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From: Commander U. S. Naval Forces, Vietnam
To: Commander in Chief U. S. Pacific Fleet (Code 12)

Subj: U. S. Naval Forces, Vietnam Monthly Historical Summary, October 1968; submission of

Ref: (a) CINCPACFLT ltr FF1-1 5750 ser 1/6925 of 2 October 1967

Encl: (1) Coastal Surveillance Force Summary
(2) River Patrol Force Summary
(3) Riverine Assault Force Summary
(4) Naval Advisory Group Summary
(5) Selected Psychological Operations
(6) USN Statistical Summary
(7) VNN/VNMC Statistical Summary
(8) USN Civic Action Statistical Summary

1. In accordance with reference (a), enclosures (1) through (8) are submitted.

2. The data contained in enclosures (6), (7) and (8) is based on information available this date. Any adjustments to enclosures (6), (7) and (8) will be reflected in October's Historical Supplement. Enclosure (6) does not reflect the personnel casualties on the WESTCHESTER COUNTY (LST 1167). These will be included in the November summary.

J. P. RIZZA
Chief of Staff

Copy to:
COMUSMACV (Hist. Branch, SJS)
CNO (Op-09B91E)
Director of Naval History

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COASTAL SURVEILLANCE FORCE SUMMARY
October 1968

Heavy weather brought lower levels of indigenous coastal activity and hampered "Swift" boat operations in the First and Second Coastal Zones throughout October. Total detections of junks and sampans dropped to 44,211 as compared with the more than 108,000 during good weather three months earlier, in July. However, the percentage of these craft either inspected or boarded was still over 70 percent with 18,607 inspections and 12,652 boardings. Steel-hull traffic remained high with 1,224 detections of these vessels in MARKET TIME areas. No suspicious activity in the steel-hull traffic was disclosed by the 809 inspections and 55 boardings.

In spite of the curtailment of operations due to the northeast monsoon, MARKET TIME units fired a record number of naval gunfire missions for the sixth consecutive month. October's total of 1,027 missions was 19 percent higher than the previous record. Included in this total are 40 cases of hostile fire suppressed and 15 evading junks or sampans taken under fire. Total damage inflicted on the enemy also reached a new high although the number of enemy killed, 167, was slightly less than August's 198. A significant expansion of MARKET TIME efforts to keep pressure on the enemy plus much of damage inflicted came with the start of incursions into rivers of the Third and Fourth Coastal Zones. During the month "Swift" boats made at least six very successful river transits deep into areas which had long been secure havens for the enemy.

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On 4 October the inter-connecting Cua Lon and Bo De rivers were transited in a high-speed 1½ hour run by PCF 38 from the mouth of the Cua Lon, 10 miles northeast of the southern tip of the Ca Mau Peninsula, to the mouth of the Bo De, some 28 miles to the east of the South China Sea. The mouth of the Bo De River has been the scene of several fierce engagements between MARKET TIME units and recoilless rifle-armed Viet Cong in recent months. During the transit, PCF 38 damaged 70 sampans and 20 structures with .50 caliber machine-gun and small-arms fire.

Another single craft river intrusion took place on the 14th when PCF 3 entered the Rach Giang Thanh at Ha Tien, in search of a reported Viet Cong tax station, a few miles up river. The enemy tax collector and 7 Viet Cong with him on the river bank were completely surprized by the appearance of the "Swift" boat and did not open fire until the American flag was sighted at less than 100 yards range. Three of the enemy were killed in the initial engagement before the remainder fled. Action resumed while the weapons and documents were being collected from the three bodies. Agent reports subsequently indicated that two additional enemy personnel were killed and two were wounded in the second exchange of fire on the river bank.

