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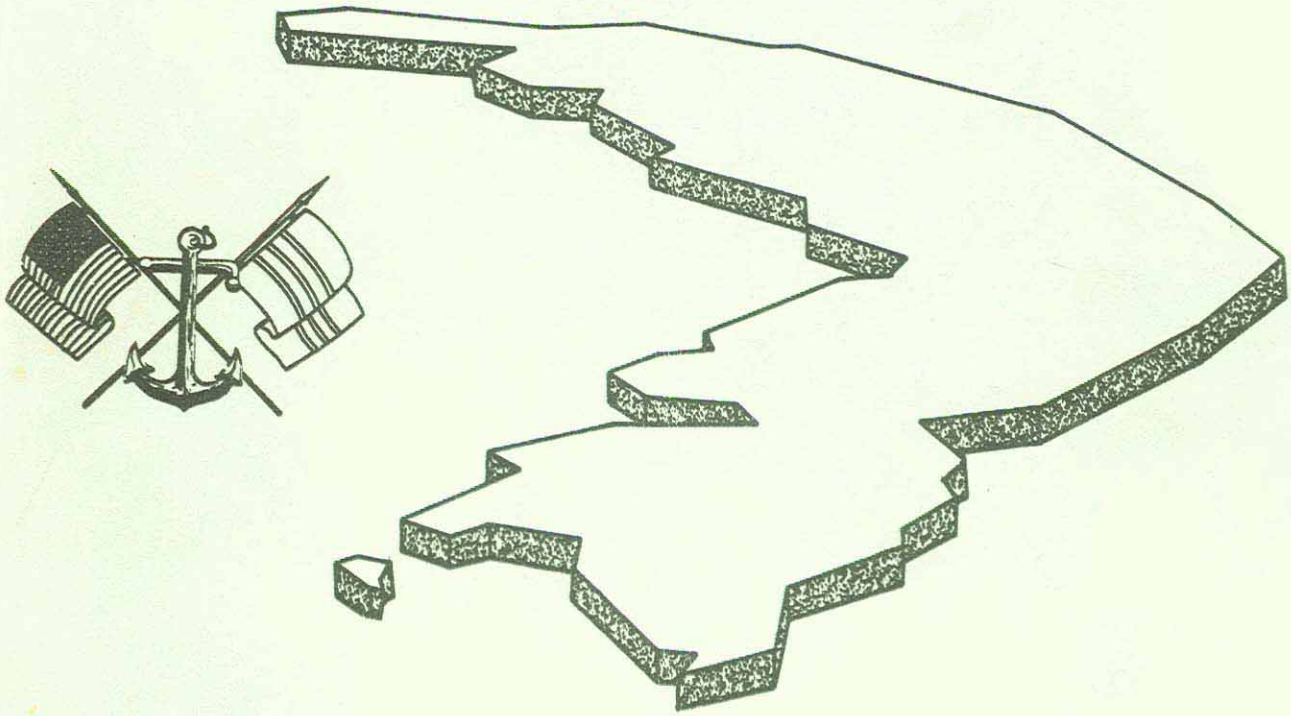

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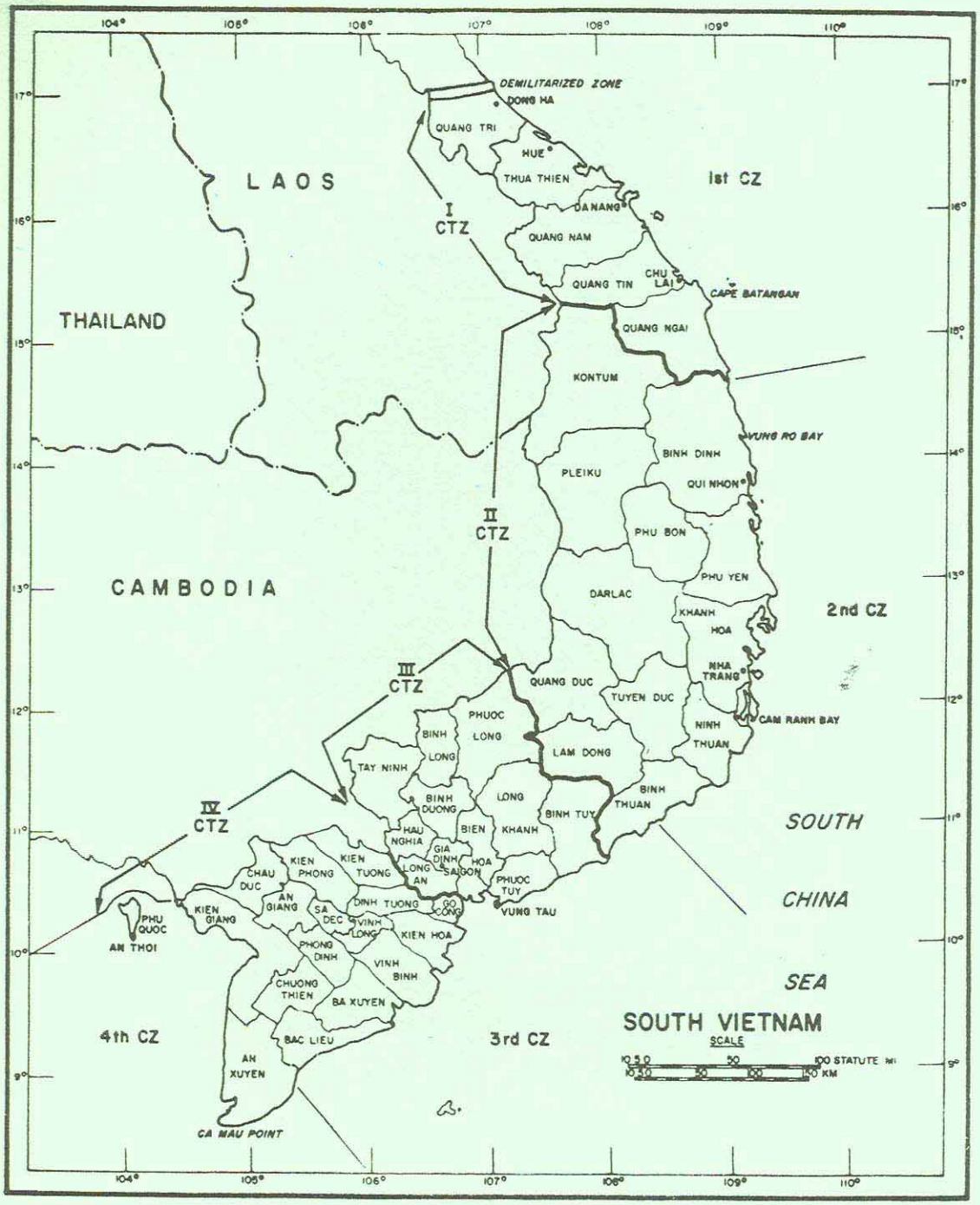
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1. Enclosure (1) is forwarded.

2. The Civic Action Statistical Summary includes data which applies to the period 25 May through 25 June.

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OPERATION SEA LORDS SUMMARY

Since its inception in October 1968, Operation SEA LORDS has grown from a limited number of campaigns designed to counter infiltration into and across the Mekong Delta into an operation of greatly increased scope. This month produced a realignment of Tran Hung Dao and Barrier Reef Forces into a general Border Interdiction Campaign, the expansion of SEA LORDS Market Time Raider patrols to support Operation Sea Float/Tran Hung Dao III on the lower Cau Mau Peninsula, the execution of Operation "Double Shift" in support of the Giant Slingshot Campaign in the Tay Ninh area, and the beginning of two new campaigns on the Song Mang Thit-Nicolai Canal and the Cho Gao Canal.

The month's first new SEA LORD's operation began on the Song Mang Thit-Nicolai Canal on 18 July. This 29 mile stretch of canal/river forms the central portion of the North-South Waterway System between the rice growing heart of the Delta and the Saigon Market. Enemy forces operating in Vinh Long Province attempted to impede the flow of traffic along this waterway through harassment and tax extortion tactics. Towns, villages, and government outposts along the waterway are also subject to harassment fire. Many river craft are assigned to restrict enemy activity and to insure canal security for commercial shipping/transportation and travel by indigenous personnel. In order to promote the resettlement of these areas along the waterway and to promote the government image, escort patrols, night water borne guard posts, and daylight bank sweeps utilizing ARVN and Province Forces are being conducted. An active Psyops program

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is also underway. On 29 July, a similar operation was begun on the heavily used Cho Gao Canal and Song Tra in Dinh Tuong Province. This northern connecting link of the North-South Waterway System is one of the most heavily used waterways in South Vietnam. Ten PBR's were committed to each of the above operations.

Despite the expanding SEA LORDS role, there has been a general downward trend in the overall enemy activity level starting in April and continuing to the present. Two of the factors contributing to this declining activity level are the length of time the enemy has had to observe the patrols and develop counter-tactics, including utilization of new infiltration routes and river crossing points; and the general country-wide lull in activity during the past several weeks. The lull is reflected in the decreased number of enemy casualties inflicted by all SEA LORDS Forces; the enemy lost 304 killed in July as compared to 447 in June and 563 in April.

During July, the Search Turn Campaign in the Rach Gia area, formerly an Operation SEA LORDS Campaign, came under the operational control of CTF 116 and is reported in the River Patrol Force section. Additional statistics showing the results of combined SEA LORDS operations and results of USN/VNN efforts, along with a Naval Asset Locator, and an individual description of each of the SEA LORDS campaigns follow:

Giant Slingshot Campaign

The Giant Slingshot Campaign conducted on the Vam Co Tay, Vam Co Dong, and Vam Co Rivers is designed to cut enemy infiltration from the

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"Parrot's Beak" area of Cambodia into the strategic area west of Saigon. The month of July saw considerable activity on the Upper Vam Co Dong River, the "right river" of the Giant Slingshot operating area. In response to large scale enemy movements and to intelligence reports of imminent enemy action in this area and to assist other free world forces in effecting maximum enemy destruction, additional naval forces were ordered on 8 July to the Upper Vam Co Dong in an operation called "Double Shift."

In connection with Operation "Double Shift," Commander Task Force ONE ONE SIX deployed two river divisions and two Light Helo Fire Teams to Tay Ninh and two river divisions to Go Dau Ha. CTF 115 provided 16 PCF's to CTF 116 for assignment to areas vacated by PBR's; and CTF 117 chopped a River Assault Division to CTG 194.9 for employment in the Tay Ninh/Go Dau Ha area. In addition, VNN RAID 71 was tasked with deploying to Go Dau Ha with RAID 70 temporarily assuming responsibility for the vacated area of operations along with their own. Concurrent movement of logistics support was also accomplished. At 1300 on 9 July, the following classic naval message was sent from CTG 194.9 to CTG 194.0, "Double Shift completed in double time with doubled units ready to give double trouble." The increased units conducted heavy roving patrols and waterborne ambushes for 15 days in order to prevent river crossings by large enemy units which might attempt an attack on Tay Ninh City.

By 23 July, enemy activity in the Tay Ninh area was reduced to a level which permitted the doubled units to withdraw. The operation accounted for 34 enemy killed by body count with 64 probable kills,

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41 wounded, 2 captured, and 3 detained resulting from a total of 17 enemy initiated firefights, 70 friendly initiated firefights, and 49 instances of unilateral fire. It also accounted for 33 enemy craft destroyed and 1 captured as well as 57 enemy structures destroyed and 3 damaged. Friendly personnel casualties amounted to 11 wounded while eight friendly water-craft received damage.

It is almost certain that as a result of operations caused by "Double Shift" the enemy was forced to delay any planned assaults from the west and southwest of Tay Ninh. This is especially significant in view of the fact that Tay Ninh had been mentioned as an ideal site for the capital of the newly formed Communist Provisional Revolutionary Government. A victory for the enemy in this area would have had an enormous propaganda effect. It also may have been a logical first step for future attacks on Saigon.

Despite the increased tempo of operations caused by "Double Shift" the overall level of enemy activity decreased during the month in the Giant Slingshot area of operations. In July, 230 enemy were killed in 84 firefights as compared to 350 killed in June in 99 firefights. In April, previously mentioned as the month of highest activity, 504 enemy were killed in 147 firefights. USN casualties dropped from 6 killed and 69 wounded in April to 0 killed and 21 wounded in July.

Day by day activity in the Giant Slingshot area of operations is outlined in the following incident narratives:

Four units of TE 194.9.5.1 (Tay Ninh Patrol Unit) during the early morning hours of 6 July set a waterborne ambush on the Vam Co Dong River

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four miles west southwest of Tay Ninh (XT 143 458). One of the two PBR's observed 5 VC with full field packs moving along the north bank. After taking them under fire at a range of fifty feet, the PBR broke ambush keeping the area under fire until the arrival of the Monitor and the Zippo ten minutes later to put in a strike. In addition, U. S. artillery was called in to provide blocking rounds 600 meters behind the contact area. Enemy casualties were listed as 5 VC probably killed. There were no friendly casualties.

At approximately 2100 on 7 July, two PBR's of TU 194.9.1 (Lower Vam Co Dong Patrol Unit) sighted 3 VC on the bank of the Vam Co Dong three miles northwest of Ben Luc (XS 598 773) and took them under fire. A sweep was not made by recon personnel due to known booby traps in the area, however, the three VC were considered probable kills. No friendly casualties were sustained.

On 9 July, in another night operation on the Vam Co Dong, four RAID 70 units inserted, supported and extracted 87 U. S. Army troops seven miles southeast of Ben Luc (XS 687 665/701 688). The troops made light contact killing 3 VC while sustaining no friendly personnel casualties. One RAID craft received slight damage when hit by AK-47 rifle fire from the opposite bank.

On the night of 11 July, on the "Left River" of the Giant Slingshot Campaign, the Vam Co Tay, an ASPB of the Upper Vam Co Tay Patrol Unit experienced an underwater explosion as it left an ambush position, but it was undamaged. Either a mining effort or swimmer-emplaced charge was suspected, and it was the first such incident in the 194.9.6 area

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of operations in two months. The incident occurred eight miles northwest of Tuyen Nhon (XS 194 892). There were no casualties.

On the Vam Co Dong River four miles southwest of Tay Ninh City (XT 180 414), four TE 194.9.5.1 units in waterborne guard posts sighted six enemy personnel approaching the cover boat and two approaching the lead boat at about 2100 on the night of 11 July. They were immediately taken under fire by the PBR's, and three were seen to fall. During the succeeding firing run, units received light automatic weapons fire from the north bank. After an additional firing run, artillery support was called in from FSB Stoneman and placed on both banks. Enemy casualties were 3 NVA killed by body count and 2 NVA probably killed. There were no friendly casualties.

In the early evening on 13 July, two Seawolves from HAL-3, Detachment 4 at Ben Luc were scrambled to aid Army units supported by TU 194.9.3 (Middle Vam Co Dong Patrol Units) two miles northwest of Hiep Hoa (XT 416 101). The Seawolves placed multiple rocket and machine gun strikes which were reported by ground troops in the area to have killed 4 VC.

Two ASPB's of RAID 70 were underway during the afternoon of 14 July in order to recon an area for a possible weapons cache. While on the Rach Doi Ma, five miles southwest of Ben Luc (XS 671 691), 12 enemy personnel were sighted and the ASPB's opened fire killing three and wounding one. As the boats beached to take the wounded man prisoner, a VNN sailor was killed by enemy fire. Crews from three additional boats that had been dispatched to the scene landed and searched the area finding seven additional bodies, one of which was female. The prisoner turned

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out to be an NVA soldier of the enemy's 308th Battalion who said his unit was supposed to attack Saigon soon. In addition to the prisoner, two AK's, 1 M-16, 1 U. S. rifle grenade, food, documents, medical supplies, and some electronic gear (repair manuals, tools, supplies) were captured.

A PBR, ASPB, and two ATC's of TE 194.9.5.1 in the early afternoon of 19 July with troops embarked were on a recon and bunker destruction mission on the upper reaches of the Vam Co Dong River. While on the Rach Lo Go, sixteen miles northwest of Tay Ninh City (WT 965 585), they received two B-40 rockets and automatic weapons fire from the west bank. The boats returned fire, cleared the area, and requested Seawolves Aircraft from HAL-3 to lay in an air strike. Detachment 7 from Tay Ninh arrived on the scene placing a strike in the contact area and on suspected evacuation routes, receiving automatic weapons fire in the process. Blocking fire was provided by artillery and an Army Helo Fire Team relieved the Seawolves, who returned after refueling to place an additional strike. Enemy casualties were placed at 3 VC killed by body count, 3 bunkers destroyed, and 1 sampan sunk. Friendly forces suffered no personnel casualties while one boat was damaged as the ASPB received a two foot square hole in her outer superstructure from a rocket hit.

The following day in another recon and bunker destruction mission, 26 bunkers, numerous spider holes, and five sampans were destroyed by units of TU 194.9.5 (Upper Vam Co Dong Patrol Units) in cooperation with one platoon of VN Field Force Police and a U. S. Army Hunter Killer Team. The first part of the operation took place about 15 miles northwest of

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Ta Ninh City (XT 035 543) while the remainder occurred approximately four miles north (WT 978 579) where an enemy storage complex was located. The complex showed signs of recent activity and consisted of ten roofed hootches, two sampans and some trails heading from the northwest. The hootches and sampans were destroyed. During the mission a Douche Boat and explosives were employed to destroy all bunkers as completely as possible.

At 0800 on the 24th of July, Seawolves from Ben Luc were called upon to support U. S. Army and units of TU 194.9.3 in contact with the enemy three miles northwest of Hiep Hoa (XT 410 098). Coordinated by an Army observation aircraft, the Seawolves placed rocket and machine gun strikes in the contact area, rearmed at Duc Hoa and then returned to expend. Both the Army aircraft and the Seawolves received automatic weapons fire. Enemy casualties were listed as 8 VC probably killed.

At about 2130 on 23 July, just after passing Hiep Hoa and while running south, four PBR's of TU 194.9.3 were ambushed as the VC initiated contact with one B-40 round and automatic weapons fire (XT 445 055). The rocket fired from the east bank detonated in the bow of the cover boat and slightly wounded the forward gunner. In addition, the same boat was hit by automatic weapons fire from the west bank. The lead boat received numerous hits on the starboard side and was sprayed by shrapnel from a B-40 round that impacted close aboard wounding the patrol officer and M-60 gunner. The patrol returned fire, cleared the area to the south, and called in artillery. Following the artillery strike another firing run was made and upon clearing a red and green flare was

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observed on the east and west banks respectively. Friendly casualties amounted to three USN wounded and two PBR's damaged. Enemy casualties were unknown.

In the early evening of 27 July, on the Vam Co Tay four miles northwest of Tuyen Nhon (XS 361 800), two ASPB's of TU 194.9.4 (Middle Vam Co Tay Patrol Unit) were investigating a report of camouflaged sampans and a possible cache site spotted by a USAF FAC (Forward Air Control) aircraft when they sighted a person trying to hide in the bushes and evade. Upon further investigation, four other persons were seen in the area. Two more ASPB's were scrambled with a squad of RF/PF's who swept the heavily booby trapped area with negative results. The following day, a sweep by a squad of CIDG personnel resulted in the capture of 500 kilos of rice, 4 rifle grenades, 4 Chicom zero time hand grenades, and 16 sampans. The sampans were turned over to the Special Forces for their own use.

Two VNN RAID units from TU 194.9.5 with one RF/PF platoon embarked were proceeding north on the Vam Co Dong in the early hours of 29 July for an insertion at a VC position reported by intelligence when they were ambushed from both banks four miles northwest of Go Dau Ha (XT 342 276). The boats received automatic weapons and small arms fire in addition to a B-40 rocket which detonated on the port side of the CCB immediately killing the VNN boat captain and a petty officer. The port .50 caliber machine gunner, coxswain, and the USN advisor also sustained injuries and one RF trooper was missing in action. After returning fire, the two boats cleared; three rockets of the ten fired by the enemy hit the CCB. Both Navy and Army helos were called in to make firing runs and assist in the unsuccessful search for the missing RF. Enemy casualties were unknown.

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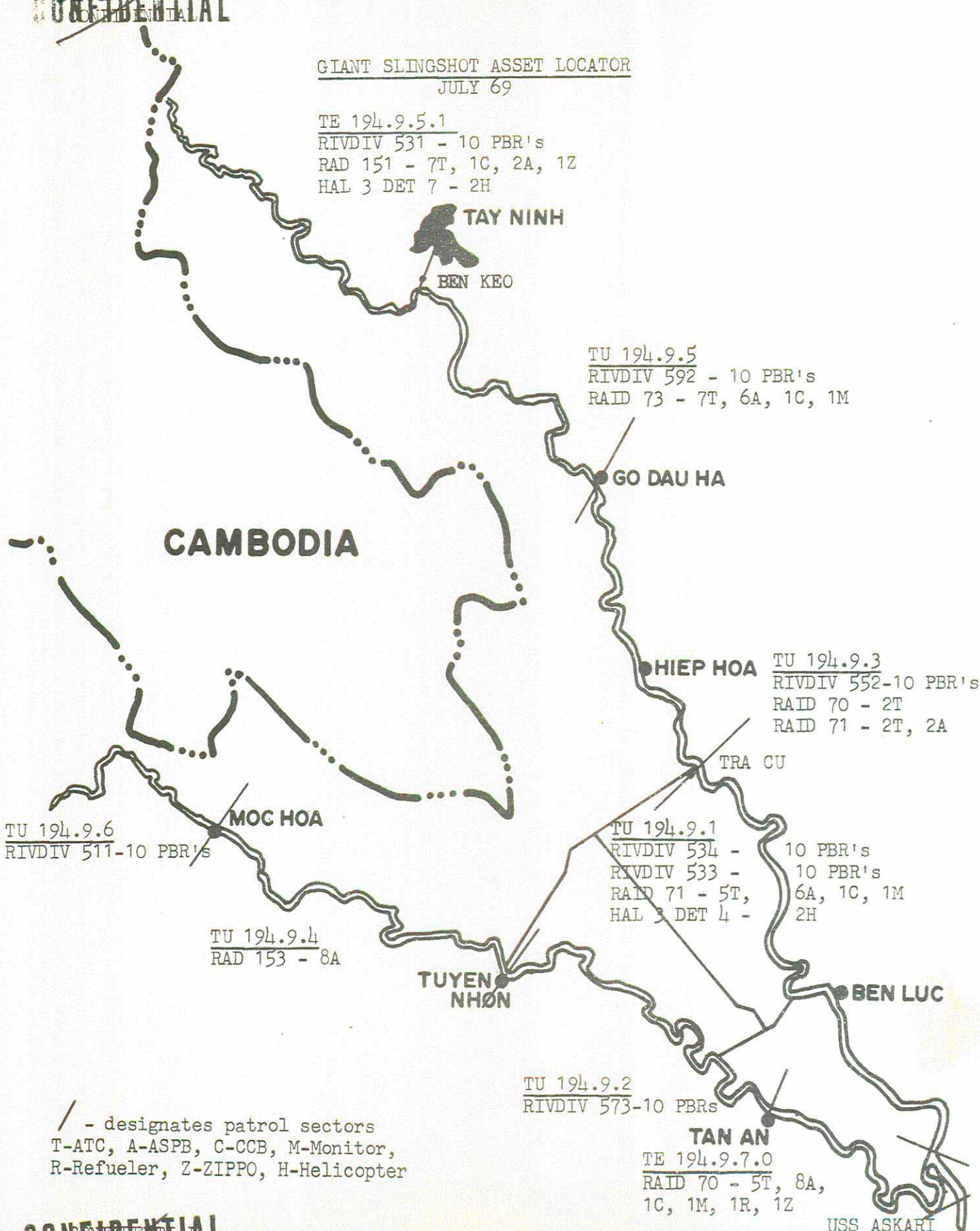
GIANT SLINGSHOT ASSET LOCATOR
JULY 69



/ - designates patrol sectors
T-ATC, A-ASPB, C-CCB, M-Monitor,
R-Refueler, Z-ZIPPO, H-Helicopter

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Barrier Reef Campaign

The Barrier Reef Campaign, which is part of the larger Border Interdiction Operation, stretches west from Tuyen Nhon along the La Grange, Ong Long, and Dong Tien Canals and includes the upper reaches of the Mekong and Bassac Rivers, Chau Doc-Tan Chau Canal and Cai Cai Canal. Enemy activity in this area was light during July as only two hostile fire incidents were recorded; enemy casualties were listed at 15 killed (13 by body count, 2 estimated) and two wounded, and there were no U. S. casualties. Tactics employed were normal patrols, nighttime waterborne ambushes, transportation and support of friendly troops, and H and I fire.

