fire from the portion of Binh Chau Village which is west of the fork in the river. The fire was not returned. At 0134H, the damaged ASPB's departed the area for Moc Hoa. Shortly thereafter, with the camp under ground assault, the Army advisor requested emergency extraction and medevac. The extraction was begun by PBR's as the enemy forces entered the camp and forced the defenders to retreat to the south perimeter. At this point, Black Ponies commenced air-

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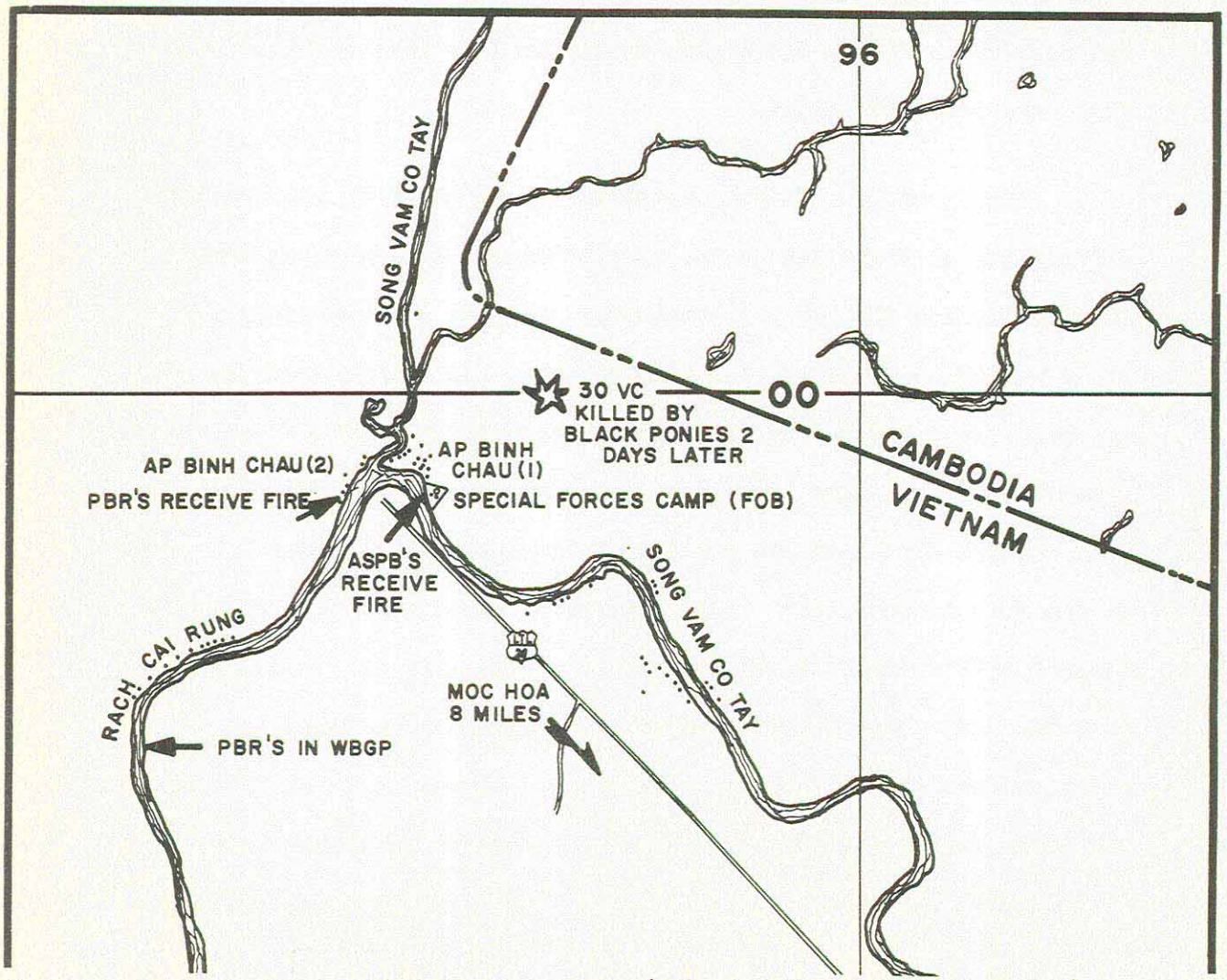
strikes, and two additional PBR's were scrambled from Moc Hoa. At 0156H, the Black Ponies were forced to leave the area due to a low fuel state, and additional Black Ponies were requested. Meanwhile, two PBR's continued direct fire into the enemy force while spotting for strikes by the Army LHFT. At 0230H, a Shadow aircraft began strikes and received A/W fire while over the target, and at 0306H, the camp was retaken by the defenders. Friendly casualties in the action were two USN killed, two USN wounded (serious), and two VNN wounded (serious). All Navy casualties were aboard the ASPB's when they were hit. One U. S. Army man was also wounded. The people



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of the village nearby reported that the VC killed four civilians and wounded six while destroying 14 houses. Enemy casualties were listed as 21 VC killed and two VC wounded of which 11 of the kills were credited to Black Ponies. A Special Forces agent reported later that 27 VC had been killed and 13 VC wounded in the attack. He also commented that the VC are possibly monitoring U. S. Navy units to limit their support of FOB's in forthcoming attacks. Two days later, on the night of 13 December, Black Pony aircraft killed 30 VC (by body count) in an airstrike a mile and a half to the northeast of the camp.

Beginning at 1000H on 19 December, two ATC's of RAD 151 under SK1 O'Reilly, Patrol Officer, and BM1 Thai and BM2 Hoang, Boat Captains, supported RF/PF elements in a sweep of the west bank of the Vam Co Dong River nine miles northwest of Tra Cu (vic XT 413 102). During the sweep of the area, the site of heavy contact two days earlier, the troops discovered a cache which contained a machine gun, 23 B-40 rockets, 70 rifle grenades, 2,000 rounds of AK-47 ammunition, 70 60mm mortar rounds, 20 anti-tank mines, 44 82mm mortar rounds, and 1,000 rounds of 7.62mm long (CKM ammo). The bodies of three VC were also found, presumably the result of a previous PBR action.

VNN ASPB's of RAID 70 were proceeding to pick up troops when they came under rifle, grenade, and A/W fire from the east bank of the Vam Co Tay River, 14 miles southeast of Ben Luc (XS 701 570) at 1000H on 29 December. The units returned fire and made firing runs on the area while Seawolves were scrambled. LT Johnson, Flight Commander, and LTJG Parker, Wing Pilot, were overhead in five minutes

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with VNN observer LTJG Hung. After the helos made their firing runs, a sweep of the area produced five VC bodies. The troops conducting the sweep also captured three wounded VC together with one AK-47, one M-16, one M-1 carbine, and seven magazines for the rifles. In addition, 900 rounds of 7.62 ammunition, four gallons of gasoline, ten blasting caps, a box of rice, and numerous documents were captured. The only friendly casualties were two VNN slightly wounded.

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Operation Ready Deck

In Operation Ready Deck on the upper Saigon River from Phu Cuong upstream to Tri Tam (XT 803 140 to XT 480 470) and on the Thi Tinh River that merges with the Saigon River northwest of Phu Cuong (XT 755 205), the fighting forces of TG 194.6, the 1st Infantry Division, USA, and the 5th ARVN successfully interdicted the enemy forces in December. The Ready Deck campaign which has been a SEA LORDS operation under USN command since 15 October became a combined USN/VNN operation on 11 December. Commander Dang Trung Hieu, VNN, presently Commander of the Third Riverine Area, assumed command at Phu Cuong and LCDR G. T. Flanagan, the retiring CTG 194.6, assumed duty as the Deputy CTG 194.6. At the same time the operation was renamed Tran Hung Dao V/Ready Deck to reflect the Vietnamese participation. Concomitant with the change of command, RIVDIV 571 departed Phu Cuong on 9 December and chopped to CTG 194.4. River Division 593 vacated the designator TU 194.6.2 and assumed TU 194.6.1 on 10 December. RAG 24 was brought under the direct control of CTG 194.6. The drawdown of assets that was created by the departure of RIVDIV 571 was filled by eight PBR's of the VNN RPG 51 who completed the transit from Cat Lai to Phu Cuong on 11 December. The units now assigned to CTG 194.6 are as follows:

Designation	Type	Number of Units Assigned
TG 194.6 (Whaler)	Whaler	1
TU 194.6.1 (RIVDIV 593)	PBR	9
RPG 51	PBR	8
RAG 24	RAC	18
		36

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The employment of the night waterborne guard post either with PBR's or PBR's in conjunction with troops of the 5th ARVN Division or 1st Infantry Division, USA, again proved to be the most effective tactic to interdict the enemy movements along the Saigon River. Routine day and night patrols, search and destroy missions, ground sweeps, and UDT- 12 bunker blowing operations were also utilized against the enemy force.

The number of enemy casualties, firefights, sightings and unilateral firings were comparable to those recorded in November as the intelligence data continued to reflect the primary emphasis of the enemy to be on logistics. A VC supply chief from the 83rd Rear Service Group who rallied to the friendly forces revealed that the VC were conducting reconnaissance mission along the Saigon River and in the vicinity of the ATSB at Phu Cuong. Other reports indicated that the enemy 2nd Quyet Thang Battalion and the KlS sapper Battalion of the 268 Regiment have been targeted against the allied boats on the Saigon River.

The centers of enemy activity along the Saigon River in December seemed to cluster in three general areas seventeen, eleven and six miles northwest of Phu Cuong (vicinity XS 589 333, XS 670 260, XS 200 735, respectively). In November, the successful interdiction of VC trying to cross the river or operating near the river involved VC in groups of six to ten. At the beginning of December, the VC appeared to be more cautious than in November as friendly forces detected on the

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average one to three VC, generally between the hours of 2000 and 0300 the following morning. Towards the end of the month, larger groups were sighted, ten VC on 26 December, ten and 40-45 on 29 December in two separate incidents, and two battalions on 31 December.

During a typical search and destroy and bunker blowing operation, the integrated force of two U.S. and two VNN PBR's, the UDT-12, Det D, and troops of the Reconnaissance Company of the 5th ARVN Division uncovered evidence of recent VC activity on 13 December on the banks of the Thi Tinh River from its junction with the Saigon River to five miles upstream (XT 755 205 to XT 743 254). In the morning, the troops and UDT personnel destroyed one platoon sized bunker. Activity picked up in the afternoon as they found a recently occupied platoon size bunker at approximately 1220. Within minutes, one PBR fired 40mm rounds at two VC who were escaping into a nearby treeline. The troops gave chase but the VC made good their escape. About an hour later the ground units destroyed a 105mm shell that was booby trapped and another bunker. Continuing upstream, they found fresh bedding, ten metal rods and fifteen lengths of freshly cut bamboo. Approximately another fifty meters up river, they recovered two crockery pots, 2,000 NVA piasters, two fresh squash, some nouc mam, 280 rounds of assorted ammunition, one pound of smokeless powder, one pack, two U.S. canteens, two 2.75 rocket propellants, and some miscellaneous clothing.

On the evening of 26 December, two VNN PBR's of RPG 51 were in the process of establishing a waterborne guardpost eight miles north-

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west of Phu Cuong (XT 677 229) when they were ambushed from the west side of the river by an estimated VC squad armed with B-40 rockets and automatic weapons. The lead boat was hit by a B-40 rocket and sank within a couple of minutes. The cover boat attempted to suppress the enemy fire while it maneuvered to recover the VN sailors in the water. All the personnel were recovered with the exception of one sailor whose body was found two day later. Two of the VNN that were picked up had received minor wounds. RAG 24 units that were in the area conducted search operations the same evening with illumination artillery being provided by the U.S. 25th Infantry Division. An LHFT from Phu Loi escorted the remaining PBR most of the way to Phu Cuong.

Seven RAC of RAG 24 and their U.S. advisor, LT W. R. Blakely, were in a night waterborne guardpost on the evening of 29 December while providing security for the salvage operations of the PBR that had sunk on 26 December. Shortly after dark, they detected ten to fifteen VC moving from the southeast to the northwest about ten meters from the river. With illumination overhead, the RAC laid down a blanket of fire for fifteen minutes. Air strikes were called in and the following day a sweep of the contact area revealed three VC killed (two probable).

Two nights later, 12 RAG 24 units and two RPG 51 PBR's were in defensive position in the same area (XT 675 234) still providing support and security for the VNN PBR salavage operations. At approxi-

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mately 2019 the VNN observed at a distance of 400 meters eight to ten VC approaching their units from east to west across a field. As the enemy troops moved close to the boat positions, it was determined that they were armed with automatic weapons, semi-automatic weapons and satchel charges. When the VC were approximately 100 meters away, the RAC and PBR's opened fire with their weapons. Immediately, a LHFT was scrambled from Lam Son on a priority basis. Black Pony 105 on a normal patrol was diverted to the contact area and began air strikes at 2046. The strikes continued until 2130 when the Black Pony had expended all its ammunition and departed the area. The LHFT immediately commenced helo strikes and continued until approximately 2215. Artillery illumination was requested and the U.S. 25th Infantry Division responded within 10 minutes. At 2223 two VC were illuminated by flares 200 meters north and 60 meters inland from the main RAG element located on the east bank. A minute later at least 30 VC on the west bank opened fire with B-40 rockets and automatic and semi-automatic weapons fire. At 2258 Black Ponies 04 and 10 were on station and began air strikes on the enemy positions. The OV-10's departed the area at 2320 and Nighthawk aircraft from Cu Chi arrived at 2355 and commenced air strikes. The sounds of men splashing into the river were heard at 0100, and ten minutes later, at least two VC were closing the boats from the west side with one person on the bank nearby. The area continued to be illuminated, and at 0126, the VC opened fire from the west bank again as four more swimmers slipped into the water. Three of these were killed and the other one was

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most probably killed. From 0235 until 0320 high explosive artillery rounds were spotted into the area by the USN advisor, LT Blakely. At this time, one B-40 rocket was fired at the RAC by approximately six VC on the west bank. The next few rounds of artillery landed directly on their position as they scurried up the hill on the opposite bank. The northern RAG 24 element was attacked by 18 to 20 VC who crushed toward the RAC craft at 0335. At this point many of the friendly units were running low on ammunition as they were putting fire into the VC on both banks.

Black Pony aircraft were scrambled again but developed engine trouble and did not arrive until 0415. In the meantime, the riverine craft and PBR's were still receiving concentrated enemy fire from both banks. Around 0430 both Black Pony and Spooky aircraft were providing continuous strikes and illumination. One VNN PBR and two RAG 24 RPC were en route from the Phu Cuong with more ammunition, and a VN flare ship was on station over Phu Cuong. The PBR arrived in the area at 0520, and the two RPC arrived at 0610. Because of the dense fog and smoke, the fixed wing aircraft departed the area at 0545. Illumination from the flare ship continued until almost day break when the possibility of further attack was considered unlikely. With the fighting over, the friendly forces were able to assess the total results of one of the longest riverine engagement of the war. There were no friendly casualties, and enemy casualties were placed at 37 VC killed including 12 by body count.

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2019 RAC/PBR sight 12 VC 400 meters to East, opened fire at 100 meters

2046 Black Pony begins strikes

2130 LHFT begin strikes

2225 Two VC illuminated 60 meters inland on East Bank

2234 30 VC on west bank

2258 Black Pony begins strikes

2355 Nighthawk begins strikes

0110 Two VC in water, one VC on bank closing boats from west side

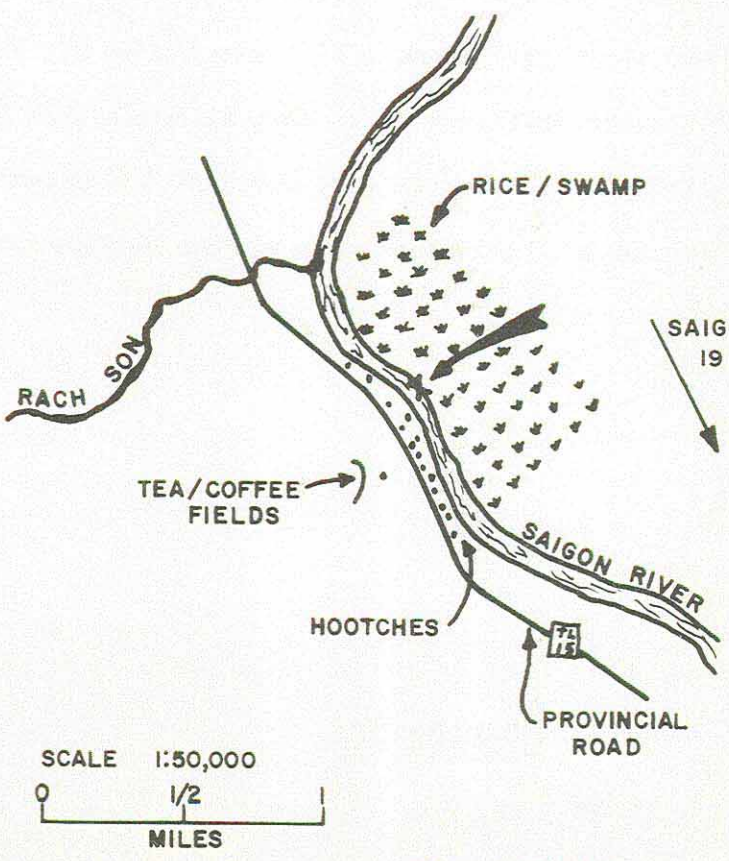
0126 VC open fire from west bank as four VC enter water

0320 20 VC charge RAC from east bank

0425 Black Pony and Spooky begin strikes

0430 Ammo resupply on way, flare ship on station, last significant attack ceased

0545 F/W air assets depart due to smoke/fog



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In a separate incident on 29 December, GMC Kinsey and two U.S. PBR's, numbers 752 and 755, had just settled into a night waterborne guardpost four miles northwest of Phu Cuong (XT 743 204) when they saw swimmers attempting to cross the river from south to north 25 meters from the boats. When the two PBR's broke the WBGP, released their weapons, and illuminated the area, they counted 40 to 45 VC in the water. When the PBR's began firing at the swimmers, they were greeted by heavy automatic weapons fire from ten to fifteen positions along the bank. Once the PBR sailors had suppressed the fire, they counted 30 dead VC (three probable). In the process of searching the battle grounds, they recovered one wounded VC, eight packs, one pistol, 7,800 piasters, some medical supplies, one U.S. grenade, one small radio, one pound of documents, and some miscellaneous personal gear and clothing. H and I fire was placed in the area by the 25th Infantry Division Artillery until dawn at which time the area was swept by 5th ARVN Division troops. At midnight USN Black Ponies conducted an air strike in the contact zone within unknown results.

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Border Interdiction Campaign

Border Interdiction forces continued to increase both in number and effectiveness during the month. The number of river craft assigned to the Border Interdiction Campaign increased from 180 at the end of November to 239 at the end of December. During the same time period, Border Interdiction units increased the number of confirmed enemy killed from 57 to 120. As a further measure of effectiveness, the significant increase in enemy kills was accomplished while incurring fewer friendly casualties - those figures dropped from nine killed and 55 wounded in November to three killed and 26 wounded in December. The fact that for the two monthly periods the total number of ENIFF's, FRIFF's, and unilateral firings varied by only five (97 in November and 102 in December) is also indicative of increased effectiveness.

Various changes were made during the month in the Border Interdiction Campaign, many as a result of the seasonally decreasing water level in the Vinh Te Canal. Early in the month, RAC operating in the eastern sector of the canal were periodically grounding during transits to WBGP positions. As a result, a 4 and 3/4 mile stretch of the Vinh Te Canal from Chou Doc southwestward (WS 065 806 to WS 128 847) was declared a "troops only" operating area. With the RAC restricted to a five mile section of canal southwest of the "troops only" area, all but six Tran Hung Dao RAC were relocated to Barrier Reef West. The remaining RAC maintained a heavy lift capability for the Chou Doc Province forces and will continue operations until they are precluded by low water. In addition to this change, by 10

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A CAMOUFLAGED SAMPAN RECEIVES AUTOMATIC WEAPONS FIRE FROM A DOOR GUNNER.

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December, the water had reached such a low level that it forced curtailment of the extensive single boat WBGP's that have proved so successful in the previous months. The reason being that the resultant high banks make single boat operations of this type hazardous. Also, in another change, a MSF Battalion was assigned on 10 December to operate in the Tran Hung Dao portion of the 44th STZ Border Interdiction Campaign under the command of CTG 194.4. The general area of employment will be in Central Tran Hung Dao, bounded on the east and west by north-south grid lines VS 61 - VS 93, with initial emphasis between VS 61 and VS 76. The purpose of the assignment is to provide troops support for Navy operations in the area in addition to the other forces, CIDG camps, and RF/PF outposts presently supporting CTG 194.4. Upon the withdrawal of Navy boats from the area due to the receding water levels, the MSF units will move to deployment points with other available transportation.

In the Barrier Reef AO's, the entire canal system (Barrier Reef West and Barrier East) from An Long to Tuyen Nhon was placed under the OPCON of CTG 194.4 on 8 December, and Barrier Reef East RAC, formerly under CTG 194.9, were chopped to CTG 194.4 on that date. This was done to facilitate better command coordination in view of the relocation of Tran Hung Dao RAC, the shifting of RAC to Barrier Reef from operations on the Song Ong Doc, and because of numerous intelligence reports of infiltration across Barrier Reef.

For the month of December, Tran Hung Dao forces maintained an average of 62 WBGP's nightly, slightly less than the 68 average for November. The newly combined Barrier Reef East and West forces were

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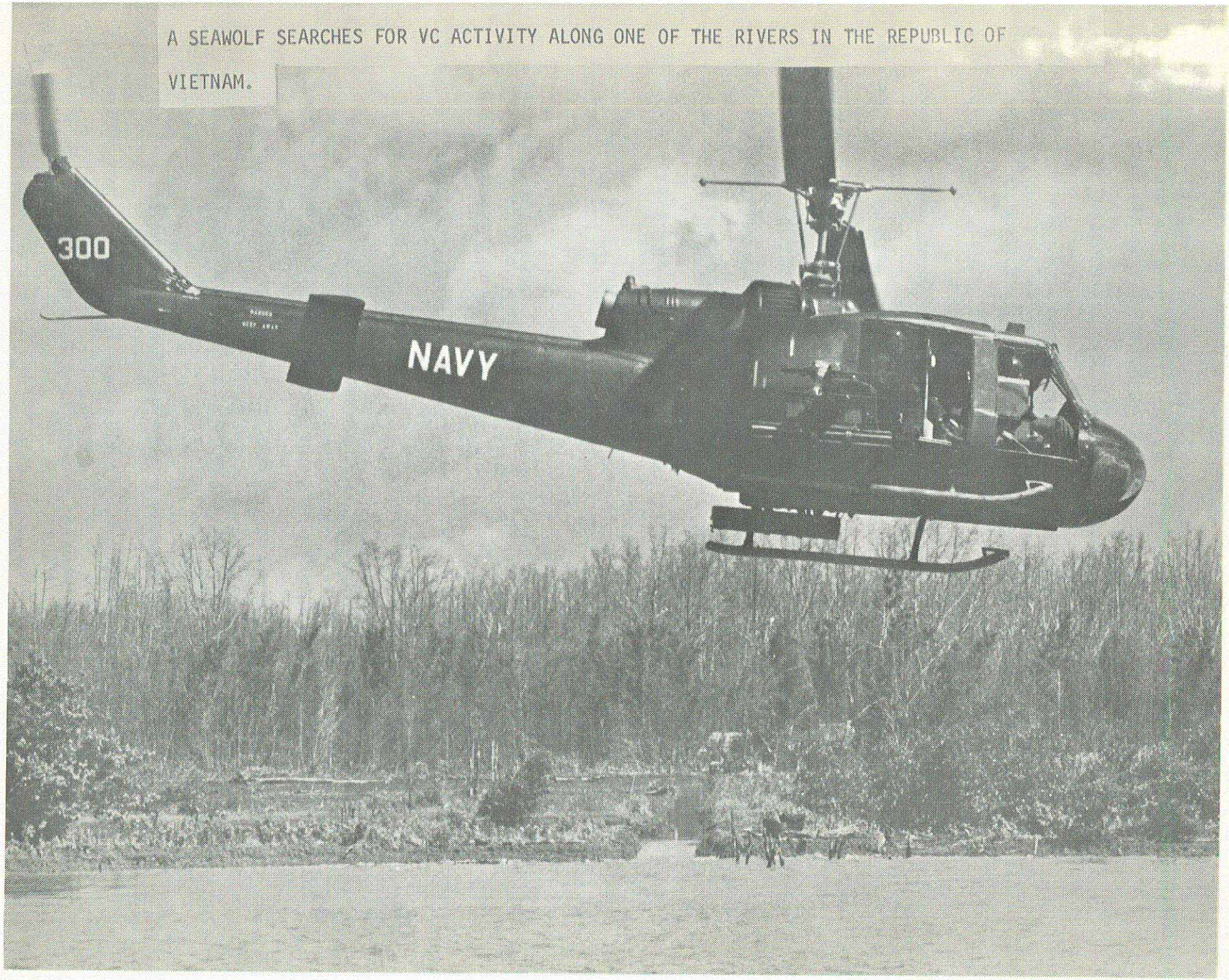
A SEAWOLF SEARCHES FOR VC ACTIVITY ALONG ONE OF THE RIVERS IN THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM.



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setting over 40 WBGP's nightly during the last part of the month. The following incident narratives are typical of the type of activity seen in the Border Interdiction Campaign and include examples showing the effectiveness of the WBGP.

On 4 December, at the request of the Chau Doc Province Chief, RAD 132 units (T-16, BM2 Hall, Boat Captain, and T-19, BM2 Miller, Boat Captain) lifted 150 PF troops from Chau Doc and inserted them 12 miles to the north on the Song Hau Giang. The insertion, made at 1245H, was near a suspected enemy position where five VC had been killed in a contact with an estimated 50 VC on the previous day. After the insertion, the two tango boats remained in the vicinity (WT 097 031) until 1430H when the on-scene commander, the PF Senior Advisor, requested they provide fire support on enemy positions a mile to the north. Enroute to the target area, the boats drew light automatic weapons fire from the east bank (WT 096 042), however, the fire was not returned due to friendlies in the area. At 1500H, the two craft commenced fire on designated targets on the east bank of the Song Hau Giang (WT 095 048 and WT 095 049), and two enemy were killed by PF troops as they attempted to evacuate the target area. Shortly thereafter, T-16 was called upon to extract five wounded PF troops (WT 095 050) and move them to a more secure area where a dust off could be conducted. At 1727, the two units, while moving south for troop extraction, came under heavy automatic and B-40 rocket fire just to the south of the position from which earlier fire had been received. During the attack, five B-40's were fired

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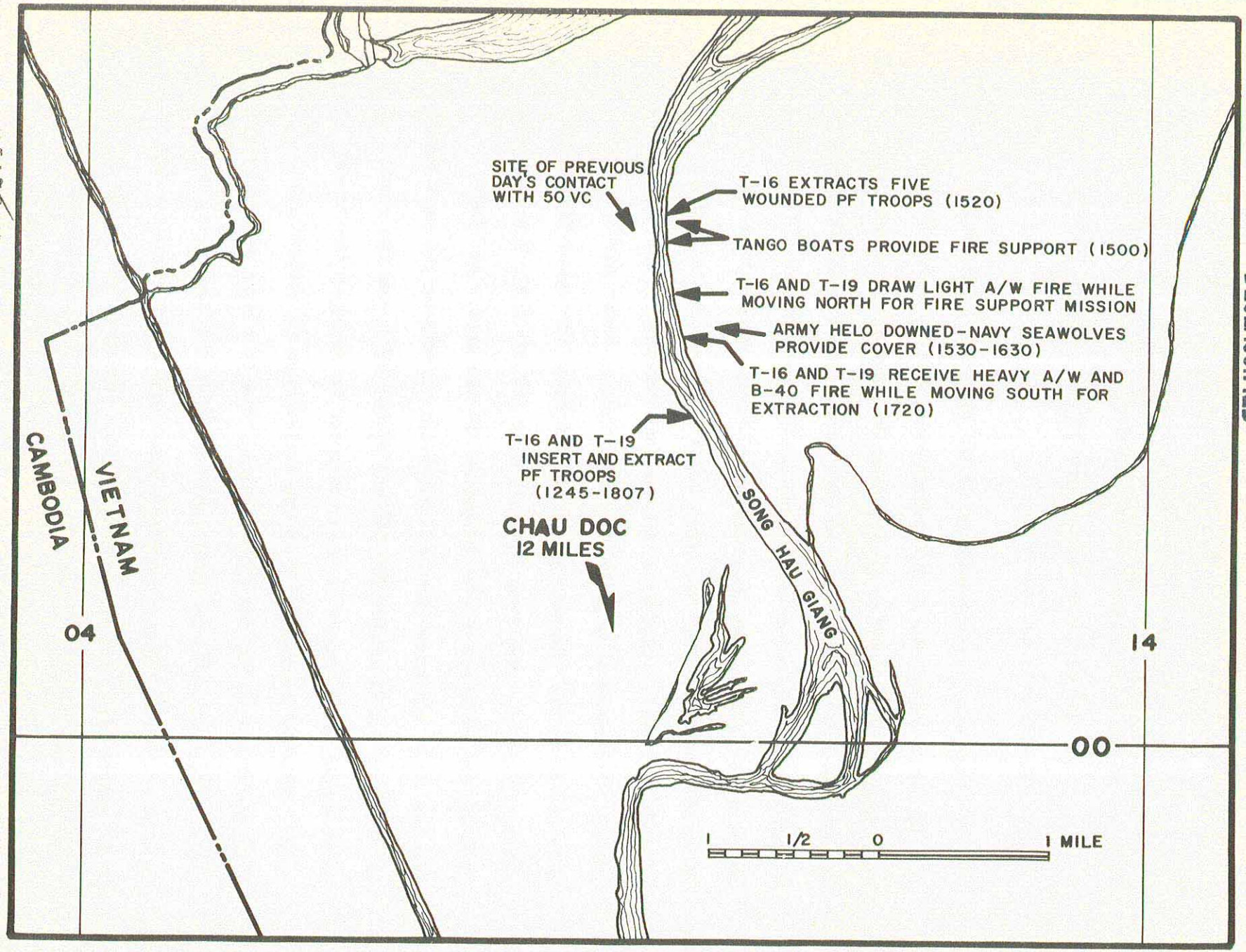

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at the boats with T-16 taking the only rocket hit, however, the two craft sustained approximately 60 AK-47 hits which wounded two RVN sailors and one USA soldier. Because the enemy position was between two friendly units, strict fire discipline was excercised when returning enemy fire. In addition to the Tango boats, U.S. Navy Seawolves also participated in this action. Seawolves from Hal 3, Det 5 and Det 9, provided air cover for heavy ground contact and a downed Army helo. The Navy helos received heavy A/W fire from enemy positions as they placed numerous machine gun and rocket strikes. In all, the enemy lost 20 NVA killed by air and 17 NVA killed by PF troops in an action that again demonstrated the versatility of the ATC and the effectiveness of helo gunships.

The ATC's and Seawolves were not the only Border Interdiction units to see action on 4 December. Two PBR's of RIVDIV 535, under Patrol Officer BM1 Lee, that were set up in night WBGP 22 miles southwest of Chau Doc on the Vinh Te Canal (VS 855 612) were also to see plenty of activity. At 2220H, the PBR's sighted five personnel swimming across the canal from north to south (VS 856 612) a crossing technique being used with increasing frequency as Interdiction units make it more difficult for the enemy to make undetected crossings. When the swimmers reached midstream, they were taken under fire with 40mm and 60mm fire, and they dissappeared. Only an oil slick and metal can were left floating in the contact area. Thirty minutes later, three additional swimmers were observed swimming across the canal in the same vicinity as the previous attempt. They were also taken under fire and disappeared. The PBR's,

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not having broken ambush during the incidents, waited for another hour and were ready when four more swimmers attempted a crossing. During this last abortive attempt, one swimmer reached the opposite bank only to fall back in the canal when he was cut down by machine gun fire. No other persons were observed leaving the canal. Enemy casualties were one NVA killed and 11 NVA probably killed. There were no friendly casualties.

Border Interdiction Forces continued to prove their effectiveness as two sizeable enemy units were thwarted in Vinh Te Canal crossing attempts on the nights of 21 and 24 December. In the first instance, RIVDIV 515 PBR's teamed up with friendly troops, Hal 3, Det's 3 and 5 helos, and Val 4, Det A Black Ponies to prevent an estimated 60 enemy who had assembled on the river bank from crossing the canal 21 miles southwest of Chau Doc (VS 858 613). Seawolves, with PBR's spotting, placed rocket and machine gun strikes on enemy positions while Black Ponies provided illumination and delivered ordnance. There were no friendly casualties, and enemy casualties were unknown. In the crossing attempt on the 24th, PF troops in a defensive perimeter in the vicinity of RAD 132's T-16 and T-19 (mentioned previously in this section in the write up of the 4 December incident) came into contact with an estimated 30 VC and turned them back across the Cambodian border as they tried to cross the Vinh Te Canal 4½ miles southwest of Chau Doc (WS 052 798). Small arms fire from three VC was received by T-16 in WBGP on half mile to the south of the crossing site (WS 040 791). The unit returned fire

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with unknown results, and contact was broken as VC withdrew into Cambodia. Again, there were no friendly casualties.