On 17 October, Vietnamese Navy PGM-12, USCGC POINT CYPRESS, USCGC WACHUSETT (WHEC 44), and three "Swift" boats penetrated into "VC LAKE", 15 miles southwest of Quan Long (Ca Mau). While PGM-12 and the two cutters carried out diversionary operations, the three "Swift" boats entered the Ong Doc River and proceeded to a north-south canal 7 miles inland. PCF 11

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remained at this point to keep the return route secure and PCF's 38 and 93 transited southward on the canal to Dam Dong Cung (VC LAKE). Numerous targets including the Viet Cong Ca Mau Province Committee Headquarters were taken under fire on the return trip. Covering fire was provided by WACHUSETT as the three "Swifts" returned to the open sea via the Ong Doc River. During the operation, 64 structures and 15 craft were destroyed, 61 structures and 25 craft were damaged and at least three Viet Cong wounded.

The Cau Lon River was entered again by four "Swift" boats on 22 October with WACHUSETT and Army helicopters providing cover. This operation, directed at an enemy supply and training complex 18 miles up river, met light resistance. PCF's 11, 50, 93, and 94 destroyed or heavily damaged 66 structures, 10 junks, and 51 sampans. A second large operation on the Cua Lon and Bo De rivers took place on the 29th. In this operation, three PCF's entered the Bo De River as four others came up the Cua Lon River. Heavy recoilless rifle and automatic-weapons fire was encountered by PCF's 28, 32, and 103, about 3 miles up the Bo De River. The fire was suppressed and the three craft proceeded to rendezvous with PCF's 3, 36, 50, and 94 at a point 10 miles up the Cua Lon River. Here a wounded crewman from PCF 103 was transferred to PCF 94 for evacuation out the Cua Lon in company with PCF 50. The remaining five "Swifts" returned toward the mouth of the Bo De under cover of Vietnamese Air Force A-1's, methodically destroying craft and structures found along the waterway. The results included 17 structures, 170 sampans and one large junk destroyed plus 85 structures and 74 sampans damaged. Four other "Swift" boat crewman were slightly wounded.

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Other inland waterways entered included the Ha Tien-Rach Gia Canal, the Cai Lon River and the Canh Hao River. This extension of the MARKET TIME operations is being made part of Operation SEA LORDS (Land-Ocean-River-Delta-Strategy) which is to coordinate the offensive operations of TF 115, TF 116, TF 117 and Vietnamese armed forces units in IV Corps Tactical Zone.

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RIVER PATROL FORCE SUMMARY
October 1968

Task Force 116 increased their preasure on the enemy during this month. Almost 194,000 watercraft were detected by the PBRs, with over 45,300 inspected and 92,699 boarded. Enemy attacks continued to be of the hit-and-run nature. Merchant ship attacks were down to one, which failed to score a hit. SEALs working with PHUs and LCMMs continued to use their ambush tactics to harass the enemy. In an attempt to shorten the reaction time between sighting of Viet Cong tax collectors and reaching the scene, Boston Whalers were used in conjunction with PBRs and water taxis or sampans, several examples of the tactic will be enumerated below.

On 3 October, five SEALs, 35 PHUs and 2 LCMM attempted to check out a house of festivities six miles southwest of My Tho when they were hit by small-arms fire from the house and a nearby bunker. They suppressed the fire and captured one Viet Cong, killed 7 and 3(Probable). A small amount of weapons and documents were captured. There were no friendly casualties.

On the night of 5 October, four PBRs came under heavy automatic weapons fire from six positions on the Tam Dinh Island in the Bassac River, 70 miles southwest of Saigon. The boats were unable to suppress the enemy fire and called in "Seawolf" helicopters. The combined air-surface attack was still unable to suppress the fire. The PBRs returned to the Navy base at

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Binh Thuy to rearm and called for a "Spooky" aircraft attack. The joint USN-USAF attack was still unable to suppress the fire and a tactical air strike was called in. The PBRs returned to the south of the island to act as a blocking force. Finally, after two tactical air strikes, and continued working over by PBRs, "Seawolves" and "Spooky" aircraft, the enemy fire was suppressed. There were no U. S. personnel casualties. An Air Force FAC aircraft hit by ground fire was forced to land. The pilot was rescued by Vietnamese Regional forces. Enemy casualties were unknown. PBRs patrolled the area without incident.