Operations on Rach Cai Cai which began 20 June when 6 PBR's were airlifted for a distance of 14 miles from the Upper Mekong to a CIDG camp on the Cai Cai canal were terminated on 21 July when the PBR's assigned were again airlifted by CH-54 Skycrane Helo to the USS JENNINGS COUNTY (LST 846) near Tan Chau (WS 314 950). The operation was evaluated to have achieved its original objectives in that there was an increase in local habitation and no known enemy infiltration during the period. Psyops activity, with the exception of broadcasts, achieved a warm response from the bank population.

A significant incident in the area of operations occurred shortly before noon on 27 July when a friendly outpost just south of the Cambodia/South Vietnam Border on the Upper Mekong River (WT 203 058) observed a Vietnamese ATC flying the government flag proceeding up the river at top speed. As the boat approached the border, the outpost

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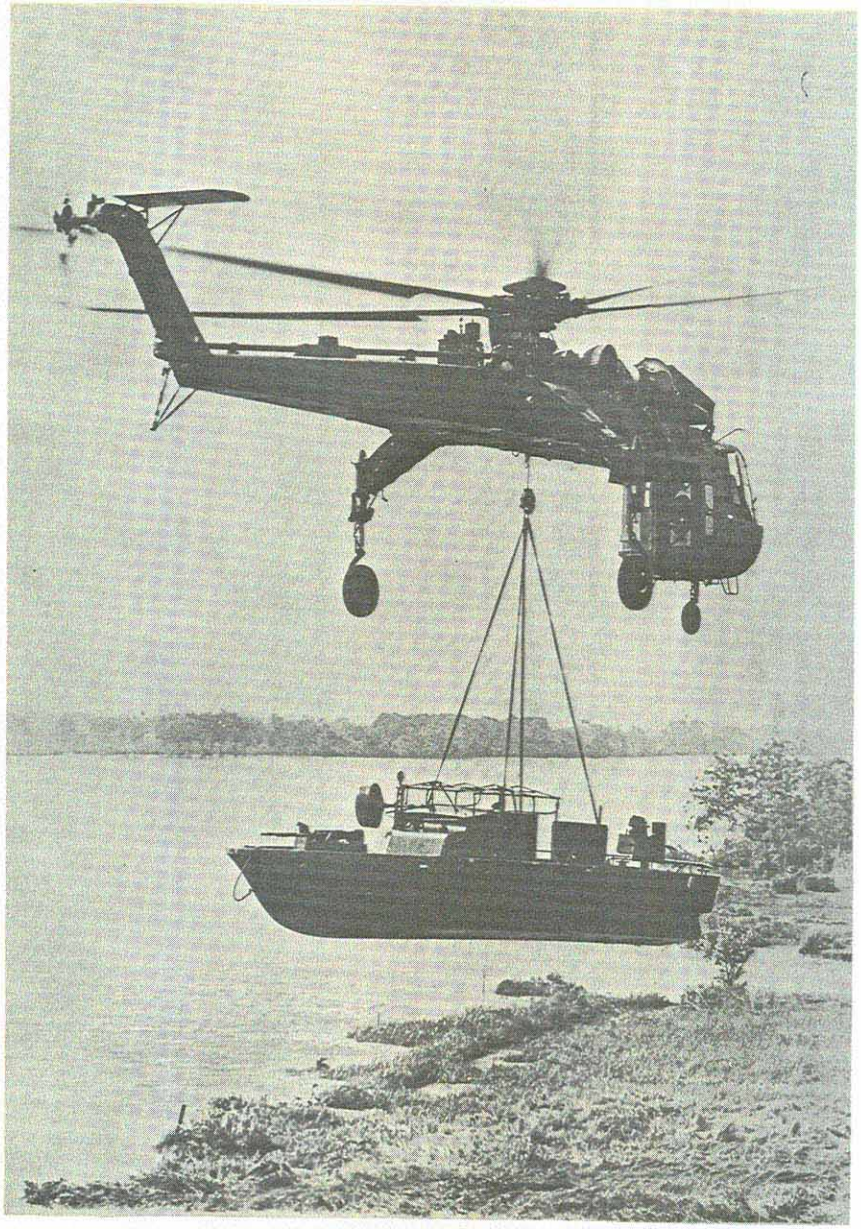

Six PBR's of River Division 515 were airlifted by Army CH-54 Skymaster (Skycrane) helicopters from the Upper Mekong River to a Civilian Irregular Defense Camp on the Cai Cai Canal, a distance of about 14 miles.

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fired several warning shots, but the ATC failed to respond and continued north. At the border (WT 210 065), the boat struck its colors and hoisted a white flag. Proceeding across the border, the ATC was met and intercepted by a Cambodian gunboat. A subsequent investigation revealed that the VNN ATC 1244 with seven personnel aboard had completed an overhaul at Dong Tam and was enroute to its parent unit at Chung Thien. The location of the boat had not been known until it was identified as the boat that had voluntarily crossed into Cambodia. The intentions and the current status of the seven man crew are not known.

On the morning of 9 July, four PBR's of TU 194.4.7 transported 120 RF/PF troops with a U. S. Army advisor from Hong Nhu to a point north of Tan Chau (WS 280 948). After insertion, the troops swept to the northwest while the PBR's formed a blockade on the Mekong River. The troops were extracted at 1300 after making only light contact with the enemy. There were no friendly casualties. Enemy casualties were 2 killed, 14 VC detained, and 1 SKS rifle captured. All enemy casualties were the results of ground troop action.

Later on the same day, one-half mile south of the Cambodian border on the Rach Cai Cai (WT 547 092), PBR's on routine patrol observed two men in a sampan and four more on the west bank of the river. As the PBR's approached, one of the men jumped from the sampan and joined the others on the bank, and then the five evaded into the treeline. The PBR's detained the man in the sampan, and then sealed off the area and placed 40 mm fire into the treeline. A CIDG reaction team was brought in to search the area and captured two wounded men. The wounded said that two of the other men who had escaped were also wounded by the PBR's fire.

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The families of the two wounded evadees came to the area and reported they would try to locate them and bring them in. The three captured personnel claimed to be draft dodgers and gave that as their reason for fleeing. There were no U. S. casualties.

Two PBR's in waterborne ambush position, 12 miles southeast of Hong Nhu (WS 518 811), on the night of 11 July heard a sampan engine on a small canal to the north of their position. The engine stopped and four people were seen moving to the canal bank. One person had a strobe light and was signaling to the south. The patrol opened fire, and all four personnel fell to the ground without returning fire. A search of the area revealed one body and marks indicating that two others had slid into the water. Two sampans loaded with ammunition, one AK-47 and medical supplies were found 50 meters up a small canal to the north. A further search uncovered four more bodies and two more AK-47's. Total enemy personnel casualties were five killed. There were no U. S. casualties.

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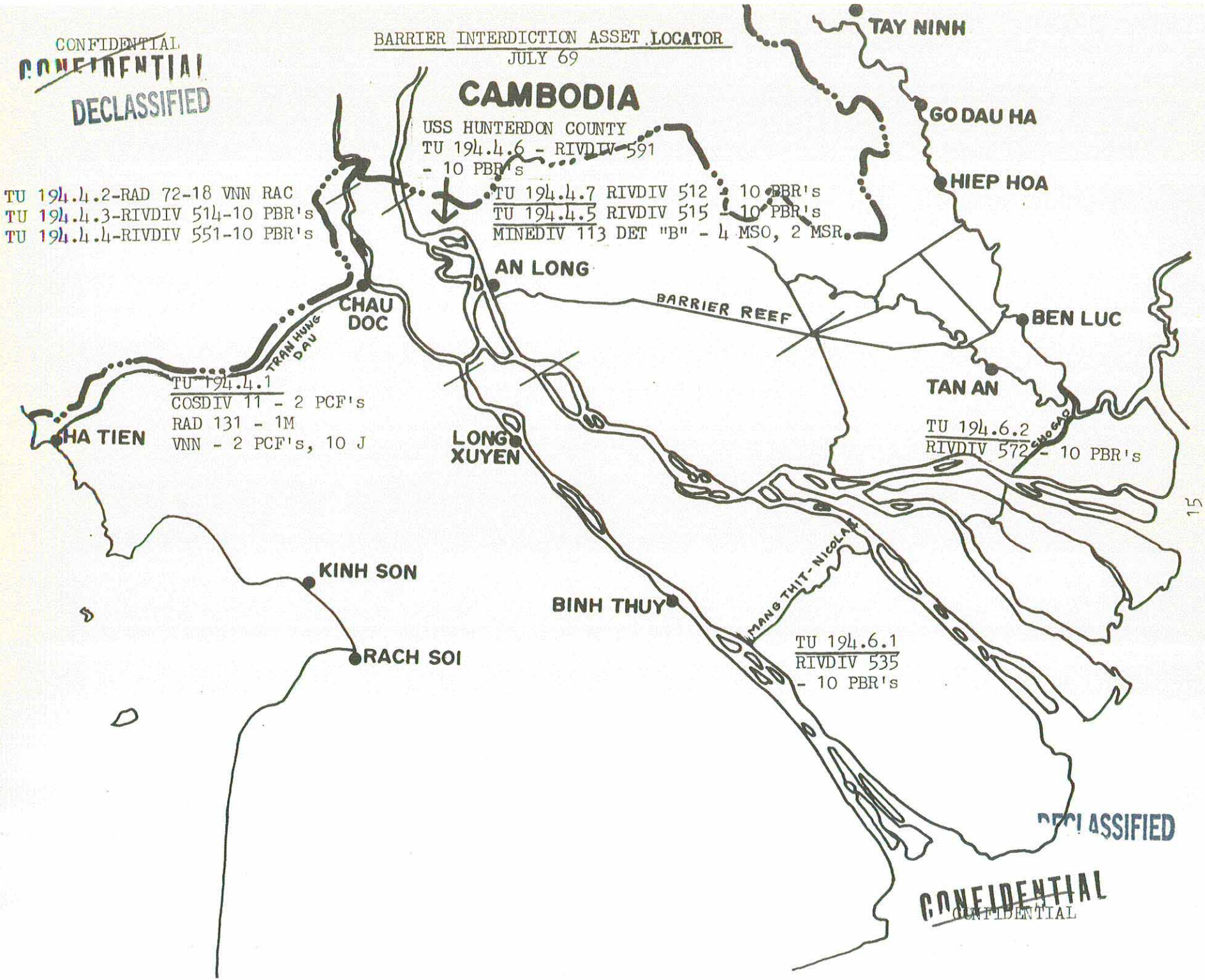
BARRIER INTERDICTION ASSET LOCATOR
JULY 69



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Tran Hung Dao Campaign

A relatively quiet atmosphere prevailed throughout the Tran Hung Dao operational area in July. Although there were several incidents on the Rach Giang Thanh, the majority of enemy activity continued to occur along the Vinh Te Canal. Near the end of the month, there were increased intelligence reports that the enemy was enlarging his efforts to infiltrate men, munitions, and supplies across the Rach Giang Thanh into the Tram Forest and across the Vinh Te Canal into the Seven Mountains region. Reacting to the reports, the USS HUNTERDON COUNTY (LST 836) TU 116.3 with PBR River Division 591 (TU 116.3) embarked changed operation control on 24 July to CTG 194.4 the Barrier Commander, stationed aboard the YRBM 16 moored near Chau Doc on the Upper Bassac River and became TU 194.4.9 and 194.4.6 respectively. River Division 591 was assigned to carry out patrols on the Tri Ton and Vinh Te Canals, and River Division 515, which was assigned operations in Barrier Reef, augmented the Vinh Te Canal patrols. One TF 117 monitor was assigned to supplement the USN and VNN forces along the Rach Giang Thanh.

Allied patrols in the last days of the month appeared to verify the intelligence information as they reported an increase in the number of incidents especially in the corridors along the Vinh Te Canal leading to Base Area 400. In the entire month, USN and VNN forces accounted for thirty VC killed (24 probable), 2 VC wounded, and 1 VC captured. There were two U. S. sailors killed in comparison to sixteen USN and VNN wounded the previous month. The number of hostile fire incidents increased from 29 in June to 34 in July (29 by Helo and OV-10).

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There were several significant shifts of operating forces that proceeded those which occurred at the end of the month. On 2 July, one MSR (Mine Sweep River) and two MSD's (Mine Sweep Drone) of COMINDIV 113 detachment "B" arrived at the TRBM 16. The following day, the mine sweeping craft (designated TE 194.4.7.1) commenced runs on the Vinh Te Canal and the Upper Bassac. Depending upon the water level of the Vinh Te Canal, the units made daily sweeps as far south as Tinh Binh (VS 945 715).

The VNN Coastal Groups 43/44 stood down from operations on 4 July to carry out last minute preparations for their transit from Chau Doc to Rach Soi. Following approximately two weeks of upkeep, CG 43/44 transited to Ha Tien where they relieved CG 41 which got underway for operations at Poulo Obi.

RAID 72 which arrived at Chau Doc at the end of June was assigned to carry out operations from Vinh Gia (VS 810 612) along the Vinh Te Canal to Chau Doc on 9 July. Working with two Raider platoons of the Fourth Coastal Zone and other allied units, the new RAID was quickly put to use in the Tran Hung Dao Campaign.

PBR's in nighttime waterborne ambush position 18 miles southwest of Chau Doc (VS 910 641) on 4 July sighted 20 to 25 VC approaching the south bank of the canal. When the enemy was taken under fire, they evaded behind the dike walls. Seawolves were scrambled and illuminated the area. During one illumination run, the helos came under automatic weapons fire which they returned and suppressed. A sweep of the area at first light revealed two dead VC. The ambush had been set in response

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to intelligence received from U. S. Special Forces advisors at Ba Xoai who indicated that many VC would exfiltrate to Cambodia through the area. A total of three ambushes had been set in the general area.

On the morning of 6 July, a routine PBR patrol was hailed by a KKK captain 16 miles southwest of Chau Doc (VS 923 680) who indicated that approximately 300 KKK troops (an independent Vietnamese fighting force) desired to cross from Cambodia and Chieu Hoi. The PBR's effected coordination with ARVN elements to allow safe passage. By 1930 that day, a total of 194 persons with 127 weapons had returned to the government.

While proceeding east during a chain drag minesweep on the morning of 8 July, an MSD observed two small explosions in the water approximately ten feet apart, 100 feet astern of the MSD. The incident took place about six miles southwest of Chau Doc (WS 043 793). There were no damage or casualties and a search of the area produced negative results.

VNN Coastal Group 41 junks were ambushed by an estimated enemy squad on the evening of 9 July seven miles northeast of Ha Tien on the Rach Giang Thanh. Upon receiving the enemy rounds, the VN sailors beached their junks and laid down a blanket of maching gun and grenade fire that suppressed the enemy attack. There were no friendly casualties, and enemy casualties were unknown.

Seawolves on a familiarization patrol were diverted to place strikes in support of Vietnamese Special Forces in contact with the enemy on the night of 17 July, 16 miles northeast of Ha Tien (VS 655 633). While placing their strikes, the helos came under heavy ground fire which

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they suppressed. There were no U. S. casualties, and the ground forces reported two VC killed by the Seawolves' fire.

An ATC of RAID 72 was preparing to extract PF troops from a night waterborne guardpost in the vicinity of a well documented infiltration route on 22 July three miles southwest of Than Doc on the Vinh Te Canal (WS 081 818) when a mine exploded approximately six feet from the bow. The immediate area was swept, but there were negative results. This is the ninth mining incident reported in the general area south of Chau Doc.

RAID 72 units in waterborne guardpost approximately five miles southwest of Chau Doc on 23 July (WS 043 804) detected an estimated 200 VC about 800 meters inland with their Night Observation Device (NOD). The VNN took the VC under fire and cleared to the east. Artillery was requested, and the first round was on deck within twenty minutes. There were no friendly casualties as the enemy failed to return fire, and the effects of the friendly fire was unknown.

In another mining incident, units of RAID 72 were returning to Chau Doc from a patrol on the Vinh Te Canal on the morning of 29 July when a command detonated mine exploded approximately three meters in front of an ASPB (NS 090 822) lifting the bow out of the water but causing negligible damage. The possible detonating site was fired upon but negative results were achieved. In a sweep of the area, the VNN and embarked RF troops found two hundred meters of wire buried on the north bank leading to the water. Two suspects were detained and turned over to NILO Chau Doc for interrogation.

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Market Time Raider Campaign

River incursions by Third and Fourth Coastal Zone "Swift" boats continued to strike at enemy base areas along rivers and canals of the III and IV Corps area. Over 60 separate missions in support of Operation SEA LORDS and Sea Float were conducted employing from two to ten PCF's supported by helicopters OV-10 and OH-6A aircraft, and USCGC WPB's. Ground forces assisting in these operations were Under Water Demolition Teams, Explosive Ordnance Disposal Teams, SEALS, PRU's, RF/PF troops, and ARVN soldiers. Enemy opposition was greater than during June as 39 incidents of hostile fire were encountered (more than double last month), and these were suppressed on all occasions. Eight PCF's were damaged in these firefights,and friendly casualties were 19 U. S. sailors and 1 Vietnamese sailor wounded.

Enemy material losses for July were 163 craft destroyed and 171 structures destroyed. Another 31 craft and 194 structures were heavily damaged. There were 19 Viet Cong killed (13 body count, 6 probable) by the naval gunfire of "Swift" boats. Although the operation continued to achieve the maximum damage in known enemy base areas and secret zones, the primary emphasis continued on pacification of the Ca Mau Peninsula under Operation Sea Float/Tran Hung Dao III.

On 1 July, five "Swift" boats with 50 RF troops from Hai Yen and Underwater Demolition Team 13 Det Golf embarked conducted SEA LORDS mission 558, a sweep of an area where a Hoi Chanh from the Sea Float MATSB had reported a rice cache. The PCF's inserted the troops about three miles northeast of Sea Float (WQ 140 682) and shortly thereafter

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located the rice cache consisting of 14 bags, 100 pounds each of rice. A second cache was found in a bin 100 meters away and contained an estimated 2,000 pounds of rice. The rice and structures were destroyed by burning, and then the troops were extracted and returned to the MASTB. Results of the operation were eight bunkers, six structures, two sampans, and approximately 3500 pounds of rice destroyed. Five pounds of documents were captured and turned over to the Naval Intelligence Liaison Officer (NILO) at Nam Can for analysis. There were no friendly casualties, and enemy casualties are unknown.

SEA LORDS mission 415 was conducted on the night of 4 July when PCF 59 inserted 20 PRU troops along the Co Chien River about 34 miles southeast of Sa Dec (XS 379 172) and provided gunfire support. The troops were extracted six hours later having killed seven Viet Cong and capturing seven more. In addition, a large quantity of documents, two Russian-made rifles, one with grenade and launcher, and materials for Claymore mines were captured.

Market Time Raiders conducted SEA LORDS mission 564 on 4 July along the Song Ong Doc and Song Dong Cung (VQ 810 986 to VQ 848 927) about 22 miles northwest of New Nam Can. Five PCF's with RF troops from Song Ong Doc and UDT 13 DET Golf were underway at 0730 and inserted troops along the Song Ong Doc (VQ 810 986) where they started sweeping to the southeast. PCF 3 snapped a port shaft while extracting from the beach and was directed to proceed to An Thoi for repairs. The "Swift" boats laid down heavy prep fire on the banks of the river to drive the VC into the RF troops sweeping down from the north; however, enemy resistance

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was not encountered by the PCF's. A squad size VC unit later took the RF troops under fire as they swept on to a village. No friendly casualties were sustained while three VC were killed (body count). The PCF's took VC structures and support facilities on the north bank under destructive fire and destroyed 40 sampans and 21 bunkers. The UDT team discovered another small village and captured 1 German Mauser rifle, 1 U. S. grenade, 1 sampan motor, two sewing machines, and 50 pounds of rice and destroyed 10 sampans, 1,000 pounds of rice, and 100 pounds of shrimp. They also captured 10 water mines, 2 VC flags, and 1 pound of documents which were turned over to NILO Nam Can. There were no friendly casualties in this day long operation.

At 2300 on 7 July, PCF's 27, 35, and 3 with SEAL Team, DET Golf embarked departed Sea Float with the objective of capturing a Viet Cong tax extortionist. The SEALS were inserted about 10 kilometers east northeast of Sea Float (WQ 092 712) and searched a hootch about 1 kilometer to the north. Patrolling farther north, an ambush was set near a structure believed to be the tax station. The ambush was broken at 0630 without contact being established. The operation netted five kilos of documents, 2 grenades, 2 60mm mortar warheads, 2 firing devices, and 25 pounds of ammunition. There were no friendly casualties.

Market Time Raiders conducted SEA LORDS mission 580 on 14 July when five "Swift" boats with RF troops from Song Ong Doc and UDT 13 DET. Golf embarked made a ground sweep of the Song Dong Cung area (VQ 880 944) about 18 miles northwest of New Nam Can. After patrolling about two miles to the west, the troops discovered two ammo caches.

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and a mine factory containing several odd rounds of varying type small arms ammo, mine casings, shrapnel metal, 435 hand grenades of U. S., Chicom, and VC origin, and 11 land mines and 5 water mines. While taking targets of opportunity under fire during the mission, the PCF's received B-40 rockets and small arms fire which they quickly suppressed. The LOH providing cover for the operation developed a tail rotor problem and was forced to land on the bank of the Song Dong Cung. The "Swift" boats and the UDT established a security perimeter, and a skyhook was requested for lift out; however, the crew was able to make on-scene repairs and were able to take off under their own power. The troops were then extracted and returned to Song Ong Doc. One RF troop received a minor wound while enemy casualties are unknown. The operation resulted in nine watercraft and 38 structures destroyed. In addition, 1,500 pounds of rice, 400 pounds of salt, and most of the ammo caches were destroyed.

A SEA LORDS mission was conducted by Market Time Raiders on 17 July against an enemy weapons facility reported to be about five miles east of the Sea Float MATSB (WQ 087 645). PCF's 56, 22, 27, 50, and 72 with RF troops from Wai Yen and UDT 13 DET Golf entered the Rach Buong to conduct a sweep of the area and encountered a large wooden-stake barricade erected across the river. Concurrently, several mine explosions and enemy small arms fire caused a temporary halt to the operation. Seawolves placed an air strike, and PCF's mortared the area. One large structure, 60 by 100 feet long, and several smaller structures, all camouflaged, were taken under fire by the Seawolves.

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An armed VC patrol was spotted by the OH-6, and an air strike was called in resulting in several secondary explosions. The troops were then extracted, and all units exited the river without further incident. In addition to the barricade, 11 structures, 1 bunker, and 1 sampan were destroyed along with 12 claymore mines. There were no friendly casualties. The District Senior Advisor from New Nam Can reported that the air strikes for this operation resulted in 30 Viet Cong killed and 60 Viet Cong wounded.

Early in the morning of 20 July, the PT COMFORT (USCG WPB) and PT CYPRESS (USCG WPB) conducted a SEA LORDS mission near the mouth of the Co Chien River (XR 790 865) with Seawolves providing cover. Skimmers from the WPB were inserted along the coast and encountered numerous sampans, structures, and bunkers which were taken under fire. In less than two hours, 27 sampans, 10 of which had long shaft motors, 600 pounds of rice, and one medium sized junk with a diesel engine were destroyed Two of the sampans destroyed were loaded with boxes. In addition, 15 structures were heavily damaged. There were no friendly casualties, and enemy casualties are unknown.

On 21 July, five PCF's with RF troops from Song Ong Doc and UDT 13 DET Golf embarked entered the Song Dong Cung, proceeded through two river barricades, and inserted the troops about 19 miles northwest of New Nam Can while Seawolves provided air cover. While the troops conducted their sweep, the PCF's destroyed three tax extortion stations and two hundred pounds of salt found in a structure on the north bank. At the northernmost point of the sweep, the RF troops found several scattered structures, a small rice cache and received and suppressed small

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arms fire. The remainder of the operation proved uneventful, and the troops were extracted. During the exit, a few rounds of small arms fire were received causing no casualties. Destroyed were 500 pounds of rice, three hand grenades, ten structures, and several rounds of assorted Mauser and carbine ammunition while six structures were damaged. There were no friendly casualties, and enemy casualties are unknown.

On 24 July, the PT GREY and PT CYPRESS conducted operations at the mouth of the Co Chien River about 10 miles southeast of Thanh Phu (XR 7785). Both skimmer units were inserted along the beach and encountered many sampans and structures which were taken under fire while also spotting for the WPB's. Two sampans, one heavily laden with rice, were destroyed and 18 heavily damaged,and two secondary fires were ignited. There were no friendly casualties.