All the month's significant activity was not restricted to the Tran Hung Dao AO. On 22 December, six miles east of An Long on Barrier Reef (WS 513 812), a Boston Whaler with LT Roper aboard sighted eight sampans north of the WBGP moving toward the canal. Fire was held until the sampans had entered the canal and began to cross, and then, the Boston Whaler broke ambush while initiating fire on the first three sampans. In return, the whaler received A/W fire from the north bank, and, of the three sampans taken under fire, two reached the south bank and one returned to the north bank. At this point, PBR's 730 and 731, under boat captains BM2 Bernhardt and EN2 Goodall, made firing runs on the enemy positions drawing return fire from both banks. Black Ponies of Val 4, Det A, were diverted to the scene and placed airstrikes that supressed the enemy fire. Ten PF troops from an outpost a mile and a half to the west (WS 489 914) were later inserted for a sweep of the area. Among the items captured were 82 locally made hand grenades and material to produce nearly 200 more, 4 boxes of Chicom grenades, 15 rifle grenades, 4 SKS rifles, 1 AK-47 with 8 clips of ammunition, 2 claymore mines, 30 pounds of rice, and 4 sampans. The VC suffered 10 killed during the engagement while they were unable to inflict any friendly casualties. Following this incident, there were strong indications that the VC would launch an attack against the PBR's in retribution for this particular defeat. Intelligence reports were received stating the

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VC were spreading propaganda throughout the area to this effect. However, the antithesis of retribution occurred on the following night when the enemy made contact with another WBGP set by RIVDIV 535 units in the same vicinity. Contact was made with 20-30 VC who were observed on the south bank in a line abreast spaced approximately 500 meters either side of the site of the previous nights crossing attempt. The river craft (one Boston whaler and four PBR's) teamed up with Seawolves and Black Ponies to kill an estimated eleven VC (one body count, ten probables). As on the previous night, there were no friendly casualties.

Vietnamese sailors from Coastal Group 44 scored heavily against the VC on 29 December when a VNN junk, under LT Quang with U.S. advisor BM3 Cone aboard, accounted for 20 VC probable kills, 7 sampans destroyed, 6 AK-47 rifles, one M-2 carbine, and some ammunition and documents captured. The VNN junk was on routine patrol and in the process of challenging 20 sampans when it came under automatic weapons fire from the sampans four miles northeast of Ha Tien (VS 480 523). The fire was returned sinking three sampans and forcing two sampans to beach. It was from the latter sampan that the captured material was taken. A short time later, while still in the contact area, the junk came under automatic weapons fire from both banks which was returned and suppressed. Seawolves were called in and placed a strike at VS 485 520. A troop sweep, later, revealed numerous blood trails. The only friendly casualty in the action was one VNN slightly wounded.

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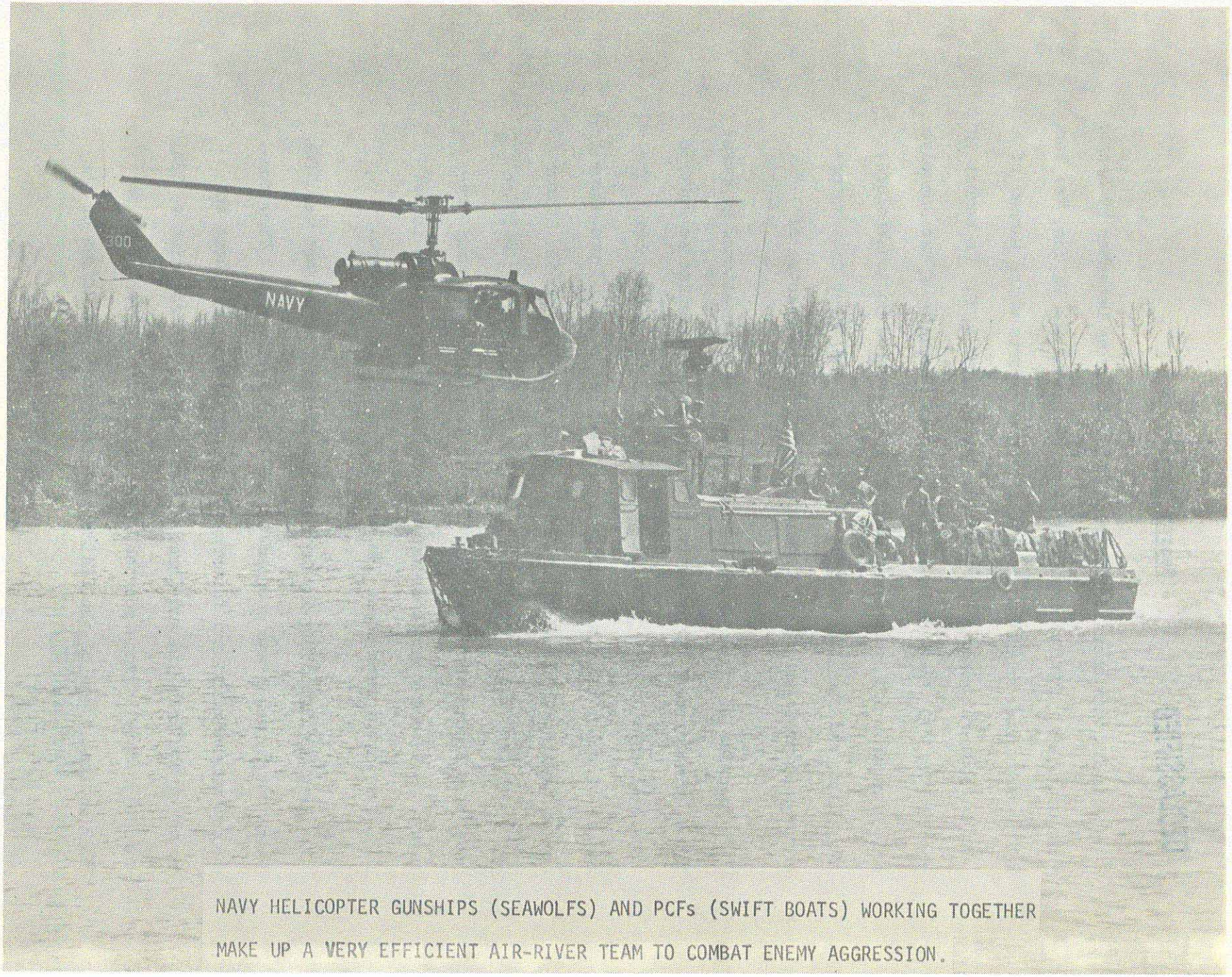

NAVY HELICOPTER GUNSHIPS (SEAWOLFS) AND PCFs (SWIFT BOATS) WORKING TOGETHER MAKE UP A VERY EFFICIENT AIR-RIVER TEAM TO COMBAT ENEMY AGGRESSION.

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Search Turn

Interdiction operations were continued during December by Search Turn units with special emphasis being placed on the Ba The, Tri Ton, and So Mot canal areas due to intelligence reports which warned of a possible all-out enemy effort in the Search Turn A. O. To combat this possibility, TG 194.3, with an end of month strength of two Seawolves and 34 water craft, which included 28 PBR's, three Boston Whalers, two MSD's, and one CCB, mounted 391 one, two, and three unit water-borne guardposts which more than doubled November's total of 177.

In spite of these intelligence reports and operational preparations, the forecast enemy activity failed to materialize as hostile fire incidents dropped from 31 in November to 19 in December. The number of enemy kills also dropped from 40 kills and 57 probables recorded last month to 12 kills and 18 probables this month. There were, however, two VC captured in action in December while there were none captured in November. Search Turn operations also resulted in 19 enemy craft destroyed and five damaged. USN losses for this period were three USN wounded and one PBR damaged.

Also participating in the December Search Turn effort was SEAL Team, Det G, which was chopped to CTG 194.3 last month. They conducted interdiction and interrogation operations throughout the month in the Rach Gia and Three Sisters areas. In reaction to SEAL and other intelligence sources, they also joined river craft in WBGP actions. One of the SEAL's most important operations of the

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month was an interdiction of a known VC commo-liaison route 28 miles northwest of Rach Gia on the So Mot Canal (VS 836 413). By taking a large VC element under fire on 1 December, the action resulted in eight VC killed and seven VC probably killed as well as dealing a serious blow to an important VC route.

On 11 December, Mobile Support Team (MST) 2, Det 3, began working in the Rach Gia A. O. under task designator 194.3.7. This unit joined with the SEAL's and the other Search Turn waterborne units in the month's interdiction operations as can be seen in the following incident narrative.

Six SEAL's of TU 194.3.6, two Chieu Hoi's, and one LSSC of MST 2, Det 3 ,set a waterborne interdiction position on the Rach Gia - Ha Tien Canal 22 miles northwest of Rach Gia (VS 862 301) in the early evening on 20 December. During the first hour only sporadic movement was seen and noises from the bank were heard. Then, at 2040, the WBGP heard a bugle call. The unit initiated fire and continued it for over one half hour when the unit broke guardpost and directed a Black Pony strike at the contact area about one mile down stream from the WBGP position (VS 851 301). The Black Ponies completed the strike at 2215 and reported receiving fire from a heavy tree line north of the previous contact point. A second set of Black Ponies was then called to follow up on the strike. They arrived overhead at 2237 but were diverted to a higher priority target. The LSSC extracted personnel and returned to subsector Kien Son. There were no friendly casualties while the enemy suffered six probable kills,

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three sampans destroyed, and miscellaneous web gear and first aid equipment captured.

During the late evening on 29 December, Search Turn units in WBGP on the Ba The Canal 14 miles north of Rach Gia (WS 087 264) as part of the Ba The interdiction line sighted two men moving south along the east side of the canal bank and 40 yards inland. The units illuminated the area and took it under fire. One received return fire, which was believed to be 40mm, close aboard and cleared the area. After firing into the area, they observed one man fall and one run away. In response to a scramble, Seawolves arrived on the scene and placed a strike on the east bank about 300 yards inland. The units located one body and discovered a heavy blood trail leading east. There were no friendly casualties. Enemy losses included one VC killed and one VC probably killed. Clothing, photos, three bags of rice, and numerous documents and papers indicating that the VC may have been a tax collector were recovered. All papers were turned over to NILO Rach Gia for evaluation.

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Riverine Strike Group

During December, as in the last half of November, all RAC formerly assigned to CTG 194.7 (Riverine Strike Group) remained outchopped to other operational commanders with the exception of those craft undergoing overhaul.

The following table shows the disposition of the various craft at the end of December.

	ATC	ASPB	MON	ZIP	CCB	DCH	ZIPCH	REF	UTL	TOTAL
CTG 194.9	12	10	1	2	1	2				28
CTG 194.7	3	3	1		1		2		2	12
CTG 194.4	29	11	3	1	2		1	2	2	51
CTG 194.3					1					1
CTG 194.2	5	4	1							10
CTG 115.7	2	2	1	1			1		1	8
CTG 116.9		8		1						9
TOTAL	51	38	7	5	5	2	4	2	5	119

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Song Ong Doc

Activity increased significantly in the Breezy Cove AO during December. Enemy KIA's jumped from 16 in November to 40 in December as the total number of ENIFF's, FRIFF's, and unilateral firings increased from 37 to 56, however, this increase in activity did not bring with it an increase in friendly casualties. In fact, they declined slightly from 13 wounded last month to 12 wounded this month.

During the first part of the month, five ATC's and one Monitor departed Song Ong Doc and were chopped from CTG 194.2 to CTG 194.4 on 4 December. This left 26 craft and two Seawolves for operations during the remainder of the month as follows:

CTU 194.2.4 USS GARRETT COUNTY (LST 786)

CTU 194.2.1 10 PBR's, 2 BW's

CTU 194.2.3 5 ASPB's, 5 ATC's, 1 MON

CTU 194.2.5 2 UH-1B's

CTU 194.2.6 1 HSSC, 1 LSSC

Two PBR's of TU 194.2.1 were on a routine daytime patrol of the Song Ong Doc on 14 December when they came under attack seven miles from the river mouth (VR 905 007). The PBR's received 6-8 rockets and automatic weapons fire from the south bank, returned fire, and cleared the kill zone. Returning for a second firing run, the units drew an additional two rockets and automatic weapons fire. As the boats cleared to the east, Seawolves on patrol placed strikes in the area. Two additional PBR's then arrived and joined in a third firing

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run which was without return fire. Troops were later lifted to the area and in a sweep discovered a half pound of documents, numerous firing positions, and blood trails. In the action, four USN were slightly wounded while enemy casualties are unknown. The size and coordination of this attack was a significant departure from the harassing attacks of the enemy during recent weeks.

In another daylight action, on 24 December, two Seawolves flown by LT Polenski and LTJG Gingrich were returning from a patrol when the pilots sighted 30 VC evading into the brush about 1¼ miles northwest of the base perimeter (VR 823 008). All clearances were quickly obtained and confirmed followed by an airstrike as the VC began breaking up into small groups. The original estimate of enemy casualties was placed at 30 probable kills. Although a sweep of the area produced no bodies or weapons, a sympathizer to the village chief identified the unit as the combined C-8 and C-9 VC companies (approximate strength of 80 men) and reported that there were 28 VC killed and one wounded by the airstrike.

In a night action, on 29 December, SMC Davenport, Patrol Officer, was with two PBR's in WBGP two miles northeast of Song Ong Doc City (WR 003 041) when a sampan with four occupants was sighted crossing the river from south to north approximately 50 meters away. The PBR's hailed the sampan without success and finally took it under fire. The sampan sank, and the four occupants were killed. There were no friendly casualties.

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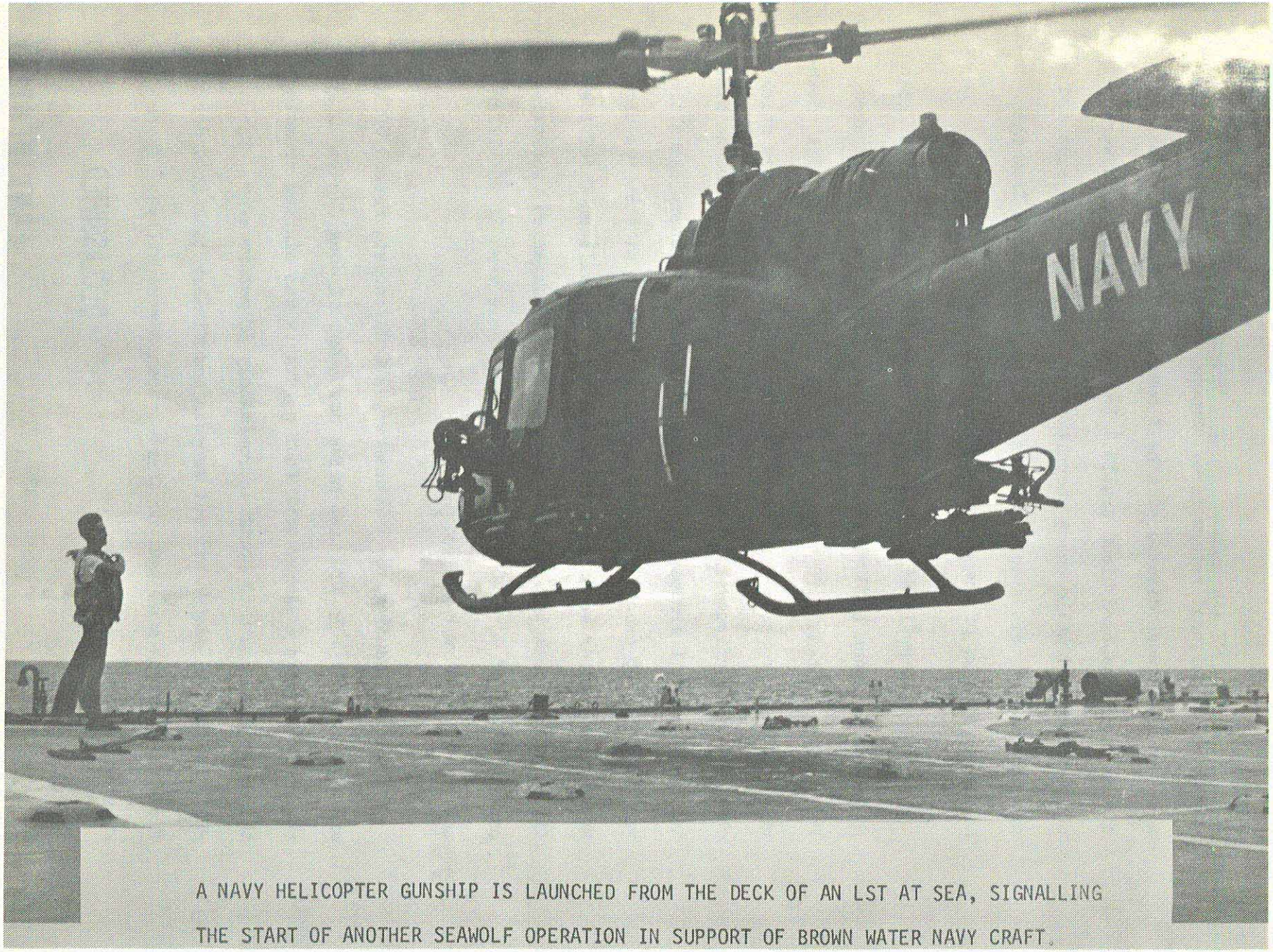

A NAVY HELICOPTER GUNSHIP IS LAUNCHED FROM THE DECK OF AN LST AT SEA, SIGNALLING THE START OF ANOTHER SEAWOLF OPERATION IN SUPPORT OF BROWN WATER NAVY CRAFT.

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Market Time Raider Campaign

There were 66 SEA LORDS missions conducted during December by the Market Time Raiders along the rivers and canals of the III and IV Coastal Zones. There were 17 hostile fire incidents reported during the month; however, only six were against the "Swift" boats and three against WPB's. The other hostile fire incidents were against ground units supporting these missions. Enemy material losses for December were 21 craft and 103 structures destroyed and seven craft and 55 structures damaged. There were 11 Viet Cong killed, one wounded, and five captured. The enemy losses were considerably less than in previous months as the enemy avoided contact whenever possible.

There were three U. S. sailors wounded, two Vietnamese killed and five wounded during the operations. PCF 28 suffered minor material casualties from a B-40 rocket hit for the only craft damaged.

The SEA LORDS missions employed various mixes of craft of up to four PCF's, six USCG WPB's, one USCG WHEC, a monitor, one LSIL, units from Coastal Groups 34 and 36, River Assault Groups 25 and 29, and air cover was provided by OV-10's from VAL-4. Ground forces supported by these craft were Explosive Ordnance Disposal Teams, RF, PF, PRU, ARVN, National Police Field Forces, Beach Jumper Unit Team 13, and personnel from Coastal Groups 34 and 36.

On the afternoon of 8 December, the PT GRACE (USCG WPB), LTJG J. F. Ebersole, USCG, Commanding, in company with the PT CYPRESS (USCG WPB), entered the Song Ganh Hao on a SEA LORDS mission about

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12 miles east of Ca Mau (WR 386 027). The units did not fire upon entering the river hoping to surprise the enemy. Several persons were sighted just after entering the river and were taken under fire by the PT CYPRESS and Broncos (OV-10's) from VAL-4. The Broncos received and suppressed light small arms fire. The WPB's also fired PSYOPS rounds into a large village just to the east. As the units exited the river, targets of opportunity were taken under fire including a 45 foot camouflaged junk which was destroyed. The PT CYPRESS was hit by a suspected rifle grenade causing only minor damage to the superstructure. There were no U. S. casualties in the operation, and the Broncos were credited with three Viet Cong killed. Further enemy casualties were unknown. There were 13 structures and six sampans destroyed and 21 structures heavily damaged.

The Binh Thuy Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Team embarked in PCF 2, and in company with PCF 32, conducted a SEA LORDS mission on 14 December about 8 miles north of Soc Trang (XR 115 754). The EOD Team was inserted for a bunker destruction mission while the "Swift" boats stood by for security. PCF 64 relieved PCF 32 in mid-afternoon. There was no contact with the enemy during the operation. The EOD Team was extracted at 1720H and returned to Coastal Group 36 headquarters. The Binh Thuy EOD Team destroyed 25 defensive bunkers during the day's mission.

On 17 December, a SEA LORDS mission was conducted approximately 15 miles south of Ca Mau (WR 458 003). The PT MALONE (USCG WPB), LTJG W. C. HOYT, USCG, Commanding, the PT JEFFERSON (USCG WPB), a

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monitor, RAG's 25 and 29, and the 221st RAC unit 45 entered the Song Ganh Hao, and the troops were inserted for a ground sweep while the WPB's took targets of opportunity under fire and provided a blocking force. The WPB's received and immediately suppressed small arms and automatic weapons fire at two separate locations along the river. The troops were extracted at 1700H without further incident. The day's action resulted in one Viet Cong killed and 27 sampans, 16 structures, and six bunkers destroyed. There were six sampans and 10 structures damaged. In addition, 2,000 pounds of rice and approximately 100 pounds of dried shrimp were destroyed. There were no friendly casualties.

A SEA LORDS mission was conducted on 30 December about 15 miles east of Soc Trang (XR 299 686). PCF 102 with CTF 116 EOD Team embarked and PCF 21 with 35 Popular Force (PF) troops embarked proceeded to Dung Island in the Bassac River where the troops were inserted to destroy bunkers. The troops were extracted and reinserted about two miles to the east where light small arms fire was received and suppressed. Upon completion of the sweep, all troops were extracted without further incident. Gun damage assessment and enemy casualties were unknown. The EOD Team destroyed 30 bunkers. There were no friendly casualties.

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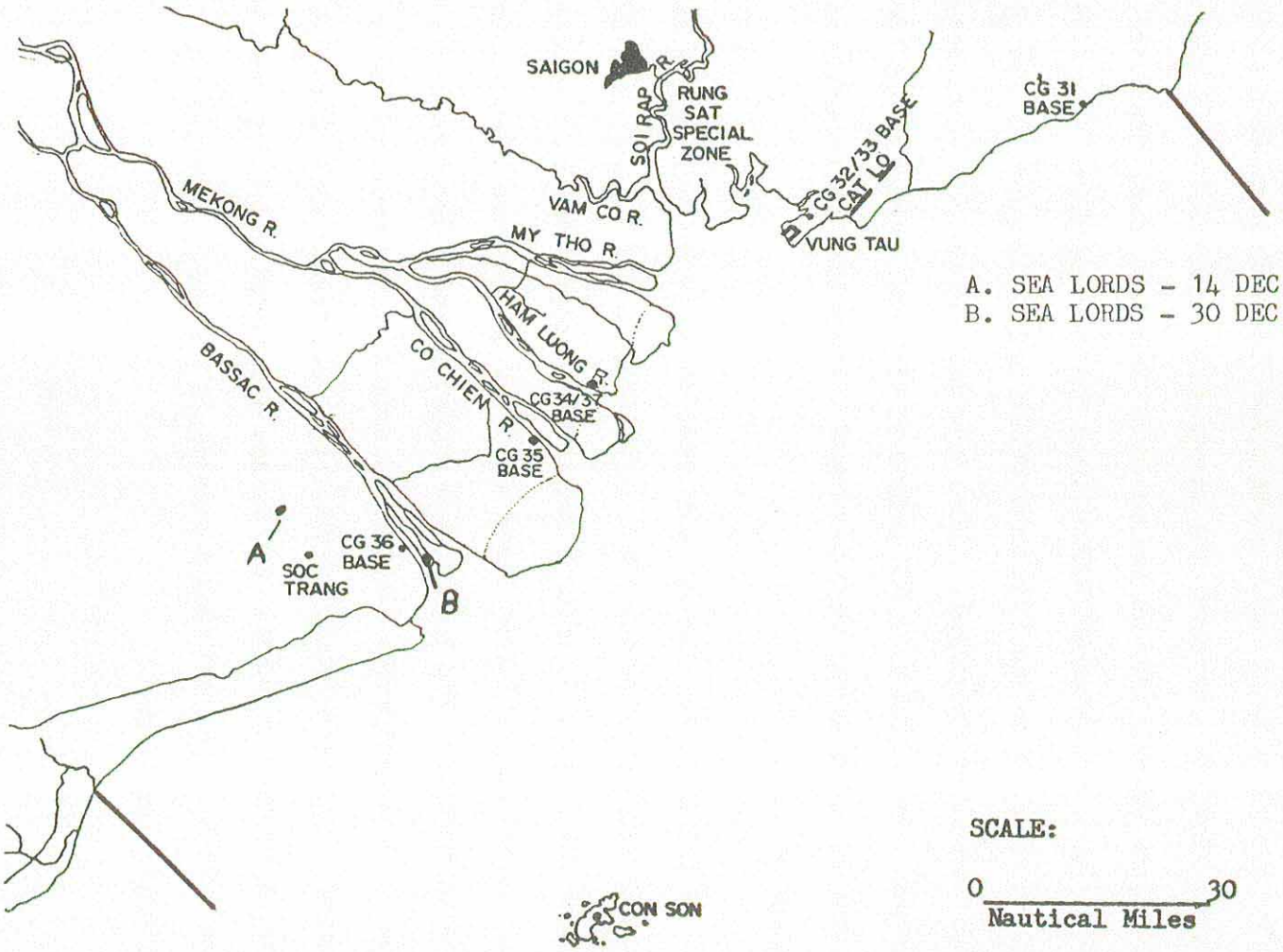
MARKET TIME RAIDERS
SEA LORDS

OPERATIONS IN THE THIRD COASTAL ZONE



A. SEA LORDS - 14 DEC
B. SEA LORDS - 30 DEC

SCALE:

0 _____ 30
Nautical Miles

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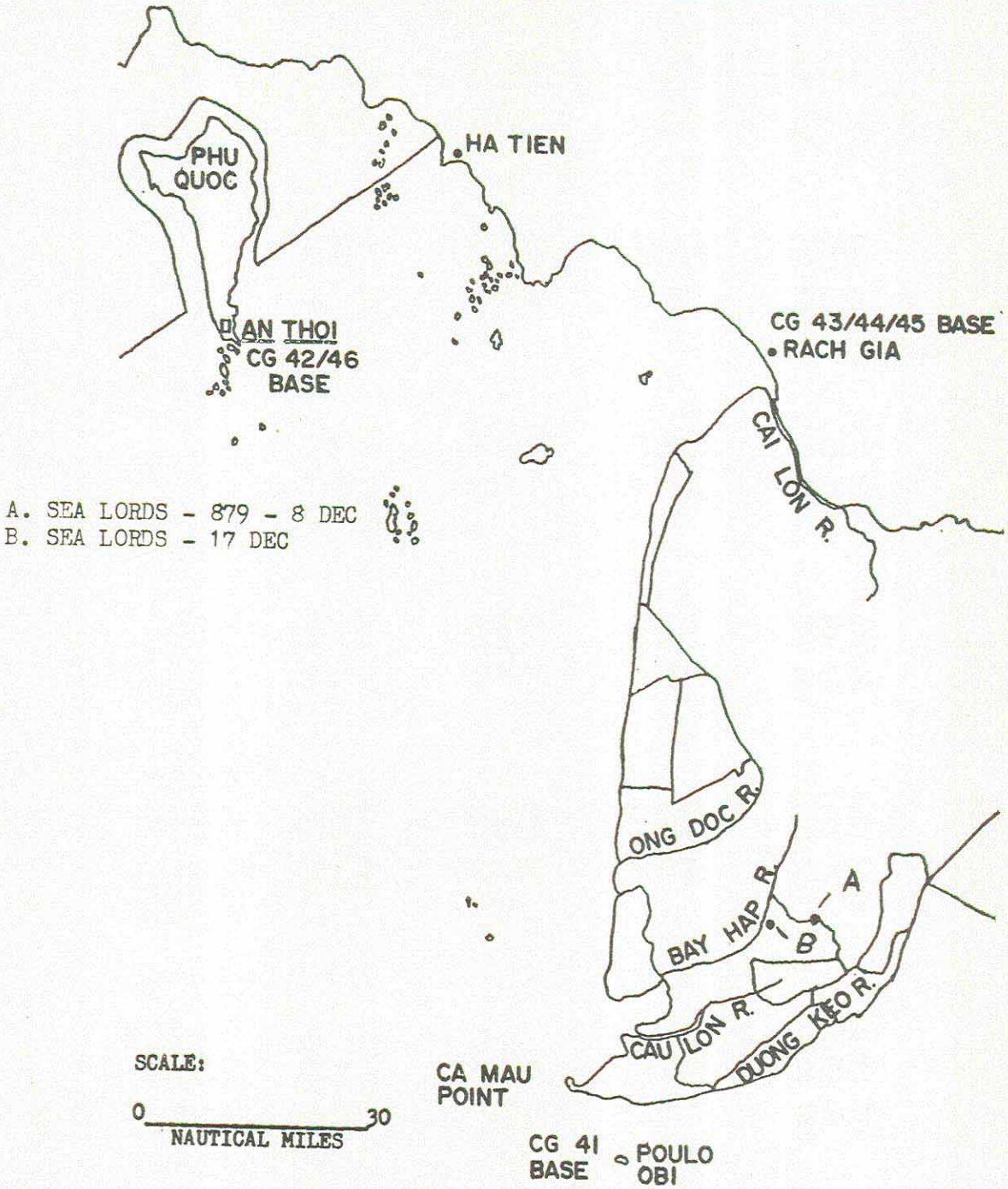
MARKET TIME RAIDERS
SEA LORDS

OPERATIONS IN THE FOURTH COASTAL ZONE



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NAVAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY (AS OF 31 DECEMBER)

	TRAN HUNG DAO	GIANT SLINGSHOT	BARRIER REEF	BREEZY COVE	SEARCH TURN	READY DECK
ENEMY KIA						
BY USN	215 (39)	1005 (89)	69 (14)	50 (19)	184 (9)	310 (47)
BY VNN	50 (20)	126 (13)	29 (0)	4 (4)	0 (0)	6 (3)
BY OTHER	281 (61)	910 (40)	104 (0)	17 (17)	43 (3)	228 (0)
ENEMY CIA						
BY USN	7 (0)	24 (1)	15 (1)	39 (24)	2 (2)	14 (1)
BY VNN	1 (0)	9 (2)	1 (0)	6 (5)	0 (0)	0 (0)
BY OTHER	18 (0)	205 (3)	31 (0)	4 (0)	27 (2)	112 (6)
FRIENDLY KIA						
USN	11 (1)	30 (2)	5 (0)	1 (0)	14 (0)	5 (0)
VNN	9 (0)	15 (2)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
OTHER	19 (2)	112 (5)	15 (0)	2 (0)	19 (0)	19 (0)
FRIENDLY WIA						
USN	87 (12)	466 (12)	41 (0)	55 (9)	63 (4)	29 (0)
VNN	60 (0)	119 (16)	11 (0)	9 (2)	4 (0)	17 (2)
OTHER	138 (14)	610 (9)	79 (0)	4 (1)	92 (0)	82 (3)
KILL RATIO						
USN	19.5:1 (39:1)	33.6:1 (44.5:1)	13.8:1 (14:0)	50:1 (19:0)	13.1:1 (9:0)	62:1 (47:0)
VNN	5.5:1 (20:0)	8.4:1 (6.5:1)	29.0:0 *	- (4:0)	- *	6:0 (3:0)
OTHER	14.8:1 (30.5:1)	8.1:1 (8:1)	6.9:1 *	8.5:1 (17:0)	2.3:1 (3:0)	12:1 *

() - Monthly totals

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NAVAL STATISTICAL SUMMARY (AS OF 31 DECEMBER)

	TRAN HUNG DAO	GIANT SLINGSHOT	BARRIER REEF	BREEZY COVE	SEARCH TURN	READY DECK
START OF OPERATION	21 NOV 69	6 DEC 68	2 JAN 69	26 SEP 69	1 NOV 68	3 JUN 69
FRIFF	181 (31)	421 (34)	42 (7)	25 (15)	135 (8)	41 (5)
ENIFF	142 (25)	663 (19)	40 (0)	29 (8)	74 (5)	43 (5)
UNILATERAL FIRINGS	329 (46)	1251 (52)	133 (18)	76 (33)	224 (18)	166 (29)
MININGS	19 (1)	13 (0)	6 (0)	6 (0)	4 (0)	1 (0)
AMMUNITION CACHES	4 (1)	253 (14)	1 (0)	0 (0)	14 (0)	16 (0)
& CACHE WT. (TONS)	11.5 (.1)	139.4 (2.8)	.4 (0)	0 (0)	11 (0)	4 (0)
OTHER CACHE	0 (0)	23 (2)	0 (0)	1 (0)	1 (0)	1 (0)
& CACHE WT. (TONS)	0 (0)	384.9 (4.1)	0 (0)	1.2 (0)	1 (0)	.4 (0)
REPORTS OF ENEMY PLANS TO ATTACK PATROL CRAFT	140 (3)	189 (8)	19 (0)	6 (0)	*	*
SAMPANS DESTROYED	249 (8)	303 (14)	128 (11)	109 (53)	282 (22)	135 (7)

9.7 tons munitions and 5.5 tons of other material were captured during engagements with barrier units.

( ) - Monthly totals

* - Statistics not available

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COASTAL SURVEILLANCE FORCE SUMMARY

Market Time and Stable Door forces continued routine operations during December. Patrol responsibility in the Game Warden area of operation on the lower Bassac and Co Chien Rivers was maintained by Market Time units. There were 5,934 watercraft detected in the rivers, and of those, 2,037 were inspected, and another 2,689 were boarded resulting in the detention of four craft and 11 persons. There were no reported incidents of evading craft in the rivers. Task Force 115 surveillance units detected 58,051 craft in their patrol areas along the coasts and in the harbors of the Republic of Vietnam. Adverse weather in the First and Third Coastal Zones during part of the month and the Vietnamese assuming patrol responsibility for 29 of the 54 Market Time Stations accounted for the low number of USN detections. There were 10,189 craft inspected and another 10,217 craft boarded resulting in the detention of 78 craft and 608 persons for lack of or faulty identification, violation of restricted areas, possession of contraband, and other suspicious activity. There were 133 Viet Cong suspects detained during the month.

Enemy initiated activity continued at the same relative low level of the five preceding months. There were no known large scale infiltrations of men or supplies attempted during December. Naval gunfire and blocking patrols were provided in support of friendly ground operations along the coasts and in the rivers and canals. There were four U.S. sailors killed and 15 wounded during these operations. Enemy losses to the naval gunfire of Market Time forces came to 82 confirmed killed, plus 61 probably killed, and 16 wounded.

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SEAL units continued to support the Sea Float operations in the IV Corps Tactical Zone conducting almost daily operations.

In the III and IV Corps Tactical Zones, there were 66 SEA LORDS missions and 62 SEAL and Sea Float missions conducted during December. The results of the missions were not as impressive as in previous months as the enemy continued to avoid contact. The "Swift" boats assigned to Sea Float continued to support the PSYOPS campaign in the lower Ca Mau Peninsula. These operations are discussed under Market Time Raiders in the SEA LORDS Summary and Operation Sea Float Summary.