On 6 October, 6 PBRs, with SEALs and PRUs aboard attacked a POW camp on Con Coc Island, at the mouth of the Bassac River. The units were acting on intelligence provided by a Vietnamese woman whose husband was being held at the camp. The force overran the camp and freed 24 prisoners who were being held, included was the woman's husband. Some of the prisoners had been held captive since the Tet Offensive last February. The prisoners were taken aboard the PBRs while SEALs burned the camp and an adjoining Viet Cong tax collection station. Shortly after the attack two Vietnamese males and seven members of their families rallied to the PBRs and were taken aboard and turned over to local government authorities. There were no friendly casualties in the engagement and two Viet Cong guards were captured along with a quantity of enemy documents and Vietnamese money. In a separate action the same day, 12 miles northeast of My Tho, a group of SEALs and PRUs working from PBRs were led to a POW camp by two wives

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of the inmates. After a brief skirmish 26 POWs were freed, one Viet Cong killed probable and two captured. Various supplies and documents were seized. There were no U. S. casualties. Twenty-one Chieu Hoi took opportunity to rally to the GVN.

On 12, 22, and 29 October, TU 116.2.3 used a Boston Whaler in conjunction with PBR patrol and water taxi/junk to attack known or suspected Viet Cong tax collection stations. The concept was to have personnel in the water taxi, when suspected tax collectors were sighted, the water taxi would head for shore and at the same time call in the Boston Whaler and PBR, which had been lying some distance off. The whaler because of its increased manueverability and speed would reach that area first, followed close behind by the PBR. The results of these tactics and also the attempted questioning of personnel in a sampan concerning Viet Cong tax collectors resulted in four separate firing incidents. The results of the action were: one Viet Cong killed (2 probable); one USN and one Viet Cong wounded; 19 bunkers destroyed; 7 bunkers damaged. All actions took place in the Co Chien/Pang Tra River area, 48 miles southwest of Saigon. The alert professional competenae of the LDNNs was noted.

On the early morning of 19 October in the RSSZ, PBRs observed a rocket attack on Vung Tau, shortly thereafter they sighted a large sampan with 19 Viet Cong aboard on the Dinh Ba River, 17 miles south-southeast of Saigon. The sampan was immediately taken under fire. The fire was returned from the sampan and shoreline. A light helicopter fire team

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(LHFT) and a PCF from Vung Tau CSC joined the attack. The sampan was sunk and possible enemy positions were continually raked with fire to preclude removal of bodies. At first light 12 Viet Cong bodies were counted and 7 others are also believed to have been killed. A large amount of personal gear was captured. There were no friendly casualties.

On the night of 21 October, SEALs were engaged in three separate actions in the Dong Tranh River - Nga Ba River area, 10 miles southeast of Saigon Four sampans were sunk and 4 Viet Cong were killed. In the last engagement they came under B-40 rocket attack and a RSSZ LHFT placed a strike in the area of contact. Five U. S. personnel were wounded in the action. A small amount of weapons and ammunition were captured.

The only U. S. fatality of the month occurred on the 29th when three SEALs and 100 PRUs were operating in an area about 29 miles southeast of Long Xuyen. The men operating as two groups came under small-arms and automatic-weapons fire from what was estimated as a possible battalion of Viet Cong. After fixed-wing and Cobra attacks the men were extracted with their dead comrade. Viet Cong casualties are unknown at this time.

Attempts by the Viet Cong to interdict supplies into South Vietnam continued this month but on a lesser scale than last. The merchant ship COLUMBIA BANKER came under a 122-mm rocket attack on 5 October. The attack was unsuccessful when the first round impacted on the river bank prior to reaching the river. The presence of PBRs in the area and the immediate dispatch of an USN light helicopter fire team (LHFT) and U. S.