On the afternoon of 30 July, PCF's 25, 95, and 100 with III AF TACP Unit 11 troops embarked entered the Rach Eo Lon (XR 728 880) taking targets of opportunity under fire. After proceeding about three miles up the river, the landing party was put ashore to destroy bunkers in the area. Later the PCF's entered the Rach Cai Bai and destroyed sampans prior to beaching and putting the landing party ashore at a Viet Cong village to destroy structures, bunkers, and rice and attempt to capture and interrogate some villagers. When the villagers could not be found, the troops were extracted, and the PCF's exited the canal. The afternoon operation netted 21 structures, 13 bunkers, and 26 sampans (three with motors) destroyed

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and 25 structures and 24 bunkers heavily damaged. In addition, 1700 kilos of rice and 100 kilos of sugar were destroyed. There were no friendly casualties, and enemy casualties are unknown.

On the morning of 31 July, PCF's with RF troops embarked conducted a sweep west of the Kinh Ba Kheo (VQ 888 992) about 18 miles northwest of New Nam Can. When the "Swift" boats neared the insertion point, they were ambushed by an estimated two squads of VC. PCF 27 received two B-40 rockets causing only minor damage and no personnel casualties. The fire was quickly suppressed by the PCF's and the Seawolf fire team. The troops were landed on the east bank, and several VC bunkers were spotted and taken under fire. In addition, the "Swift" boats and Seawolves placed suppressive fire in the area. After sweeping only 100 meters inland and 1,500 meters along the canal's east bank, the remainder of the mission was cancelled; the troops were reembarked, and the "Swift" exited via the Song Ong Doc without further incident. The operation resulted in 12 VC killed (5 body count, 7 probable), and three structures destroyed along with one claymore mine and two booby-trap grenades. The RF troops captured and retained seven B-40 double-tube rocket launchers, one B-50 single tube launcher, six B-40 rockets, one B-50 rocket, one SKS Chicom carbine, 1,000 rounds of 7.62mm ammo, four entrenching tools, and four coils of wire used for firing the B-40 rockets. There were no friendly casualties.

On the night of 31 July, PCF's 46 and 96 inserted SEAL team, DET Golf, about 9 kilometers northeast of Old Nam Can (WQ 083 742) to interdict Viet Cong supply routes on the Cai Nhap Canal based on information

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supplied by the Naval Intelligence Liaison Officer (NILO) at Old Nam Can. One VC was seen firing from a listening post on the west bank and was taken under fire. The SEALS were then inserted about 300 meters to the south on the west bank of the canal. About an hour later, one sampan with one VC aboard and three other VC moving ashore on the opposite bank were taken under fire by the SEALs. There were two VC killed (probable), one listening post damaged, and one sampan destroyed. There were no friendly casualties.

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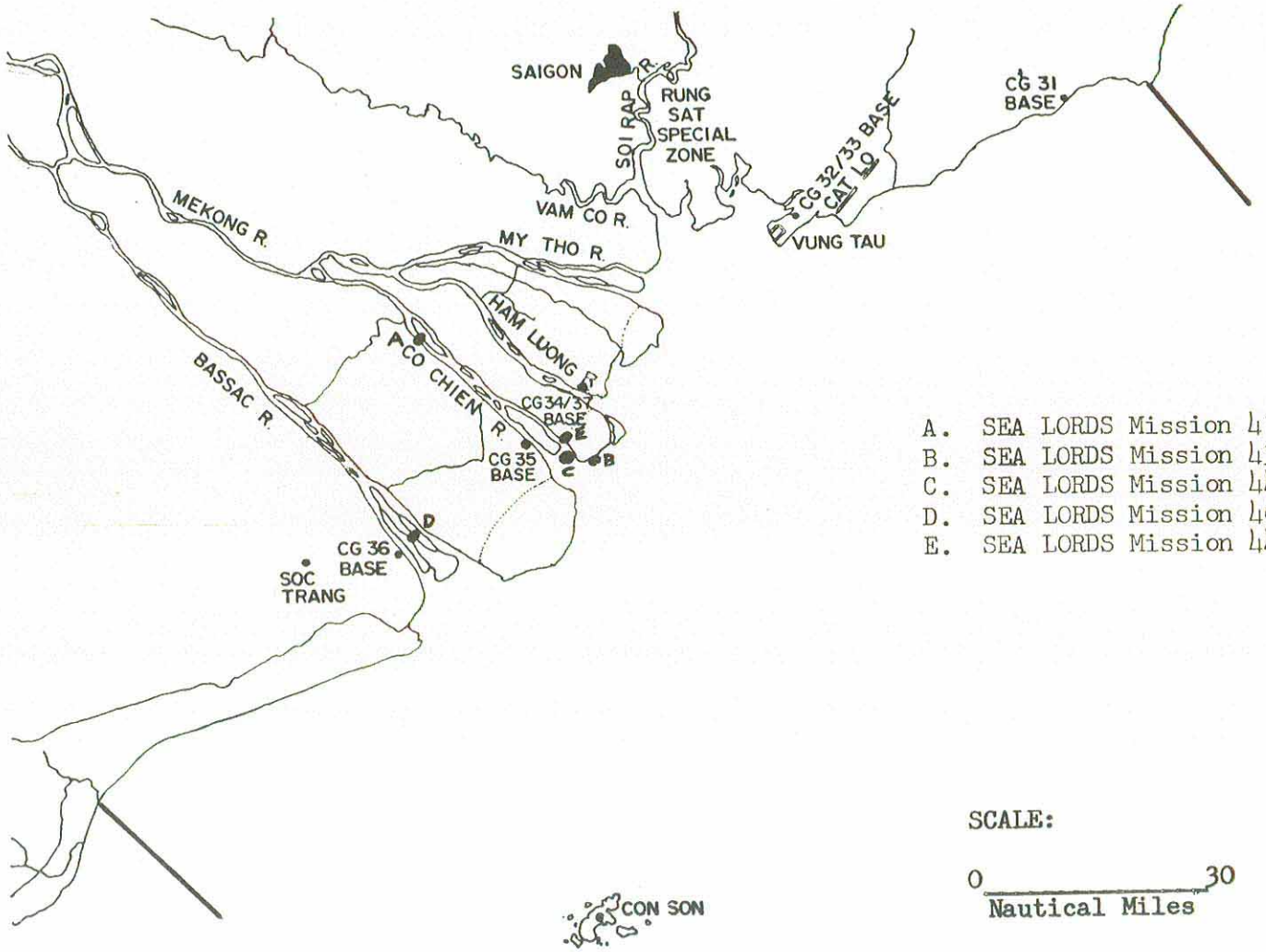
MARKET TIME RAIDERS/SEA LORDS

OPERATIONS IN THE THIRD COASTAL ZONE



A. SEA LORDS Mission 415 - 4 July
B. SEA LORDS Mission 437 - 20 July
C. SEA LORDS Mission 443 - 24 July
D. SEA LORDS Mission 463 - 29 July
E. SEA LORDS Mission 449 - 30 July

SCALE:

0 _____ 30
Nautical Miles

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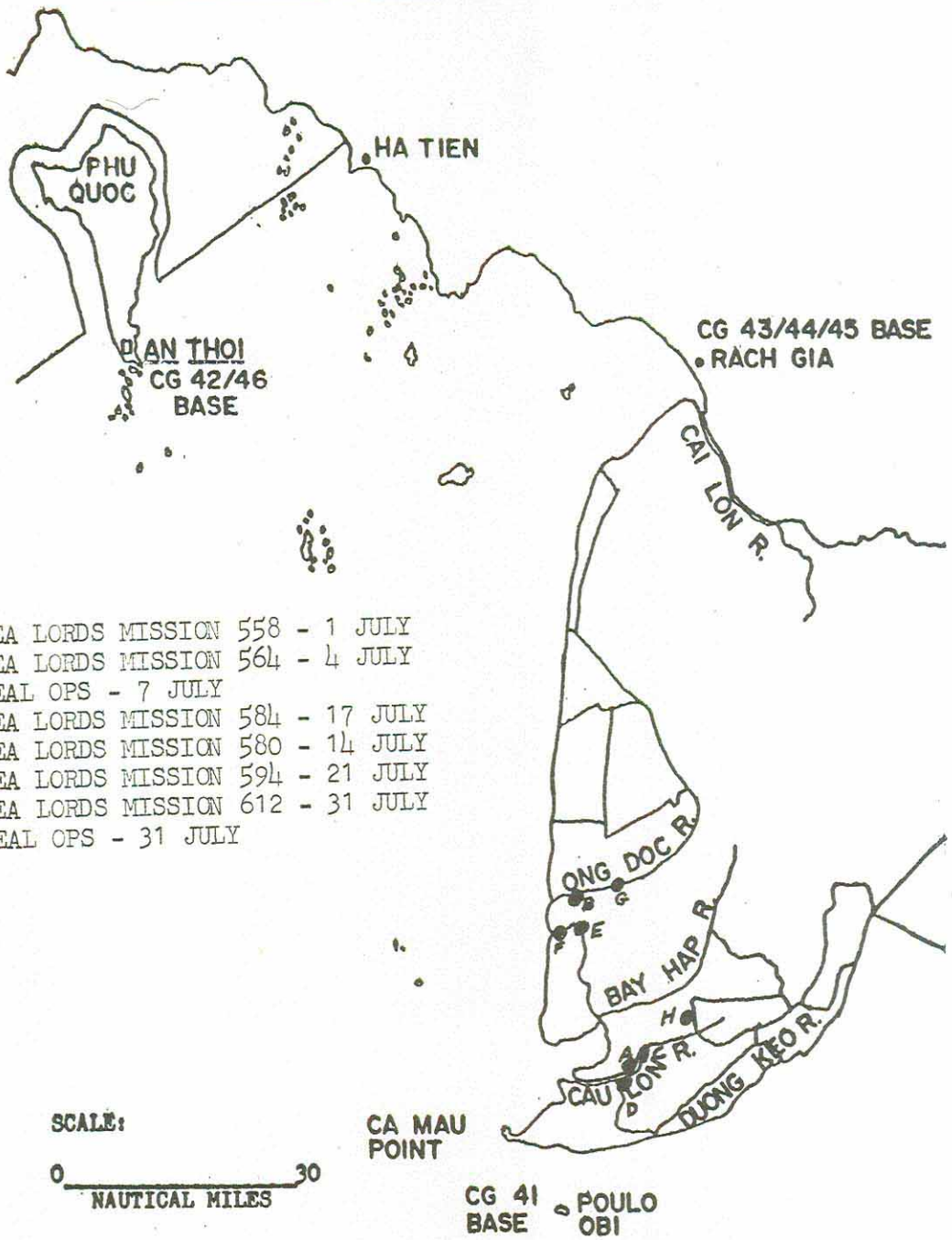
OPERATIONS IN THE FOURTH COASTAL ZONE



A. SEA LORDS MISSION 558 - 1 JULY
B. SEA LORDS MISSION 564 - 4 JULY
C. SEAL OPS - 7 JULY
D. SEA LORDS MISSION 584 - 17 JULY
E. SEA LORDS MISSION 580 - 14 JULY
F. SEA LORDS MISSION 594 - 21 JULY
G. SEA LORDS MISSION 612 - 31 JULY
H. SEAL OPS - 31 JULY

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OPERATION SEA LORDS STATISTICAL SUMMARY BY CAMPAIGN
(By USN and VNN Forces)
July 1969

	GIANT SLINGSHOT	BARRIER REEF	TRAN HUNG DAO	MARKET TIME RAIDERS
Enemy Casualties:				
a. Killed	147(56BC+91EST)	15(13BC+2EST)	30(6BC+24EST)	19(13BC+6EST)
b. Wounded	15	2	2	5
c. Captured	1	4	1	0
USN casualties:				
a. Killed	0 U.S. + 4 VNN	0	2 U.S.	19 + 1 VNN
b. Wounded	21 U.S. + 2 VNN	0	0	0
c. Captured	0	0	0	0
d. Missing	0	0	0	0
Enemy material losses:				
a. Destroyed				
(1) Junks & sampans	32	2	4	163
(2) Structures	39	1	10	171
b. Captured				
(1) Junks & sampans	20	0	0	
(2) Weapons	13	5	1	11
(3) Ammunition (rounds)	700	20	130	1,230
(4) Rice (tons)	0	0	0	9.0
c. Damaged				
(1) Junks & sampans	0	0	3	31
(2) Structures	0	0	3	194
USN material losses:				
a. Destroyed				
(1) Surface craft	0	0	0	1
(2) Aircraft	0	0	0	0
b. Damaged				
(1) Surface craft	9 U.S. + 1 VNN	0	0	8
(2) Aircraft	0	0	0	0
Hostile fire incidents:	101	2	34 (26 aircraft)	39

*Search Turn Campaign along Rach Gia/Cong Xuyen Canal, formerly under Operation SEALORDS, was carried as normal Game Warden Operation during July.

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Declassified after 12 years

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OPERATION SEA LORDS STATISTICAL SUMMARY BY CAMPAIGN
(Combined results by all friendly forces involved)
July 1969

	GIANT SLINGSHOT	BARRIER REEF	TRAN HUNG DAO	MARKET TIME RAIDERS
Enemy casualties:				
a. Killed	230(133BC+97EST)	25(23BC+2EST)	30(6BC+24EST)	69(34BC+35EST)
b. Wounded	15	4	4	8
c. Captured	16	5	1	10
Friendly casualties:				
a. Killed	9	2	2	2
b. Wounded	101	6	0	41
c. Captured	0	0	0	0
d. Missing	1	0	0	0
Enemy material losses:				
a. Destroyed				
(1) Junks & sampans	39	2	5	182
(2) Structures	112	3	10	268
b. Captured				
(1) Junks & sampans	26	0	0	0
(2) Weapons	151	8	1	13
(3) Ammunition (rounds)	4,000	70	130	1,260
(4) Rice (tons)	1.1	0	0	9.0
c. Damaged				
(1) Junks & sampans	0	0	3	31
(2) Structures	9	0	3	195
Friendly material losses:				
a. Destroyed				
(1) Surface craft	0	0	0	0
(2) Aircraft	0	0	1	0
b. Damage				
(1) Surface craft	12	0	0	8
(2) Aircraft	1	0	0	0
Hostile fire incidents:	118	5	37	44

*Search Turn Campaign along Rach Gia/Cong Xuyen Canal, formerly under Operation SEALORDS, was carried as normal Game Warden Operation during July.

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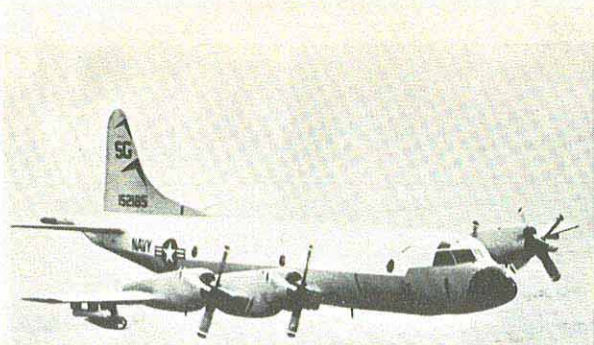

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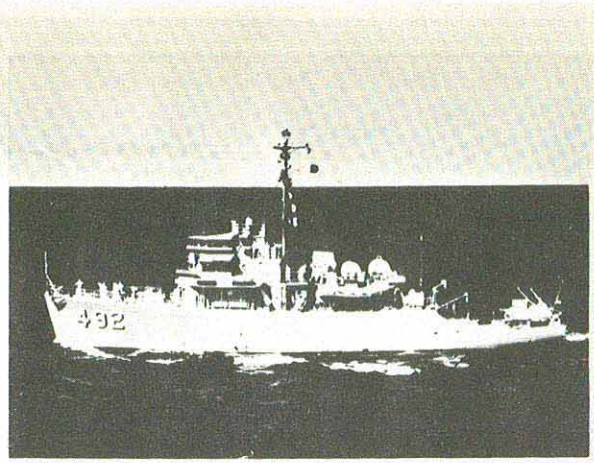
P3 ORION
PATROL AIRCRAFT



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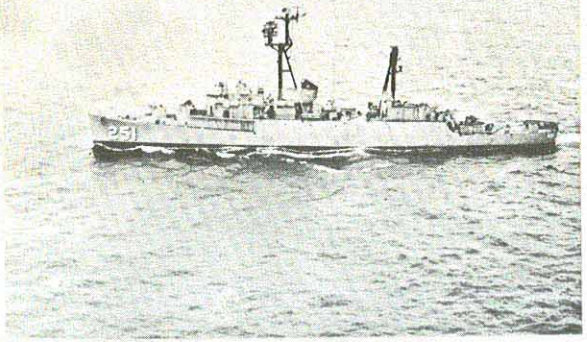
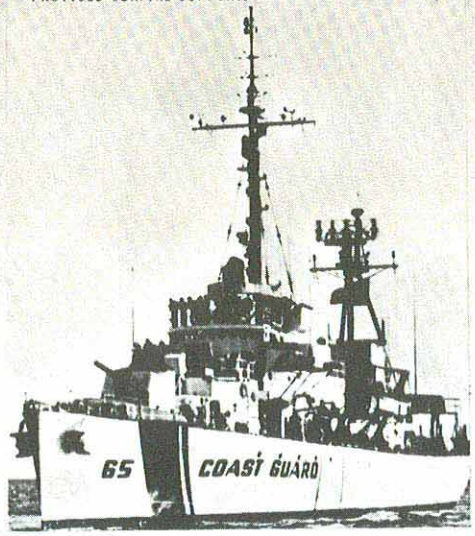
MINESWEEPER

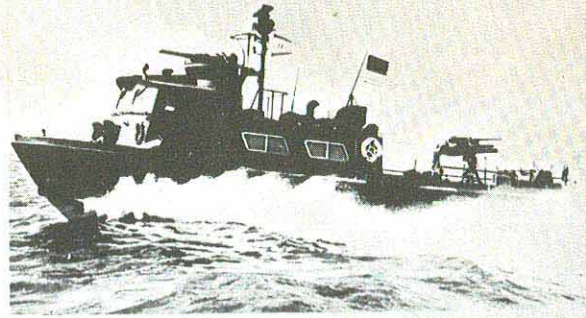
COASTAL SURVEILLANCE FORCE (MARKET TIME)



RADAR PICKET DESTROYER: PROVIDES GUNFIRE SUPPORT;
DETECTS ENEMY WATERCRAFT WITH POWERFUL RADAR.

U. S. COAST GUARD CUTTER: OPERATES CLOSE INSHORE,
PROVIDES GUNFIRE SUPPORT.





"SWIFT" BOAT (PCF): HIGH-SPEED 50-FOOT ALUMINUM-HULLED VESSEL;
IDEALLY SUITED FOR CATCHING AND STOPPING ENEMY WATERCRAFT.

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COASTAL SURVEILLANCE FORCE SUMMARY

Routine operations continued for Market Time and Stable Door Forces during the month of July. In addition Market Time units assumed patrol responsibility in the Game Warden area of operations in the Bassac and Co Chien Rivers from 1-7 July and 26-31 July. There were over 1,500 detections, 561 inspections and 599 boardings of watercraft in the rivers and 5 craft were detained along with 22 personnel. Task Force 115 surveillance units detected 122,119 craft in their patrol areas along the coast and in the harbors of South Vietnam. On the 10th and 11th of July most units of patrol areas 1,2, and 3 of I CTZ were off-station evading typhoon Tess. A total of 37,518 craft were inspected and another 13,741 were boarded. As a result of these checks, 245 craft and 1,426 persons were detained for violation of restricted areas, possession of contraband, improper personal or craft papers , and other suspicious activities. There were also 26 Viet Cong suspects detained.

Enemy initiated activity remained at a relatively low level during July as was the case when June ended. The enemy forces normally operating in the coastal regions avoided contact and were believed to have pulled back into mountain base areas for rest, replacement of personnel, and logistics supply. There were no known infiltration attempts of men or supplies by sea during the month. Task Force 115 units continued to provide naval gunfire and blocking patrols in support of friendly ground operations along the coast and in the rivers. During July two Navymen were killed and ten wounded while enemy losses to the naval gunfire of Market Time units came to 57 confirmed killed , 64 probably killed, and an estimated 19 wounded and 11 captured.

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OPERATION MARKET TIME

There were 709 naval gunfire support and SEA LORDS missions conducted in July. The previous high was 1,027 in October 1968. Gun damage assessments averaged 31.5 per cent as compared to the high of 42.3 per cent in May 1969, with the following results being attained:

121 Viet Cong killed (64 probable, 57 body count)

19 Viet Cong wounded

11 Viet Cong captured

397 Junks or sampans destroyed

442 Structures destroyed

25 Junks or sampans damaged

381 Structures damaged

Over thirty evading watercraft were taken under fire and were generally destroyed; however, it was frequently impossible to determine what, if any personnel casualties were inflicted. Arms and contraband, occasionally found in evading craft, were confiscated.

Surveillance operations resulted in the detection of 67,374 craft. This decrease of about 10,000 from the June statistics is due to the Vietnamese Navy (VNN) assuming patrol responsibility of the Fourth Coastal Zone on 1 June 1969 and VNN PCFs patrolling areas in the First Coastal Zone. A total of 36,415 inspections and 13,201 boardings were carried out during July. Detections of steel hulled vessels in Market Time areas totalled 748. Of these 511 were inspected and 28 were boarded and determined to be non-suspicious.

"Swift" boats conducting Operation SEALORDS river incursions (Market

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Time Raiders) in III and IV CTZ continued to score heavily against the enemy with 62 multi-craft missions carried out during July. In addition, the Market Time Raiders supported Operation SEAFLOAT/Tran Hung Dao III in the lower Ca Mau Peninsula (these operations are discussed under Market Time Raiders in the Operation SEALORDS Summary and the Operation SEAFLOAT description below)

SEAL units attached to Task Force 115 continued routine operations during July; however, contact with the enemy was light.

Surfline operations continued in July in areas 1, 4, and 6. There were no significant events reported.

On 8 July Operation Double Shift was executed. This operation required the deployment of 16 PCFs to Task Force 116 with eight reporting to My Tho and eight to Binh Tuy. The mission of the PCFs was to provide blocking, interdiction, and troop lift forces in the event of large scale enemy movement in the northern and northeastern Third Corps Tactical Zone. The deployment of CTF 115 assets into the lower Mekong and Bassac Rivers permitted the shift of additional CTF 116 units into the upper Vam Co Dong and Saigon Rivers.

On 31 July Captain John J. Shanahan, Jr., USN 472773/110 relieved CDR Richard E. Nicholson, USN, 513178/1100 as Commander Coastal Flotilla One and Commander Coastal Surveillance Force 115 (CTF 115).