There was little increase in enemy activity along the coast. The area of greatest concern continued to be the Ha Tien, Rach Gia Thanh, Vinh Te Canals. Reports indicated a constant build-up of enemy supplies along this border area. There were also reports of attempted border crossings during the first week of December which were considered as possible feelers for a large scale crossing attempt. Intelligence indicated the enemy would mount major attacks against population centers, pacified areas, and operational and Free World Forces bases from 19 through 24 December; however, at month's end, this enemy activity had failed to materialize. There were also indications that the enemy's intelligence and reconnaissance units were reconnoitering many of the targets which would be necessary prior to launching attacks against major targets and achieve productive results. There were no indications of renewed sea infiltration into RVN; however, there were reports that the enemy was using the coastline near the Three Sisters area for transshipment and/or infiltration.

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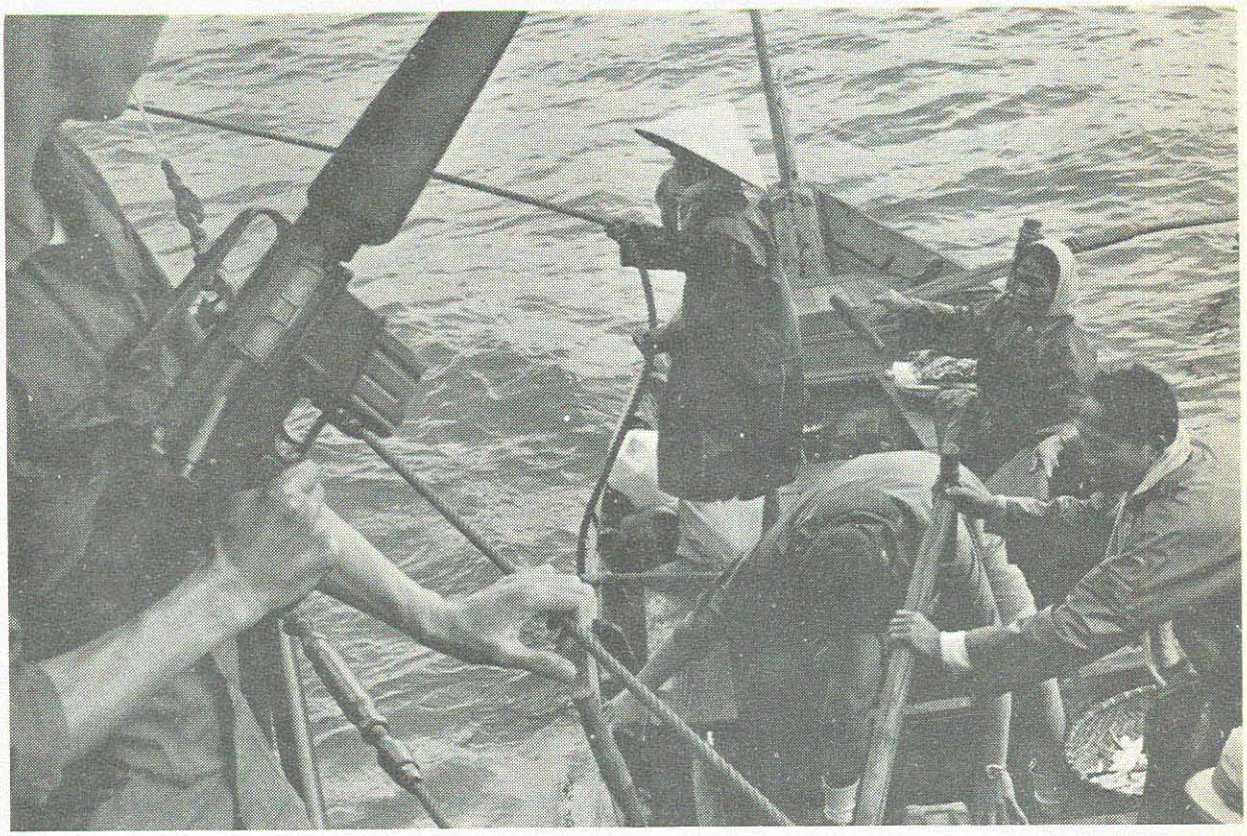

Friend or for? As part of their mission of coastal surveillance and counter-infiltration, U. S. Coast Guard cutter Point Arden checks a Vietnamese fishing boat for anything suspicious off the northern coast of the Republic of Vietnam.

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Operation Market Time

Gun damage assessment on the 573 naval gunfire support missions and SEA LORDS missions conducted during December was 43.4 percent. This was the highest monthly percentage of GDA recorded to date with the previous high being 42.3 percent in May 1969. The results of these missions were:

143 Viet Cong killed (82 body count, 61 probable).

16 Viet Cong wounded.

28 Viet Cong captured.

233 Junks/sampans destroyed.

16 Junks/sampans damaged.

423 Structures/bunkers destroyed.

148 Structures/bunkers damaged.

There were 10 incidents of evading craft and personnel reported during the month. They were taken under fire in all cases and resulted in 13 sampans destroyed and six VC killed and two VC wounded.

Detection of wood craft by Market Time surveillance units were 16,247 during December. Of these, 5,530 were inspected, and another 6,678 were boarded. Detection of steel hulled vessels in Market Time areas totaled 463, with 325 being inspected and 14 being boarded. This was the lowest number of detections to date with the previous low being recorded in November 1969. Adverse weather due to the northeast monsoon season in the First and Second Coastal Zones contributed to the low number of detections. In addition, the Vietnamese Navy assumed patrol of areas 1G and 2C. Vietnamese Market Time station detections are not reflected in these totals. (See Naval Advisory Group Summary for VNN statistics.)

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Three PCF's were chopped to Commander Task Group 194.4 on 3 December in reaction to intelligence of increased threat of enemy infiltration in the upper Bassac River area.

On 9 December, the USCGC PT ELLIS (WPB 82330) was turned over to the Vietnamese Navy at the Small Craft Repair Facility, Danang. The USCGC PT HUDSON (WPB 82322) and USCGC PT SLOCUM (WPB 82313) were turned over to the Vietnamese Navy in ceremonies on 11 December. The WPB's were renamed the LE QUANG THANH (HQ 705) and NGUYEN NGOC THACH (HQ 706) respectively.

On 20 December, four PCF's were chopped to Commander Task Group 115.4 (VNN) from CTG 115.3 to provide additional surveillance and firepower.

Captain D. E. Perkins, USCG relieved Captain Ralph W. Niesz, USCG, as Commander Coast Guard Activities, Vietnam on 16 December.

Commander Task Force 115 assumed the operational control of five MK III PCF's on 23 December.

On 29 December, 12 PCF's from the II and III Corps Tactical Zones were deployed to the IV Corps Tactical Zone in reaction to intelligence of enemy movement in the vicinity of Chau Doc/Cambodian Border/Vinh Te Canal and re-establishment of the coastal transshipment routes in the vicinity of the Three Sisters area north of the Rach Gia.

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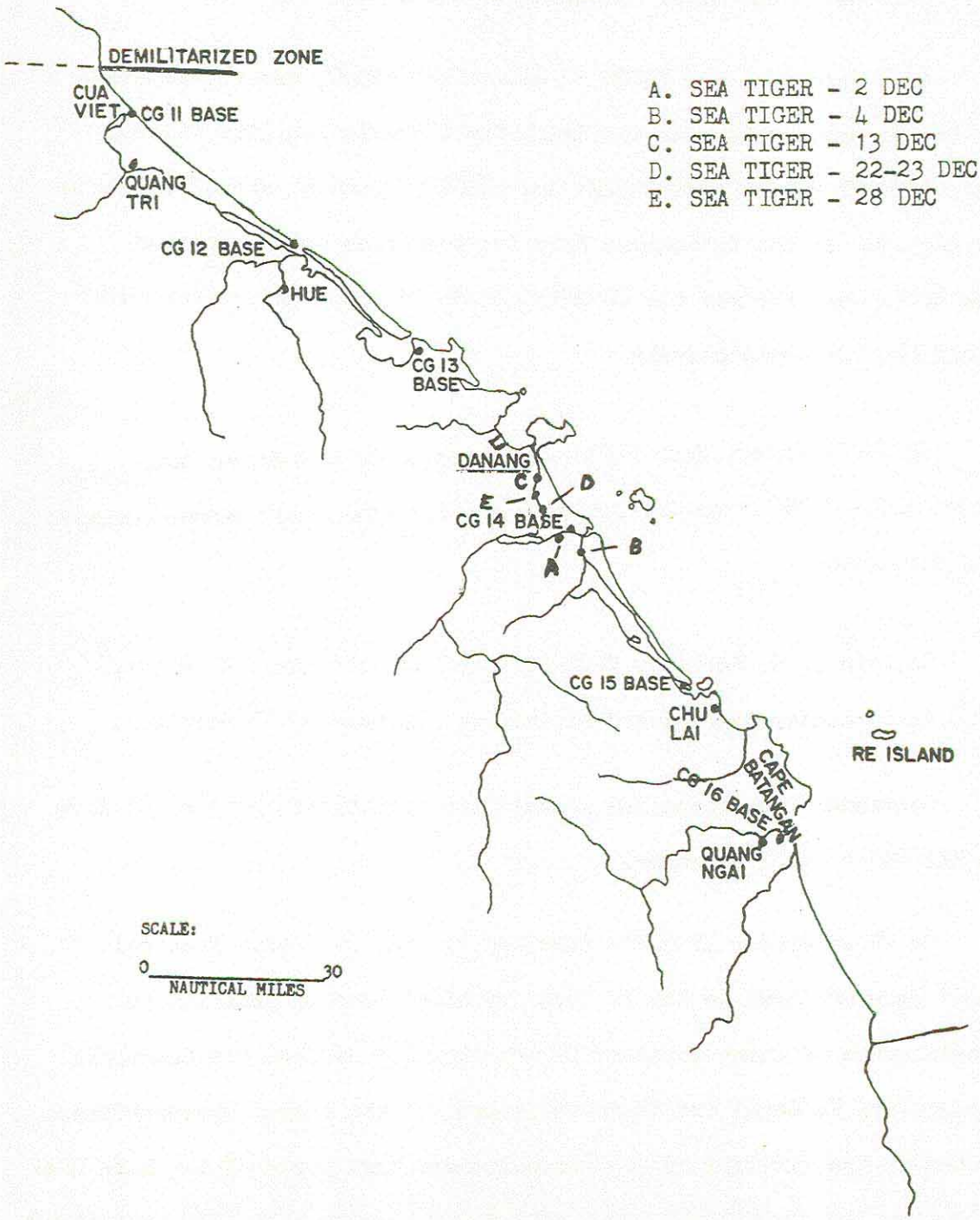
OPERATIONS IN THE FIRST COASTAL ZONE



A. SEA TIGER - 2 DEC
B. SEA TIGER - 4 DEC
C. SEA TIGER - 13 DEC
D. SEA TIGER - 22-23 DEC
E. SEA TIGER - 28 DEC

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Six PCF's were also chopped to Commander Task Group 194.4 to be utilized for coastal surveillance operations in areas 9F, 9G, and 9H under the operational control of Commander Task Group 115.4 (VNN).

All coastal surveillance forces observed the Christmas cease fire period from 241800H to 251800H December. There were no reported violations during the cease fire period.

An SL-6 class trawler was detected 183 miles off the coast of South Vietnam (FM 300 805) by Market Time aircraft at 1402H on 23 December. The trawler was on course 120 degrees true, speed 8 knots. The aircraft initiated continuous covert surveillance following identification. Commander Coastal Surveillance Force designated the contact 23F1. The USCGC HAMILTON (WHEC 715) was directed to proceed south remaining between the trawler and the coast. The contact continued tracking south toward the Singapore/Malacca straits; however, at 2000H on 29 December the trawler had not entered the Singapore/Malacca straits but was loitering in an area approximately 100 miles north of the Malacca straits. At month's end, covert surveillance of the trawler continued utilizing barrier aircraft.

First Coastal Zone

The northeast monsoon season continued to have it's effect on surveillance operations in the First Coastal Zone during December. There were 3,677 craft detected, 1,330 inspected, and another 1,359 boarded during the month. Surveillance results were high as over 70 percent of those craft detected were either inspected or boarded

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leading to the detention of 27 craft and 154 persons for lack of or faulty identification papers, draft dodgers, possession of contraband, having incorrect manifests, and violating restricted zones.

There were approximately 100 naval gunfire support and Sea Tiger missions conducted by the First Coastal Zone units. Gun damage assessment remained high as only 25 missions reported no damage observed due to darkness, heavy foliage, or no troops available to sweep the area. The PBR's of River Division 543 continued to operate in the Sea Tiger area of operations in those areas inaccessible to the "Swift" boats.

On the morning of 2 December, Underwater Demolition Team (UDT) 12, Detachment H, with Regional Force and Popular Force (RF/PF) troops providing security, conducted a Sea Tiger mission about one mile south of Hoi An (BT 140 556). The mission was to destroy bunkers along the Thu Bon River and was cleared by the Quang Nam Sector Advisor. During the operation, two secondary firing devices (SFD) were triggered by the security force resulting in seven men wounded. The six RF/PF men wounded were treated at Hoi An while the U.S. sailor wounded was treated at the 95th Medical Evacuation Hospital at Danang. There were 14 bunkers and one structure destroyed, and enemy casualties were unknown.

PBR's 47 and 95, with Lieutenant Jones as patrol officer, conducted a probe of the Ba Ren River between coordinates BT 143 519 and BT 070 499 in a Sea Tiger mission on the afternoon of 4 December.

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En route to the area, several sniper rounds were received; however, the PBR's and helo gunship providing cover were unable to return the fire. Several spider holes and trails were observed during the transit indicating a recent enemy presence. The boats and gunships took a sampan under fire that was traveling along the river bank under the cover of overhanging trees. Small arms fire was received from the treeline at this time but was quickly suppressed. In the same area, several sunken sampans and spider holes were sighted indicating a strong probability of an enemy crossing point. The river transit was completed taking targets of opportunity under fire resulting in five bunkers and seven sampans destroyed. There were no friendly casualties, and enemy casualties were unknown.

Patrol officers LTJG Holman and QMC (SS) Williams directed a Sea Tiger mission on the night of 13 December with PBR's 43, 67, 91 and 95 of River Division 543 about nine miles south of Danang (BT 056 625). A half hour after establishing a waterborne guardpost (WBGP), more than 40 armed personnel were sighted walking in a northerly direction on the west bank of the river. After confirming that there were no friendlies in the area, the PBR's took the personnel under fire. The boats then regrouped and made a slow firing run to the south and then cleared the area. There were fifteen enemy probably killed in the operation. In this same area, PBR's observed crossings on the four previous nights and made contact on three of those occasions killing three Viet Cong on 12 December. Enemy casualties on the other

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two nights were unknown, and on the other occasion, they were unable to take the enemy under fire due to friendlies in the area. There were no friendly casualties on any of these missions.

Sea Tiger forces conducted a bunker destruction mission on 22 and 23 December along the north and south banks of the Song Ba Ren about 16 miles south of Danang (BT 098 515). PBR's 43, 47, 59 and 91 provided a waterborne blocking force, and Regional force troops provided ground security while UDT 12, Det H, and EOD team 70 destroyed the bunkers. During the operation, a listing of dead VC was captured and turned over to COMRIVDIV 543 for further transfer to the Navy Intelligence Liaison Officer (NILO) at Hoi An. Two bodies were also found in one of the many fighting holes along the trail, and they were identified as VC by members of the Vietnamese security force. There were no papers on the bodies, and the numerous shrapnel wounds indicated they were killed by artillery rounds about 20-21 December. The area of the sweep revealed numerous well kept vegetable gardens although there was no contact with the enemy. Four of the RF troop were medevaced with wounds caused by booby traps. The two day operation resulted in two sampans, four structures, and 56 bunkers destroyed.

A Sea Tiger mission was conducted the night of 28 December when Patrol Officers LTJG Holman and BMC Turnbull established a waterborne guardpost with PBR's 59, 131, 67, and 43 on the Vinh Dien River about 11 kilometers northwest of Hoi An (BT 057 614). The PBR's of RIVDIV 543 observed approximately 30 personnel with large backpacks walking

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north along the western bank of the river. The PBR's opened fire with M-60, M-16, and M-79 mortars. A half hour later, 15 personnel were sighted 900 meters to the north and were taken under fire. An hour and a half later, ten additional personnel were sighted and taken under fire, and then the PBR's cleared the area and requested that artillery strikes be placed in the area. There were ten enemy killed in the operation, and there were no friendly casualties. This was the same general area in which large groups of personnel had been engaged by the PBR's on four separate occasions in the previous two weeks.

Second Coastal Zone

The northeast monsoon season continued to take its toll on the number of craft detected in the Second Coastal Zone by Market Time units. There were only 3,182 craft detected during December as compared to the 4,321 detected the previous month. Surveillance results remained high as over 83 percent of those detected were either boarded or inspected. There were 1,610 inspections and 1,029 boardings reported during the month resulting in the detention of two craft and 24 persons for lack of or faulty identification papers, curfew violation, incorrect or faulty manifest and restricted zone violations. In addition, there were 49 Viet Cong suspects detained.

There were approximately 25 naval gunfire support missions conducted during December in the Second Coastal Zone. Only two of the missions reported any gun damage assessment, and those were

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secondary explosions. The reasons for no GDA's was reported as no spotters available, darkness, or no troops available to sweep the area. As in previous months, enemy activity in the Second Coastal Zone has been extremely light. There were no significant results reported from the missions conducted.

Third Coastal Zone

The number of detections of craft in the Third Coastal Zone decreased to only 7,752 during December. Surveillance results were outstanding as 98 percent of the craft detected were either inspected or boarded. There were 2,972 inspections and 4,660 boardings which resulted in the detention of three craft and 41 persons for lack of or faulty identification, being suspected draft dodgers, and possession of contraband. The "Swift" boats of the Third Coastal Zone continued to patrol the lower Bassac and Co Chien Rivers in the Game Warden area of operations detecting 5,934 craft and inspecting 2,037 and boarding another 2,689. There were four craft and 11 persons detained.

There were approximately 200 naval gunfire support missions conducted during December in response to urgent requests for naval gunfire support, H and I, targets of opportunity, or in preplanned river and canal incursions.

PCF 37, LTJG Lanmon, USN, Commanding, in company with the PT GRACE (USCG WPB), embarked 40 PRU's on the morning of 1 December

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and inserted them about 22 miles south of My Tho (XR 605 942). The troops were to support PRU units already in the area and in contact with the Viet Cong. The units remained in the area throughout the day coordinating OV-10 air strikes. At 1830H, the PRU's were all extracted without incident. The days operation resulted in 21 Viet Cong confirmed killed, seven weapons and one pouch full of documents captured. Fifteen of the VC kills were attributed to OV-10 air strikes. There were three PRU troops killed and one wounded during the day.

In the afternoon of 11 December, in a preplanned operation, the PT MARONE (USCG WPB) and PT JEFFERSON (USCG WPB) conducted a probe of the Song Lang Chim, Rach Sau, and Song Dai Dum about 20 miles east of Tra Vinh (XR 730 720) taking targets of opportunity under fire. Three evading males and three beached sampans were taken under fire at one location and four males at another. The mission had sector clearance and standby air support. The WPB's destroyed eight sampans and four structures and heavily damaged three sampans, five bunkers, and one structure. There were no friendly casualties, and enemy casualties were unknown.

PCF's 59 and 37 picked up Kit Carson Scouts and a U.S. advisor for a mission on the night of 14-15 December about 18 miles southeast of Phu Vinh (XR 771 891). The troops were inserted at 2300H and then the "Swift" boats exited the canal and stoodby for support. Contact was made with the enemy about 0900H on the 15th which resulted in six Viet Cong killed and one VC platoon leader captured. PCF 59 extracted

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the troops while PCF 37 provided cover, and the units then exited the canal without further incident. There were no friendly casualties.

The PT MARONE (USCG WPB), LTJG W. C. HOYT, USCG, Commanding, was requested to provide a gunfire support mission on a troop concentration of approximately 150 Viet Cong about 20 miles southeast of Tra Vinh (XR 756 863) on the morning of 27 December. Firing at a range of from 1500 to 2100 yards, the WPB ignited five sustained fires and destroyed six structures, and there were four large secondary explosions. There were no friendly casualties and enemy casualties were unknown.

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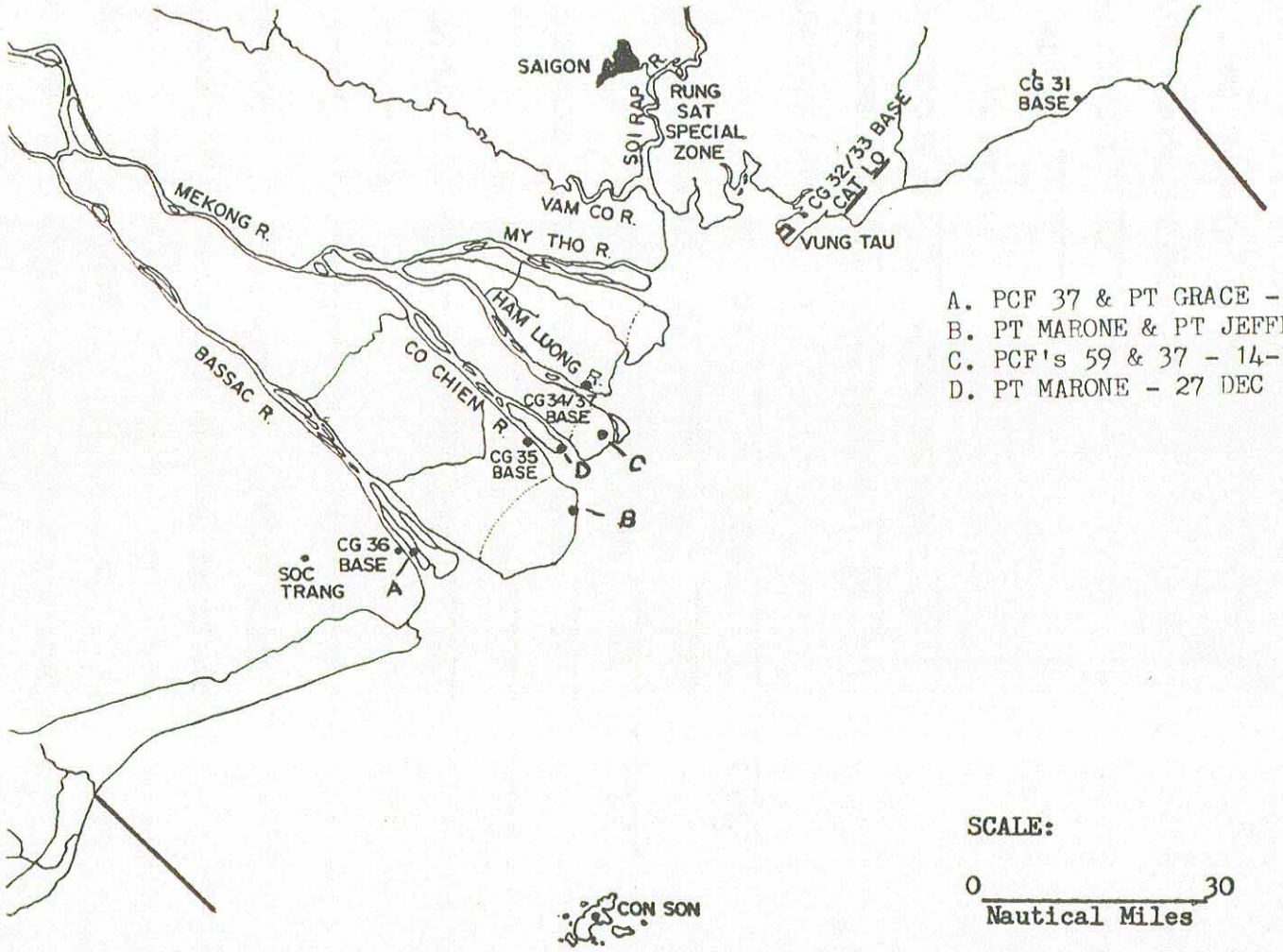
OPERATIONS IN THE THIRD COASTAL ZONE



A. PCF 37 & PT GRACE - 1 DEC
B. PT MARONE & PT JEFFERSON - 11 DEC
C. PCF's 59 & 37 - 14-15 DEC
D. PT MARONE - 27 DEC

SCALE:

0 _____ 30
Nautical Miles

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MARKET TIME
MONTHLY HISTORICAL SUMMARY
DECEMBER 1969

(1) Average No. U. S. ships/craft on patrol during month.

	MSO	MSC	WPB	PCF	LST	PG	WHEC
AVG	2	1	8	39	1	1	3

(2) Average No. VNN ships/junks employed during month.

	SEA FORCE	RIVER FORCE	COASTAL FORCE
TOTAL	39	296	191

(3) U.S. Activity:

TOTAL DETECTED	WOOD - DAY	14,448	NIGHT	1,799		
	STEEL - DAY	233	NIGHT	230	16,710	
TOTAL INSPECTED	WOOD - DAY	4,784	NIGHT	746		
	STEEL - DAY	163	NIGHT	162	5,855	
TOTAL BORDED	WOOD - DAY	6,342	NIGHT	336		
	STEEL - DAY	10	NIGHT	4	6,692	

(4) VNN Activity:

JUNKS SEARCHED 71,717 JUNKS DETAINED 65

PERSONS SEARCHED 243,703 PERSONS DETAINED 367

(5) U. S. Activity:

JUNKS DETAINED 78

PERSONS DETAINED 276

(6) STABLE DOOR STATISTICS:

No. of Junks detected 41,341

No. of Inspections 4,334

No. of Boardings 3,525

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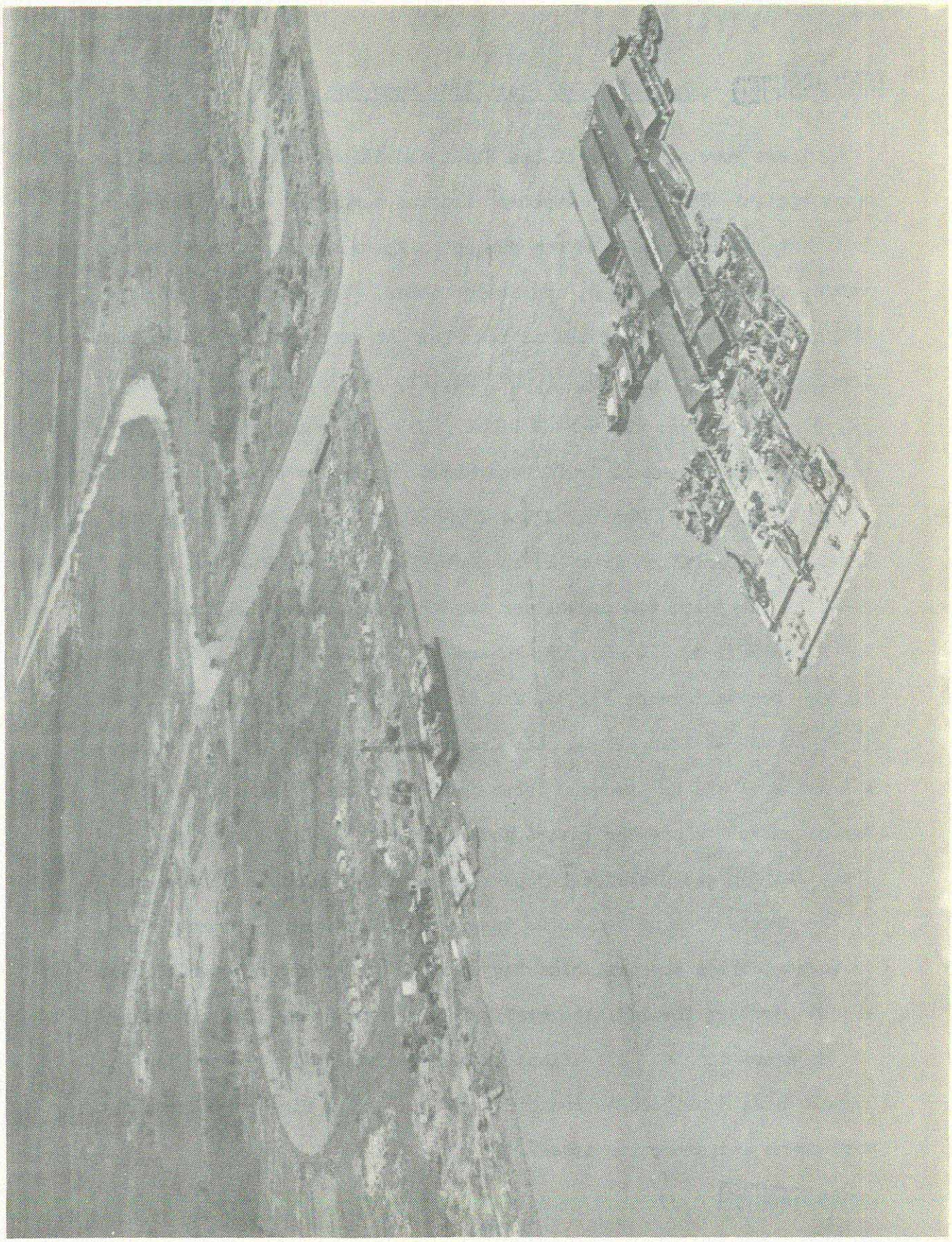

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Operation Sea Float/Tran Hung Dao III

There were more than 60 Sea Float and SEAL Team missions and approximately 250 gunfire support missions conducted during December, and they continued to maximize damage to known or suspected VC base camps, extortion stations, and secret zones. The following U.S. and VNN craft and units operated at Sea Float at various times throughout the month: PCF's 3, 5, 9, 18, 21, 22, 27, 35, 36, 40, 45, 46, 50, 51, 52, 56, 93, and 96; USS VERNON COUNTY (LST 1161); and USS GALLUP (PG 85); Sea Float River Assault Craft Detachment consisting of ATC's 4, 9 and 13; ASPB's 2 and 3; Monitor 2 and Zippo 2; SEAL Team Detachment Golf; Underwater Demolition Team 12; an Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team; a Duffel Bag Team; two Seawolves; two OV-10's; Slicks; LSM's 401, 403 and 404; PCF's 03, 04, 05, 06, 10 and 11; LSSL's HQ 225, HQ 231, and HQ 29; Coastal Groups 33, 35, and 36; a VNN POLWAR Team; a VNN reaction Team; ROP MUPAC Team VNN 05; Kit Carson Scouts; MST TWO; RF troops; VNN Rangers; and RD troops. These forces conducted day and night Psyops patrols along the rivers and canals of the Sea Float operating area. Air assets provided Psyops missions in those areas inaccessable to the craft. The afloat units inserted and extracted ground forces, provided gunfire support, blocking forces, waterborne guardposts, and escort services for logistic craft along the Bo De and Cua Lon Rivers and adjacent canals. All afloat units and the Mobile Advance Tactical Support Base continued to conduct nightly H and I fire into known VC base camps and extortion areas.

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Viet Cong banners were found along the banks of the rivers and canals stating that those people who rally to the government would be killed by the VC.

In an informal ceremony on 1 December, administrative responsibility for the No Fire Zone (NFZ) community was turned over to Dai Uy Hy, the Nam Can District Chief. The village was divided into two hamlets, Tran Hung Dao I and Tran Hung Dao II, and separate plans for the organization and development have been developed. Ultimately there will be a single village with a village chief, and in the village will be the two hamlets each with its own hamlet chief.

CDR J. M. White, USN, COMNAVFORV PAO, and seven news media representatives visited Sea Float on 7 December and were briefed on the concept of operations and were given a tour of the Sea Float Annex.

Sea Float was visited by Vice Admiral E. R. Zumwalt, Jr., USN, COMNAVFORV; Commodore Tran Van Chon, VNN CNO; MGEN Dzu, ARVN, J3, JGS; and MGEN Bautz, J3, MACV, on 9 December. The party was briefed on Sea Float operations, Solid Anchor, and on the progress and scheduled future development of the hamlets Tran Hung Dao I and Tran Hung Dao II followed by a walking tour of the Solid Anchor base site and perimeter. They then traveled by PCF to the Annex where they toured the area, met the village chief, and visited the newly opened school where about 200 children were singing Vietnamese songs. MGEN Dzu and MGEN Bautz were impressed with the success of the Sea Float/Tran Hung Dao III operations and especially with the obvious

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success of the Psyops/pacification efforts as evidenced by the number of hootches and people and the amount of junk and sampan traffic at the village.

The Senior Advisor from An Xuyen visited Sea Float on 11 December, and discussed the problems experienced with the RF and RD troops in the Annex village.

On 13 December, Captain E. M. Saunders, CEC, USN, COMNAVFORV Force Engineer, visited the Solid Anchor Base and was briefed on the operation and progress.

RADM Robert E. Adamson, Jr., USN, prospective Commander Naval Support Activity, Danang and party were briefed on the Sea Float concepts, operations, and achievements, and were given a tour of the Solid Anchor Base and Tran Hung Dao I hamlet on 14 December.

On 16 December, Sea Float enjoyed another first with the birth of a baby aboard. At last report the seven pound girl and mother were both doing fine.

Admiral John S. McCain, Jr., USN, Commander in Chief Pacific, Vice Admiral E. R. Zumwalt, Jr., USN, and Rear Admiral J. L. Butts, USN, Aide and Executive Assistant to CINPAC, visited Sea Float on 20 December. CINCPAC addressed the USN/VNN officers and men at Sea Float and Solid Anchor.

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The construction of the Solid Anchor Base continued during December with the placing of retaining walls for the ammi pier, building bunkers, improving the camp area, constructing watch towers, and tree clearing along the perimeter. The number of Seabees assigned to Solid Anchor decreased to 21 with the departure of the 11 men of Detail GOLF for Saigon on 3 December.