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Air Force fixed-wing air strike precluded any further attacks. The attack took place on the Long Tau River, 8 miles south of Saigon.

Mining attempts by the Viet Cong met with limited success. The Liberian tanker ELEFHEROUPLIS was hit by a large explosion while moored to the pier at the Esso Tank Farm at Nha Be on 10 October 1968. The explosive device had been secured to a line running from the ship's anchor chain under the bow to a concrete piling on the pier. The charge was believed to be of the bouyant or semi bouyant type that through the use of a leader would swing into the side of the ship as the tide changed the current and explode by means of a contact or time fuse. The charge, however, appears to have been swept into the pilings instead of the ship where it fouled and detonated, thereby limiting the damage to the ship which in this case was a cracked bulkhead between forward tanks. No external hull damage was apparent. On 25 October an MSBS on a routine sweep through the Long Tau River detonated a device part of which was later identified by USN EOD personnel as a U. S. pop flare. The next day a Coastal Group 36 ambush team discovered four claymore mines positioned at a bend of the Long Phu Canal. The mines were positioned with their blast pattern directed along the canal axis thereby presenting a direct threat for PBRs enroute to the Long Phu Sub-sector.

GAME WARDEN forces continued to put the pressure on unauthorized shipment of foodstuffs and medicine in the Delta area. During the month of October the following amounts of unmanifested foodstuffs were detected

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by the personnel of the PBR force: 7½ tons of rice, almost 2 tons of sugar and one-half ton of powdered milk. Six caches of contraband medicine were seized during this reporting period. Two of these caches were seized as the result of the efforts of the men of TU 116.3.1 on 17 October. One of these caches was of such a size that the sampan owner was to be paid 10,000 ($VN) for his efforts, the other cache in addition to the medicine seized included the seizure of 791,291 ($VN) which a passenger of the water taxi had hidden on the boat and other persons on the taxi.

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RIVERINE ASSAULT FORCE SUMMARY
October 1968

On the last night of the month the MRF suffered the most severe loss of the month. At least 17 U. S. Navymen, 3 U. S. Armymen and one Vietnamese Navyman were killed on board USS WESTCHESTER COUNTY (LST 1167) when two explosions ripped separate holes on the starboard side while she lay at anchor with the other ships of MRG ALFA on the My Tho River 3 miles southwest of the city of My Tho. Four men were missing -- one Navy, two Army and one Vietnamese Army man. Nineteen sailors and three soldiers were wounded by the blasts which were apparently the result of a Viet Cong swimmer/sapper attack. Ammi pontoons were along the starboard side with river assault craft tied up along the outboard side of the pontoons. Three of the assault craft, and two helicopters which were on the LST, were also damaged. The damage to WESTCHESTER COUNTY was major. Although not in danger of sinking, several compartments were flooded and internal blast damage was extensive, requiring the transfer of the ship from the MRF to a repair facility. There was no damage to the ship's main engines or other machinery and it was planned to make a complete survey of the damage and emergency repairs in Dong Tam before sending the ship to a repair facility.

During all of October MRG ALFA supported intensive and sustained pacification operations in Kien Hoa Province, with the 3/47th and 4/47th Infantry battalions (until the 4/47th was relieved by the 3/60th), elements of the 3/34th Artillery Battalion and the VNMC 3rd Battalion. Most engagements were relatively small but occurred nearly daily. The steady pressure on the Viet Cong, while not spectacular perhaps, nevertheless paid excellent

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dividends in terms of enemy manpower and material losses. MRG ALFA accounted for 177 Viet Cong deaths and nearly 1,000 enemy structures or bunkers damaged or destroyed. Not so readily apparent, but of deep significance is the favorable influence of the continuing presence of U. S. and Vietnam armed forces on the local populace — so long used to Viet Cong domination.