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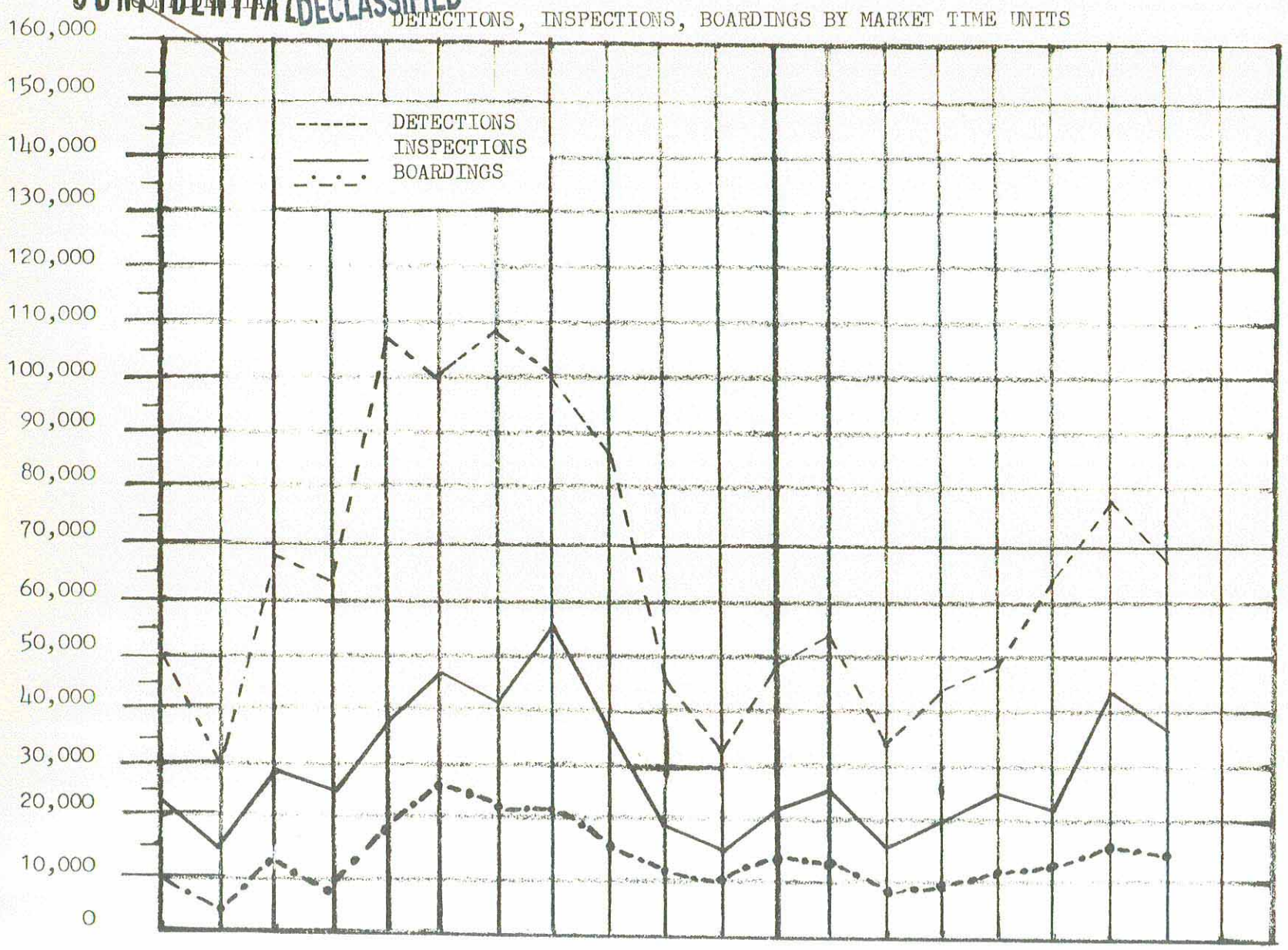

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FIRST COASTAL ZONE

Weather was generally excellent during July except on 10 and 11 July when Typhoon Tess forced units in patrol areas 1, 2 and 3 off-station. Detections in the First Coastal Zone came to 23,191 in July. (This does not include the total detections by the VNN PCFs assigned to the First Coastal Zone) Of these, 9,987 were inspected and 6,629 were boarded, resulting in the detention of 39 craft and 788 personnel. In general adherence to fishing and transit of restricted areas by indigenous craft continued to improve. On 4 July Yabuta junks of Coastal Group 21 assumed patrol responsibility of area 3E from CR 120500 to CR 165350.

First Coastal Zone patrols carried out 178 naval gunfire support missions during July. Early on the morning of 3 July PCFs 69 and 99 were conducting a predawn Sea Tiger patrol of the Truong Giang River under silent running conditions when a sampan with two occupants was sighted crossing west to east about 18 miles southeast of Da Nang (BT 174513). The sampan was taken under fire at a range of 175 yards and upon inspecting the debri several hats were spotted along with freshly cooked rice, tabacco and clothes. Two other unoccupied sampans were destroyed in the adjacent area. There were two Viet Cong probably killed and no friendly casualties.

On 3 July while on routine Market Time patrol PCF 55 was directed to investigate a downed aircraft about 45 miles southeast of Da Nang (BT 452170). The wreckage was located at the reported position and was identified as a UH-1H helicopter tail No. 17694 and immediately sent Divers on board the PCF over the side in an attempt to recover the bodies trapped in the wreckage. A floating body spotted by an Army

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Americal Division helo was recovered by scuba divers along with one M-16 rifle, one M-60 machine gun and one survival kit. PCF 55 returned to Chu Lai with the bodies while PCF 24 which was ordered to the scene towed the wreckage to a salvagable position.

On the morning of 6 July the PT Lomas fired a gunfire support mission for an Army Naval Gunfire Liaison Officer about 30 miles southeast of Da Nang (BT 224483). Three Viet Cong in the free fire zone were taken under fire and killed. In addition, one structure was destroyed and three sustained fires were ignited.

On 15 July an amphibious assault force, consisting of COGARDIV 12, UDT 13 Det Hotel, EOD Team 70 and supported by WPBs Pt Kennedy and Pt Welcome, PCFs 20 and 39 and two UH-1B gunships, stormed ashore on Barrier Island (BT 275420) to conduct a search and destroy mission. The troops then moved north along the bank destroying bunkers, hootches, sampans/junks, basketboats, and fishing nets while receiving and suppressing sporadic small arms fire. The gunships dispersed several mass movements of armed VC moving toward the beach party. The combined operation destroyed 26 bunkers and structures, 35 sampans/junks, 94 basket boats, 160 fishing nets and six large piles of line. There were five large secondary explosions in bunkers and structures. There were 27 Viet Cong killed (10 body count, 17 probable) while seven basket boats were captured and 59 persons detained. There were no friendly casulaties.

A Sea Tiger mission was conducted on the morning of 18 July to implant a Duffle Bag sensor string along the Thu Bon River about 16 miles southeast of Da Nang (BT 188564). At 0700 an attempt by one Regional Force (RF) Company of MAT 3 to establish a security perimeter was aborted when

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a booby trap was detonated. Subsequently the perimeter was established by Coastal Group 14 (CG-14) Landing Force/Underwater Demolition Team 13, Detachment H (UDT 13, Det H), and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team 70 (EOD Team 70). As the force moved toward the site to implant the sensor string, 9 VC were sighted and taken under fire which resulted in eight VC killed (6 body count, 2 probably). Friendly casualties were one killed and four wounded from the MAT-3 RF Company when the booby trap detonated. Due to the area being heavily bunkered and fortified only one Aqua Buoy was implanted prior to extraction of the landing party.

On 25 July Market Time units conducted a Sea Tiger mission to implant a sensor string about 17 miles southeast of Da Nang (BT 190563). Prior to insertion of the Duffle Bag Team and supporting units the area was prepped with napalm, 500 pounds bombs, and strafing runs delivered by A-4 aircraft. PCFs 15 and 65 provided 81mm mortar and 50 caliber machine gunfire support. Five VC were taken under fire by UH-1B helicopter gunships with unknown results. Coastal Group 14 and RF/PF troops from MAT-3 Det H surveyed the area and destroyed bunkers. The Duffle Bag Team successfully implanted one set of various type sensors. Following extraction of the ground forces the PCFs and helo gunships made firing runs along the area of operation. The following were destroyed in this combined operation: Eight large bunker complexes, four large structures, 12 fish nets, an ammo cache consisting of 105mm and 155mm projectiles were destroyed and one M-1 carbine, two homemade hand grenades, light fishing nets, one A/W and 30 pounds of rice were captured. In addition four large secondary explosions were observed.

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There were no friendly casualties and enemy casualties were unknown.

Operation Bold Pursuit which commenced on 27 June 1969 was terminated on 6 July. This combined Amphibious operation was composed of Naval Amphibious Ready Group/Special Landing Force Alfa, U. S. Americal Division, RVN Regional Forces/Popular Forces Troops, VNN River Assualt Group 32, U. S. Marine Battalion Landing Team 1/26, USS MEREDITH (DD 890), one WPB and one PCF. The mission was to complete a sweep of Barrier Island to search for and destroy Viet Cong Local Force and Main Force Units, Viet Cong and North Vietnam Army forces known to be operating in the area. Although complete results of the operation are unavailable, the WPB on three gunfire support missions accounted for 22 structures destroyed and another 19 heavily damaged along with five secondary explosions and one secondary fire, and five Viet Cong killed (body count).

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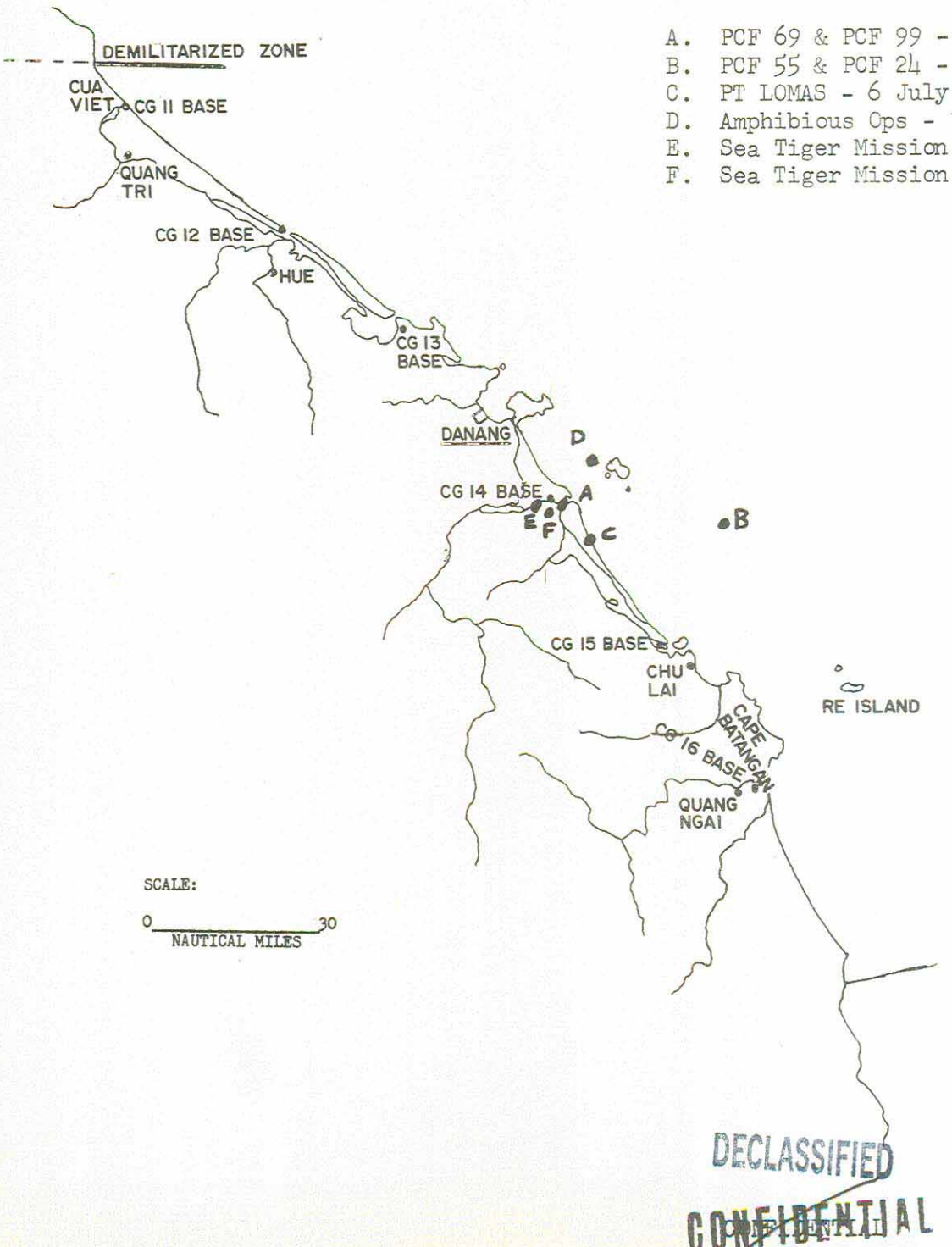
OPERATIONS IN THE FIRST COASTAL ZONE



A. PCF 69 & PCF 99 - 3 July
B. PCF 55 & PCF 24 - 3 July
C. PT LOMAS - 6 July
D. Amphibious Ops - 15 July
E. Sea Tiger Mission 032-18 July
F. Sea Tiger Mission 034-25 July

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SECOND COASTAL ZONE

Adverse weather was not a factor in the Second Coastal Zone patrol operation during July as a total of 38,896 watercraft were detected. A total of 23,578 of these were inspected and another 5,265 were boarded while five craft evaded. There were 30 craft and 135 suspicious personnel detained.

Naval gunfire missions in the Second Coastal Zone were not as high as the other Coastal Zones, as only 119 missions were conducted during July with an insignificant amount of gun damage assessment reported.

At noon on 16 July PCF 91 observed an F-100 aircraft crash about two and one half miles east of Tuy Hoa AFB (CQ 2246). The pilot ejected; however, the parachute failed to open and no beeper was heard after the crash. While PCF 75 and HMAS BRISBANE searched the area PCF 91 ferried divers from Tuy Hoa AFB to the USS WIDGEON (MSC 208). After the USS WIDGEON discovered the main body of the wreckage with sounding gear, the divers were put into the water. The fuselage was discovered in several large pieces; however, the divers were unable to locate the pilot or cockpit section. At 1200 on 17 July the divers ceased operations and were returned to Tuy Hoa AFB.

From 17 July to 30 July PCF 87 acted as mother boat and command ship and provided naval gunfire support for a night ambush detachment and coastal surveillance skimmer operations in the upper Qui Nhon harbor and Phuc Mai peninsula. Three Boston Whalers manned by a team from Inshore Undersea Warfare Group 1 Detachment 3 (IUWG-1,Det 3) inserted the team and acted as

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secondary waterborne guard post for this special operation. The following is a daily summary of these operations:

17 July- Underway at 172000 and returned at 180130. Experienced difficulty in insertion. No enemy contact.

18 July- Underway at 182000H and returned at 180130H. Took enemy under fire from waterborne guardpost. Two Viet Cong killed (body count) and one sampan captured.

19 July- Underway at 192000 and returned at 200130H. Four VC were captured while attempting to float a hidden sampan. All personnel, one male, three females were turned over to Naval Intelligence Liaison Officer, Qui Nhon for interrogation and processing.

20 July- Underway at 202010H and returned at 210600H with negative contact.

21 July- No operations scheduled.

22 July- Underway at 221330H and returned at 221700H having destroyed five large bunker complexes. Underway at 222000H and returned at 230530H. Enemy taken under fire from waterborne guard post. Two VC killed, (one BC,one probable), one VC wounded, two 20 foot sampans destroyed. Captured one AK-47, one MK26 grenade, two kilos of documents, 10 kilos rice and eight chickens. The two sampans were heavily loaded with cargo.

23 July- Underway at 230800H and returned at 231130H. Attempt to locate sampan and cargo sunk night of 22-23 July unsuccessful. Located two blood trails. Captured one 9mm French submachine

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gun and one haversack with personal equipment.

Underway at 232030H and returned at 240930H. Four VC were killed(body count), two wounded, and one captured. One sampan was destroyed, one sampan captured and five kilos of documents captured. The wounded were taken to Qui Nhon POW hospital after initial interrogation.

24-July- Underway at 242000H and returned at 250530H with negative contact.

25-July- No operations scheduled.

26-July- Underway at 262000H and returned at 270500H. One VC was killed(body count) and five documents captured. Initial readout of documents indicates the VC killed was a Commo Laison Courier.

27-July- Underway at 272000H and returned at 280730H with negative contact. Operation hampered by ROK operations in upper Qui Nhon harbor area.

28-July- Underway at 282000H and returned at 300630 with negative enemy contact.

This special operation netted eight VC killed (body count), three VC killed (probable), three VC wounded and five VC captured. Five bunkers and three sampans were destroyed. Two twenty foot sampans heavily loaded with supplies for local VC units were also destroyed. Two sampans were captured along with one AK-47, one 9mm machine gun, two hand grenades, and seven kilos of documents. Based on the results of the interrogation of

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prisoners captured 23 July, the ROK Tiger Division made a sweep of a Viet Cong base camp which resulted in nine enemy killed and one captured. The documents also revealed that the supplies destroyed on 23 July were en route to units south of Qui Nhon that had been short of food for over a month.

On the evening of 24 July, a U.S. Army PBR 40 from Vung Tau Bay requested assistance from PCF 64. PBR 40 had detained three Vietnamese in a sampan who were acting suspicious and had over 9000 piasters in their possession which they were trying to hide. One of the detainees had been caught in June attempting to haul something out of the water which was believed to be a cache, but it was not recovered due to the extreme depth of the water. The sampan, which had a false bottom, was detained in a restricted zone. The three detainees were transferred to PCF 64 and the sampan taken in tow. En route to Tuy Hoa the tow line sheared and the sampan flooded and sank. After a thorough search the PCF was unable to recover the sampan or any floatsam. The detainees were turned over to the Tuy Hoa Sector representative for disposition.

Early on the morning of 25 July, the PT ORIENT, PT GLOVER, and USCGC KLAMATH (WHEC 66) provided support for special operations by an Army 173rd Airborne Brigade Team on the Song Lai Giang, about forty miles north of Qui Nhon (BR 975965). During the initial insertion, the WPB's small boats were swamped by heavy surf and the motors became inoperative and they were towed seaward and brought

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aboard the PT ORIENT. Shortly after insertion the troops came under heavy enemy fire and requested emergency NGFS and extraction. The enemy fire was quickly suppressed and the troops extracted. The troops were inserted about one mile further north utilizing the USCGC KLAMATH's small boat with no further contact being made. There were two Viet Cong killed and no friendly casualties. Results of the NGFS are unknown.

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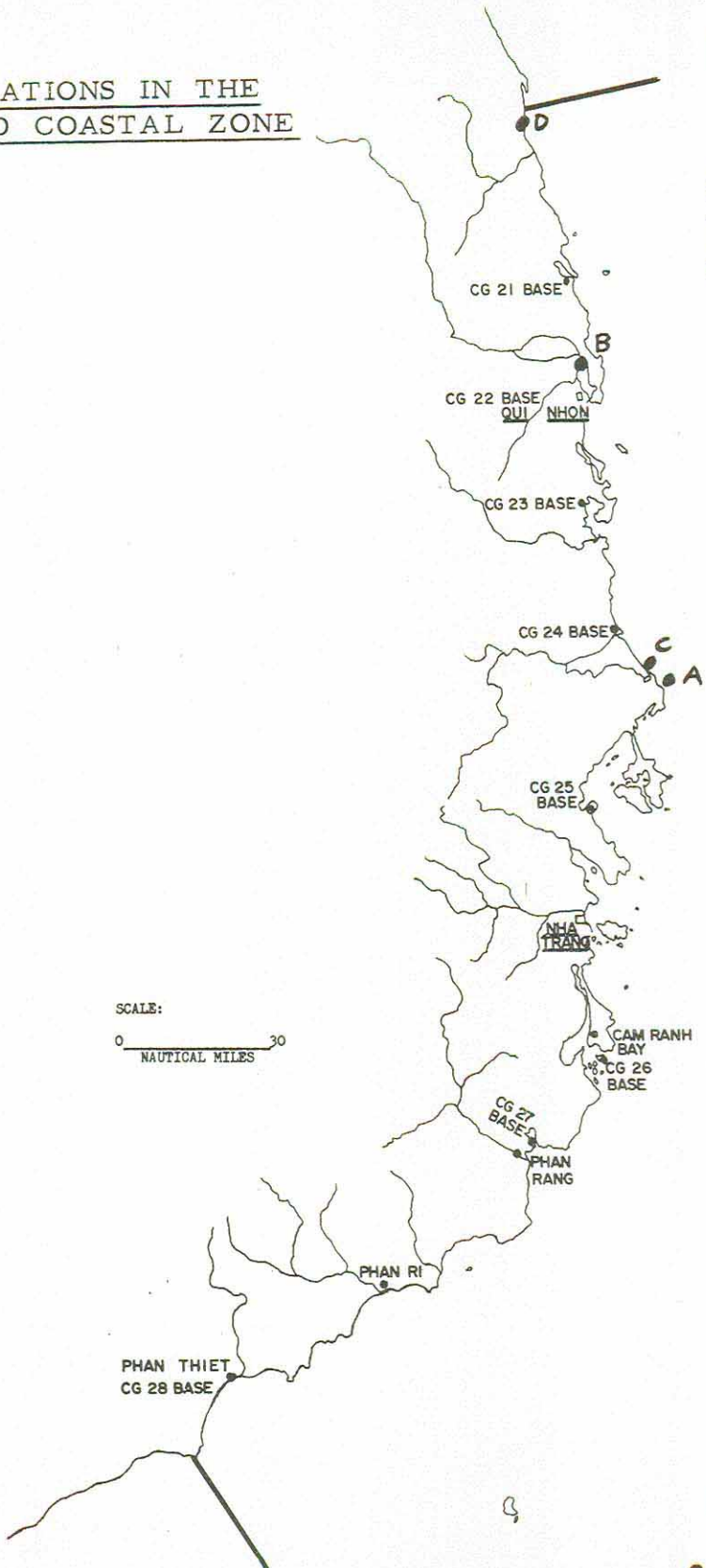
OPERATIONS IN THE SECOND COASTAL ZONE

A. PCF 91 - 16 July
B. IUWG - 1 Ops - 17-30 July
C. PCF 64 - 24 July
D. Special Ops - 25 July



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THIRD COASTAL ZONE

There were over 190 naval gunfire missions carried out during July by Third Coastal Zone units, mostly against targets of opportunity, in response to requests for naval gunfire support or in preplanned river and canal incursions. As a result of these missions, 14 VC were killed (6 body count and 8 probable). There were 157 structures and 128 watercraft destroyed. In addition, 318 structures and 13 watercraft were heavily damaged, and 9 secondary fires were ignited.

Surveillance operations reflected a decrease in indigenous coastal traffic with 5,287 detections of watercraft. Patrol effectiveness remained high with 2,850 inspections and another 1,307 boardings of detected craft. There was only one incident of evading craft while six craft were detained along with 64 personnel.

On the evening of 3 July, PCF's 53 and 54 responded to an urgent request from PSA Long Phu for naval gunfire support on the Bassac River about 30 miles southeast of Can Tho (XR 228 751). The target was a VC building complex where approximately 100 Viet Cong were massing for an attack on a nearby GVN outpost. The PCF's saturated the area with 81mm mortars, but due to heavy foliage, no GDA was observed; however, the attack on the friendly outpost did not materialize.

Early on the morning of 4 July, PCF's 53 and 54 provided a covering and blocking force while 40 PRU's from Long Phu were inserted by Coastal Group 36 off a canal along the Bassac River about 31 miles

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southeast of Can Tho (XR 215 730). After proceeding about one mile to the southeast, the troops captured three Viet Cong guerrillas. The troops were extracted about four hours later without further contact with the enemy. There were no friendly casualties.

On 4 July, the USCGC MENDOTA (WHEC 69) scored heavily against the enemy with her five inch guns destroying six structures and five water craft and heavily damaging 24 structures. The gunfire support mission was requested and spotted by IV Corps spotter and the target was a known VC base area about 70 miles southeast of Sa Dec (XR 672 600).

On the afternoon of 7 July, PCF 17 observed a junk ablaze near the mouth of the Bassac River, 43 miles southeast of Can Tho (XR 3168). Upon approaching the junk, a woman on the bow was trying to extinguish the flames while three children were on the stern. Due to the intensity of the fire, the "Swift" boat was unable to immediately extinguish the fire and proceeded to rescue the people on board. While taking the children on board, the woman jumped into the water and started swimming toward the PCF, but the strong current dragged her under, and she was drowned. PCF 54 was then called to the scene, and after an hour and a half, the fire was finally extinguished. The junk was totally consumed by the fire except for the hull. The crew stated that the junk apparently contained a large quantity of gasoline and oil. PCF 17 then towed the hull out of the Bassac River where it and the occupants were taken under tow by an accompanying junk.

On the afternoon of 21 July, the USCGC TANEY (WHEC-37) conducted a gunfire support mission about 26 miles northeast of Old Nam Can (WQ 4799). Firing at a range of over 11,000 yards, the five inch guns

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of the WPB accounted for seven Viet Cong killed (probable) and 13 structures and 9 watercraft destroyed. In addition, eight structures and two sampans were damaged.

Again on 22 July, the TANEY fired on a VC supply camp and bunker and storage area about 46 miles northeast of Old Nam Can (WR 5307). The mission was requested and spotted by the naval gunfire support advisory team 20 and resulted in seven structures and five craft destroyed and nine structures heavily damaged. In addition, there were three POL and two ammunition secondary explosions.