On the afternoon of 30 November, SEAL Team One, Detachment GOLF, departed Sea Float via a U.S. Army Slick, on a mission to capture a reported Province Finance and Economy Chief meeting with three VC guerrilla security force members about 13 kilometers northeast of Sea Float (WQ 086 795). The Slick landed on top of a hootch, and the personnel exited by sliding down the roof of the hootch. The roof of the hootch collapsed, and the helo went out of control, crashing on top of the hootch, and burrying some of the SEAL's. The helo door gunner and other SEAL's that had gotten free of the wreckage pulled the buried members out. They then patrolled out to the landing zone, 100 meters to the east, where a Seawolf picked up the pilot of the crashed helo. A muster of personnel was taken at this time, and it was discovered that HM1 Wolfe was missing. The patrol leader and two SEAL's returned to the scene and searched the wreckage and found one wounded VC, several other dead VC, and the body of HM1 Wolfe. A make-shift stretcher was made and the group then returned to the landing zone where they were extracted by a Slick and returned to Sea Float. HM1 (DV)(PJ) Richard Ogden Wolfe, USN, was killed, LTJG

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Charles S. Prouty, USN, and GMG3 (DV)(PJ) Loren E. Decker, USN, were wounded (possible broken arms). There was one VC wounded, one VC captured, and five VC killed.

At 1300H on 4 December, U.S. PCF's 50, 56, VNN PCF 05, an LSSL with Seawolves providing air cover were conducting a Psyops patrol on the Song Dam Doi about 25 kilometers northwest of Sea Float when they were ambushed by an unknown number of VC with B-40, AK-47, and M-16 fire. The Seawolves and LSSL responded with saturation fire into the area and silenced the enemy fire. A VNN reaction team was inserted, and a ground sweep resulted in the capture of two twin B-40 rocket launchers, two entrenching tools, wire, and batteries. The three PCF's received moderate damage. RD3 Martin S. Doherty, USN, and BM1 Don E. Stevenson, USN, were killed, and LTJG Patrick L. Evans, USN, LTJG Robert S. White, USNR, En2 John R. Phillips, USN, BM3 Roy D. White, USN, and QM3 Thomas R. Terfehr, USN were wounded. Two members of the VNN reaction team also received minor wounds.

The following day, a mission was conducted in the area of the ambush with PCF's 40, 93, and 27, LSSL 231, a monitor, ATC-13, Zippo 2 with two platoons of VNN rangers, EOD, UDT, and a VNN reaction force. The PCF's set up a blocking force at the junction of the Song Dam Doi and Song Bo Be. Following a beach prep, the troops were inserted in two elements. The troops swept south and found three bunkers and hootch complexes with inter connecting trails. One large complex could accommodate approximately 300 people and had new bunkers

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and hootches, and punji stakes were being made. The ground troops destroyed the bunkers and hootches, and then Seawolves placed strikes in the area. The troops were extracted at 1300H without making contact and returned to Sea Float. There were 35 sampans, 44 structures, 23 bunkers, 65 water caches, two tons of food, 500 pounds of men's clothing and various rounds of small arms ammunition destroyed. In addition, 25 structures were not destroyed, but five kilos of documents were captured. There were no friendly casualties during the operation.

There were nine Viet Cong killed in a SEAL mission on 11 December about 12 miles northwest of Old Nam Can (VQ 770 890). The SEALS were inserted by sampan, and enemy contact was made immediately. The enemy fire was suppressed by the SEALS and Seawolves. They then patrolled to the target area and captured 15 kilos of enemy documents, six kilos of grenades, and assorted medical supplies. There were four structures and one sampan destroyed. There were no friendly casualties.

The USCGC CHASE (WHEC-718) responded to a call fire mission in support of the 21st ARVN Division on 13 December, about 38 miles north of the Song Ong Doc (VR 848 703). The five inch guns of the Song Ong Doc naval gunfire support ship destroyed two structures and five bunkers and heavily damaged three bunkers, five structures, and three sampans.

A SEAL and Kit Carson Scout mission to capture a province

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level cadre, about 7.5 kilometers northwest of Dong Can (VQ 943 738), was conducted on 19 December. Based on Kit Carson Scout intelligence, the SEAL's were inserted by Slick with Seawolves providing air cover. They patrolled 700 meters to the objective area where they came under small arms fire. In the return fire, four Viet Cong were killed. The patrol continued to the base camp and destroyed it. They then moved from the area via sampans and were extracted by PCF's 3 and 35 for return to Sea Float. There were 15 structures destroyed and six sampans, one 4 HP motor, two kilos of documents, one CHICOM carbine, one M1 U.S. carbine, and various small arms ammunition captured. There were no friendly casualties.

An air strike by Seawolves was conducted for the Hai Yen district chief on 21 December about 12 miles northwest of Sea Float (VQ 807 723). The Seawolves were credited with 12 Viet Cong killed including one province level finance and economy cadre and one military affairs advisor.

Acting on Kit Carson Scout (KCS) intelligence, a SEAL mission was scheduled on 22 December to capture a local guerilla force and district level cadre about six kilometers north of Sea Float (WQ 012 733). Twelve KCS and two SEALS departed Sea Float via LSSC and proceeded up the Kinh Ngang canal. They noticed footprints along the bank indicating recent VC movement. They were inserted and patrolled 500 meters to the north where they established a listening post at 1400H. At 1630H, a sampan with four males entered the listening post area and was taken under fire. Heavy enemy

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return fire was received from the east. The unit was then extracted and Seawolves placed four strikes into the area and received heavy automatic weapons fire. PCF's 52 and 96 were scrambled and placed 81mm mortar fire into the area. As the swift boats were returning to Sea Float, a sampan was searched which contained one clip of AK ammunition and one U.S. fragmentation grenade. The sampan was returned to Sea Float for inspection by the EOD team. OV-10, Black Ponies were called in and placed strikes on the area. They did not receive any enemy fire or observe any damage. There were five VC killed and one VC captured in the operation, and one sampan was destroyed and one captured. There were no friendly casualties.

SEAL Team One, detachment Golf, LTJG Flanagan, and seven SEALS conducted a mission to capture village level personnel about 11 kilometers east of Old Nam Cam (WQ 108 687) early on the morning of 28 December. The SEAL's were inserted along the Song Cua Lon via LSSC and patrolled 1800 meters to the south where a sampan with two males was spotted and taken under fire. Following the destruction of the sampan, the SEAL's called for extraction and were returned to Sea Float. There were two VC killed, and one sampan destroyed, and two kilos of important documents captured. The documents revealed that the two VC killed were a village level security chief and a tax extortionist. The initial readout of the documents revealed information concerning VC tactical movements in the Sea Float area of operations, including a proposed plan of attack on Sea Float on 25 December. There were no friendly

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casualties in the operation.

On 31 December, Seawolves took camouflaged sampans under fire in the Sea Float area of operations about 2 miles north of the Sea Float Annex (WQ 083 732). The airstrike resulted in nine sampans destroyed. Later the same day, the Seawolves took targets of opportunity under fire at the request of the Hai Yen sub-sector advisor about 9 miles northwest of Sea Float (VQ 933 790). This mission resulted in the destruction of five structures and two VC killed. There were no friendly casualties in this operation.

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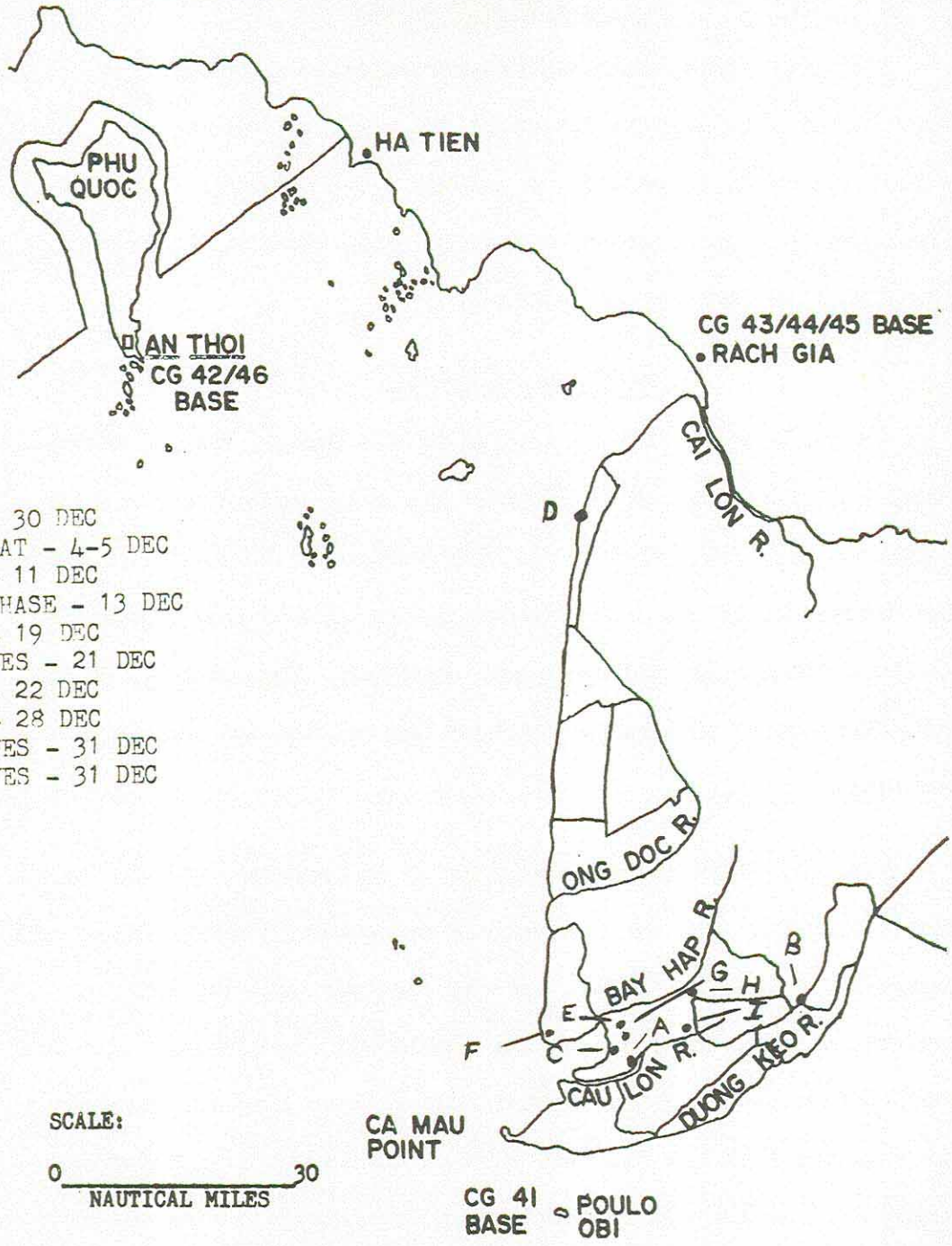
OPERATION SEA FLOAT/TRAN HUNG DAO III
SOLID ANCHOR

OPERATIONS IN THE FOURTH COASTAL ZONE



A. SEALS - 30 DEC
B. SEA FLOAT - 4-5 DEC
C. SEALS - 11 DEC
D. USCGC CHASE - 13 DEC
E. SEALS - 19 DEC
F. SEAWOLVES - 21 DEC
G. SEALS - 22 DEC
H. SEALS - 28 DEC
I. SEAWOLVES - 31 DEC
J. SEAWOLVES - 31 DEC

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Operation Stable Door

Due to slightly improved weather conditions in December, Stable Door forces were able to detect 41,341 craft in the harbors. There were 4,334 craft inspected and another 3,525 boarded. Patrol units continued to support ground operations with blocking forces and the landing of reconnaissance patrols.

Unit ONE - Vung Tau

On 13 December, LST 38 advised Harbor Control that a Vietnamese woman was discovered on board while the ship was transiting from Saigon to Vung Tau. Picket 26, with a National Policeman on board, was dispatched to the LST. Meanwhile the LST had sent a small boat to the customs pier with the woman embarked. The National Police were notified by the Harbor Entrance Control and met the LST boat at the pier.

LCPL 52, while inspecting junks on 16 December, was struck by Junk VT276NTDC. The Junk backed off and returned to Ben Dinh. Since damage to LCPL 52 was minor, and the junk was underway with no apparent damage, the incident was considered closed until Unit ONE was notified by the Third Coastal Zone Advisor that the junk owner was claiming that the junk was sunk on the spot and intended to submit a claim for 200,000 piasters. Investigation revealed that the junk had not sunk, and an inspection on 18 December revealed the following damage: three square feet of planking torn from the port side of the bow and planking sprung away from the port side. All

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strength bulkheads appeared in good condition. There were 3/4 inch holes which allows water to drain aft through compartments framed by these bulkheads. The owner stated that the junk did not sink but filled with water. A claim for damages is being forwarded by the Vietnamese Navy Military Assistance Command Coordinator, Vung Tau. An investigation is being conducted by Unit ONE and the Third Coastal Zone Advisor.

The SS EVERGREEN STATE located 185 miles from Vung Tau, informed the Harbor Entrance Control Post on 21 December, that they were returning to Vung Tau and requested medical assistance for a man with a severely injured back. HECP attempted to arrange a helicopter MEDEVAC but there was none available. Picket 29, with a 345th Medical Dispensary corpsman embarked, met the EVERGREEN STATE at the harbor entrance and took the injured man aboard. He was transferred to an ambulance on the pier for further transfer to the hospital.

Unit TWO - Cam Ranh Bay

Skimmer 10 while on normal patrol on 1 December found a junk (CR 440 NT/KDC) half submerged 100 yards north of the generator ships. Picket 51 searched the junk while skimmer 10 searched the generator ships and surrounding area with negative results. Due to the shallow water, LCPL 37 towed the junk to the Vietnamese Police Pier where it was turned over to Vietnamese authorities.

On 1 December, Stable Door Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team reported their skimmer was sinking at pier 5. LCPL 66 was dispatched

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to the scene and took one person from the skimmer and then secured it alongside. Two other crewmen were picked up off pier 5 and were taken to the Market Time base. The screw of the LOMA VICTORY had caught the towing pad of the skimmer and started to pull the boat around the screw between the rudder and keel. Damages to the skimmer included a two-foot section on the port side, windshield ripped off, piping bent, and the towing pad ripped off. It was estimated it would take one week to repair the damage. There were no personnel injuries and no equipment lost.

Junk 49 II DC, while enroute to Cam Ranh Bay on 2 December, was stopped for a routine board and search by LCPL 66. The LCPL found 79 cartons and 249 packages of Salem and Kool cigarettes. Since no one claimed the cigarettes they were confiscated and turned over to the Maritime Police.

On 5 December, the HECP received a call from Unit TWO Harbor Patrol Element that automatic weapons fire was heard in the vicinity of Old Cam Ranh Village. The Joint Defense Operational Control (JDOC) and Unit TWO were notified. The Naval Support Facility Security assigned two men to remain overnight to guard the area. There were no further incidents reported.

A concussion grenade exploded on board LCPL 37 on the night of 13 December, injuring GMGSN R. J. Wourinen, 796 01 81, USN. He was taken to the 394th Dispensary where he was reported in fair condition with fragmentation wounds over most of his body and third degree

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burns over 50% of his upper body. Wourinen was subsequently transferred to the Air Force Hospital for further treatment. There was only moderate damage to LCPL 37. An investigation revealed that the grenade, instead of having a short fuse as originally believed, had been dropped in the boat.

A SEALAND trailer fell off the south side of pier 4 at 0750H on 14 December, and the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team was requested to assist in retrieving it. The EOD team secured lines to the trailer, and it was successfully lifted to the pier.

On the night of 17 December, a possible swimmer/sapper was sighted by a guard on the generator ships. LCPL's 39 and 23 searched the area and EOD personnel inspected the hulls and anchor chains of all ships in the harbor. The operation was secured two hours later with negative results.

On the morning of 24 December, 40-50 U.S. Army personnel had been causing trouble in Cam Ranh Bay Village and had barricaded themselves in the dependent housing area. Two of the soldiers were apprehended and stated they were expecting a boat load of weapons and ammunition. Unit TWO set up a blockade on the harbor side of the village at the request of the Provost Marshall. Eight Vietnamese Navy SEAL team personnel with various explosive and three U.S. soldiers in two rubber life rafts were apprehended. They stated they were going to the village to purchase cigarettes. During the blockade 25

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junks were boarded and searched with negative results. Unit TWO boats put several personnel on the beach to assist in guarding the perimeter at the south end of the village. The blockade ceased at 0900H on 27 December with the mutual agreement of all concerned.

Unit THREE - Qui Nhon

On 5 December, guards on Hill 133 spotted three personnel cutting through the perimeter wire on the south side. The Qui Nhon Tactical Operational Commander advised that there were no friendlies in the area and granted permission to use 81mm illumination. About that time a trip flare was sighted and permission was granted to place M-79 fire in the vicinity of the burning flare. Personnel from Hill 131 swept the area and found a cave located near the wash out close to the water line at the bottom of Hill. They recovered one sandal, two bamboo stretchers, and one stick with a white flag attached.

Two U.S. Army Mike boats were returning to the fuel piers on 9 December when one lost steering control and brushed against the minesweepers tied up at the piers, bending the sweep gear of MSB 47. The Mike boat continued around until it hit LCPL 38, tied outboard of Picket 88. LCPL 38 received minor scratches and Picket 88 had the forward port cleat pulled out of the deck. The driver stated that he had reported faulty steering problem to his maintenance unit (1098th Transportation Command) and was told that nothing could be done that night. The Commanding Officer and Maintenance Officer agreed to repair the damaged gear. No further problems were anticipated.

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While burning the perimeter on 13 December, the wind changed direction and the fire blew back into RM3 S. W. Harrison's face causing second degree burns. He was taken to the NSAD Qui Nhon sick bay and later MEDEVACTED to Japan. It was believed that the incident could have been prevented had diesel oil been used and lighted by a safe procedure. Action has been taken to insure that all personnel are aware of and use proper safety procedures when burning.

Skimmers 29 and 89 while on inner harbor patrol on 15 December stopped a junk proceeding from Hi Minh to Qui Nhon. There were 20 Vietnamese in the junk and five of them had M-1 carbines and no identification cards. They claimed to be Hai Minh Defense Personnel and were escorting the bodies of two villagers killed in action by the VC/NVA on the night of 14 December. They were detained and turned over to the U.S. Navy Intelligence Liaison Officer and Vietnamese Police. The Hai Minh Village Chief identified them and requested that they be released. The serial numbers of the weapons were checked, and then they were released.

The Hai Minh Village Chief stated that he had knowledge that Viet Cong/North Vietnamese Army personnel would be coming into his village on the night of 15 December and requested assistance in setting up defenses. Later that night approximately 25 VC/NVA penetrated the perimeter to gather food, clothing, medicine and weapons. During the ensuing firefight, two villagers were killed and one wounded. There were no known enemy casualties. It was learned through a meeting

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with the Hamlet Chief and leaders of the Popular Self Defense Force that 12-25 VC/NVA entered Hai Minh village every night at approximately the same location and they were believed to be holed up in caves on the Phuoc Mai Peninsula. Until this time, the village had not reported this enemy contact and no U.S. or Allied force had any knowledge of this enemy activity. The village Chief was requested to notify Unit THREE of any Viet Cong infiltration, and arrangements were made that they would signal the HECP by the use of hand held flares.

On 18 December, while conducting diving operations in the inner harbor, Unit THREE's EOD Team heard grenades going off and they immediately surfaced and were picked up by the EOD boat. A U.S. Army PBR was sighted in the vicinity, but it could not be determined if the grenades came from the PBR or generator ships. Normal procedures require that the HECP be notified prior to grenade drops, which in this case had not been done. U.S. Army personnel were contacted, and they indicated that proper measures would be taken to prevent reoccurrence of such incidents.

On 25 December, Unit THREE was informed that four bodies were floating in the water and that one sampan was sighted. The SEA COBRAS searched the area thoroughly with negative results.

The village chief of Hai Minh Village informed Unit THREE that the Viet Cong had entered the village on 28 December and had taken food and gasoline. The SEA COBRAS were requested to check the area above the village. Signs of recent activity were found but there was no contact with the enemy.

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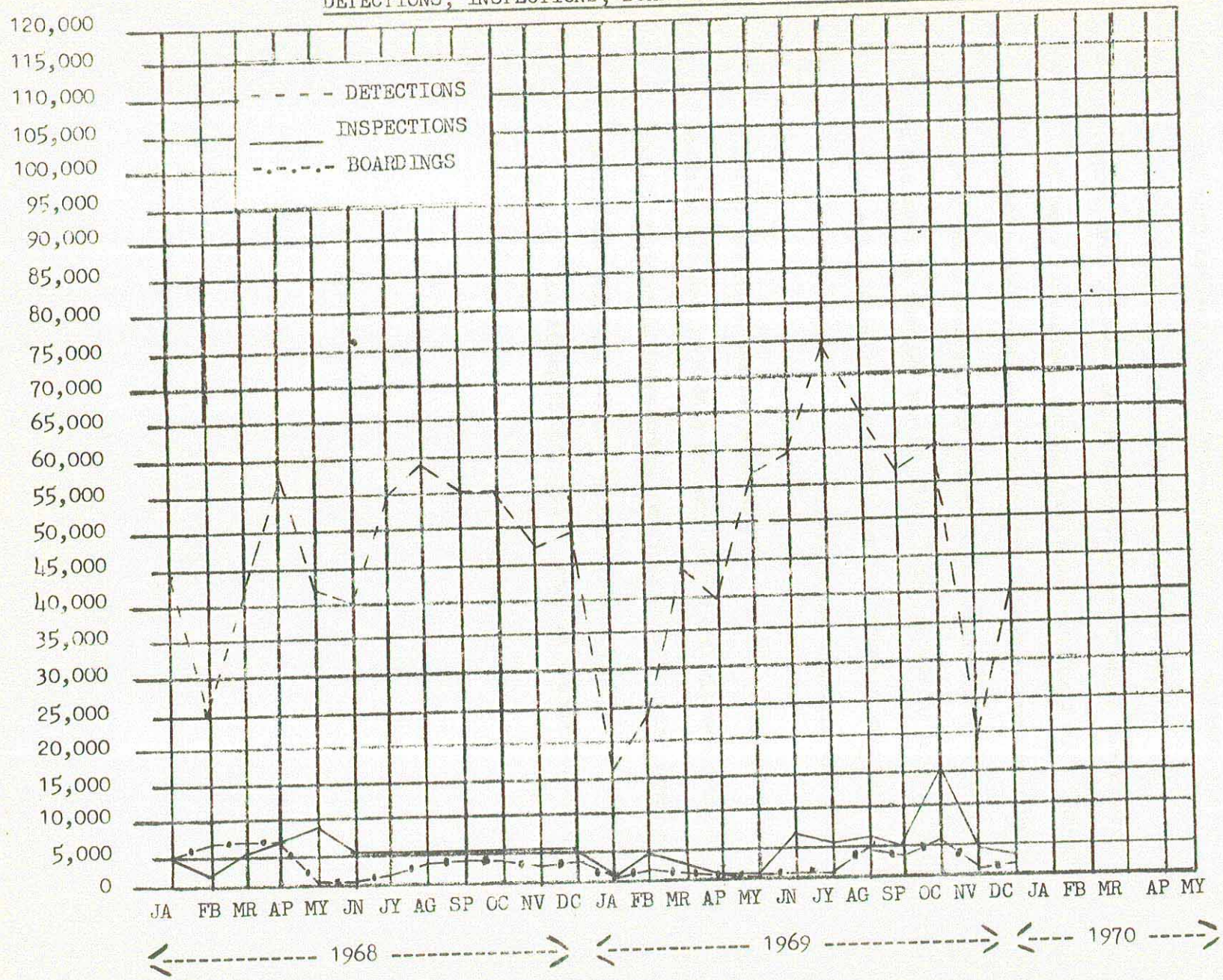
Unit FOUR - Nha Trang

On the evening of 11 December, post three observed four persons moving up the side of the hill adjacent to the perimeter. The area was immediately illuminated by Unit FOUR, and the U.S. Army compound above Unit FOUR also provided illumination. Skimmers 25 and 74 reported sighting two people running down the road toward Truong Dong Village. The skimmers were unable to take them under fire due to the location of the village. LCPL 42 and Skimmer 25 remained on station near the entrance to the South River throughout the night, but no further movement was sighted.

On 28 December, Skimmer 28 spotted a swimmer with two floating objects approximately 200 yards from the FINNAMORE VALLEY, a United Kingdom Cargo Ship. The swimmer was apprehended along with a large sack of corn meal and a plastic bag of non-fat dry milk and turned over to the Vietnamese National Police for disposition.

DETECTIONS, INSPECTIONS, BOARDINGS BY STABLE DOOR UNITS



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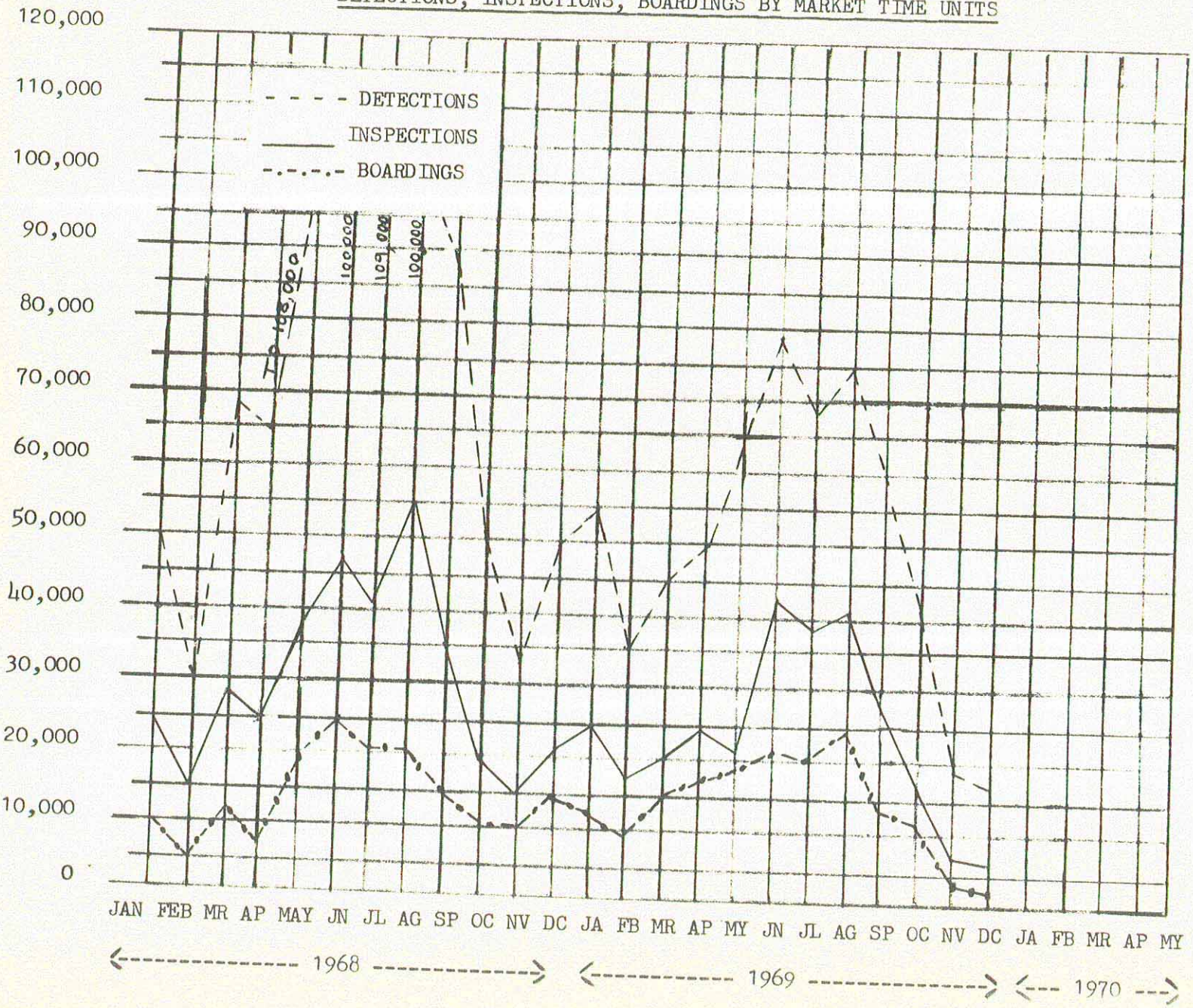
DETECTIONS, INSPECTIONS, BOARDINGS BY MARKET TIME UNITS



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Market Time Assets

The following reflects the distribution of U.S. Market Time assets as of 27 December:

Danang	PCF	WPB	PBR
	13	PT LOMAS	43
	15	PT ARDEN	47
	39	PT WELCOME	59
	69	PT YOUNG	67
	70	PT ORIENT	91
	75	PT KENNEDY	95
	78	PT DUME	114
	80	PT MAST	131
	99		
	101		

Cam Ranh Bay	PCF	PG
	62	USS CROCKETT PG-88
	79	USS GALLUP PG-85
	81	

Vung Tau	PCF	WPB
	6	PT CYPRESS
	20	PT GRACE
	21	PT CAUTION
	24	PT MARONE
	28	PT GREY
	32	PT PARTRIDGE

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	46	PT JEFFERSON
	48	PT WHITE
	53	PT BANKS
	54	
	59	
	60	
	63	
	71	
	74	
	87	
	92	
	97	
	98	
	102	
	103	
An Thoi		
	PCF	
	3	45
	5	50
	9	51
	12	52
	17	55
	18	56
	22	64
	25	72
	27	82
	31	88
	35	89

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36	90
37	93
38	94
40	96

Plus 5 unnumbered MK-3 PCF's

Units in overhaul

PCF	WPB
10	PT PARTRIDGE
61	PT CAUTION
65	PT WELCOME
73	PT KENNEDY
95	

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RIVER PATROL FORCE SUMMARY

The River Patrol Forces continued their mission of maintaining naval superiority on the inland waterways as assigned in the III and IV Corps Tactical Zones and on the Cua Viet and the Perfume Rivers in the I Corps Tactical Zone throughout the month of December.

Assets during the month included eight ASPB's, two Boston Whalers, one Zippo, ten PBR's, one LCPL, four LSSC's, one LCM, seven MSB's, and four UH-1B's. Twenty Vietnamese Navy PBR's augmented the U.S. River Patrol Force operations. The River Patrol Forces were supported in their operations by Light Helicopter Fire Teams (LHFT) and Fixed Wing Tactical Aircraft (OV-10A's). River Patrol Forces also supported SEAL operations, Regional and Popular Forces ground operations, EOD activities, and conducted continuing Psyops missions at the direction of the operational commander assigned.

The River Patrol boats (PBR's) conducted 900 day and 1,382 night missions in two boat patrols during the month. The Assault Support Patrol Boats, in two boat patrols, conducted 700 day and 867 night missions.

The Seawolves in support of the River Patrol Forces, in two plane HAFT's, reacted on calls, placed 169 strikes, and flew 1,283 missions. The Bronco aircraft, in two plane LAFT's placed 54 reaction strikes, and flew 154 support missions while in support of the River Patrol Forces.

Enemy casualties inflicted by the River Patrol Forces for the month were 434 killed, 399 probably killed, 51 wounded, and 60 captured. Joint actions with helicopter aircraft accounted for 78 enemy killed. OV-10A strikes in support of River Patrol Forces resulted in 269 enemy killed.

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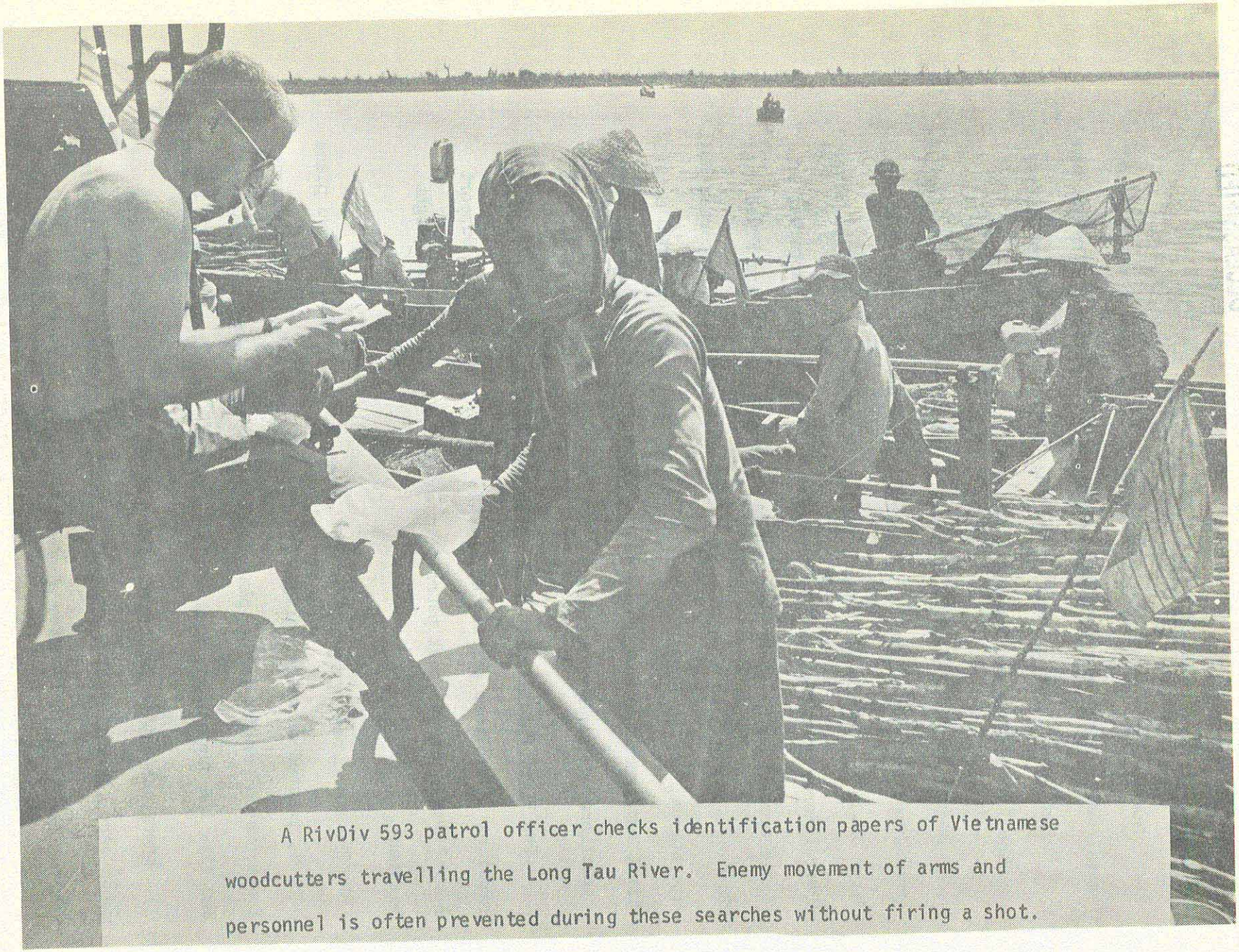

A RivDiv 593 patrol officer checks identification papers of Vietnamese woodcutters travelling the Long Tau River. Enemy movement of arms and personnel is often prevented during these searches without firing a shot.