River assault craft of RAD 111 were ambushed at 1540 on 2 October from both banks of the Ong Huong Stream about 4 miles east-southeast of Ben Tre, after backloading 4/47th troops. Four boats were hit by rocket, automatic-weapons and small-arms fire. Four sailors and two soldiers were wounded in the engagement. Meanwhile, RAD 92 was ambushed from the south bank of the Ben Tre River about 2 miles southeast of Ben Tre at 1550. One flame monitor was hit by a B-40 rocket round which detonated on the trigger bar, penetrated the styrofoam and internal armor plate, and finally spalled against the flame fuel container without penetrating. This was the first instance of a direct hit in the flame fuel system by a HEAT round.

In another ambush on 4 October assault craft of RAD 132 of MRG BRAVO were fired upon about 6 miles east of Can Giuoc while enroute to Can Giuoc. One ATC was hit by two B-40 rounds, killing one and wounding 9 soldiers. Six Navymen were wounded. One of the wounded sailors narrowly avoided death when a B-40 rocket round passed completely through his 20-mm mount while he was stooping over to pick up ammunition. He received only minor

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shrapnel wounds from the blast. Two other ATC's were also hit but were not damaged.

One of the more significant encounters occurred on 13 October when the 3/47th Infantry Battalion made contact in the Binh Dai District of Kien Hoa about 19 miles east of Ben Tre. As RAD 111 set up river blocks, RAS 13 embarked 3/60th troops and inserted them near the 3/47th area of contact. In the ensuing action 24 Viet Cong were killed at the cost of 2 Armymen wounded. The next day, 14 October, "C" Company 4/47th operating in the same district in an area about 26 miles east-southeast of Ben Tre came upon what was believed to have been a Viet Cong rest area and accounted for 23 killed and 21 detained -- with no friendly casualties.

In order to obtain maximum utilization of MRF assets during the extended period of pacification in Kien Hoa, Dinh Tuong and Long An provinces, the MRF was reorganized on 15 October. MRG ALFA, supporting U. S. Ninth Division pacification operations, was assigned USS BENEWAH, USS ASKARI, USS SPHINX, USS WESTCHESTER COUNTY, APL-26, APL-30, and YLLC-4. MRG BRAVO, carrying out more mobile operations ranging throughout the western delta region, was assigned USS MERCER, USS NUECES, USS SATYR, USS VERNON COUNTY, and USS CAROLINE COUNTY. Five river assault divisions were assigned to MRG ALFA, three to MRG BRAVO.

During this period Commander U. S. Naval Forces, Vietnam, announced Operation SEA LORDS, a new, offensive effort designed to interdict enemy infiltration, open and secure important delta waterways, and pacify as rapidly as possible large segments of the delta region. The concept of SEA

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LORDS was the command coordination of all naval assets in the delta area and the development of plans for the tactical employment of all such assets in conjunction with senior advisor, Fourth Corps Tactical Zone. The forces available included elements of TF 117, TF 115 and TF 116. U. S. Army, Vietnamese Army and Vietnamese Marine units, would be used for riverine operations, their availability and employment depending upon the changing tactical situation. Quick reaction to any situation was one of the primary goals in the establishment of SEA LORDS. By the end of October TF 117 had conducted liaison and training with the 21st ARVN Division and had conducted operations as well with the VNMC 4th Battalion, in connection with planned SEA LORDS operations. Extensive surveys of the western delta canals were also accomplished in anticipation of future operations in that area.

In keeping with the emphasis on mobility assigned to MRG BRAVO, that group, operating with various U. S. and Vietnamese ground forces, operated in the first days of October along the Nicolai Canal/Mang Thit River in Vinh Long Province with ARVN 9th Division and Regional Force troops. In addition, a detachment of RAD 132 operated throughout the month in support of operations in Long An Province near Can Giuoc. Operations during this time also included sweeps into Vinh Binh and Vinh Long with ARVN 14th Regiment troops.