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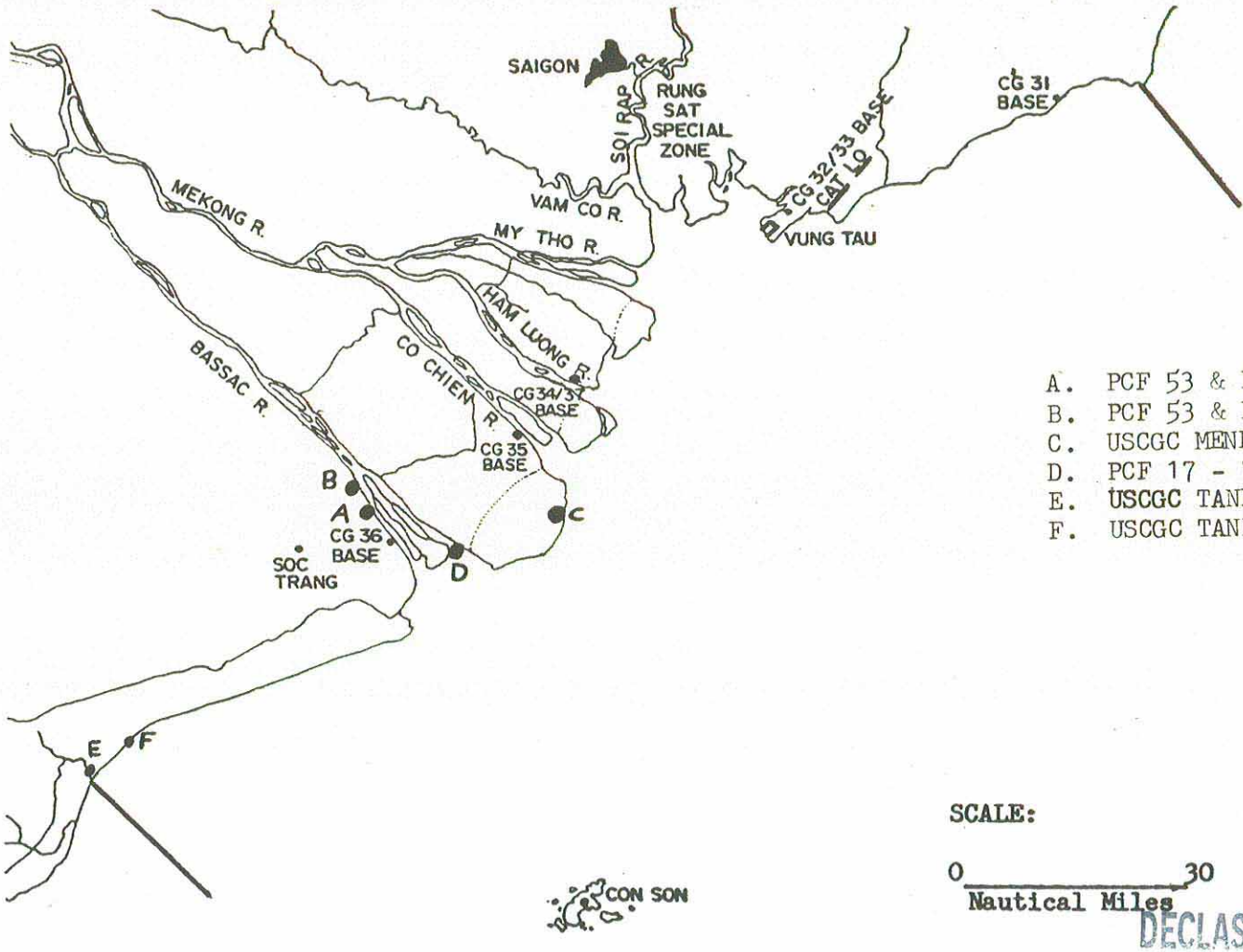
OPERATIONS IN THE THIRD COASTAL ZONE



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A. PCF 53 & PCF 54 - 3 July
B. PCF 53 & PCF 54 - 4 July
C. USCGC MENDOTA (WHEC) - 4 July
D. PCF 17 - 7 July
E. USCGC TANEY (WHEC-37)- 21 July
F. USCGC TANEY (WHEC-37)- 22 JULY

SCALE:

0 _____ 30
Nautical Miles

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SEA FLOAT/TRAN HUNG DAO III

The current success of operation Sea Float/Tran Hung Dao III, which commenced on 27 June, indicates it's life span will not be short.

Market Time units committed to Sea Float operations included eight PCF's, a SEAL team, and an EOD team supported by Seawolves,helo and OV-10 aircraft. During July more than 70 psyops patrols were conducted utilizing from two to five PCF's. Several airborne psyops missions were conducted in areas inaccesable to the Swift boats. In addition to the psyops patrols, "Swifts" conducted waterborne guardpost operations, inserted SEAL's, EOD teams, RF and MSF troops, provided escort service for logistic craft along the Bo De and Cua Long Rivers and continued Sea Lords operations in areas adjacent to Sea Float. The PCF's have been ambushed four out of every five times they go out on patrol. Although the Mobile Advance Tactical Support Base is within easy range of Viet Cong rockets and small arms fire, it has not been attacked. The reason is not entirely clear, but it is the deterrent factor is the firepower on Sea Float.

On 16 July, two amni pontoons were anchored opposite Sea Float on the north bank of the Song Cua Long (VQ 992 675) to permit sampans to tie up and receive the interview portion of the visitors' psyops briefing thereby eliminating the possibility of a sampan mining the MATSB. On 25 July, PT FOXTROT was designated a Sea Float Annex and is located six miles northeast of Seafloat (WQ 085 710) on the Song Cua Long to continue the psyops extension.

Although holding off any shooting action, the VC have been quick with a propaganda campaign against operation Sea Float. Just about everyday,

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leaflets are attached to tiny log rafts and dumped upstream to float by the MATSB. Printed in both English and Vietnamese, the leaflets called for an end to " U.S. Agressive War" and warned that the Viet Cong would "Blast the American Navy out of the water ". Banners along the riverbank in Viet Cong controlled areas have been found and read, " American and Vietnamese soldiers who come here will die" and " We kill Americans". In addition, Hanoi Hannah in her daily radio broadcast on 15 July stated that Sea Float would be at the bottom of the Song Cua Lon at 172359H July 1969. However, at month's end, Sea Float also had a record day with 348 visitors. By month's end, visitors to the annex were starting to give more information on VC extortion activities.

As a result of information received from the visitors, the "Swift " boats and Seawolves strike the extortion areas often destroying barricades set up by the VC to stop the flow of traffic on the canals. In addition, harassment and interdiction fire is fired nightly in the vicinity of the MATSB into known VC base and extortion areas.

CDR Paul A. Yost, USCG, relieved CDR Charles M. Plumly, USN, as Commander of Sea Float (CTG 115.7) on 5 July. On 28 July, CDR T. R. Emery, USN, the prospective Commander of Sea Float arrived at MATSB.

On 6 July, Sea Float was visited by the Deputy Cords IV Corps, PSA Ca Mau and DSA Nam Can and discussed pacification and bank security.

On 10 July, VADM Elmo R. Zumwalt, USN, Commander U.S. Naval Forces, Vietnam and Commodore Tran Van Chon, Chief of Naval Operations, Vietnamese Navy, visited Sea Float for briefings.

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The Province Chief, PSA Province Police Chief and staff of seven visited Sea Float on 15 July and brought three Kit Carson scouts for Sea Float.

The Province Chief was disturbed by Sea Float's rules of engagement stating that all people south of Sea Float are VC and should be fired at on sight and not psyopsed.

On 28 July, Gen. William B. Rosson, USA, Deputy Commander, U. S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam, VADM Elmo R. Zumwalt, USN, MGen. Roderick Wetherill, USA, Commanding General, Delta Military Assistance Command, visited Sea Float and were briefed on Sea Float defense and operations. Gen. Rosson questioned the objectives of Sea Float versus risk. VADM Zumwalt explained the objective and indicated that a two or three month period would be required to properly evaluate results of the operation, and he also pointed out that the actual risks were not excessive. All agreed that troops would be a welcome addition to Sea Float. VADM Zumwalt emphasized that Sea Float forces were to work with Song Ong Doc and Nam Can troops regardless of their willingness to work the Sea Float AO.

On 13 July, COMNAVFORV approved a plan to recruit and train 50 Kit Carson scouts (KCS) in coordination with PSA An Xuyen and DEP Cords MACV for employment with Sea Float forces. Kit Carson scouts are former Viet Cong who have come over to the side of the Saigon government and serve with allied military units. Utilizing housing materials provided by Sea Float, the KCS will build their own houses and eventually settle in Old Nam Can. Until the housing is completed,

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the scouts and their families, estimated to be about 200 persons, will be housed and fed at Sea Float. As of 30 July, 15 KCS had been recruited and reported to Sea Float for training and more are forthcoming in the immediate future.

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Market Time Units

Patrol aircraft detachments from six Navy patrol squadrons manned the Market Time Air Barrier patrols during July. Patrol Squadron SIX (VP-6) operated out of U-Tapao, Thailand. Detachments from VP-2, VP-40, VP-9, VP-28, and VP-50 operated from Cam Ranh Bay.

The Vietnamese Navy assumed patrol responsibilities for the Fourth Coastal Zone on 1 June 1969, and their statistics are provided under the VNN portion of the history. On 4 July, Yabuta Junks of Coastal Group 21 commenced patrol of area 3E from CR 120 500 to CR 165 350.

On 8 July, Operation Double Shift was executed where 16 PCF's were chopped to CTF 116 for employment in the lower Mekong and Bassac Rivers. Four PCF's were returned to CTF 115 on 25 July and four more on 26 July.

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The following SEVENTH Fleet ships operated in Market Time during the month of July.

SHIP	DATES
USS PLUCK (MSO 464)	1-7
USS GALLUP (PG 85)	2-12
USS CONFLICT (MSC 426)	1-31
USCGC SPENCER (WHEC 36)	1-8
USS WIDGEON (MSC 208)	1-31
USCGC KLAMATH (WHEC 66)	9-28
USS ENDURANCE (MSO 435)	1-8, 11-12
USCGC MENDOTA (WHEC 69)	1-12, 19-31
USS PLEDGE (MSO 492)	9-22
USCGC TANEY (WHEC 37)	13-31
USS WOODPECKER (MSC 209)	23-29
USS CROCKETT (PG 88)	1-4
USS ASHEVILLE (PG 84)	17-17
USS WASHOE CITY (LST 1165)	20-31
USCGC SEBAGO (WHEC 42)	1-19, 29-31

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MARKET TIME STATISTICAL SUMMARY
July 1969

1. U. S. Ships/Craft:

	DER	MSO	MSC	WPB	PCF	LST	PG	WHEC
Daily average number of craft on patrol	0	1	2	14	30	1	2	3

2. Average number of VNN ships/junks employed during month:

SEA FORCE	RIVER FORCE	COASTAL FORCE
Total 39	221	186

3. U. S. Activity

TOTAL DETECTED	WOOD - DAY 27,376	NIGHT 40,678	68,802		
	STEEL- DAY 377	NIGHT 371			
TOTAL INSPECTED	WOOD - DAY 13,358	NIGHT 24,160	38,029		
	STEEL- DAY 251	NIGHT 260			
TOTAL BOARDED	WOOD - DAY 8,327	NIGHT 5,414	13,769		
	STEEL- DAY 16	NIGHT 12			
TOTAL DETAINED	JUNKS 245	PERSONS 1,426	(26 VC suspects)		

4. VNN Activity:

JUNKS SEARCHED 84,449 JUNKS DETAINED 245

PERSONS SEARCHED 269,475 PERSONS DETAINED 864

5. Naval Gunfire:

TOTAL MISSIONS 706 (Includes 60 cases of hostile fire suppression. and 31 evading craft taken under fire)

ENEMY CASUALTIES

57 killed plus 64 probable

19 wounded

ENEMY MATERIAL LOSSES

397 junks or sampans destroyed	25 junks or sampans damaged
271 structures destroyed	187 structures damaged

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Operation Stable Door

During July all Stable Door units maintained active patrols in their areas of responsibility. During the first part of the month, units of Inshore Undersea Warfare Groups were involved in the training, updating, and familiarization of newly assigned personnel with Stable Door equipment and operating procedures. Patrol units continued to support ground operations with blocking patrols and landing of reconnaissance patrols. Surveillance results included a total of 53,317 detections. Inspections and boardings led to the detention of 49 junks and 136 personnel.

Operations by Inshore Undersea Warfare Unit CNE/SD 1 (IUWU-1) remained routine during July. No suspicious activity was noted in the harbor of Vung Tau where harbor activity averaged 12 ships per day in port. Operations by IUWU-1 at Vung Tau resulted in the detention of 12 persons for improper identification papers, curfew violations and suspicious activities. In addition, two sampans were detained. On 16 July, Stable Door EOD personnel answered a call from the U. S. Army 184th EOD Team who reported an unknown object jettisoned in the Vung Ro Bay main channel. A circular line search was conducted with negative results.

At Cam Ranh Bay, a total of 44 persons and 16 water craft were detained by IUWU-2 operations. The EOD Team 36 inspected 199 ships at anchor, all with negative results. The daily number of ships in the harbor was 8. On 17 July, a Vietnamese water taxi with 21 persons on board was stopped, boarded, and searched. Two Vietnamese females

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were detained for possessing 800 pounds of unmanifested flour and turned over to the Naval Support Activity, Cam Ranh Bay for disposition.

During July, IUWU-3 detained 18 persons and two watercraft for improper identification, curfew violations or suspicious activity. EOD Team 34 inspected 243 ships in Qui Nhon harbor with no suspicious activity noted. The harbor activity averaged 11 ships per day in port.

In the harbor of Nha Trang, there was an average of 7 ships per day in port. The IUWU-4 continued routine operations during July detaining 62 persons and 29 water craft for suspicious activity, curfew violations or improper identification. EOD Team 37 inspected a total of 154 ships at anchor in Nha Trang harbor, all with negative results. On the afternoon of 23 July, a 10 year old Vietnamese boy requested assistance from IUWU-4. Accompanying the boy to an area used by ARVN personnel as a firing range, they found seven Vietnamese boys with serious injuries. The boys were medevaced to the 8th Field Hospital for treatment. An Air Force EOD Team discovered that the boys had found a LAW (Light Anti-tank Weapon) rocket which exploded after they hit it with a rock.

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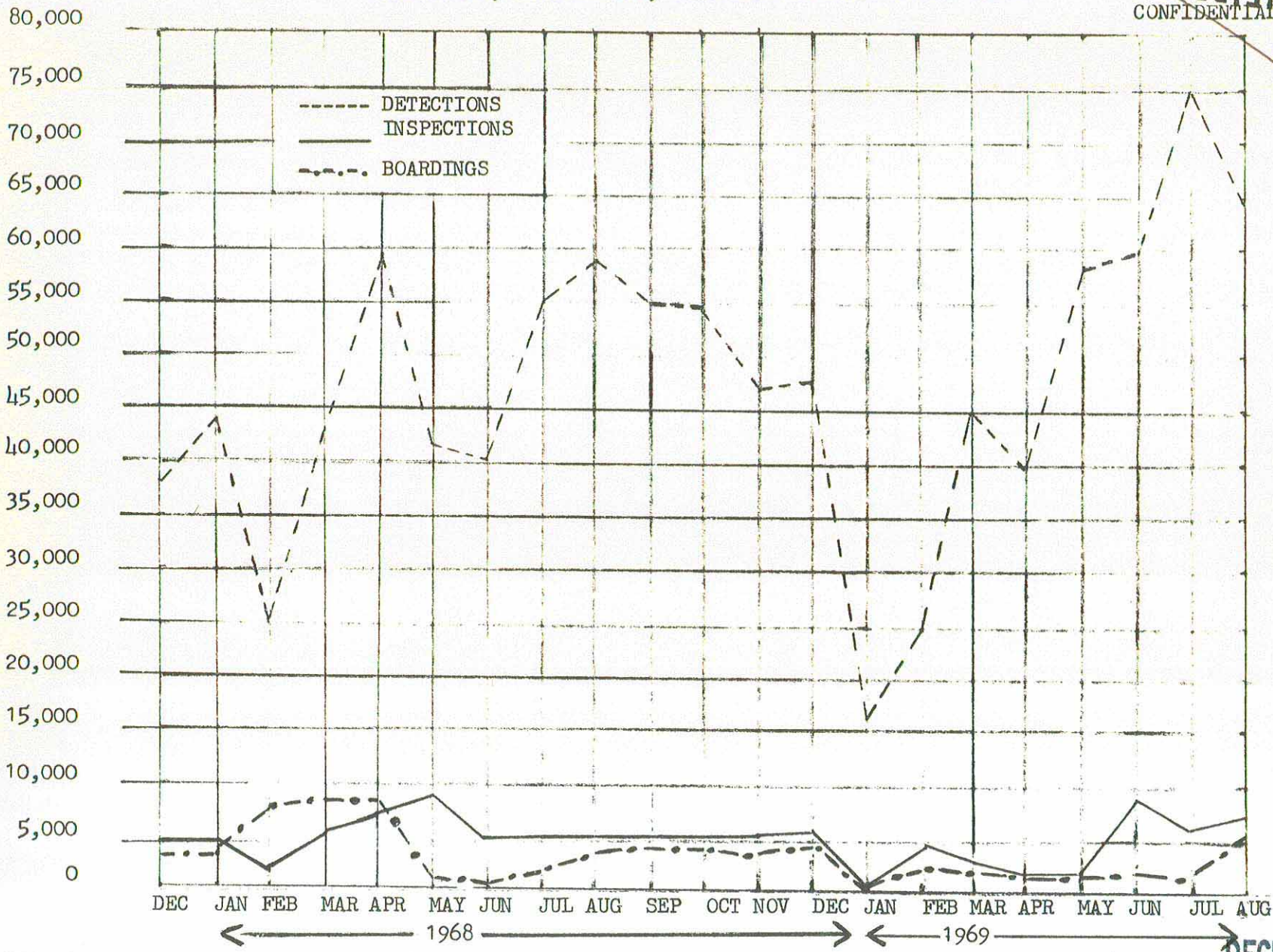
DETECTIONS, INSPECTIONS, BOARDINGS BY STABLE DOOR UNITS



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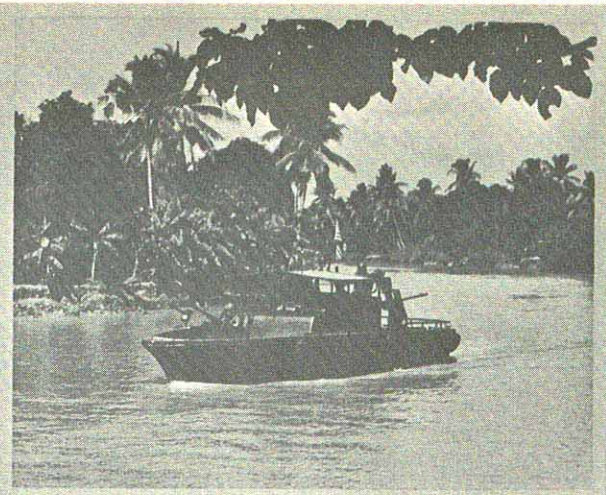
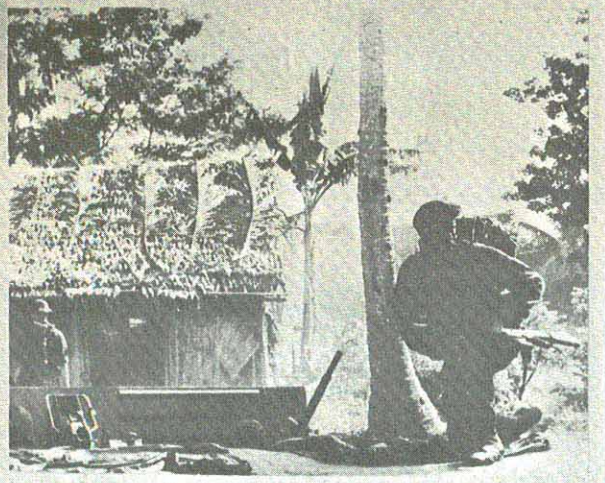
NAVY SEAWOLF HELICOPTER GUNSHIP; PROVIDES AIR COVER FOR RIVER OPERATIONS



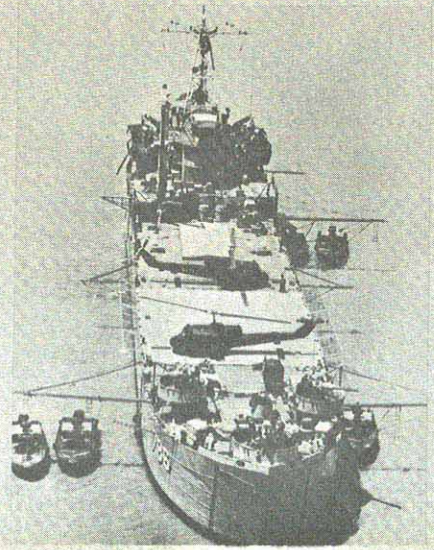
RIVER PATROL BOAT (PBR); 31-FOOT FIBERGLASS BOAT HEAVILY ARMED

RIVER PATROL FORCE (GAME WARDEN)



SEALS: NAVY SEA AIR LAND TEAMS: TRAINED SPECIALISTS IN UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE.

TANK LANDING SHIP (LST): MOTHER SHIP TO PBRs AND HELICOPTERS, PROVIDES GUNFIRE SUPPORT.



MINESWEEPING BOAT (MSB): FERRETS OUT MINES IN RIVERS AND OTHER SHALLOW WATERWAYS.

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RIVER PATROL FORCE SUMMARY

The River Patrol Force continued their resources and population control activities throughout the Mekong Delta, Rung Sat Special Zone, and along the Upper Saigon River from a point south of Phu Cuong northwest to Dau Tieng (WT 845 080 to WT 483 468) during the month of July. Additionally, a majority of the PBR's assigned (120 out of 220) were engaged in the support of the current SEA LORDS Campaigns - Giant Slingshot, Barrier Reef, Tran Hung Dao, and the newly instituted Mang Thit-Nicolai Canal and Cho Go Canal Operations. The Search Turn Campaign in the Rach Gia area of Kien Giang Province came under the operational control of CTF 116 throughout the month. The expansion and intensification of the SEA LORDS Campaigns as as indicated by the above mentioned operations and Operation "Double Shift," which required the relocation of four river divisions from the Game Warden area to the Tay Ninh area in response to a threat to that III Corps city, necessitated the transfer of 16 PCF's on 9 July to the operational control of CTF 116. To maintain the proper coverage of the vital Delta rivers, eight of the PCF's assumed TU 116.1.2 for operations on the Bassac River, four assumed Tu 116.3.2 staging out of Sa Dec, and the remaining four assumed TU 116.3.3 staging out of My Tho. The PCF's reverted to the operational control of CTF 115 on 25 and 26 July with the return of the PBR's from Operation "Double Shift."

Game Warden aircraft assets at the end of the month were 30 helicopters deployed as follows: Detachment ONE (two helos) aboard the USS WASHOE COUNTY (LST-1165) supporting TF 115 forces in Operation

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Downgraded at 3 year intervals
Declassified after 12 years

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Sea Float/Tran Hung Dao III in the Lower Cau Mau Peninsula, Detachment TWO (four helos) at Nha Be, Detachment THREE (two helos) aboard the USS HUNTERDON COUNTY (LST-838) in the area of Chau Doc, Detachment FOUR (two helos) at Ben Luc on the Vam Co Dong River, Detachment FIVE (two helos) aboard YRBM-16 on the Upper Bassac River southeast of Chau Doc, Detachment SIX (two helos) aboard the USS JENNINGS COUNTY (LST-846) on the Upper Co Chien River East of Vinh Long, Detachment SEVEN (two helos) at Tay Ninh on the Upper Vam Co Dong River, Detachment EIGHT (two helos) at Binh Thuy on the Middle Bassac River, and a maintenance pool of 12 helos at Binh Thuy. The 13 OV-10A aircraft were deployed as follows: Detachment A (5 planes) at VNAF, Binh Thuy; Detachment B (5 planes) at Vung Tau, and a maintenance pool of three aircraft at Binh Thuy.

Employment of the various waterborne and airborne assets available to the River Patrol Force included missions involving resources and population control, **nighttime waterborne ambushes,** transportation and support of Vietnamese Regional and Popular Force troops, support of SEAL and PRU (Provincial Reconnaissance Unit) operations, daily chain drag sweeps of the Long Tau shipping channel, canal incursions for waterborne traffic inspection, distribution of Psyops material, intelligence gathering and general familiarization, Medcaps, transportation and support of small group U. S. Army operations in the Rung Sat Special Zone (Chuong Doung 30-69, 30A-69, and 31-69) to thwart enemy attempts to harass allied shipping on the Long Tau River. The effectiveness of these operations is indicated by the fact that only one such attack occurred this month.