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Clearwater Operations

Task Force Clearwater is tasked with providing security for waterborne logistic craft on the Cua Viet River and Perfume River LOC's and denying the use of navigable waterways in I CTZ to the enemy. Commander Task Force Clearwater is physically housed aboard NSAD Cua Viet and controls the Dong Ha River Security Group operating from Cua Viet and the Hue River Security Group operating from Mobile Support Base ONE at Tan My.

Dong Ha River Security Group consists of River Division 521 Det A (6 PBR's); 8 boat LCPL detachment from NSAD Cua Viet, 5 boat LCM-6's (minesweep configured) detachment from NSAD Cua Viet, Mine Division 113 Detachment C (5 MSM's),and Mine Division 112 Detachment 1 (2 MSB's). He River Security Group consists of River Division 521 (-) (6 PBR's), and a 6 boat LCM-6 (minesweep configured) detachment from NSAD Tan My.

The enemy, and primarily the 126th Naval Sapper Regiment, continues to try to interdict the Cua Viet LOC. River Patrols were in contact with enemy units on the river banks 12 times. Six mines were detonated in the river, one sinking a PBR and killing a sailor, and 4 mines were recovered. Additionally, 2 limpet mines were detonated on the YOG 76, sinking it in the Cua Viet River. Two of the recovered mines were complete, and had malfunctioned, one due to a faulty component and the other due to operator error. These mines were restored to operating condition and used in field tests, to determine the most effective sweep methods and safe speeds for craft operating in the river. Mines

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were then forwarded to other research and training facilities for further exploitation.

No attempt was made to interdict the Perfume LOC. Patrol of the LOC is gradually being turned over to the Vietnamese Navy RAG-32, stationed in Hue. Patrol units were used primarily to block known or suspected enemy crossing points and deny the enemy the use of the waterway. PBR's have been effective in intercepting several rice collection teams and VCI traveling in the area. They provide blocking force for ground forces conducting cordon and search operations, and insert/support/extract ground units in remote areas. PBR's have engaged the enemy 12 times resulting in 3 VC KIA and 1 USN WIA (minor). One PBR was damaged when 2 fragmentation grenades exploded in the stern of the boat.

Minesweepers operate on both LOC's while open to logistic craft. The sweep of the Perfume LOC consists of a wire cutting chain drag, operated along each river bank to neutralize command detonated mines, and a periodic sweep for magnetic-acoustic influence mines. The sweep of the Cua Viet LOC consists of the following:

Detonation of one pound United Kingdom Scare Charges in a pre-determined pattern in the Cua Viet turning basin and along the river to Dong Ha.

Magnetic-acoustic influence sweep with MSB's through the turning basin and along the entrance channel to sea.

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Two LCM-6 and two MSM sweeps cover the Cua Viet turning basin and round trip to Dong Ha with:

Four chain drags.

Two bottom catenaries.

One top catenary.

M 1B/A 2G Magnetic-acoustic sweep.

These sweeps are all completed prior to opening the LOC to logistic craft. Additionally, wire cutting chain drags are operated at random times along the river banks during the day.

No logistic craft or cargo has been lost on either LOC during this quarter. The Cua Viet River was closed one day to unnecessary traffic due to non-availability of scare charges and the entrance channel was closed two days during a high mining threat period due to inability of MSB's to sweep. Entrance channel was also closed one time for 3 hours to investigate a possible mining attempt. At all other times the LOC's have been open to normal logistic traffic.

Two MSM's are outfitted with a mine hunting sonar attachment, called Shadowgraph, which is being evaluated for use in the muddy rivers of Vietnam. Although this equipment in its present non-tactical configruation is not suited for operating in mined waters, it represents a significant potential for future minesweep developments.

Enemy activity continues to follow established patterns on the Cua Viet River where most of the activity involves the mining of this LOC. The enemy in this area are highly trained sappers. Their

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supply problem is not great due to the closeness of North Vietnam. In the Hue area, activity has usually been confined to collection of food, money extortion, proselyting, and terrorism has also been used. No attempts have been made to interdict the Perfume River by mining.

A mine hunting sonar has been installed in 2 MSM minesweep craft and employed along the LOC during the quarter. Many mine-like contacts have been detected and are being evaluated, as divers are available. This is the first unit of this kind to operate in Vietnam and the present configuration, called Shadowgraph,is being evaluated as a mine hunter, and may expand to other underwater search operations.

Hue River Security Group has patrolled the Perfume River and maintained the necessary minesweeping schedule to keep the LOC safe for logistic traffic. More emphasis has been placed on controlling the vast waterways around Hue, interdicting enemy rice exfiltration routes and intercepting VC units moving on the water at night. Patrol units, numbering 6 PBR's, operate in about 100 kilometers of waterway, are only able to cover the high probability areas. The Vietnamese Navy has one River Assault Group, RAG 32, and two Coastal Groups based in the Hue area, and maximum effort is made to involve these units in all local operations.

Units of the Hue River Security Group entered action early on the morning of 2 December. Patrol Officer SMC Nelson, Boat Captain EM1 Tonello, and BM1 Beaver in Boat No. 79/81 of River Division 521 set up a waterborne check point in the O Lau River in Thua Thien

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Province about 22 kilometers northwest of Hue. At about 0334H three to four VC were spotted moving southeast along the south bank of the Song-O-Lau in the vicinity of YD 525 464. The Huong Dien Sub-sector assisted the two boats in calling in three flare and two gunships from the 101st Airborne Battalion. The boats and the gunships, by light of the illuminating flares, made several firing runs on the enemy. The gunships and one boat received return fire. One gunship reported 29 enemy probably killed in action. An arrangement was made with the Phong Dien Sub-sector to sweep the area at first light. The friendly units retired with no personnel or material casualties.

On the same day, a Vietnamese fishing boat, net fishing about two kilometers west of Cua Viet in the Quang Tri Province, snagged a pressure mine in a fish net and pulled it ashore. The EOD Detachment from Cua Viet proceeded to the area in LCPL 12 from NSAD Cua Viet. On the scene at YD 320 697, the EOD team examined the mine and determined it had been in the water for several days. While the EOD team examined the mine to determine why it had not activated, Boat Patrol Officer LTJG Brennan and Boat Captain BM3 Morgan returned the unit to NSAD Cua Viet at 1130H without incident. One NVA pressure mine was recovered with no U.S. casualties.

On the morning of the 3rd of December, Patrol Officer EN3 Taylor with his Boat Captain SN Hay secured LCM-6 from NSAD Cua Viet after having double swept the Cua Viet River. On stowing the sweep gear, they discovered the bottom catenary fouled with parts of a pressure

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mine. Parts recovered were the protective bladder gage and pencil type chemical delays which were secured to the gage. The parts were turned over to the EOD team at 0915H.

NSAD at Cua Viet was rocketed with five rounds of 140mm rockets at 0329H on 7 December. The rockets appeared to come from the northwest, but the launch site was not determined. NSAD Cua Viet initiated no counter fire. There were no U.S. material or personnel casualties.

An example of the frustrating nature of counterinsurgency warfare in treelines, along canal banks, and across rivers began to develop on the evening of the 7th of December about 2340H. Sub-sector forces, Provincial Force 84 from Dong Ha, operating with PBR's 133 and 84, observed 30 to 50 VC moving into rice fields adjacent to the Song Thach Han. ENS Hampton with SM1 Risbon and SM1 Escamilla maneuvered their PBR's into position near YD 285 605 on the Tach Han River and called for additional blocking forces as the PF unit began to drive the VC back to the river. By 1100H, the PF unit had swept the area from their position, through the area where the VC were sighted, and back to the Thach Han River. No enemy were contacted.

By 1635H the same day, the two PBR's on the Thach Han were joined by SMC Nelson, QMC Casador, RD1 Phillips, GMG3 Brady, QM1 Johnson, and BM1 Beaver in PCR's 33, 54, 77, and 81 all from River Division 521. The units had moved in their sweep to the vicinity of YD 513 470 on the Song-O-Lau by 1715H. The blocking force was resupplied with food and ammunition. As the helicopters lifted, they were fired on from

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three locations. The helicopters again picked up the RF troops and reinserted them in the area. The RF troops kept the VC under sporadic fire until gunships could place fire in the enemy positions.

The firefight continued until 1800H, 22 kilometers west of Hue in Old Thua Thien Province. At this time additional forces were brought in. The PBR's moved one ground unit into the area, helicopters moved in a second element for air insertion, one element was on the ground, and a reserve element was kept on the PBR's. The 3/817 Battalion coordinated the operation by helicopter. The PBR's inserted the reserve element and took a second reserve element aboard. A sweep of the area by the troops ashore produced negative results, and all units dug in for the night. At 0830H the next morning, all units were resupplied with food and ammunition. The PBR crews were relieved on station by fresh patrol crews. All units withdrew by 1400H on the 9th. Friendly casualties were one U.S. wounded. Enemy casualties were unknown.

Enemy mining activity continued throughout December on the Cua Viet and the Perfume Rivers. BM3 Amundson and SN Ouendag on patrol in the Cua Viet River 4 kilometers southwest of Cua Viet conducted a morning sweep the 16th of December. At about 0715H, they detonated a mine with a UK Scare charge lifting a column of water 75 feet high. The explosion occurred approximately 500 feet off the starboard bow of the skimmer. Neither Amundson nor Ouendag were injured. The following day, BM2 Wass and SN Ouendag detonated two underwater charges with a single scare sweep while on patrol in their skimmer four to five miles

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southwest of Cua Viet. The first detonation produced a water spout 70 feet high and the next secondary explosion raised a column of water 40 to 50 feet high. The explosions occurred about 0740H. Such explosions produced an awesome sight to those in a skimmer as the water spouts were within 400 feet of the boat. There were no casualties.

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Game Warden, PBR, UH-1B, and OV-10 Operations

Action commenced early in the month for the OV-10's. The first day of December, LTJG Edwards and LTJG Baker were scrambled at 0909H in Black Ponies 114 and 101 to a target in the vicinity of XR 596 951 where they placed rocket and machine gun attacks on a reported enemy troop concentration. The strikes continued from 1110H through 1113H. CDR Zagortz in Black Pony 103 and LTJG Brewster were airborne at 1245H and proceeded to the area to press home the continued attacks. Aiming on target at 1300H, the two Black Ponies placed rocket attacks on concealed bunkers in the same area. All ordnance was placed on target and the area was saturated with machine gun fire. All Black Ponies retired from the area by 1330H. Ground troops reported 32 VC killed (BC) as a direct result of the four plane air strike.

CDR Klein in Black Pony 106 with LTJG Edwards in Black Pony 103 were on patrol the morning of 2 December, over Vinh Binh Province. At 0905H, they were directed to the vicinity of XR 610 782 where two VC platoons were observed to take cover in a treeline. CDR Klein lead successive strikes on the treeline and the surrounding area. The air strikes were commenced within five minutes of the initial sighting by ground troops. All ordnance was placed on target and the area completely saturated by rocket and machine gun attacks. As the Black Ponies retired from the area at 0935H, ground troops reported secondary explosions and several fires. In a successive sweep of the area, the ground troops reported ten VC probably killed and took into custody three Hoi Chanhs who turned themselves in as a result of the air strike.

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Again, the following morning on Sea Float patrol, CDR Klein in Black Pony 106 with LCDR Ballard in Black Pony 113 placed strikes on a force of 70 VC located at VU 998 722. The two Black Ponies delivered heavy fire into a treeline from 0840H until 0850H. The two aircraft then diverted to Vinh Binh Province where they were joined by Black Ponies 101 and 104 in the vicinity of XR 350 834 where, on the previous night, ground troops had taken heavy ground fire and reported all personnel in the area were pinned down for eight hours, and A-1's, previously giving support, had received heavy ground fire. The four OV-10's rolled in at 0930H and placed rocket and machine gun attacks on structures, bunkers, and sampans in the area. Several secondary explosions were observed and more than ten VC were seen evading with weapons. The OV-10's received heavy small arms fire in the target area. When the Black Ponies retired at 0950H, ground troops reported 12 structures destroyed, two bunkers destroyed, four kills (BC), ten probable kills, two structures damaged, four sampans destroyed, and two major and six minor secondary explosions observed.

At 0500 on the 6th of December, LT Laughon in Black Pony 103 and LTJG Bennan in Black Pony 113 with LT Stoddert as OTC scrambled from Binh Thuy in response to a call from "Leatherneck 4" who was in contact with the enemy, estimated to be two companies of VC at VR 865 680. Receiving ground fire from automatic weapons, the two Black Ponies expended all ordnance on target by 0630H and returned to Binh Thuy to rearm. At 0715H, LT Stoddert in 106 and LT Laughton in 144 returned to the Leatherneck ALFA position where the ground units were still receiving heavy semi-automatic and automatic weapons fire from adjacent treeline.

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Again the striking aircraft received automatic weapons fire as they expended all ordnance on target by 0727H. A ground sweep by the Leatherneck unit reported 11 VC killed as a result of the air strikes.

On the 12th of December, an outpost in the vicinity of VR 960 740 reported heavy mortar fire and small arms attack. Black Ponies 114 and 103 were scrambled with CDR Zegortz and LTJG Brewster at 0415H. At the direction of "Shanty Puppet" K and V, air strikes were placed around the perimeter of the outpost. An intelligence sweep around the perimeter later in the morning totaled 72 VC killed (BC).

At 2130H on the 13th of December, an outpost in the vicinity of VS 937 000 reported that it was under attack by an estimated VC company. On patrol in Black Ponies 104 and 113, LT Lavard and LTJG Rovertson diverted to the area and expended all ordnance in air strikes on the enemy positions. The two aircraft received moderate ground fire of 7.62mm and 20 cal. as high as 3,000 feet. The air strikes terminated at 2210H. No friendly casualties were taken from the ineffective ground fire. Subsequent intelligence reported 30 kills (BC) directly accountable to the air strikes on the perimeter of the beleaguered outpost.

While on visual reconnaissance patrol on 20 December north of the Vung Tau peninsula, LTJG Joel A. Sandburg and Capt Carl E. Long, USMC, were killed when their OV-10 crashed. The aircraft was on a day artillery spotting mission and while investigating a sampan,was lost due to direct enemy action. When the ground controller lost communication with the aircraft, a helicopter operating in the area reported the burning wreckage 340 degrees 8 nautical miles from Vung Tau AAF at 1710H. The aircraft crashed in a swampy area which gradually enveloped the wreckage thwarting all attempts at salvage.

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Game Warden SEAL Operations

MMG Ellis of SEAL Detachment ALFA and 17 PRU troops from the PRU 9th platoon were inserted by Slicks at 1500H on the 3rd of December in Long An, approximately 7 kilometers southwest of Nha Be. In a hootch (XS 887 732), the unit set up a canal guardpost. As a diversionary movement, at 1630H, ten PRU troops were extracted by Slick. The remaining troops dug in at the guardpost. At 1800H, one VC was observed in a sampan crossing a stream approximately 280 meters to the east of their position. When this VC was taken under fire, two other VC attempted to flee up the bank into the nippa palm growth. During the brief firefight, one VC was killed; one VC was wounded; and one VC was captured. One CHICOM hand grenade, one set of field gear, some documents, and one sampan were captured. EM1 Owens in an LSSC extracted the SEAL team and the seven PRU troops at 1900H. There were no friendly casualties.

From 1040H until 1115H, 4 December a LHFT and a LAFT placed strikes in the vicinity of XS 979 543 in response to a call from a Hunter Killer Team engaged in a search for suspected enemy positions. The covering LOH had received five hits from enemy ground fire. At 1135H, Slick aircraft inserted RF Company 782 with advisors in the vicinity of XS 982 532. During the sweep, the RF troops discovered a base camp at XS 979 544 capturing one Soviet 7.62mm light machine gun (which had been recently fired), two kilos of documents, and one package of ammunition. The unit destroyed 15 kilos of rice, one

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55 gallon water drum, and two enemy structures. The company continued the search and received enemy sniper fire in the vicinity of XS 981 541. A Navy LHFT placed strikes on the enemy positions destroying two bunkers and one enemy structure. The Navy LHFT remained overhead providing cover with the ASA/RSSZ aboard providing command and control. USA Slicks extracted the company at 1700H without further incident.

Ten SEAL's, led by LTJG Bryson, departed Nha Be at 1500H on 3 December in a LCPL, commanded by ENS Scott, inserted and set up trail guardpost in the area of XS 968 563. At 2015H, they took eight VC moving south under fire. Automatic weapons fire was received in turn wounding two SEAL's. The two wounded were dusted off under cover of a USN LHFT. Enemy casualties were two VC killed (BC) and four VC probably killed. One AK-47 and one kilo of documents were captured. The SEAL's were extracted by LCPL and returned to Nha Be.

Early in the morning on 14 December, LTJG Scott, pilot of Seawolf (SW) was returning from a combat patrol over the Long Tau Shipping Channel in company with LT Wolniewicz when his helicopter crashed in the channel in the vicin ity of YS 015 690. At 0845H, Navy LHFT's were scrambled to the scene, and PBR's in company with the Australian LSU CLYDE STEELE, began to route shipping around the crash site. The aircraft crashed approximately 10 meters from the bank, and three survivors swam ashore. The third crewman, BMS1 Larry Richard Johnson, USN, 5402296, died in the crash. While the Navy LHFT provided overhead cover, a U.S. Army crane ship lifted the aircraft and transported it to Vung Tau.

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AO2 Kieth, in company with five other SEAL's, departed Nha Be on the 28th of December at 1800H. At 1900H, during an insertion at YS 001 715, a sampan with two occupants was sighted. Warning shots were fired across the sampan. Two VC were captured and were returned to Nha Be for interrogation.

Acting on PRU intelligence, LT Cardner took a detachment of six SEAL's on patrol in the vicinity of YS 100 794 at 1400H on the 26th of December. After confiscating one kilo of rice and miscellaneous clothing, a trail guardpost was set, and six PRU troops were extracted as a diversion. At 1715 H one approaching VC was taken under fire. A search of the area produced negative results. USN LHFT's were called in, and strikes were placed in the area. The team was extracted at 1800H by USA Slicks without further incident.

On 26 December at 2100H, LTJG Holst, with two VNN PBR's waterborne guardpost, took one VC under fire as he moved along a bank in the vicinity of YS 173 768. The result was one VC probably killed.

About 2345H, on 27 December AE1 Curtis M. Ashton, USN, 7758555, was killed in action when an explosion occurred near his patrol area, 21 kilometers southeast of Nha Be (YS 010 593). Ashton was in a WBGP with five SEAL's, LT Gardner, and six PRU troops, when an LHFT was called in to place strikes on lights seen south of their position. At 2345H, ordnance exploded within the guardpost resulting in Ashton's death and wounding one PRU. The wounded PRU was medevaced 30 minutes later.

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At 1800H on 30 December, LT Gardner in command of a RSSZ SEAL team was inserted at YS 075 778, and set up a WBGP. At 2130H, the team heard an unknown number of VC approaching the guardpost from the south. The VC were taken under fire, and an LHFT was scrambled overhead. The LHFT placed strikes on the enemy positions and reported receiving ground fire. The results were no friendly casualties and two VC probably killed.

Operation Wolf Pack

Wolf Pack operations which began in October, continued through December with increased results. Composed of forces of the United States Navy, Free World Military Armed Forces, and Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces, the Wolf Pack units conducted sweeps of the Rung Sat Special Zone.

On 3 December, SEAL Team Det ALFA, set guardpost in the vicinity of XS 968 563 in Gia Dinh Province. At 2030H, an unknown number of VC were sighted transiting near the guardpost. The SEAL team took the approaching VC under fire killing two outright and probably four more. The VC returned fire wounding AO2 Thomas Harold Keith, Jr., USN, and BM2 William Neal, USN. Dust off aircraft were called in, and an HAFT was scrambled to provide overhead cover. The medevac was completed by 2100H. Then the LAFT placed strikes on the enemy positions. An LAFT on patrol was directed to the area providing overhead cover for the extraction at 2125H. The extraction completed, the LAFT's placed strikes on the enemy positions. Vietnamese Marine Corps artillery

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was called in from Ly Nhon placing H&I fire into the area for half an hour.

At 1340H on the 9th of December, a USA LOH sighted a VC cache near YS 095 774. USA Slicks inserted the RSSZ Navy EOD team and one squad of Regional Forces, Company 999, with an Advisor, in the vicinity of the cache at 1505H. The EOD team discovered an additional cache in the same area consisting of three 82mm mortar rounds, two 155mm artillery rounds, 24 hand grenades, 12 60mm mortar rounds, 11 CBU's, two satchel charges, two stick mines, one 105mm round, one 60mm B/T, one unknown B/T, 20 steel R/I rods, ½ inch by 4 inches. As the EOD team moved about setting their charges, they discovered the area to be heavily booby trapped. Without disturbing the booby traps, the EOD set charges and blew the cache in place at 1545H, resulting in a large secondary explosion. The EOD team and RF squad were extracted without incident.

On the 15th of December, Captain Druade, USMC, advisor to the 5th VNMC Battalion, was on patrol with Captain Smith, USMC, and two platoons from the 5th VNMC Battalion in the Long Le District of the Phouc Tuy Province when two sampans were sighted at 2135H. The Vietnamese Marine Corps troops took the sampan under fire destroying the sampan and killing two VC (BC). One B-40 launcher and three B-40 rounds were captured. Leter, at 2136H, the troops sighted another sampan in the vicinity of YS 180 778, destroyed the sampan killing two VC (BC), and captured one Mauser rifle and 100 kilo of rice.

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Navy LHFT's were scrambled placing strikes on the enemy positions at 2150H. The LHFT received sporadic automatic rifle fire at coordinates YS 229 741. USAF TACAIR was unavailable due to inclement weather, and a Navy LAFT was scrambled from Vung Tau in response to the call for heavy air strikes. At 2230H, Navy LAFT and LHFT placed additional strikes on the enemy positions. The two RF platoons, with their USMC advisors, were extracted without casualties.

Extensive operations carried out by Wolf Pack III in the period 12 through 24 December resulted in six friendly casualties, 3 killed (2 U.S. and 1 RF) and 3 wounded; enemy casualties were 27 killed (17 BC and 10 Probable), and four Hoi Chanhs rallied. During this operation 11 sampans, 55 structures, 27 bunkers, and 300 kilos of rice were destroyed. Enemy material captured included one RPG-2 launcher, three RPG rounds, one M-16 rifle, one B.A.R., one Mauser, one AK-47 rifle, one AK-50 rifle, four M-26 grenades, two claymore mines, 3,000 rounds of small arms ammunition, one electric blasting machine, one sewing machine, miscellaneous clothing and cooking utensils, two kilo blasting caps, and some documents.

Wolf Pack operations, using integrated forces, are proving to be the most effective means of countering enemy operations in the Rung Sat Special Zone.

Enemy Mining/Harassment/Attacks on Merchant Shipping

At 0841H on the 28th of December, the USNS PROVO reported what appeared to be two B-40 rocket rounds fired from the east bank of the

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Long Tau shipping channel in the vicinity of YS 005 755 near check point five. The USNS PROVO reported that the first round impacted 1000 yards to the port side and that the second was 100 yards to the port side. The ship received no hits, and no casualties were reported. VNN PBR's on patrol in the vicinity of YS 005 755 reported no explosions sighted or heard. An LAFT was scrambled to conduct visual reconnaissance. At 0915H, the 6th ARVN Rangers inserted troops for a sweep of possible enemy positions. Negative results were reported by all forces. The incident was closed and reported as an unconfirmed RSSZ Merchant Shipping Incident.

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USN STATISTICAL SUMMARY

	MARKET TIME	GAME WARDEN
Detections	16,710	82,696
Inspections	5,855	34,277
Boardings	6,692	22,940
Craft detained	78	6
Persons detained	608	11
Viet Cong suspects	133	*
Hostile fire incidents	53	401
Enemy casualties:		
a. Killed	143 (82 B.C., 61 Est.)	434 B.C. + 399 Pos.
b. Wounded	16	51
c. Captured	28	60
USN casualties:		
a. Killed	4	6
b. Wounded	15	64
c. Captured	0	0
d. Missing	0	0
Enemy material losses:		
a. Destroyed:		
(1) Junks or sampans	233	98
(2) Structures	423	149
b. Captured:		
(1) Junks or sampans	*	7
(2) Weapons	*	*
(3) Ammunition (rounds)	*	*
(4) Rice (tons)	*	*
c. Damaged:		
(1) Junks or sampans	16	20
(2) Structures	148	83
USN material losses:		
a. Destroyed:		
(1) Surface craft	0	1
(2) Helicopters	1	1
b. Damaged:		
(1) Surface craft	9	11
(2) Helicopters /OV-10	0	20
SAR missions	1	

Remarks:

* Info not available or not applicable
Game Warden statistics include the results of RIVPATFLOT Five assaults assigned to SEA LORDS operations

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NAVAL ADVISORY GROUP SUMMARY
Vietnamese Navy

Fleet Command and Central Task Force

The patrol ships, WPB's, and PCF's of the Fleet Command participated in Market Time and river patrols, Sea Float and ATF 211 operations, logistic lifts, NGFS, Psyops and Civic Action missions in December. A total of 28 NGFS missions were fired during the month. This was identical to the numbered fired in November but still considerably lower than the 52 recorded in October.

Market Time figures compiled by the patrol ships, WPB's, and PCF's were slightly lower than those reported in November. In December, they searched 16,076 people and 4,496 junks and detained seven people and one junk. The inclement weather conditions that were experienced along the coast in part reflected the reduced activity. The augmentation of two WPB's, that were turned over on 11 December at Danang, increased the number of Market Time VNN units in the First Coastal Zone to six, three patrol ships and three WPB's. Utilizing these additional assets the VNN assumed unit assignment and patrol responsibility of areas 1C and 1D in the First Coastal Zone at the end of the month in addition to the previous responsibilities of areas 1G and 2E. This increased the total number of Market Time Stations that the VNN have the responsibility for to 29.

At the beginning of the month the LSIL 329 was detached from operations with ATF 211 and proceeded to My Tho for briefings prior

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to commencement of operations with TF 115.3 in the Dung Island complex area of the lower Bassac on about 17 December. The primary reason for the relocation of the LSIL was to replace the PCF's that had been chopped to TF 194.4 for operations in the upper Mekong near the Cambodian border and to maintain the maximum pressure on the Dung Island Complex (XR 300 650). Mechanical difficulties with LSIL 329 necessitated her being relieved on 29 December by LSIL 330.

While supporting Sea Float operation on 29 December, LSIL 329 was hit by automatic weapons fire and a B-40 rocket from the north bank of the Cua Lon River (WQ 151 680). The LSIL returned the enemy salutation with a davastating barrage of 81mm, 40mm, 20mm, and .50 cal. fire killing one VC. Damage to the LSIL consisted of a one foot hole on the port side one foot below the main deck and two one inch shrapnel holes in the main deck.

Highlights in the Central Task Force included the sinking of an LCM, a collision between a minesweeper and a sampan, and the recovery of electrical cable at the end of a channel sweep. On the morning of 5 December, the sentry at the pier location of RAG 27 at Cat Lai (XS 965 897) noticed a heavy list on a RAG 27 LSM-6 which was out-board in a nest of four LCM's. Before the sailors, that were notified, could dewater the craft, the mooring lines parted, the boat tipped over, and it sank at the pier. With salvage efforts, the craft was righted and dewatered by late afternoon. Although there was extensive mud and water damage, they were all considered to be within the capability of repair facilities at Cat Lai.

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The collision between the VNN minesweeper HQ 1801 and a 25-foot motorized sampan occurred during curfew hours on the morning of 6 December. The VNN unit was engaged in minesweeping operations on the Long Tau River when it detected the sampan entering the Long Tau River (YS 013 698) from a smaller tributary. The VNN flashed a warning light at the sampan and attempted to avoid a collision through evasive steering. All was to no avail as the sampan rammed the minesweeper amidship on the port side. There were no casualties and the seventeen people, including fifteen children, who were thrown overboard, were recovered. The civilians who had no identification papers were put ashore at a nearby outpost.

At the end of one sweep of the Long Tau channel on 26 December, a VNN minesweeper recovered 45 feet of single conductor electrical cable.

Coastal Junk Forces

At the end of the month, there were 225 junks and 17 riverine craft assigned to the Coastal Junk Groups and RAG 32 in all four Coastal Zones. This was one less junk than the coastal groups had the previous month. For the second straight month the junk force showed an improvement in the average number of units which were in an operational condition each day. In November there were 176.6, and in December there were 180.8. Although they averaged more operational units, daily employment was down from 171.1 in November to 168.3 in December. Search and detainment figures were also slightly

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down from those reported in November. In December, the coastal forces searched 156,790 people and 47,414 junks. Three hundred and sixty people and 64 junks were detained for various discrepancies.

First Coastal Zone

The general low level of enemy activity that was reported in the First Coastal Zone in December continued to indicate the willingness of the enemy to avoid major confrontations and to limit his efforts to attack by fierce, minor probes, and sapper attacks. In so doing, the VC/NVA forces were able to concentrate their energies on replacing and resupplying of men, food, and material. The interest in the Cua Viet River area maintained its priority among the Coastal Group operations. On 2 and 3 December, mines were recovered from the river, and on 6 and 7 December, units of CG 11 made contact with small groups of VC resulting in the death of three VC and the capture of one AK-47, two satchel charges, and some documents. At approximately 0330 on 7 December, the NSAD at Cua Viet received eight to eleven 140mm rockets. The nearest rounds that landed in the southeast corner of the NSAD perimeter produced no personnel casualties. Late in the month on the night of 27 December. CG 11 and the Dong Ha River Security Group force engaged five VC swimmers in the area known as Jones Creek (YD 307 675) which has been considered a possible infiltration route for sappers moving south from the DMZ. The five swimmers successfully eluded the friendly forces. The following evening two more swimmers were spotted in the same area.

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For the second straight month, CG 14 had an usually larger number of Hoi Chanh rally to their units. Two low level cadre turned themselves over to a CG 14 junk on 1 December (BT 172 540). On 3 December, six more VC rallied to a CG 14 junk (BT 179 545). Then, on 7 December, an additional four VC abdicated to CG 14 units. This increased the total number of enemy soldiers who rallied to CG 14 units in December to twelve. Disillusionment, hunger, fatigue, and family separation were the most common reasons the VC gave for rallying.

While two VNN sailors of CG 16 were on liberty on 27 December, they apprehended two local VC guerrillas (BS 730 740). On the following morning armed with the information that the VC surrendered during interrogation, CG 16 units carried out a cordon and search operation in the same general area that yielded two female VC and seven male VC suspects.

On the late afternoon of 29 December, CG 14 personnel embarked in two kenner ski barges received heavy automatic weapons fire when they attempted to intercept an evading sampan which had been sighted during a reconnaissance patrol of the Truong Giang River (BT 168 494). Attempts to silence the enemy force, which was estimated as squad size, as the barges cleared the area were unsuccessful.

In another ski barge action on 30 December, CG 13 sighted five VC in a sampan with another sampan in tow in the bay west of the CG 13 base (ZD 080 090). As the VNN boats closed the sampan, they fired

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their weapons with devastating accuracy. Five VC were killed and three AK-47's, 200 kilograms of rice, and a small amount of other food stuffs and medical supplies were captured. A day light search of the area was highlighted with the capture of a VC suspect who was reported to be the owner/operator of the sampan which delivered the food stuffs to the VC that were killed in the action the previous night.

Second Coastal Zone

As in the First Coastal Zone, there were no major enemy confrontation in the Second Coastal Zone in December. Throughout the month, the VC/NVA forces appeared to limit their activities to food and intelligence gathering missions. The 56 junks assigned to CG's 21, 23, 25, 26, 27 and 28 implemented regular base defense procedures, Market Time patrols, and special operations with no significant results being reported. On 26 December, one CG 21 Yabuta junk was officially transferred to CG 27. This adjusted the number of junks assigned to CG 21 to twelve and the number of junks assigned to CG 27 to nine.

Third Coastal Zone

The enemy activity in the Third Coastal Zone was comparable to the level reported in the other areas of the Republic of South Vietnam. The four Coastal Groups 33, 34, 35, and 36, with 62 units assigned, had craft employed in coastal and river patrols, WBGP's, base defense, and Sea Float operation. The ten Sea Float units, four from CG 33 and three each from 35 and 36, saw the most activity (see discussion in the Sea Float Summary for further details).

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On the afternoon of 13 December, a CG 34 skimmer boat inserted CG 34 personnel in two different locations at the mouth of the Ham Luong River (XS 813 024, 815 030). During the sweep, the CG 34 team destroyed one VC lookout post and one booby trap. Two VC were detected, but the adverse terrain forced the friendlies to abort their apprehension attempts.

A combined cordon and search operation that involved CG 33, RPG 51, RAG 27, an RF Boat Company, RF troops, elements of the 5th Battalion VNMC, the LCU 533, and the USS MANSFIELD (DD 726) was conducted on 22-24 December on Long Son Island (YS 235 577, 280 520, 323 560) located just north of Vung Tau. While the afloat units blocked off an escape by sea, provided fire support, and lifted the troops, the VN marines conducted a sweep of the island towards the RF troop positions. Midday on 22 December, the Marines opened fire on two VC that were sighted in a sampan. The two enemy soldiers were killed, and one AK-47, one M-16, and one sampan were captured. Later the same day, the marines uncovered a small cache that contained 30 grenades. That evening the USS MANSFIELD provided H and I fire into suspected enemy locations (YS 270 555). The following day, the marines were extracted from the island by the LCU 533 while RAG 27 units provided river security. After the marines had safely cleared the area, the CG 33 units and their U.S. advisors, Lieutenant Beninis, returned to the CG 33 junk base.