Moving to the east operations were conducted from 10 to 12 October along the important Vam Co Tay River/Tra River/Cho Gao Canal waterways,

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working with ARVN 7th Division units. The MRG then shifted its scene of operations westerly to the vicinity of Cai Be for operations in western Dinh Tuong with Regional Force and 6/31st Infantry Battalion troops on 14 October. On the following day, a two-day operation with ARVN 9th Division troops began in Sa Dec Province. This was followed on 18 October by support of ARVN 4/37th Infantry Battalion and Vinh Long Regional Force battalion troops along the Mang Thit River in Vinh Long Province, the same river that had received similar attention earlier in the month.

On 19 and 20 October river assault craft surrounded and blockaded Can Lao May Island on the Bassac River, as ARVN 4/37th Infantry Battalion and Vinh Long Regional Forces swept the island.

After several days of preparation and training with the VNMC, the craft conducted operations on 23 and 24 October with VNMC 4th Infantry Battalion and ARVN units in Phong Dinh Province about 11 miles southeast of Can Tho. The craft of RAS 15, working with GAME WARDEN units, blockaded waterways in the area to prevent Viet Cong infiltration.

On the 27th operations in Phong Dinh were continued on the Xa No Canal about 16 miles southwest of Can Tho. Once again the river assault craft blocked the waterways as VNMC, ARVN and Vietnamese national police teamed up for reconnaissance-in-force operations which lasted until backloading began the night of the 29th. This particularly successful operation netted 7,000 pounds of explosives, 11,000 pounds of rice, 40 pounds of medical

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supplies, 3 AK-47 rifles, 3,000 rounds of CHICOM .50 caliber ammunition, 21 mines, 54 grenades, and large quantities of 7.62-mm ammunition, 22 Viet Cong KIA, 12 Viet Cong POW and 23 detainees.

Enclosure (3)

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NAVAL ADVISORY GROUP SUMMARY
October 1968

On 1 October the Vietnamese Navy (VNN) assumed responsibility for 2 additional MARKET TIME stations; there are presently 10 MARKET TIME stations manned totally by VNN personnel and craft. The scope of responsibility assumed by the VNN continues to burgeon at a greater rate than was initially anticipated, and revised, accelerated plans are now in process. Eventually all 47 inner patrol barriers of Operation MARKET TIME will be patrolled solely by the VNN.

On 15 October the VNN took another major step toward better enhancing its efficiency and self-sufficiency by accepting its first repair ship from the U. S. Navy. YR-24 changed flags and is manned by a VNN crew of 2 officers and 135 men. She will serve not only as a floating shipyard capable of keeping the VNN gunboats in good repair but also as a symbol of American good will and determination to assist the RVN in the fight against communist aggression.

RPG 51 continues to prove its worth as the Dong Nai River patrols deny the use of that strategic waterway to the enemy east of Saigon. Near midnight on 8 October the advisor to one VNN PBR on a routine patrol reported that an enemy sampan was intercepted as it crossed the river from east to west. Five Viet Cong were observed in the sampan which the VNN sailors took under fire. The PBR immediately received enemy cover fire from the east bank. Although two sailors were wounded (one eventually died of his wounds) the fire was returned and suppressed. The enemy sampan was sunk

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and the five occupants were presumed killed.

The VNN suffered the most destructive mining incident in the war's history in terms of numbers of vessels sunk or damaged in a single attack on 20 October. At 1830 the RAG 25/29 detachment nest located in downtown Ca Mau was mined by enemy sappers, destroying 2 FOMs (French-designed V-bottomed river craft) and one monitor, damaging one LCM-6, killing 2 VNN sailors (one was the RAG unit CO) and wounding 3 other VNN men. There was negative damage to the remainder of the nest despite the explosive force that lifted debris an estimated 100 feet in the air, relocated 4 of the river boats from their original positions and threw the engine of one FOM 20 feet forward into the boat. The RAG boats were obviously targeted to slow down the tempo of GVN operations which have served as a major obstacle to Viet Cong movement in the rain-swollen canals and waterways of An Xuyen Province.