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Patrol activity for the River Patrol Force waterborne and airborne assets during July is shown below:

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WATERBORNE PATROLS

	TF 116 TAOR	TF 194 TAOR
TWO BOAT PATROLS	1391	1483
DETECTIONS	79,604	93,117
INSPECTIONS	23,196	23,803
BOARDINGS	34,078	14,079

AIRBORNE (Hours Flown)	TF 116 TAOR		TF 194 TAOR	
	UH-1B	OV-10	UH-1B	OV-10
PREPLANNED STRIKES	62	2	118	79
REACTION STRIKES	48	23	67.5	15
TARGETS OF OPPORTUNITY	70	40	128	72
SUPPORT MISSIONS	70	17	128	18
TOTALS	250	82	441.5	184

TOTAL FLIGHT HOURS IN COMBAT MISSIONS - 957.5

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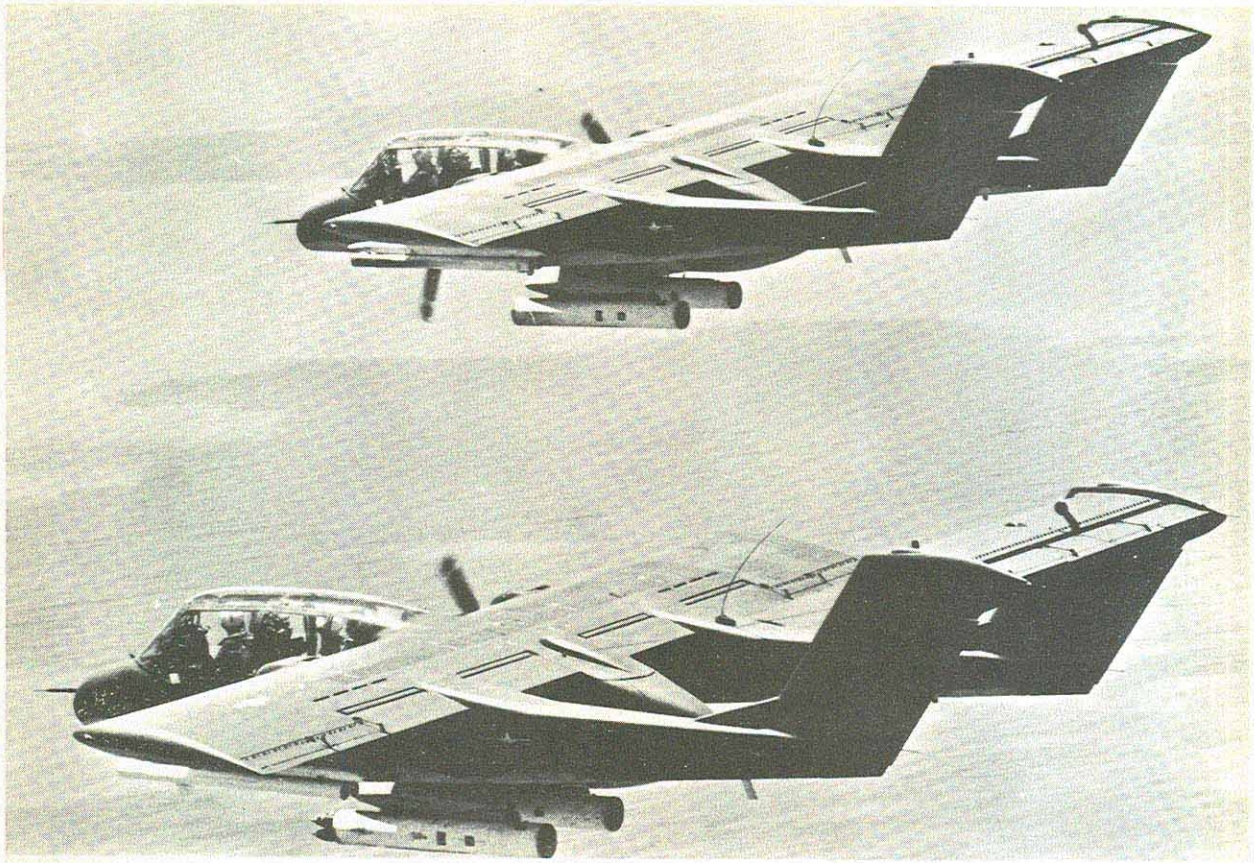

A two plane formation of OV-10's enroute on combat patrol in the Mekong Delta.

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

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Two OV-1OA's of TU 116.4.8 placed a strike on two evading sampans approximately 11 miles southwest of Phu Vinh in the early morning hours of 3 July. The strike resulted in one sampan destroyed and one damaged. Enemy personnel casualties were listed as five probably killed. No return fire was received from the sampans and there were no U. S. casualties.

In the early evening of 6 July as PBR's 755 and 841 were returning to Nha Be Navy Base, they came under enemy B-40 and automatic weapons fire from both banks of the Dong Tranh River about nine miles southeast of the base (YS 073 777). Three rocket rounds were fired from the east bank of the river. Two impacted in the water, and the third hit PBR 841 resulting in one Navy man killed, one U. S. Marine wounded, and two Vietnamese wounded. The PBR's immediately returned the fire to both banks, and a Navy LHFT was scrambled to assist and medevac the wounded. A regional force company and troops of the 5th Mobile Strike Force operating in the vicinity made a sweep of the area but made no contact with the enemy.

While in waterborne ambush on the night of 7 July, the cover boat of a two boat patrol sighted two sampans with seven occupants traveling east on the north bank of the Upper Saigon River about 7½ miles northwest of Phu Cuong (XT 706 211). The PBR's illuminated the area and took the camouflaged sampans and occupants under fire. The enemy did not return the fire, and when the partially submerged sampans were checked by the PBR's, all the occupants were dead. The sampans were subsequently destroyed. There were no U. S. casualties.

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In the hour before noon of 8 July, the OV-10 Bronco aircraft of TU 116.4.8 were called upon to support friendly ground units in contact with an estimated two platoons of VC approximately nine miles northeast of Soc Trang (XR 181 710). As the enemy retreated, they were effectively trapped in an open fire between large canals on two sides. Air strikes were placed on the enemy throughout their retreat, and in their final position, heavy automatic weapons fire was received from the enemy positions during the engagement. Results of the air strikes were 20 VC probably killed and eight structures destroyed and an additional 11 damaged. There were no Navy casualties.

In a four hour operation on the night of 10 July which took place in an area 9 to 18 miles northwest of Rach Gia, Broncos of TU 116.4.8 in conjunction with PBR's of RIVDIV 553 were responsible for the detention of 65 personnel, 12 VC killed and 10 others probably killed, and the destruction of six sampans. Beginning at 1829 an OV-10A sighted nine sampans (VS 991 162) and reported their location to PBR's in the vicinity which were enroute to regular patrol stations. The PBR's searched the sampans and detained all their occupants for lack of ID cards and having military boots on board. Additional sampans were sighted by the Broncos approximately 15 minutes later (VS 858 173), and after receiving sector clearance, they were taken under fire. Ten minutes later, the Black Ponies spotted additional sampans (VS 838 210) and likewise took them under fire after receiving appropriate clearance. The PBR's verified the body count on the sampan attacks as 12. A junk signaling two sampans that had evaded the air strikes was subsequently intercepted by a VNN PCF from Hon Tre Island and was found

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to contain nothing suspicious. There were no friendly casualties during these attacks.

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The Black Ponies were once again called upon to go to the aid of friendly ground forces pinned down by enemy fire just before noon on 12 July. The incident took place 15 miles southeast of Ha Tien (VS 595 283). While delivering their strikes, the aircraft encountered heavy automatic weapons fire. The results of the mission were 15 of the enemy probably killed and two large and two small secondary explosions observed.

While providing overhead cover for a combined operation mid-afternoon of 12 July, Seawolves of TU 116.3.8 placed strikes on an enemy grenade factory eight miles southeast of Thanh Phu (XR 755 899). The helos received no return fire from the enemy positions and accounted for four of the enemy killed, 31 sampans destroyed, four structures and one bunker destroyed. There were no Navy casualties.

In the pre-dawn hours of 13 July, PBR's of TE 116.9.1.3X in a waterborne ambush position sighted a sampan with six occupants on the Upper Saigon River seven miles northwest of Phu Cuong (XT 714 210). The sampan was traveling west along the south bank of the river and was taken under fire at a range of ten feet. The sampan was destroyed and five of the occupants were definitely killed and the other one is presumed killed. A small amount of food was recovered from the area. There were no U. S. casualties.

On the afternoon of 16 July, PBR's of TU 116.3.5 were involved in an enemy initiated firefight three miles south of Cai Nhum on the Mang Thit River (XS 215 200). The boats came under heavy automatic weapons

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and B-40 fire. One PBR sustained a B-40 hit on the starboard side. Seawolves and Broncos were scrambled to assist and placed strikes in the area. Friendly personnel casualties were one USN dead of wounds and four others wounded. Enemy casualties were limited to four structures destroyed and ten others damaged by the air strikes.

Responding to a sensor activation during a routine patrol on the night of 19 July, two Broncos of TU 116.4.8 came under enemy fire about 11 miles southwest of Chau Doc (VS 995 750) as they approached the site. It is believed that both pilots of the wing plane were incapacitated by the fire since the plane began a 10° dive and crashed and exploded on a nearby mountain. Transmissions from the diving aircraft were not received and ejection attempts were not observed. Subsequent SAR action by air and ground parties found small pieces of wreckage and additional evidence of fatality to warrant termination of the search. Both pilots were presumed killed.

Shortly after sunset on the 20th of July, six PBR's in night waterborne ambush positions sighted 25-30 VC attempting to swim across the Upper Saigon River approximately 16 miles northwest of Phu Cuong (XT 621 317). The PBR's broke their position and took the swimmers under fire and killed eight of them and captured two grenades, 50 pounds of rice, and a pound of documents. The enemy had not returned the boats' fire, and there were no U. S. casualties.

Broncos on routine patrol on the evening of 24 July took three evading sampans under fire 8½ miles northwest of Rach Gia (VS 990 166). The first sampan with two occupants took a direct hit with a 5" rocket and disappeared. The second, containing three people, was hit by 20mm

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fire and disintegrated. The bodies were observed floating in the water. The third sampan with one man in it was shattered and going in circles after the first firing run and was hit a second time and sunk. Total enemy casualties were six killed and three sampans destroyed. There were no U. S. casualties.

Broncos were called upon again on 29 July to take evading sampans under fire in the same area as the preceding incident (VS 990 164). Four sampans were taken under fire resulting in two destroyed, two damaged, and five of the enemy probably killed. There were no U. S. casualties.

Seawolves in the Rung Sat Special Zone attacked five enemy sampans on the morning of 30 July 11 miles east of Nha Be (YS 206 760). Four of the sampans were destroyed, and the remaining one was damaged. Enemy personnel casualties were seven killed and two others probably killed. Once again there were no U. S. casualties.

Game Warden SEAL Operation

In the early morning hours of 2 July, five SEALs and one LDNN were inserted by LCM at a point approximately nine miles southwest of My Tho (XS 355 412). They patrolled north and set a trail ambush but broke the ambush when warning shots were heard. They patrolled farther north and stopped at a hootch where they questioned an old man about VC in the area. He indicated that the enemy were to the immediate north. To substantiate his information, they stopped at another hootch and questioned the woman occupant who at first said that ARVN troops were in the area but later admitted that VC were in the area. Going

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back to the original hootch, they once again talked to the old man when a VC walked down the trail, saw the SEALs and attempted to evade. The evadee was taken under fire and killed. An additional man was taken under fire and listed as probably killed. One AK-47 was found in the area, and four males were noted at about 40 meters up the trail as the SEALs extracted at 0730. There were no friendly casualties.

As SEALs returned from an operation which resulted in negative contact on the evening of 10 July 15½ miles southwest of My Tho (XS 249 396), they spotted an unlighted sampan on the river which appeared to evade after being hailed. The sampan was overtaken, and its two occupants detained after a search of the sampan revealed a large quantity of goods, both civil and military, that appeared to be headed for the black market. After being questioned at NSA My Tho, the detainees were released when it was determined that the goods had been given to them by Americans earlier in the day. All goods, however, were confiscated. Included in the haul were Navy raincoats, windbreakers, jungle boots, mail bags, foot lockers, two cases of coke, and two cases of beer.

In a series of raids as part of Operation Ranger, SEALs of Detachment Alpha, 8th Platoon, "A" Squad, joined with PRU's, Seawolves, and the 114th and 121st Army Aviation Companies in attacking a group of objectives approximately 27 miles south southwest of Ben Tre (XR 780 785) during the period 10 through 13 July. The principal objective was a prisoner of war camp in the Than Phu sector of Kien Hoa province. The camp was finally located on 12 July (XR 764 907). As a result of these raids, 25 VC were killed, 70 bunkers or hootches were destroyed, 79 sampans were destroyed, 14 VC were captured, and 15 detainees were taken

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into custody and six proved to be VC. A grenade factory with approximately 1,000 grenades and equipment was also partially destroyed by air strikes. Five ARVN soldiers captured during the 1968 Tet Offensive were liberated when the POW camp was overrun. Friendly casualties were two U. S. wounded, three PRU's wounded, two Slicks and two gunships damaged by enemy ground fire.

In Long An Province on 28 July, SEALs of Detachment GOLF, GOLF platoon, with the aid of platoon scouts attacked an admin, finance, and propaganda office of the VC 11 miles northwest of Go Cong (XS 699 562). The SEALs observed a security guard armed with an AK-47 enter a hootch at 0415, and an hour later when contact was made with the SEAL perimeter, the area was taken under fire. Seawolves were scrambled, and after placing attacks, a cease fire was ordered at 0530, and the area was searched with the Seawolves providing overhead cover. Ten VC/NVA were killed by the SEALs, and eight were wounded. Three VC/NVA were listed as probably killed by the Seawolves. Four detainees, three AK-47's, and one 45 caliber pistol were taken into custody as well as 20 kilos of documents. There were no friendly casualties.

On the night of 29 July, two LSSC's assumed an ambush position about 16 miles southeast of Saigon (XS 986 648) after having completed a SEAL insertion. Shortly after midnight, they sighted a sampan with three occupants entering the Rach Ba Giong and took it under fire. Ten rounds of green tracer fire was returned by the enemy before being suppressed by the LSSC's. There were no U. S. casualties. Enemy casualties were one killed and two others probably killed, one sampan destroyed, and one M-1 with 40 rounds of ammunition and some documents captured.

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Enemy Harassment/Attacks On Merchant Shipping

The only reported incident of enemy harassment/attack on Allied shipping on the Long Tau shipping channel occurred on 6 July when an enemy rocket fired at the SS STEEL ADMIRAL detonated about 15 feet from the ship. Shrapnel struck the ship in the vicinity of the boat deck and caused superficial damage to the boat deck and paintwork.

During the early hours of 6 July, the merchant ship WELFARE was subjected to a VC sapper placed watermine containing approximately 200-400 pounds of high explosives while at anchor in the Nha Be River near the Nha Be Tank Farm. Despite the valiant efforts of Navymen from the nearby PBR base to save the ship, it continued to take on water and eventually sank on its port side in the Soi Rap River in about 40 feet of water outside the main shipping channel. There were no personnel casualties in this incident. WELFARE was a non-MSTS ship.

PCF Operations in Game Warden Areas

On the afternoon of 15 July, PCF 73 inserted Regional Force/Popular Force (RF/PF) troops about 15 miles southeast of Can Tho (WS 942 011) on the Bassac River into a suspected Viet Cong staging area. A few minutes after the insertion, the troops made contact with the enemy and PCF 73 came under enemy fire but was unable to return fire due to friendlies in the area. The ground forces were extracted about an hour later having killed one Viet Cong (body count) and capturing two. In addition, five VC hand grenades and anti-American propaganda material were captured. There were no friendly casualties.

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On the afternoon of 17 July, PCF 53 and PCF 97, while on normal Game Warden patrol, entered a canal near the mouth of the Bassac River about 44 miles southeast of Can Tho (XR 370 620). About two miles up the canal, the PCF's received several rounds of light anti-tank weapon (LAW) rockets which were quickly suppressed. Four miles **farther** up the canal, an evading sampan was captured, and shortly thereafter, the PCF's again received LAW fire from a trench on the east bank. In the suppressive fire, one VC was hit with .50 caliber machine gun fire. The PCF's then exited the canal without further contact. One VC was killed (probable) and one VC captured and turned over to SA Coastal Group 36 for interrogation. There were no friendly casualties.

Early on the morning of 19 July, PCF's 32, 67, 73, and 97 inserted 275 RF/PF troops from Phong Thuan sub sector along the Bassac River about 15 miles southeast of Can Tho (XR 040 926) for a sweep of the area prior to the establishment of a new outpost. Following the insertion, the PCF's patrolled the river taking targets of opportunity under fire. The Phuong Thuan District Chief also made a live Psyops broadcast for one and one half hours from PCF 32. The troops were extracted by the PCF's with assistance of 6 VNN RAG units at mid-afternoon. One VC was killed, one captured, and four suspects detained. The RF/PF troops captured two kilos of VC documents, two M-46 grenades, one VC gas mask and a large quantity of medical supplies. There were no friendly casualties.

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MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE

The dimension and tempo of MRF operations were substantially reduced in July as the 2nd Brigade of the Ninth Division assumed a stand down in preparation for their scheduled redeployment. Except for a series of 3rd Brigade operations , supported by seven river assault craft, in the Can Giouc District of Long An Province, primary emphasis on MRF activity was directed toward local operations with the 1st Brigade in defense of the military installation at Dong Tam. RAC also supported several operations in Kien Hoa Province involving Vietnamese Army,Regional Forces, and Provincial Reconnaisance Units, in addition to the usual escort, burn/ defoliation, and MEDCAP missions.

Contact with the enemy was extremely light as shown by the drastic decline in enemy KIA's, down to 63. Of the 11 hostile fire incidents reported, only 4 were enemy initiated firefights. These low figures evidently reflect a reduction in both MRF and enemy activities.

The final official ceremony of the Mobile Riverine Force was held at 1500 on 6 July on the flight deck of the flagship, USS BENEWAH (APB-35) as the Presidential Unit Citation was awarded the 2nd Brigade and River Assault Flotilla One for the MRF's outstanding actions during the period 29 January 1968 to 4 March at the time of the Tet offensive. General William D. Rossen, Deputy Commander U.S. Military Assistance Command presented the awards. The ships and assault craft of Task Force 117

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then passed in review to conclude the ceremony.

The 3/60 Infantry Battalion, 2nd Brigade of the U.S. Army Ninth Division departed on 8 July and was the first MRF unit to be redeployed in connection with the 25,000 man reduction announced by President Nixon.

Task Force 117 provided 5 ASPB's on 26 July to CTG 116.3 (Central Delta Patrol Group) in temporary support of river patrol duties on the My Tho and Ham Luong Rivers.

A new RAC numbering system is in effect whereby all craft of a class are assigned a different number, as opposed to the former divisional numbering system, i.e. A-1 designates ASPB number 1, Z-4 is Zippo number 4 etc.

Sixteen ASPB's, formerly assigned to CTF 116 and utilized in a patrol capability as River Division 595 were transferred to CTF 117 during July. The division organization and boat strength of TF 117 during July is shown below:

	RIVER ASSAULT SQUADRON 13		RIVER ASSAULT SQUADRON 15			
Craft	RAD 131	RAD 132	RAD 151	RAD152	RAD 153	Totals
ATC	15	13	13	13	0	54
ASPB	6	6	6	6	16	40
Monitor	3	3	3	3	0	12
CCB	2	1	1	1	0	5
Refueler	0	1	0	1	0	2
Total	26	24	23	24	16	

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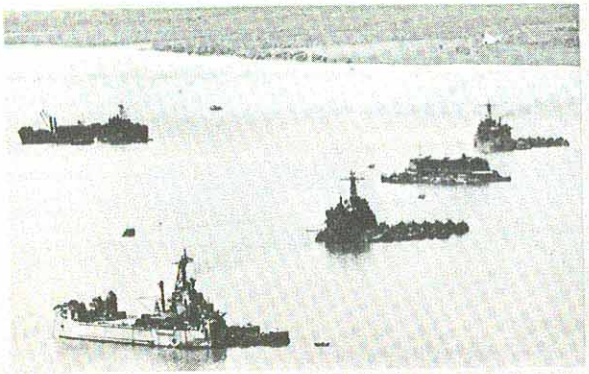
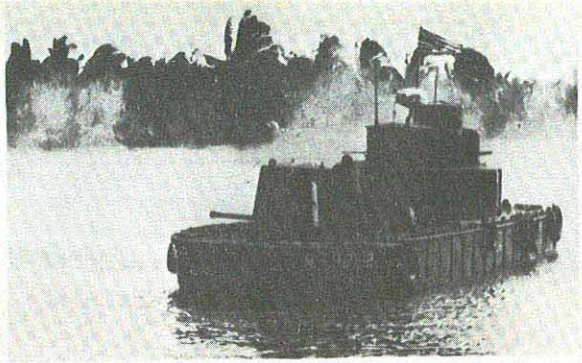


SHIPS OF RIVER ASSAULT FLOTILLA ONE



MONITOR BATTLESHIP OF THE RIVER

ARMY - NAVY MOBILE RIVERINE FORCE

COMMAND AND COMMUNICATIONS BOAT (CCB): SERVES THE ARMY AND NAVY AS AN AFLOAT COMMAND POST.

ARMORED TROOP CARRIER (ATC): TRANSPORTS TROOPS TO LANDING SIGHT

ASSAULT SUPPORT PATROL BOAT (ASPB): 'RIVER DESTROYER' ACTS AS ESCORT AND PROTECTOR FOR THE ATCs.

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River assault craft employment on 23 July as shown below is illustrative of the variety of activities which RAC were commited during the month:

	ATC	ASPB	(2) MON	CCB	REF	TOTALS
Aquasnipers	3	2			1	6
Base Defense (1)	11	2				13
U.S. 9th Defense	18	8	4(1Z)	2	1	33
Can Giouc Operations	3	2	2(1Z)	1		8
Operation Giant Slingshot	13	12	5(2Z)	2		32
Rung Sat Special Zone	1	7	1(1Z)			9
OVHL/CASREP	5	6				11
Upkeep		1				1
Total	54	40	12(5Z)	5	2	113

(1) 3 MSM also committed to base defense

(2) (Z)- Zippo, flame thrower configured monitor

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OPERATIONS IN KIEN HOA PROVINCE

In comparison with previous months, MRF activity in Kien Hoa Province was very limited during July. The former aggressive search and clear operations conducted throughout the province were absent as the 2nd Brigade, stood down and the main effort became defensive as RAC supported the 6/31 Infantry Battalion of the 1st Brigade in local security operations near Dong Tam and along the Kinh Xang which were designed to protect the base from enemy attack. These local operations consisted of troop insertions, sweeps and extractions supported by RAC. The ships of the MRF added their firepower to Dong Tam defense by providing frequent H & I fire into the area bordering the southern perimeter of the base. Night sniper and interdiction patrols were also carried on nightly as part of the base defense measures. Navy aquasnipers and 6/31 sniper teams accounted for ten Viet Cong killed during the patrols along the banks of the My Tho River near Dong Tam and the Mobile Riverine base.

RAC supported 4 Kien Hoa Province RF and 3 PRU operations along the Co Chien, Cai Mon and Ba Lai Rivers during the last ten days of the month. The RF's and PRU's gained contacts on several occasions and accounted for 28 VC killed and 20 captured.

During the last 8 days of July RAC on patrol duties and those in blocking stations after troop insertions inspected 924 sampans resulting in 24 people detained.

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Dong Tam Base and the Mobile Riverine Base were again subjected to rocket/mortar fire during the month. At 1605 on the 10th, Dong Tam received a single 107mm rocket which impacted less than 50 feet from the in/out processing center at Dong Tam resulting in three USA killed, and 18 USA and 3 USN wounded. The next night at 2112, Dong Tam received incoming mortar. NUECES (APB 40) and SATYR (ARL 23) took the suspected VC positions on the south bank of the My Tho River under fire immediately with unknown results. A 1st Brigade helo search team was called in to recon the area. They sighted three sampans, took them under fire and sunk them. No signs of enemy activity were evident at first light the following morning as the RIVFLOT ONE Command and Control helo reconned the area. Again on 16 July at 2158, units of the MRB at Dong Tam observed 5 to 7 rockets fired from the south bank of the My Tho toward the Dong Tam Base and the MRB. Two of these landed in the water near the MRB without causing damage. USS TOM GREEN COUNTY (LST 1159) reported swimmers in the area in the same general vicinity as the suspected launch sight. All ships returned fire and base defense boats dropped grenades in the area of the suspected swimmers. No friendly casualties were sustained and enemy casualties are unknown.