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A reconnaissance patrol was completed by two CG 36 skimmers, the USCG WPB, PT GRACE, and U.S. PCF's 32 and 102 on 30 December, thirteen miles east of Soc Trang in the Dung Island complex (vicinity XR 246 687, 263 675, 345 548). The PT GRACE and the two CG 36 skimmers entered a small canal on the southwestern side of the island complex and almost immediately came under fire. The friendly units returned the fire as the VC evaded. Eight enemy sampans were sighted and taken under fire by the VNN. Eight VC were estimated as killed. The two PCF's rendezvoused with the skimmers and provided cover for their exit at the southern end of the island.

Fourth Coastal Zone

In the Fourth Coastal Zone, the 57 junks assigned to Coastal Groups 41, 42, 43 and 44 participated in river and Market Time patrols, logistic lifts, and base defense operations. The heaviest concentration of junk assets has been at Ha Tien where in December, 22 units were involved in Tran Hung Dao Barrier Interdiction operations on the Rach Giang Thanh. The remaining units centered their activities at An Thoi, Poulo Pam Jang, and the Market Time stations in areas 8 and 9. (See Border Interdiction Summary for further details.)

In response to reports of increased enemy attempts to infiltrate the U-Minh Forest from the Gulf of Thailand, four USN PCF's from TG 115.3 chopped to CTG 115.4 VNN on 20 December and initiated coastal surveillance in Market Time stations 9E1 (VR 850 740 to VR 796 740 to VR 760 440 to VR 815 440) and 9D1 (VR 815 440 to VR 796 740 to VR 740 140 to VR 793 140). The USN PCF's would gain their

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support from the USS GARRET COUNTY (LST 786) located seaward of Breezy Cove Operation (VQ 735 954). On 29 December, six more U.S. PCF's from the Second and Third Coastal Zones chopped to TG 115.4 VNN, and at the same time, Lieutenant Commander Martin, USN, assumed the duties of CTU 115.4.1 embarked in the USS HARNETT COUNTY (LST 821), stationed 25 miles off the coast from Rach Gia City (VS 740 100). These six PCF's were assigned the patrol responsibilities for Market Time areas 9F, 9G and 9H that follow the coast from Rach Gia City north to the Cambodia/Vietnam international border.

An operational evaluation of the Market Time areas 9D1 and 9E1 was made at the end of the month by CTU 115.4.1. The majority of the traffic that the PCF's have encountered has been non-suspicious fishing junks from Kien Giang Province. These people have generally been ignorant of the restricted zones. The PCF's have been indoctrinating the coastal traffic by distributing diagrams that outline the restricted zones. Control of the traffic is being maintained by stamping the fishing papers with a violation stamp and keeping a log for each patrol area that contains all the traffic that is boarded, searched, and warned. While heavy fishing traffic has been encountered in area 9E1, the traffic in area 9D1 has been relatively light. The major concentration of traffic in both areas has been during the night. Because of material casualties, only three of the four PCF's have been available for patrols. The operating schedule utilizes two of them during the night when the traffic is heaviest and the chance of infiltration is greater and one during the day. The majority of the

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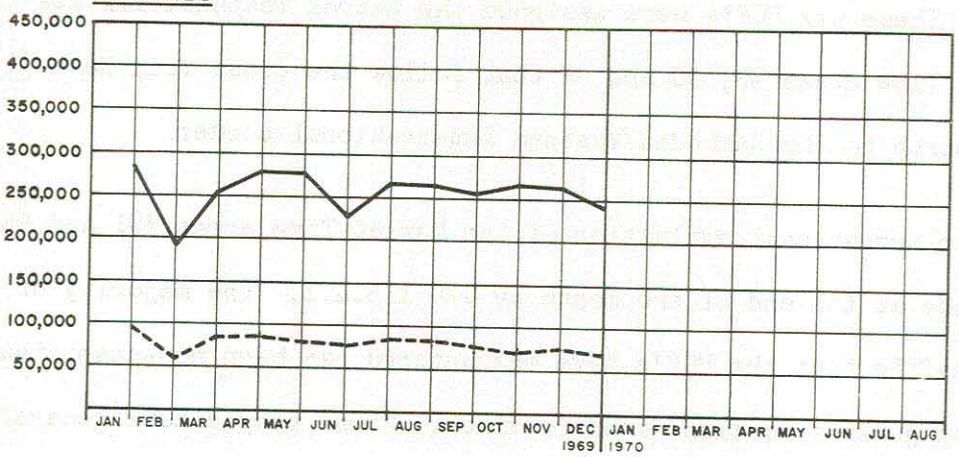
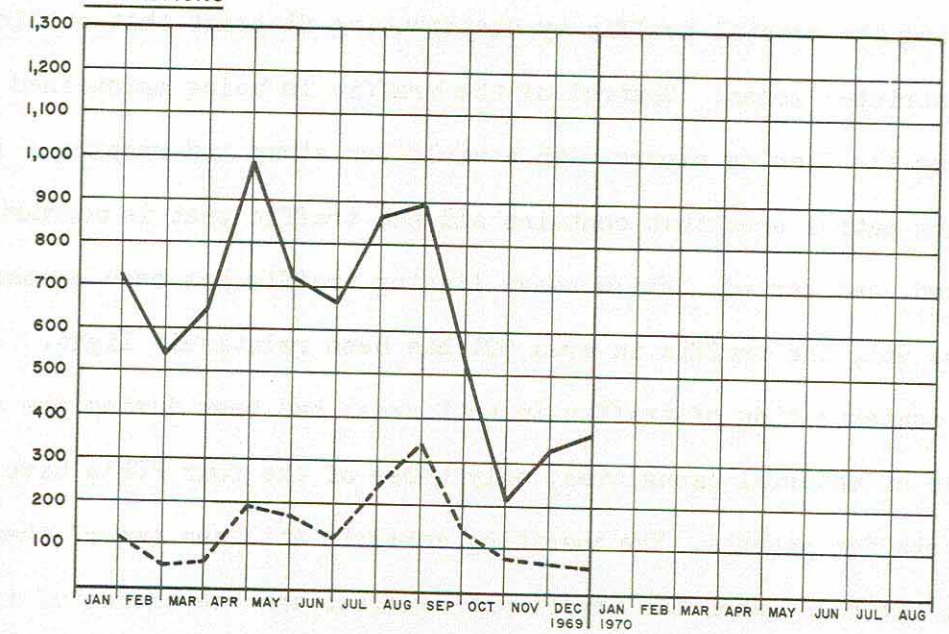
SEARCHES AND DETENTIONS BY VIETNAMESE FLEET COMMAND, COASTAL AND RIVERINE FORCES

SEARCHES



DETENTIONS



JUNKS - - - - - - - - PEOPLE ————

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boarding and searching has been conducted from 500 yards to 1500 yards from the beach where the water below the keel has averaged from three to six feet.

Following discussion with CTG 194.3 and the Fourth Coastal Zone intelligence officer, the northern boundary of area 9E1 was extended to the north in order to cover a number of river mouths which could possible be departure points to and from ocean transits. The new coordinates for areas 9E1 and 9D1 are, respectively, VR 885 837 to VR 828 835 to VR 768 530 to VR 830 530 and VR 830 530 to VR 768 530 to VR 740 140 to VR 793 140.

River Patrol Groups

The employment of the 83 PBR's of TF 212 underwent very few changes in December. The four RPG's conducted a combined total of 1,357 river patrols and 641 amphibious assaults. Eight PBR's of RPG 51 shifted to Ready Deck operations on 11 December when the VNN assumed command of the upper Saigon River operation which was renamed Tran Hung Dao V/Ready Deck. The operation will continue to be a SEA LORDS campaign, and the units will retain their present TG 194.6 designators. (See Operation Ready Deck in SEA LORDS Summary for further details of RPG 51 operations on the upper Saigon River.) The remaining twelve units continued their day and night river patrols on the lower Saigon River from the base at Cat Lai with no significant action being reported.

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The 20 PBR's of the Nha Be based RPB 52 maintained their presence on the shipping lanes leading to Saigon with regular river patrols. Other operations were performed in conjunction with TG 116.9 in the RSSZ.

River Patrol Group 53 with 20 boats assigned conducted river patrols, WBGP's, and other interdiction operations on the Vam Co Dong and Vam Co Tay Rivers from the Giant Slingshot bases at Tan An (TE 194.9.4.1) and Ben Luc (TE 194.9.0.1). (See discoussion of Giant Slingshot Operations in the SEA LORDS Summary for further details of RPG 53 operations).

Ten PBR's of RPG 54 supported Tran Hung Dao operations on the Vinh Te Canal from the YRBM-16 located just east of Chau Doc (WS 142 845). These units were regularly rotated with the other 13 PBR's stationed at My Tho. In addition to the day patrols on the Cho Gao Canal and the night patrols on the My Tho River, the RPG served as a ready blocking force for ARVN operations and made arrangements with the Province Chief to provide troop lifts, medevac, and fire support whenever it was needed. Negotiations were in the planning for specific operations at the end of the month. (See discussion of Barrier Interdiction Operations in SEA LORDS Summary for further details.)

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Third and Fourth Riverine River Assault Groups

The 164 riverine craft assigned to the 11 RAG's that operate in the Third and Fourth Riverine areas completed 822 river patrols and 2,487 amphibious operations in December. Although these figures were slightly lower than the previous month's, the combined total of river patrols and amphibious operations maintained its close proximity to the stable figure of 3,500 operations. While the RAG's placed major emphasis on the river patrols and amphibious operations, they were also committed to escort duties, base defense, logistic lifts, PSYOPS and Civic Action missions.

On the late afternoon of 4 December, a lone RAG 30 unit with one ARVN ranger of the 39th Battalion, Fifth Ranger Group, was returning from a water and food lift to a platoon location approximately four miles southwest of Saigon (XS 792 808). Not more than one mile upstream (XS 779 822), the RAG 30 boat was struck by a B-41 rocket in the engine compartment wounding two VNN and the lone soldier in the process. The boat returned the fire with unknown results and cleared the area. A little more than an hour later, two platoons of the 38th Battalion swept the area with negative results.

Eleven units of RAG 24 were lifting 5th ARVN Division troops on 8-10 December four miles upstream from Phu Cuong on the Saigon River (XT 754 205 to 710 210). Prior to the insertion of the troops into night defense positions, the boats sighted and took under fire a lone VC with unknown results. The night passed without an incident,

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and the following day the RAG boats provided the lift service for the troops during the sweep operation. That evening the craft were again transiting to night defense position when they spotted four VC (XT 738 203). Two of the VC were killed when the friendlies took them under fire. Later the same night, five more VC were taken under fire. The rest of the night passed without any action as the troops and boats kept a vigil for possible VC crossing attempts. The operation was concluded on the morning of 10 December with no furhter results.

In the Fourth Riverine Area, the RAG's provided an extensive lift capability for ARVN and RF/PF forces. RAG 23/31 continued operations on the Mang Thit - Nicolai Canal and supported area ground troops. RAG 25/29, homeported in Can Tho, have been conducting operations from Kien Hung and Vi Thanh in northeast Chung Thien Province; RAG 21/33 and 26 have been involved in missions from their respective bases at Dong Tam and Long Xuyen.

The highlight of RAG activity in the Fourth Riverine Area occurred on the evening of 28 December when the RAG 21/33 base received three rounds of 120mm mortar fire. One round landed on the base near barracks T-1056. The other two rounds hit to the north. Five VNN were wounded, four seriously, and there was minor shrapnel damage to the barracks and a complete loss of electrical power on the base.

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River Assault and Interdiction Divisions

The 108 riverine assault craft assigned to the six RAID's, 70 through 75, of ATF 211 were employed in river patrols, interdiction operations, amphibious and logistic lifts, PSYOPS and Civic Action missions. While performing their designed missions, the RAID's placed their emphasis on river patrols and amphibious operations. In December, they carried out a combined total of 618 river patrols and 1,153 amphibious operations. The combined figure was comparable to the statistics of previous months.

The two most experienced RAID's, 70 and 71, have been involved in Giant Slingshot operations since they joined TG 194.9 in late February 1969. The two RAIDS are normally positioned at Ben Luc and Tan An, however, on 11 December after the Moc Hoa area was evaluated as the area of maximum enemy threat, RAID 70 units were shifted to the Tuyen Nhon area, and RAID 71 boats were relocated to cover both the RAID 70 and 71 area of operation. The change of forces left the two RAID's deployed as of 15 December as follows: three RAID 70 units at Tan Tru, three RAID 70 units at Moc Hoa, ten RAID 70 and one RAID 71 unit at Tuyen Nhon, six RAID 71 units at Ben Luc, three RAID 71 units at Tra Cu, and two RAID 71 units at Ben Keo. Seven RAID 70 and 71 units were out of the area for maintenance or deployment to Dong Tam. By the end of the month, the RAID 70 and 71 forces had been relocated to the following locations: five RAID 70 units at Tan An, eight RAID 70 units at Moc Hoa, four RAID 70 and three

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RAID 71 units at Tra Cu, and ten RAID 71 units at Ben Luc. Eight RAID 70 and 71 boats were assigned out of the area for deployment or maintenance. (See discussion of Giant Slingshot in SEA LORDS Summary for further deatails of RAID 70 and 71).

RAID's 72, 74, and 75 concluded the successful operations with the Vietnamese Marines in the U-Minh Forrest in Kien Giang Province on 10 December. Since the beginning of the operation on 11 September, the friendly forces had killed 507 VC and captured another 54. They had received 105 Hoi Chanhs and detained another 115 people. The VNN had eleven sailors killed and 60 wounded. Correspondingly, the VNMC lost 133 marines, had 499 wounded, and three are still missing.

In the first part of December, while the RAID's were still operating in the U-Minh Forrest, they provided a lift capability, patrolled the main canal, and set night waterborne guardposts. Contact was light and scattered with no major action being reported that involved the RAID's.

Starting on 9 December, the RAID's and VN Marines began an orderly transit to the Twin Rivers Area in Chuong Thien Province. Since the two forces had operated in previous months on the Cua Lon River and adjacent tributaries, they established their command post in the only suitable terrain for the post and artillery just south of the junction of the Cai Tu and Cua Lon Rivers (vicinity WR 370 700). The approximate limits of the new operational area are defined by

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the following coordinates: from Vinh Phouc (WR 250 750) to Vinh Phong (WR 320 540) to WR 380 480 to WR 470 480 to WR 470 660 to the Cai Lon River (WR 520 710) along the river to WR 470 730 to Ap Thanh My (WR 460 770) to Cai Tu River (vicinity WR 430 770) along Cai Tu River to WR 410 750 and back to Vinh Phuoc. RAID 72 and 74 remained with the marines while RAID 75 returned to the USS ASKARI (ARL 30) at Long Xuyen for much needed maintenance. Utilization of the RAID's in the Twin Rivers area included troop lifts, river patrols, and WBGP's. On 23 December, RAID 25 units relieved the majority of the RAID 72 boats which returned to Long Xuyen and the USS ASKARI for maintenance. (See discussion of VNMC Summary for further details of ATF operations.)

RAID 73 spent the majority of the month at Dong Tam and Long Xuyen. On 27 December, they completed the trip to the ATF headquarters. The Commander TF 211 had made the decision to keep three RAID's in the area and to rotate one RAID back to Long Xuyen for a two week upkeep and refitting period. RAID 73's initial employment was with the Third Battalion VNMC along the Rach Nuoc Trong (vicinity WR 380 693 to WR 423 675). The RAID's had no significant contact, and the marines were involved in scattered and light action through the end of the month.

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VIETNAMESE MARINE CORPS

The reconnaissance in force operations conducted by Amphibious Task Force 211 in the U-Minh Forest region of Kien Giang Province were officially terminated at midnight on 9 December. The cumulative result for the three month operation which began on 8 September are as follows:

VNMC			VC/NVA			
KIA	WIA	MIA	KIA	VCC	VCS	HC
133	499	3	507	54	115	105

WEAPONS CAPTURED

41 AK 47 Rifles
31 CKC Rifles
17 Mauser Rifles
1 Heavy MG
2 Cal. .50 MG
3 Carbines
2 French Rifles
1 Russian Rifle
1 M-16
1 CHICOM MG
1 B-41 Rocket Launcher
2 M-1's
1 CHICOM Rifle
1 U. S. Shotgun
1 M-60 MG
1 M-79
5 Cal .45 Pistols
3 K54 Pistols
2 M3A1 Sub-MG
1 Cal .45 Sub-MG
1 B-40 Rocket Launcher
1 60mm Mortar

CAPTURED MINES, EXPLOSIVES, AND AMMUNITION

84,600 Rds small arms
14 AT mines
7 Anti-Boat mines
19 AP mines
94 Claymore mines
110 61mm mortar rounds
122 82mm mortar rounds
1,216 Hand grenades
192 Rifle grenades
6 Mines (5 kilo)
2 Mines (100 kilo)
6 105mm Howitzer mines
30 57RR rds
53 75RR rds
271 B-40 rocket rds

During the period 8-10 December, the ATF, which at this time included the 1st, 4th, and 6th Infantry Battalions, 1st Artillery Battalion and RAID's 72 and 74, completed the move from the U-Minh Forest to the

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Twin Rivers area of Chuong Thien Province (WR 364 697). With the launching of Quyet Tien Su Doan 21/32, 36, 42/211 on 10 December, the ATF began watermobile operations on the Cai Lon River and connecting waterways with RAID's 72 and 74 and airmobile operations in conjunction with U. S. Air Cavalry Troop assets that stressed Eagle Flight tactics, screening missions around the ATF 211 command post area, and company sized lifts. Enemy contact was infrequent throughout the remainder of the month as the VC/NVA forces employed evasive tactics and resorted to extensive mining of the areas in order to combat the VNMC mission of reducing enemy infiltration.

Brigade "A"

Brigade "A" has been absorbed into the joint staff of ATF 211. The Brigade Commander has been designated as the Deputy Commander of ATF 211. Further information of ATF 211 operations is found in the individual discussions of the infantry battalions.

Brigade "B"

For the entire month, the Brigade "B" staff was located at the VNMC Division Headquarters in Saigon while maintaining a six hour alert status under JGS control.

1st Infantry Battalion

After relieving the 5th Infantry Battalion on 6 December in the U-Minh Forest operation, the 1st Infantry Battalion, as one of the VNMC elements of ATF 211, transited to the Twin Rivers Area of Chuong Province (WR 364 697) in order to begin reconnaissance in force

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operations on 10 December. Plagued by mining incidents and sporadic contact, the 1st Battalion concluded RIF operations to the southeast of the command post (WR 364 697) on 20 December and returned to the command post where it assumed the responsibility for the perimeter defense and the local security patrols. A surprise encounter with a small enemy unit on 26 December resulted in one VC killed, and Eagle Flight operations with a VNAF Air Cavalry Troop unit on the same day accounted for another VC killed. The 1st Battalion was relieved of the ATF 211 command post security mission on 31 December and moved to the southwest portion of the area for operations in January.

2nd Infantry Battalion

The 2nd Infantry Battalion was in a one hour alert status to JGS through 13 December. The following morning, the 2nd Battalion was air lifted from Tan Son Nhut Air Base to Binh Thuy for further transfer by helo to the Twin Rivers area south of the ATF 211 command post (WR 320 680) in order to affect the relief of the 4th Battalion. Late on the afternoon of 15 December, the 2nd Battalion gained contact with an estimated enemy squad (WR 335 634). The VC/NVA soldiers broke off the fighting without leaving an indication of their casualties. Two VN Marines were wounded in this action. With RAID 72 providing the transportation, units of the 2nd Battalion patrolled and carried out landing assaults throughout the remainder of the month. Company sized and Eagle Flight operations on 21 December were successful with five VC killed and no friendly casualties.

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Nine VC were captured and another five were killed by the Marines in an action on 27 December. Five CNMC suffered wounds in the same fire fight. When the contact was broken off, the VC/NCA had left behind three rifles, one B-40 launcher, 14 grenades, four claymores, two 105mm mines, and one kilogram of documents. On the last day of the year, the 2nd Battalion moved to the ATF 211 command post and began local security operations in defense of the field headquarters.

3rd Infantry Battalion

From 1-10 December, the 3rd Infantry Battalion conducted airmobile assault and platoon and squad sized night operations in the area north of Ben Luc. The Battalion command post and one company were in positions at Fire Support Base Barbara (XS 576 856). The remaining Marine forces were deployed throughout the area. There was no action reported through 11 December when the 3rd Battalion was relieved by the 33rd Ranger Group. The 3rd Battalion returned to their base camp in Thu Duc (XT 922 007) and a six hour alert status for JGS. On 14 December, they traveled to Camp Nguyen Van Nha (XS 878 929) and were designated as the CMD reserve on one hour alert.

The 3rd Battalion came under the operational control of ATF 211 on 26 December when it relieved the 6th Infantry Battalion in the Twin Rivers area of Chuong Thien Province. With the exception of one VC who was killed on 26 December, the Marine engagements with the enemy were limited to mining incidents which have inflicted casualties on the Marines.

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4th Infantry Battalion

Under the operational control of ATF 211, the 4th Infantry Battalion carried out reconnaissance in force operations in the U-Minh Forest until 9 December when the mission was concluded, and ATF 211 displaced to the Twin Rivers area of Chuong Thien Province. At approximately 0500 on 6 December, a VC mortar and ground assault was launched by one VC company against one VNMC company (VR 870 680). The VNMC, with the assistance of U. S. OV-10 Black Ponies, repulsed the attack and killed 19 VC and captured three AK-47's in the process. The VNMC suffered casualties of three killed and 22 wounded who were medevaced.

After the 4th Battalion had moved to a new location on 10 December (WR 355 690 and WR 358 677), they began company sized operations. On 13 and 14 December, the 4th Battalion, having been relieved by the 2nd Battalion, was air lifted to their Vung Tau base camp via Binh Thuy (YS 276 457). From 15-26 December, the 4th Battalion refurbished their equipment and weapons while on six hour alert status under JGS control. Moving to camp Nguyen Van Nha (XS 878 929) in Saigon on 26 December, the 4th Battalion was placed by JGS as the CMD reserve on one hour alert.

5th Infantry Battalion

The 5th Infantry Battalion was responsible for the security of the ATF 211 headquarters at Dong Hung (VR 944 620) from the beginning of the month until the U-Minh Forest operations concluded on 9 December.

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While the Battalion headquarters and two companies occupied defensive positions in and near the command post, the two remaining companies screened an area up to five kilometers around Dong Hung. Operations with U. S. Air Cavalry Troops on 3 December produced seven VC killed (VR 015 695). Late on the evening of 4 December, one 5th Battalion marine was killed and another eight were wounded during a VC mortar attack on the ATF command post. The 5th Battalion departed the area on 8 December, and after a one night stopover in Can Tho, they arrived at their base camp (XT 968 064).

After spending three days in a six hour alert status to JGS, the 5th Battalion joined friendly forces in the RSSZ in Operation Wolfpack III, a multi-battalion operation to seek out and destroy VC sapper units in the RSSZ. The marines first established contact on 15 December when one company sighted four VC attempting to cross the Thi Vai River along the eastern boundary of the RSSZ (YS 200 730). All four of the VC were killed, and one rifle, one B-40 launcher, three B-40 rockets, small arms ammunition, and one cartridge belt were captured. Three enemy sampans were also destroyed.

A small unit guardpost, on the evening of 22 December, surprised a squad sized VC element. One VC was killed, and one AK-47 and one PRC 10 was confiscated in this action. Wolfpack III terminated on 24 December, and the 5th Battalion returned to the Thu Duc base camp (XT 968 046) and a six hour reserve status to JGS.

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6th Infantry Battalion

The 6th Infantry Battalion, an element of ATF 211, was engaged in alomost daily fighting in the final week of operations in the U-Minh Forest. On the afternoon of 4 December, a 6th Battalion unit uncovered a VC training center (VR 870 630) that was defended by an estimated VC platoon. Once the Marines had silenced the enemy force, they found five dead VC, 12 hand grenades, 200 rounds of AK ammunition, and two anti-personnel mines that were not familiar. The two house, twenty bed complex was destroyed before the Marines departed the area.

Mining incidents which have accounted for the majority of the marine casualties took three lives and wounded another 15 Marines on 5 December alone. The following day, a company sized patrol surprised a VC squad killing three of them and confiscating their equipment which included one AK-47, one pair of field glasses, one sampan, and other miscellaneous items. Later that day, the patrol received three Hoi Chanhs, possibly the remaining squad members of the earlier engagement.

The Battalion travelled to the Twin Rivers area on 9 December, established the base camp (WR 364 697), and implemented perimeter security measures. There was no contact, however, the Marines experienced casualties from their operation in the heavily mined area. The 6th Battalion was relieved of the ATF 211 command post security operation on 20 December. The same day, they began company sized operations in the southeastern portion of the A. O. On 21 December, the Marines made contact with a VC squad four miles south of their

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command post near the Rach Nga Ba Cai Tau (WR 388 623). When the skirmish ended, the Marines tallied three dead VC, one AK-47, five grenades, and 200 rounds of ammunition captured, and seven houses destroyed.

After the 6th Battalion was relieved by the 3rd Battalion on 26 December, the battle weary troops were airlifted to the Thu Duc base camp. The 6th Battalion served the remainded of the month in a six hour reserve status to JGS.

7th Infantry Battalion

The 7th Infantry Battalion terminated its small unit training and organization at the VNMC Training Center (XT 898 039) on 3 December. The Battalion moved to the National Training Center, Van Kiep, Baria (XS 390 610), and on 8 December, the Marines began seven weeks of initial unit training.

1st and 2nd Artillery Battalions

Employment of the artillery batteries is in the operational control summary which follows.

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VNMC OPERATIONAL CONTROL SUMMARY DECEMBER 1969

UNIT	DATES	OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF	OPERATION NAME	MISSION
Brigade A	1-9	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S. D. 21/36/211	RIF
	10-31	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S. D. 21/36,38,42/211	RIF
Brigade B	1-31	JGS	None	Reserve
1st Inf Bn	1-5	JGS	None	Reserve
	6-9	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S. D. 21/36/211	RIF
	10-31	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S. D. 21/36,38,42/211	RIF
2nd Inf Bn	1-13	JGS	None	Reserve
	14-31	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S. D. 21/36,38,42/211	RIF
3rd Inf Bn	1-10	Fifth Ranger Group/CMD	None	RIF
	11-13	JGS	None	Reserve
	14-26	CMD	None	Reserve
	27-31	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S. D. 21/36, 38,42/211	RIF
4th Inf Bn	1-9	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S. D. 21/36/211	RIF
	10-14	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S. D. 21/36,38,42/211	RIF
	15-26	JGS	None	Reserve
	27-31	CMD	None	Reserve

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UNIT	DATES	OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF	OPERATION NAME	MISSION
5th Inf Bn	1-8	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S.D. 21/36/211	RIF
	9-11	JGS	None	Reserve
	12-24	RSSZ	Wolfpack III	RIF
	25-31	JGS	None	Reserve
6th Inf Bn	1-9	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S.D. 21/36/211	RIF
	10-26	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S.D. 21/36,38,42/211	RIF
	27-31	JGS	None	Reserve
7th Inf Bn	1-4	JGS	None	Reserve
	5-31	JGS (Van Kiep NTC)	None	Training
1st Arty Bn	1-9	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S.D. 21/36/211	D/S
	10-31	ATF 211 (VNN/VNMC) 21st ARVN Div	Quyet Tien S.D. 21/36,38,42/211	D/S
2nd Arty Bn	1-24	JGS	None	Reserve
Btry D	1-24	JGS	None	Reserve
Btry E	1-24	CMD	None	D/S
Btry F	1-24	Rung Sat Special Zone	None	D/S
2nd Arty Bn	25-31	JGS	None	Reserve

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VNN/VNMC STATISTICAL SUMMARY

VIETNAMESE NAVY:

	Daily Average Oper	Daily Average Empl	Searched Junks	Searched People	Detained Junks	Detained People
COASTAL FORCE						
I/RAG 32	38.9/11.7	37.2/11.0	18,241	64,527	15	183
II	40.4	35.4	14,417	42,140	13	63
III	47.4	46.0	8,209	27,023	36	114
IV	41.4	38.7	6,547	23,100	0	0
		Sub-totals:	47,414	156,790	64	360
*FLEET COMMAND						
PATROL SHIPS	25.3	23.3	1,183	5,168	0	0
WPB's/PCF's	6.8/29.1	3.3/15.5	3,313	10,908	1	7
		Sub-totals:	4,496	16,076	1	7
RIVERINE AREA						
RIVER ASSAULT GROUPS	123.0	111.5	7,521	37,982	0	0
TF 211	75.6	69.8	3,601	7,823	0	0
TF 212	78.1	66.5	8,685	25,032	0	0
#CENTRAL TASK FORCE	46.8	42.4	0	0	0	0
		TOTALS:	71,717	243,703	65	367

VIETNAMESE MARINE CORPS: 28 November - 1 January

VC/NVA: KIA 87 Captured 24 Suspects detained 8

VNMC: KIA 36 WIA 212 MIA 1

HOI CHANH: 7

*Provided 28 gunfire support missions.

#Includes RAG's 27, 81, and 91

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PSYCHOLOGICAL OPERATIONS AND CIVIC ACTION SUMMARY

There were twenty four Hoi Chanh who rallied to U.S. and Vietnamese naval units during the month of December. Weariness with the war, lack of food, and disillusionment with the enemy cause were the principle reasons they gave for rallying. Two of the ralliers were from the Rung Sat Special Zone. Both were female, one a cook and the other a medic.

In Sea Float operations, the fresh water shortage at the Tran Hung Dao III annex II has become less critical as more fresh water carrying junks have traveled into the area. The 100 piaster per gallon price of water (about 84 cents U.S.) is expected to go down although it is now very high in comparison to the 10 piaster per gallon price in the Cai Nhap settlement.

One wood cutter in the Sea Float settlement has begun his own rice paddy by building dikes and transplanting wild rice that grows nearby. It is hoped that this example will be followed by others and that the local people will be able to grow more of their own food. While the high price of imported rice has put a burden on the people, recent rice crop harvests and larger importations of rice are expected to reduce the price in Sea Float during the following months.

English classes for about 80 children are being held in the community. Blackboards were installed which were contributed by the Seabees working on Solid Anchor, and plans have begun for construction of a school after the first of the year.

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Vaccinations are administered by Hospitalman Third Class David E. Trenkamp at Binh Thuy in an effort to curtail the spread of disease.

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Census-taking procedures in SEA FLOAT were recently revised due to the discovery that in aerial population counts, some houses being counted had no occupants, and sheds and sampan covers were being mistaken for houses. As a result of this, previous population reports may have inflated the actual figures by as much as 100 percent. Census taking is now being conducted by Psyops/Polwar personnel on foot and in junks. A count completed on 26 December revealed the following statistics.

No. Houses	Stable Pop.	Trans. Junks	Trans Pop.	Total Pop.
532	2,663	200	2,000	4,663

On 9 December, VADM Elmo Zumwalt, Commander Naval Forces, Vietnam, and Commodore Tran Van Chon, Chief of Naval Operations, VNN, were entertained by a class of about 75 children singing Vietnamese songs at the Tran Hung Dao site after which they toured the facilities. They seemed quite impressed by the continuing progress.

In the Danang area, U.S. personnel delivered 2,500 toys to poor children in schools and churches, and Christmas parties were given throughout the area. Assistance in self-help projects resulted in aid to 26 schools, 3 orphanages, three dispensaries, and 31 separate institutions in December.

Christmas parties were given by Naval personnel at NSA My Tho for children at Catholic and Protestant orphanages on 29 December. Presents and food were passed out that included 400 toys, 50 sodas, 100 lbs. of candy, 25 gallons of ice cream, and 30 pounds

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of cake. Casualties at the orphanages were listed as 400 captured hearts.

Market Time units, while conducting inspections, performed Psyops missions with the theme of "Better Relations between Junks and Market Time Units," distributing canned food and rice.

A Navy medical unit in Long An Province (XS 621 759) conducted a MEDCAP on 23 December treating 325 persons and distribuing 120 plastic bowls, 250 plastic bags, 200 tooth brushes, 200 Chieu Hoi balloons, and 800 bars of soap.

Seabee teams of the Third Naval Construction Brigade completed 49 projects during the month of December. These included 3 schools, 1 housing project, 14 bridges, 4 public buildings, 2 agricultural projects, 1 medical facility, 4 electrical systems, 9 roads, 1 water system, and 10 miscellaneous projects.

An irrigation project being built between the Tan Hiep/Nga Huu areas (XS 448 to XS 470 515) by Seabee Team 103 was discontinued due to an explosion of a land mine which injured three personnel and damaged a major piece of equipment.

Hospital corpsmen with Seabee teams treated 10,310 patients during December. A total of 241 Vietnamese civilians were reported to be in training to be carpenters, masons, plumbers, electricians mechanics, and various other trades.