The six infantry battalions and one artillery battalion of the VNMC were employed in Operation TOAN THANG in the III Corps Tactical Zone (III CTZ) and operations in IV CTZ this month. Task Force A, composed of the 3rd and 4th battalions until 15 October, operated in IV CTZ under the operational control of the 21st ARVN Infantry Division. Light to moderate contact with the enemy was experienced with no significant action recorded. On 15 October the 3rd battalion chopped to the operational control of the Mobile Riverine Force and conducted combined operations in Kien Hoa Province (see RAF Summary). The 4th battalion remained in Task Force A

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near Can Tho until 31 October. The last day of the month, Task Force A, relieved by Task Force B, was composed of the 1st and 2nd battalions and relocated to III CTZ under the operational control of the 5th ARVN Infantry Division.

Task Force B this month was composed of the 1st and 2nd battalions and continued the TOAN THANG Campaign in III CTZ under the operational control of the 25th ARVN Infantry Division until 20 October. Daily reconnaissance-in-force operations and small unit patrols northwest of Saigon usually resulted in some enemy contact but no significant engagement was recorded. The marines retired to their base camp at Thu Duc until 31 October when they relieved Task Force A in IV CTZ.

The 5th and 6th Infantry battalions stood down until 9 October when they both were independently deployed to III CTZ to operate with the 25th ARVN Infantry Division. Conducting reconnaissance-in-force and acting as reserve forces both to the southwest and northwest of Saigon, these two battalions also experienced steady but light to moderate enemy contact for the remainder of the month with no significant action reported.

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PSYCHOLOGICAL AND CIVIC ACTION OPERATIONS
October 1968

Psychological operations continued to hammer home the weaknesses of the enemy this month. Operations were stepped up to 234 loudspeaker missions for a total of 648 hours. In an attempt to reach as many people as possible another innovation was added to the program, this was the use of "Seawolf" aircraft for an airborn broadcast of messages. The rewards for this stepped up effort were in direct proportion to the efforts expended as 55 Hoi Chanhs rallied to naval units to set a new record. Of this number 32 persons were accounted for by the men of TF 116. The value of these Hoi Chanhs lies not only in their renewed allegiance to GVN but also in the weapons and intelligence they bring with them. In addition to the Hoi Chanhs, the speaker missions were also instrumental in aiding four Vietnamese who were being held by the communists to escape and work their way back to freedom.

The civic action programs remained a permanent part of the Navy's job in Vietnam. During the month 57 MEDCAPs were held in which 15,700 persons were treated. On 7 October, at AP Vinh Hoi, the scene of an accidental shooting by "Seawolf" helicopters, a MEDCAP was held, basic necessities were distributed to the poorest families of the village and a cultural drama was conducted. The end result of this effort was that the people though much saddened by the accident held no ill feeling toward the U. S. It is not believed that the incident will cause any set back to the Navy's civil action program or loss of GVN control of the area.

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On 18 October, Navymen of River Division 532 donated medicine captured the day before to the Vietnamese hospital at My Tho. The captured medicine was in excess of 3,000 bottles of antibiotics and more than 400 tablets and ampules of assorted drugs and vitamins. On 17 October, a Popular Force outpost, 8 miles southeast of Can Tho was destroyed by ammunition fire leaving 80 PFs and 25 families homeless. Personnel from TG 116.1 donated building materials and know-how to rebuild the outpost. Clothing was donated by the Catholic Relief Society. Approximate total cost of the operation was 285,000 (VN$). The friendship of the Vietnamese people and the river patrol boats were stressed throughout the period of rebuilding. The operation was completed on 26 October.