The first ENIFF of the month occurred on 13 July when ATC 30 and 47 came under automatic weapons and AK-47 fire from the north bank of the My Tho 3 miles southwest of Dong Tam (XS 369 413) while conducting night patrol and sniper operations. The RAC

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and snipers returned and suppressed the enemy fire with small arms. There were no friendly casualties and enemy casualties are unknown.

The Navy Command and Control helo, with Captain Carvel Blair, COMRIVFLOT ONE aboard, received small arms fire from the south bank of the My Tho (XS 374 402) during a reconnaisance flight on the afternoon of 16 July. No hits were sustained. The helo returned fire and Dong Tam artillery placed a strike into the area. Monitor 4 4 was dispatched to investigate and later a Navy EOD team entered the area in Boston whalers and towed out two damaged sampans.

During sniper patrol operations along the My Tho, ATC 13 and 48 ran aground on a mudflat 1 1/2 miles southwest of Dong Tam (XS 410 412) at 2330 on the night of 16 July. An underwater explosion blew a 12 inch hole in the stern of ATC 13 as it attempted to back full and caused minor flooding. ATC 5 went to assist and experienced six small underwater detonations before pulling T-13 free at 0330. The explosions were evaluated as caused by discarded friendly ordnance or detonators.

ATC 5, on base defense patrol on the My Tho River received about ten rounds of small arms fire from the north bank of the My Tho (XS 398 419) during early afternoon of 17 July. ATC 8 was dispatched to recon the area and had negative results. The 6/31 Infantry moved troops into the area to investigate the incident.

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Beginning at 0700 on July 21, RAS 13 with 2 ASPB's, 16 ATC's, 3 Monitors and 2 CCB's conducted a show of force and 2 MEDCAPS in areas that RAC had not entered since the stand down of the 2nd Brigade. MEDCAPS were conducted at Ap Hoa An and Ap Cho villages along the Ben Tre River; the RAC fired weapons into two areas along the south bank of the Ben Tre and later proceeded 4 miles into the western Bai Lai River and reconned both banks by fire. The LHFT accompanying the RAC accounted for 3 VC killed, 3 structures destroyed and 4 damaged and 1 VC flag destroyed.

River assault craft of TE 117.1.6.2 inserted two Kien Hoa Province Regional Force companies on the north bank of the Co Chien River (XS 375 175) at 0930 on 27 July, and the RAC established blocking stations. The RF's shortly came into contact with an unknown size VC force and accounted for 17 VC killed, 10 captured and 3 wounded. One RF troop was killed. RAC in blocking stations checked 200 personnel in 60 sampans. The RF's were extracted at 1630. On the same day elements of "E" Company of the 6/31 Infantry Battalion also came into contact with 10 to 15 Viet Cong while operating along the Rach Cam 8 1/2 miles southwest of Dong Tam (XS 370 415). One VC was reported killed by the troopers and one by the air cover.

A possible enemy mining attempt against ships of the MRB was thwarted at 2133 on the night of 21 July. ATC-17 while on base defense in the My Tho (XS 418 420) spotted debris about 200 yards from the stern of the USS BENEWAH (APB 35). A crewman fired into the debris with a shotgun and a large explosion erupted in a water spout 60-70 feet high. Concussion grenades were then dropped with no further

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results. No damage was sustained by U.S. craft.

At 0730 on 31 July, while inserting troops of the 6/31 Infantry Battalion on the My Tho River (XS 420 408), two ATC's received about 12 rounds of automatic weapons fire. The fire was returned with M-16. There were no friendly casualties. The RAC then established blocking stations and checked 26 sampans. Six detainees were later taken to Dong Tam.

OPERATIONS IN LONG AN PROVINCE

A detachment of 7 RAC conducted troop lift and waterborne blocking services in conjunction with the 3/7 Infantry Battalion, 3rd Brigade, U.S. Ninth Division in the Can Giuoc District of Long An Province during the month. Ground contact was generally light as RAC supported day and night ambush and interdiction operations in the area during the periods 5-9, 13-19, and 22-31 July.

At 0920 on 6 July,RAC received enemy sniper fire during a beach prep and bunker destruction operation prior to insertion of troops on the Rach Gia, two miles northeast of Can Giuoc (XS 876 741) no friendly casualties were sustained and one enemy bunker complex was destroyed by flame. Troops were extracted at 1520.

An ENIFF erupted at 2115 on 14 July as the enemy attacked assault craft with recoilless rifle, B-40, small arms and .50 caliber machine gun fire. RAC were enroute on the Rach Ba Dang, 4 1/2 miles east of Can Giuoc (XS 888 913) to insert a 3/7 Infantry Battalion ambush platoon when the fire fight started. ATC 45 received a recoilless

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rifle hit and ATC 46 took a B-40 rocket hit. Four sailors were wounded , all minor, and the two RAC received minor damage. Firing runs were made on the enemy positions and the area was flamed down. Low tidal conditions precluded troop landings but artillery and air strikes were called in. Enemy casualties were unknown. The only other incident involving RAC occurred on 27 July when RAC, while waiting to backload troops, took a sampan under fire 2 1/2 miles southwest of Can Giuoc (XS 867 714) resulting in one VC killed.

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USN STATISTICAL SUMMARY

	MARKET TIME	GAME WARDEN	Mobile Riverine Force
Detections	67,953	174,286	*
Inspections	37,518	47,550	924
Boardings	13,741	48,756	*
Craft detained	245	5	*
Persons detained	1,426	661	24
Viet Cong suspects	26	10	*
Hostile fire incidents	60	65	11
Enemy casualties:			
a. Killed	102(58EST,44BC)	80(BC)+157(PROB)	63(62BC+1EST)
b. Wounded	19	9	5
c. Captured	11	2	29
USN casualties:			
a. Killed	2	5(2DOW)	0
b. Wounded	10	17	7
c. Captured	0	0	0
d. Missing	0	0	0
Enemy material losses:			
a. Destroyed			
(1) Junks or sampans	234	87	28
(2) Sturctures	271	243	13
b. Captured:			
(1) Junks or sampans	9	**	4
(2) Weapons	*	12	18
(3) Ammunition (rounds)	*	1,560	0
(4) Rice (tons)	*	0	0
c. Damaged:			
(1) Junks or sampans	25	69	0
(2) Structures	187	251	2
USN material losses:			
a. Destroyed:			
(1) Surface craft	0	0	0
(2) Helicopters	0	1	0
b. Damaged:			
(1) Surface craft	11	5	2
(2) Helicopters	0	0	0
SAR missions	6	*	*

Remarks:
* Information not available or not applicable
** Search Turn Game Warden Operations

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NAVAL ADVISORY GROUP SUMMARY
VIETNAMESE NAVY

Operating in all four Coastal Zones and in the Third and Fourth Riverine Areas, Fleet Command units performed Market Time and river patrols, NGFS, logistic lifts, river escort, Psyops, and Civic Action missions. A total of 57 NGFS missions were fired during the month. The substantial increase in the number of junks searched in relation to the June figure reported by the WPB's and PCF's operating in the Third and Fourth Coastal Zones was reflected in the overall increase for Fleet Command unit statistics which increased from 5038 in June to 5528 in July. The number of people searched decreased for the second straight month from 17,952 in June to 13,903 in July. There were no people or junks detained by Fleet Command units during July whereas in June, 29 people and 6 junks were detained.

The minesweeping craft of RAG 91 recovered electrical wire at the end of six runs on the Dong Nai and Long Tau Rivers. The total length of the wire removed from the sweeping gear for the month was 580 feet. On 20 July, one of the minesweepers patrolling the Dong Nai River noticed a possible mine fourteen to sixteen inches in diameter floating aft of the boat (YS 013 917). Advising the operations center at Cat Lai of their discovery, they were directed to destruct the object which they did by exploding it in place.

Almost all of the NGFS missions were fired with unknown results which has been the standard proceedure for the units for several months. The VNN are regularly called upon to provide support for outposts and bases that are under attack by enemy forces as on the evening of 10-11

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July when LSSL 230 fired 80 rounds of 81mm ammunition into VC positions that had besieged the Duc My PF outpost on the Co Chien River approximately 21 miles southeast of Vinh Long (XS 409 112).

On the evening of 25 July, a Vietnamese PCF was patrolling a Market Time station northeast of Phu Quoc Island (US 933 523) when it detected by radar a sampan that was about 50 meters offshore in a 24-hour no-boat zone. When the PCF illuminated the sampan, the five occupants waded towards the shore. Two additional VNN PCF's from the adjacent Market Time stations in An Thoi arrived on the scene. The empty sampan was kept under surveillance until the next morning when it was towed to An Thoi.

River Patrol Group 51 (RPG 51) employed an average of 18 PBR's for the day and night patrols on the Long Tau and Soirap Rivers. The PBR's were also utilized for troop lifts, cordon and search, and ambush operations. One enemy initiated firefight damaged one PBR and wounded one U. S. advisor. Enemy caches were recovered on five separate occasions, and two VC in a sampan were probably killed when they attempted to evade a PBR patrol on the evening of 5 July. Three VN PBR's were ambushed on the afternoon of 21 July as they were proceeding west on the Rach Nuoc Trong towards the Dong Nai River eleven miles east of Saigon (YS 063 925). As the PBR's passed the enemy positions, they came under B-40 and B-41 rocket and automatic weapons fire from both banks. One M-60 machine gun was destroyed by a rocket hit, one PRC-25 radio was knocked into the water by the concussion, and the U. S. advisor received minor wounds from the flying shrapnel. The VN units returned the fire for approximately ten minutes and cleared the area.

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Vietnamese Coastal Zone Forces rebounded from the slight dip in coastal surveillance figures in June with First Coastal Zone units leading the way. There were 62, 797 junks and 25,562 people searched during the month which was a 10.0% increase and a 7.9% increase respectively in relation to the June figures. The number of junks detained more than doubled the June figure of 109. The First and Second Coastal Forces accounted for 173 of the 247 total. Correspondingly, the First and Second Coastal Zone junks were instrumental in the change in the number of people detained from 635 to 862 in July.

Although enemy contact continued to be heaviest in the Cua Dai area of the First Coastal Zone, other VNN Coastal Forces did record several significant incidents in July. In the early hours of dawn on 6 July, the CG 13 ambush team established contact with approximately twenty VC in an area approximately 25 miles northwest of Da Nang (ZE 126 059). The ambush team with CG 13 waterborne support maintained contact for approximately one and one half hours. They were extracted and then reinstated with the support of the U. S. 101st Airborne Division "spooky" aircraft and VH-13 gunships. Shortly after 0700, the VN units returned to their craft, and the 101st continued a sweep of the area. One VNN and two VC were killed during the fighting; one AK-47, one claymore mine, and twenty kilograms of rice were confiscated.

A CG 14 ambush team observed sampan activity at the junction of the Hoi and Cua Dai Rivers one and one half miles west southwest of Hoi An (BT 190 554) on the evening of 13-14 July. During the firefight that followed, three VC were probably killed, and one VC was captured.

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RAG 32 units came under automatic weapons fire from two sampans that were crossing the Cua Lau River three miles west southwest of Hoi An (BT 108 559) just after dark on 23 July. There were no friendly casualties, and one wounded VC officer, three AK-47's, one AK-62, one Colt 45, two sampans, three pounds of documents, 75 detonators, some ammunition, clothes, and food were captured.

On 29 July, units of CG 16 initiated a firefight with enemy elements of the C75 company on the south bank of the Phu Tho River four and one half miles east of Quang Ngai (BS 733 727). The exchange of fire wounded two VNN and killed five VC (two probably). Before contact broke off, the VNN captured one VC and three personal weapons.

In the Second Coastal Zone, Coastal Group 21 came to the assistance of the Ngai An Village Defense Force on the evening of 6 July. The village was located 21 miles north of Qui Nhon (CR 050 615) and had been attacked by an estimated squad of VC. The coastal group illuminated the area and was instrumental in the dispersion of the enemy forces.

The Dung Island Complex in the Third Coastal Zone continued to yield enemy contact. On the afternoon of 4 July, the CG 36 ambush team wounded one VC and captured two others at the northern end of the island 24 miles southeast of Can Tho (XR 197 783).

The CG 35 ambush team and local PF troops were ambushed by an unknown number of VC on 15 July six miles southeast of Tra Vinh near the Co Chien River (XR 577 937). Two CG 35 units and reaction team were dispatched to the scene. With the added firepower of the reaction force and the 81mm illumination provided by the afloat units, the enemy broke off contact leaving one VNN ambush team member and two PF's dead and

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one PF wounded. The following day, the CG 35 ambush team returned to the area for a ground sweep and an intelligence survey of the ambush positions. The enemy force was estimated to be squad size and armed with M-14's, M-1's, and carbines. One hand grenade was recovered from the area.

Several organizational changes took place in the Fourth Coastal Zone in July. The first of the month, CG 43 and 44 commenced a shift of forces from Chau Doc to Ha Tien via two weeks upkeep at Rach Soi. Coastal Group 41 moved from Ha Tien to Pouli Obi in the middle of the month. RAID 72 arrived at Chau Doc at the beginning of the month, and on 7 July, it was assigned to begin carrying out operations with two raid platoons of the Fourth Coastal Zone from Vinh Gia (VS 810 612) along the Vinh Te Canal to Chau Doc. (See discussion of Tran Hung Dao Campaign in enclosure (1) for further details and incidents).

Although there was a low level of enemy activity in the 3rd and 4th Riverine Areas, the VNN River Assault Groups (RAG's) continued routine river patrols, amphibious assaults, troop lifts, NGFS missions, escort duty, and psychological operations. A total of 1,982 amphibious assaults and 112 river patrols were conducted by the RAG's. On 8 July, the newly formed RAID's 74 and 75 relieved RAG 25/29 as the VNN unit of the Fourth Coastal Zone Amphibious Task Force.

From 9 to 21 July, a combined force of RAG 24, elements of the U. S. 1st Infantry Division and the ARVN and armed helos carried out Operation Strangler 1 along the Saigon River from nineteen to thirty-one miles east northeast of Saigon (XT 680 225 to XT 520 396). The search, sweep, and blocking operations made contact the first day when a RAG 24 unit

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was fired upon by two B-40 rockets. Moderate contact during the entire operation produced the following results: one VNN killed; 27 VNN and friendly forces wounded (14 VNN); eighteen VC killed; and 51 VC captured (all by USA/friendly); two sampans and two mines destroyed by VNN; 18 personal weapons, four B-40 rockets, six grenades, sixteen mines, and 300 kilograms of rice were captured by USA/friendly units; and three sampans and four tunnels were destroyed by friendly forces.

In the Fourth Riverine Area, units of RAG 25/29 (now attached to the Tan Chau sub-sector) sighted a VC junk on 7 July approximately three and one half miles south of the Cambodian/Vietnamese border on the Upper Mekong River (WT 230 000). Taking the junk under fire resulted in the capture of one VC and two VC suspects.

While patrolling the Ham Luong River seven miles east of Ben Tre on 16 July (from XS 555 148 to XS 530 218), RAG 21/33 units began receiving sniper fire from the island in mid-stream (XS 578 154). Due to the absence of ARVN troops and the presence of a large civilian population on the island, the sniper fire was not returned, but instead, a quick reaction landing party consisting of six VNN and one U. S. advisor went ashore at the estimated location of the VC sniper positions. Enemy contact was established, but the VC quickly withdrew. Continuing the sweep, the landing party captured two VC around noon who were found hidden under a hut. Interrogation of the captured enemy at the RAG boats revealed the possible location of additional VC. A larger landing party, led by the captured VC, searched to the east of the original VC positions where they found four more of the of the enemy (XS 573 148). After disembarking troops which the RAG

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boats had extracted along with the six captured VC just south of Ben Tre, the RAG units returned to My Tho and Vinh Long.

An intensification of the security operations along the heavily traveled Mang Thit-Nicolai Canal which connects the Bassac and Co Chien Rivers east of Can Tho (XS 205 235 to XS 103 103) began on 18 July with RAG 23/31, Minh Duc, Mang Thit, and Tam Binh sub-sector forces, 9th ARVN Infantry, and U. S. river craft participating. Enemy objections to the increased Government presence were voiced on 18 and 19 July when river craft of RAG 23/31 were attacked with 60mm mortar rounds (on 18 July at XS 200 195) and small arms (on 19 July at XS 214 101).

With the incorporation of RAID's 72 through 75 into the Vietnamese Amphibious Task Force 211, the Vietnamese Navy was able to magnify its participation in the riverine warfare effort. The July Task Force 211 statistics reflected the increased number of operational units as there were 902 river patrols and 365 amphibious assaults performed by the RAID craft. The now battle seasoned RAID's 70 and 71 and the new RAID 73 were intimately involved in Giant Slingshot Operations in July (see discussion of Giant Slingshot in SEA LORDS Section for further details). On 9 July, RAID 72 stationed at Chau Doc began conducting operations on the Vinh Te Canal from Vinh Gia (VS 810 612) to Chau Doc (see discussion of Tran Hung Dao Campaign in SEA LORDS Section for further details). RAID's 74 and 75 relieved RAG's 25/29 as the VNN components of the 4th CTZ Amphibious Task Force. The RAG units would continue to carry out routine river patrols while the RAID units concentrated on amphibious assaults.

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VIETNAMESE MARINE CORPS

Consistent with the general low level of enemy activity experienced throughout Vietnam, the Vietnamese Marine Corps and their U. S. Marine Corps advisor, operating exclusively in the III and IV CTZ, encountered negligible to light contact for most of the month. Numerous mines, booby traps, and the occasional attack by fire were responsible for the majority of the ten Vietnamese Marines killed and 83 wounded. Reconnaissance in force operations by Brigade B on 19 July and Brigade A during the period 25-31 July accounted for 41 of the 50 enemy killed in action.

Throughout the month of July, Brigade A, consisting of the Brigade Headquarters, the 2nd and 4th Infantry Battalions, and Battery A of the 1st Artillery Battalion carried out reconnaissance in force operations in Choung Thien Province in the IV CTZ under the operational control of the 21st ARVN division. On 4 July, the Brigade and Battery A established a fire support base and deployed the battalions in the Twin Rivers Area (vicinity WR 430 690). During operations on 16 July, the 2nd Battalion found and destroyed an enemy hand grenade factory and 300 hand grenades in various stages of production. A recently vacated 100 man enemy base camp and adjoining 50 man hospital was uncovered by the same battalion on 20 July. Supported by the VNN RAID's 74 and 75 during the final week of the month (25-31 July), the brigade was credited with 29 VC killed and five VC and 52 VC suspects captured (39 by VNN).

While conducting reconnaissance in force operations in the Long Bien Special Zone, in eastern and southeastern Bien Hoa Province, III

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CTZ, Brigade B which included the Brigade Headquarters, the 3rd and the 5th Infantry Battalions, and Battery B of the 1st Artillery Battalion met with negative to moderate enemy resistance during the month. On 1 July, several sporadic small unit contacts were made and the Brigade command post received twelve to fifteen 60mm mortar rounds which inflicted negligible damage on the Vietnamese Marines. The only organization change for Brigade B occurred on 6 July when Battery E of the 22nd Artillery Battalion relieved Battery B which stood down at the Thu Duc base camp for the remainder of the month. Both the 3rd and the 5th Battalions gained contact with company sized enemy forces on 19 July. Contact was maintained for most of the day, and 12 VC were killed and one was captured by the Marines. On the last day of the month, the 5th Battalion uncovered a VC rear base camp which contained miscellaneous supplies and munitions.

The 1st Infantry Battalion was undergoing a refresher training program at the Van Kiep National Training Center east of Phuic Le, approximately 30 miles southeast of Saigon (YS 400 610) during the entire month. The Battalion was joined by Battery C of the 1st Artillery Battalion on the 29th in order to conduct a three day training operation that commenced on 30 July.

The 6th Infantry Battalion with one platoon of Battery D of the 1st Artillery Battalion performed reconnaissance in force operation for the Long Bien Special Zone near Bien Hoa (XS 995 135) from 1-31 July. Security and reconnaissance in force operations produced only negligible contact.

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Battery C of the 1st Artillery Battalion provided direct gunfire support in the Rung Sat Special Zone until 6 July when it was relieved by Battery F of the 2nd Artillery Battalion. Returning to the Thu Duc, Battery **C remained** in a stand-down status until 29 July when it joined the 1st Infantry Battalion for training exercises at the Van Kiep National Training Center.

The tactical situation was only slightly changed from the previous month for Battery D. Two platoons remained under the operational control of the Capital Military District, with one platoon at Cat Lai and one at Thu Duc. The third platoon remained in Bien Hoa Province with the 6th Infantry Battalion which had relieved the 5th Batallion on 29 June.

Both Batteries E and F of the 2nd Artillery Batallion were in the base camp at Thu Duc until 6 July when Battery E relieved Battery B operating with Brigade B,and Battery F replaced Battery C that was providing direct support in the Rung Sat Special Zone.

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VNN/VNMC STATISTICAL SUMMARY

VIETNAMESE NAVY:

	Daily Average		Searched		Detained	
	Oper	Empl	Junks	People	Junks	People
COASTAL FORCE						
I	52.6	51.2	19,359	74,302	110	476
II	48.7	47.2	26,816	79,262	63	177
III	48.0	46.5	8,136	27,519	73	200
IV	30.8	30.8	7,889	24,482	1	9
	Sub-totals:		62,797	205,562	247	862
*FLEET COMMAND						
PATROL SHIPS	26.5	24.5	1,349	5,062	0	2
PCF's/WPB's	18.4	7.1	4,179	8,641	0	0
RIVERINE AREA						
CRAFT	120.3	114.5	7,572	25,658	0	0
ATF (RAID)	50.0	43.9	3,086	7,572	0	0
#CENTRAL TASK FORCE	66.4	62.4	6,359	15,480	0	0
	TOTALS:		85,281	267,978	247	864

VIETNAMESE MARINE CORPS:

VC/NVA:	KIA 50	Captured 18	Suspects detained 46
VNMC	KIA 10	WIA 83	MIA 0
Hoi Chan 2			

* Provided 77 gunfire support missions for period 21 June - 31 July

\# Includes RAG 27, RAG 81, 91 and RPG 51

VNMC statistics cover period 4 - 31 July

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PSYOPS AND CIVIC ACTION SUMMARY

During the month of July a record 208 Hoi Chanhs rallied to U. S. and Vietnamese Navy Units. The high Chieu Hoi rate was the result of the defection of 194 Hoa Hao troops who had crossed the international Cambodian/Vietnamese border and hailed a U. S. Navy PBR on the Vinh Te Canal. Although they were not Viet Cong, they were granted Chieu Hoi status because they were returning to the government of the Republic of South Vietnam.

A concentrated pacification effort was undertaken in the Rung Sat Special Zone (RSSZ) by U. S. and ARVN forces in July. Leaflet and loudspeaker operations have been used extensively in conjunction with and as a follow-up to military clearing operations in the RSSZ. A U. S. Seabee team with civic action material has been assigned to the RSSZ in order to improve the standard of living in the villages. Some indications of the progress of the program may be implied by the nine Hoi Chanhs the RSSZ PRU's have received in July. On 24 July a single Navy helicopter distributed 33,000 Chieu Hoi safe conduct passes and 30,000 restricted area notices in the RSSZ.

Operation SEAFLOAT which was initiated in June on the lower Ca Mau peninsula in the vicinity of old Nam Can City has progressed well. A total of 1,357 people have visited SEAFLOAT and have received political indoctrination; there have been 212 hours of loudspeaker operations, one Hoi Chanh has rallied, and 691 have expressed a desire to resettle in Old Nam Can City. There has been a marked increase in the commercial river traffic in 4 CTZ. Further evidence of the success of SEAFLOAT was indicated by VN visitors at the end of the month who indicated that

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the VC were attempting to step up their efforts to prevent sampans from visiting SEAFLOAT. Beach Jump Unit One Team 13 assigned a Psyops loudspeaker detachment in support of SEAFLOAT on 15 July. The detachment consists of one enlisted operator and two 700 watt loudspeaker systems capable of operating as two individual 700 watt systems or in combination to provide one 1400 watt system. The loudspeaker system is capable of operating from helos as well as from boats.