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USN CIVIC ACTION STATISTICAL SUMMARY

26 OCT 69 - 25 NOV

TOTAL NUMBER OF MAN-DAYS* PERSONNEL OF UNITS ENGAGED IN CIVIC ACTION PROJECTS: 4,272

COST OF SUPPLIES CONTRIBUTED BY MILITARY RESOURCES FOR CIVIC ACTION PROJECTS: VN$ VN$ 3,180,263

EXPENDITURES FROM THE US/FWMAF CIVIC ACTION PSYWAR FUND: VN$ VN$ 945,410

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS: VN$ VN$ 700,651

PERCENTAGE OF U. S. MILITARY CIVIC ACTION ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED JOINTLY WITH:

Other FWMAF		14%
RVNAF		5%
U. S. civilian voluntary agencies		3%
Average percent of self-help by VN civilians:	Labor	90%
	Material	6%

PROGRAMS

	Man Days	Expenditures (VN$)
Economic Development	691	231,007
Education	1,126	1,083,547
Social Welfare	1,760	3,044,197
Transportation	695	467,578
Refugee	616	324,962

INSTITUES ASSISTED

	Number
Schools	54
Orphanages	9
Hospitals/Dispensaries	19
Others	93

* One Man-Day equals one ten hour working day

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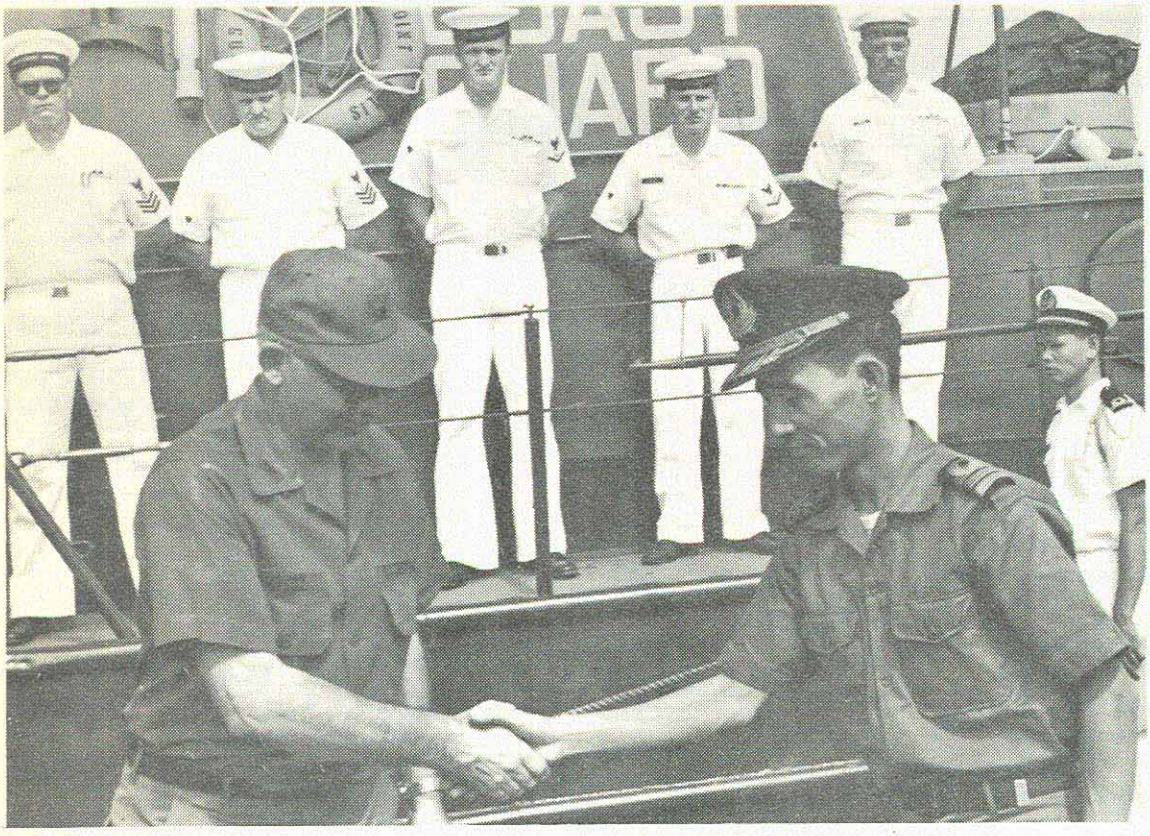

Captain Ralph W. Nietz, Commander Coast Guard Activities Vietnam, transferred the USCG cutter Point Ellis to Commander Bui Cuu Vien, VNN, Commander Third Coastal Zone.

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ACCELERATED TURNOVER PROGRAM AND TRAINING SUMMARY

The systematic turnover of U. S. Navy and U. S. Coast Guard assets and responsibilities to the Vietnamese Navy progressed smoothly in December. The Vietnamization of three more Coast Guard WPB's at the beginning of the month was the sum total of U. S. Navy and U. S. Coast Guard craft added to the Vietnamese Navy in December.

During the impressive ceremony that took place on 9 December at Cat Lo Naval Support Activity, Captain Ralph W. Niesz, Commander Coast Guard Activities Vietnam, and his prospective relief, Captain D. E. Perkins, USCG, representing the United States, transferred the USCG cutter POINT ELLIS to Commander Bui Cuu Vien, VNN, Commander Third Coastal Zone, who accepted the craft on behalf of the Vietnamese Navy.

Captain Ralph W. Niesz and Captain D. E. Perkins were again present for the turnover of the Coast Guard cutters POINT SLOCUM and POINT HUDSON on 11 December at the Small Craft Repair Facility in Danang. The addition of two more cutters increased the total number of WPB's in the Vietnamese Navy to eight. The following is a summary of all the WPB's that have been turned over to the Vietnamese Navy under the Small Craft Assets, Training and Turnover of Resources (SCATTOR) Program.

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SCATTOR#	DATE OF T/O	USCG NAME	VNN#	COASTAL ZONE OPERATING IN
1	16 May 1969	POINT GARNET	HQ 700	III & IV
2	16 May 1969	POINT LEAGUE	HQ 701	III & IV
3	15 Sep 1969	POINT CLEAR	HQ 702	III & IV
4	11 Nov 1969	POINT GAMMON	HQ 703	I
5	17 Nov 1969	POINT COMFORT	HQ 704	III & IV
9	9 Dec 1969	POINT ELLIS	HQ 707	III & IV
6	11 Dec 1969	POINT SLOCUM	HQ 705	I
7	11 Dec 1969	POINT HUDSON	HQ 706	I

As of 25 December, there were 243 VNN undergoing on-the-job training in the START Program. The OJT ground schools operated by TF 115 forces were in full operation. This was particularly beneficial in December since inclement weather had limited the amount of underway training. Coastal Division 11 reported that their VNN trainees have been standing quarterdeck watches, passing the applicable word in Vietnamese on the 1MC, and sharing the shore patrol duties. Some minor diciplinary problems remain within the START OJT Program. To keep from being transferred to new training sites or from receiving TAD duty aboard the PCF's away from their parent command for long periods of time, some VNN trainees purposely go U. A. until the manpower requirement has been filled utilizing someone else. This not only has resulted in loss of operational time but also has necessitated the utilization of personnel from other crews in order to fulfill the commitments.

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COMRIVPATFLOT FIVE reported that as of 20 December, 115 of the 350 VNN trainees assigned to the River Divisions were qualified. A critical review of the training program revealed that the trainees received 180 hours of operational training with no formal classroom instruction. This operational training was largely spent in waterborne guardposts, a condition requiring a minimal activity of any kind. This problem, coupled with the tempo of PBR operations, has not produced the desired solution. In order to rectify the situation and maintain the desired turnover schedule, plans were immediately consitituted to begin a four week boat school at Binh Thuy in mid-January that would provide 200 hours of productive instruction for each VNN trainee. The November EN "A" school graduates who have been arriving at the various River Divisions should help to alleviate the technical English problems. In an effort to solve personnel/administrative problems at the Division level, the VNN liaison officers of Divisions with special problems have been shuffled. The River Divisions involved in the March turnover have been relocated in order that the prospective RPG's can work as units consistent with the operating schedule.

Between 15 and 20 December, approximately 90 VNN RAC ACTOV trainees arrived at Dong Tam for further processing by the Riverine Strike Group to the operating units. Each RAC of the ten boat increments are to be manned by a full VNN crew with one USN as boat captain. The VNN officers assigned to RAC River Division are being trained in all aspects of riverine warfare by their USN officer counterpart.

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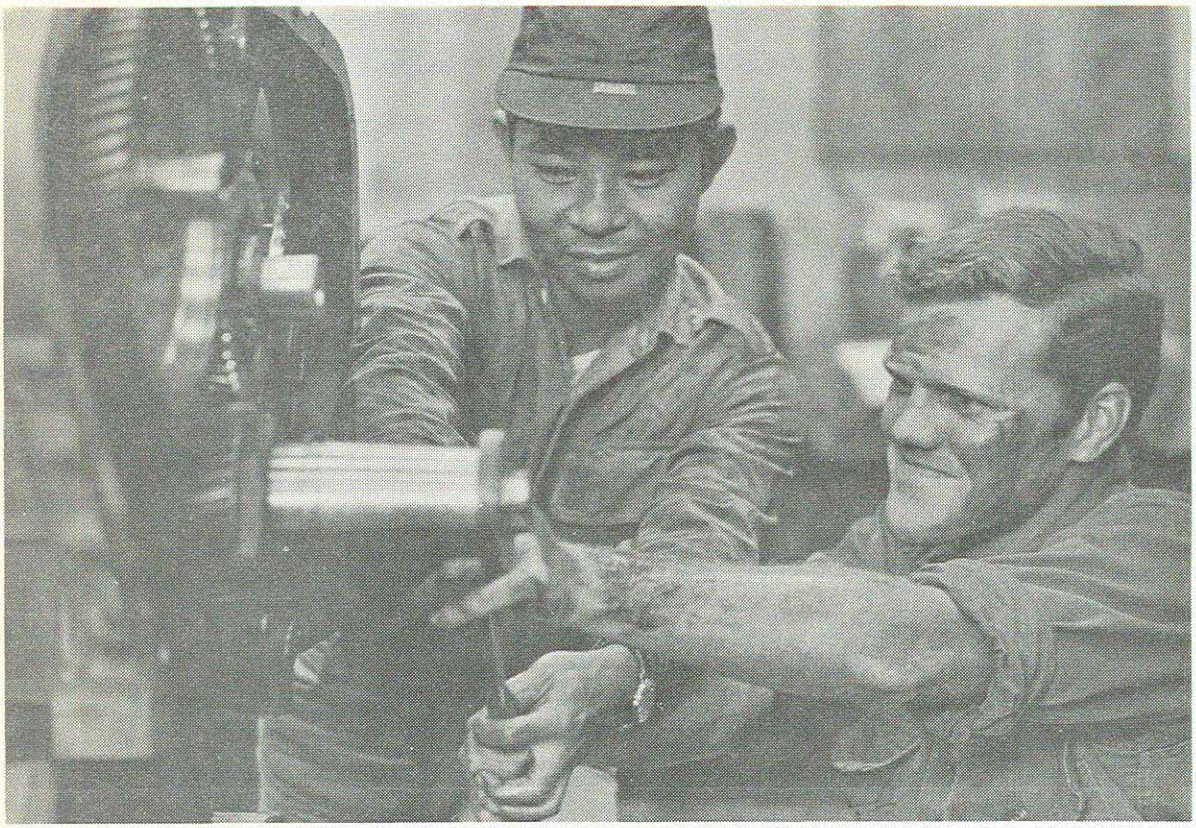

U. S. Coast Guard sailors teach their Vietnamese counterparts how to overhaul an engine at the Small Craft Repair Facility, NSA Danang. Engineman First Class Raymond C. Mullins helps his Vietnamese trainee, Nguyen Van Phat, remove a "stubborn" bolt.

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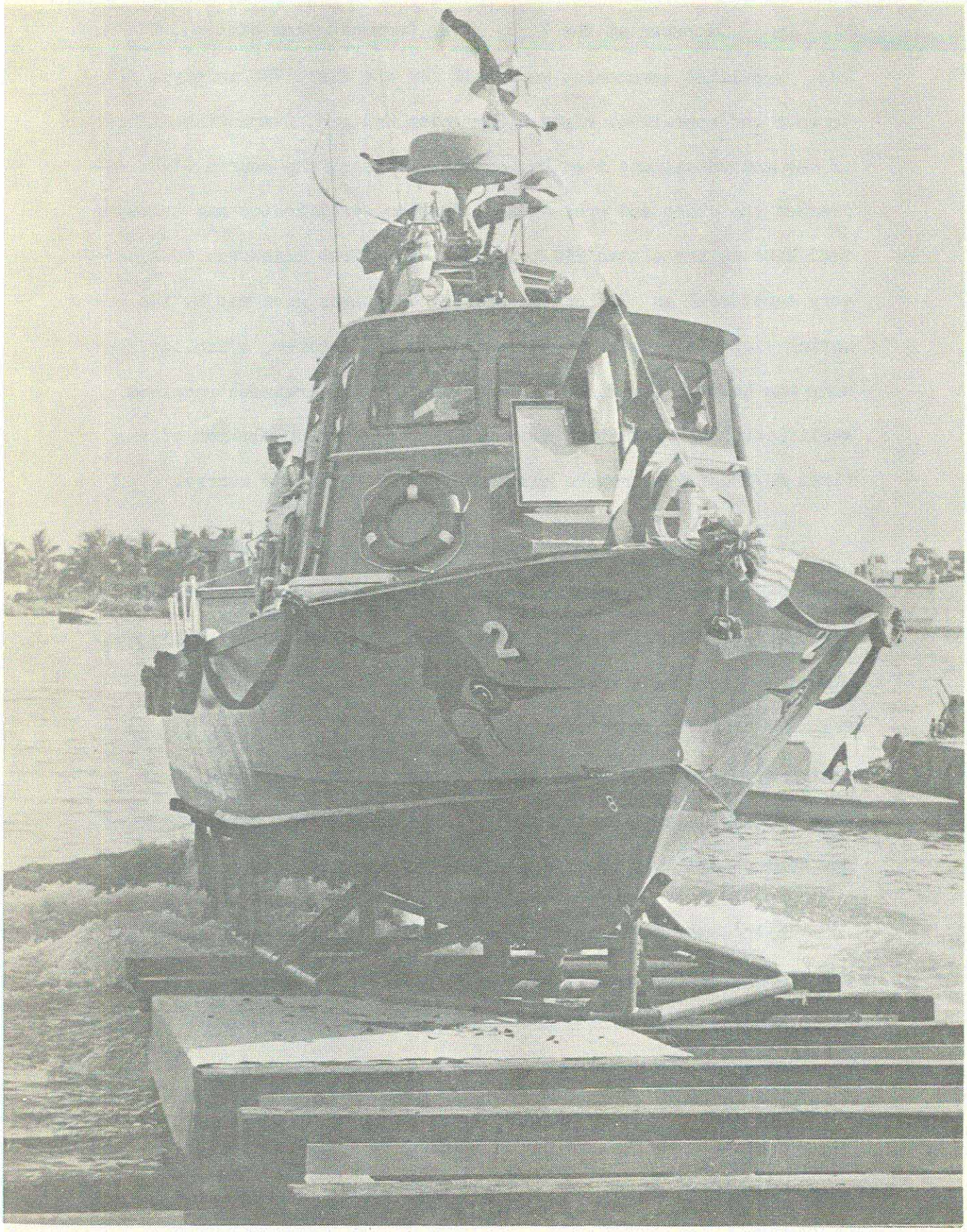
On 11 December at the U. S. Naval Communication Station, Cam Ranh Bay, graduation ceremonies were held for the first VNN teletype maintenance and operations class. Commander Madigan, Commanding Officer of the communications station, and RMC Johnson, the course CINC, addressed the class and presented graduation certificates and teletype tool kits to the eleven VNN trainees. The first class was considered very successful as 100% of the course objectives were met by the graduating students. Later in the month, on 23 December, a similar ceremony was held at Cam Ranh Bay in which four VNN trainees received certificates of graduation signifying successful completion of the first AN/FRC 109 microwave maintenance and operations course.

At the end of the month, there were 2,208 (41.4% of projected need) VNN personnel undergoing craft maintenance training at the various repair facilities. A total of 50 VNN have successfully completed a maintenance training program. In the base maintenance training program, there were 136 VNN receiving instruction (35.4% of the projected need), and in the supply training program, there were 139 VNN undergoing training. Three hundred and three VNN have now been phased into the VNN logistic support organization.

In the base development area of ACTOV, there were 12 bases and one ATSB in various stages of construction on 31 December. A total of 30 bases and ten ATSB's have been programmed for turnover to the Vietnamese Navy.



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VIETNAMESE FERRO-CEMENT SWIFT BOAT AND VIPER

Although the idea of utilizing ferro-cement for naval construction was first experimented with in Europe during the mid-nineteenth century, the Vietnamese Navy was not introduced to it until May of this year. Quick to see some of the possibilities for ferro-cement waterborne craft, the Vietnamese Navy began construction of a prototype ferro-cement junk. This project was completed in September when the first ferro-cement junk was launched at the Vietnamese Naval Shipyard in Saigon.

With the purpose of the ferro-cement building program outlined to provide the Vietnamese Navy the capability to meet their operational requirements for boats, the decision was made to design and develop a ferro-cement Swift boat (PCF) similar in construction to the aluminum U. S. PCF's and an experimental river craft termed the "Viper." After the Vietnamese Navy engineers had completed the design of the vessel, they and the Vietnamese Naval Shipyard employees joined forces to complete the prototype of each craft in a short four months.

On the afternoon of 20 December, the launching of the two vessels was held at the shipyard in Saigon. Commodore Tran Van Chon, Chief of Naval Operations, Vietnamese Navy, and Ambassador William E. Colby, Deputy COMUSMACV for the Committee on Revolutionary Developments, were the principal speakers at the impressive ceremony.

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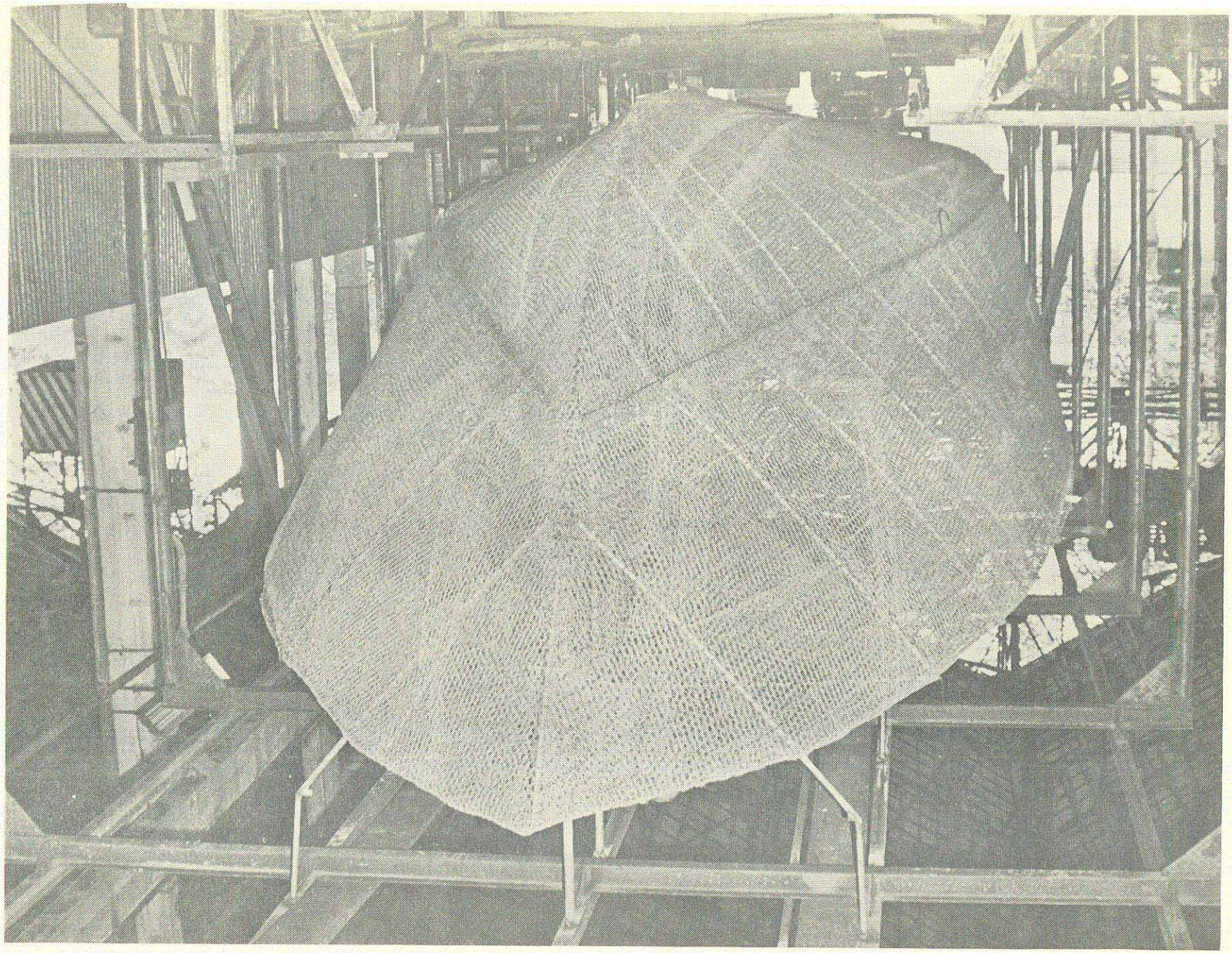
The ferro-cement Swift boat displaces 55,000 pounds, and it is 50 feet, one and one-half inches long and 12 feet, six and one-half inches at the beam. It has a designed top speed of approximately 20 knots and has armament identical to the aluminum USN PCF's.

The 28 foot Viper is an experimental river craft designed for river interdiction missions and escort and heavier fire support for the PBR's. It displaces 12,000 pounds and has a top speed of approximately 16 knots. The Viper will be armed with an automatic grenade launcher and two M-60 machine guns. It will be manned by a crew of four.

The construction of the ferro-cement hulls begins with a steel framework which is covered inside and out with an eight-layer, interwoven mesh of chicken wire. The mesh hull is filled with a mixture of portland cement, fozzolan, and sand. Both sides of the hull are smoothed, and it is allowed to damp-cure. The cured hull is finally worked with abrasives and chemicals and then sealed with an epoxy resin to insure watertightness. A slight modification in the construction of the Viper involved the use of a wooden mold in conjunction with the steel and chicken wire framework.

The cost of the ferro-cement PCF is approximately one-half of the USN aluminum version. Similarly, the construction cost of the ferro-cement Viper is approximately one sixth the estimated cost of a fiberglass version.



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NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY, SAIGON

The Naval Support Activity Detachment (NSAD) Dong Tam received three mortar attacks during December. There was major structural damage to the Amphibious Task Group 211 (ATG) barracks and minor structural damage to the CO ATF 211 living quarters and the ATF 211 supply storeroom. There were six Vietnamese sailors wounded in the attacks. There were no U.S. casualties or damage to U.S. facilities. There were two mortar attacks on the NSAD My Tho with no damage to U.S. facilites reported. However, three U.S. sailors were injured fighting a fire at the My Tho hospital nurses' quarters. Eight U.S. sailors and one Coast Guard man were wounded at the NSAD Cat Lo in a mortar/rocket attack. There was minor shrapnel damage to two BOQ's, two BEQ's, the Armed Forces Vietnam (AFVN) radio transmission cable, the main power transformers, two radiators to the AFVN radio generators, and two pickup trucks. The USS BENEVAH (APB-35) reported that an LCM-6 acting as a base inner defense (BID) boat exploded 300 yards from the ship wounding one U.S. sailor. The cause of the explosion was unknown. The YRBM-21 reported one Vietnamese civilian was accidentally wounded by a warning shot fired by the messenger. The VN was approaching the ship in a sampan and the warning shot ricocheted off the water.

The following was the personnel status of NSA Saigon at months end:

	Allowance	On Board
Officer	171	174

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Enlisted	2,984	3,154
Civilians	967	992
Total	4,122	4,320

The USS MARK (AKL 28), USS BRULE (AKL 12), YW-126, YFR-889, YFR-890, YF-866, 100 feet utility boats MONDERO and MOROCCO provided routine resupply services during December. The casualty to the port shaft and starboard reduction gear of YFR-889 was corrected on 10 December, and she provided routine resupply services the remainder of the month. The MOROCCO had a casualty to her starboard main engine on 23 December. The NSAD DONG TAM was tasked with the repair, and the estimated completion date is 15 January. On 27 December, the YTB-784 was turned over to the Naval Station, Subic Bay. During the month, YTB-785 returned from a restricted availability in Singapore. While the YTL-566 was in tow enroute to the Republic of Vietnam (RVN), it capsized and sank in the vicinity of Con Son Island. Initial salvage operations were unsuccessful and have been discontinued. The USS KISHNA (ARL 38) was enroute to the RVN from a restricted availability at Yokohama. The USS ASKARI (ARL 30) was at Long Xuyen; the USS SPHINX (ARL 24) was on the Vam Co River providing services to Giant Slingshot units; the USS SATYR (ARL 23) was stationed on the Song Ong Doc in the Gulf of Thailand providing support to Breezy Cove river assault craft; and the USS TUTUILA (ARG 4) was at An Thoi providing support to PCF's. The USS BENEWAH (APB 35), YRBM-16, YRBM-20 and YRBM-21 were positioned on the upper Bassac River supporting Border Interdiction operations. The APL-26 and APL-27 were providing addi-

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tional berthing facilities in support of the ACTOV program. The APL-30 was at Nha Be being prepared for relief of the APL-21 at An Thoi which is experiencing serious hull deterioration.

Construction of the brick plant at Cam Ranh Bay was completed, and the Butler building for the temporary BOQ was also completed. At An Thoi, the ACTOV construction was 60 percent complete at month's end. The construction of the boat repair building at Cat Lo/Vung Tau was completed, and construction of the security fence lighting and berthing for gunner's mates around the Vung Tau ammo storage point commenced. At Nha Be, the one ammi diesel plant was on site, and the estimated completion date of the installation is 15 January. Construction of administrative facilities at Dong Tam for CTG 194.7 were completed, and a permanent BOQ, head, and shower facilities are expected to be completed by 15 January. The water distribution system was 99 percent complete and is awaiting pump parts for final completion. Work on the ACTOV construction continued during the month. The Special Warfare Group building at COMNAVFORV headquarters in Saigon was completed during the month, and the helo pad dust at Ben Luc was completed; along with the new galley ammi at Go Dau Ha. At Vinh Gia, construction of the Naval Operations Center was completed.

During December repair support was provided to TF-115 Market Time units by the USS TUTUILA (ARG 4), NAVSUPPFAC Cam Ranh Bay, NAVSUPPACT DETS Qui Nhon, An Thoi, and Cat Lo. At Nha Be repairs were completed to three MK I PBR's. There are currently five PBR's in

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overhaul at Binh Thuy and three at Nha Be. The March turnover stand-down has fallen behind schedule; however, it was believed that this program will catch up due to new procedures which have been affected. During the month, the PBR bare hull assembly was started on a not to interfere basis.

Approval was received from the Naval Ship Systems Command in Washington for the installation of remote speakers in the MK I PBR's. There are one hundred speakers on hand being prepared for installation. The QUIET 46 modifications to be distributed to NSA Detachments for installation on TF-194 units are available upon notification of the quantity required and the availability of boats. Eighteen of 28 AN/URC-32 SSB transceivers have been received and are being overhauled for use in the SEA LORDS communications update project. The permanent installation of all communication and teletype equipment was completed in the communications center at the NSAD Dong Tam. The major maintenance problem is the Zippo and Zippo refueler. The U.S. Army Vietnam has indicated that Binh Thuy and Long Binh have the repair capability for the Navy units. The replacement for the M42A1 flame thrower service unit, surveyed by CTG 194.7, was not available. Plans were developed to convert an LCM-6 to a Zippo refueler. In-country assets will be used for the conversion; however, assets for additional units are not available.

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The following personnel and craft were supported by the NSA Detachments during December:

Base	Officer	Enlisted	Craft
Cam Ranh Bay	124	1,257	45
Qui Nhon	53	516	34
Cat Lo	130	901	67
An Thoi	66	552	40
Nha Be	217	2,094	100
Sa Dec	35	106	8
Binh Thuy	300	1,497	55
My Tho	14	357	15
Dong Tam/YRBM-17	49	602	118
YRBM-16	29	453	78
YRBM-20	28	525	32
YRBM-21	33	380	50
Mobile Base II	17	350	26
Ben Luc	70	844	72
Total			

The gross and net supply effectiveness for December were 71 percent and 81 percent respectively. Total issues were 15,656, and total demands processed were 21,990. In addition, there were 748 back orders released during the month.

In order to permit the Annapolis BEQ/BOQ disbursing office to function exclusively as an in/out processing center, and to consolidate

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all pay records in one location for more effective audit and maintenance, all pay records held at Annapolis were relocated to the main disbursing office at Nha Be on 7 December.

Fuel meters were provided to NSAD's Binh Thuy and Ben Luc and the Advanced Tactical Support Base at Rach Soi to be used in monitoring the commercial receipts and POL issues to VNN craft.

COMSERVPAC approved a proposal wherein, effective 1 January 1970, the Vietnamese Navy Supply Center will submit all requirements for Navy peculiar material to the Naval Supply Center, Oakland via the Naval Support Activity, Saigon. The NSA Saigon will render supply support to the VNN Supply Center within available assets.

The inventory of the Newport warehouse II was completed during December, and the inventory of warehouse III was commenced. The Naval Air Systems Command Headquarters was requested to reimburse $6,810 to cover the cost of non-consumable material provided to Duffel Bag Operations. All applicable detachments were directed to reduce the number of local national employees to comply with the revised personnel allowances.

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NAVAL SUPPORT ACTIVITY, DANANG

As in November, adverse weather conditions throughout the I Corps Tactical Zone severely hampered cargo operations during December. Retrograde cargo generation at current rates suggested a satisfactory export situation during January. As the monsoon season continues in the I CTZ, the weather conditions and their effects on cargo operations are unpredictable. Shipping projections from CONUS indicated substantially the same level of import activity in January as was experienced in December. Although minimal, Vietnamese rail business was initiated for the first time on 23 December as one locomotive crane was off-loaded at the Bridge Ramp, and cargo was received from USAID. One locomotive was moved through the Bridge Ramp for further transshipment to Saigon via the SS US PILOT. A summary of port operations during December follows:

	Off-load		Backload		Through-put	
	S/T	M/T	S/T	M/T	S/T	M/T
Danang	133,029	230,211	82,995	168,389	216,004	398,600
Chu Lai	31,353	57,173	5,154	17,489	36,507	74,662
Dong Ha/Cua Viet	11,720	17,795	7,316	20,827	19,036	38,622
Hue/Tan My	16,591	22,331	2,711	9,175	19,302	30,506
Sa Huynh	1,060	1,558	140	264	1,200	1,822

A record of 61,127 M/T was established for retrograde cargo backloaded out of the I Corps Tactical Zone in December.

Coastal operations were secured for six days during December due to adverse weather. From 5 through 8 December four LCM-8's, and

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three YFU's were provided for the Americal Division lift of heavy equipment from Mo Duc beach to Sa Huynh/Chu Lai. On 14 and 15 December, four LCM-8's and UDT TWELVE DET ECHO were provided to move Marine land-clearing equipment from Danang/Chu Lai to Barrier Island in support of the Republic of Korea Second Marine Brigade. EOD Team 43 personnel assisted CTG 115.1 on 21 and 22 December in bunker destruction, beach survey, and river obstacle removal in the Cua Dai River. During December, LCM-8/6's conducted 88 harbor shuttles carrying 199 short tons of cargo and made 16 amphibious beachings along the I CTZ coast carrying 886 short tons of cargo.

The supply demands combined gross and net effectiveness for Danang and Chu Lai remained the same during December as during the two previous months with 92 percent and 95 percent respectively. The overall Class I supply situation continued to remain good with 17 days of supply of A rations on hand. There were 10,190,580 C rations meals on hand at month's end and another 3,459,912 meals due in.

In the I CTZ, fuel issues in December decreased for the fourth consecutive month from 1,563,000 gallons per day in November to 1,372,000 gallons per day. Adverse weather continued to cause the Sea Load lines at Chu Lai and Tan My to be down much of the month necessitating the direct discharge to tank trucks at Chu Lai. The Chu Lai south fuel tank farm was completed during December adding an additional 62,000 barrels of storage capacity. The 1.2 mile POL line

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connecting the beach and Marine Air Group 13 refueler system to the south fuel tank farms was completed during December.

The personnel status for the Naval Support Activity, Danang at month's end follows:

Allowance	Officer	Enlisted
NSA	418	9,002
YR-71	2	89
Total	420	9,091
On Board Total	428	9,298

There were eight officers and one enlisted man assigned to Commander Naval Forces, Vietnam for various projects. During December, 38 personnel extended their tours in Vietnam bringing the total for 1969 to 1,168. There were 863 persons performing base security duties and 121 persons performing afloat security duties during the month. The following numbers of personnel were performing cargo handling duties during December:

Hatch Teams	279
Ramp Teams	134
Checkers	157
Admin Support	186
Fleet Air Support	42
Total	798

There was an average of 157,964 military personnel supported by the Naval Support Activity, Danang in the I CTZ during December.

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The dredge DAVISON removed 104,310 cubic meters from the entrance channel at Tan My and the SANDCASTER dredged 92,533 cubic meters from the Perfume River. At Cua Viet, the dredge SWELLMASTER removed 86,784 cubic meters from the entrance channel.

Construction for Project MOOD was 82 percent complete for Navy facilities and 40 percent complete for all military facilities at month's end. The retrograde facility for the Fleet Logistics Center, the apron and taxiway for MAG-16, the Danang south by-pass road, and north Cau Do road, the electrical distribution system for I Corps power, utilities at the Small Craft Repair Facility (SCRF), the aircraft shelters for MAG-11, and the Danang bridge protection rework were all completed during the month. The construction of the retrograde facility at Red Beach was 62 percent complete and the estimated beneficial occupancy date is 10 January 1970.

The following is the personnel status of personnel under the PHILCO FORD contract. The figures include program management, personnel in training, and personnel associated with public works, supply, SCRF, and the Third Naval Construction Brigade.

	US	LN	TCN	Total
On Board 24 Nov:	124	1,254	2,527	3,905
On Board 26 Dec:	123	1,251	2,432	3,806
Est on Board 31 Jan:	114	1,287	2,165	3,566

On 1 December, the Naval Support Activity, Danang assumed the DRAYAGE functions previously performed under contract to the Korean

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Express-Keangnam LTD (KEKN). The performance of KEKN was satisfactory for the month of December. The guaranteed minimum contract requirements were met both seaside and pierside. The following is the cargo handled by the KEKN during December:

Total Offload:	57,599 S/T	74,907 M/T
Total Backload:	11,994 S/T	46,772 M/T
Daily Through-put Average:	2,245 S/T	3,925 M/T

The station hospital at Danang had 1,309 patients admitted during December including 34 prisoners-of-war. Of this total, 295 were battle casualties, 78 for minor surgery, 311 for major surgery and 101 malaria admissions. There were 13 single amputations and seven double amputations during the month. The average daily patient census was 357 for December with 376 beds occupied at month's end including 34 prisoners-of-war.