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USN STATISTICAL SUMMARY
October 1968

	MARKET TIME	GAME WARDEN	Mobile Riverine Force
Detections	45,435	190,886	*
Inspections	19,416	45,348	*
Boardings	12,652	92,699	816
Craft detained	*	1	*
Persons detained	657	2,122	257
Viet Cong suspects	35	57	*
Hostile fire incidents	40	*	*
Enemy casualties:			
a. Killed	91(BC)+64(EST)	52(BC)+75(EST)	245
b. Wounded	7(BC)+66(EST)	1 (BC)+6(EST)	*
c. Captured	8	10	61
USN casualties:			
a. Killed	0	1	1 USMC/9 USA/12 VNMC/6 ARVN
b. Wounded	11	12	27 USN/2 USMC/84 VNMC/8 ARVN
c. Captured	0	0	1 USA
d. Missing	0	0	1 USA
Enemy material losses:			
a. Destroyed:			
(1) Junks or sampans	509	84	19
(2) Structures	577	86	953
b. Captured:			
(1) Junks or sampans	1	4	*
(2) Weapons	3	**	285***
(3) Ammunition (rounds)	600	**	3010****
(4) Rice (tons)	5	Small amount	6.3
c. Damaged:			
(1) Junks or sampans	256	80	*
(2) Structures	1043	160	104
USN material losses:			
a. Destroyed:			
(1) Surface craft	0	0	0
(2) Helicopters	0	0	*
b. Damaged:			
(1) Surface craft	0	2	13
(2) Helicopters	0	2	*
SAR missions	*	*	*

Remarks:

* Information not applicable of not available this date.
** 3 individual weapons, numerous small arms ammo, grenades
*** Includes 208 grenades and 31 mines.
**** Includes 10 rocket/mortar/recoilless-rifle rounds. In addition, four caches containing uncounted "large quantities" of small arms ammunition were destroyed in place.

Enclosure (6)

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VNN/VNMC STATISTICAL SUMMARY
October 1968

VIETNAMESE NAVY:

COASTAL FORCE	Daily Average Operaticnal	Daily Average Employed	Searched Junks	Searched People	Detained Junks	Detained People
I NZ	33.8	33.4	20,601	68,483	23	412
II NZ	48.1	45.0	19,507	60,969	30	204
III NZ	49.0	47.0	13,830	46,136	1	53
IV NZ	63.1	63.0	5,252	17,666	0	1
		Sub-totals	59,190	193,254	54	670
*FLEET COMMAND PATROL SHIPS	37.4	32.2	2,611	11,261	8	36
RIVERINE AREA CRAFT	132.4	124.5	9,113	38,662	0	0
#GENERAL RESERVE FORCE	39.2	35.7	5,692	12,805	0	0
		Total	76,606	255,982	62	706

VIETNAMESE MARINE CORPS:

VC/NVA: KIA 55 Captured 6 Suspects detained 45

VNMC: KIA 25 WIA 160

* Provided 50 gunfire support missions.

Includes RAG 27, RTEG and RPG 51.

Enclosure (7)

GROUP 4
Downgraded at 3 year intervals
Declassified after 12 years

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USN CIVIC ACTIONS STATISTICAL SUMMARY
October 1968

TOTAL NUMBER OF MAN-DAYS PERSONNEL OF UNITS ENGAGED IN CIVIC ACTION PROJECTS: 900

COST OF SUPPLIES CONTRIBUTED BY MILITARY RESOURCES FOR CIVIC ACTION PROJECTS: VN$ 750,000

VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS: VN$ 50,000

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

	Percent
Other FWMAF	35
RVNAF	20
U. S. civilian voluntary agencies	30
Average percent of self-help by VN civilians	25

PROGRAMS

	Man Days	Expenditures (VN$)
Economic Development	150	50,000
Education	60	60,000
Social Welfare	500	400,000
Transportation	100	200,000
Refugee	250	400,000

INSTITUTES ASSISTED

	Number
Schools	15
Hospitals/dispensaries	10
Orphanages	15
Others	35

Enclosure (8)