Throughout the month, physicians and corpsmen from the Naval Support Activity Danang have voluntarily worked at the Stella Maris Dispensary, the Buddhist Orphanage in Danang, the Danang surgical hospital, the Malteser hospital in Danang, the Special Forces Hospital, and the 2nd ARVN Division dependent clinic. Approximately 150 Vietnamese patients have been cared for each week during the month. Weekly dermatology, orthopedic, surgical and urology clinics were held at the NSA hospital for those in need of these services. Approximately 34,000 persons in all four CTZ's of South Vietnam have received medical and dental treatment in MEDCAPS conducted by U. S. and Vietnamese Navy teams. This was an increase of 1,000 over the previous month's totals.

A variety of themes were utilized on Psyops loudspeaker operations conducted by CTF 115 Units including "Midway Conference", "Reward's Third Inducement", "Wandering Soul" and the soundtrack from the Beatles' "Yellow Submarine".

A coordinated MEDCAP endeavor was performed by USN PBR's, two corpsmen (VNN), 20 maritime police, an intelligence squad, a VN cultural drama team, the Kien Hoa Province JUSPAO representative, and the advisor to the Huong My district chief. On the morning of 17 July while playing

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Psyops tapes, the team transited to a small village nine miles south of Ben Tre (XS 511143). The corpsmen treated 250 people while the cultural drama team played Psyops material and put on a show. The armed intelligence squad and the maritime police field force circulated in the area talking to the local populace and providing security as did the PBR sailors. Material distributed to the local villages included the following: 300 bars of soap, 100 SVN flags, 50 toothbrushes, 40 plastic bowls, 300 pictures of President Thieu, 50 rubber rabbits, 150 school kits, and 400 magazines.

Seabee Team 103 located in My Tho City (XS 497454) completed work on the Tay Ly Tay School (XS 488548) in July. Construction on the school included replacement of 40 meters of wooden walls with Cenva-ram block, installation of lattice work and shutters in four classrooms, and plastering and painting of walls.

Completion of a two story fourteen classroom reinforced concrete structure was reported by Seabee team 0810 in Can Tho City (XS 866094). The building was funded by the Ministry of Education for use by the University of Can Tho School of Pedagogy.

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USN CIVIC ACTION STATISTICAL SUMMARY
25 May - 25 June 1969

TOTAL NUMBER OF MAN-DAYS PERSONNEL OF UNITS ENGAGED IN CIVIC ACTION PROJECTS: 4,793

COST OF SUPPLIES CONTRIBUTED BY MILITARY RESOURCES FOR CIVIC ACTION PROJECTS: VN$ 731,300

EXPENDITURES FROM THE US/FWMAF CIVIC ACTION PSYWAR FUND: VN$ 1,577,039

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS: VN$ 119,560

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

	Percent
Other FWMAF	15
RVNAF	13
U. S. civilian voluntary agencies	7
Average percent of self-help by VN civilians	79
Labor	5
Material	

PROGRAMS:

	Man Days	Expenditures (VN$)
Economic Development	347	138,689
Education	821	930,807
Social Welfare	2440	4,713,384
Transportation	800	317,980
Refugee	385	327,034

INSTITUTES ASSISTED:

	Number
Schools	68
Hospitals/Dispensaries	31
Orphanages	23
Others	83

NOTE: (1) Statistics shown are those for 25 May - 25 June see transmittal letter.

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ACCELERATED TURNOVER PROGRAM AND TRAINING SUMMARY

The Vietnamese Navy received its fourth Landing Ship Tank (LST) from the U. S. Navy on July 1 during ceremonies at Guam Island. Rear Admiral Phillip P. Cole, Commander, U. S. Naval Forces Mariannas, represented the United States at the ceremony and presented the ship to Commodore Tran Van Chon, Chief of Naval Operations, Republic of Vietnam Following the decommissioning of the COCONINO CITY and the departure of the U. S. Navy crew, VNN LCDR Tran Van Chi then assumed command of the ship and her 107 VNN officers and enlisted men. The new VNN LST was renamed the VUNG TAU (HQ 503) after the Vietnamese resort city of Vung Tau.

New and varied techniques continue to be employed in order to enhance the various training programs. Coastal Division 15, participating in the PCF turnover program START (Swift Training and Rapid Turnover), has experimented with color coding of engine room piping systems and stenciling arrows to indicate the direction of flow of the liquid.

The RIVFLOT 5 ACTOV status report that was published in the middle of the month indicated that VNN PBR training was progressing satisfactorily. By 16 July, 164 VNN were qualified as PBR crewmembers. River Division 593 reported that several VNN seamen were returning to the boats early to conduct pre-patrol engineering checks. Some improvements in the language barrier were noted with daily language training and bilingual definitions included in the daily program. Actions to correct the delinquent pay problems for Vietnamese sailors have been taken.

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In the START program, the second increment of VNN trainees reported to their respective Coastal Divisions between 14 June and 9 July. As of 25 July, 176 trainees from PCF classes one and two were undergoing on-the-job training. Thirty-nine trainees have been qualified and relieved USN personnel. The third increment comprised of 35 boatswainsmates graduated from the Saigon boat school on 19 July and began reporting to the various coastal divisions at the end of the month. The more experienced trainees have, in most cases, greatly facilitated the orientation of later arrivals. With more than one trainee aboard each PCF, the enthusiasm and attitude of most VN sailors have noticeably improved.

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COMMANDER U. S. NAVAL FORCES VIETNAM/ CHIEF NAVAL ADVISORY GROUP STAFF REORGANIZATION

During July, reorganization of the COMNAVFORV/CHNAVADGRP staffs took effect in response to the changing U. S. Navy mission in Vietnam as further progression into the Accelerated Turnover Program (ACTOV) was made.

Until recently most responsibilities of the U. S. Navy Staff personnel in Vietnam could be readily divided between those pertaining to the U. S. Naval Forces and those of concern to the Vietnamese Navy. Accordingly, the staff functioned quite naturally with the NAVFORV portion handling U. S. Navy operations and the Naval Advisory Group portion advising on Vietnamese Navy matters. The ACTOV Program requires an integration of U. S. Navy and Vietnamese Navy forces in many areas, such as personnel and operations. As the ACTOV Program progresses further, this once natural division is no longer appropriate. Further, the rapid expansion of the Vietnamese Navy now requires maximum assistance from the U. S. Navy personnel in-country and advice and consultation from the best expertise available in each area. Therefore, in view of the changing emphasis in the COMNAVFORV/CHNAVADGRP missions and the increasing integration of the U. S. Navy and Vietnamese Navy Assets and responsibilities, it was necessary to make organizational staff changes to keep pace with the changing situation.

In this new organization, the Senior Naval Advisor is also the ACTOV Coordinator, has direct access to the entire staff, and is double-hatted as Deputy Chief of Staff for Advisory Matters (Code 03). All Assistant

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Chiefs of Staff (ACOS) will report through Code 03 for Naval Advisory and ACTOV matters.

The ACOS's have been assigned additional duties and have reorganized their staffs to include their Naval Advisory Group counterparts who have thus been absorbed into major divisions of the integrated staff. However, personnel who are engaged in purely advisory work and who have a Vietnamese Navy counterpart will remain at the Vietnamese Naval Headquarters and under the control of the Senior Naval Advisor.

This integrated staff will become the Navy element of the MAAG upon ultimate withdrawal of U. S. Naval forces from Vietnam.

Line diagrams showing the former and present COMNAVFORV/CHNAVADGRP Staff Organization follow:

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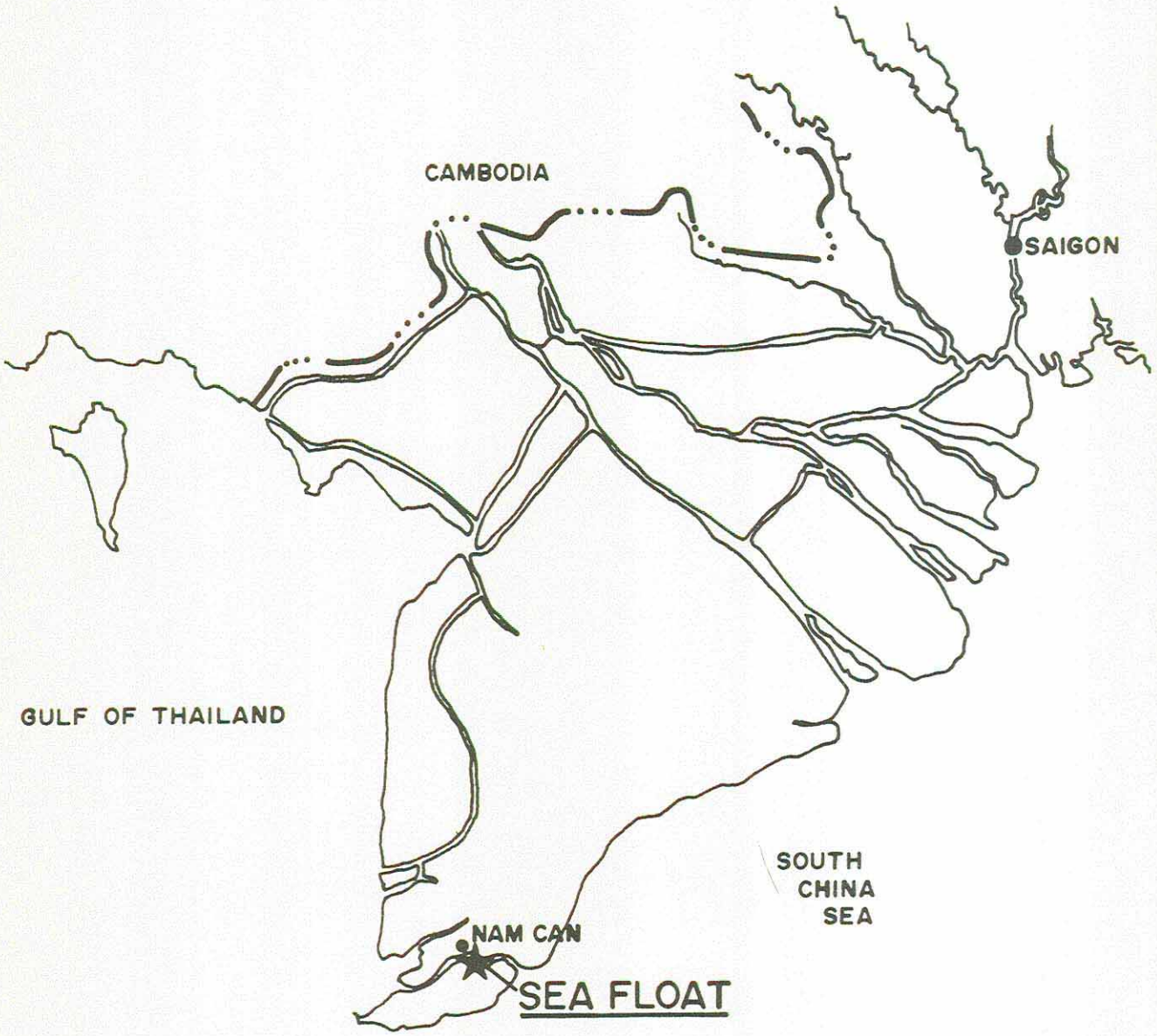
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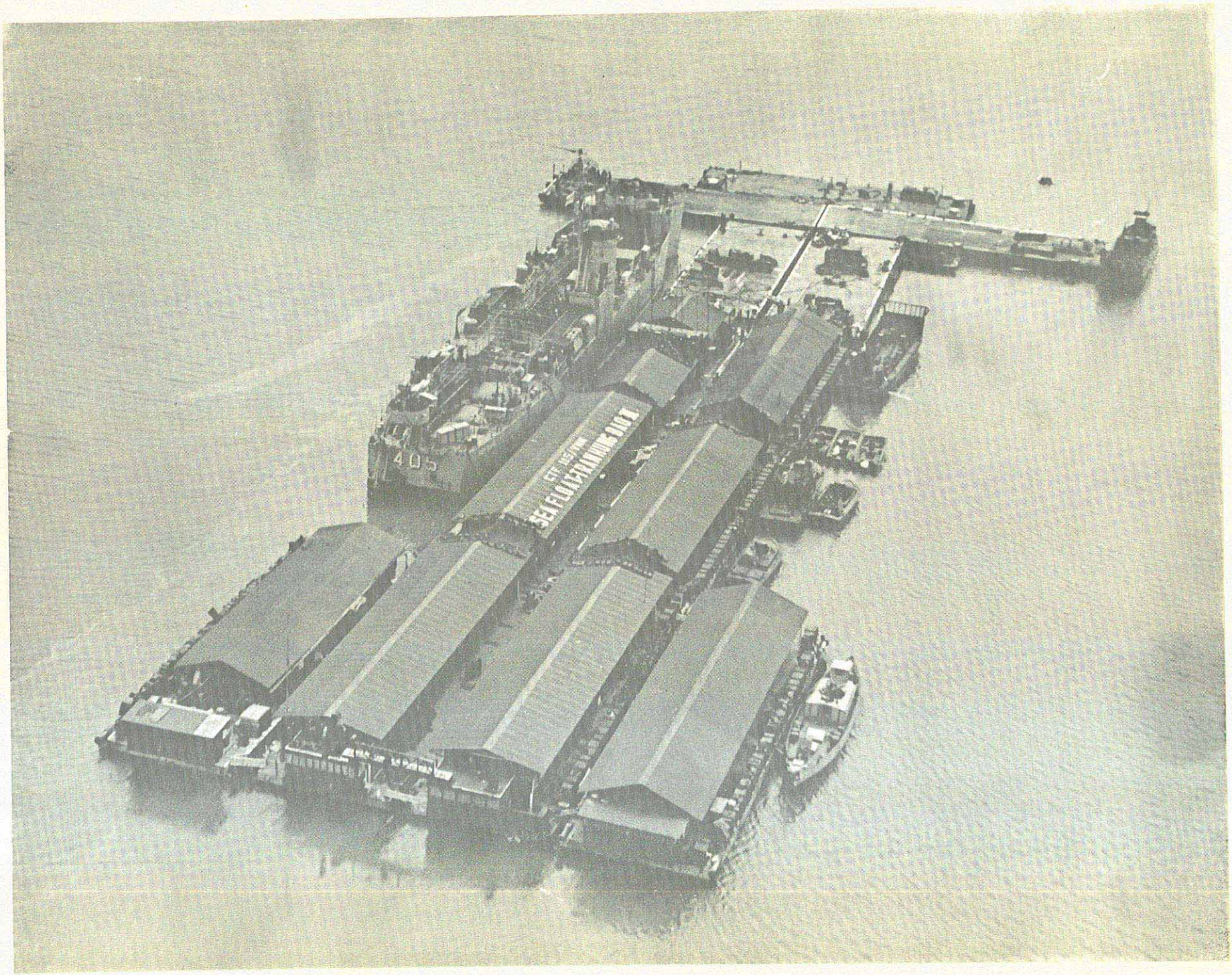
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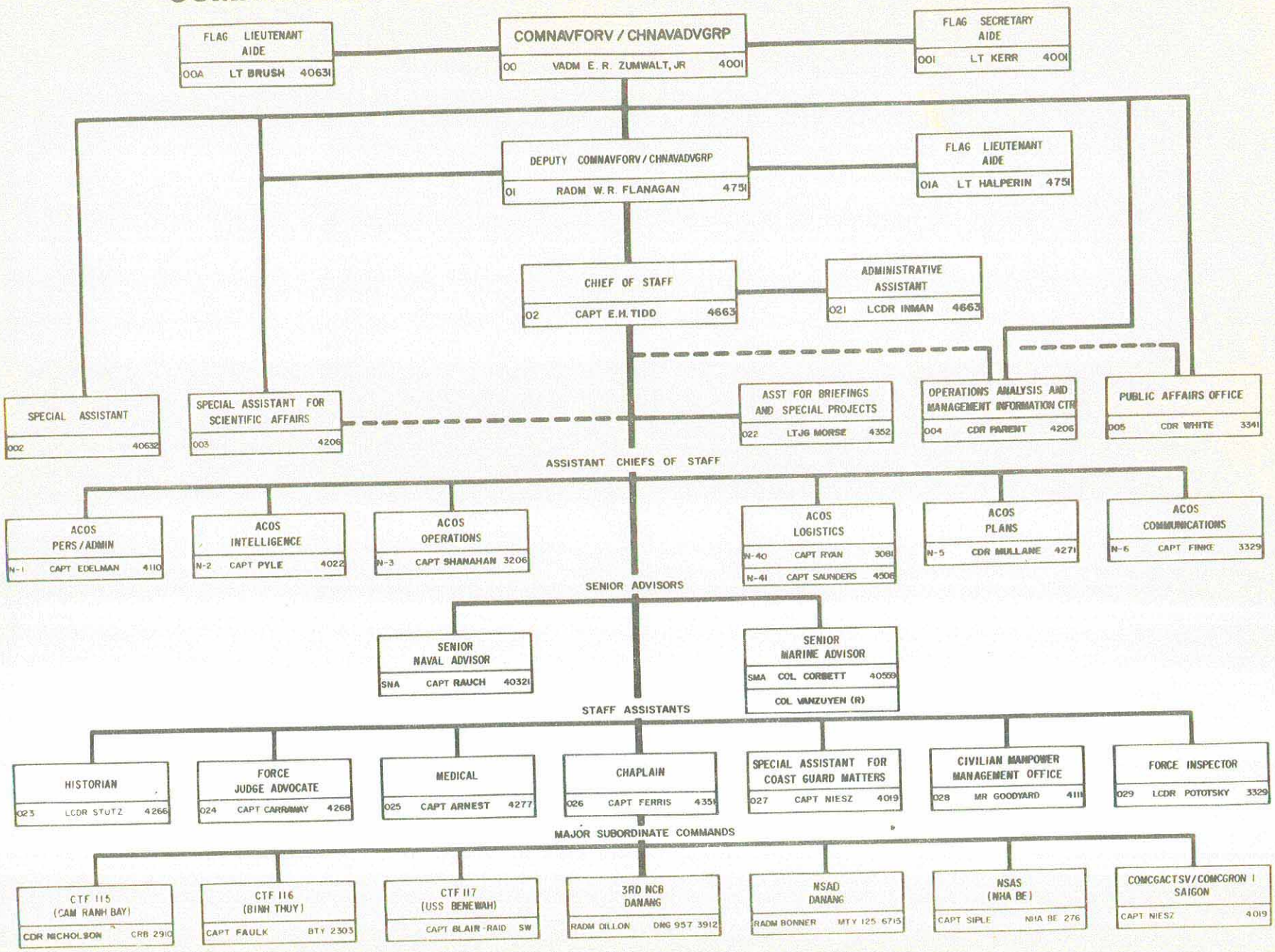
14 JUNE 1969

FORMER

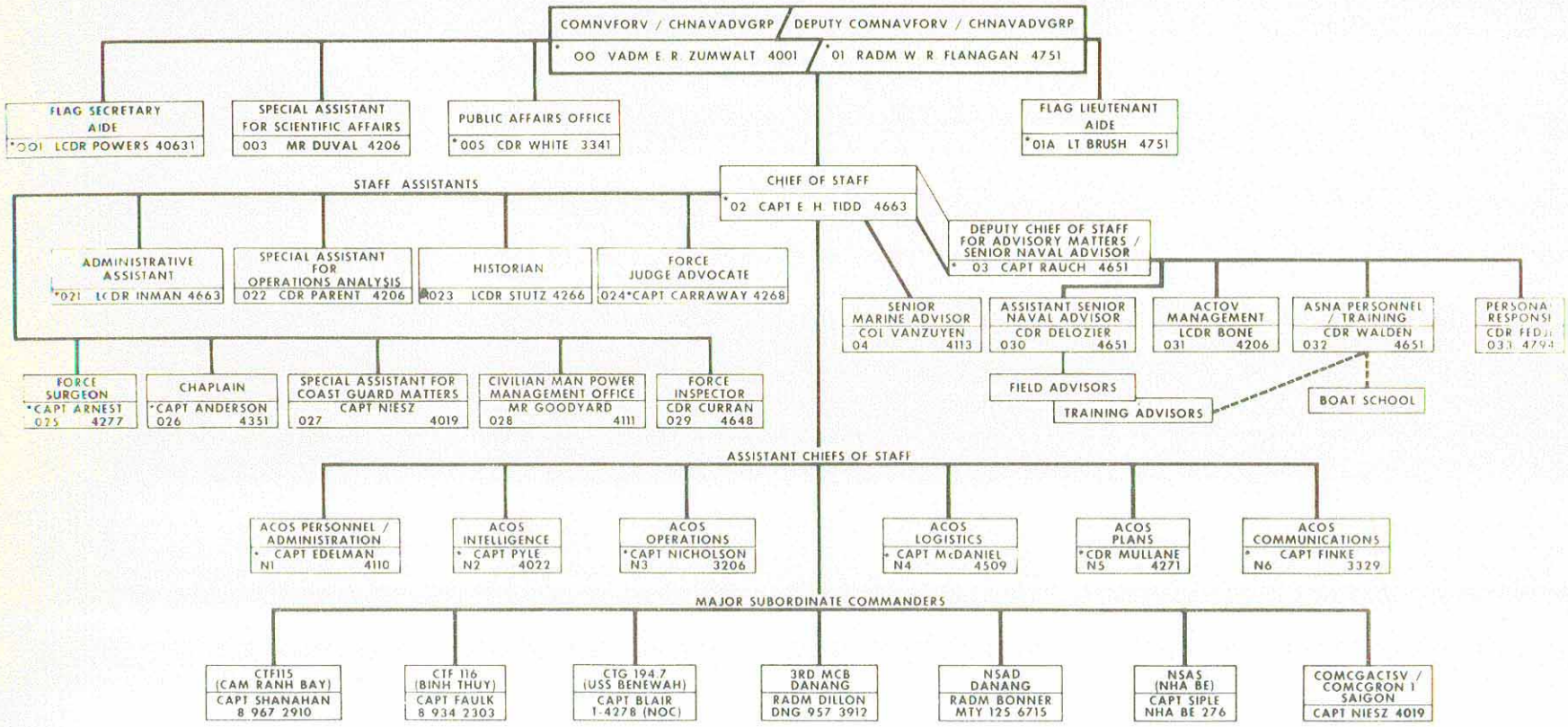
COMNAVFORV/CHNAVADVGRP STAFF ORGANIZATION



PRESENT

COMNAVFORV / CHNAVADVGRP STAFF ORGANIZATION

1 SEPTEMBER 1969



* Double hatted as members of CNFV and CHNAVADVGRP Staff

Normal line authority

Line authority for Advisory Matters and ACTOV Management

Coordinating authority for Advisory Matters and ACTOV Management

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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.

ABF	Attack by fire
AMMI PONTOON	A multi - purpose barge, standard size is twenty - eight feet by ninety feet
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 (VNN)
CHICOM	Chinese Communist
CIDG	Civilian Irregular Defense Groups - mercenaries of Vietnamese, Laotian, Cambodian descent who fight primarily around own villages
CTZ	Corps Tactical Zone
CZ	Coastal Zone
Dustoff	Medical evacuation by helicopter
Douche Boat	ATC equiped to deliver a high pressure stream of water
ENIFF	Enemy initiated firefight
FSB	Fire Support Base

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GROUP 4
Downgraded at 3 year intervals
Declassified after 12 years

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FWMAF	Free World Military Assistance Forces
GDA	Gun Damage Assessment
GVN	Government of Vietnam
H&I	Harassment and Interdiction Fire Support
KIA	Killed in Action
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 teams
LHFT	Light Helo Fire Team
LOH	OH-6 Light Observation Helicopter
LRRP	Long Range Reconnaissance Patrol
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
NOD	Night Observation Device

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NVA	North Vietnamese Army
PBR	Patrol Boat, River
PCF	Patrol Craft, Fast (SWIFT Boat)
PG	Patrol Gunboat
PRJ	Provincial Reconnaissance Unit
PSYOPS	Psychological Operations
RAD	River Assault Division
RAG	River Assault Group (VNN)
RAID	River Assault and Interdiction Division (VNN)
RAS	River Assault Squadron
RF/PF	Regional Forces/Popular Forces
RPG	Rocket Propelled Grenade
RSSZ	Rung Sat Special Zone
SEAWOLF	UH-1B Helo, heavily armed, USN operated
SSB	Swimmer Support Boat (skimmer)
STAB	SEAL Team Assault Boat
TAOR	Tactical Area of Responsibility
USARV	United States Army, Vietnam
VNMC	Vietnamese Marine Corps
VNN	Vietnamese Navy
ZIPPO	Flame thrower equipped ATC or MONITOR
WGP	Waterborne Guard Posts

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