Rear Admiral Robert E. Adamson Jr., USN, relieved Rear Admiral Emmett P. Bonner, USN, as Commander Naval Support Activity, Danang in ceremonies at China Beach on 19 December. RADM Bonner was issued the Legion of Merit for services rendered during the ceremony.

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THIRD NAVAL CONSTRUCTION BRIGADE

Enemy activity was extremely light during December with only eight incidents reported. Six of these attacks occurred south of Danang between Dien Ban village and landing zone Baldy, a distance of 17 kilometers. There was only one Seabee wounded, and his injury was sustained when a water truck backed over a mine.

The line of communication road upgrade program continued to show progress during the month with a major effort employed in the maintenance and repair of damage caused by heavy monsoons. South of Danang, work continued on route QL-1 between the Song Thanh Quit and the intersection of routes QL-1 and 535. Major repairs and maintenance have been accomplished through the Hai Van pass in an effort to prevent further failures. Maintenance work continued on routes ML-13C, ML-12E, ML-12W, ML-1C and ML-1D.

Work on the aircraft shelters continued during the month with 119 shelters under construction, 35 shelters completed except for concrete covers, and 66 shelters fully completed. There are 152 aircraft shelters in the approved program.

The restoration of bridge QL-1-14, which collapsed on 19 November as a result of heavy debris accumulation, was completed by the Seabees of Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133 on 23 December. The Hue by-pass ferry project, which included two ferry landings with access roads, security towers, fencing and lighting, was 95 percent complete at month's end. The ramps are usably complete. Materials for the

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remaining two Military Class 30 timber bridges to be constructed on secondary roads north of Hue were being shipped and staged. The overall project is 52 percent completed. The construction of the Force Logistics Command retrograde facility at Red Beach neared completion at the end of December. The beneficial occupancy date is estimated to be 10 January 1970. At the Marble Mountain Air Facility the Seabees of NMCB 121 were constructing operational, administrative, and support facilities to accommodate the re-deployment of two helicopter squadrons to Marine Air Group 16. All facilities have been turned over as usably completed. Construction of screening and detention facilities for CORDS at four sites in the I Corps Tactical Zone are being accomplished by the Seabees. The projects consist of barracks, kitchen facilities, security posts, fencing, and utilities. The facilities at Tam Ky, Hoi An and Quang Ngai were completed, and at Hue work has not started pending completion of fill requirements by a local contractor under contract to CORDS.

During the month of December, NMCB 1 continued a heavy construction load in the III and IV Corps Tactical Zones at five locations with a total of 261 men. Construction at the VNN base at An Thoi continued, and the project is currently 80 percent complete. Work at the ACTOV base at Ha Tien was 25 percent complete at month's end. The delivery and placement of fill at Nam Can is progressing satisfactorily. Work on the VNN self help/maintenance program continued during the month.

Naval Construction Forces have a funded backlog amounting to 41.3 weeks of horizontal work and 40.3 weeks of vertical work. The pro-

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grammed backlog amounts to an additional 3.6 weeks of horizontal and 4.8 weeks of vertical work. These projections are based on the planned employment of five construction battalions.

From 22 to 28 December, Captain C. F. Krickenberger, CEC, USN, Commander Naval Construction Battalions, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, visited the Naval Construction Forces, in the I Corps Tactical Zone and was briefed by the Commander Third Naval Construction Brigade on current Seabee operations.

On 24 December, Rear Admiral J. W. Kelly, CHC, USN, Chief of Navy Chaplains, visited and was briefed by the Naval Construction Forces Chaplain at Camp Haskin, Danang.

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APPENDIX I
GLOSSARY OF ABBREVIATIONS

The following abbreviations and terms are commonly used in the combat zone by all agencies and are listed here in amplification of those used in the text:

AF F	Attack by fire
AMMI PONTOON	A multi-purpose barge, standard size is twenty-eight feet by ninety feet
AO	Area of operations
ARVN	Army of the Republic of Vietnam
ASPB	Assault Support Patrol Boat
ATC	Armored Troop Carrier
ATSB	Advance Tactical Support Base
A/W	Automatic weapons
Black Pony/Bronco	OV-10 Twin Engine Turboprop Counterinsurgency Aircraft
CCB	Command and Communications Boat
CG	Coastal Group
CHICOM	Chinese Communist
CIDG	Civilian Irregular Defense Group- mercenaries of Vietnamese, Laotian, Cambodian descent who fight primarily around their own villages
CMD	Capital Military District
CONUS	Continental United States
CRIP	Civilian Reconnaissance Intelligence Platoon

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CS	Tear gas grenades
CTZ	Corps Tactical Zone
CZ	Coastal Zone
Delta Hawk	Mohawk OV-1C aircraft
Dustoff	Medical evacuation by helicopter
ENIFF	Enemy initiated firefight
FOB	Forward Observation Base
FSB	Fire Support Base
FWMAF	Free World Military Assistance Forces
GDA	Gun Damage Assesment
GVN	Government of Vietnam
HAFT	Helicopter Attack Fire Team
H&I	Harassment and Interdiction Fire Support
JGS	Joint General Staff (Vietnamese)
Kit Carson Scouts	Former VietCong who have come over to the side of the Saigon government and serve with allied military units
LAFT	Light Attack Fire Team (OV-10's)
LAW	Light Anti-tank Weapon
LCPL	Landing Craft, Personnel, Large
LDNN	Vietnamese equivalent of USN Underwater Demolition Team
LHFT	Light Helo Fire Team
LOH	OH-6 Light Observation Helicopter
LRRP	Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol

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MACV	Military Assistance Command, Vietnam
MATSB	Mobile Advance Tactical Support Base
MEDCAP	Medical Civic Action Program
MONITOR	Heavily armored LCM-6 (40mm cannon or 105mm howitzer)
MRB	Mobile Riverine Base
MRF	Mobile Riverine Force
MSB	Minesweeper, Boat
MSD	Minesweeper, Drone
MSF	Mobile Strike Force - mercenaries who deploy and go anywhere
NGFS	Naval Gunfire Support
NILO	Naval Intelligence Liaison Officer
NIOTC	Naval Inshore Operations Training Center
NOD	Night Observation Device
NVA	North Vietnamese Army
OINC	Officer in Charge
OJT	On the Job Training
PBR	Patrol Boat, River
PCF	Patrol Craft, Fast (SWIFT Boat)
POW	Prisoner of War
PRU	Provincial Reconnaissance unit
PSA	Province Sector Advisor
Psyops	Psychological Operations
RAD	River Assault Division
RAG	River Assault Group (VNN)

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RAID	River Assault and Interdiction Division (VNN)
RAS	River Assault Squadron
RF/PF	Regional Forces/Popular Forces
RPG	Rocket Propelled Grenade or River Patrol Group
RSSZ	Rung Sat Special Zone
RVNAF	Republic of Vietnam Air Force (or Armed Forces)
SAR	Search and Rescue
SEAWOLF	UH-1B Helo, heavily armed, USN operated
SHADOW	C-119 aircraft
SKIMMER	20' fiberglass moter boat
SLICK	UH-1B Helo, USA operated
SPOOKY	C-47 aircraft
SSB	Swimmer Support Boat (skimmer)
STAB	Strike Assault Boat
SCATTOR	Small Craft Asstet, Training, and Turnover of Resources
START	Swift Training and Rapid Turnover
TAOR	Tactical Area of Responsibility
USARV	United States Army, Vietnam
VNMC	Vietnamese Marine Corps
VNN	Vietnamese Navy
ZIPPO	Flame thrower equipped ATC or Monitor Waterborne Guardposts

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COMNAVFORV/CHNAVADVGRP TASK AND ADVISORY ORGANIZATION
NOTE 05440
1 January 1970

COMNAVFORV/CHNAVADVGRP TASK AND ADVISORY ORGANIZATION

TASK GROUP 194.0

CTG 194.0	FIRST SEA LORDS COMMANDER (CAN THO)	RADM W.R. FLANAGAN, USN COMMANDER FIRST SEA LORDS/NAVIE DMAC/ DEPUTY COMNAVFORV
CTG 194.1	CRUSADES COMMANDER	CAPT J.R. FALK, USN COMRIVPATFOR/ COMRIVPATFLOT FIVE
CTU 194.1.0	DEPUTY CRUSADES COMMANDER (SAIGON)	CDR D.J. JALTER, USN
CTU 194.1.2	BREEZY COVE CRUSADES COMMANDER (SONG ONG DOC)	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 194.1.3	RSSZ CRUSADES COMMANDER (NHA BE)	LTJG J.M. HOGAN, USNR OIC CTF 116 MONITOR TEAM TWO
CTU 194.1.4	BARRIER REEF WEST	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 194.1.5	TF 115 CRUSADES COMMANDER	CAPT J.J. SHANAHAN, USN COMCOSURVFOR
CTE 194.1.5.1	CUA DAI CRUSADES COMMANDER	AS ASSIGNED
CTE 194.1.5.2	SEA FLOAT CRUSADES COMMANDER	AS ASSIGNED
CTE 194.1.5.3	QUI NHON CRUSADES COMMANDER	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 194.1.6	VINH TE CRUSADES COMMANDER (BA XOAI)	LT R.F. KREBS, USN OIC TF 116 MONITOR TEAM ONE
CTU 194.1.7	TG 194.7 CRUSADES COMMANDER (DONG TAM)	PIVSTRIKEGRP MONITOR TEAM (AS ASSIGNED)
CTU 194.1.8	BARRIER REEF EAST CRUSADES COMMANDER (THUYEN NHON)	AS ASSIGNED

GROUP-4
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

DECLASSIFIED
CONFIDENTIAL

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NAVFORV/NAVADVGRP MACV
NOTE 05440
1 January 1970

CTU 194.1.9	GIANT SLINGSHOT CRUSADES COMMANDER (TRA CU)	LT J.C. YOUNG, USNR OIC 116 MONITOR TEAM THREE
CTG 194.2	BREEZY COVE GROUP COMMANDER	LCDR L.H. THAMES, USN COMRIVRON 53
CTU 194.2.1	PATROL UNIT (PBR)	LT N.W. BERRY, USN COMRIVDIV 572
CTU 194.2.3	PATROL UNIT (RAC)	OIC RAD 131 AND 152
CTU 194.2.4	LST SUPPORT UNIT	CO USS GARRETT COUNTY
CTU 194.2.5	HELO SUPPORT UNIT	OIC, HAL-3, DET 6
CTU 194.2.6	SPECIAL WARFARE UNIT	LTJG R. WOOLARD, USNR OIC SEAL TEAM DET ALFA, 3rd PLATOON
CTE 194.2.6.1	MOBILE SUPPORT TEAM TWO DETACHMENT CHARLIE	AS ASSIGNED
CTG 194.3	SEARCH TURN GROUP COMMANDER	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 194.3.1	PATROL UNIT	LT W.H. GRAHAM, USN COMRIVDIV 513
CTU 194.3.2	PATROL UNIT	LT G.N. EISCHEN, USN COMRIVDIV 553
CTU 194.3.3	INTERDICTION OPS HELO SUPPORT UNIT	LCDR D.W. STREY, USN OIC HAL-3, DET 8
CTU 194.3.4	LST SUPPORT UNIT	CO USS HARNETT COUNTY
CTU 194.3.5	PATROL UNIT	LT E.E. NcNEELY, USN COMRIVDIV 554
CTU 194.3.6	OIC SEAL PLTN K DET G	AS ASSIGNED
CTE 194.3.6.1	A SQUAD	AS ASSIGNED

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVFORV/NAVADVGRP MACV
NOTE 05440
1 January 1970

APPENDIX II

COMNAVFORV/CHNAVADVGRP TASK AND ADVISORY ORGANIZATION

TASK FORCE 115

CTF 115	COASTAL SURVEILLANCE FORCE	CAPT J.J. SHANAHAN, USN
CTG 115.1	NORTHERN SURVEILLANCE GROUP (MSC/MSO/WPB/PCF/PG ASSIGNED)	CDR R.C. KUCERA, USN COMMANDER AND FIRST COASTAL ZONE ADVISOR HQ ASHORE DANANG
CTU 115.1.0	SEA TIGER (CUA DAI RIVER) ON SCENE COMMANDER	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 115.1.1	NORTHERN OFFSHORE REACTION UNIT ONE (MSO/MSC/PG/WHEC ASSIGNED)	SENIOR CO, OFFSHORE PATROL AREA ONE
CTU 115.1.2	NORTHERN OFFSHORE REACTION UNIT TWO (MSO/MSC/PG ASSIGNED)	SENIOR CO, OFFSHORE PATROL AREA TWO
CTU 115.1.3	NORTHERN INSHORE REACTION UNIT (WPB/PCF ASSIGNED)	CDR R.C. KUCERA, USN COMMANDER AND FIRST COASTAL ZONE ADVISOR HQ ASHORE DANANG
CTU 115.1.4	NORTHERN BARRIER REACTION UNIT (MSO/WHEC ASSIGNED)	SENIOR CO, BARRIER PATROL UNIT
CTU 115.1.5	DUFFEL BAG DETACHMENT	LTJG G.L. CATLETT, USNR
CTU 115.1.6	NORTHERN WPB SUPPORT UNIT COGARDIV 12 (WPB ASSIGNED)	LCDR T.C. VOLKLE, USCG COMMANDER COAST GUARD DIVISION 12
CTU 115.1.7	NORTHERN PCF SUPPORT UNIT	LCDR D.R. BRECKENRIDGE, USN, COMMANDER COASTAL DIVISION 12

GROUP-4
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

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CTU 115.2	CENTRAL SURVEILLANCE GROUP (MSO/MSC/WPB/PCF/PG/WHEC ASSIGNED)	CDR H.C. BOSCHEN, USN COMMANDER AND SECOND COASTAL ZONE ADVISOR HQ ASHORE NHA TRANG
CTU 115.2.1	NORTH CENTRAL SURVEILLANCE UNIT	LCDR DUONG VAN QUI, VNN COMMANDER AND QUI NHON CSC OFFICER HQ ASHORE QUI NHON
CTU 115.2.2	SOUTH CENTRAL SURVEILLANCE UNIT	CDR H.C. BOSCHEN, USN COMMANDER AND SECOND COASTAL ZONE ADVISOR HQ ASHORE NHA TRANG
CTE 115.2.2.1	SOCEN OFFSHORE REACTION ELEMENT FOUR (MSO/MSC/ WPB/PCF ASSIGNED)	SENIOR CO, OFFSHORE PATROL AREA FOUR
CTE 115.2.2.2	SOCEN OFFSHORE REACTION ELEMENT FIVE (MSO/MSC/ PG/WHEC ASSIGNED)	SENIOR CO, OFFSHORE PATROL AREA FIVE
CTE 115.2.2.3	SOCEN INSHORE REACTION ELEMENT (WPB/PCF ASSIGNED)	CDR H.C. BOSCHEN, USN COMMANDER AND SECOND COASTAL ZONE ADVISOR HQ ASHORE NHA TRANG
CTE 115.2.2.7	SOCEN PCF SUPPORT ELEMENT COSDIV 14 (PCF ASSIGNED)	LT D.J. SULLIVAN, USN COMMANDER COASTAL DIVISION 14
CTG 115.3	SOUTHERN SURVEILLANCE GROUP (MSO/MSC/WPB/PCF/ WHEC/LST ASSIGNED)	CDR P.A. YOST, USCG COMMANDER AND THIRD COASTAL ZONE ADVISOR HQ ASHORE VUNG TAU
CTU 115.3.1	SOUTHERN OFFSHORE REACTION UNIT SIX (MSO/MSC/PG/ WHEC ASSIGNED)	SENIOR CO, OFFSHORE PATROL AREA SIX

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DECLASSIFIED

CTU 115.3.2	SOUTHERN OFFSHORE REACTION UNIT SEVEN (MSO/MSC/PG/ WHEC ASSIGNED)	SENIOR CO, OFFSHORE PATROL AREA SEVEN
CTU 115.3.3	SOUTHERN INSHORE REACTION UNIT (WPB/PCF ASSIGNED)	CDR P.A. YOST, USCG COMMANDER AND THIRD COASTAL ZONE ADVISOR HQ ASHORE VUNG TAU
CTU 115.3.4	MARKET TIME RAIDER UNIT	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 115.3.5	MARKET TIME RAIDER UNIT	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 115.3.6	SOUTHERN WPB SUPPORT UNIT COGARDIV 13 (WPB ASSIGNED)	LCDR D.P. GATTO, USCG COMMANDER COAST GUARD DIVISION 13
CTU 115.3.7	SOUTHERN PCF SUPPORT UNIT COSDIV 13 (PCF ASSIGNED)	LCDR J.W. STREULI, USN COMMANDER COASTAL DIVISION 13
CTU 115.3.9	SOUTHERN OPERATION SUPPORT UNIT (AS ASSIGNED)	SENIOR CO/OIC
CTG 115.4	GULF OF THAILAND SURVEILLANCE GROUP	CDR KIEM, VNN
CTG 115.5	UNASSIGNED	
CTG 115.6	GULF OF THAILAND OFFSHORE PATROL UNIT (WHEC ASSIGNED)	CO WHEC ASSIGNED AREA EIGHT/NINE
CTG 115.7	SEA FLOAT COMMANDER/ GULF OF THAILAND SEA LORDS COMMANDER	CDR J.C. PATRICK, USN COMMANDER MOBILE ADVANCED TACTICAL SUPPORT BASE
CTU 115.7.0	SEA FLOAT/SEA LORDS LOGISTIC SUPPORT UNIT (LST)	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 115.7.1	SEA FLOAT/SEA LORDS OPERATIONS/PLANNING UNIT	AS ASSIGNED

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL DECLASSIFIED

CTE 115.7.1.1	SEA FLOAT/SEA LORDS WATERBORNE UNITS (PCFs ASSIGNED)	SENIOR OIC PCFs Assigned
CTU 115.7.2	SEA FLOAT BASE DEFENSE UNIT	AS ASSIGNED
CTE 115.7.2.1	SEA FLOAT EOD/UDT DET	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 115.7.3	SEA FLOAT NGFS UNIT	CO PG ASSIGNED
CTU 115.7.4	SEA FLOAT GROUND SECURITY UNIT (WHEN ASSIGNED)	U.S. ADVISORS AS ASSIGNED
CTU 115.7.5	SEA FLOAT VNN POLWAR UNIT	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 115.7.6	SEA FLOAT SEAL DETACHMENT, SPECIAL OPERATIONS GROUP ONE	LT M.F. CRANE, USN OIC SEAL DELTA PLATOON
CTE 115.7.6.1	SPECIAL OPERATIONS GROUP TWO	LTJG C.S. PROUTY, USN OIC SEAL MIKE PLATOON
CTE 115.7.6.2	SPECIAL OPERATIONS SUPPORT UNIT	LTJG J.G. ENGSTROM, USN OIC MOBILE SUPPORT TEAM TWO DET ECHO
CTU 115.7.7	SEA FLOAT/GULF OF THAILAND SEA LORDS SUPPORT UNIT (AN THOI)	LCDR C.L. MILLER, USN COMMANDER COASTAL DIVISION 11
CTU 115.7.8	SEA FLOAT AIR REACTION UNIT (SEAWOLVES)	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 115.7.9	SEA FLOAT/GULF OF THAILAND SEA LORDS AIR RECON UNIT (LOU/SLICK ASSIGNED)	AS ASSIGNED
CTG 115.8	OPERATIONAL READINESS GROUP	CAPT J.J. SHANAHAN, USN COMMANDER

CONFIDENTIAL DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

NAVFORV/NAVADVGRP MACV
NOTE 05440
1 January 1970

CTU 115.8.1	WPB OPERATIONAL READINESS UNIT	CAPT D.E. PERKINS, USCG COMMANDER AND COMCOGARDRON ONE
CTU 115.8.2	PCF OPERATIONAL READINESS UNIT	CDR L.R. JEFFERIS, USN COMMANDER AND COMCOSRON ONE
CTU 115.8.3	HARBOR DEFENSE READINESS UNIT	CDR G.H. OVERSTREET, USN COMMANDER AND OIC IUWG 1 WESTPAC DET
CTU 115.8.4	PG OPERATIONAL READINESS UNIT	LCDR J.R. SWAIN, USN COMCOSDIV 32
CTG 115.9	HARBOR DEFENSE GROUP	CDR G.H. OVERSTREET, USN COMMANDER AND OIC IUWG 1 WESTPAC DET
CTU 115.9.1	HARBOR DEFENSE UNIT VUNG TAU	LCDR R.G. MONTGOMERY, USN OIC HARBOR DEFENSE
CTU 115.9.2	HARBOR DEFENSE UNIT CAM RANH BAY	LCDR W.G. DYER, USN OIC HARBOR DEFENSE
CTU 115.9.3	HARBOR DEFENSE UNIT QUI NHON	LCDR H.L. BARNES, USN OIC HARBOR DEFENSE
CTU 115.9.4	HARBOR DEFENSE UNIT NHA TRANG	LCDR W.G. MURPHY, USN OIC HARBOR DEFENSE

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVFORV/NAVADVGRP MACV
NOTE [illegible]
1 January 1970

COMNAVFORV/CHNAVADVGRP TASK AND ADVISORY ORGANIZATION

TASK FORCE 116

CTF 116	RIVER PATROL FORCE/ RIVER PATROL FLOTILLA FIVE	CAPT J.F. FAULK, USN DEPUTY FIRST SEA LORDS COMRIVPATFOR/ COMRIVPATFLOT FIVE
CTG 116.4	VAL-4 (BINH THUY)	CDR M.S. SCHUMAN, USN CO, VAL-4
CTU 116.4.8	VAL-4, DET ALFA (BINH THUY)	LCDR R. BALLARD, USN OIC, VAL-4, DET ALFA
CTU 116.4.9	VAL-4, DET BRAVO (VUNG TAU)	LCDR J. BUTTERFIELD, USN OIC, VAL-4, DET BRAVO
CTU 116.6.7	SPECIAL OPERATIONS SUPPORT UNIT (BINH THUY)	LT T.A. MASON, USNR OIC MOBILE SUPPORT TEAM TWO
CTE 116.6.7.1	SPECIAL OPERATIONS SUPPORT ELEMENT A (NHA BE)	ENS R.S. SCOTT, USNR OIC MOBILE SUPPORT TEAM TWO, DET ALFA
CTE 116.6.7.2	SPECIAL OPERATIONS SUPPORT ELEMENT B (BEN LUC)	LTJG C. BORIELL, USNR OIC MOBILE SUPPORT TEAM TWO, DET BRAVO
CTE 116.6.7.3	SPECIAL OPERATIONS SUPPORT ELEMENT C (SONG ONG DOC)	LTJG J. TODD, USNR OIC MOBILE SUPPORT TEAM TWO, DET CHARLIE
CTE 116.6.7.4	SPECIAL OPERATIONS SUPPORT ELEMENT D (NHA BE)	LTJG S.B. HAZARD, USNR OIC MOBILE SUPPORT TEAM TWO, DET DELTA
CTU 116.6.8	BEACHJUMPER UNIT ONE TEAM 13 (BINH THUY)	LTJG G. GOTTEMUELLER, USNR OIC, BJU 1, TEAM 13

GROUP-4
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS;
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

CONFIDENTIAL

DECLASSIFIED

NAVFORT/NAVAIRVGPP NACV
NOTE 3040
1 January 1970

CTU 116.6.9	EOD TEAM (BINH THUY)	WO-2 J.R. LUNDBERG, USN OIC EOD TEAM 38
CTG 116.8	HELO SUPPORT GROUP (BINH THUY)	CAPT R. BECHWITH, USN CO, HAL-3
CTG 116.9	RUNG SAT SPECIAL ZONE RIVER PATROL GROUP (NHA BE)	CDR C.J. WAGES, JR, USN COMRSSZRIVPATGRP
CTU 116.9.1	RSSZ RIVER PATROL UNIT (NHA BE)	LT T.P. McGINLEY, USN COMRIVDIV 531
CTU 116.9.2	RSSZ MCM UNIT ALFA (NHA BE)	LT R.H. CHAMPION, USN COMINEDIV 112
CTU 116.9.5	SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIT A (NHA BE)	LTJG A.Y. BRYSON, USN OIC SEAL TEAM DET ALFA, 10th PLATOON
CTU 116.9.6	SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNIT D (NHA BE)	LT W. GARDNER, USN OIC SEAL TEAM DET ALFA, 9th PLATOON
CTU 116.9.8	RSSZ HELO UNIT A (NHA BE)	CDR W.E. SERIG, USN OIC HAL-3, DET TWO

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

CTE 194.3.6.2	B SQUAD	AS ASSIGNED
CTG 194.4	BARRIER INTERDICTION GROUP COMMANDER	CDR T.F. MULLANE, USN
CTU 194.4.0	DEPUTY INTERDICTION GROUP COMMANDER/COMMANDER TRAN HUNG DAO I/CTG 212.4	LCDR LAM, VNN
CTU 194.4.1	COMMANDER WESTERN SECTOR TRAN HUNG DAO (HA TIEN)	LCDR QUE, VNN
CTE 194.4.1.1	CG 41/42/43/44 (HA TIEN)	LT LO, VNN
CTE 194.4.1.2	PCF ELEMENT (HA TIEN)	SENIOR OIC
CTE 194.4.1.3	RIVDIV 532	LT J.B. BISHOP, USN
CTU 194.4.2	COMMANDER CENTRAL SECTOR TRAN HUNG DAO I	LT D.A. SPAUGY, USN
CTE 194.4.2.1	RIVDIV 535	LT R.R. LEPAK, USN
CTE 194.4.2.2	RIVDIV 512	LT D.A. SPAUGY, USN
CTE 194.4.2.3	RIVIDV 515	LT T.F. O'CONNOR, USN
CTE 194.4.2.4	RIVDIV 551	LT A.R. SMELLEY, USN
CTE 194.4.2.5	RIVDIV 573	LT G.J. ELLIS, USN
CTE 194.4.2.6	RIVDIV 571	LT J.W. LUKSICH, USN
CTU 194.4.3	COMMANDER EASTERN SECTOR TRAN HUNG DAO I	LT THINH, VNN
CTE 194.4.3.1	RAD 132 DET A	SENIOR BOAT CAPT
CTE 194.4.3.2	KENNER SKI BARGE ELEMENT	LTJG AN, VNN
CTE 194.4.3.3	RIVPATGRP 54	LT THINH, VNN

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CONFIDENTIAL

NAVFORV/NAVADVGRP MACV DECLASSIFIED
NOTE 05440
1 January 1970

CTU 194.4.4	COMMANDER HA TIEN SUPPORT UNIT	LCDR J.F. NEESE, USN
CTU 194.4.5	COMMANDER BARRIER REEF	LT M.B. CONNOLLY, USN
CTE 194.4.5.1	COMMANDER BARRIER REEF WEST	LT J.E. ROPER, USN
CTE 194.4.5.2	COMMANDER BARRIER REEF CENTRAL	LT G.H. STURVIST, USN
CTE 194.4.5.3	COMMANDER BARRIER REEF EAST	LT W.L. MESSEMER, USN
CTE 194.4.5.4	RIVDIV 514	LT J.E. ROPER, USN
CTE 194.4.5.5	RAD 132	LT M.B. CONNOLLY, USN
CTE 194.4.5.6	RAD 152	LT W.L. MESSEMER, USN
CTE 194.4.5.7	RIVDIV 592	LT J.R. POE, USN
CTU 194.4.6	COMMANDER HELO SUPPORT GROUP	LCDR E.F. YAEGER, USN
CTE 194.4.6.1	HAL-3, DET 3	LCDR B.V. BORQUIST, USN
CTE 194.4.6.2	HAL-3, DET 5	LCDR E.F. YAEGER, USN
CTE 194.4.6.3	HAL-3, DET 9	LCDR R.J. TOUHEY, USN
CTU 194.4.7	COMMANDER BORDER INTERDICTION PATROL	LT R.J. AURIN, USN
CTE 194.4.7.1	MSR BORDER INTERDICTION ELEMENT	LT R.J. AURIN, USN
CTE 194.4.7.2	PCF BORDER ELEMENT	SENIOR OIC
CTE 194.4.7.3	MINESWEEPER ELEMENT	LT R.J. AURIN, USN COMINEDIV 113
CTE 194.4.7.4	PCF RIVER ELEMENT	SENIOR OIC

CONFIDENTIAL DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

CTG 194.5	SEA LORDS COASTAL INCURSION COMMANDER	CAPT J.J. SHANAHAN, USN COMCOSURVFOR
CTG 194.6	UPPER SAIGON INTERDICTION GROUP COMMANDER (PHU CUONG)	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 194.6.1	UPPER SAIGON RIVER PATROL UNIT	COMRIVDIV 593
CTU 194.6.2	UPPER SAIGON RIVER PATROL UNIT	AS ASSIGNED
CTG 194.9	INTERDICTION FORCE COMMANDER/DEPUTY INTERDICTION FORCE COMMANDER TRUNG HUNG DAO II (BEN LUC)	CDR A.C. SIGMOND, USN
CTU 194.9.0	BEN LUC INTERDICTION UNIT	AS ASSIGNED
CTE 194.9.0.1	PBR ELEMENT	COMRIVPATGRP 53
CTE 194.9.0.2	RAC ELEMENT	RAID 71
CTU 194.9.1	TRA CU INTERDICTION UNIT	AS ASSIGNED
CTE 194.9.1.1	PBR ELEMENT (TRA CU)	COMRIVDIV 552
CTE 194.9.1.2	RAC ELEMENT (TRA CU)	RAD 151/RAID 71
CTU 194.9.2	GO DAU HA INTERDICTION UNIT	COMRIVDIV 573
CTE 194.9.2.1	PBR ELEMENT (GO DAU HA)	COMRIVDIV 594
CTE 194.9.2.2	RAC ELEMENT (GO DAU HA)	RAD 151
CTU 194.9.3	BEN HEO INTERDICTION UNIT	COMRIVDIV 552
CTE 194.9.3.1	PBR ELEMENT (BEN HEO)	COMRIVDIV 594
CTE 194.9.3.2	RAC ELEMENT (BEN HEO)	RAD 151

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

CONFIDENTIAL

NAVFORV/NAVADVGRP MACV
NCTP-ONE
1 January 1970

CTU 194.9.4	TAN AN INTERDICTION UNIT	COMRIVRON 513
CTE 194.9.4.1	PBR ELEMENT (TAN AN)	COMRIVPATGRP 53
CTE 194.9.4.2	RAC ELEMENT (TAN AN)	RAID 70
CTU 194.9.5	TUYEN NHON INTERDICTION UNIT	COMRIVDIV 153
CTE 194.9.5.2	RAC ELEMENT (NHA BE)	COMRIVDIV 153
CTU 194.9.7	MOC HOA INTERDICTION UNIT	AS ASSIGNED
CTE 194.9.7.1	PBR ELEMENT (MOC HOA)	COMRIVDIV 511
CTE 194.9.7.2	RAC ELEMENT (MOC HOA)	VACANT
CTU 194.9.8	CAN GIOUC INTERDICTION UNIT	AS ASSIGNED
CTE 194.9.8.1	PBR ELEMENT	VACANT
CTE 194.9.8.2	COMRIVDIV 151	AS ASSIGNED
CTU 194.9.9	SUPPORT UNIT (BEN LUC)	AS ASSIGNED
CTE 194.9.9.1	OIC SEAL TEAM DET GOLF BRAVO PLATOON (BEN LUC)	AS ASSIGNED
CTE 194.9.9.2	EOD ELEMENT	OIC EOD TEAM 44
CTE 194.9.9.3	UDT ELEMENT	VACANT
CTE 194.9.9.4	MOBILE SUPPORT TEAM ELEMENT	OIC MOBILE SUPPORT TEAM TWO DET BRAVO
CTE 194.9.9.5	ACV ELEMENT (BEN LUC)	AS ASSIGNED
CTE 194.9.9.6	SOUTHERN AIR SUPPORT ELEMENT (BEN LUC)	OIC HAL-3, DET 4
CTE 194.9.9.7	NORTHERN AIR SUPPORT ELEMENT (TAY NINH)	OIC HAL-3, DET 7

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DECLASSIFIED
CONFIDENTIAL

NAVFORV/NAVADVGRP MACV
NOTE 03440
1 January 1970

COMNAVFORV/CHNAVADVGRP TASK AND ADVISORY ORGANIZATION

TASK GROUP 194.7

CTG 194.7	COMMANDER RIVERINE STRIKE GROUP	COMRIVSTRIKEGRP CAPT C.H. BLAIR, USN
CTU 194.7.3	RIVERINE ASSAULT SQUADRON ONE THREE COMMANDER	COMRIVRON 13 LT M.B. CONNOLLY, USN
CTE 194.7.3.1	RIVERINE ASSAULT DIVISION ONE THREE ONE COMMANDER	COMRIVDIV 131 LT W.M. KAHN, USN
CTU 194.7.4	RIVERINE ASSAULT SQUADRON ONE FIVE COMMANDER	COMRIVRON 15 LT G.H. STURVIST, USN

GROUP-4
DOWNGRADED AT 3 YEAR INTERVALS,
DECLASSIFIED AFTER 12 YEARS

CONFIDENTIAL
DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

NAVFORV/NAVADVGRP MACV
NOTE 05440
1 January 1970

ADVISORS

SENIOR SHIPYARD ADVISOR	SAIGON	CDR R. MATZNER, USN (ARVN 40468)
CTF CLEARWATER	QUA VIET	CAPT J.E. EDMUNDSON, USN

PATROL UNITS LOCATED IN I CORPS AND UNDER THE OPERATIONAL CONTROL OF CTF CLEARWATER

CDR HUE RIVER SECURITY GROUP	LT J.B. BISHOP, USN COMRIVDIV 521
CDR DONG HA RIVER SECURITY GROUP	LT S.H. JONES, USN COMRIVDIV 543

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